

November 10, 2010

Physics 121

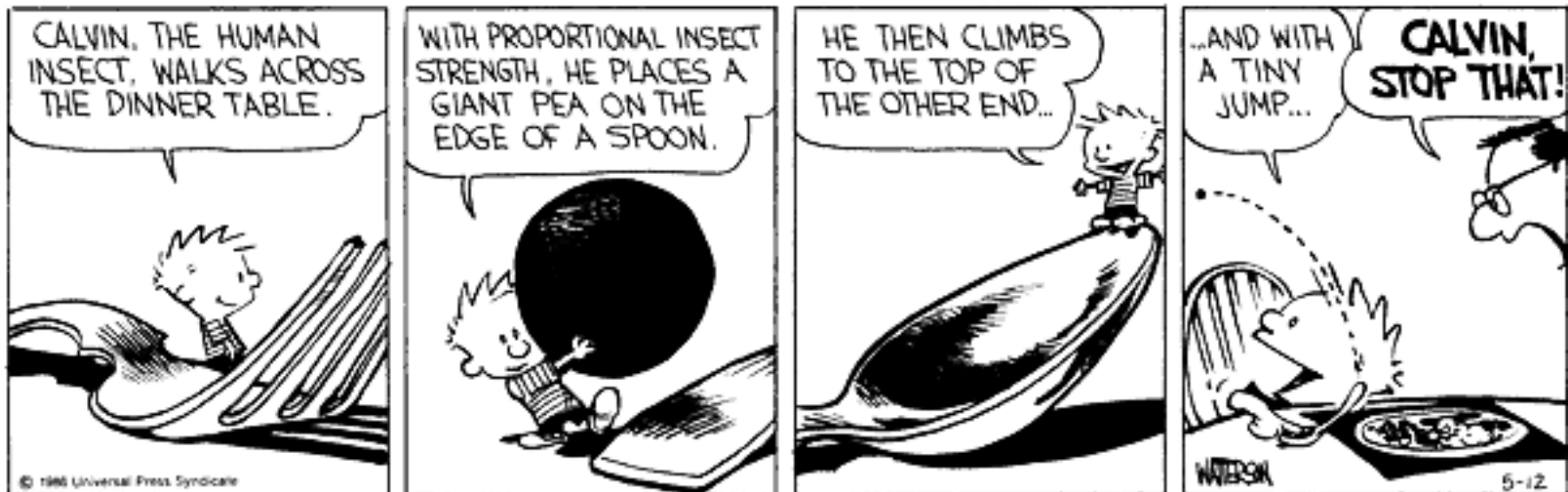
Prof. E. F. Redish

■ Theme Music: Rhett Butler

Spin

■ Cartoon: Bill Watterson

Calvin & Hobbes



Outline

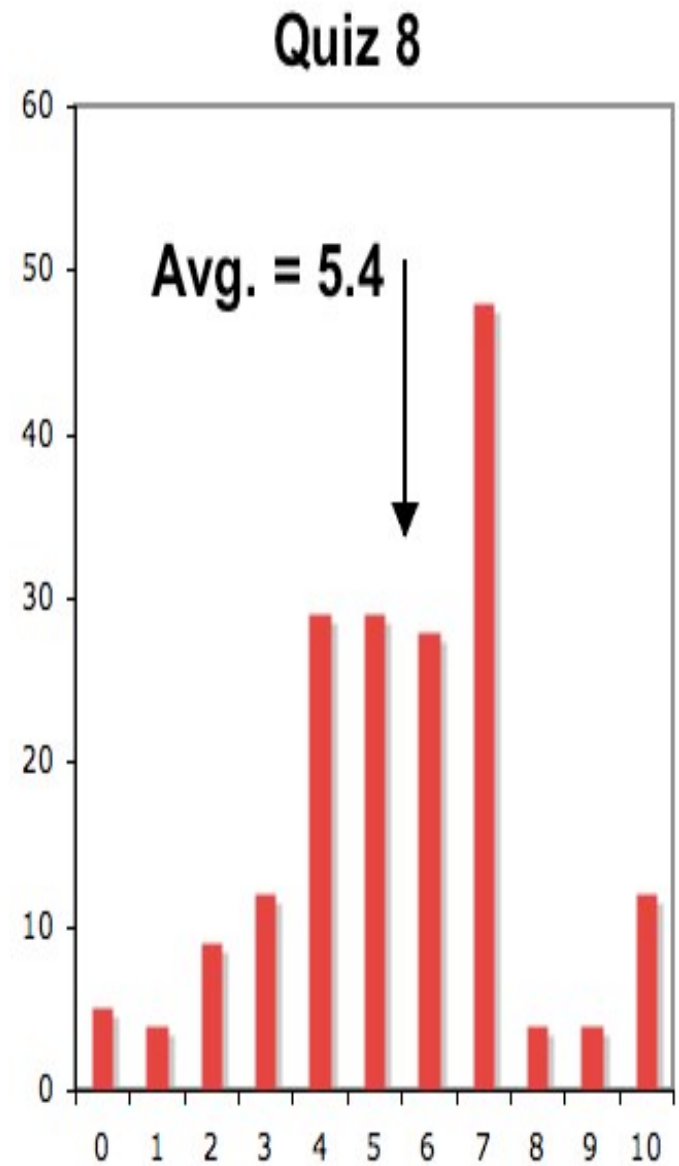
- Go over Quiz 8
- Extended objects: Center of Mass
- Torque: the balance rule
- Torque as a vector

