

Tutorial 2: 2D and 3D Equilibrium

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1. Constraints

Note that the darkened joints are pin joints while the light joints are rollers

- (a) Properly constrained, the roller stops the torque
- (b) Improperly constrained: The torque can't be countered, but not statistically indeterminate, since motion is not possible anyways
- (c) Properly Constrained
- (d) Improperly constrained, can't produce any torque, also statistically indeterminate
- (e) Same as above
- (f) Properly constrained

2. 2 Force Triangles

Consider the two force triangles formed by the small balls, stacking them, we eliminate the tension and get the force triangle for the big ball (with the arrows reversed) and hence

$$\begin{aligned} R &= \frac{Mg}{2} \times \frac{30}{15\sqrt{3}} = \frac{Mg}{\sqrt{3}} = 22.655 \text{ N} \\ T &= \frac{Mg}{2} \times \frac{15}{15\sqrt{3}} = \frac{Mg}{2\sqrt{3}} = 11.327 \text{ N} \\ N &= mg + \frac{Mg}{2} = 29.430 \text{ N} \end{aligned}$$

3. More than a force triangle

Lets say that the forces at A and B are F_A and F_B respectively, then drawing the force triangle we have

$$\begin{aligned} F_H &= F_A - F_B = \frac{G}{\sqrt{3}} \\ T &= \frac{2G}{\sqrt{3}} \end{aligned}$$

Now applying the torque equation at the centre of the rod we have

$$\sqrt{2}(F_A + F_B) = T \sin 75^\circ$$

Solving the two we have

$$F_A = \frac{1 + \sqrt{3}}{4}G; F_B = \frac{3 - \sqrt{3}}{12}G$$

Alternatively, we can find the point of intersection and equate the moments about that

4. Primitive mechanical Advantage

Let $\mu = 0.35$, now the force triangle for A gives

$$\frac{F \cos 20^\circ}{\mu} + F \sin 20^\circ = mg \implies F = \frac{\mu mg}{\cos 20^\circ + \mu \sin 20^\circ} = 648.197 \text{ N}$$

while for B it gives

$$F = \tan 10^\circ \mu mg = 121.083 \text{ N}$$

Clearly less force is required for B , this proves the mechanical advantage you can get by using a machine

5. Feeling the centre of mass

Let us first observe that a clockwise torque at B results in an anticlockwise torque for the jig and vice versa.

Let the centre of mass make an angle of θ with the diameter and be a distance r from the centre, now, since the sign of the torque changed between the two runs, it holds by IVT that there exists a

$$\alpha_0 \in [0, \alpha] : \tau(\alpha) = 0$$

Measuring about this equilibrium,

$$Wr \sin(\alpha_0 - 0) = \tau_0 = 2460 \text{ Nm}$$

$$Wr \sin(30 - \alpha_0) = \tau_{30} = 4680 \text{ Nm}$$

divide the two equations to find α_0 , and clearly $\alpha_0 + \theta$ will be the angle between the centre of mass and the horizontal at vertical which is 90°

$$\sin 30 \cot \alpha - \cos 30 = \frac{\tau_{30}}{\tau_0} \implies \alpha = \arctan \frac{\sin 30}{\cos 30 + \frac{\tau_{30}}{\tau_0}} = 10.24^\circ$$

which passes the boundary check where α_0 and $\alpha_0 = 30^\circ$, and so $\theta = 79.76^\circ$, using the α_0 obtained in this way, we can resubstitute to find

$$r = \frac{\tau_0}{W \sin \alpha} = ??$$

6. 3 superposed force triangles

Consider the three superposed force triangles, it is similar to the geometry of the actual figure, using that similarity we have

$$Mg \left(\frac{H}{H-h} - 1 \right) = Mg \left(\frac{h}{H-h} \right) = \frac{mg}{2}$$

which implies

$$m = \frac{2M}{\sqrt{\frac{15 \times 4}{5}}} = \frac{2M}{2\sqrt{3}-1} = 0.811M$$

7. Three Force Problem & Some geometry

Requiring the concurrency of the three forces we get the following figure, using the relation indicated we obtain

$$2 \cos 2\theta = \cos \theta$$

Using newton's method we find $\theta = 32.53^\circ$

8. Another Three force Problem

9. Torque Balance

We know that the torque provided by the spring must balance the torque provided by the normal so we have

$$F_s \times \text{uvec}(300, -230) \times (0, 450) = (120 \text{ N}) \times \text{uvec}(-20^\circ) \times (-330, -180)$$

which gives

$$F_s = 94.76 \text{ N}$$

Using Hooke's law we know

$$F_s = k(|(300, 230)| - 250) \implies k = 3.381 \text{ kN/m}$$

also R_b is given by

$$R_b + F_s \text{uvec}(-300, -230) + (120 \text{ N}) \text{uvec}(-20^\circ) = 0$$

10. 3D Force Polygon

Consider the force polygon, which is the same as the shape of the frame itself, using similarity we have

$$S_1 = -G \frac{a}{c}; S_2 = -G \frac{b}{c}; S_3 = G \frac{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}}{c}$$

11. Pitch and Roll

Consider the pitch equilibrium about BC

$$2\text{m} \times 2kN = 4\text{m} \times \Delta N_A \implies N_A = 1000 \text{ N}$$

And the roll equilibrium about B

$$\Delta N_A = -2\Delta N_C \implies \Delta N_C = -500 \text{ N}$$

and similarly about C to get

$$\Delta N_B = -500 \text{ N}$$

12. Reverse Projection

Consider the equilibrium about the z axis, we have ????

13. A Car jack

14. Direction Cosines & A Robotic Arm

15. Hanging by a thread

16. A 3 legged Table

17. A Trapdoor