

# Lecture 13: Newton's 3rd Law of Motion

(and a Bit of Springs)

## Warm-Up Activity

Which of the following statements, if any, are true about Newton's 3rd law pairs?

- (A) They appear on different free-body diagrams.
- (B) They are the same type of force.
- (C) They appear on the same free-body diagram.
- (D)  $\vec{F}_{AB}^t = -\vec{F}_{AB}^t$

## Feedback Question

Do you prefer feedback through documents uploaded to Canvas, or through Gradescope (as was done on the quizzes)?

- (A) PDFs on Canvas
- (B) Comments in Gradescope

## Newton's 3rd Law of Motion

- If A exerts a force on B, then B exerts a force of the same magnitude on A in the opposite direction:

$$\vec{F}_{AB}^t = -\vec{F}_{BA}^t$$

- These two forces make a *Newton's 3rd law pair*, or an *action-reaction pair*.
- 3rd law pair forces...
  - are the same type of force;
  - appear on different free body diagrams.

## Spring Forces

- Many objects resist changes in physical configuration (*i.e.* deformations).
- For small deformations, we can model the object as a spring.
- The forces caused by springs obey Hooke's law:  $\vec{F}^S = -k(\vec{x} - \vec{x}_{eq})$ .
  - $\Delta\vec{x} = (\vec{x} - \vec{x}_{eq})$  is displacement from equilibrium.
  - $k$  is the spring constant.
  - What does the negative sign mean?

Types of Forces

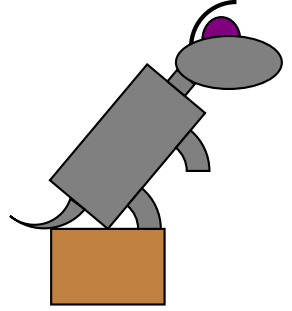
- Gravity
  - Newtonian  $\vec{F}_{AB}^g = m_A \vec{g}_B$
  - Near-Earth  $\vec{g}_B = G \frac{M_B}{r^2} (-\hat{r}), G = 6.67408 \times 10^{-11} \text{ N} \cdot \text{m}^2/\text{kg}^2$
  - Near-Earth  $\vec{g}_E = g(-\hat{y}), g = 9.81 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}^2} \approx 10 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}^2}$
- Normal  $\vec{F}^N$  always  $\perp$ ; varies in magnitude
- Tension  $\vec{F}^T$  uniform (massless, inextensible rope)
- Spring  $\vec{F}^S = -k(\vec{x} - \vec{x}_{eq})$
- Friction
  - Static Friction  $F^{sf} \leq \mu_s |\vec{F}^N|$
  - Kinetic Friction  $F^{kf} = \mu_k |\vec{F}^N|$

Not Forces

- Momentum
- Inertia
- Velocity
- Acceleration

## A\*R\*C\*S: Uh-Oh Dr. Paws

In the video in Section 3.16 of our textbook, Paul pushes a footstool (mass  $m_1$ ) across the floor with a constant force so that the footstool speeds up. Dr. Paws (a dog with mass  $m_2$ ) is sitting on the footstool. The coefficient of static friction between the dog and the footstool is  $\mu$  (assume no friction between the footstool and the ground). How much force can Paul exert on the footstool before the dog begins sliding?



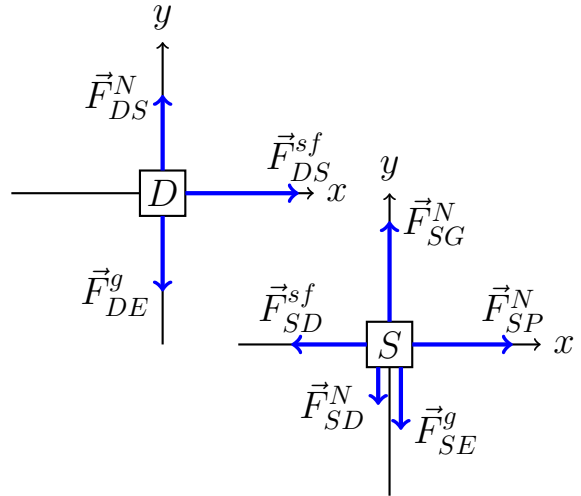
## L13-1: Uh-Oh Dr. Paws – Analyze and Represent

