

ROTATION DAY 5: TORQUE & STATICS REVIEW — KEY

ANSWER KEY — NOT FOR DISTRIBUTION

Convention: counterclockwise torque is positive. Using $g = 10 \text{ m/s}^2$.

SKILL Quick Recall: Fill in the table

Quantity	Linear	Rotational
Position	x (m)	θ (rad)
Velocity	v (m/s)	ω (rad/s)
Acceleration	a (m/s ²)	α (rad/s ²)
Inertia	m (kg)	I (kg·m ²) — Day 7
Net cause of change	$\sum F = ma$	$\sum \tau = I\alpha$ — Day 8

1 Kinematics Review

$$\omega_0 = 20 \text{ rad/s}, \alpha = -4.0 \text{ rad/s}^2.$$

(a) How long until it stops?

$$\omega = \omega_0 + \alpha t \rightarrow 0 = 20 + (-4.0)t \rightarrow t = 20/4.0$$

$$t = 5.0 \text{ s}$$

(b) How many revolutions?

$$\theta = \omega_0 t + \frac{1}{2} \alpha t^2 = 20(5.0) + \frac{1}{2}(-4.0)(5.0)^2 = 100 - 50 = 50 \text{ rad}$$

$$\text{rev} = 50/(2\pi) = 7.96$$

$$\approx 8.0 \text{ revolutions (50 rad)}$$

(c) Tangential speed of rim point ($r = 0.30 \text{ m}$)?

$$v = \omega r = 20 \times 0.30$$

$$v = 6.0 \text{ m/s}$$

2 Torque Calculation

$$F = 40 \text{ N}, r = 0.50 \text{ m}, \text{ angle } 55^\circ \text{ from wrench handle.}$$

(a) Calculate the torque.

$$\tau = rF \sin \theta = (0.50)(40) \sin 55^\circ = 20 \times 0.819$$

$$\tau \approx 16.4 \text{ N}\cdot\text{m}$$

(b) At what angle would the torque be maximum?

$$\theta = 90^\circ \text{ (force perpendicular to wrench)}$$

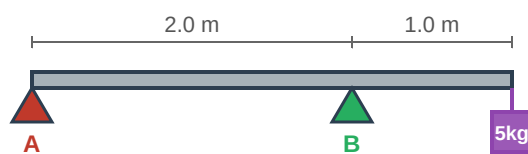
(c) What would the torque be at that angle?

$$\tau_{\max} = rF \sin 90^\circ = (0.50)(40)(1)$$

$$\tau_{\max} = 20 \text{ N}\cdot\text{m}$$

3 Statics — Supported Beam

3.0 m beam (10 kg \rightarrow 100 N at center, $x = 1.5$ m). Support A at $x = 0$ (left end). Support B at $x = 2.0$ m. Hanging mass 5.0 kg \rightarrow 50 N at $x = 3.0$ m (right end).



(a) Choose pivot at A — eliminates the unknown N_A (zero moment arm).

Pivot at A (left end). This eliminates N_A from the torque equation.

(b) $\sum \tau_A = 0$:

$$N_B(2.0) - 100(1.5) - 50(3.0) = 0$$

$$2.0 N_B = 150 + 150 = 300$$

$$N_B = 150 \text{ N}$$

(c) $\sum F_y = 0$:

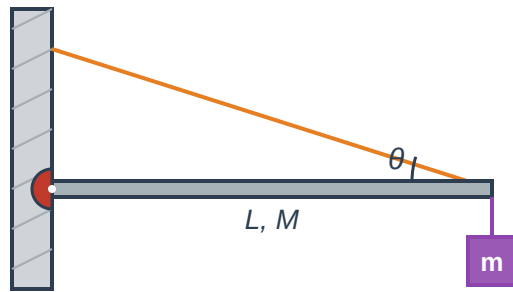
$$N_A + 150 - 100 - 50 = 0$$

$$N_A = 0 \text{ N}$$

Why zero? The system's center of mass is at $x = (10 \times 1.5 + 5 \times 3.0)/(15) = 30/15 = 2.0$ m — directly over support B! Support A bears no load.

4 AP-Style FRQ Practice

Beam of length L , mass M , hinged to wall. Cable at angle θ from beam at free end. Mass m hangs from free end.



(a) Free-body diagram — five forces on the beam:

1. Mg downward at $L/2$ (beam weight at center)
2. mg downward at L (hanging mass)
3. Tension T along cable at L (components: $T \cos \theta$ horizontal, $T \sin \theta$ vertical)
4. H_x horizontal at hinge
5. H_y vertical at hinge

(b) Derive T . Take torques about hinge (eliminates H_x and H_y):

$$\sum \tau_{\text{hinge}} = 0 : \quad T \sin \theta \cdot L - Mg \cdot \frac{L}{2} - mg \cdot L = 0$$

$$T \sin \theta = \frac{Mg}{2} + mg = \frac{g(M + 2m)}{2}$$

$$T = \frac{g(M + 2m)}{2 \sin \theta}$$

As $\theta \rightarrow 0$, $T \rightarrow \infty$. A nearly horizontal cable must have enormous tension!

(c) Cable is cut — what happens?

The beam swings downward (clockwise) about the hinge. The initial angular acceleration is found from $\sum \tau = I\alpha$:

$$Mg \cdot \frac{L}{2} + mg \cdot L = \left(\frac{1}{3}ML^2 + mL^2 \right) \alpha$$

The beam's moment of inertia about the hinge end is $\frac{1}{3}ML^2$, and the point mass contributes mL^2 . This is a Day 8 topic — the setup is the key skill here.

5 Final Practice — Tipping vs. Sliding

$m = 50 \text{ kg}$, $H = 2.0 \text{ m}$, $W = 0.80 \text{ m}$, $\mu_s = 0.30$. Horizontal push at top edge.

Sliding threshold:

$$F_{\text{slide}} = \mu_s \cdot mg = 0.30 \times 500 = 150 \text{ N}$$

Tipping threshold: Pivot at front bottom corner.

$$\sum \tau = 0 : \quad F \cdot H = mg \cdot \frac{W}{2}$$

$$F(2.0) = 500(0.40) \quad \Rightarrow \quad F_{\text{tip}} = 200/2.0 = 100 \text{ N}$$

Compare:

$$F_{\text{tip}} = 100 \text{ N} < F_{\text{slide}} = 150 \text{ N}$$

The block tips first at $F = 100 \text{ N}$ (before it could slide at 150 N).

General rule: Compare W/H to $2\mu_s$. If $W/H < 2\mu_s \rightarrow$ tips first. Here:
 $0.80/2.0 = 0.40 < 0.60 = 2(0.30)$. Tall, narrow objects tip; short, wide objects slide.