

# **Newton's Laws**

## Applications

# Outline

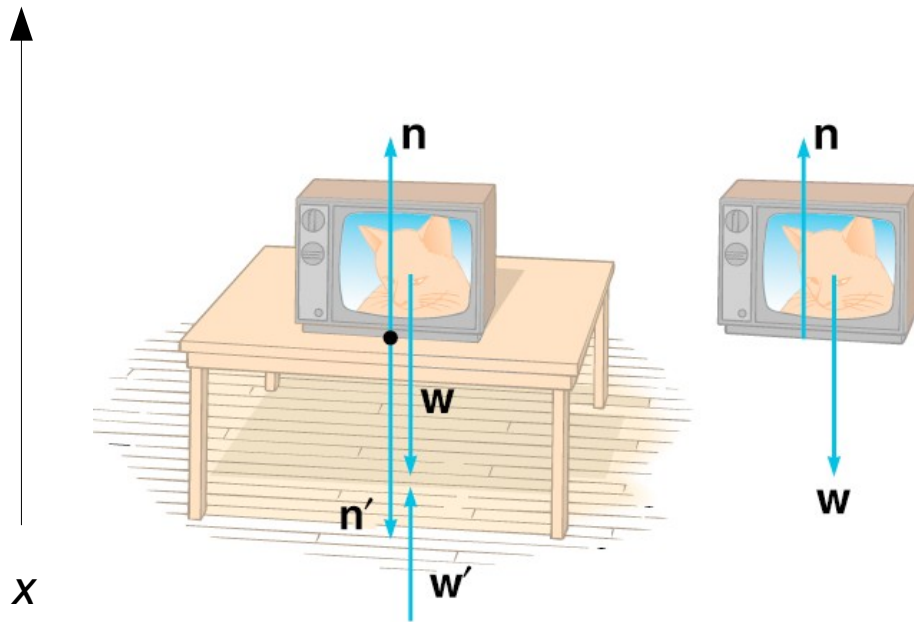
- Particles in equilibrium
- Accelerating particles
- Motion with friction and air/fluid resistance

# Particles in Equilibrium

# Newton First and Third Laws: Particles in Equilibrium

*A body acted on by **zero net force** moves with **constant velocity**.*

*The mutual forces of **action** and **reaction** between two bodies are equal, opposite and collinear.*



$$\text{net force} = \sum \mathbf{F} = 0$$

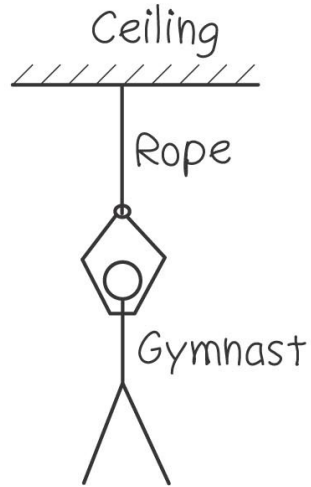
$$\mathbf{n} + \mathbf{w} = 0$$

or operating with components  
and magnitudes (**watch the sign!**)

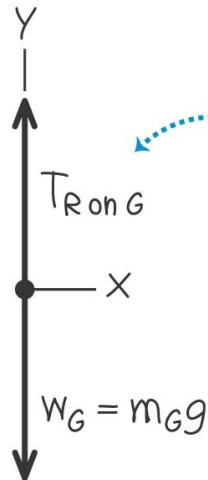
$$n - w = 0$$

# Example (equilibrium; collinear forces)

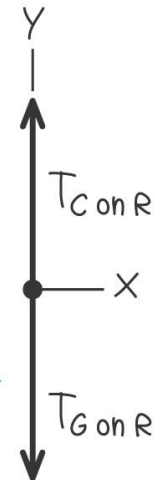
(a) The situation



(b) Free-body diagram for gymnast



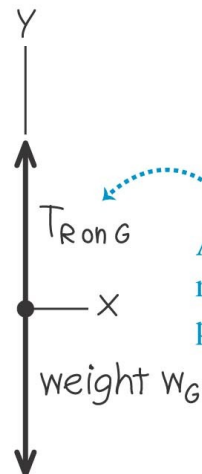
(c) Free-body diagram for rope



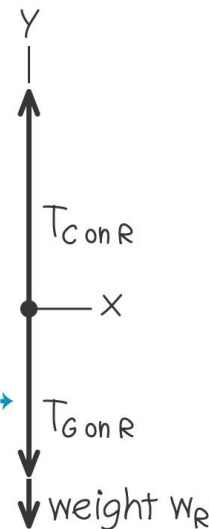
Action-reaction pair

massless rope

(a) Free-body diagram for gymnast

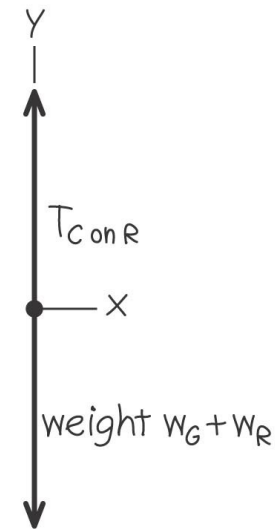


(b) Free-body diagram for rope



Action-reaction pair

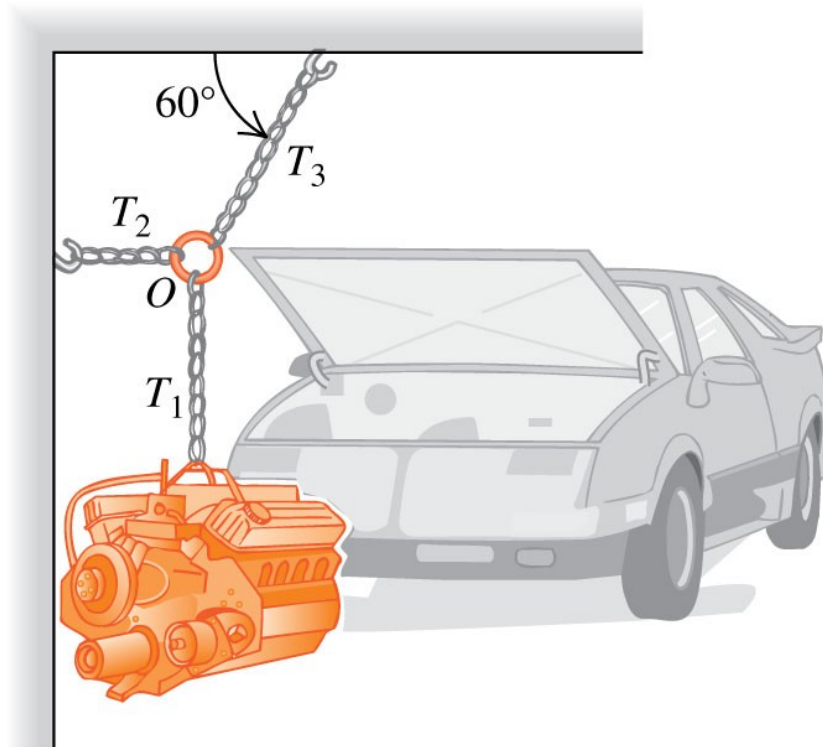
(c) Free-body diagram for gymnast and rope as a composite body



