

**Course Code: ESC106A**

**Course Title: Construction Materials and Engineering Mechanics**

**Lecture No. 10:**

**Moment of a Force and Couple**

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# Lecture Intended Learning Outcomes

**At the end of this lecture, student will be able to:**

- Define a moment and couple
- Describe the characteristics of a couple
- Explain the concepts of moment of a force, couple and moment of a couple



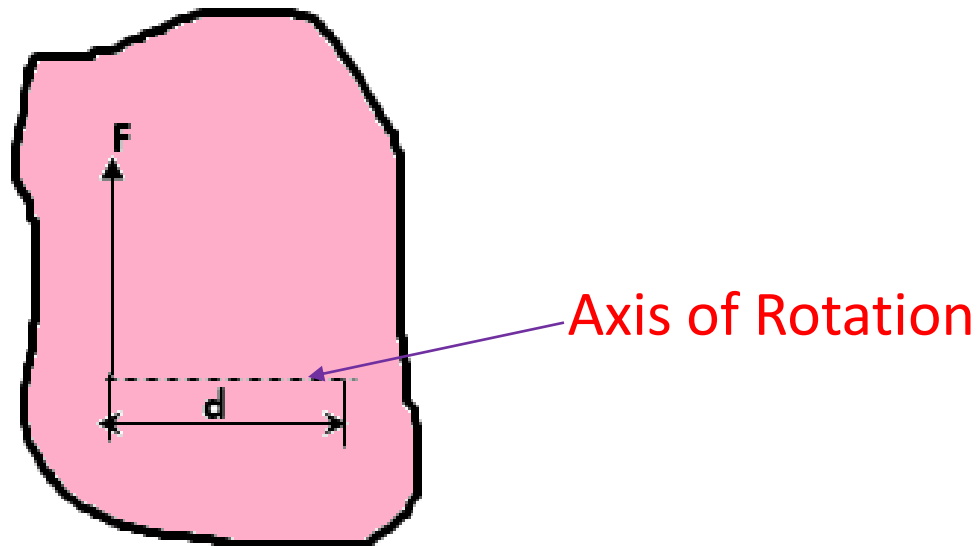
# Contents

- **Engineering Mechanics**  
Moment of a force, couple

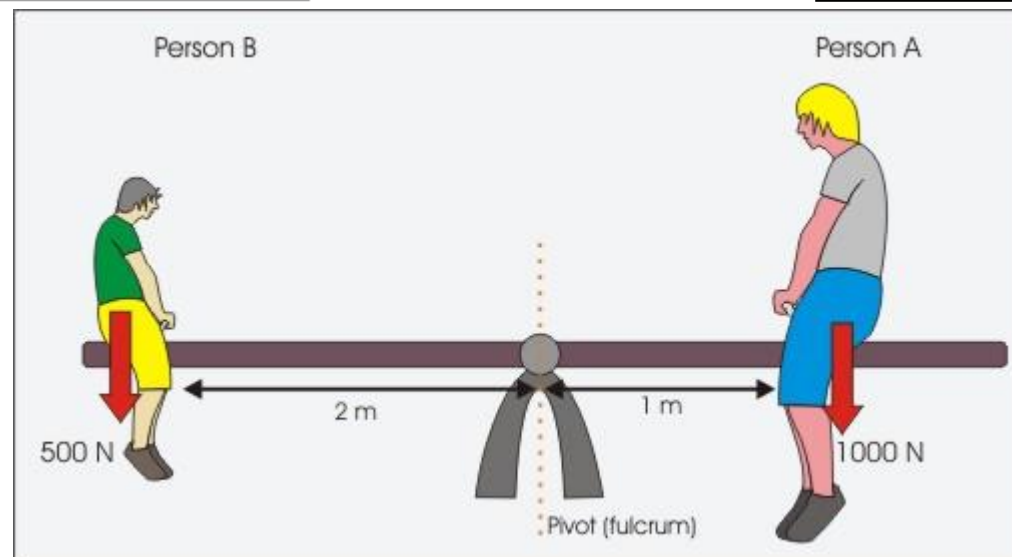
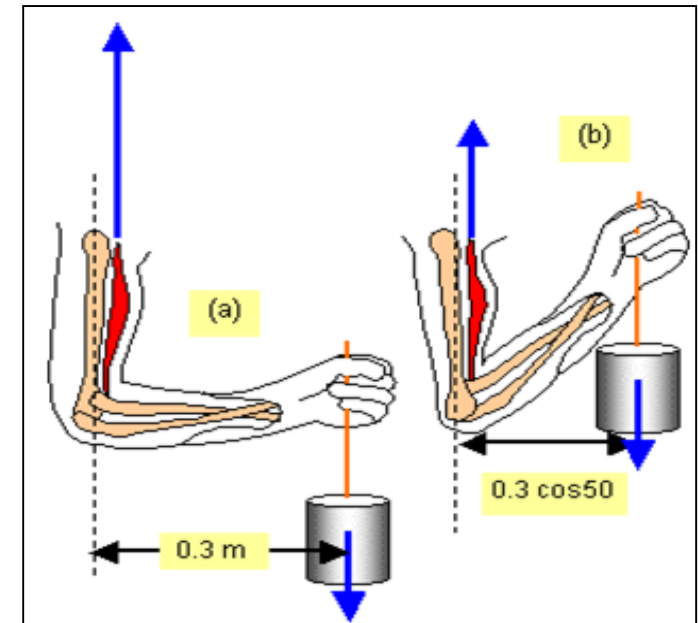
