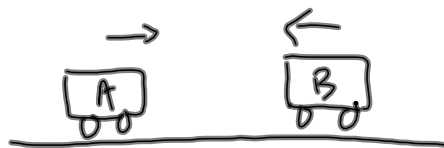


Newton's Third Law of Motion

Consider two bodies, A and B, which collide:



Momentum is conserved in an isolated system:

$$\vec{P}_{\text{total (before)}} = \vec{P}_{\text{total (after)}}$$

$$\vec{P}_{A_i} + \vec{P}_{B_i} = \vec{P}_{A_f} + \vec{P}_{B_f}$$

$$-\vec{P}_{A_f} + \vec{P}_{A_i} = \vec{P}_{B_f} - \vec{P}_{B_i}$$

$$-(\vec{P}_{A_f} - \vec{P}_{A_i}) = \vec{P}_{B_f} - \vec{P}_{B_i}$$

equal but opposite
changes in mom

→

$$-\Delta \vec{P}_A = \Delta \vec{P}_B$$

← Another way to write
the Law of
Conservation of
momentum

equal but opposite
impulses

→

$$-\vec{F}_A \Delta t = \vec{F}_B \Delta t$$

equal but opposite
forces

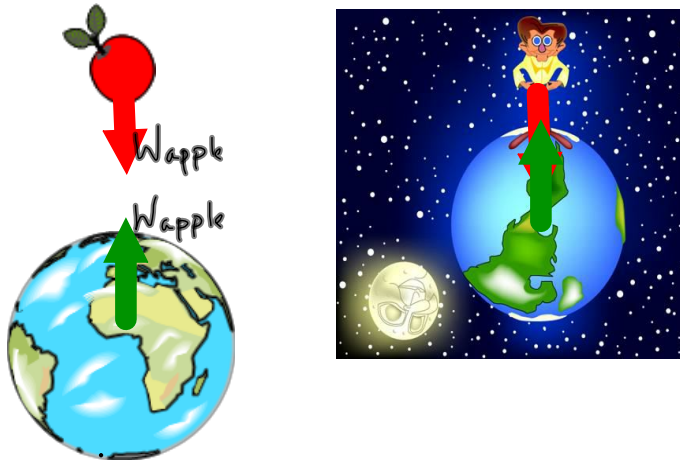
→

$$-\vec{F}_A = \vec{F}_B$$

← Newton's Third
Law

Newton's Third Law

When two bodies A and B interact, the force A exerts on B is equal and opposite to the force that B exerts on A.



Consider the apple and the earth:

$$\vec{F}_{\text{net}} = m \vec{a}$$

$$m_{\text{apple}} \vec{g} = m_{\text{apple}} \vec{a}_{\text{apple}}$$

$$\vec{a}_{\text{apple}} = g$$

That same force ($W_{\text{apple}} = m_{\text{apple}} g$) is acting on the Earth.

$$\text{for the Earth: } \vec{F}_{\text{net}} = m \vec{a}$$

$$m_{\text{apple}} \vec{g} = m_{\text{earth}} \vec{a}_{\text{earth}}$$

$$\vec{a}_{\text{earth}} = \frac{m_{\text{apple}}}{m_{\text{earth}}} \vec{g}$$

$$m_{\text{earth}} \gg \gg m_{\text{apple}}$$

so the acceleration is negligible.

$$(a_{\text{earth}} \ll \ll a_{\text{apple}})$$

Example

Suppose the weight of an apple on a tree is 1.0N. The apple falls from the tree. Calculate the acceleration of the Earth towards the apple. Mass of Earth 6.0×10^{24} kg

