# Physics 141. Lecture 17.



Frank L. H. Wolfs

Physics 141. Lecture 17.

- Course information.
- Topics to be discussed today (Chapter 11):
  - Rotational Variables
  - Rotational Kinetic Energy
  - Torque

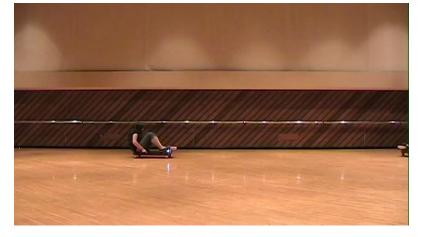
### Physics 141. Course information.

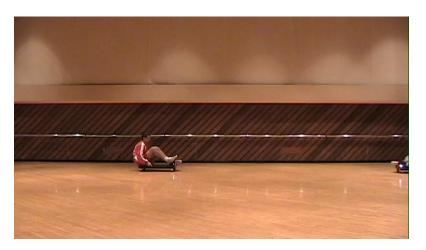
- Lab report # 4 is due on Wednesday 11/6 at noon.
- Homework set # 7 is due on Friday 11/1 at noon.
- Homework set # 8 is due on Friday 11/8 at noon.
- Homework set # 9 is due on Friday 11/15 at noon.
- Exam # 3 is scheduled for Tuesday 11/19 at 8 am in Hoyt. It covers the material contained in Chapters 8 – 11.

### Experiment # 5.

### Timeline (more details during next lectures).

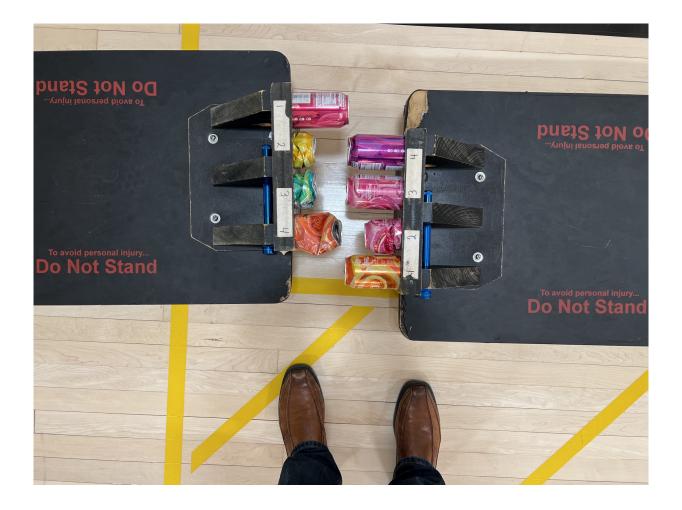
- 11/11: collisions in Spurrier Gym
- 11/18: analysis files available.
- 11/25: each student has determined his/her best estimate of the velocities before and after the collisions (analysis during regular lab periods).
- 11/25: complete discussion and comparison of results with colliding partners and submit final results (velocities and errors) to professor Wolfs.
- 11/27: we will compile the results, determine momenta and kinetic energies, and distribute the results.
- 12/2: office hours by lab TA/TIs to help with analysis and conclusions.
- 12/6: students submit lab report # 5.





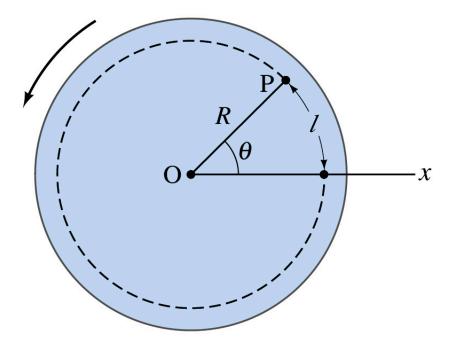
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## We need empty soda cans! I will provide full ones on 11/5.



