Connected particles and F=ma A level Edexcel Past Papers Questions

01. A rough plane is inclined to the horizontal at an angle α, where $\tan \alpha = \frac{3}{4}$.

A particle of mass m is placed on the plane and then projected up a line of greatest slope of the plane.

The coefficient of friction between the particle and the plane is μ.

The particle moves up the plane with a constant deceleration of $\frac{4}{5}g$.

(a) Find the value of μ.

(6)

The particle comes to rest at the point A on the plane.

(b) Determine whether the particle will remain at A, carefully justifying your answer.

(2)

02.

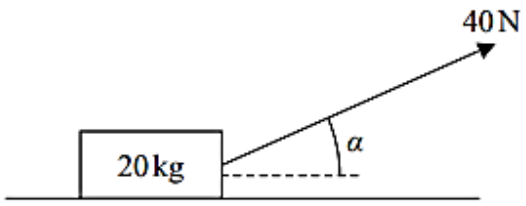

Figure 1

A wooden crate of mass 20kg is pulled in a straight line along a rough horizontal floor using a handle attached to the crate.

The handle is inclined at an angle α to the floor, as shown in Figure 1, where $\tan\alpha = \frac{3}{4}$

The tension in the handle is 40N.
The coefficient of friction between the crate and the floor is 0.14
The crate is modelled as a particle and the handle is modelled as a light rod.

Using the model,

(a) find the acceleration of the crate.

(6)

The crate is now pushed along the same floor using the handle. The handle is again inclined at the same angle α to the floor, and the thrust in the handle is 40N as shown in Figure 2 below.

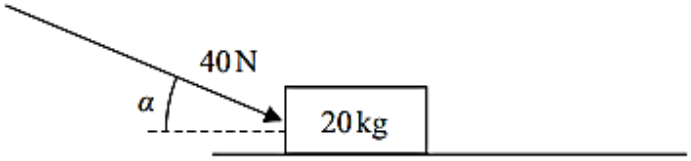

Figure 2

(b) Explain briefly why the acceleration of the crate would now be less than the acceleration of the crate found in part (a).

(2)

03.

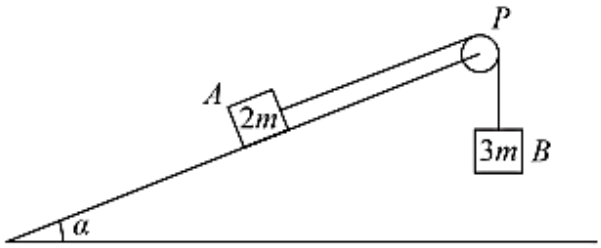

Figure 1

Two blocks, A and B, of masses $2m$ and $3m$ respectively, are attached to the ends of a light string.

Initially A is held at rest on a fixed rough plane.

The plane is inclined at angle α to the horizontal ground, where $\tan\alpha = \frac{5}{12}$

The string passes over a small smooth pulley, P, fixed at the top of the plane.

The part of the string from A to P is parallel to a line of greatest slope of the plane. Block B hangs freely below P, as shown in Figure 1.

The coefficient of friction between A and the plane is $\frac{2}{3}$

The blocks are released from rest with the string taut and A moves up the plane.

The tension in the string immediately after the blocks are released is T.

The blocks are modelled as particles and the string is modelled as being inextensible.

(a) Show that $T = \frac{12mg}{5}$

(8)

After B reaches the ground, A continues to move up the plane until it comes to rest before reaching P.

(b) Determine whether A will remain at rest, carefully justifying your answer.

(2)

(c) Suggest two refinements to the model that would make it more realistic.

(2)

04.

A rough plane is inclined to the horizontal at an angle α, where $\tan\alpha = \frac{3}{4}$

A brick P of mass m is placed on the plane.

The coefficient of friction between P and the plane is μ

Brick P is in equilibrium and on the point of sliding down the plane.

Brick P is modelled as a particle.

