



Crack Notes [Physics 3] Equilibrium, Torque & Energy

Equilibrium

$$\sum F_x = 0, \quad \sum F_y = 0, \quad \sum F_{up} = \sum F_{down}, \quad \sum F_{right} = \sum F_{left}$$

- Static equilibrium: all velocities are zero
- Dynamic equilibrium: velocities are constant, but not zero
- Objects not in equilibrium will have a net force and therefore acceleration: $F_{net} = ma$

Torque

$$\tau = F \times r = Fr \sin \theta$$

- Force making an object want to rotate
- Can be either clockwise or counterclockwise
- At rotational equilibrium, $\tau_{clockwise} = \tau_{counterclockwise}$
- You can choose the point of rotation arbitrarily, but usually choose the point where it'll naturally rotate

Energy

- Units: joule (J) = $1 \text{ kg} \frac{\text{m}^2}{\text{s}^2}$, electron volt (eV) = $1.6 \cdot 10^{-19} \text{ J}$
- Mechanical energy: sum of kinetic and potential energy
- Kinetic energy: energy of motion = $K = \frac{1}{2}mv^2$
- Potential energy: energy stored in position
 - Gravitational PE: energy due to gravity $U_g = mgh$
 - Elastic PE: energy due to object deformation (e.g. springs) = $U_e = \frac{1}{2}k\Delta x^2$
- For kinematics problems, you have a conversion between potential and kinetic energy but their sum is constant
- Isolated system: no energy or mass exchange with surroundings
- Closed system: energy is exchanged but mass is not
- Conservation of energy: when you have an isolated system, total energy is constant; when you have a closed system, energy can only leave as work or heat

Work

- Work done by non-frictional force: $W = F \cdot d = Fd \cos \theta$
 - Using only component of F in the direction of movement: $W = Fd$
 - Also equal to the change in total energy: $W = \Delta K + \Delta U$
 - Example: lifting an object to a height h changes only U by $+mgh$, so you're doing $W = mgh$ on the object
- Work done by friction will also cause a change in internal energy
 - Still equal to the change in total energy: $W = \Delta K + \Delta U + \Delta E_i$

Power

$$P = \frac{W}{t}$$

- Rate of energy transfer, or rate at which work is being done
- Instantaneous power:

$$P = \frac{W}{t} = \frac{Fd \cos \theta}{t} = F \left(\frac{d}{t} \right) \cos \theta = Fv \cos \theta = Fv \text{ if } F \text{ in the same direction as } v$$