Quiz 8

	8.1		8.2		8.3
a	0%	1	18%	$a=b>c=d$	46%
b	61%	2	20%	$b>c>a>d$	12%
c	27%	3	22%	$b>a=c>d$	11%
d	8%	4	26%		
e	2%	5	12%		
n	1%	6	1%		

11/10/10

Physics 121



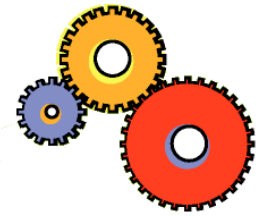
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How can we get away with it?

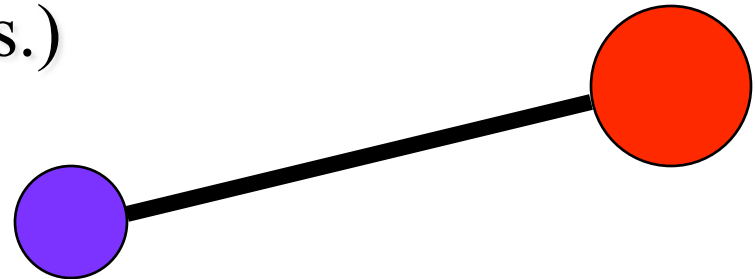


- Up to now we have considered objects that were small enough that we could ignore their size.
- How can we get away with it?
- Consider extended objects.
Start with the simplest example.

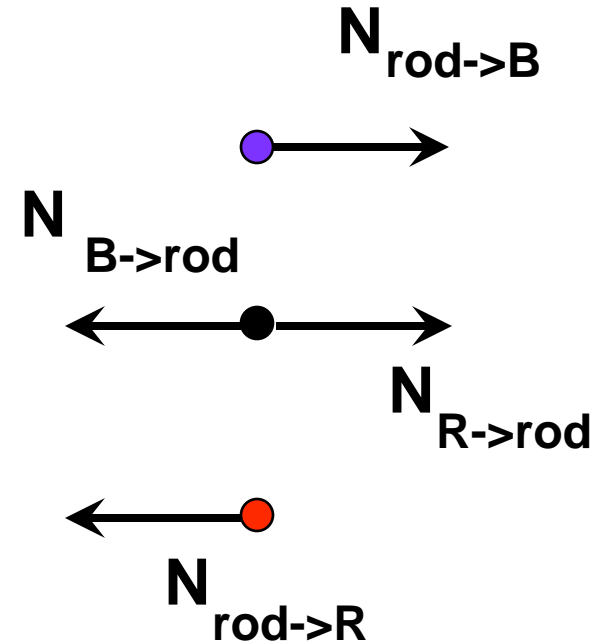
A Simple Extended Object



- In order to understand what's happening, let's take the simplest case we can imagine of an extended object:
 - Two small masses connected by a rigid (nearly massless) rod sliding on a frictionless table.
 - If they were considered as a single object, they should move on a straight line at a constant speed. (No external forces.)



