

Gravitational force:

- Attractive force that acts between two masses

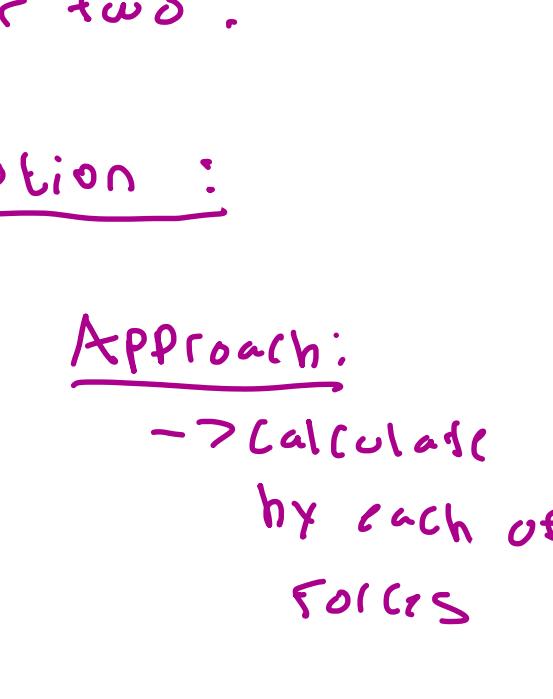
Centrifugal force:

- Force that is needed to move object in circular motion

Tension force:

- Force that is transmitted through a string, cable, rope
- When forces are applied to either end
- Always pulls along direction of cable and away from object it is applied to

① Gravitational Force:



Newton's law of gravitational force:

$$F_g = G \frac{m_1 m_2}{r^2}$$

$$G = 6.674 \times 10^{-11} \text{ N} \cdot \text{m}^2 \cdot \text{kg}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-2}$$

Question: 3 asteroids are floating in space at the vertices of an equilateral triangle. Each asteroid has a mass of 10^6 kg . Side length of the triangle is 10^8 km . Calculate net gravitational force acting on one of the asteroids due to the other two.

Solution:

Approach:

→ calculate gravitational force exerted on one asteroid by each of the other two, then find vector sum of all forces

Given/Unknowns:
Side length = $10^8 \text{ km} \rightarrow 10^11 \text{ m}$
 $m = 10^6 \text{ kg}$
 $F_g = G \frac{m_1 m_2}{r^2}$
 $G = 6.674 \times 10^{-11}$

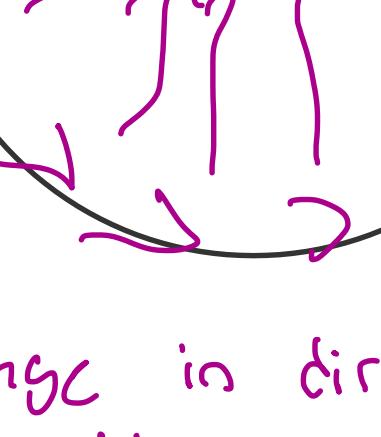
Choosing point A
asteroid A as object of forces

Step ① calculate F_g from A → B

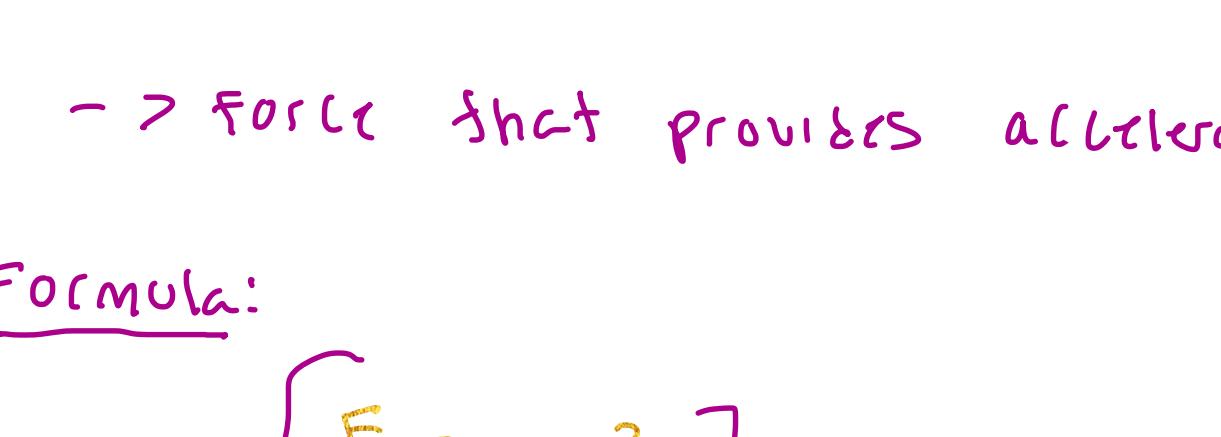
$$F_g = G \frac{m_1 m_2}{r^2} = 6.674 \times 10^{-11} \left(\frac{10^6 \times 10^6}{(10^8)^2} \right) \approx 6.67 \times 10^{-11}$$

