

Chapter 7 – Newton's Third Law

- Newton's Third Law
- Objects/Systems/Environment
- Acceleration Constraints ~ ropes & pulleys

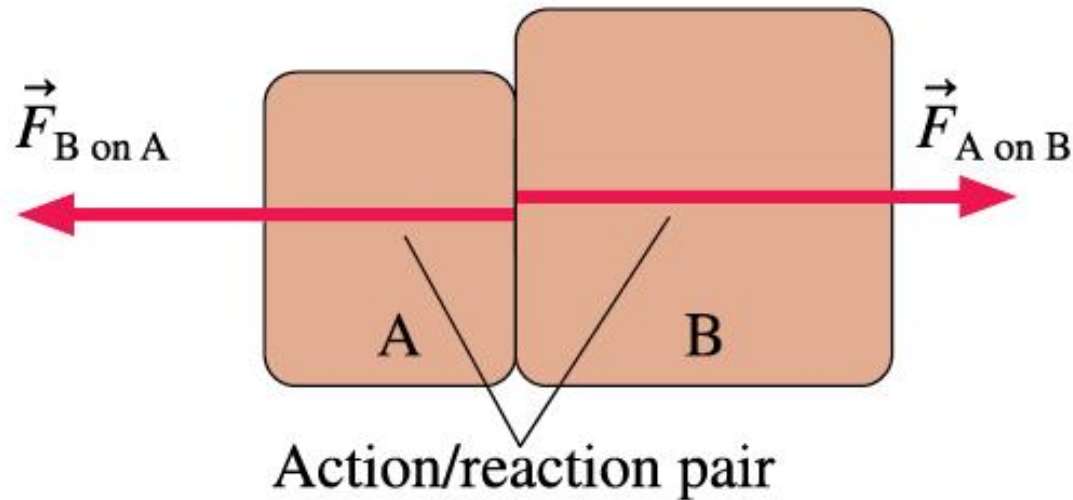


Newton's Third Law

Every force occurs as one member of an **action/reaction pair** of forces. The two members of an action/reaction pair:

- Act on two *different* objects.
- Are equal in magnitude but opposite in direction:

$$\vec{F}_{A \text{ on } B} = -\vec{F}_{B \text{ on } A}$$



Important Concepts

Objects, Systems, and the Environment

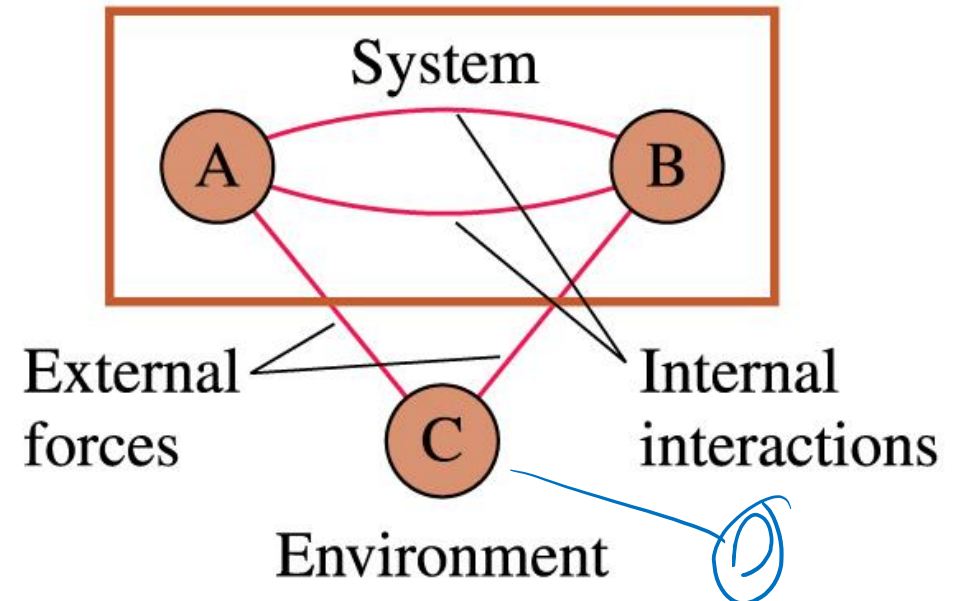
Objects whose motion is of interest are the **system**.

Objects whose motion is not of interest form the **environment**.

