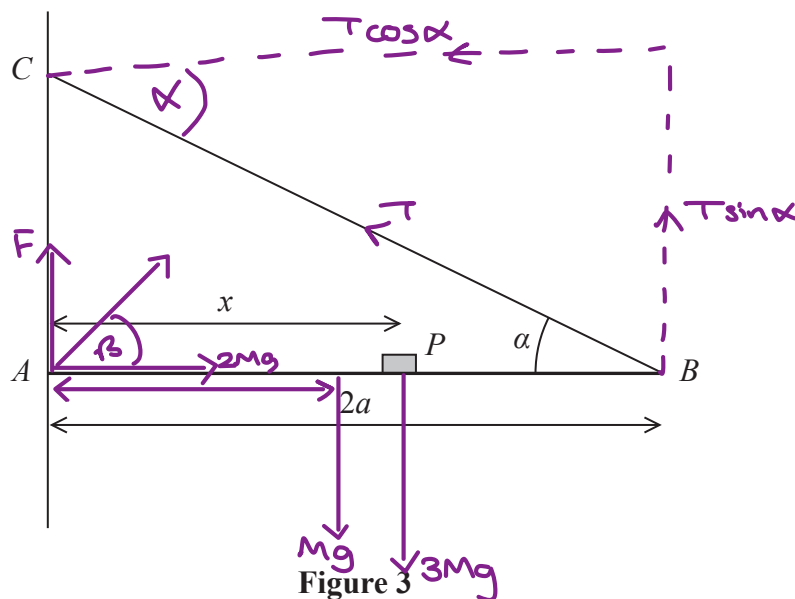


1.



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A plank, AB , of mass M and length $2a$, rests with its end A against a rough vertical wall. The plank is held in a horizontal position by a rope. One end of the rope is attached to the plank at B and the other end is attached to the wall at the point C , which is vertically above A .

A small block of mass $3M$ is placed on the plank at the point P , where $AP = x$. The plank is in equilibrium in a vertical plane which is perpendicular to the wall.

The angle between the rope and the plank is α , where $\tan \alpha = \frac{3}{4}$, as shown in Figure 3.

The plank is modelled as a uniform rod, the block is modelled as a particle and the rope is modelled as a light inextensible string.

(a) Using the model, show that the tension in the rope is $\frac{5Mg(3x + a)}{6a}$ (3)

The magnitude of the horizontal component of the force exerted on the plank at A by the wall is $2Mg$.

(b) Find x in terms of a . (2)

The force exerted on the plank at A by the wall acts in a direction which makes an angle β with the horizontal.

(c) Find the value of $\tan \beta$ (5)

The rope will break if the tension in it exceeds $5Mg$.

(d) Explain how this will restrict the possible positions of P . You must justify your answer carefully. (3)

a) Moments about A - (1)

$$(a \times Mg) + (x \times 3Mg) - (2a \times T \sin \alpha) = 0$$

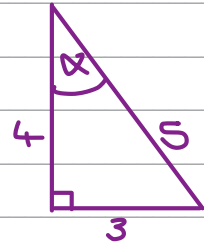
$$aMg + 3xMg - \frac{6Ta}{5} = 0$$

$$\frac{6Ta}{5} = aMg + 3xMg \quad - (1)$$

$$\frac{6Ta}{5} = Mg(a + 3x)$$

$$Ta = \frac{5Mg(3x + a)}{6}$$

$$T = \frac{5Mg(3x + a)}{6a} \quad - (1)$$



$$\tan \alpha = \frac{4}{3}$$

$$\sin \alpha = \frac{4}{5}$$

$$\cos \alpha = \frac{3}{5}$$

b) R(←):

$$T \cos \alpha - 2Mg = 0$$

$$T \cos \alpha = 2Mg$$

$$\frac{5Mg(3x + a)}{6a} \times \frac{4}{5} = 2Mg \quad - (1)$$

$$\frac{20Mg(3x + a)}{30a} = 2Mg$$

$$20Mg(3x + a) = 2Mg \times 30a$$

$$20(3x + a) = 60a$$

$$3x + a = 3a$$

$$3x = 2a$$

$$x = \frac{2}{3}a \quad - (1)$$

c) Moments about B^o - (1)

