

# Friday warm-up: Forces II

Prof. Jordan C. Hanson

September 26, 2025

## 1 Memory Bank

- $\vec{r} = r \cos(\omega t)\hat{i} + r \sin(\omega t)\hat{j} \dots$  Position for uniform circular motion, with angular velocity  $\omega$ .
- $\vec{F}_C = -m\vec{r}\omega^2 \dots$  The centripetal acceleration given the speed  $v$  around a circular path  $r$ .
- $\vec{f} = -\mu N\hat{i} \dots$  Force of friction in the horizontal direction, given a normal force  $N$ .

## 2 Forces, II

1. Consider the banking plane in Fig. 1. Suppose the mass of the plane is  $10^4$  kg. (a) If the lift force  $\vec{L}$  has a magnitude of  $1.02 \times 10^5$  N, what is the bank angle such that the plane flies level? (b) What is the centripetal force? (c) Note that the *period*  $T$  of circular motion is  $T = 2\pi/\omega$ . If  $T$  for the motion of the plane is 2 minutes, what is the radius  $r$  of the path?

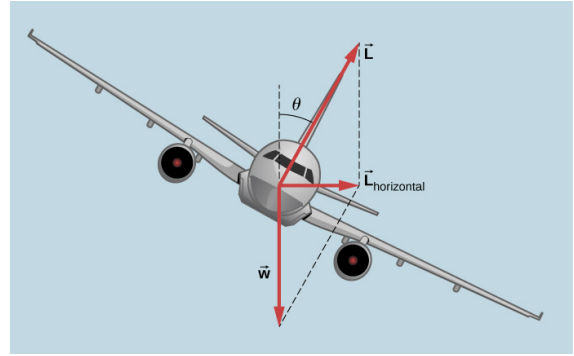


Figure 1: A plane banks during flight, with the forces of lift and weight resulting in a centripetal force.

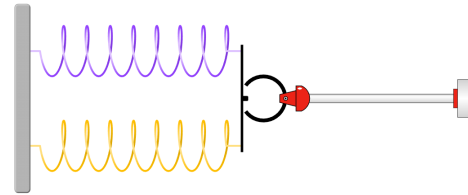


Figure 2: Two springs with  $k_1$  and  $k_2$ , connected in parallel.

3. The force of friction is proportional to the normal force balancing the weight of a system. (a) Suppose the coefficient of kinetic friction  $\mu$  between rubber and concrete is 0.7, and 0.35 if the pavement is wet. If the friction of sliding tires across pavement slows a vehicle from initial speed  $v_i$  to a final speed  $v_f = 0$ , what is the ratio of stopping distances? Assume the mass of the vehicle is  $m$ . (b) What is the stopping distance of a 2000 kg minivan on wet pavement, if  $v_i = 100$  km per hour?
2. Consider the parallel springs in Fig. 2. (a) If  $k_1 = 15 \text{ N m}^{-1}$ , and  $k_2 = 30 \text{ N m}^{-1}$ , what applied force will squeeze the springs by 5cm? (b) If instead the springs were connected *in series* (back to back), convince yourself that

$$k_1 \Delta x_1 = k_2 \Delta x_2 = k_{\text{total}} \Delta x_{\text{total}} \quad (1)$$

Since  $\Delta x_{\text{total}} = \Delta x_1 + \Delta x_2$ , solve for  $k_{\text{total}}$ . What is the equivalent formula for  $k_{\text{total}}$  for the parallel springs?