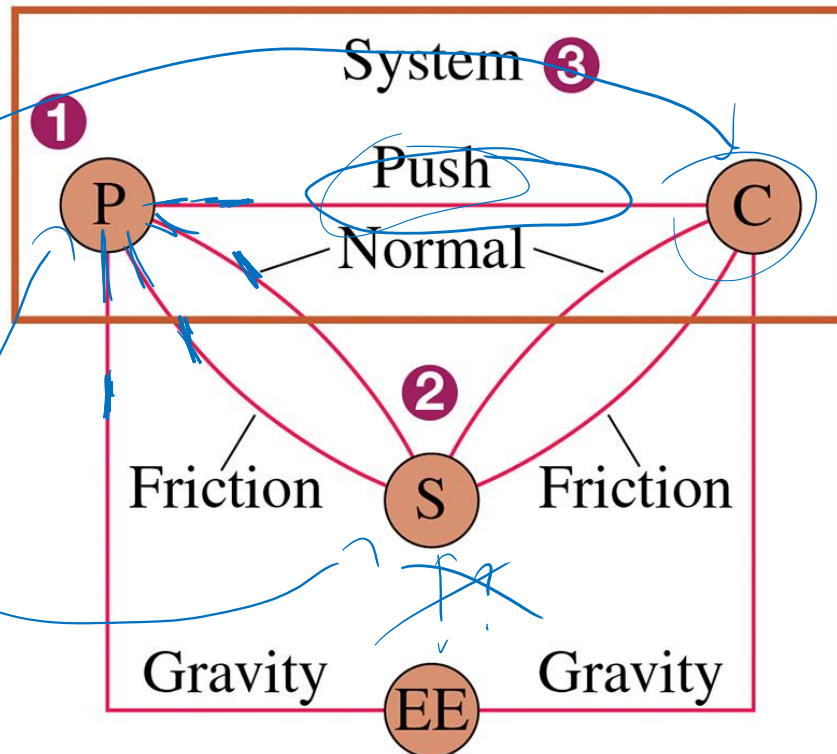
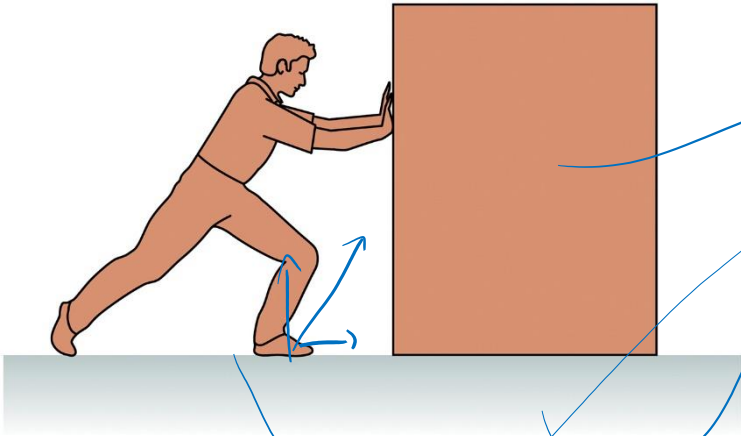
The objects of interest interact with the environment, but those interactions can be considered external forces.

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Interaction Diagram



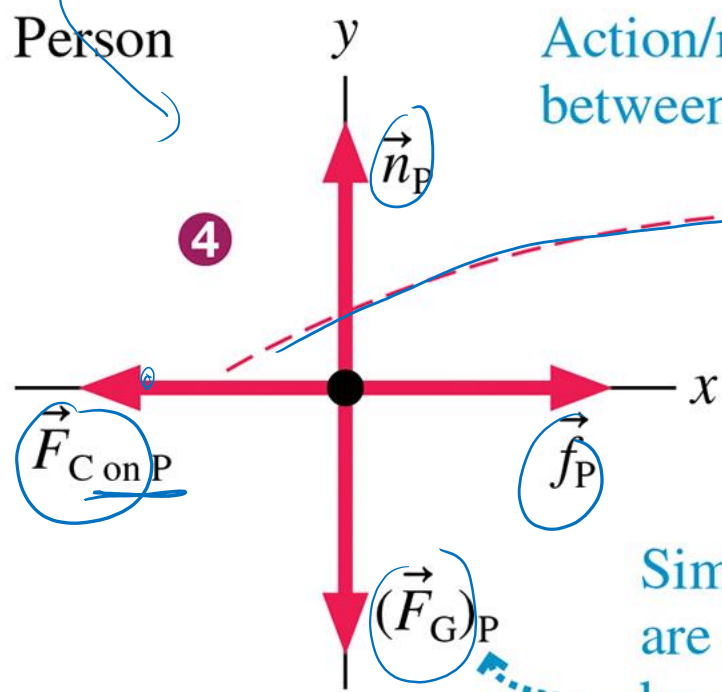
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P = Person
 C = Crate
 S = Surface
 EE = Entire earth