$$(2a \times F) - (a \times Mg) - (2a - x)(3Mg) = 0$$

$$2aF = aMg + 6aMg - 3xMg$$

$$2aF = 7aMg - 3xMg$$

$$2aF = 7aMg - 2aMg$$

$$2F = 7Mg - 2Mg \quad - (1)$$

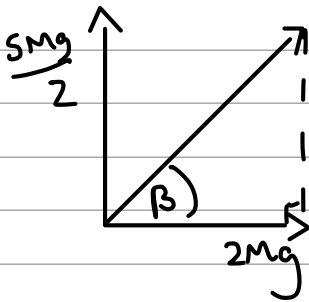
$$F = \frac{7Mg - 2Mg}{2}$$

$$F = \frac{5Mg}{2} \quad - (1)$$

(from b))



$$\parallel x = \frac{2}{3}a$$



$$\tan \beta = \frac{\frac{5Mg}{2}}{2Mg} \quad - (1)$$

$$\tan \beta = \frac{5}{4} \quad - (1)$$

d) $T \leq 5Mg$

$$\frac{5Mg(3x+a)}{6a} \leq 5Mg \quad - (1)$$

$$5Mg(3x+a) \leq 5Mg \times 6a$$

$$3x+a \leq 6a$$

$$3x \leq 5a$$

$$x \leq \frac{5}{3}a \quad - (1)$$

P must be no further away from A than $\frac{5a}{3}$ - (1)

2.

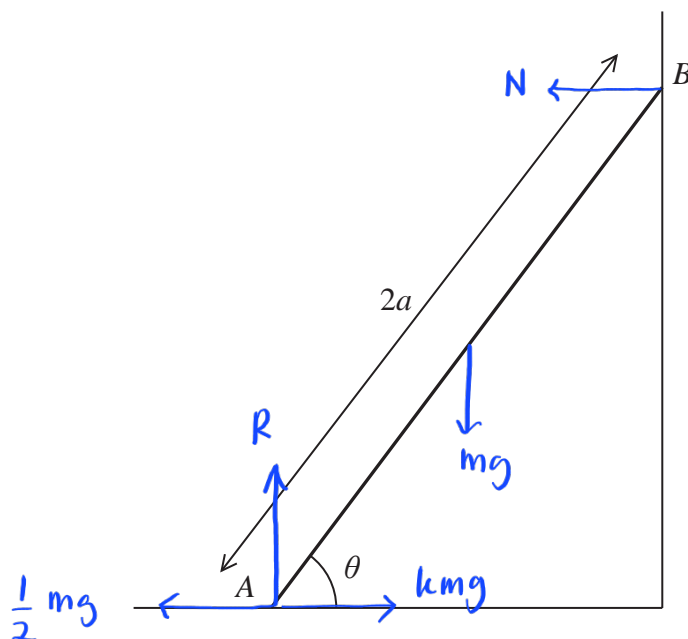


Figure 2

A beam AB has mass m and length $2a$.

The beam rests in equilibrium with A on rough horizontal ground and with B against a smooth vertical wall.

The beam is inclined to the horizontal at an angle θ , as shown in Figure 2.

The coefficient of friction between the beam and the ground is μ

The beam is modelled as a uniform rod resting in a vertical plane that is perpendicular to the wall.

Using the model,

(a) show that $\mu \geq \frac{1}{2} \cot \theta$ (5)

A horizontal force of magnitude kmg , where k is a constant, is now applied to the beam at A .

This force acts in a direction that is perpendicular to the wall and towards the wall.

