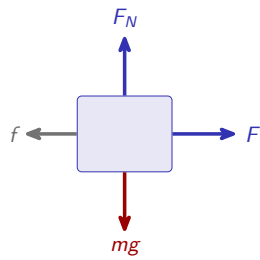


Force & Translational Dynamics

AP Physics 1 ■ Unit 2

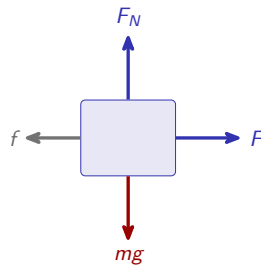
AP Physics 1



Force & Translational Dynamics

What we will cover

- 1 Systems and center of mass
- 2 Free-body diagrams
- 3 Newton's three laws
- 4 Gravity and weight
- 5 Friction
- 6 Spring forces
- 7 Circular motion



1

Systems & center of mass

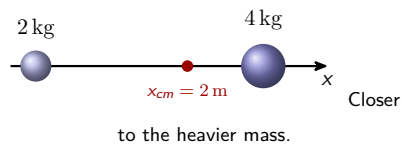
Systems and center of mass

Treat several objects as one **system** 系统.
Its **center of mass** 质心 moves as if all mass sat there.

Center of mass

$$x_{cm} = \frac{m_1 x_1 + m_2 x_2 + \dots}{m_1 + m_2 + \dots}$$

Only the **net external force** 净外力 moves the center of mass – **internal forces** 内力 cannot.



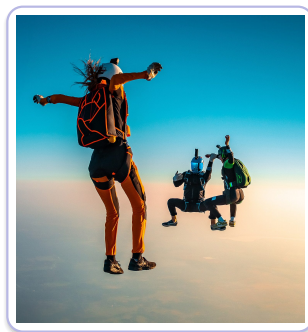
2 Free-body diagrams

Free-body diagrams

A **force** 力 is a push or pull, in newtons.
Draw a **free-body diagram** 受力图: the object as a dot, every force as a labeled arrow.

- **contact forces** 接触力 – normal, friction
- **long-range forces** 长程力 – gravity

Add the arrows as vectors to get the **net force** 合力.



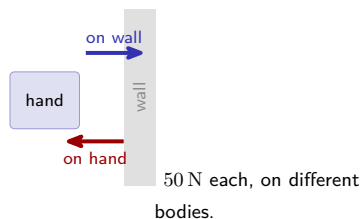
Free-body diagrams show every force on a system

3 Newton's laws

Newton's third law

Newton's third law 牛顿第三定律: if A pushes B, then B pushes A back – **equal in size, opposite in direction**.

The two forces of a **force pair** 作用力对 act on **different objects**, so they can *never* cancel.



Newton's first law

Newton's first law 牛顿第一定律: velocity stays constant unless a net force acts.

- **inertia** 惯性 – resistance to a change in motion, measured by mass
- net force zero = **translational equilibrium** 平动平衡

"No net force" means **no change** in motion – not "no motion".



Rockets accelerate by pushing exhaust out

Newton's second law

Newton's second law 牛顿第二定律: a nonzero net force gives an acceleration.

The rule

$$\vec{a} = \frac{\sum \vec{F}}{m}$$

On a ramp, resolve forces into **perpendicular components** 垂直分量 and apply it in each direction.

Worked example

20 N on a 5 kg box:

$$a = \frac{20}{5} = 4 \text{ m/s}^2$$

Double the mass $\Rightarrow$ the acceleration halves.

$a \propto F$, and $a \propto 1/m$.

4 Gravity

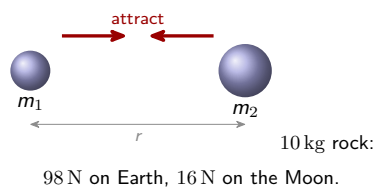
Gravitational force

Universal gravitation

$$F_g = \frac{Gm_1m_2}{r^2}$$

Grows with mass; falls with the **square** of the distance.

Mass 质量 is fixed matter;
weight 重量 = mg changes with location.



5 Friction

Friction

Friction opposes sliding, and depends on the **normal force** 法向力 F_N and **coefficient of friction** 摩擦系数 μ – not the area.

Two forms

static: $f_s \leq \mu_s F_N$

kinetic: $f_k = \mu_k F_N$

Worked example (10 kg, $\mu_s = 0.4$)

$$F_N = mg = 98 \text{ N}$$

$$f_{s,\max} = 0.4 \times 98 = 39 \text{ N}$$

Push $< 39 \text{ N}$: it stays. Push harder: it breaks free, then weaker **kinetic friction** 动摩擦 takes over.

6 Springs

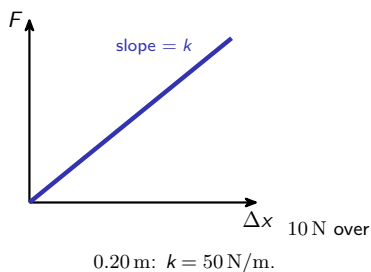
Spring forces – Hooke's law

Hooke's law

$$F_s = -k \Delta x$$

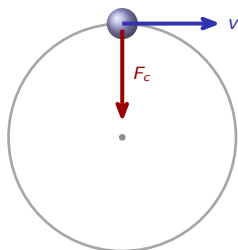
spring constant 弹簧劲度系数 k = stiffness. The minus sign makes it a **restoring force** 回复力.

k is the **slope** of the force–displacement graph.



7 Circular motion

Uniform circular motion



Uniform circular motion 匀速圆周运动: steady speed, changing direction – so it accelerates.

Toward the center

$$a_c = \frac{v^2}{r}, \quad F_c = \frac{mv^2}{r}$$

Centripetal force 向心力 is a **role** – filled by tension, gravity, or friction. Cut it, and the object flies off straight.

8

Recap

Force & Translational Dynamics

↳ Recap

Unit 2 – key takeaways

1 Free-body

draw every force as an arrow; add them for the net force

2 Newton's laws

1st: inertia; 2nd: $a = \Sigma F/m$; 3rd: equal-opposite pairs

3 Forces

gravity Gm_1m_2/r^2 ; friction μF_N ; spring $-k\Delta x$

4 Circular

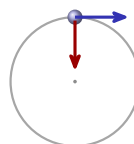
$a_c = v^2/r$ toward the center; a role, not a new force

Force & Translational Dynamics

↳ Recap

Check yourself

- 1 Why can a Newton's-third-law pair never cancel?
- 2 30 N net on a 6 kg mass – what is a ?
- 3 Does friction depend on the contact area?
- 4 Cut the string on a whirling ball – which way does it go?



Answers 1. they act on different objects 2. 5 m/s^2 3. no 4. straight, along the tangent