Chapter 9

Rotational Dynamics continued

9.1 The Action of Forces and Torques on Rigid Objects

Chapter 8 developed the concepts of angular motion.

- θ : angles and radian measure for angular variables
- ω : angular velocity of rotation (same for entire object)
- α : angular acceleration (same for entire object)
- $v_T = \omega r$: tangential velocity
- $a_T = \alpha r$: tangential acceleration

According to Newton's second law, a net force causes an object to have a *linear acceleration*.

What causes an object to have an *angular acceleration*?

TORQUE

9.1 The Action of Forces and Torques on Rigid Objects

The amount of torque depends on where and in what direction the force is applied, as well as the location of the axis of rotation.



9.1 The Action of Forces and Torques on Rigid Objects DEFINITION OF TORQUE

Magnitude of Torque = (Magnitude of the force) x (Lever arm)

 $\tau = F\ell$

Direction: The torque is positive when the force tends to produce a counterclockwise rotation about the axis. **SI Unit of Torque:** newton x meter ($N \cdot m$)



9.1 The Action of Forces and Torques on Rigid Objects

Magnitude of Torque = (Magnitude of the force) × (Lever arm) $\tau = F\ell = FL\sin\theta \qquad \ell = L\sin\theta$

Alternate (Equivalent) Interpretation

Magnitude of Torque = (Component of Force \perp to L) $\times L$

$$\tau = F_{\perp}L = (F\sin\theta)(L) = FL\sin\theta$$



Clicker Question 9.1 Torque

A 1.5-kg ball is tied to the end of a string. The ball is then swung at a constant angular velocity of 4 rad/s in a horizontal circle of radius 2.0 m. What is the torque on the stone?

- **a)** 18 N · m
- **b)** 29 N · m
- **c)** 36 N \cdot m
- **d)** 59 N · m
- e) zero $N \cdot m$

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9.1 The Action of Forces and Torques on Rigid Objects

Example 2 The Achilles Tendon

The tendon exerts a force of magnitude 720 N. Determine the torque (magnitude and direction) of this force about the ankle joint.

Achilles tendon Ankle joint

If a rigid body is in equilibrium, neither its linear motion nor its rotational motion changes.

$$a_{x} = a_{y} = 0 \qquad \qquad \alpha = 0$$
$$\sum F_{x} = 0 \qquad \qquad \sum F_{y} = 0 \qquad \qquad \sum \tau = 0$$

All equilibrium problems use these equations – no net force and no net torque.

EQUILIBRIUM OF A RIGID BODY

A rigid body is in equilibrium if it has zero translational acceleration and zero angular acceleration. In equilibrium, the sum of the externally applied forces is zero, and the sum of the externally applied torques is zero.

$$\sum F_x = 0 \qquad \sum F_y = 0 \qquad \sum \tau = 0$$

Note: constant linear speed or constant rotational speed are allowed for an object in equilibrium.

Reasoning Strategy

1. Select the object to which the equations for equilibrium are to be applied.

2. Draw a free-body diagram that shows all of the external forces acting on the object.

3. Choose a convenient set of x, y axes and resolve all forces into components that lie along these axes.

4. Apply the equations that specify the balance of forces at equilibrium. (Set the net force in the *x* and *y* directions equal to zero.)

5. Select a convenient axis of rotation. Set the sum of the torques about this axis equal to zero.

6. Solve the equations for the desired unknown quantities.

Example 3 A Diving Board

A woman whose weight is 530 N is poised at the right end of a diving board with length 3.90 m. The board has negligible weight and is supported by a fulcrum 1.40 m away from the left end. Find the forces that the bolt and the fulcrum exert on the board.

 F_1 acts on rotation axis - produces no torque.

$$\sum \tau = 0 = F_2 \ell_2 - W \ell_W$$

$$F_2 = W(\ell_W / \ell_2) = 530 \text{N}(3.9/1.4) = 1480 \text{ N}$$

$$\sum F_{y} = 0 = -F_{1} + F_{2} - W$$
$$F_{1} = F_{2} - W = (1480 - 530) \text{N} = 950 \text{ N}$$

Counter-clockwise torque is positive

(b) Free-body diagram of the diving board

Choice of pivot is arbitary (most convenient)

Pivot at fulcum: F_2 produces no torque.

$$\sum \tau = 0 = F_1 \ell_2 - W(\ell_W - \ell_2)$$
$$F_1 = W(\ell_W / \ell_2 - 1) = (530N)(1.8) = 950N$$

$$\sum F_{y} = 0 = -F_{1} + F_{2} - W$$
$$F_{2} = F_{1} + W = (950 + 530) \text{N} = 1480 \text{ N}$$

Counter-clockwise torque is positive

(b) Free-body diagram of the diving board

Example 5 Bodybuilding

The arm is horizontal and weighs 31.0 N. The deltoid muscle can supply 1840 N of force. What is the weight of the heaviest dumbell he can hold?

DEFINITION OF CENTER OF GRAVITY

The center of gravity of a rigid body is the point at which its weight can be considered to act when the torque due to the weight is being calculated.

When an object has a symmetrical shape and its weight is distributed uniformly, the center of gravity lies at its geometrical center.

Center of Gravity, x_{cg} , for 2 masses

$$x_{cg} = \frac{W_1 x_1 + W_2 x_2}{W_1 + W_2}$$

Example 6 The Center of Gravity of an Arm

The horizontal arm is composed of three parts: the upper arm (17 N), the lower arm (11 N), and the hand (4.2 N).

Find the center of gravity of the arm relative to the shoulder joint.

$$x_{cg} = \frac{W_1 x_1 + W_2 x_2 + W_3 x_3}{W_1 + W_2 + W_3}$$
$$= \frac{\left[17(0.13) + 11(0.38) + 4.2(0.61)\right] N \cdot m}{(17 + 11 + 4.2) N} = 0.28 m$$

Clicker Question 9.2 Torque and Equilibrium

A 4-kg ball and a 1-kg ball are positioned a distance L apart on a bar of negligible mass. How far from the 4-kg mass should the fulcum be placed to balance the bar?

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- **b)** $\frac{1}{3}L$
- **c)** $\frac{1}{4}L$
- **d)** $\frac{1}{5}L$

e)
$$\frac{1}{6}L$$

For equilibrium the sum of the torques must be zero

Need to separate length into 4 parts on 1-kg mass side and 1 part on the 4-kg mass side. Total is 5 parts.

Fulcum must be 1/5 of the total length from the 4-kg mass.

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For equilibrium the sum of the torques must be zero

Let x be the distance of fulcum from 4-kg mass.

$$\sum \tau = 0 = m_1 g(L - x) + (-m_2 gx)$$

$$(m_1 + m_2) x = m_1 L$$

$$x = \frac{m_1}{(m_1 + m_2)} L = \frac{1}{(1+4)} L = \frac{1}{5} L$$

Finding the center of gravity of an irregular shape.

9.4 Newton's Second Law for Rotational Motion About a Fixed Axis

Moment of Inertia, $I = mr^2$, for a point-mass, *m*, at the end of a massless arm of length, *r*.

$$\tau = I\alpha$$

Newton's 2nd Law for rotations

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ROTATIONAL ANALOG OF NEWTON'S SECOND LAW FOR A RIGID BODY ROTATING ABOUT A FIXED AXIS

Net external torque = $\begin{pmatrix} Moment of \\ inertia \end{pmatrix} \times \begin{pmatrix} Angular \\ acceleration \end{pmatrix}$

$$\sum \tau = I \alpha \qquad I = \sum (mr^2)$$

Requirement: Angular acceleration must be expressed in radians/s².