

## Lecture 2a Systems of equations,

### How to solve a system of 2 linear equations?

a,b,c,d,e,f are known, find x,y!

$$(1) \quad ax+by=c$$

$$(2) \quad dx+ey=f$$

Express one of the variables from one equation, e.g. x from (1):

$$(3) \quad x=(c-by)/a$$

Substitute (3) into the remaining equation (2) and express the unknown:

$$(4) \quad d/a*(c-by)+ey=f$$

$$(5) \quad y=(f-cd/a)/(e-bd/a)=(fa-cd)/(ea-bd)$$

Now you can use (3) to find the other unknown

### 3 or more equations:

same procedure: express variables 1-by-1 until you end up having one variable in one equation

### Exercise 1: solve yourself

$$x+3y=4$$

$$-2x+y=0$$

do not use the formulas above, do the calculations yourself!

Try expressing x first, and expressing y first! You will get the same result

(Result:  $x=4/7$ ;  $y=8/7$ )

### Exercise 2: solve yourself

$$x+y=2$$

$$x+z=4$$

$$y+z=3$$

(Result:  $x=3/2$ ;  $y=1/2$ ;  $z=5/2$ )

### Exercise 3: solve

$$(1) \quad x+2y=2$$

$$(2) \quad 2x+4y=1$$

Solution: from (1) we have

$$(3) \quad x=2-2y$$

From (2) and (3) we have

$$4-4y+4y=1$$

which is contradiction: this system of equations has no solution!

### How can you make sure that a system of linear equations has exactly one solution?

Condition 1: number of equations must be = number of unknowns

Condition 2: if you write the system of equations in matrix form then the determinant of the matrix must be non-zero

Exercise 3 in matrix format:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

The determinant of the matrix is  $1 \cdot 4 - 2 \cdot 2 = 0$

## Lecture 2b: equilibrium of point mass

### Newton's laws:

- 1) An object remains at rest or moves at constant velocity unless it is acted upon by an external force
- 2) if it is acted upon by a force then  $F=ma$
- 3) When a body exerts force to a second body, then the second one also exerts a force of opposite direction and equal magnitude to the first one

### We also use another law:

- 4) The combined effect of 2 or more simultaneously acting forces is the same as the effect of their vector sum.

Law 1) implies equilibrium if no force – this is rare

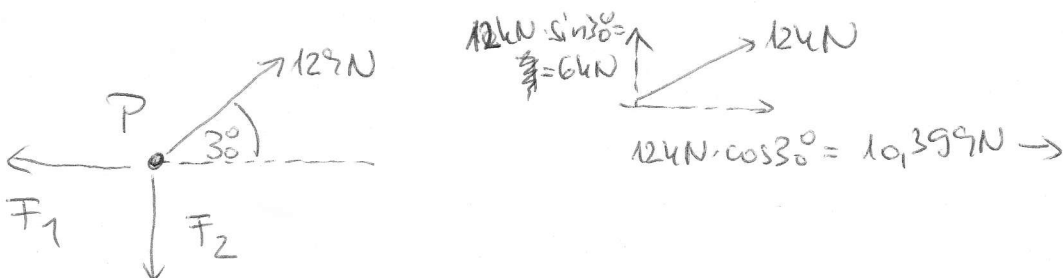
Law 2) implies no equilibrium if there is one force not equal to zero. But what happens if there are more than 1?

Law 4): <sup>1</sup> more than forces can be replaced by 1 force

Law 3): forces inside a structure come in pairs which will be a great help for us.

In their original form, Newton's laws apply only to point-like bodies, or to bodies where the line of action of every force goes through the same point.

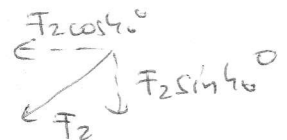
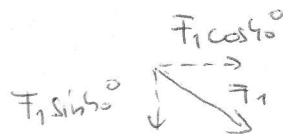
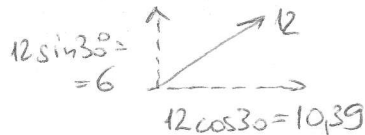
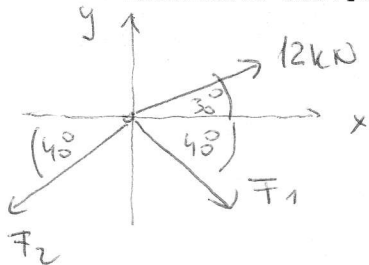
**Exercise 1:** find the magnitude of  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  if the point mass is in equilibrium



$$\Sigma F_x = 10,39 \text{ kN} - T_1 = 0 \rightarrow T_1 = 10,39 \text{ kN} \leftarrow$$

$$\Sigma F_y = 6 \text{ kN} - T_2 = 0 \rightarrow T_2 = 6 \text{ kN} \downarrow$$

