

1. Static Rigid Bodies

Recall from the chapter on moments that for a stationary rigid body:

- The **resultant force is 0**.
- The **resultant moment is 0**.

The problems are the same as in the moments chapter, except now we may need to consider frictional forces.

Example

A uniform rod AB of mass 45kg and length 12m rests with the end A on rough horizontal ground. The rod rests against a smooth peg C where $AC = 8$ m. The rod is in limiting equilibrium at an angle of 15° to the horizontal. Find:

- (a) the magnitude of the reaction of C
- (b) the coefficient of friction between the rod and the ground.

Example (EdExcel M2 Jan 2012 Q5)

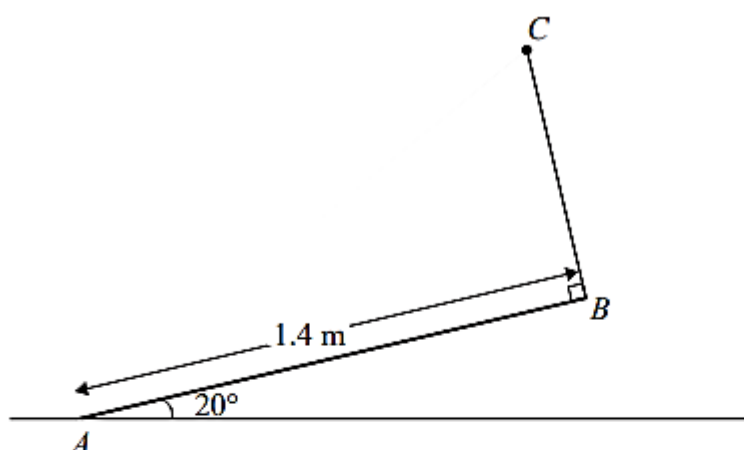


Figure 2

A uniform rod AB has mass 4 kg and length 1.4 m. The end A is resting on rough horizontal ground. A light string BC has one end attached to B and the other end attached to a fixed point C . The string is perpendicular to the rod and lies in the same vertical plane as the rod. The rod is in equilibrium, inclined at 20° to the ground, as shown in Figure 2.

- (a) Find the tension in the string. (4)

Given that the rod is about to slip,

- (b) find the coefficient of friction between the rod and the ground. (7)

Test Your Understanding (EdExcel M2 Jan 2013 Q3)

A ladder, of length 5 m and mass 18 kg, has one end A resting on rough horizontal ground and its other end B resting against a smooth vertical wall. The ladder lies in a vertical plane perpendicular to the wall and makes an angle α with the horizontal ground, where $\tan \alpha = \frac{4}{3}$, as shown in Figure 1. The coefficient of friction between the ladder and the ground is μ . A woman of mass 60 kg stands on the ladder at the point C , where $AC = 3$ m. The ladder is on the point of slipping. The ladder is modelled as a uniform rod and the woman as a particle.

Find the value of μ .

(9)

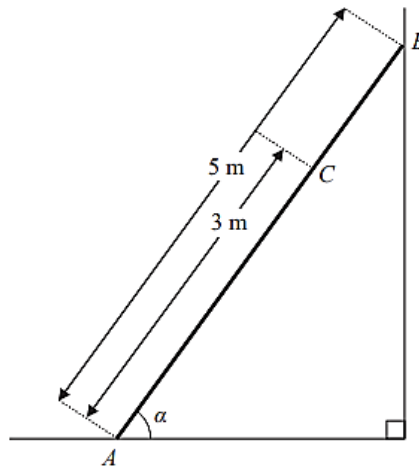


Figure 1

