

# PHY101: Introduction to Physics I

**Monsoon Semester 2024**

**Lecture 9**

Department of Physics, School of Natural Sciences,  
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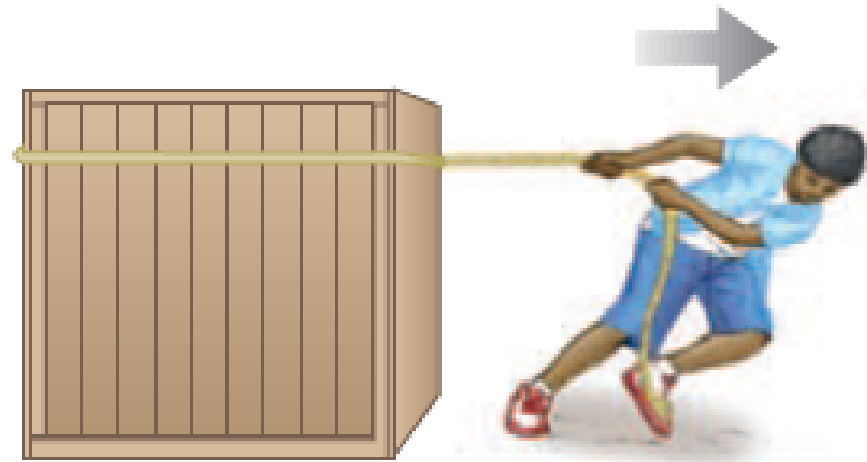
## Previous Lecture

### Newton's laws of motion



## This Lecture

### Tension Problem solving

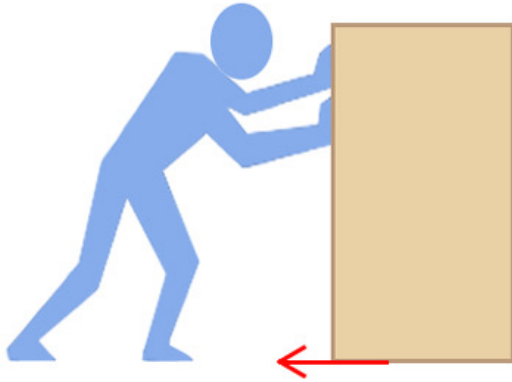


# Contact Forces

**Contact force** is a force that acts at the points of contact between two objects. Microscopically this force is transmitted between two bodies by short-range atomic or molecular interactions.

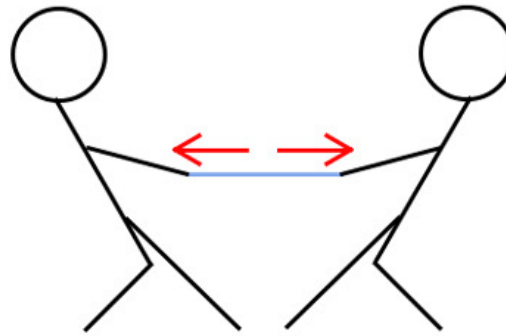
## Friction Force

A man pushing a box



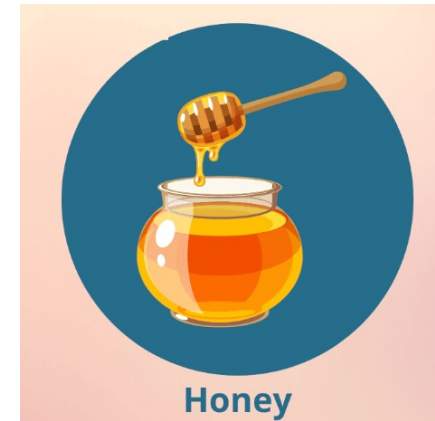
## Tension Force

Two men pulling a rope



## Viscous force

Nature of honey



Examples: **Friction force, tension force, viscous force** etc.