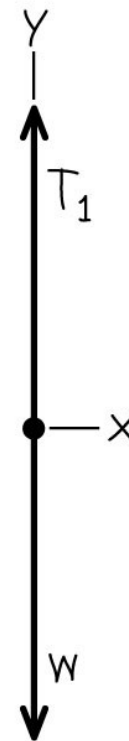
massive rope

# Example (equilibrium; non-collinear forces)

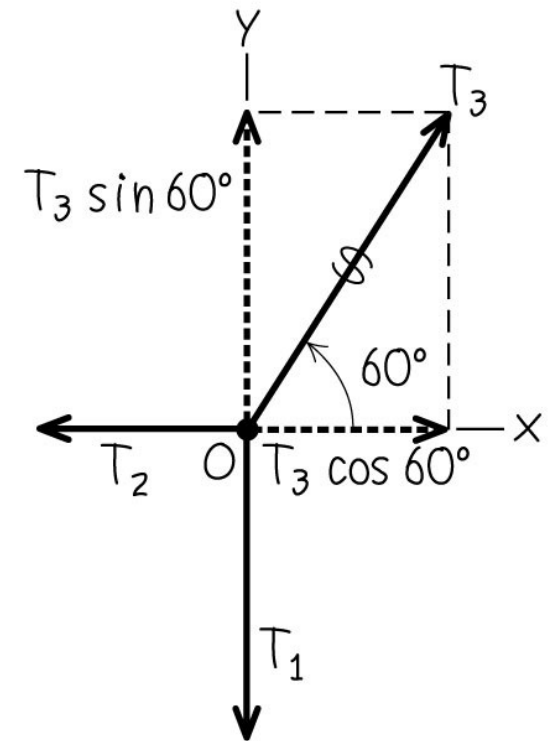
(a) Engine, chains, and ring



(b) Free-body diagram for engine



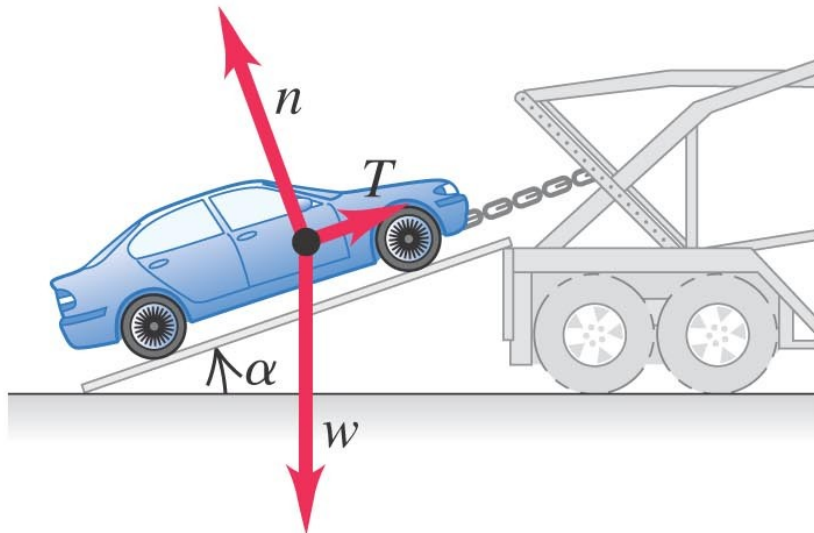
(c) Free-body diagram for ring  $O$



# Example

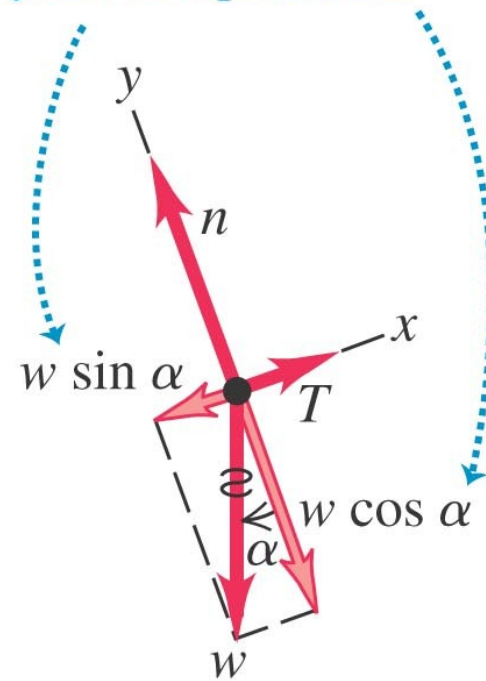
## (equilibrium; object on an inclined plane)

(a) Car on ramp



(b) Free-body diagram for car

We replace the weight by its components.



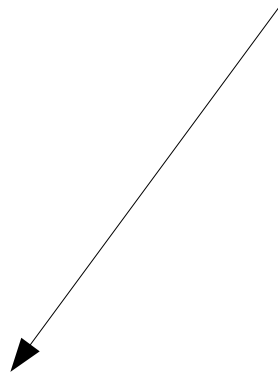
# Particles in Motion



# Newton's second law: particles in motion

*In an inertial frame of reference, the **acceleration** of an object is **directly proportional to the net force** acting on it, and **inversely proportional to the mass** of the object.*