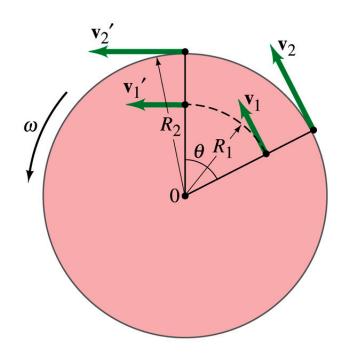
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- The variables that are used to describe rotational motion are:
  - Angular position  $\theta$
  - Angular velocity  $\omega = d\theta/dt$
  - Angular acceleration  $\alpha = d\omega/dt$
- The rotational variables are related to the linear variables:
  - Linear position  $l = R\theta$
  - Linear velocity  $v = R\omega$
  - Linear acceleration  $a = R\alpha$



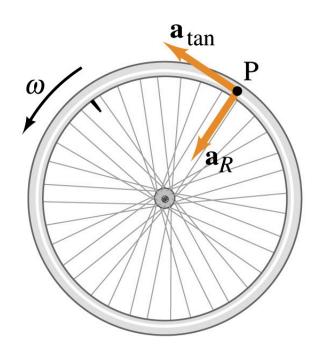
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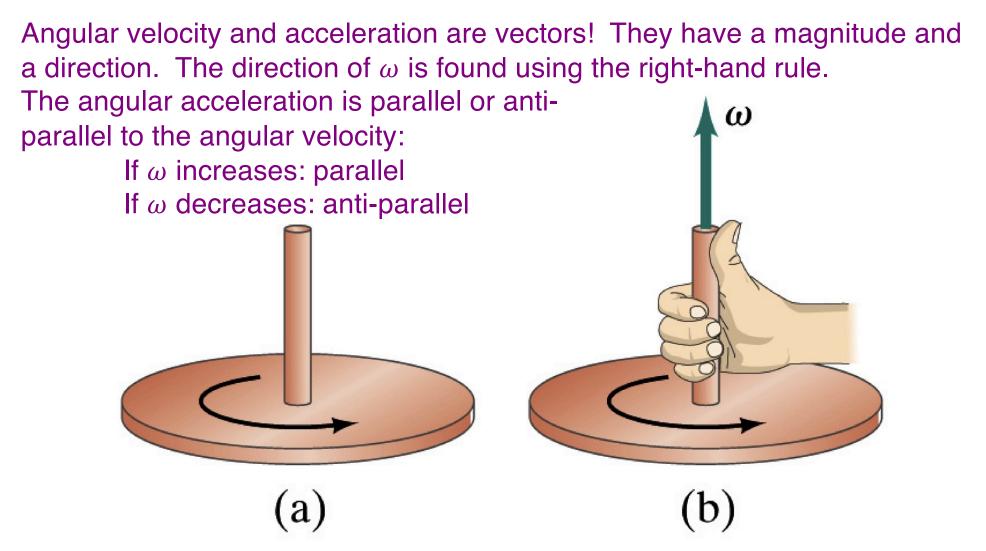
- Things to consider when looking at the rotation of rigid objects around a fixed axis:
  - Each part of the rigid object has the same angular velocity.
  - Only those parts that are located at the same distance from the rotation axis have the same linear velocity.
  - The linear velocity of parts of the rigid object increases with increasing distance from the rotation axis.



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- Note: the acceleration a<sub>t</sub> = rα is only one of the two component of the acceleration of point P.
- The two components of the acceleration of point P are:
  - The **radial component**: this component is always present since point P carried out circular motion around the axis of rotation.
  - The **tangential component**: this component is present only when the angular acceleration is not equal to 0 rad/s<sup>2</sup>.





#### Rotational kinetic energy.

• Since the components of a rotating object have a non-zero (linear) velocity we can associate a kinetic energy with the rotational motion:

$$K = \sum_{i} \frac{1}{2} m_{i} v_{i}^{2} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i} m_{i} (\omega r_{i})^{2} = \frac{1}{2} \left( \sum_{i} m_{i} r_{i}^{2} \right) \omega^{2} = \frac{1}{2} I \omega^{2}$$

• The kinetic energy is proportional to the rotational velocity  $\omega$ . Note: the equation is similar to the translational kinetic energy except that instead of being proportional to the the mass *m* of the object, the rotational kinetic energy is proportional to the **moment** of inertia *I* of the object (unit of *I* is kg m<sup>2</sup>):

$$I = \sum_{i} m_i r_i^2$$

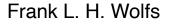
# The moment of inertia *I*. Calculating *I*.