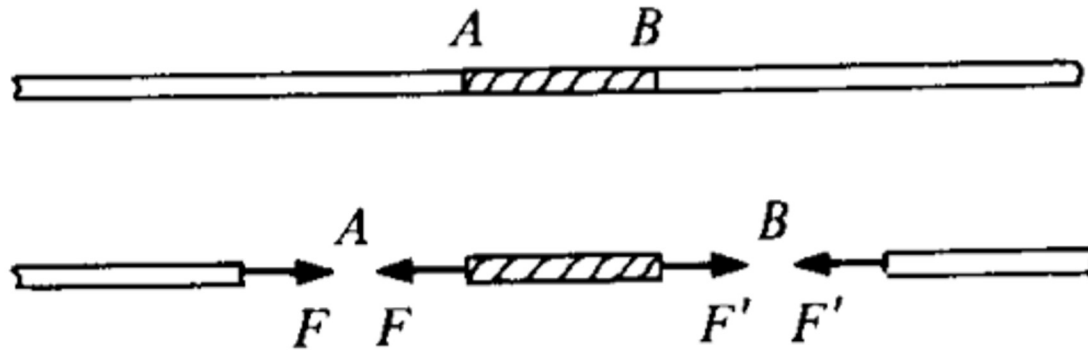
Image Sources:

<https://www.sciencefacts.net/contact-and-non-contact-forces.html>

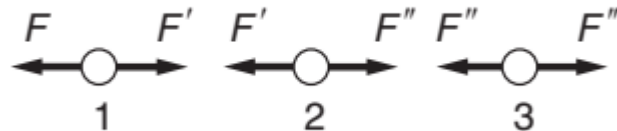
<https://sciencenotes.org/viscosity-definition-and-examples/>

# Tension

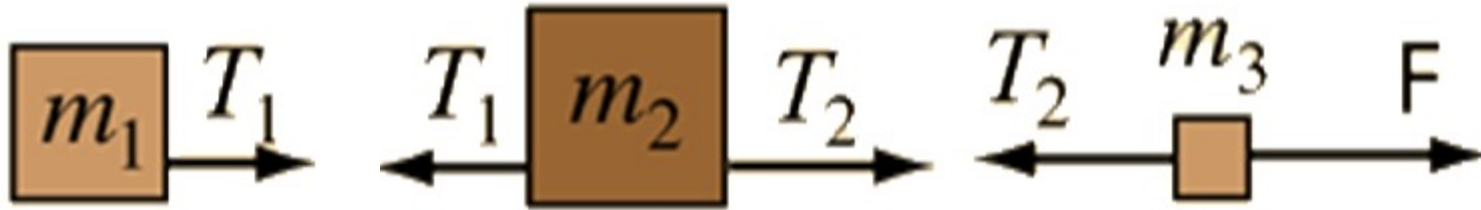
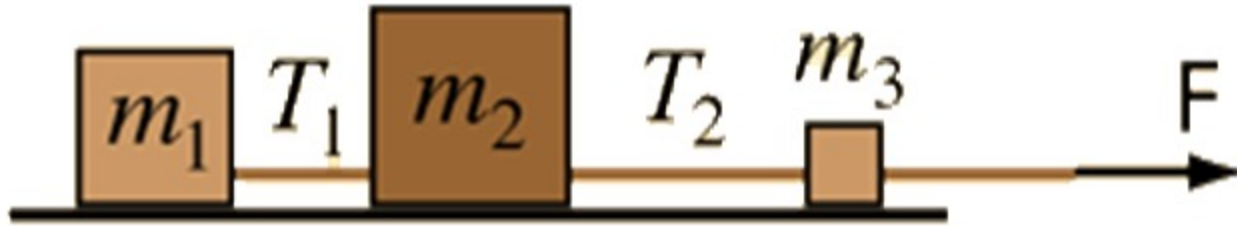
If one pulls each section of a short rope to either side of it, by Newton's third law it is pulled by the adjacent sections. The magnitude of this force acting between the adjacent sections of the rope is called the **tension**.



For such systems we can not associate a fixed direction to the tension. It will depend on which object/part is exerting the force on which!