$$F = ma$$

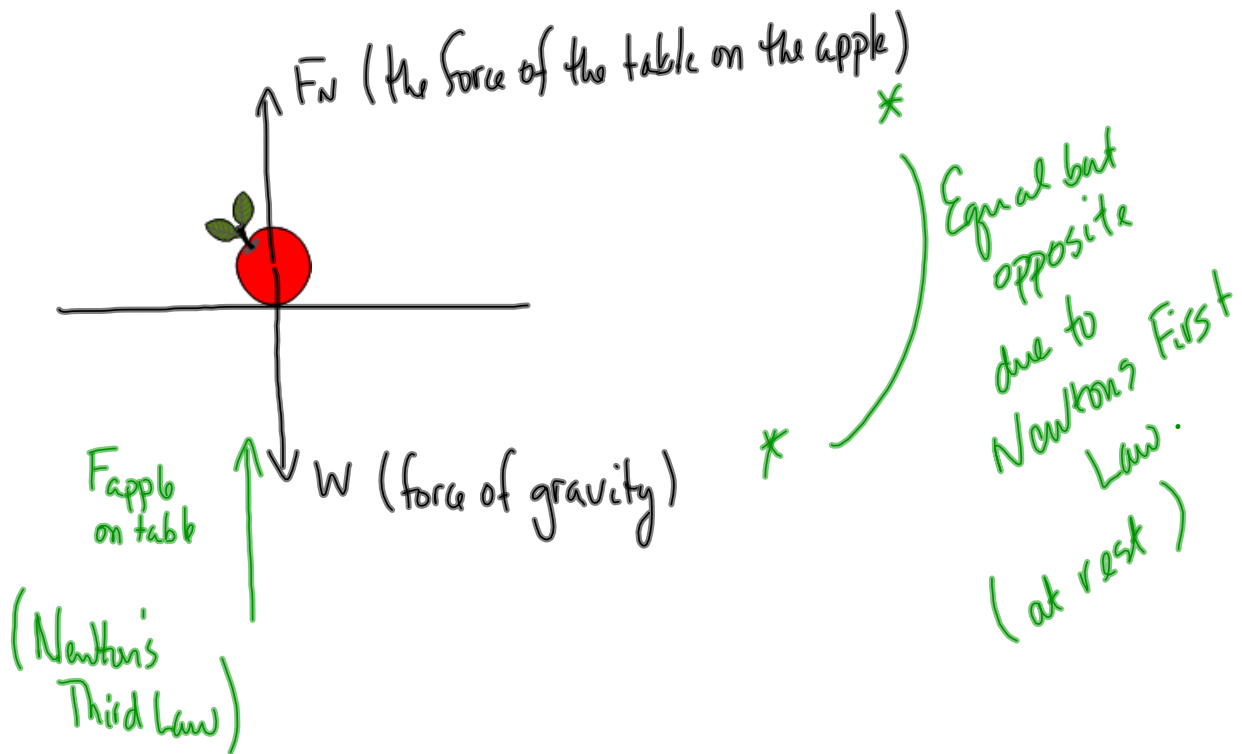
$$a = \frac{F}{m}$$

$$a = \frac{1.0\text{N}}{6.0 \times 10^{24}\text{kg}}$$

$$a = 1.7 \times 10^{-25} \text{ m s}^{-2}$$

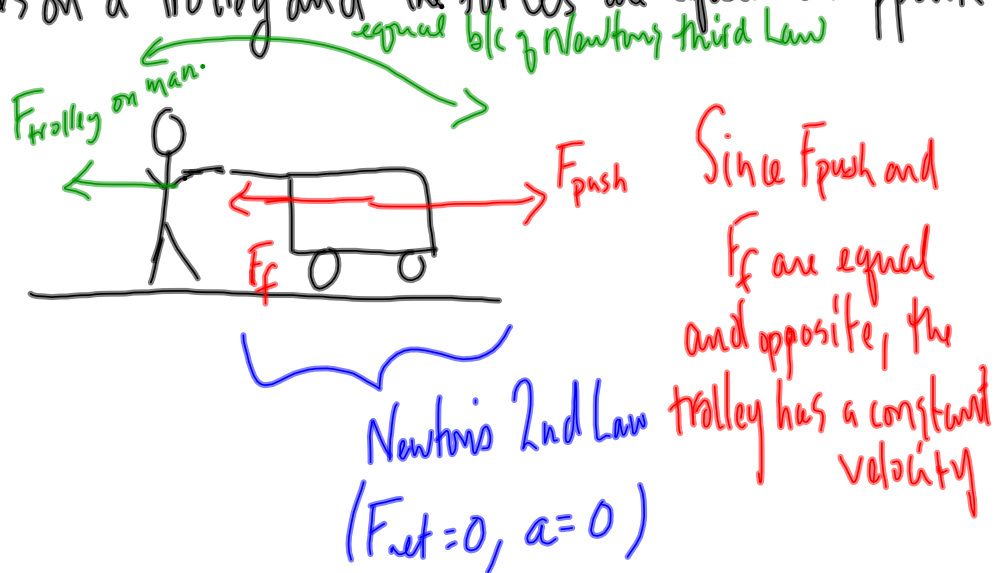
$$\vec{a} = 1.7 \times 10^{-25} \text{ m s}^{-2} \text{ (towards the apple)}$$