Analysis



$$m_R \vec{a}_R = \vec{N}_{rod \rightarrow R}$$

$$m_B \vec{a}_B = \vec{N}_{rod \rightarrow B}$$

$$m_{rod} \vec{a}_{rod} = \vec{N}_{R \rightarrow rod} + \vec{N}_{B \rightarrow rod}$$

$$m_R \vec{a}_R + m_B \vec{a}_B + m_{rod} \vec{a}_{rod} = \cancel{\vec{N}_{rod \rightarrow R}} + \cancel{\vec{N}_{R \rightarrow rod}} + \cancel{\vec{N}_{B \rightarrow rod}} + \cancel{\vec{N}_{rod \rightarrow B}}$$

$$m_R \vec{a}_R + m_B \vec{a}_B = 0$$

The Center of Mass

$$m_R \vec{a}_R + m_B \vec{a}_B = 0$$

$$m_R \frac{\Delta \vec{v}_R}{\Delta t} + m_B \frac{\Delta \vec{v}_B}{\Delta t} = 0$$

$$\frac{\Delta(m_R \vec{v}_R + m_B \vec{v}_B)}{\Delta t} = 0$$

$$m_R \vec{v}_R + m_B \vec{v}_B = \text{constant}$$



$$m_R \vec{v}_R + m_B \vec{v}_B = m_R \frac{\Delta \vec{r}_R}{\Delta t} + m_B \frac{\Delta \vec{r}_B}{\Delta t}$$

$$m_R \vec{v}_R + m_B \vec{v}_B = M \frac{\Delta \vec{R}}{\Delta t}$$

$$\vec{R} = \frac{m_R \vec{r}_R + m_B \vec{r}_B}{m_R + m_B}$$

Properties of the CM

- The center of mass (CM) of an object is the average position of its component masses, weighted by the fraction of the mass the component contains.

$$\vec{R} = \frac{m_1}{M} \vec{r}_1 + \frac{m_2}{M} \vec{r}_2 + \frac{m_3}{M} \vec{r}_3 + \dots = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{m_i}{M} \vec{r}_i$$

- The center of mass of an object moves as if it were a point mass with only the external forces on the components acting on it.



Newton's Laws for an Extended Object



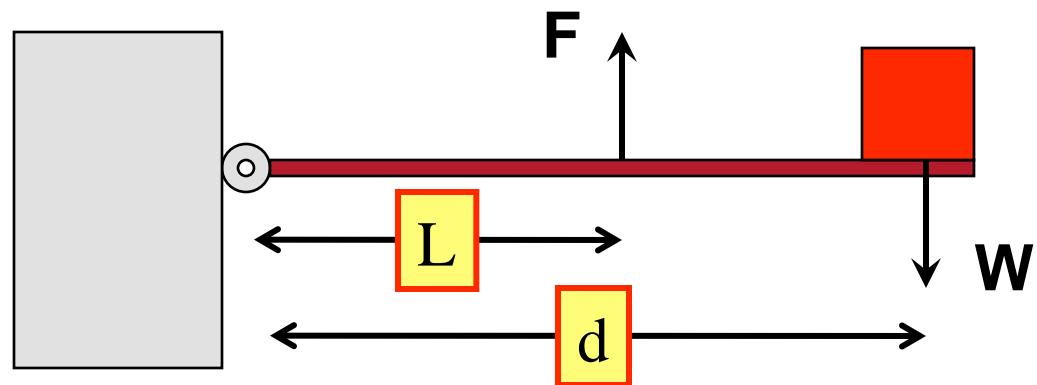
- For an extended object, the Newton's laws we have described so far apply to the center of mass (CM).
- Even if the CM is at rest – or moving at a constant velocity – the object can still rotate around the CM,
- Motion can be created for extended objects even if all forces are balanced if the balanced forces are applied at different points.

