

Learn You a **Physics** for Great Good!

>>> **WORK IN PROGRESS** <<<

Examples / Box on an incline

[src: [Examples/Box_incline.lhs](#)]

Previous: [Teeter](#)

[Table of contents](#)

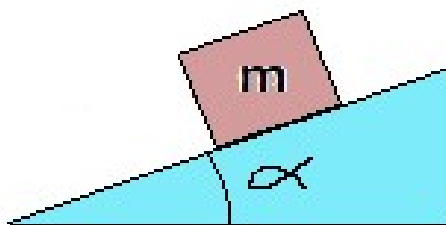
Next: [Table of contents](#)

Box on an incline

```
import Vector.Vector
import Text.Printf
```

A box with the mass 2kg is resting on an incline. The task is to determinate the resulting force given an angle of the incline.

When calculating with forces in this example we will use force vectors. This way we can add and subtract different forces together. We can also scale a force with a scalar.



\dot{g} = *gravitational acceleration*

m = *mass of box*

```
g :: Vector2 Double
g = V2 0 (-10)
```

```
m :: Double
m = 2
```

We scale the gravitational acceleration vector with the mass of the box to get a vector representing

the gravitational force.

$$\dot{F}_g = m \cdot g$$

```
fg :: Vector2 Double
fg = scale m g

alpha :: Angle
alpha = pi/4
```

A unit vector that we get from a radian a .

```
angle_to_unit_vec :: Angle -> Vector2 Double
angle_to_unit_vec angle = V2 (cos angle) (sin angle)
```

Force against the incline from the box we denote as \dot{F}_\perp . Since the force is perpendicular against the incline of the surface, we need to create the unit vector for \dot{F}_\perp by adding $-(\pi/2)$ radians.

This vector we then scale up, with the magnitude of the gravitational force multiplied by $\cos(\text{angle})$, which gives how much the gravitational force that affects \dot{F}_\perp .

There are two edge cases. If the incline is flat, it means the incline has the angle 0, and $\cos(0) = 1$, which means $\dot{F}_g = \dot{F}_\perp$. If the incline is fully tilted however $\frac{\pi}{2}$, it means that $\cos(\frac{\pi}{2}) = 0$ and the gravitational force on the box does not result in any force against the incline.

```
f_l_ :: Vector2 Double -> Angle -> Vector2 Double
f_l_ fa angle = scale ((magnitude fa) * (cos angle))
  (angle_to_unit_vec (angle-(pi/2)))
```

The normal force $\dot{F}_n = -\dot{F}_\perp$ supporting the box from the incline:

```
fn :: Vector2 Double -> Angle -> Vector2 Double
fn fa angle = negate (f_l_ fa angle)
```

The *resulting force* \dot{F}_r is then the normal force from the incline plus the gravitational force.

$$\dot{F}_r = \dot{F}_n + \dot{F}_g$$

```
fr :: Vector2 Double -> Angle -> Vector2 Double
fr fa angle = (fn fa angle) + fa
```

We have now determined a way to get the resulting force from a given angle. Below we show how we can use it.

```
*Main> fr fg (pi/4)
(-10.000000000000002, -10.0)
```

With the use of a rounding printer (defined last in this example) we can round the output.

```
*Main> print_vec_2dec $ fr fg (pi/4)
(-10.00,-10.00)
```

Here we can see, that \vec{F}_r on the box is pointing down-left in the sense of a coordinate system. To know it's magnitude, we can do:

```
magnitude $ fr fg (pi/4)
14.142135623730953
```

Or with rounding:

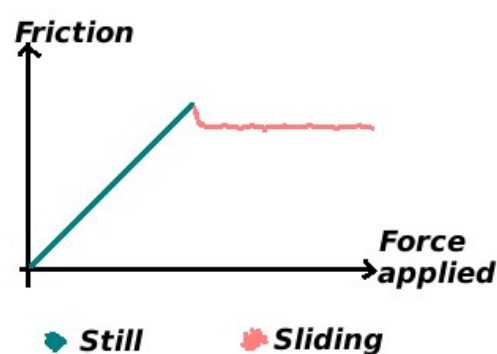
```
print_2dec $ magnitude $ fr fg (pi/4)
14.14
```

Now we try to tackle the problem with friction:

$$F_{friction} = \mu * F_{normal} \iff \mu = \frac{F_{friction}}{F_{normal}}$$

There are two different kinds of friction. One where the object is standing still on the surface, and the other where the object is sliding on the surface. In the case where the object is standing still, it remains still until the force applied on the object is greater than the maximum possible friction between the object and the surface. Once that level is surpassed, the object starts to slide.