$$m\mathbf{a} = \mathbf{F}$$

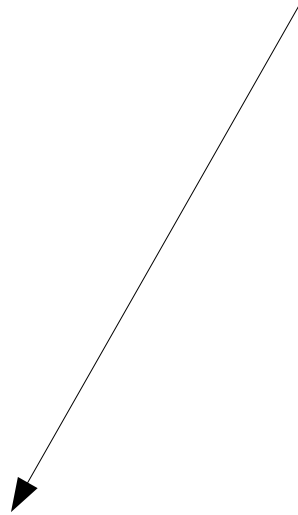


resulting acceleration

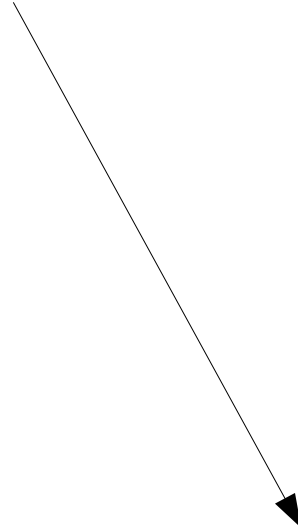
net force

# Newton's second law: particles in motion

$$m\mathbf{a} = \mathbf{F}$$



known forces,  
find acceleration



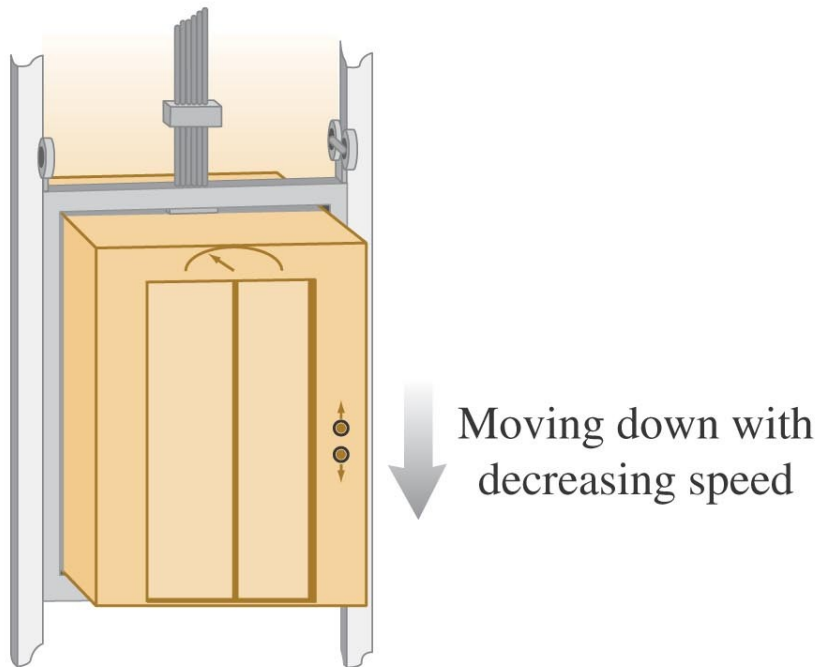
known acceleration,  
infer about the net force

# Example:

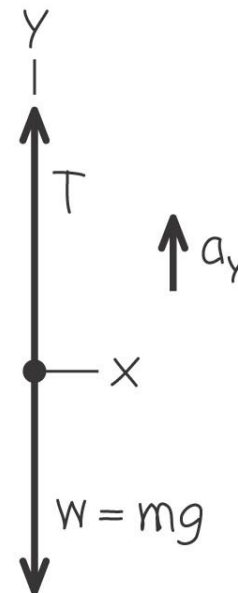
## Elevator (tension in a massless cable)

The elevator is moving downward but slowing to a stop. What is the tension in the supporting massless cable?

(a) Descending elevator



(b) Free-body diagram for elevator



$$ma_y = T - mg \Rightarrow T = m(a_y + g)$$

# Example: Elevator (apparent weight)

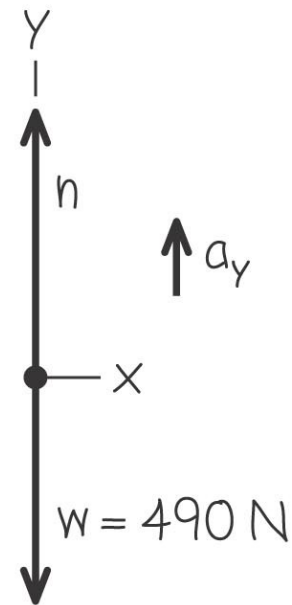
A woman inside the elevator of the previous example is standing on a scale. How will the acceleration of the elevator affect the scale reading?

(a) Woman in a descending elevator



Moving down with decreasing speed

(b) Free-body diagram for woman



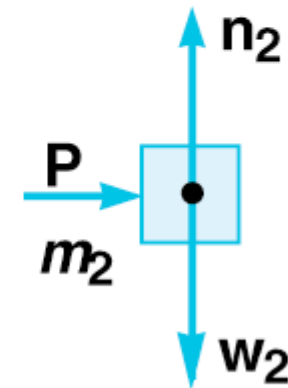
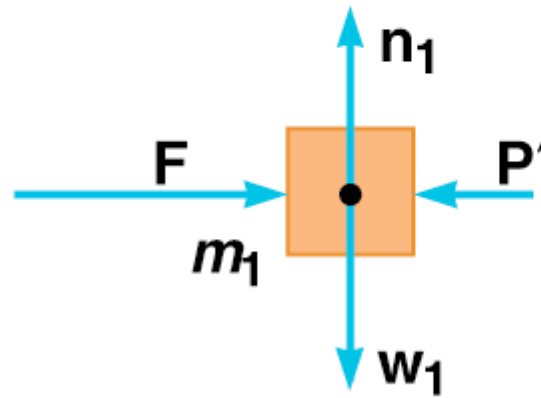
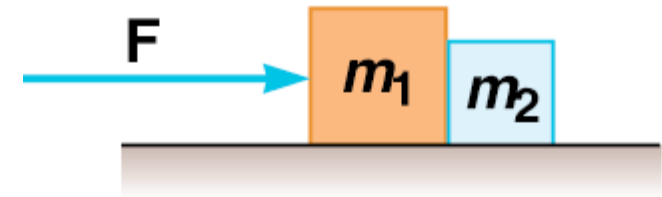
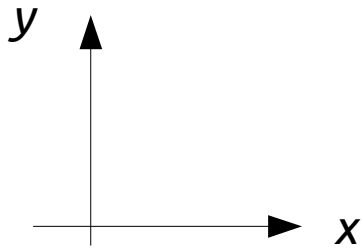
inertial frame of reference  
(e.g. the elevator shaft)

$$ma_y = n - mg \Rightarrow n = m(a_y + g)$$

# Example: two objects in direct contact

two objects in contact acted upon an external force, frictionless surface

free body diagrams



**no motion along  $y$  direction** (net forces have zero  $y$  component),  
**Newton's second law for motion along  $x$  direction** (operate with magnitudes, but **watch the signs!**)

$$m_1 a = F - P'$$

$$m_2 a = P$$

**Newton's third law for the pair of forces between the blocks**

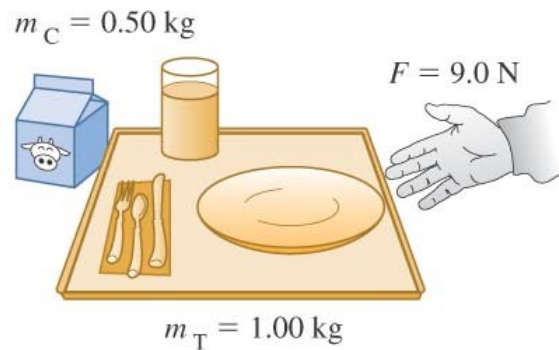
$$P = P'$$

**result:** 
$$a = \frac{F}{m_1 + m_2}$$

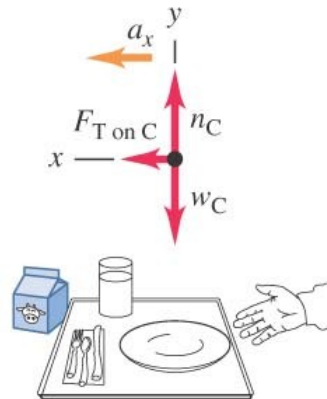
given force,  
can find  
velocity,  
position

