

Chapter 10

1

Rotation Of A Rigid Object About A Fixed Axis

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7-Oct-25

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Lecture 04

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Torque

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Torque

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Torque, τ , is the tendency of a force to rotate an object about some axis.

Torque is a vector, but we will deal with its magnitude here:

$$\tau = |\vec{r}||\vec{F}|\sin\phi$$

F Is the force

ϕ is the angle the force makes with the horizontal

r is the distance between the rotation axis and the point of application of $\vec{F}$.

There is no unique value of the torque on an object.

Its value depends on the choice of a rotational axis.

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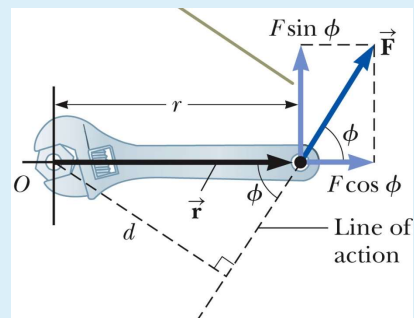
Torque, cont

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- The moment arm, d , is the *perpendicular* distance from the axis of rotation to a line drawn along the direction of the force.

$$d = r\sin\phi$$

- The horizontal component of the force ($F\cos\phi$) has no tendency to produce a rotation.



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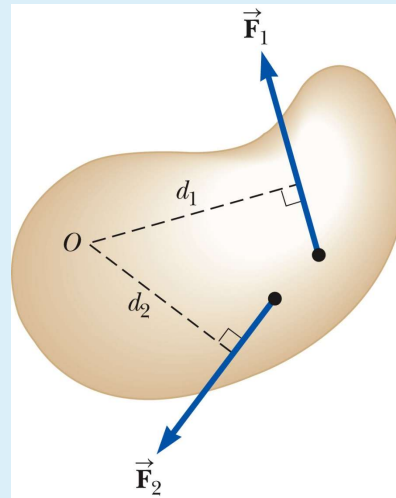
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Net Torque

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- Torque will have direction.
 - If the turning tendency of the force is counterclockwise, the torque will be positive.
 - If the turning tendency is clockwise, the torque will be negative.
- force $\vec{F}_1$ will tend to cause a counterclockwise rotation about O .
- The force $\vec{F}_2$ will tend to cause a clockwise rotation about O .

$$\sum \tau = \tau_1 + \tau_2 = F_1 d_1 - F_2 d_2$$



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Torque vs. Force

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- Forces can cause a change in translational motion.
 - Described by Newton's Second Law
- Forces can cause a change in rotational motion.
 - The effectiveness of this change depends on the force and the moment arm.
 - The change in rotational motion depends on the torque.

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Torque Units

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- The SI units of torque are $N \cdot m$.
 - Although torque is a force multiplied by a distance, it is very different from work and energy.
 - The units for torque are reported in $N \cdot m$ and not changed to Joules.

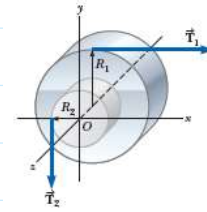
The Net Torque on a Cylinder

Saturday, 30 January, 2021 16:19

Lecturer: Mustafa Al-Zyout, Philadelphia University, Jordan.

- ☒ R. A. Serway and J. W. Jewett, Jr., *Physics for Scientists and Engineers*, 9th Ed., CENGAGE Learning, 2014.
- ☐ J. Walker, D. Halliday and R. Resnick, *Fundamentals of Physics*, 10th ed., WILEY, 2014.
- ☐ H. D. Young and R. A. Freedman, *University Physics with Modern Physics*, 14th ed., PEARSON, 2016.
- ☐ H. A. Radi and J. O. Rasmussen, *Principles of Physics For Scientists and Engineers*, 1st ed., SPRINGER, 2013.

- What is the net torque acting on the cylinder about the rotation axis (which is the z axis)?
- Suppose $T_1 = 5 \text{ N}$, $R_1 = 1 \text{ m}$, $T_2 = 15 \text{ N}$ and $R_2 = 0.5 \text{ m}$. What is the net torque about the rotation axis, and which way does the cylinder rotate starting from rest?



$$\sum \tau = \tau_1 + \tau_2 = R_2 T_2 - R_1 T_1$$

Substitute the given values:

$$\sum \tau = (0.50 \text{ m})(15 \text{ N}) - (1.0 \text{ m})(5.0 \text{ N}) = 2.5 \text{ N} \cdot \text{m}$$

Because this net torque is positive, the cylinder begins to rotate in the counterclockwise direction.

The Torque Vector

Saturday, 30 January, 2021 16:24

Lecturer: Mustafa Al-Zyout, Philadelphia University, Jordan.



R. A. Serway and J. W. Jewett, Jr., *Physics for Scientists and Engineers*, 9th Ed., CENGAGE Learning, 2014.



J. Walker, D. Halliday and R. Resnick, *Fundamentals of Physics*, 10th ed., WILEY, 2014.



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H. A. Radi and J. O. Rasmussen, *Principles of Physics For Scientists and Engineers*, 1st ed., SPRINGER, 2013.

A force of $\vec{F} = 2\hat{i} + 3\hat{j}$ (N) is applied to an object that is pivoted about a fixed axis aligned along the z coordinate axis. The force is applied at a point located at $\vec{r} = 4\hat{i} + 5\hat{j}$ (m). Find the torque applied to the object.

$$\vec{\tau} = \vec{r} \times \vec{F} = [(4.00\hat{i} + 5.00\hat{j}) \text{ m}] \times [(2.00\hat{i} + 3.00\hat{j}) \text{ N}]$$

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{\tau} = & [(4.00)(2.00)\hat{i} \times \hat{i} + (4.00)(3.00)\hat{i} \times \hat{j} \\ & + (5.00)(2.00)\hat{j} \times \hat{i} + (5.00)(3.00)\hat{j} \times \hat{j}] \text{ N} \cdot \text{m} \end{aligned}$$

$$\vec{\tau} = [0 + 12.0\hat{k} - 10.0\hat{k} + 0] \text{ N} \cdot \text{m} = 2.0\hat{k} \text{ N} \cdot \text{m}$$

Torque on a particle due to a force

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- ☐ R. A. Serway and J. W. Jewett, Jr., *Physics for Scientists and Engineers*, 9th Ed., CENGAGE Learning, 2014.
- ☒ J. Walker, D. Halliday and R. Resnick, *Fundamentals of Physics*, 10th ed., WILEY, 2014.
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- ☐ H. A. Radi and J. O. Rasmussen, *Principles of Physics For Scientists and Engineers*, 1st ed., SPRINGER, 2013.

Three forces, each of magnitude 2 N , act on a particle, as shown. The particle is in the plane at point A given by position vector $\vec{r}$, where $r = 3\text{ m}$ and $\theta = 30^\circ$. What is the torque, about the origin O , due to each force?

$$\begin{aligned}\tau_1 &= rF_1 \sin \phi_1 = (3.0\text{ m})(2.0\text{ N})(\sin 150^\circ) = 3.0\text{ N}\cdot\text{m}, \\ \tau_2 &= rF_2 \sin \phi_2 = (3.0\text{ m})(2.0\text{ N})(\sin 120^\circ) = 5.2\text{ N}\cdot\text{m}, \\ \text{and } \tau_3 &= rF_3 \sin \phi_3 = (3.0\text{ m})(2.0\text{ N})(\sin 90^\circ) \\ &= 6.0\text{ N}\cdot\text{m}. \quad \quad \quad (\text{Answer})\end{aligned}$$