**Exercise 2:** find  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  if the point mass is in equilibrium



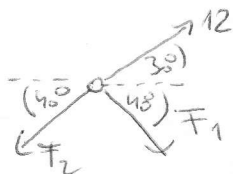
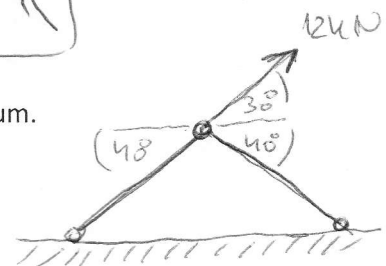
$$\begin{cases} \Sigma F_x = 10,39 + 0,766 F_1 - 0,766 F_2 = 0 \\ \Sigma F_y = 6 - 0,6428 F_1 - 0,6428 F_2 = 0 \end{cases} \text{ system of 2 equations}$$

solution:  $T_2 = 11,45 \text{ kN} \downarrow$        $T_1 = -2,11 \text{ kN} \leftarrow$

**Exercise 3:** find the forces acting in the cables if the system is in equilibrium.

In this exercise you have to examine the equilibrium of point P.

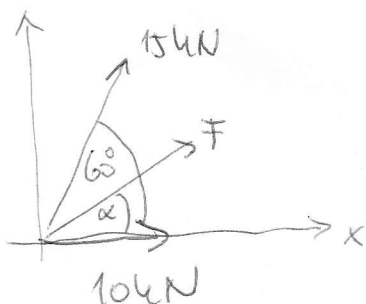
First make a „free-body diagram“: a drawing of P with all forces



Now this exercise is the same as exercise 2 so we do not solve it again.

(note however that  $F_1 = -2,11$  is impossible: a cable cannot be compressed)

**Exercise 4:** Find  $F$  and  $\alpha$  if the point mass is in equilibrium

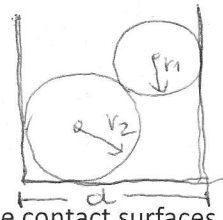


solve yourself!

answer:  $F = 21,79$

$\alpha = 216,6^\circ$

**Exercise 5:** the surfaces of the container and the cylinders are frictionless. Find the forces acting between the two cylinders and the forces acting between the cylinders and the walls of the cuboid-shaped container.  $r_1=10$  cm;  $r_2=20$  cm;  $d=50$  cm; masses of cylinders  $m_1=1$  kg;  $m_2=8$  kg.



Weight of cylinders:  $G_1=m_1g=10$  N  $G_2=m_2g=80$  N

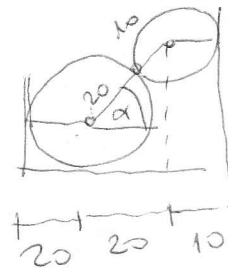
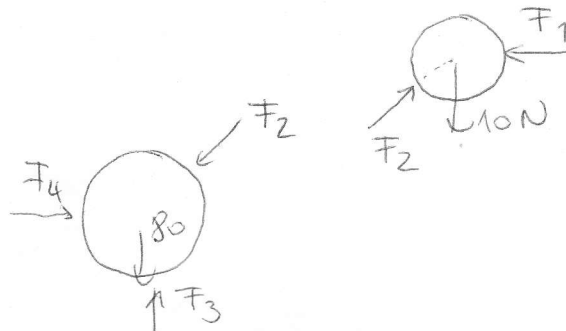
We will use the fact that **both** cylinders are in equilibrium.

Frictionless surface means that contact forces are perpendicular to the contact surfaces.

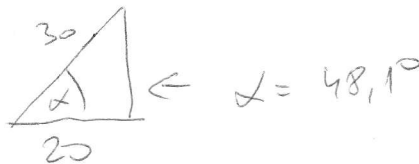
Every force acting at a cylinder goes through the middle of the cylinder so we can use Newton's laws.

We use law 3) for the force acting between the two cylinders

As always, first we draw free body diagrams for both cylinders:



Then we write equations of equilibrium:



$$\Sigma F_{x \text{ small}} = F_1 - F_2 \cos \alpha = 0 \longrightarrow \boxed{F_1 = F_2 \cos \alpha = 8,88 \text{ kN}}$$

$$\Sigma F_{y \text{ small}} = 10 - F_2 \sin \alpha = 0 \longrightarrow \boxed{F_2 = 13,37 \text{ kN}}$$

$$\Sigma F_{x \text{ big}} = F_4 - F_2 \cos \alpha = 0 \longrightarrow \boxed{F_4 = 8,88 \text{ kN}}$$

$$\Sigma F_{y \text{ big}} = 80 + F_2 \sin \alpha - F_3 = 0 \longrightarrow \boxed{F_3 = 90 \text{ kN} \uparrow}$$