Using the model,

(a) find, in terms of m and g, the magnitude of the normal reaction of the plane on brick P

(2)

(b) show that $\mu = \frac{3}{4}$

(4)

For parts (c) and (d), you are not required to do any further calculations.

Brick P is now removed from the plane and a much heavier brick Q is placed on the plane.

The coefficient of friction between Q and the plane is also $\frac{3}{4}$

(c) Explain briefly why brick Q will remain at rest on the plane.

(1)

Brick Q is now projected with speed $0.5\,\text{m s}^{-1}$ down a line of greatest slope of the plane.

Brick Q is modelled as a particle.

Using the model,

(d) describe the motion of brick Q, giving a reason for your answer.

(2)

05.

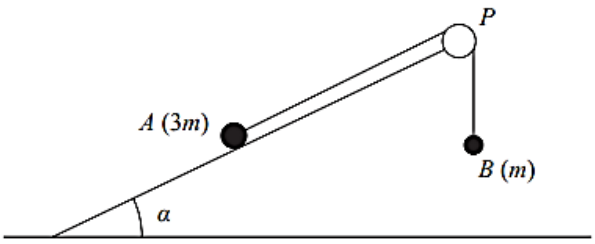

Figure 1

A small stone A of mass $3m$ is attached to one end of a string.

A small stone B of mass m is attached to the other end of the string.

Initially A is held at rest on a fixed rough plane.

The plane is inclined to the horizontal at an angle α, where $\tan\alpha = \frac{3}{4}$

The string passes over a pulley P that is fixed at the top of the plane.

The part of the string from A to P is parallel to a line of greatest slope of the plane.

Stone B hangs freely below P, as shown in Figure 1.

The coefficient of friction between A and the plane is $\frac{1}{6}$

Stone A is released from rest and begins to move down the plane.

The stones are modelled as particles.

The pulley is modelled as being small and smooth.

The string is modelled as being light and inextensible.

Using the model for the motion of the system before B reaches the pulley,

(a) write down an equation of motion for A

(2)

(b) show that the acceleration of A is $\frac{1}{10}g$

(7)

(c) sketch a velocity-time graph for the motion of B, from the instant when A is released from rest to the instant just before B reaches the pulley, explaining your answer.

(2)

In reality, the string is not light.

(d) State how this would affect the working in part (b).

(1)

06.

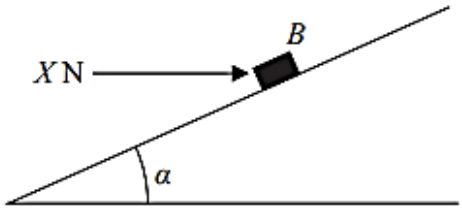

Figure 1

A rough plane is inclined to the horizontal at an angle α, where $\tan\alpha = \frac{3}{4}$

A small block B of mass 5 kg is held in equilibrium on the plane by a horizontal force of magnitude X newtons, as shown in Figure 1.

The force acts in a vertical plane which contains a line of greatest slope of the inclined plane.

The block B is modelled as a particle.

The magnitude of the normal reaction of the plane on B is 68.6 N.

Using the model,

(a) (i) find the magnitude of the frictional force acting on B,

(3)

(ii) state the direction of the frictional force acting on B.

(1)

The horizontal force of magnitude X newtons is now removed and B moves down the plane.

Given that the coefficient of friction between B and the plane is 0.5

(b) find the acceleration of B down the plane.

(6)

07.

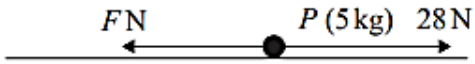

Figure 1

A particle P has mass 5 kg.

The particle is pulled along a rough horizontal plane by a horizontal force of magnitude 28 N.

The only resistance to motion is a frictional force of magnitude F newtons, as shown in Figure 1.

(a) Find the magnitude of the normal reaction of the plane on P

(1)

The particle is accelerating along the plane at $1.4\,\text{m s}^{-2}$

(b) Find the value of F

(2)

The coefficient of friction between P and the plane is μ

(c) Find the value of μ, giving your answer to 2 significant figures.

(1)