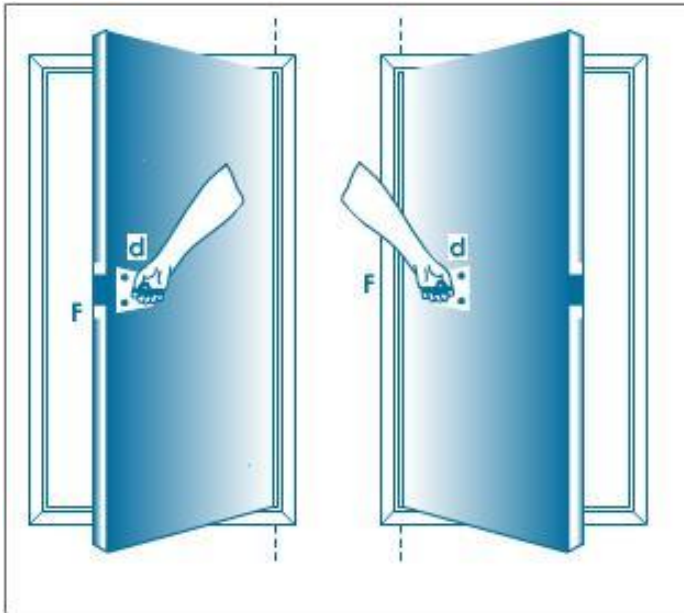


# Moment of a Force

- The turning effect produced by a force on a body is known as the **moment of the force**
- The magnitude of the moment is given by the product of the magnitude of the force and the perpendicular distance between the line of action of the force and the point or axis of rotation

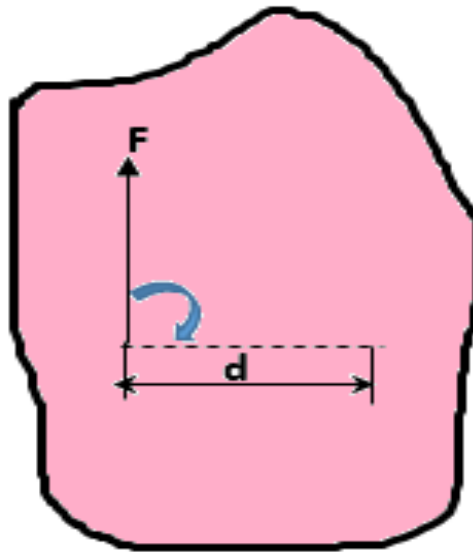


# Examples for Moment of a force



# Types of Moments

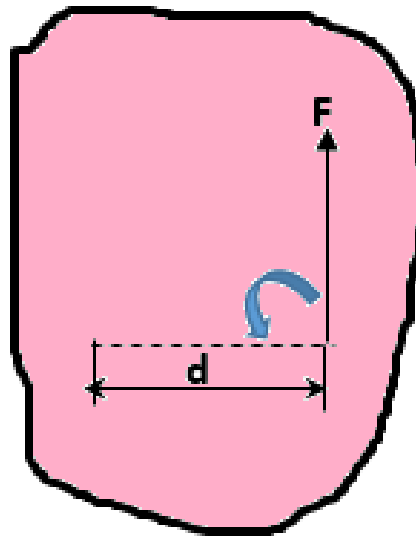
- If the tendency of a force is to rotate the body in the clockwise direction, it is said to be a clockwise moment and is taken positive