# Example: two objects in contact and Newton's third law

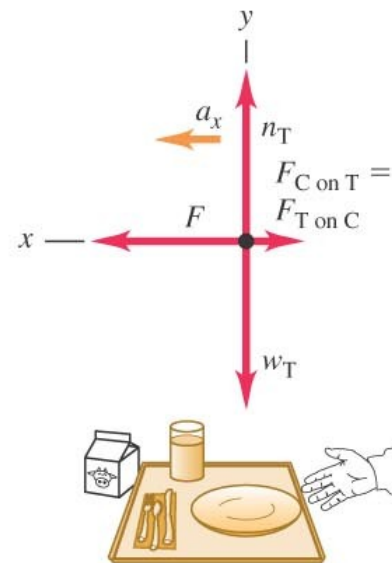
(a) A milk carton and a food tray



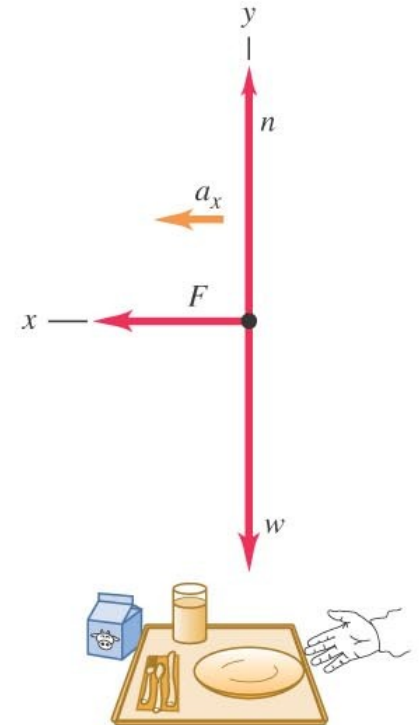
(b) Free-body diagram for milk carton



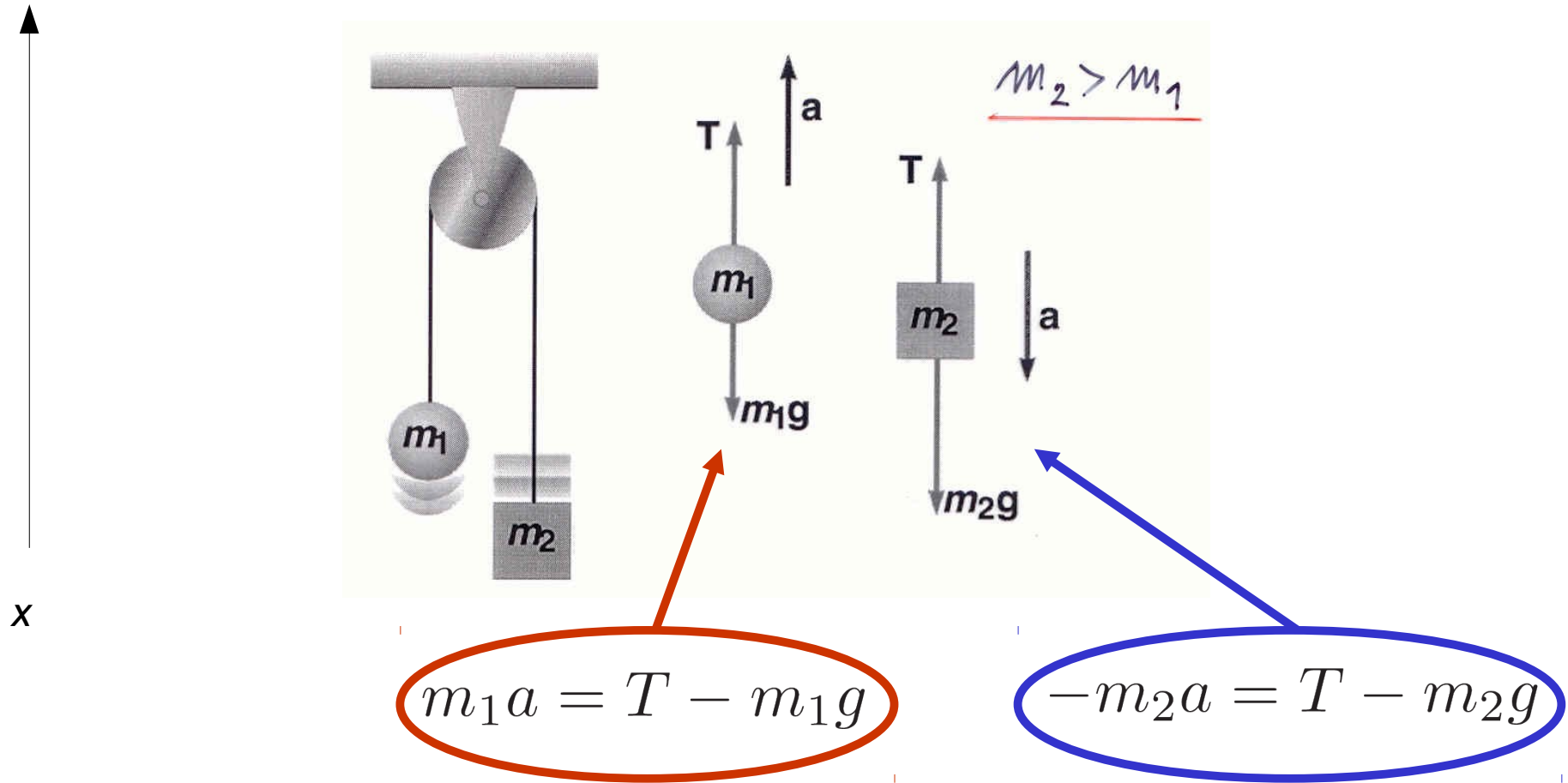
(c) Free-body diagram for food tray



(d) Free-body diagram for carton and tray as a composite body



# Example: Atwood's machine



## solution

$$a = \left( \frac{m_2 - m_1}{m_1 + m_2} \right) g = \text{const}$$

$$T = \left( \frac{2m_1m_2}{m_1 + m_2} \right) g$$

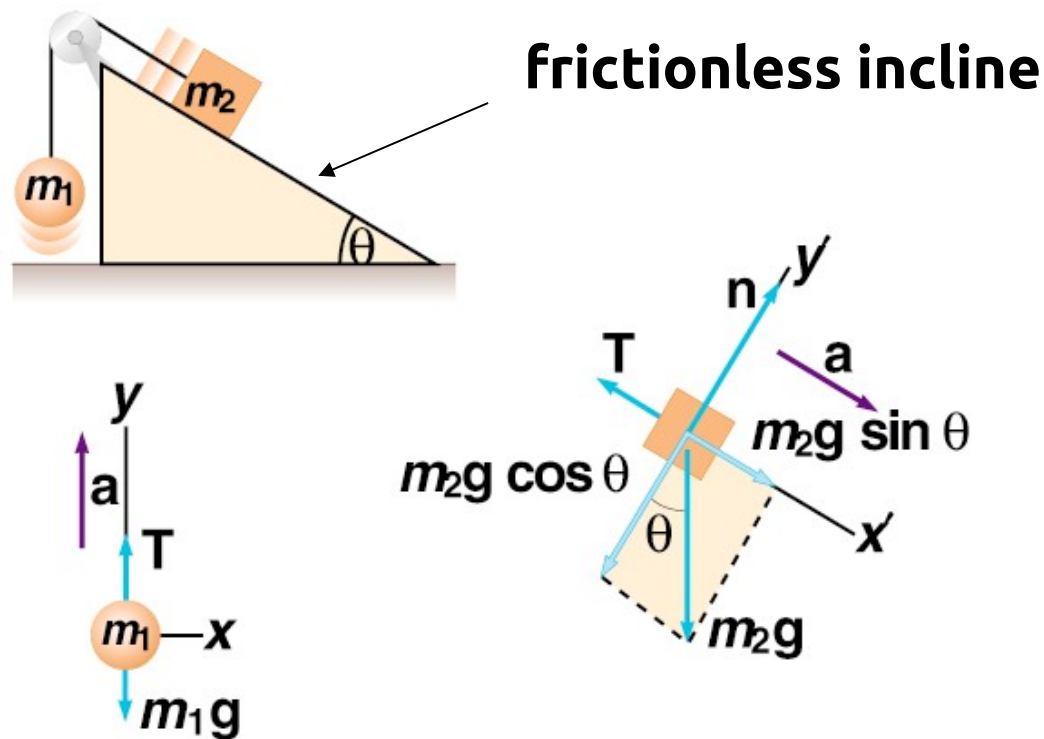
## special cases

$$m_1 = m_2 \Rightarrow a = 0, \quad T = m_1g$$

$$m_2 \gg m_1 \Rightarrow a \approx g, \quad T \approx 2m_1g$$

# Example: incline

Two objects of different masses connected by a massless cord that passes over a frictionless pulley with negligible mass.



