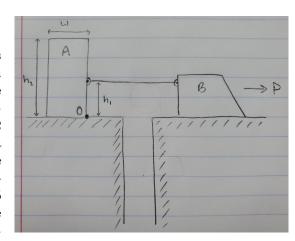
22-R-KIN-JL-13

You have set up the following block system such that blocks A and B are connected by a rope with tension T. You want to cause block A to either tip or slip first along the ground without touching it. So instead you decide to apply a force P on block B. Block A has a mass of 12 kg and block B has a mass of 8.5 kg. Block A has a height $h_2=0.8$ m and a width w=0.4 m. The rope connects at a height $h_1=0.4$ m and the coefficients of static and kinetic friction are given as $\mu_s=0.35$ and $\mu_k=0.3$. Find the force P required to move the blocks and the tension T present in the ropes at that moment.



Solution

Begin by using the equations of motion for block B:

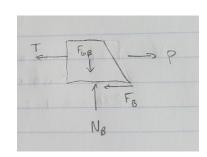
$$\sum F_{Bx}: P-F_B-T=m_B(a_B)_x$$

$$\sum F_{By}: F_G-N_B=m_B(a_B)_y=0 \Longrightarrow N_B=F_G=83.4 \text{ N}$$

For block B to slip:

$$P - F_B - T = 0$$

$$P = F_B + T = \mu_s N_B + T = 29.2 + T$$



Next use the equations of motion for block A:

$$\sum F_{Ax} : T - F_A = m_A(a_A)_x$$

$$\sum F_{Ay} : F_G - N_A = m_A(a_A)_y = 0 \Longrightarrow N_A = F_G = 177.7 \text{ N}$$

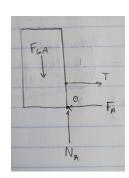
$$\sum M_O : T(h_1) - F_G(w/2) = T(0.4) - 117.7(0.2) = I\alpha$$

For block A to slip:

$$T - F_A = 0 \Longrightarrow T = \mu_s N_A = 41.2 \text{ N}$$

For block A to tip:

$$T(h_1) - F_G(w/2) = 0 \Longrightarrow T = \frac{117.7(0.2)}{0.4} = 58.9 \text{ N}$$



Since the tension to cause block A to slip is less, it will slip before tipping.

$$T = 41.2$$
 [N]
 $P = 29.2 + T = 70.4$ [N]