- Clockwise Moment

# Types of Moments

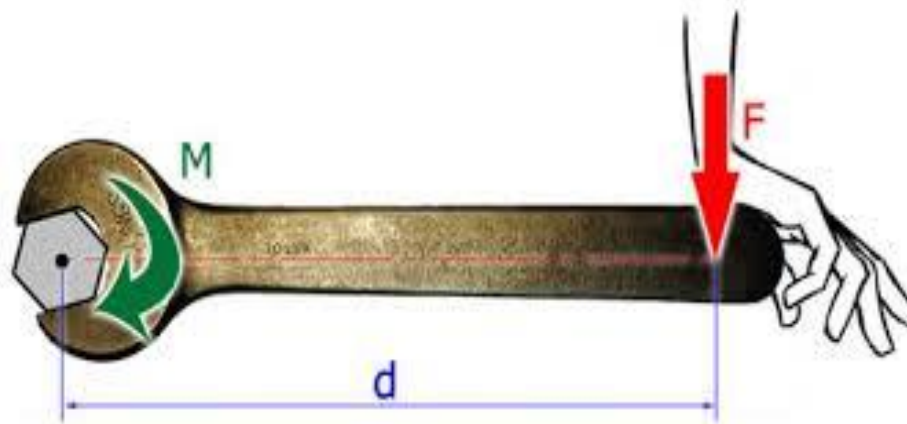
- If the tendency of a force is to rotate the body in the anticlockwise direction, it is said to be anticlockwise moment and is taken negative



 - Anticlockwise Moment

# Moment of a Force

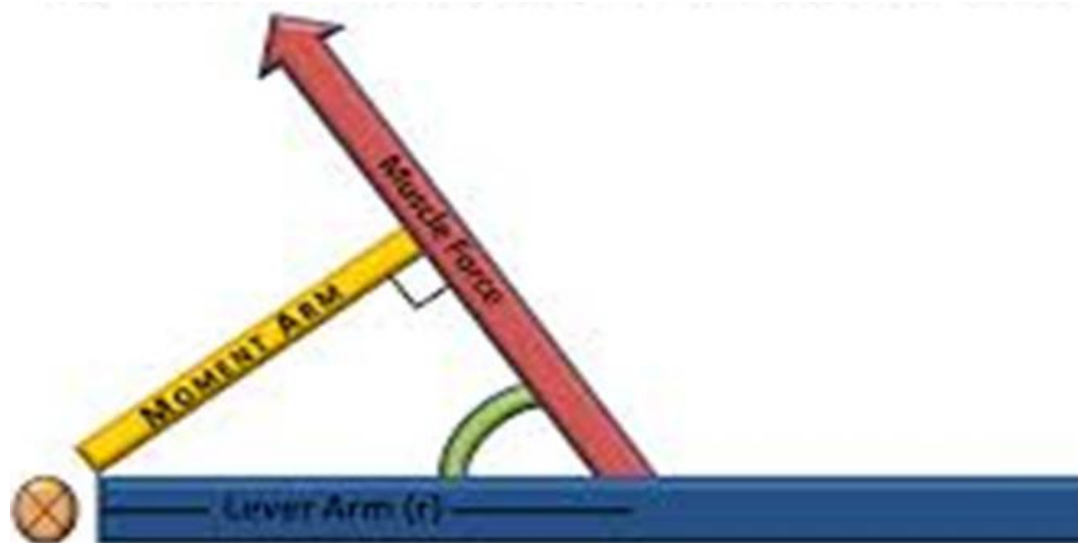
- A measure of its tendency to cause a body to rotate about a specific point or axis.
- Here  $d$  is moment arm