**solution**

$$a = \frac{m_2 \sin \theta - m_1}{m_1 + m_2} g = \text{const}$$
$$T = \frac{m_1 m_2}{m_1 + m_2} (1 + \sin \theta) g$$



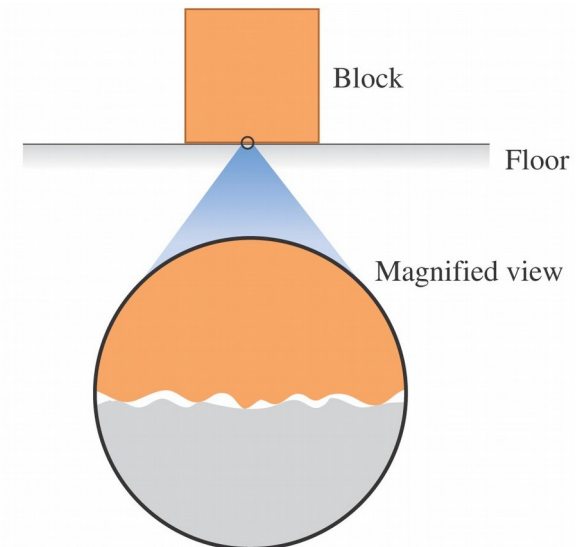
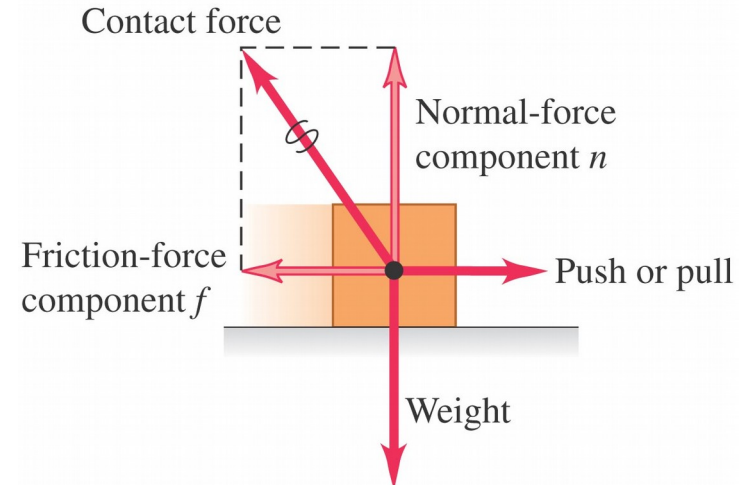
# **Friction and Fluid/Air Resistance**

# Frictional Forces

When a body rests or slides on a surface, the **friction force** is parallel to the surface.

Friction between two surfaces arises from **interactions between molecules** on the surfaces.

The friction and normal forces are really components of a single contact force.



On a microscopic level, even smooth surfaces are rough; they tend to catch and cling.

# Kinetic vs Static Friction

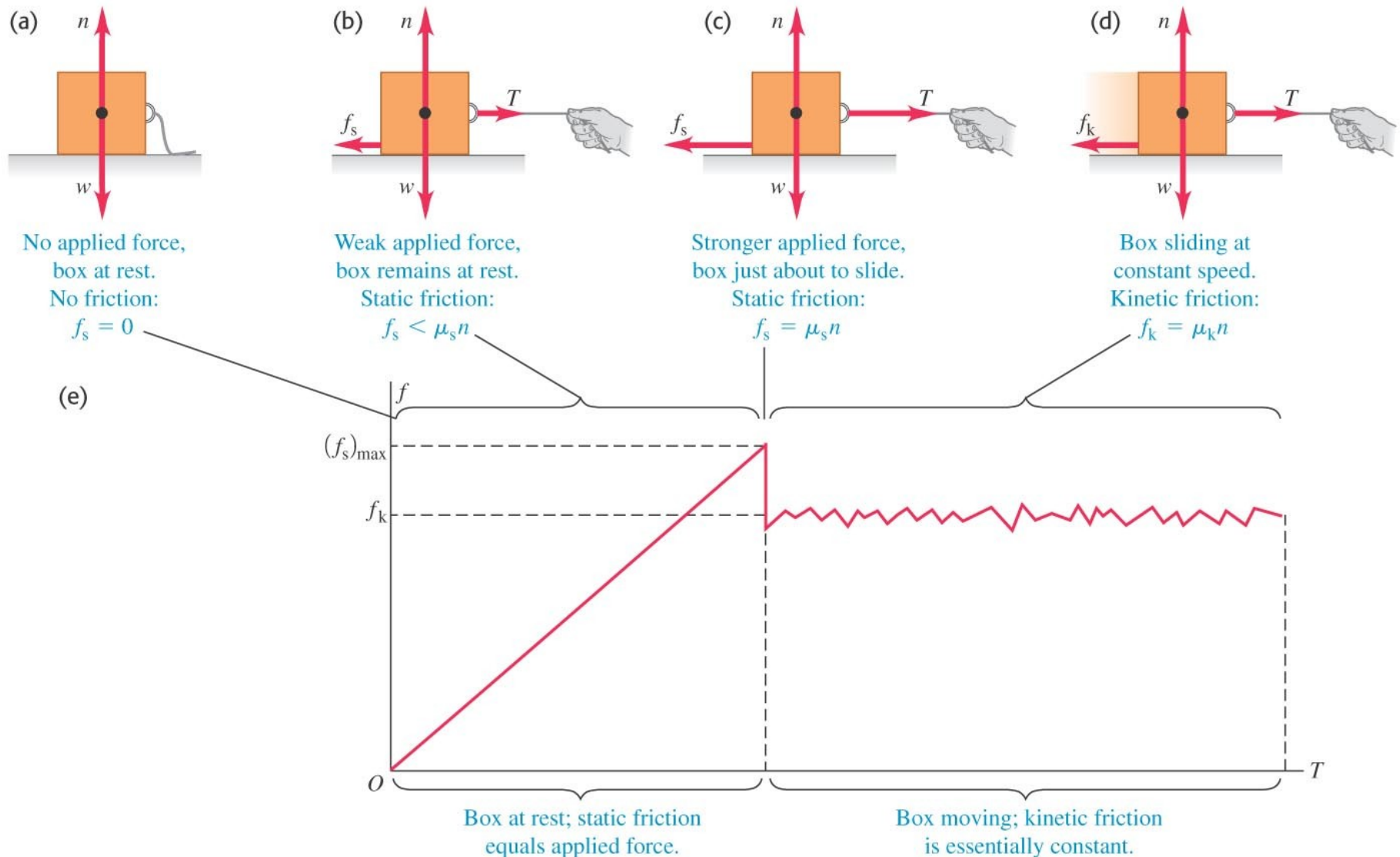
**Kinetic friction** appears when a body slides over a surface. The magnitude of the **kinetic friction force** is  $f_k = \mu_k n$ .