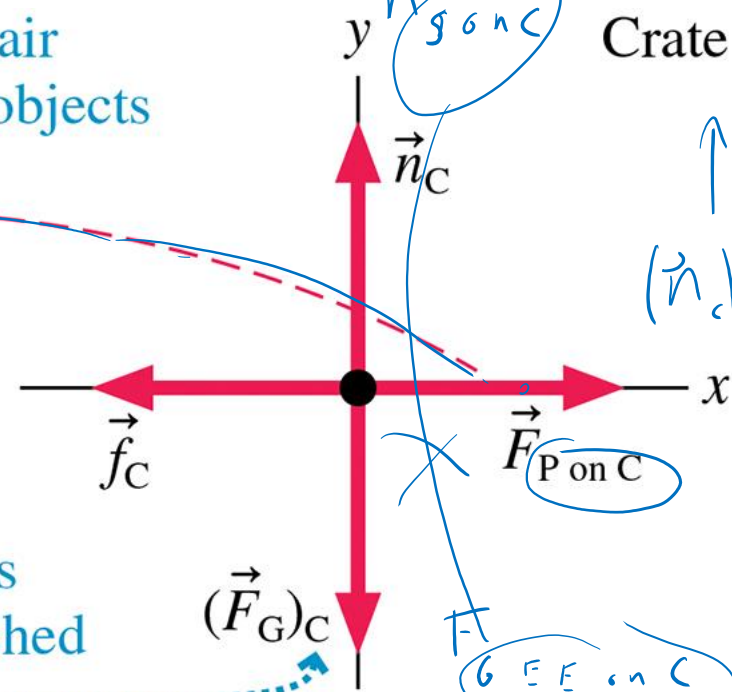
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Person



Action/reaction pair
between the two objects

Crate



Similar forces
are distinguished
by subscripts.

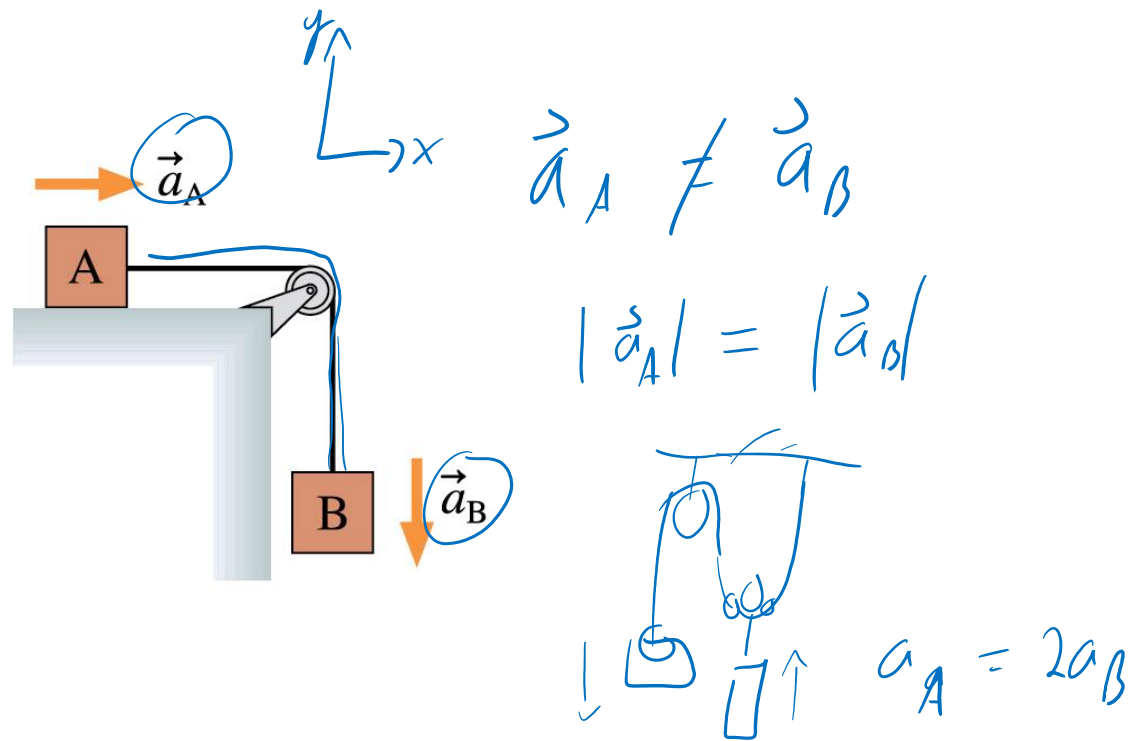
$\uparrow a_y = 0$
 $|\vec{n}_C| = |\vec{F}_G|$

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Acceleration Constraints

Objects that are constrained to move together must have accelerations of equal magnitude: $a_A = a_B$.

This must be expressed in terms of components, such as $a_{Ax} = -a_{By}$.



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Strings and Pulleys

The tension in a string or rope pulls in both directions. The tension is constant in a string if the string is:

- Massless, or
- In equilibrium

Objects connected by massless strings passing over massless, frictionless pulleys act *as if* they interact via an action/reaction pair of forces.

