

Day 4 - The Power of Free Bodies Section 4-7



Consider a simple Atwood machine with  $M > m$

$$\Sigma F = Mg - mg = \text{"m"} a \quad \leftarrow \begin{matrix} \text{total} \\ \text{mass} \\ \text{of} \\ \text{system} \end{matrix}$$

$$(M - m)g = (M + m)a$$

$$\vec{a} = \frac{M - m}{M + m} g \hat{x}$$

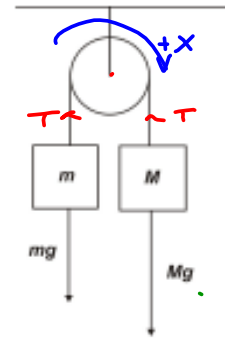
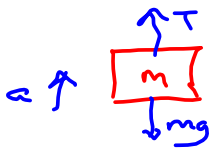


Figure 2.4: Atwood machine

We have assumed  $m_{\text{pulley}} = 0$   
 string doesn't stretch  
 $(m_{\text{pulley}} = m_{\text{string}} = 0)$

$$m_{\text{pulley}} << M, m$$

FBD



only m!

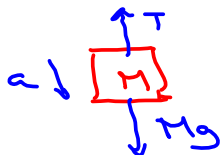
$$\Sigma F = T - mg = ma$$

$$T = mg + m \left( \frac{M - m}{M + m} \right) g$$

$$= mg \left( 1 + \frac{M - m}{M + m} \right)$$

$$= mg \left( \frac{M + m + M - m}{M + m} \right)$$

$$T = \frac{2Mm}{M + m} g$$



$$\Sigma F = Mg - T = Ma$$

$$T = Mg - M \left( \frac{M - m}{M + m} \right) g$$

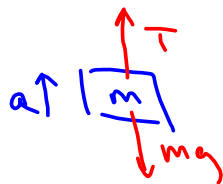
$$= Mg \left( \frac{M + m - (M - m)}{M + m} \right)$$

$$= \frac{2Mm}{M + m} g$$

Same

Alternate solution

Two FBDs



$$\Sigma F = T - mg = ma$$

$$T = ma + mg$$

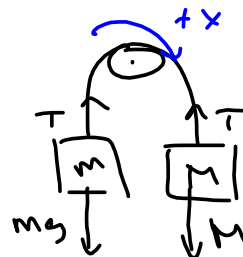
$$\Sigma F = Mg - T = Ma$$

$$\Sigma F = Mg - (ma + mg) = Ma$$

$$= (M - m)g = (M + m)a$$

$$a = \frac{M - m}{M + m}g$$

Can subst.  $a$  into either equation to get  $T$ .



But let's change the question slightly. In this case, let's say we have mass  $M$  connected to the end of a rope that will only hold a weight,  $T$  (we use  $T$  for tension), before it breaks. What is the maximum mass,  $m$ , that we can attach to the system without the rope breaking?

What is the acceleration?

↔ same  $\vec{a}$

So we can use what we have done

$$T = \frac{2Mm}{M+m} g$$

$$MT + mT = 2Mmg$$

$$mT - 2Mmg = -MT$$

$$m(T - 2Mg) = -MT$$

$$m = \frac{MT}{2Mg - T} = \frac{T}{2Mg - T} M$$

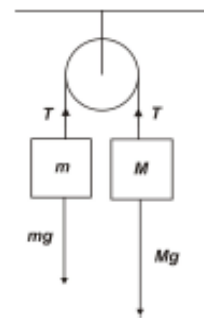
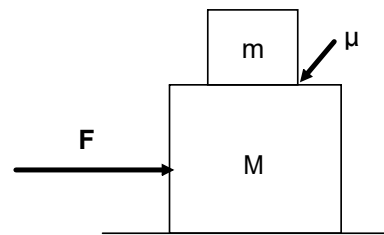


Figure 2.5: Atwood machine

Now, consider the situation at right. . .

What is the maximum force that can be applied to M without m slipping (you may assume the coefficient of friction between M and the ground is negligible)?

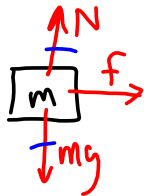
same  $a$



$$\Sigma F = F = (M+m)a$$

$$a = \frac{F}{M+m}$$

FBD of little m (fewer force  $\therefore$  easier)



$$\Sigma F = f = ma$$

$$f_{\text{min}} = \frac{m}{M+m} F$$

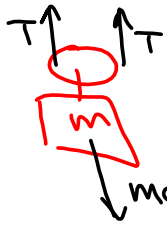
$$\mu_{\text{min}} N = \frac{m}{M+m} F$$

$$\mu_{\text{min}} \cancel{m} g = \frac{\cancel{m}}{M+m} F$$

$$\mu_{\text{min}} = \frac{F}{(M+m)g}$$

What is the acceleration of  $m$  (assuming  $M$  is sufficiently large to accelerate  $m$  upward and the pulleys are massless)?

Need FBDs



$$\Sigma F = 2T - mg = ma_m$$



$$\Sigma F = Mg - T = Ma_m$$

$$Mg - 2Ma_m = T$$

$$2(Mg - 2Ma_m) - mg = ma_m$$