**Static friction force** acts when there is no relative motion between bodies.

The magnitude of the **static friction force** can vary between zero and its maximum value:  $f_s \leq \mu_s n$ .

# Kinetic vs Static Friction

Before the box slides, static friction acts.  
But once it starts to slide, it turns into kinetic friction.



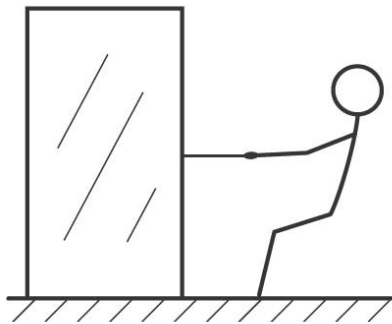
# Values of Coefficients of Friction

Materials	Coefficient of Static Friction, $\mu_s$	Coefficient of Kinetic Friction, $\mu_k$
Steel on steel	0.74	0.57
Aluminum on steel	0.61	0.47
Copper on steel	0.53	0.36
Brass on steel	0.51	0.44
Zinc on cast iron	0.85	0.21
Copper on cast iron	1.05	0.29
Glass on glass	0.94	0.40
Copper on glass	0.68	0.53
Teflon on Teflon	0.04	0.04
Teflon on steel	0.04	0.04
Rubber on concrete (dry)	1.0	0.8
Rubber on concrete (wet)	0.30	0.25

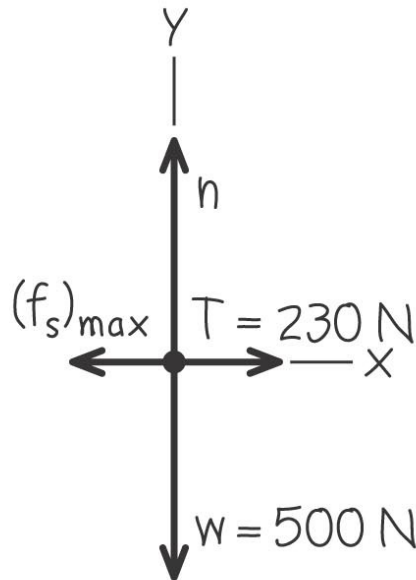
# Example (static vs kinetic friction)

Before the crate moves, static friction acts on it.  
After it starts to move, kinetic friction acts.

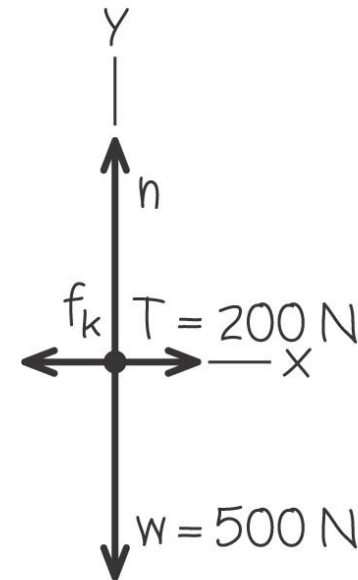
(a) Pulling a crate



(b) Free-body diagram for crate just before it starts to move



(c) Free-body diagram for crate moving at constant speed

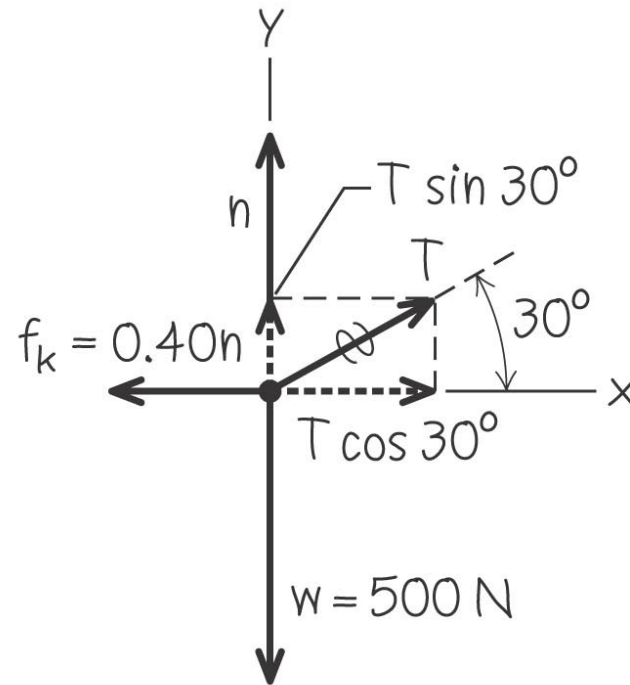
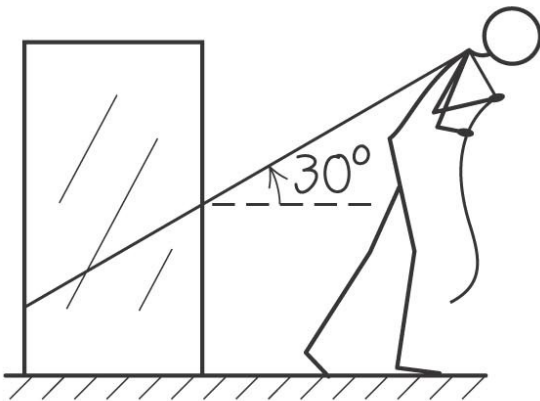


# Example (inclined pull)

The angle of the pull affects the normal force, which in turn affects the friction force.

