Moment of a force



The *moment* of a force (also known as *torque*) is a measure of the tendency of the force to rotate an object around a given axis. For instance a force acting on a lever causes a moment about the lever's pivot point.

- A force F acting along a line whose minimum distance from point P is d causes a moment M = Fd about the point P.
- A force F acting at a point with position vector \mathbf{r} has moment $\tau = \mathbf{r} \times F$ about the origin (where \times denotes the vector or cross product).

Moment has dimensions ML^2T^{-2} and SI unit Nm, Newton metres.