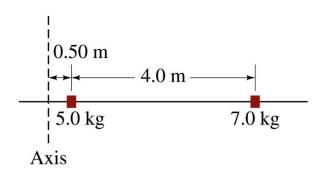
- The moment of inertia of an objects depends on the mass distribution of object and on the location of the rotation axis.
- For discrete mass distribution it can be calculated as follows:

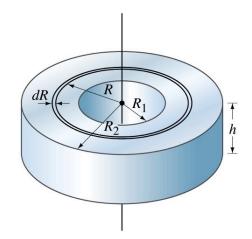
$$I = \sum_{i} m_{i} r_{i}^{2}$$

• For continuous mass distributions we need to integrate over the mass distribution:

$$I = \int r^2 dm$$





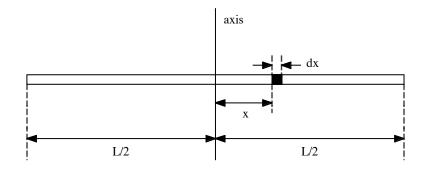


# Calculating the moment of inertia. Sample problem.

- Consider a rod of length L and mass m. What is the moment of inertia with respect to an axis through its center of mass?
- Consider a slice of the rod, with width dx, located a distance x from the rotation axis. The mass dm of this slice is equal to

$$dm = \frac{m}{L}dx$$

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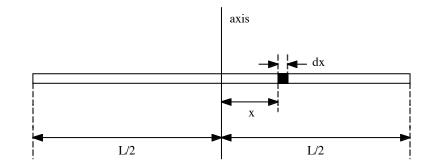


Calculating the moment of inertia. Sample problem.

• The moment of inertia *dI* of this slice is equal to

$$dI = x^2 dm = \frac{m}{L} x^2 dx$$

• The moment of inertia of the rod can be found by adding the contributions of all of the slices that make up the rod:



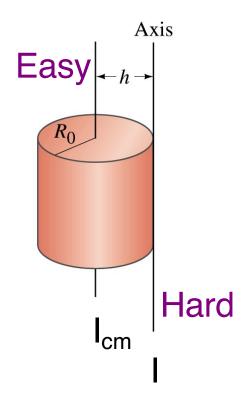
$$I = \int_{-\frac{L}{2}}^{\frac{L}{2}} \frac{m}{L} x^2 dx =$$
$$= \frac{m}{3L} \left[ \left(\frac{L}{2}\right)^3 - \left(-\frac{L}{2}\right)^3 \right] = \frac{1}{12} mL^2$$

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# Calculating the moment of inertia. Parallel-axis theorem.

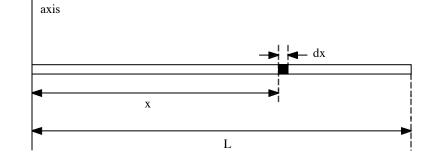
- Calculating the moment of inertial with respect to a symmetry axis of the object is in general easy.
- It is much harder to calculate the moment of inertia with respect to an axis that is not a symmetry axis.
- However, we can make a hard problem easier by using the parallel-axis theorem:

 $I = I_{cm} + Mh^2$ 



# Calculating the moment of inertia. Sample problem.

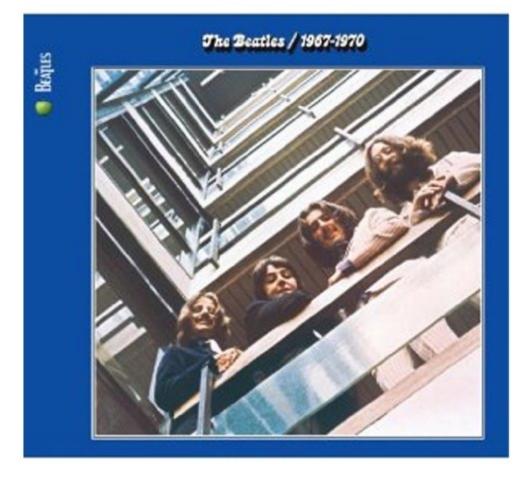
- Consider a rod of length L and mass m. What is the moment of inertia with respect to an axis through its left corner?
- We have determined the moment of inertia of this rod with respect to an axis through its center of mass. We use the parallel-axis theorem to determine the moment of inertia with respect to the current axis:



$$I = I_{cm} + m\left(\frac{L}{2}\right)^2 = \frac{1}{3}mL^2$$

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#### 3 Minute 2 Second Intermission.