Similarly, for the systems of masses below, a force (F) is applied and T is tension between the masses. Find the expression for acceleration of the system:



$$F - T_2 = m_3 a \quad \text{gives } T_2$$

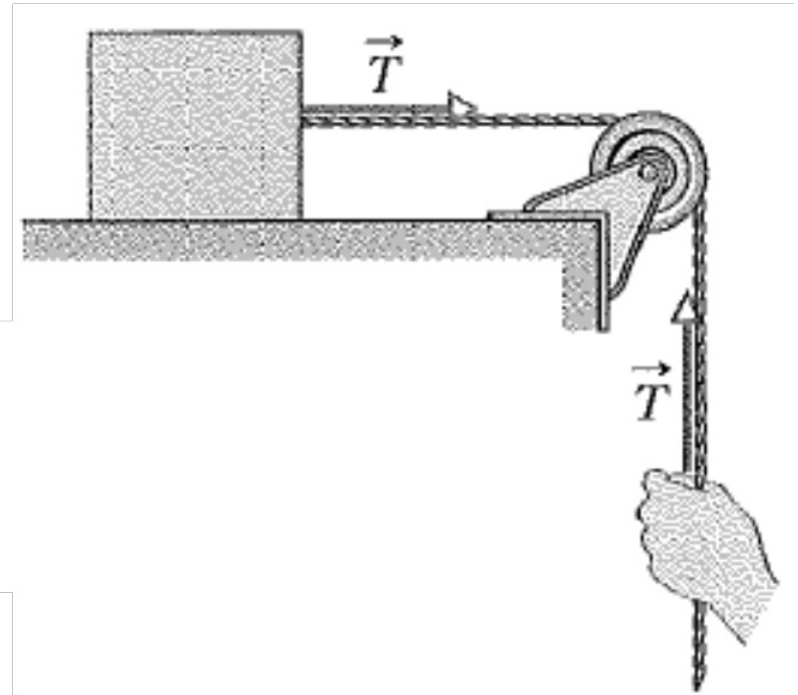
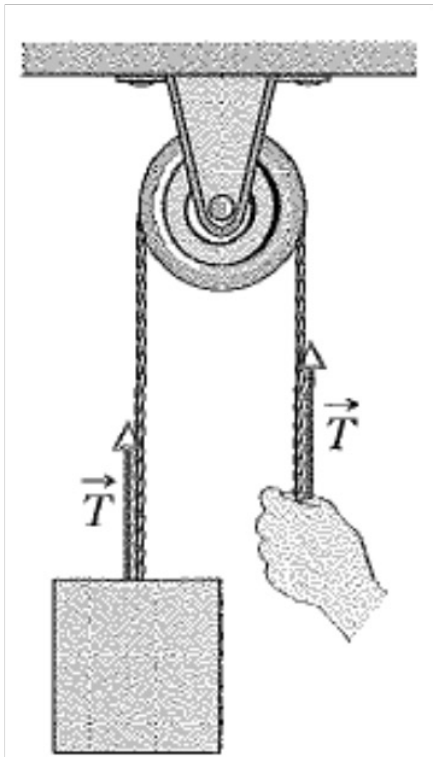
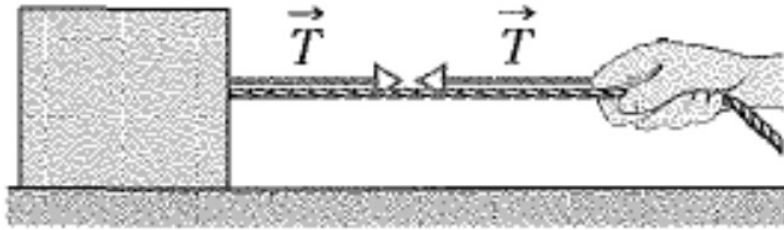
$$T_1 = m_1 a \quad \text{gives } T_1$$