When the object is sliding the maximum friction between the surface and the object is slightly less, as illustrated in the figure below.



$$F_{static\ friction} = \mu_{static} \cdot F_{normal}$$

$$F_{kinetic\ friction} = \mu_{kinetic} \cdot F_{normal}$$

Given that we know if the box is already moving or not, we can choose the corresponding friction constant and calculate the friction force between the box and the incline. The direction of the friction force will then be in the opposite direction of the resulting force we determined in the previous section.

We will use a type definition to clarify parameters.

```
type FricConst = Double
```

We will also need to use the unit vector of the resulting force from the previous section.

```
unit_vec :: Vector2 Double -> Vector2 Double
unit_vec v | magnitude v == 0 = (V2 0 0)
           | otherwise = scale (1 / (magnitude v)) v
```

For a box initially at rest:

We let this function compute the friction. If the magnitude of the friction is greater than the magnitude of the resulting force without friction, it means the box will stand still or that the magnitudes can be treated as equally big.

```
ff :: Vector2 Double -> Scalar -> Scalar -> FricConst -> Vector2
   Double
ff fr magn_l_ magn_fr u = scale magn_fric (negate (unit_vec fr))
   where
       magn_fric | magn_l_ * u > magn_fr = magn_fr
                 | otherwise = magn_l_ * u
```

Now we just need to add the friction vector to our old \vec{F}_r . We call this function `fru`, from the

constant μ :

```
fru :: Vector2 Double -> Angle -> FricConst -> Vector2 Double
fru fa a u = (fr fa a) + (ff (fr fa a) magn_l_ magn_fr u)
  where
    magn_l_ = magnitude (f_l_ fa a)
    magn_fr = magnitude (fr fa a)
```

Testing for $u = 0$. In this case both “fr” and “fru” should give the same resulting vector:

```
*Main> print_vec_2dec $ fr fg (pi/3)
(-8.66,-15.00)

*Main> print_vec_2dec $ fru fg (pi/3) 0
(-8.66,-15.00)
```

They should also give the same if the incline is flat.

```
*Main> print_vec_2dec $ fr fg (0)
(-0.00,0.00)

*Main> print_vec_2dec $ fru fg (0) 1
(-0.00,0.00)
```

Lastly one should see the edge case where the angle is $\frac{\pi}{4}$. The magnitude of the normal and the resulting force from the previous section becomes the same (try and control it!). This also means that if $\mu_{static} = 1$ the magnitude of the friction force becomes *equal* to the magnitude of the resulting force without friction. The consequence of this will be that the friction force is just enough to prevent the box from sliding. If we increase the angle just a little, the box starts sliding.

```
*Main> print_vec_2dec $ fru fg (pi/4) 1
(-0.00,0.00)

*Main> print_vec_2dec $ fru fg (0.01 + pi/4) 1
(-0.20,-0.20)
```

In this case it may be beneficial to see more decimals, given that it should slide more downwards (down on the y-axis) than to the left (left on the x-axis).

```
fru fg (0.01 + pi/4) 1
(-0.197986733599107, -0.201986600267551)
```

Friction for a box in motion:

This one is for you to solve. A box in motion is always affected by the friction (except for one particular edge case).

Pretty printing:

```
print_2dec :: Double -> IO ()
print_2dec a = putStrLn $ printf "%.2f" a

print_vec_2dec :: Vector2 Double -> IO ()
print_vec_2dec (V2 a b) = putStrLn $ "(" ++ (printf "%.2f" a) ++ ", "
  ++ (printf "%.2f" b) ++ ")"
```

[src: [Examples/Box_incline.lhs](#)] Previous: [Teeter](#) [Table of contents](#) Next: [Table of contents](#)

© Björn Werner, Erik Sjöström, Johan Johansson, Oskar Lundström (2018), GPL