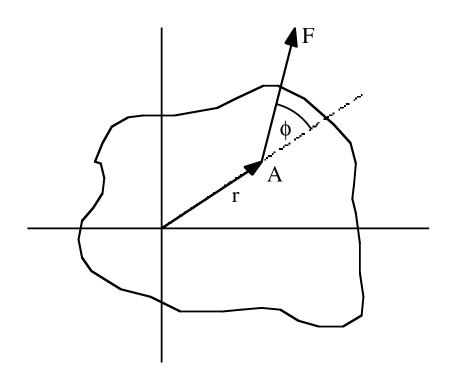


- Since paying attention for 1 hour and 15 minutes is hard when the topic is physics, let's take a 3 minute 2 second intermission.
- You can:
  - Stretch out.
  - Talk to your neighbors.
  - Ask me a quick question.
  - Enjoy the fantastic music.
  - Solve a WeBWorK problem.



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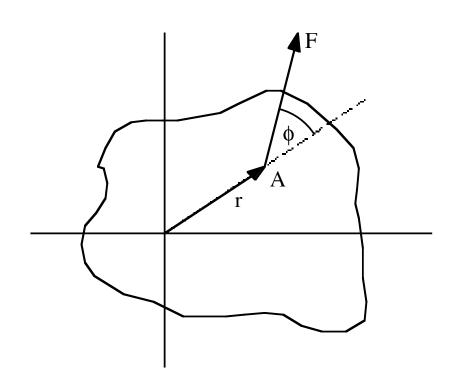
- Consider a force *F* applied to an object that can only rotate.
- The force *F* can be decomposed into two two components:
  - A radial component directed along the direction of the position vector r. The magnitude of this component is  $Fcos(\phi)$ . This component will not produce any motion.
  - A tangential component, perpendicular to the direction of the position vector r. The magnitude of this component is  $Fsin(\phi)$ . This component will result in rotational motion.



- If a mass m is located at the position on which the force is acting (and we assume any other masses can be neglected), it will experience a linear acceleration equal to Fsin(φ)/m.
- The corresponding angular acceleration  $\alpha$  is equal to  $\alpha = Fsin(\phi)/mr$
- Since in rotational motion the moment of inertia plays an important role, we will rewrite the angular acceleration in terms of the moment of inertia:

$$\alpha = \frac{rFsin(\phi)}{mr^2} = \frac{rFsin(\phi)}{I}$$

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Consider rewriting the previous equation in the following way: rFsin(φ) = Iα
The left-hand-side of this equation is called the torque τ of the force F:

$$\tau = I\alpha$$

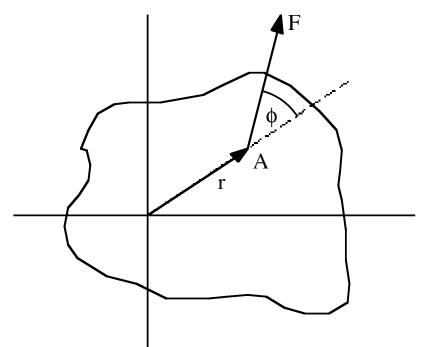
• This equation looks similar to Newton's second law for linear motion:

$$F = ma$$

• Note:

linear	rotational
mass <i>m</i>	moment I
force F	torque $ au$

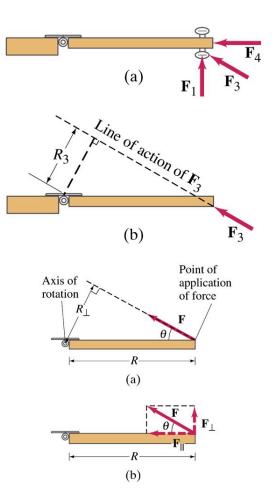
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• In general, the torque associated with a force *F* is equal to