$$T_2 - T_1 = m_2 a \quad \text{gives a check}$$

$$a = \frac{F}{m_1 + m_2 + m_3}$$

# Tension

few more examples: Pulleys



# Tension

few more examples: pulling a box

R=> Rope  
M=> Man  
B=>Body

$\vec{F}_{BR}$

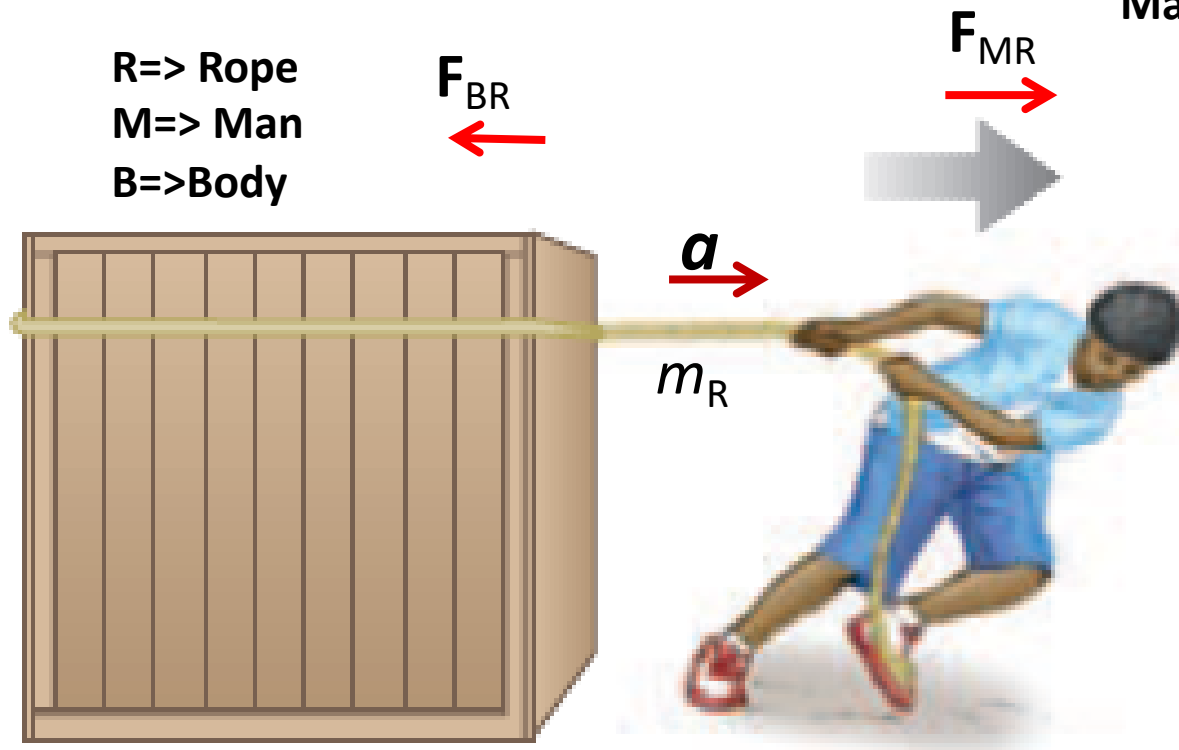
$\vec{F}_{MR}$

Mathematical tools for problem solving

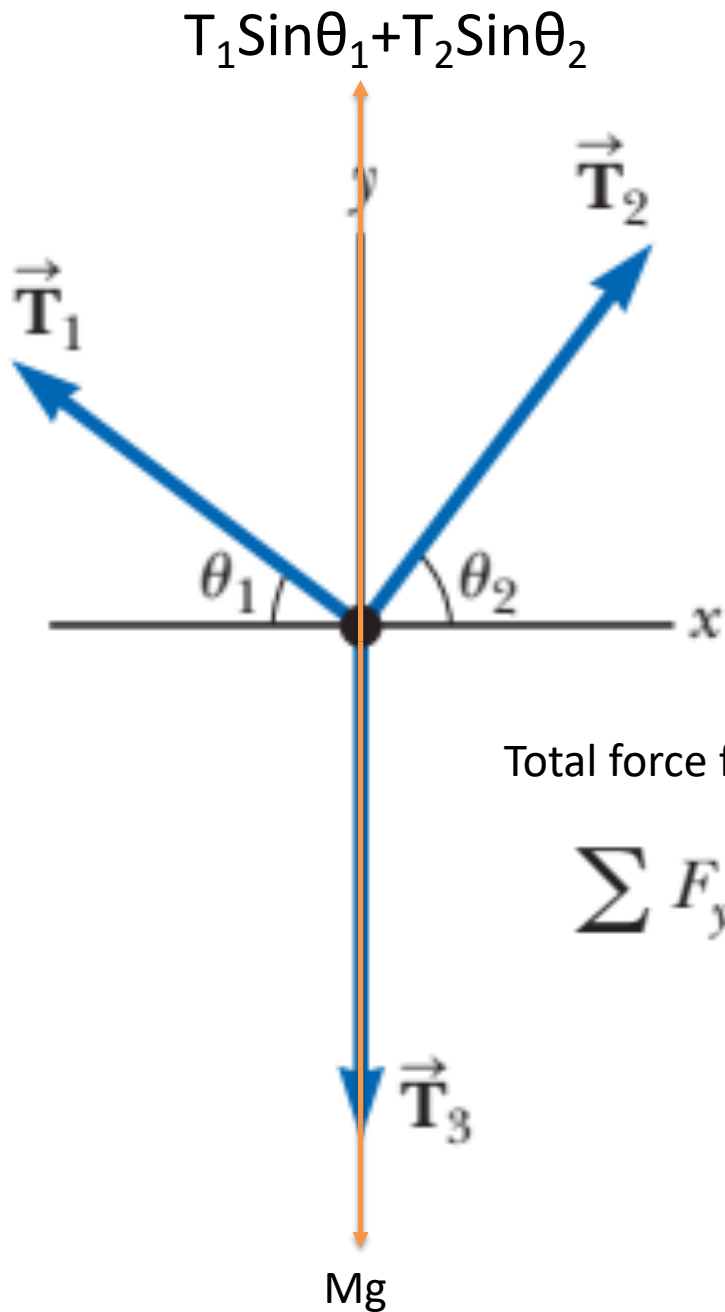
$$\vec{F}_{MR} + \vec{F}_{BR} = m_R \vec{a}$$