### (1a) Understand the Problem

- Mass of the footstool:  $m_1 = 10 \text{ kg}$
- Mass of the dog:  $m_2 = 30 \text{ kg}$
- Gravity:  $g = 10 \text{ m/s}^2$
- Coefficient of static friction:  $\mu = 0.4$

### (1b) Identify Assumptions

- Near-Earth
- Particle model
- Neglect air-resistance
- Dr. Paws doesn't move.



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- Why are the assumptions reasonable?
  - Identify any problems with these free body diagrams.
  - Identify the third-law pairs.
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### L13-2: Uh-Oh Dr. Paws – Sensemake

You have three friends who each come up with a different equation for the maximum allowable force that Paul can apply:

(A)  $F_{SP}^N = \mu \frac{m_1}{m_1 + m_2} g$

(B)  $F_{SP}^N = \mu(m_2 - m_1)g$

(C)  $F_{SP}^N = \mu \frac{m_1 m_2}{m_1 + m_2} g$

Which of the above equations, if any, are correct? How can you tell?

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## Uh-Oh Dr. Paws – Calculate

### (2a) Represent Principles

$$\vec{F}^{net} = m\vec{a} \qquad \vec{F}_{AB} = -\vec{F}_{BA} \qquad F^{sf} \leq \mu F^N \qquad \vec{F}^g = m\vec{g}$$

### (2b) Solve Symbolically

Dog

Stool

$$m_2 a = F_x^{net} = F_{DS}^{sf}$$

$$F_x^{net} = m_1 a$$

$$0 = F_y^{net} = F_{DS}^N - F_{DE}^g \qquad F_{SP}^N - F_{SD}^{sf} = m_1 a$$

$$F_{DS}^N = m_2 g$$

$$F_{SP}^N = m_1 a + F_{SD}^{sf} = m_1 a + F_{DS}^{sf}$$

$$F_{SP}^N = m_1 a + m_2 a = (m_1 + m_2) a$$

$$F_{DS}^{sf} \leq \mu F_{DS}^N = \mu m_2 g$$

$$F_{SP}^N \leq (m_1 + m_2) \mu g$$

$$m_2 a \leq \mu m_2 g$$

$$a \leq \mu g$$

### (2c) Plug in Numbers

$$\begin{aligned} F_{SP}^N &\leq (m_1 + m_2) \mu g \\ &= (10 \text{ kg} + 30 \text{ kg})(0.4) \left(10 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}^2}\right) \\ &= 160 \text{ N} \end{aligned}$$



## A Model for Interactions

- Quantities

- Mass  $m$
  - Force  $\vec{F}$

- Laws

- Net force is proportional to acceleration:  
 $\vec{F}^{net} = m\vec{a}$

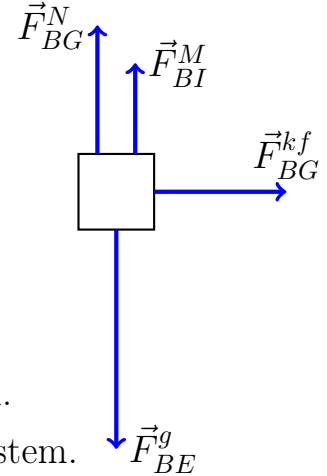
- Forces come in pairs:  $\vec{F}_{AB} = -\vec{F}_{BA}$

- Assumptions

- We can treat multiple objects as a system.

- All forces act as if on the center of the system.

- Diagram



## Solving Problems Using Forces

- Identify a system.
- Identify the (external) forces acting on the system.
  - Draw a free-body diagram.
- Identify the acceleration (**not a force**).
  - Static/dynamic equilibrium (acceleration = 0)
  - Dynamics (acceleration not 0)
- Use the laws of motion.
- Reflect on your answer (check units and evaluate special cases).

## Main Ideas

- Newton's 3rd law of motion can be used to relate the forces acting on *different* objects or systems.