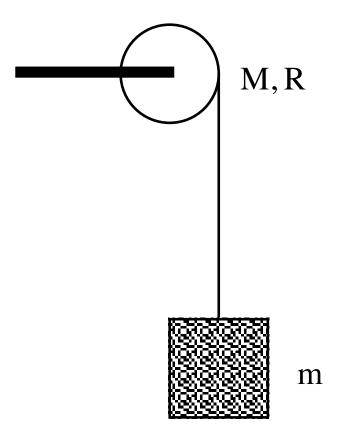
 $|\vec{\tau}| = rFsin(\theta) = \left|\vec{r} \times \vec{F}\right|$ 

- The arm of the force (also called the moment arm) is defined as rsin(θ). The arm of the force is the perpendicular distance of the axis of rotation from the line of action of the force.
- If the arm of the force is 0, the torque is 0, and there will be no rotation.
- The maximum torque is achieved when  $\theta = 90^{\circ}$ .



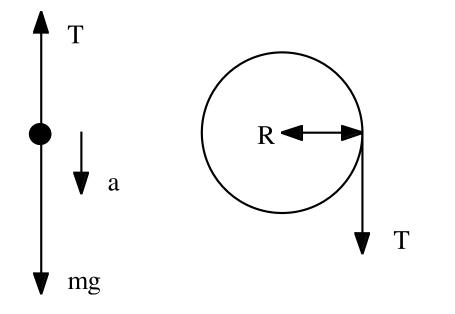
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- Consider a uniform disk with mass *M* and radius *R*. The disk is mounted on a fixed axle. A block with mass *m* hangs from a light cord that is wrapped around the rim of the disk. Find the acceleration of the falling block, the angular acceleration of the disk, and the tension of the cord.
- Expectations:
  - The linear acceleration should approach g when M approaches 0 kg.



- Start with considering the forces and torques involved.
- Define the sign convention to be used.
- The block will move down and we choose the positive y axis in the direction of the linear acceleration.
- The net force on mass *m* is equal to

$$ma = mg - T$$



• The net torque on the pulley is equal to

$$\tau = RT$$

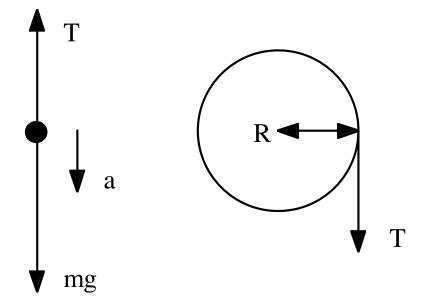
• The resulting angular acceleration is equal to

$$\alpha = \frac{\tau}{I} = \frac{RT}{\frac{1}{2}MR^2} = \frac{2T}{MR}$$

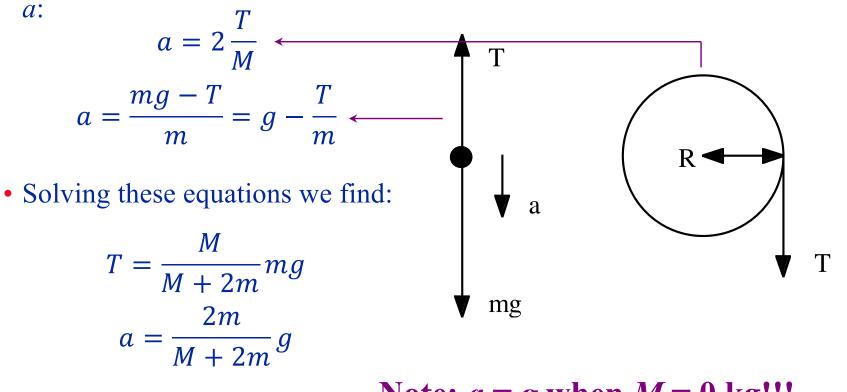
• Assuming the cord is not slipping we can determine the linear acceleration:

$$a = \alpha R = 2\frac{T}{M}$$

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• We now have two expressions for



Note: a = g when M = 0 kg!!!

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#### Done for today!



#### Landing at Amsterdam Airport.

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