$$|\vec{F}_{MR}| - |\vec{F}_{BR}| = m_R a$$

$$|\vec{F}_{MR}| \neq |\vec{F}_{BR}|$$



Rope can transmit a force where the force at any point on the rope is called **Tension**

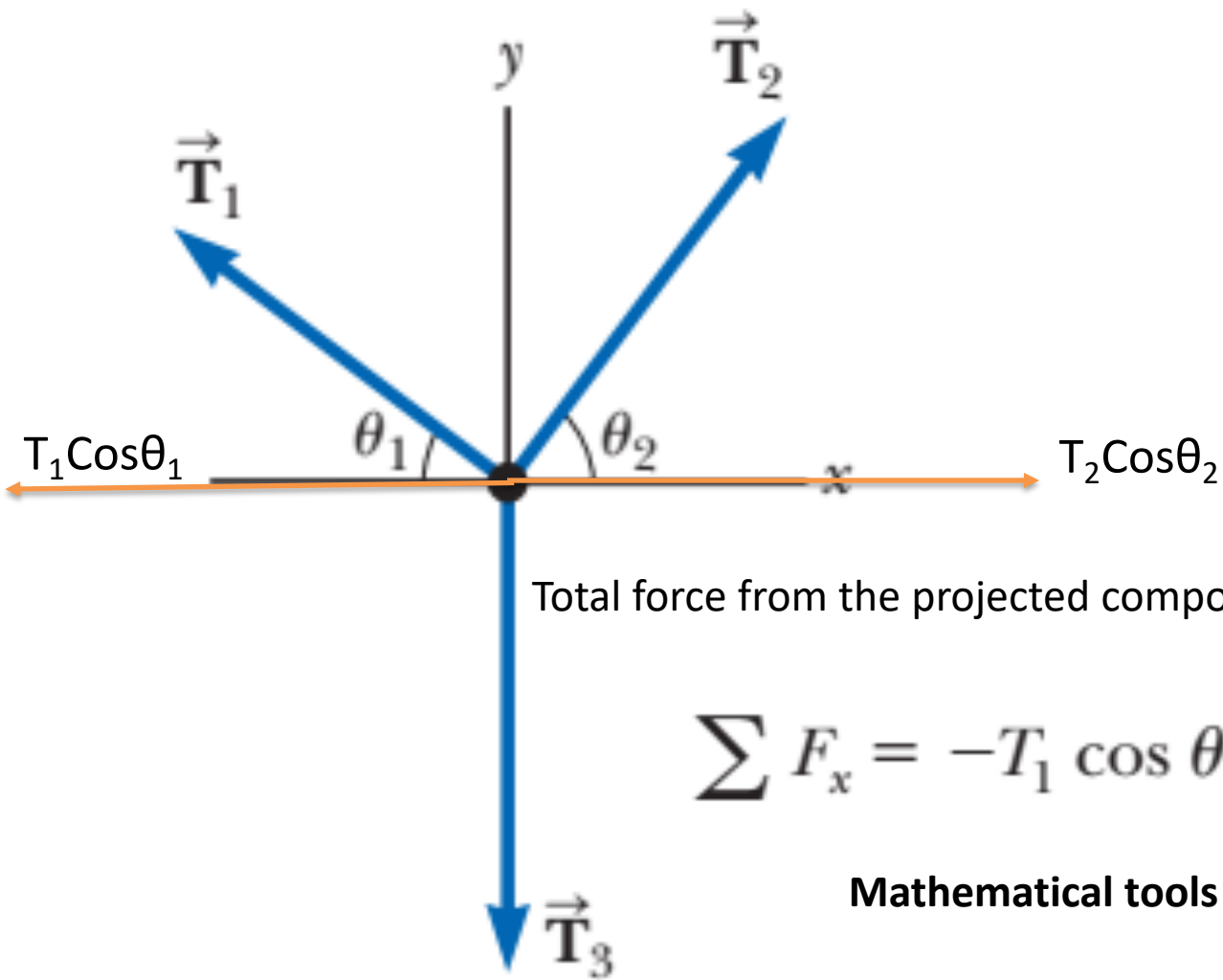


**Mathematical tools for problem solving**

Total force from the projected components of tension (Y direction)

$$\sum F_y = T_1 \sin \theta_1 + T_2 \sin \theta_2 + (-Mg) = 0$$



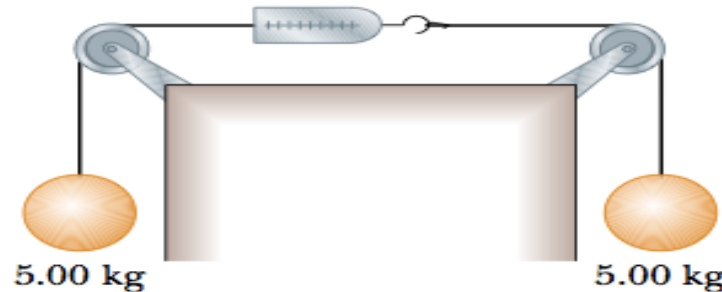


Total force from the projected components of tension (X direction)