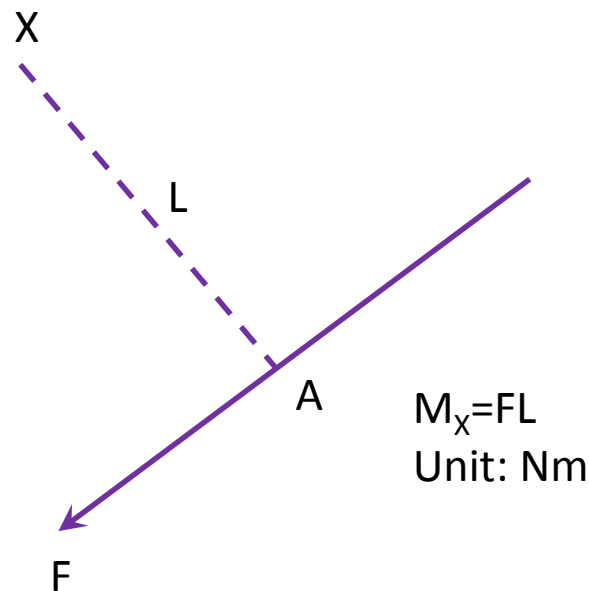
# Moment Arm

- Moment Arm is the perpendicular distance from an axis to the line of action of a force



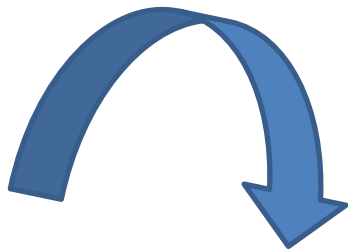
# Calculation of Moment of a Force about a Point

- Moment of a force about any point is given by the product of magnitude of force and perpendicular distance between the line of action of a force and the point about which moment is considered

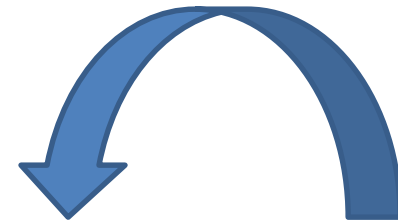


# Sign Convention for Moment of a Force

- Clockwise moment is taken to be positive and anticlockwise moment is taken to be negative.