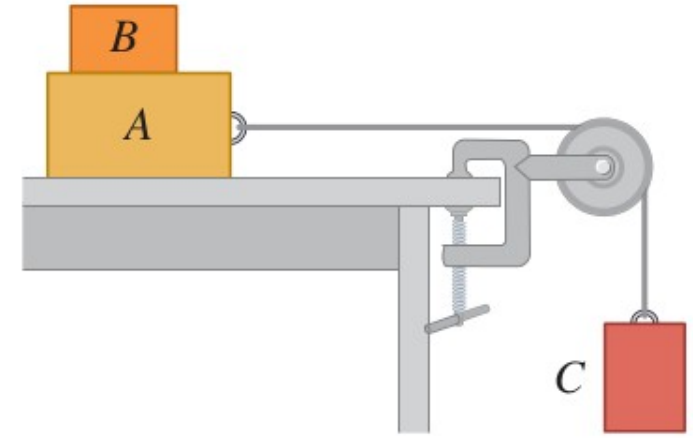
(b) Free-body diagram for moving crate

(a) Pulling a crate at an angle



# Example (static friction)

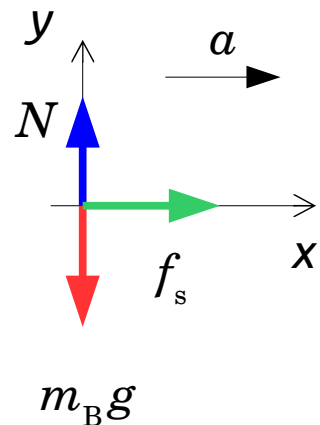
There is no friction between block A and the tabletop, but the coefficient of static friction between block A and block B is  $\mu_s \neq 0$ . A light string attached to block A passes over a frictionless, massless pulley, and block C is suspended from the other end of the string. Masses of blocks A and B are given.



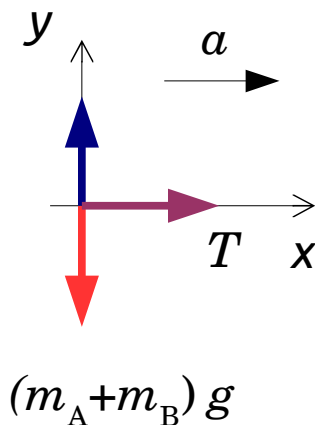
What is the maximum mass that block C can have, so that blocks A and B still slide together when the system is released from rest?

If A and B move together, all three blocks have the same acceleration.

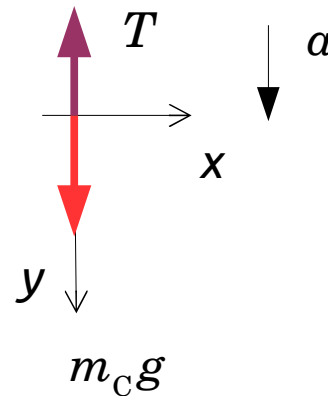
block B



blocks A & B



block C



$$(m_A + m_B)a = T$$

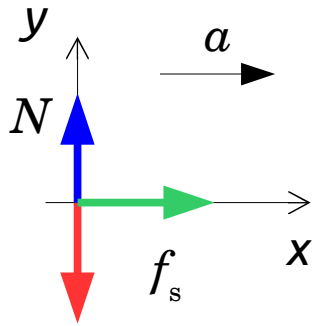
$$m_C a = m_C g - T$$

$$a = \frac{m_C}{m_A + m_B + m_C} g$$



# Example (static friction, contd)

block B



Block B moves acted upon the (static) frictional force.

$$m_B a = f_s \quad f_s \leq \mu_s N = \mu_s m_B g = f_{s,\max}$$

Hence it will not slide as long as  $a \leq \mu_s g$

case  
 $\mu_s \geq 1$

case  
 $\mu_s < 1$

Since  $a < g$  for this system, the inequality  $a < \mu_s g$  always holds, irrespective of the value of mass  $m_c$ .

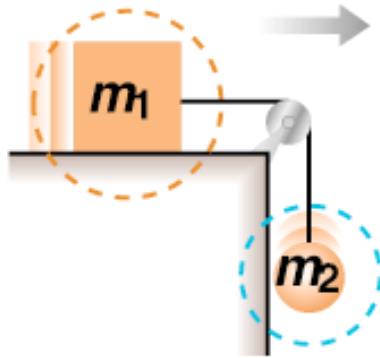
(Maximum frictional force that can be provided is greater than that required for the block to move with acceleration  $a$ .)

$$\frac{m_C}{m_A + m_B + m_C} g \leq \mu_s g$$

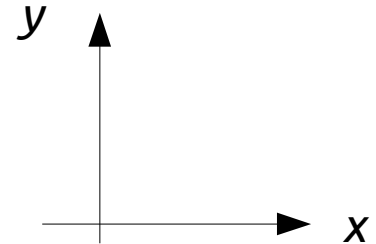
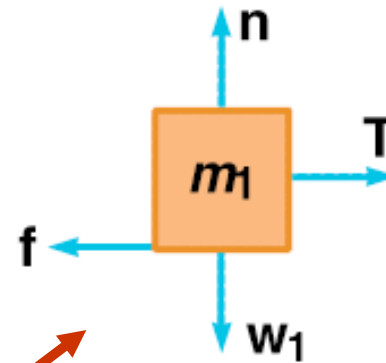
$$m_C \leq \frac{(m_A + m_B)\mu_s}{1 - \mu_s}$$

For any mass  $m_c$  block B moves together with block A.

# Example (two objects on a rough surface, connected by a massless cord)



Two masses connected by a light cord. The surface is rough and the pulley is frictionless



$$\begin{aligned} m_1 a &= T - f \\ n - w_1 &= 0 \\ f &= \mu n \end{aligned}$$

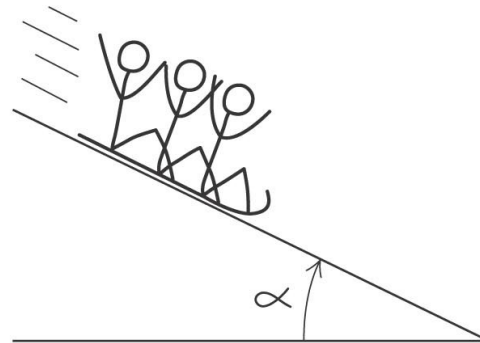
$$-m_2 a = T - w_2$$

**solution**

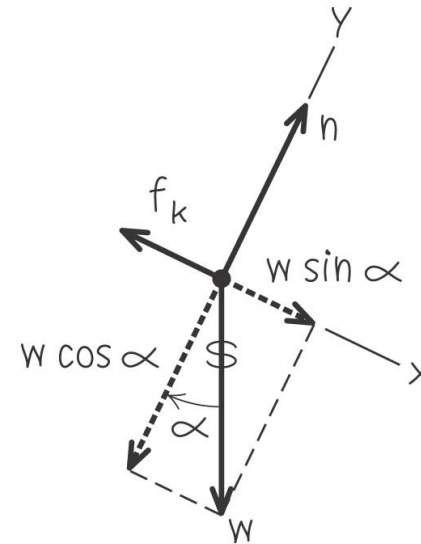
$$\begin{aligned} a &= \frac{m_2 - \mu m_1}{m_1 + m_2} g = \text{const} \\ T &= \frac{m_1 m_2}{m_1 + m_2} (1 + \mu) g \end{aligned}$$