$$\sum F_x = -T_1 \cos \theta_1 + T_2 \cos \theta_2 = 0$$

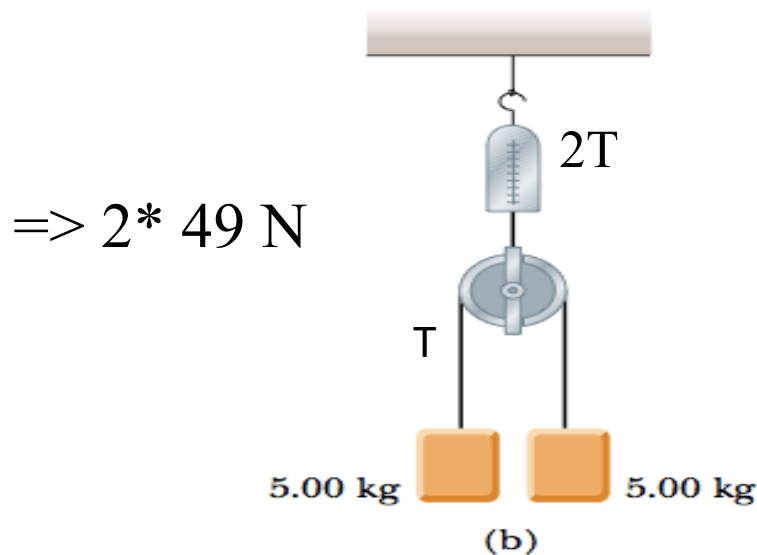
**Mathematical tools for problem solving**

**Problem 1:** The systems shown in figure below are in equilibrium. If the spring scales are calibrated in Newtons, what do they read? Ignore the masses of the pulleys and strings and assume the pulleys and the incline in figures are **frictionless**. [g is referred to as the acceleration of gravity. Its value is  $9.8 \text{ m/s}^2$  on Earth]