Consider an apple resting on a table:

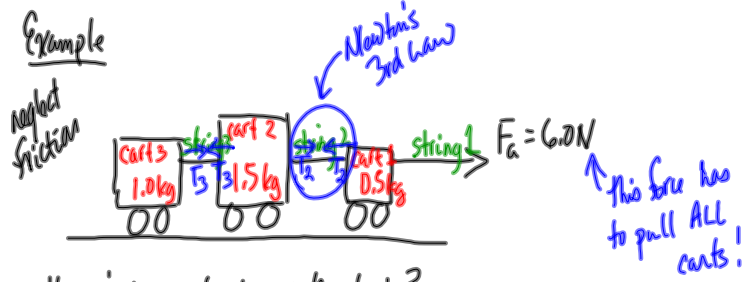


Example

A man pushes on a trolley and the forces are equal and opposite



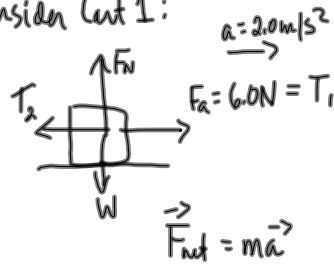
If we took the friction out, then there would be acceleration.



What is the acceleration of the train?
 What is the tension in each string?

Consider all 3 carts together:

Consider Cart 1:



$$F_a - T_2 = ma$$

$$-T_2 = ma - F_a$$

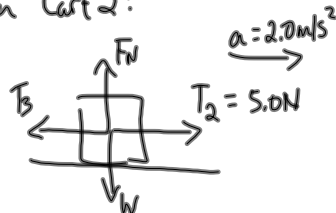
$$T_2 = -ma + F_a$$

$$T_2 = -(0.5\text{kg})(2.0\text{m/s}^2) + 6.0\text{N}$$

$$T_2 = 5.0\text{N}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{F}_{\text{net}} &= m\vec{a} \\ \vec{F}_a &= m\vec{a} \\ \vec{a} &= \frac{\vec{F}_a}{m} \\ \vec{a} &= \frac{6.0\text{N} [\text{right}]}{(1.0\text{kg} + 1.5\text{kg} + 0.5\text{kg})} \\ \vec{a} &= 2.0\text{m/s}^2 [\text{right}] \end{aligned}$$

Consider Cart 2:



$$\vec{F}_{\text{net}} = m\vec{a}$$

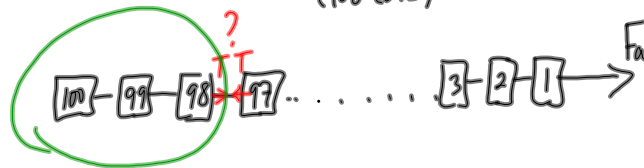
$$T_2 - T_3 = ma$$

$$T_3 = T_2 - ma$$

$$T_3 = 5.0\text{N} - (1.5\text{kg})(2.0\text{m/s}^2)$$

$$T_3 = 2.0\text{N}$$

What if you had a very long train (100 cars)?



Consider all 3 cars as one.