# Example (motion on a rough incline)

(a) The situation



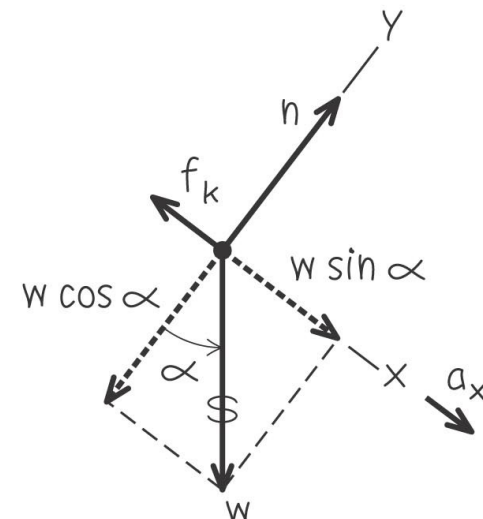
(b) Free-body diagram for toboggan



(a) The situation

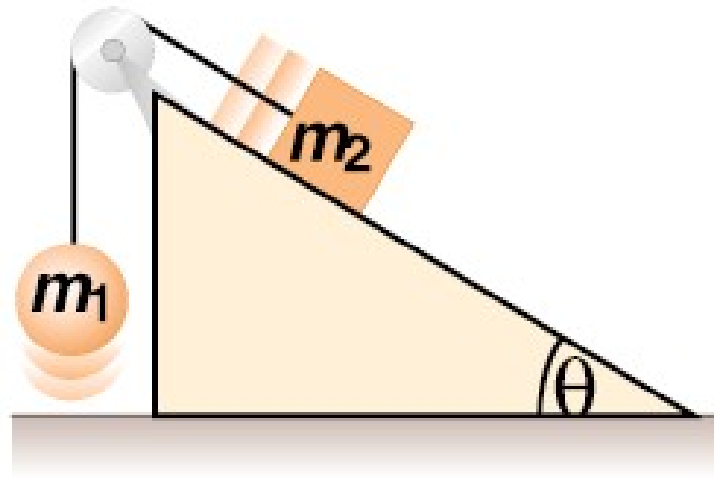


(b) Free-body diagram for toboggan

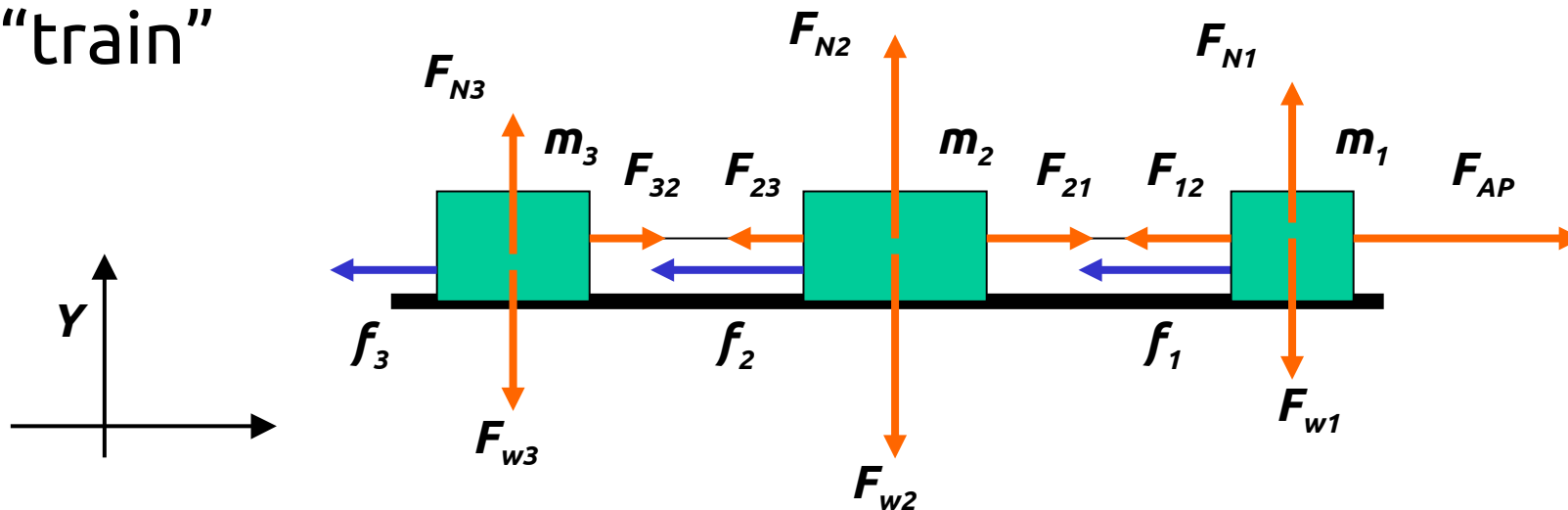


## More Examples (DIY)...

- two objects connected by a massless cord, rough incline, frictionless pulley



- “train”



# **Fluid/Air Resistance**

# Fluid/Air Resistance (Drag)

The **fluid resistance (drag) force  $\mathbf{f}$**  on a body depends on the speed of the body.

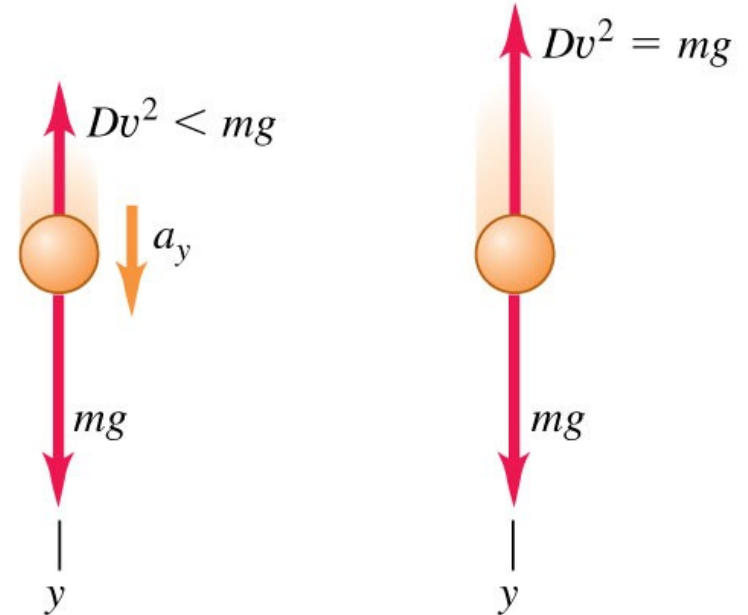
Usually  $\mathbf{f} \propto -v^p \left( \frac{\mathbf{v}}{v} \right)$

unit vector in the direction of  $\mathbf{v}$

with  $p = 1$  or  $2$ .

A falling body reaches its **terminal speed** when the resisting force equals the weight of the body.

(a) Free-body diagrams for falling with air drag



Before terminal speed: Object accelerating, drag force less than weight.

At terminal speed  $v_t$ : Object in equilibrium, drag force equals weight.

**Example:** fall with linear air drag  
(see the blackboard)

$$\mathbf{f} = -k\mathbf{v}$$