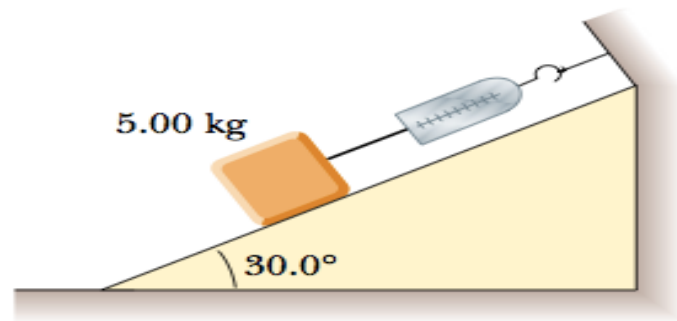
$$\Rightarrow T = mg = 49 \text{ N}$$

(a)



$$\Rightarrow 2 * 49 \text{ N}$$

(b)



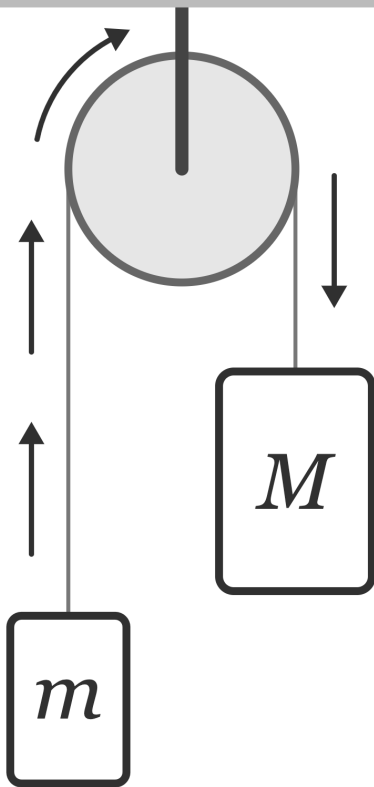
(c)

$$\Rightarrow T = mg \sin 30^\circ$$

$$\Rightarrow 24.5 \text{ N}$$

## Problem 2:

Two masses of 80 kg and 140 kg hang from a rope that runs over a pulley. You can assume that the rope is massless and inextensible, and that the pulley is frictionless. Find the upward acceleration of the smaller mass and the tension in the rope.

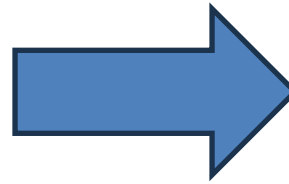


The smaller mass is subject to 2 forces:

- the upward tension,  $\mathbf{T}$
- and the force of gravity,  $\mathbf{mg}$

The larger mass is also subject to 2 forces:

- the upward tension,  $\mathbf{T}$
- and the force of gravity,  $\mathbf{Mg}$



**We know**

$$m = 80 \text{ kg}$$

$$M = 140 \text{ kg}$$

**We want to know**

$$a = ?$$

$$T = ?$$

## Continued...

Applying **Newton's 2<sup>nd</sup> Law**, the magnitudes of the two resultant forces can be expressed as

$$r = T - mg$$

$$R = Mg - T$$

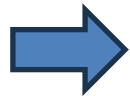


$$ma = T - mg$$

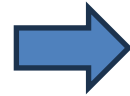
$$Ma = Mg - T$$

$$r = ma$$

$$R = Ma$$



$$T = ma + mg$$



$$Ma = Mg - ma - mg$$

$$a = \frac{M - m}{M + m} g$$

$$a = \frac{140 \text{ kg} - 80 \text{ kg}}{140 \text{ kg} + 80 \text{ kg}} (9.8 \text{ m/s}^2)$$

$$a = \frac{60 \text{ kg}}{220 \text{ kg}} (9.8 \text{ m/s}^2)$$

$$a = 2.7 \text{ m/s}^2$$

$$T = ma + mg$$

$$T = m(a + g)$$

$$T = (80 \text{ kg}) (2.7 \text{ m/s}^2 + 9.8 \text{ m/s}^2)$$

$$T = 1.0 \times 10^3 \text{ N}$$

**Answer:**

**Upward acceleration of the rope: 2.7 m/s<sup>2</sup>  
& tension of the rope: 1000 N**

**Next**

**Friction**  
**Projectile motion**