Step ② Determine direction of each force

→ Forces will be directed along lines connecting centers of asteroids



Step ③ Resolve each force into force components

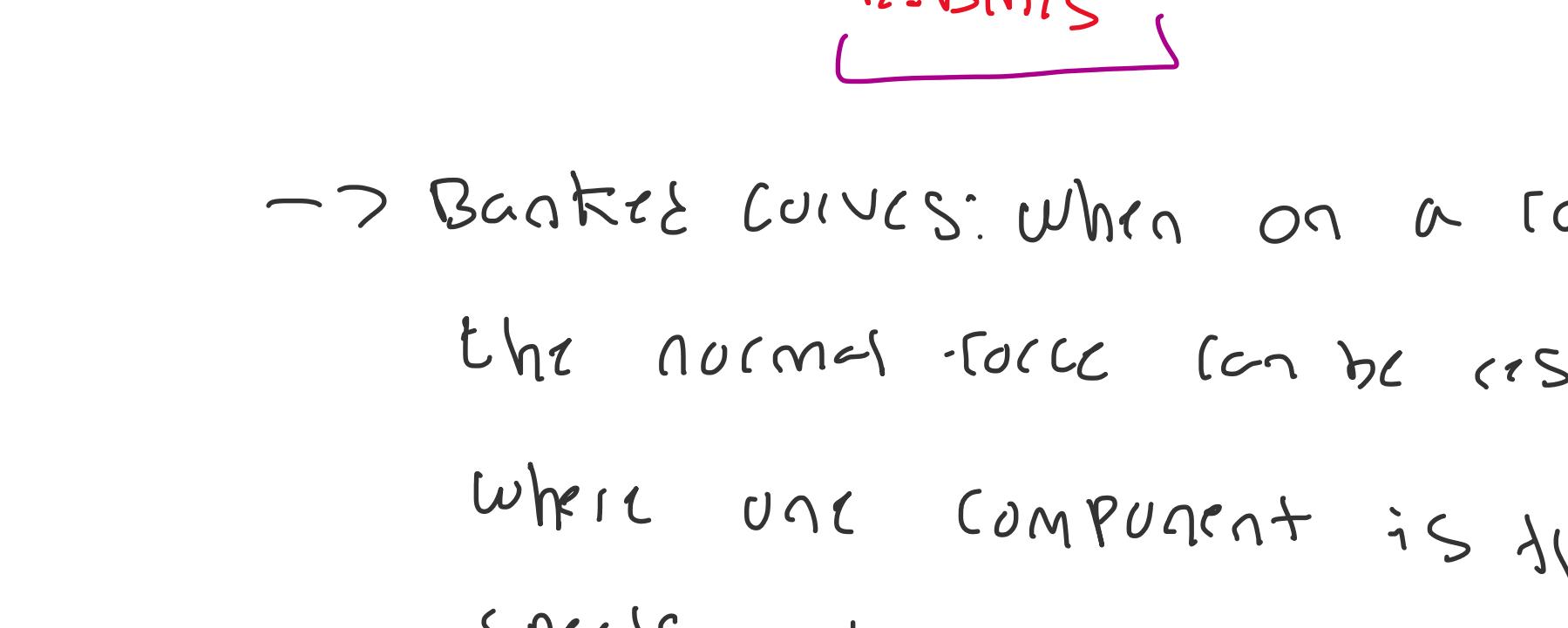


$$\begin{aligned} F_{xB} &= F_{gB} \cos 30^\circ \\ F_{yB} &= F_{gB} \sin 30^\circ \\ F_{xC} &= F_{gC} \cos 30^\circ \\ F_{yC} &= F_{gC} \sin 30^\circ \end{aligned}$$