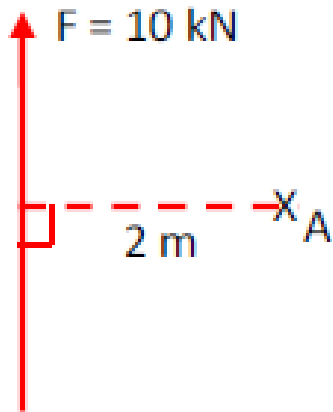
**Positive**



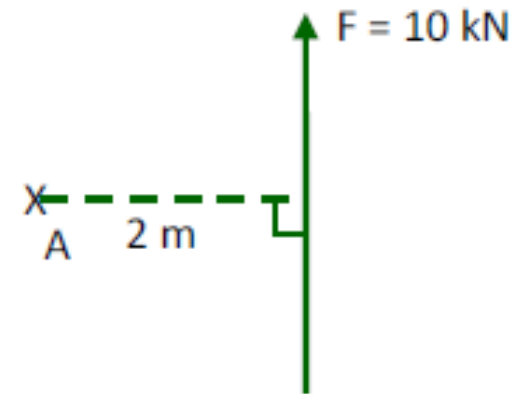
**Negative**

# Example Problems

Find moment of force 'F' about 'A' in the following cases



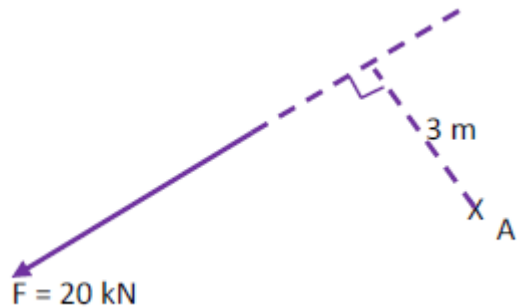
$$M_A = 10 * 2 = +20kNm$$



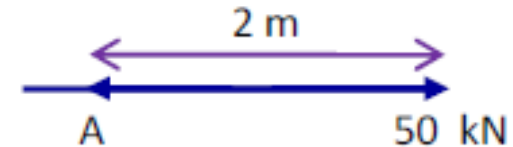
$$M_A = -10 * 2 = -20kNm$$

# Example Problems

Find moment of force 'F' about 'A' in the following cases



$$M_A = -20 * 3 = -60 \text{ kNm}$$

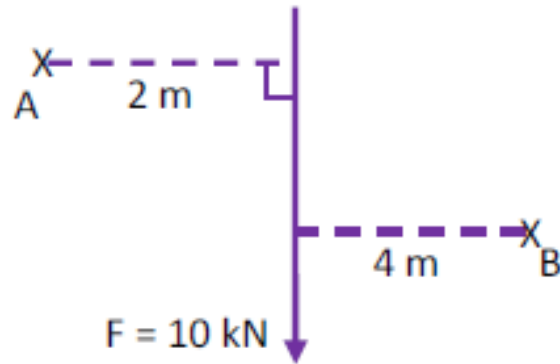


$$M_A = 50 * 0 = 0$$

# Example Problems

Find moment of the force about A and B in the following figure

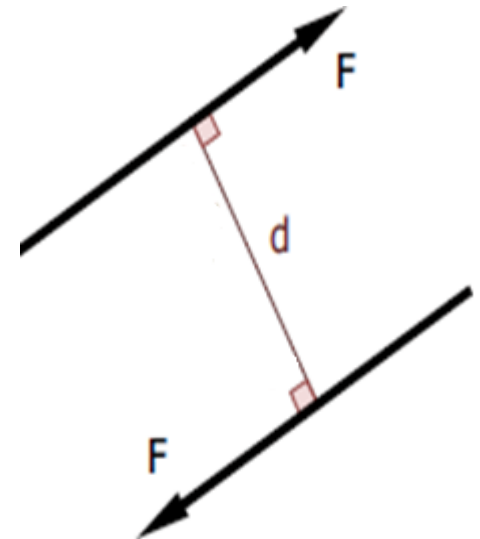
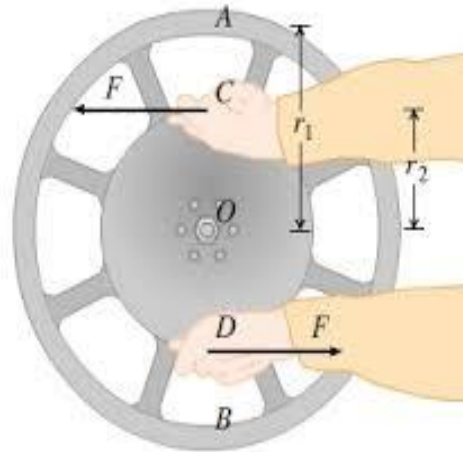
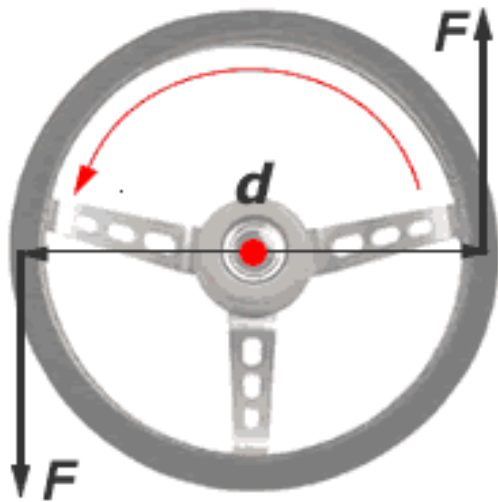
$$M_A = 10 * 2 = +20kNm$$



$$M_B = -10 * 4 = -40kNm$$

# Couple

- A pair of equal unlike parallel forces separated by a distance



# Couple



Rotation of a key to lock and unlock is the moment of couple



# Couple

Opening or closing of tap is the moment of couple



Opening



Closing

# Characteristics of a Couple

- A couple consists of a pair of equal and unlike parallel forces separated by a distance
- A couple does not produce translation (Resultant = 0)
- A couple produces only rotation or moment
- The moment of a couple is given by the product of one of the forces of the couple and the distance between them
- The moment of a couple is always constant irrespective of the moment centre and moment arm



# Summary

- Moment of a force is a measure of its tendency to cause a body to rotate about a specific point or axis
- Moment arm is the perpendicular distance from an axis to the line of action of a force
- A pair of equal unlike parallel forces separated by a distance is known as a couple
- A couple produces rotation or moment

