Physics Dynamics + Motion

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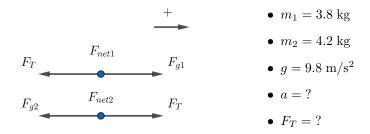
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8 Pulleys

8.1 Pulleys Example Problem 1

An atwood machine consists of masses of 3.8 kg and 4.2 kg. What is the acceleration (a) of the masses? What is the tension (F_T) in the rope?

8.1.1 Diagram and Givens



8.1.2 Finding equation for F_T

$$\therefore F_{net_2} = F_T - F_{g_2}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow m_2 a = F_T - m_2 g \quad \Rightarrow \quad m_2 a + m_2 g = F_T$$

$$\therefore F_T = m_2 a + m_2 g$$

8.1.3 Finding equation for a

$$\therefore F_{net_1} = F_{g_1} - F_T
\Leftrightarrow m_1 a = m_1 g - F_T \rightarrow m_1 a = m_1 g - (m_2 a + m_2 g)
\Leftrightarrow m_1 a = m_1 g - m_2 a - m_2 g \rightarrow m_1 a + m_2 a = m_1 g - m_2 g
\Leftrightarrow a(m_1 + m_2) = g(m_1 - m_2)
\therefore a = \left(\frac{g(m_1 - m_2)}{(m_1 + m_2)}\right)$$

8.1.4 Solving for a

$$\therefore a = \left(\frac{9.81(4.2 - 3.8)}{(4.2 + 3.8)}\right) \approx 0.49 \text{ m/s}^2$$

8.1.5 Solving for F_T

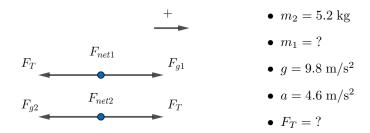
$$F_T = m_2 a + m_2 g$$

= 3.8(0.49) + 3.8(9.81) $\approx 39 \text{ N}$

8.2 Pulleys Example Problem 2

The smaller mass on an Atwood machine is 5.2kg. If the masses accelerate at 4.6 m/s^2 , what is the mass of the larger object? What is the tension in the rope?

8.2.1 Diagram and Givens



- 8.2.2 Solving for m_1
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