Step ④ Sum components

$$\begin{aligned} F_{x\text{net}} &= 2(F_{gB} \cos 30^\circ) = 1.156 \times 10^{-10} \text{ N} \\ F_{y\text{net}} &= 0 \rightarrow F_{y\text{net}} = F_{yB} + (-F_{yC}) \\ F_{y\text{net}} &= F_{gB} \sin 30^\circ - F_{gC} \sin 30^\circ \end{aligned}$$

② Centripetal Force → Resultant force acting towards center of curve



→ continuous change in direction of velocity vector
↳ acceleration

→ centripetal acceleration points toward center of the circle about which the object is moving

→ force that provides acceleration is centripetal force

Formula:

$$F_c = \frac{mv^2}{r}$$

Types of questions:

① Vehicles on Curved Roads

→ flat curve: vehicle travelling around flat curve, frictional force between tires and the road provides centripetal force. Without sufficient friction, vehicle would slide outward

→ Example: calculate max speed at which car can travel around a curve of radius 50m if $\mu_s = 0.3$ between the road and tires.

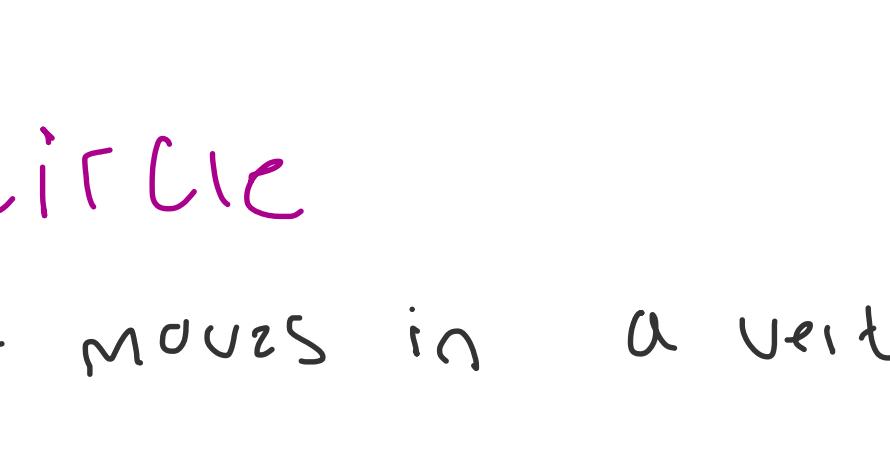
Solutions:

Given/Unknowns:

$$\mu_s = 0.3$$

$$v = ?$$

$$r = 50 \text{ m}$$



$$F_f = \mu_s m g$$

$$F_c = \frac{mv^2}{r}$$

$$F_c = F_f \rightarrow \frac{mv^2}{r} = \mu_s m g$$

$$v^2 = \mu_s g r$$

$$v = \sqrt{\mu_s g r}$$

$$v = \sqrt{0.3 \times 9.81 \times 50} = 12.13 \text{ m/s}$$

→ banked curves: when on a road that is banked,

the normal force can be resolved into two components

while one component is the centripetal force. Higher speeds → less reliance on friction

Example: determine ideal banking angle for a road curve of radius 100m designed for a speed of 20m/s. Assume no friction.

Solutions:

Given/Unknowns:

$$v = 20 \text{ m/s}$$

$$r = 100 \text{ m}$$

$$F_f = 0 \text{ N}$$

$$F_c = \frac{mv^2}{r}$$

$$F_c = F_N \cos \theta$$

$$F_N \sin \theta = mg$$

$$F_y = F_N \sin \theta$$

$$F_x = F_N \cos \theta$$

$$F_y = mg$$

$$F_y = F_g$$

$$F_N \cos \theta = mg$$

$$F_N \sin \theta = \frac{mv^2}{r}$$

$$\tan \theta = \frac{F_N \sin \theta}{F_N \cos \theta} = \frac{\frac{mv^2}{r}}{mg} = \frac{v^2}{gr}$$

$$\theta = \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{v^2}{gr} \right)$$

$$v = 20 \text{ m/s}$$

$$r = 100 \text{ m}$$

$$g = 9.81 \text{ m/s}^2$$

$$\theta = \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{20^2}{9.81 \times 100} \right) = 22.18^\circ$$

$$\theta = 22.18^\circ$$