The balance rule



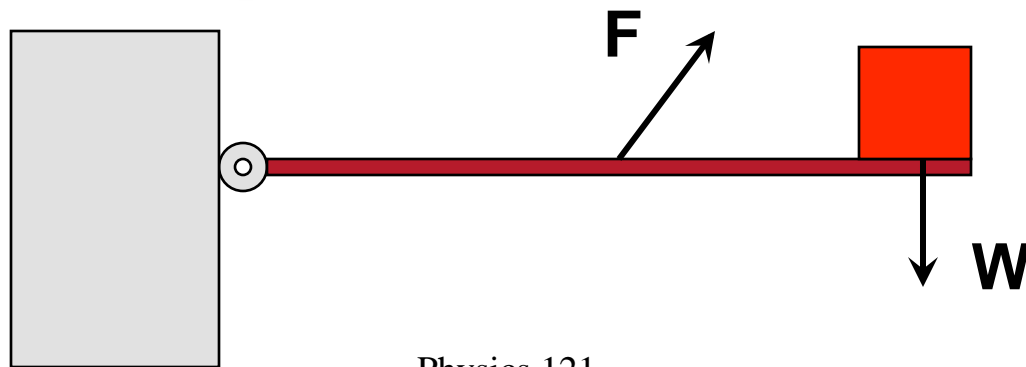
- Each force tries to turn the bar in a particular direction. When the forces and distances satisfy the balance rule, it stays balanced.

$$FL = Wd$$



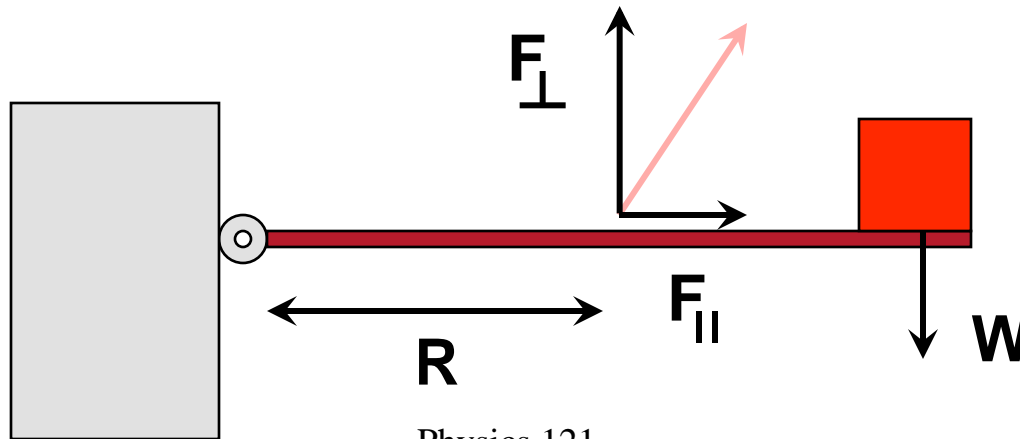
Rotational Effect of Forces: Relevant Factors

- Experimentally, the effect is proportional to the distance from the center.
- The angle at which the force is applied clearly makes a difference with perpendicular being most effective, at another angle less.



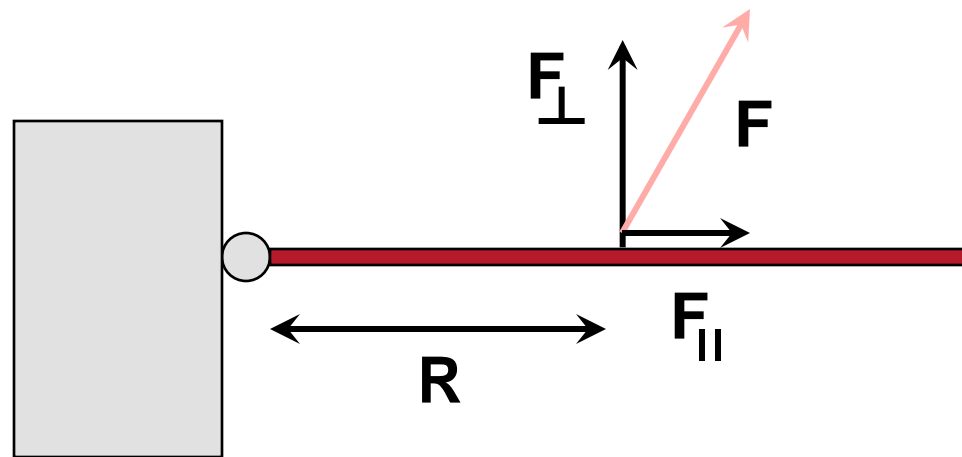
Rotational Effect of Forces: Torque

- We can figure out a measure of effectiveness by doing a component decomposition of the force vector:
- Only the perpendicular component has a rotational effect.