Given that $\tan \theta = \frac{5}{4}$, $\mu = \frac{1}{2}$ and the beam is now in limiting equilibrium,

(b) use the model to find the value of k . (5)

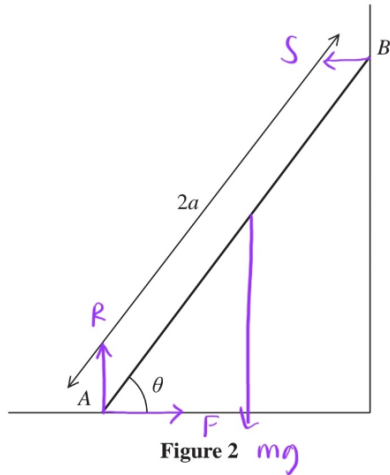
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(a)



①

$$\text{moment equation at A} = mg \times a \cos \theta = S \times 2a \sin \theta \quad \text{--- ①}$$

①

$$\text{Vertically: } R = mg \quad \text{--- ②}$$

$$\text{① Horizontally: } F = S \quad \text{--- ③} \quad \text{substitute ② and ③ into ①}$$

$$\therefore R \cos \theta = 2F \sin \theta$$

$$F = \frac{R \cos \theta}{2 \sin \theta}$$

$$F = \frac{1}{2} R \cot \theta$$

$$\text{However, } F \leq \mu R \text{ which means: } \frac{1}{2} R \cot \theta \leq \mu R \quad \text{①}$$

$$\mu \geq \frac{1}{2} \cot \theta \quad \text{①}$$

the μR should be more than F because the beam is at rest.



(b)

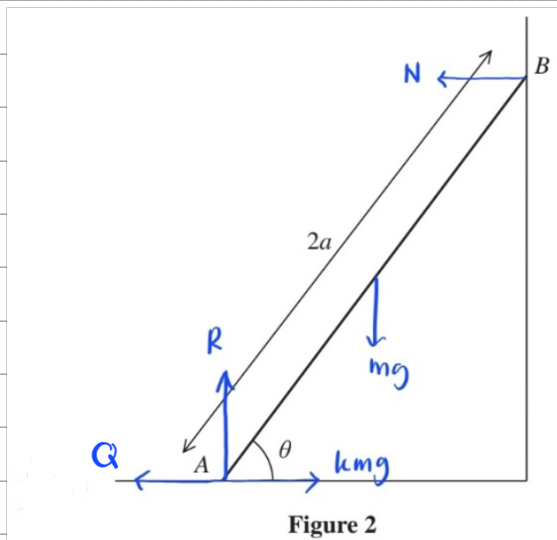


Figure 2

$$\text{Moments equation at A : } mg \times a \cos \theta = N \times 2a \sin \theta \quad (1)$$

$$(1) \text{ Vertical forces : } R = mg \quad (2)$$

$$\text{Horizontal forces : } N + Q = kmg$$

$$\text{However, } Q = \mu R \text{ (limiting equilibrium) : } Q = \frac{1}{2} mg$$

$\mu = 1/2$ (given in question)

$R = mg$
derived from (2)

$$\therefore N + Q = kmg$$

$$N + \frac{1}{2} mg = kmg$$

$$N = kmg - \frac{1}{2} mg$$

$$\therefore N = kR - \frac{1}{2} R \quad (3)$$

Substitute (2) and (3) into (1)

$$R \cancel{\cos \theta} = (kR - \frac{1}{2} R) \times 2 \cancel{g} \sin \theta \quad (1)$$

$$\cancel{R} \cos \theta = 2 \cancel{R} (k - \frac{1}{2}) \sin \theta$$



$$\cos \theta = 2 \sin \theta \left(k - \frac{1}{2} \right)$$

$$\frac{\cos \theta}{2 \sin \theta} = k - \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\frac{1}{2} (\cot \theta) = k - \frac{1}{2}$$

Given,
 $\tan \theta = \frac{5}{4}$

$$\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{\tan \theta} \right) = k - \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{4}{5} \right) = k - \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\frac{4}{10} = k - \frac{1}{2}$$

$$k = \frac{4}{10} + \frac{1}{2}$$

$$k = \frac{9}{10}$$

$$k = 0.9 \quad \text{①}$$

