EQUILIBRIUM OF RIGID BODIES



Rigid-Body in Equilibrium

- For equilibrium, we need to create a free-body diagram of the problem.
- We cannot apply equilibrium to the problems we have attempted so far until we have "freed" the body from its restraints.
- To free the body from its restraints or supports, we need to consider how to simulate the reactions so that we may replace each support with an appropriate force or moment that does the same thing.

















FBD - Example 1

- Draw a free-body diagram for the following:
 The pulley at B

 - The post AB
 - The beam CD





• A barrel is being supported by bar BC pinned at C and a steel guy wire at B. Draw a free-body diagram and solve for unknown reactions for the barrel and the bar if the barrel has a mass of 275 kg and the bar has a mass of 70 kg.





• A wall and block with a weight, W, of 900 lb is supporting a loaded beam. Draw a free-body diagram of the beam shown and determine the unknown reactions. The weight of the beam is 1400 lb.







• A rope and pulley system is used to support a body W as shown. Each pulley is free to rotate. One rope is continuous over pulleys A and B; the other is continuous over pulley C. Determine the tension T in the rope over pulleys A and B required to hold body W in equilibrium if the mass of body W is 175 kg.





• The 50-lb block A and the 25-lb block B are supported by an incline that is held in the position shown. Knowing that the coefficient of static friction is μ_s =0.15 between the two blocks and zero between block B and the incline, determine the value of θ for which motion is impending.





• A 75-lb load is supported by an angle bracket, pulley, and cable as shown. Determine the force exerted on the bracket by the pin at C and the reactions at supports A and B of the bracket.







• The masses of cartons 1, 2, and 3, which rest on the platform shown, are 300 kg, 100 kg, and 200 kg, respectively. The mass of the platform is 500 kg. Determine the tensions in the three cables A, B, and C that support the platform.











Analyzing Frames & Machines

- Step 1: Draw a FBD of the frame or machine and its members, as necessary
 - Hints:
 - Identify any 2-force members
 - Note that forces on contacting surfaces (usually between a pin and a member) are equal and opposite
 - For a joint with more than 2 members or an external force, it is advisable to draw a FBD of the pin.
- Step 2: Develop a strategy to apply the equations of equilibrium to solve for the unknowns.
 - Look for ways to form single equations and single unknowns.







• The cord is wrapped around a frictionless pulley and supports a body with a mass, m, of 100 kg. Determine the reaction components at supports A and E and the forces exerted on the bar ABC by the pin at B.



• The spring clamp is used to hold block E into the corner. The force in the spring is F=k(l-lo), where l is the present length of the spring, lo=15 mm is the unstretched length of the spring, and k=5000 N/m is the spring constant. Determine all forces acting on member ABC of the spring clamp and the force exerted by the spring clamp on the block E.



 A pin-connected system of levers and bars is used as a toggle for a press as shown.
 Determine the force F exerted on the can at A when a force P=100 lb is applied to the lever at G.



 A scissors jack for an automobile is shown. The screw threads exert a force F on the blocks at joints A and B. Determine the force P exerted on the automobile if F=800 N and θ=30°.



• The tower crane is rigidly attached to the building at F. A cable is attached at D and passes over small frictionless pulleys at A and E. The object suspended from C weighs 1500 N. Determine all forces acting on member ABCD.









• The compound-lever pruning shears shown can be adjusted by placing pin A at various ratchet positions on blade ACE. Knowing that 300-lb vertical forces are required to complete the pruning of a small branch, determine the magnitude P of the forces that must be applied to the handles when the shears are adjusted as shown.





- Designed to support loads and are usually stationary, fully constrained structures
- Consist exclusively of straight, slender members connected at joints located at the ends of each member
 - Two-Force Members: A member that has pin supports at both ends and is subjected to no load in between



Rigidity and Determinacy

- Valid for systems consisting only of 2-force members.
- m is the number of members, r is the number of reactions at the supports, and n is the number of joints

If m + r > 2j: *Statically Indeterminate*

• Stop, this is a Dynamics or Solids problem where we cannot arbitrarily say that $\Sigma \vec{F} = m \vec{a} = 0$

If m + r = 2j: Statically Determinate/"Just Right"

• Proceed, all internal loads can be determined

If m + r < 2j: *Redundant Structure*, *Partially Constrained*

• Careful, some loads can be determined, and some cannot. Map out a strategy to see if you can get what you want before trying to solve.



Assumptions made in the Force Analysis of a Truss

- Truss members are connected together at their ends only.
- Truss members are connected together by frictionless pins.
- The truss structure is loaded only at the joints.
- The weights of the slender members may be neglected.
- Result of these 4 assumptions:
 - All members are Two-Force Members.





Method of Joints

- Step 1: If support reactions are unknown, draw a FBD of the entire truss and determine the support reactions.
- Step 2: Draw a FBD of a joint with one or two unknowns.
 - Assume all unknown member forces act in tension.
- Step 3: Apply the scalar equations, $\Sigma F_x = 0$ and $\Sigma F_y = 0$, to determine the unknown(s).
- If the answer is positive, then the assumed direction (tension) is correct, otherwise it is in the opposite direction (compression).
- Step 4: Repeat steps 2 and 3 at each joint in succession until all required forces are determined.

Special Case – Zero-Force Members

- Zero-Force Member: members in a truss that are neither in tension nor compression
- Can be identified by:
 - At a 2-member joint: If those members are NOT parallel AND there are no other external loads (or reactions) at the joint THN both of those members are zeroforce members.
 - In a 3-member joint: If TWO of those members ARE parallel AND there are no other external loads (or reactions at the joint THEN the member that is not parallel is a zero-force member.





• Use the method of joints to determine the force in each member of the truss shown.





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Space Truss Example 14

• The simple space truss is supported by a ball-and-socket joint at E and by short links at A, D, and C. Determine the forces in each of the members.



Challenge in PLTL

• The truss shown supports one end of a 40-ft wide, 24-ft high outdoor movie screen, which weighs 7000 lb. An identical truss supports the other end of the screen. A 20-mph wind blowing directly at the screen creates a wind loading of 1.042 lb/ft² on the screen. Calculate the maximum tensile and compressive forces in the members of the truss and indicate in which members they occur.



Method of Sections

- Instead of focusing on each individual joint, you can isolate at a section of a truss to analyze
- Step 0: Solve for external reactions (if needed)
- Step 1: Cut the structure through three members (at most)
- Step 2: Draw a FBD of one side of the cut truss
- Step 3: Apply the static equilibrium equations to solve for internal reactions.

• Use the method of sections to find the forces in members AB, AF, and FG of the truss shown.

• The truss shown supports a sign that weighs 3000 lb. The sign is connected to the truss at joints E, G, and H, and the connecting links are adjusted so that each joint carries 1/3 of the load. Determine the forces in members CD, CF, and FG.

IMPORTANT NOTES ABOUT INTERNAL LOADINGS

- When analyzing a body that is a member or part of a machine or structure, the machine or structure might have to be disassembled to determine the forces and moments acting on the body before computing the internal loadings.
- The internal loads of a structure only change when an external load is applied.
- The method of sections is used to determine the internal resultant loadings acting on the surface of a sectioned body.