Definition of Torque

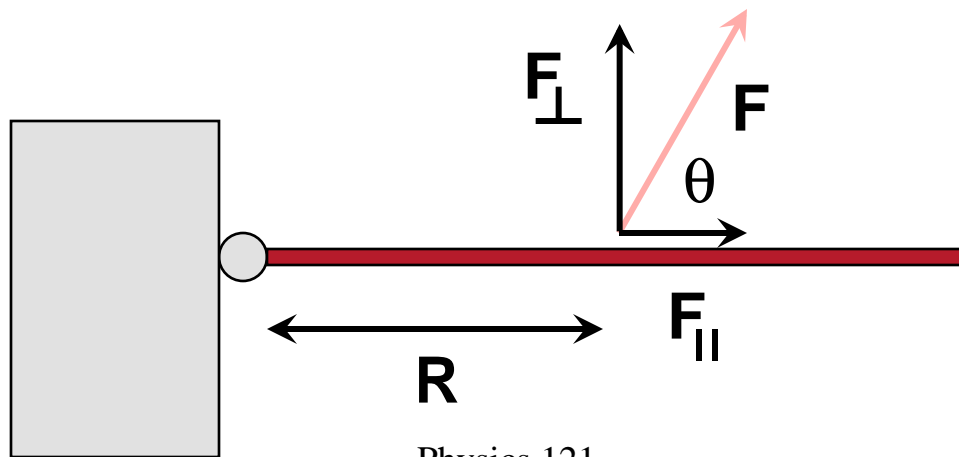
- “Torque” measures the effectiveness of the rotational tendency produced by a force.
 - In order for an object not to rotate the torques tending to rotate it opposite ways must balance.
- $$\tau = F_{\perp} R = FR \sin \theta$$



Definition of Torque

- Define a quantity that measures the effectiveness of the rotational tendency produced by a force.

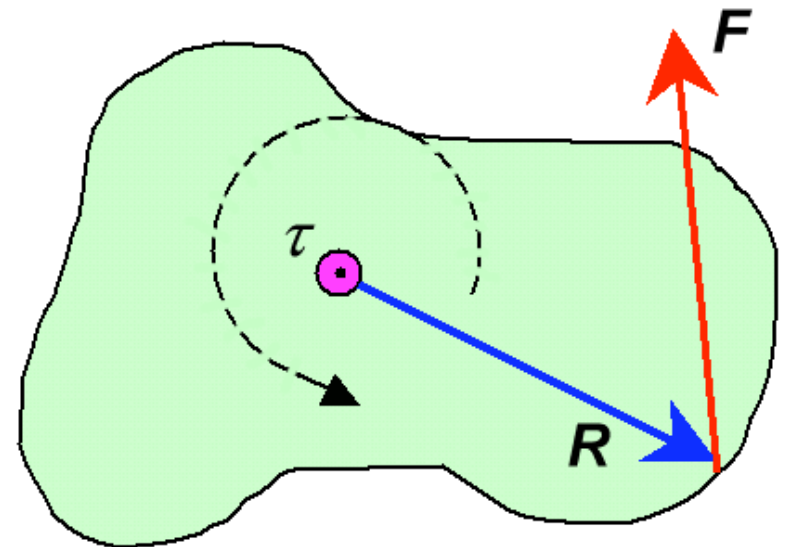
$$\tau = F_{\perp} R = FR \sin \theta$$



Torque as a vector

- Torque involves a position vector.
 - This vector is drawn from a reference point to the point at which the force is applied.
- The torque is defined to point in the direction of the axis through the reference point that it tries to rotate the object about.

$$\vec{\tau} = \vec{R} \times \vec{F}$$



The Cross Product

- The cross product is a way to multiply two vectors to get a vector – one that is perpendicular to both the vectors you are multiplying.
- (Remember that the dot product is a way to multiply two vectors to get a scalar – a number without any direction.)

The Principles of Balance



- For an object to be stationary
 - if it's CM doesn't move, the sum of all forces acting on it must balance.

$$\vec{F}^{net} = 0 \quad \rightarrow \quad F^{up} = F^{down}$$

$$F^{left} = F^{right}$$

- if it doesn't rotate about a particular point, the sum of all torques around that point must balance

$$\tau^{net} = 0 \quad \rightarrow \quad \tau^{clockwise} = \tau^{counter-clockwise}$$