### **Chapter 12. Rotation of a Rigid Body**

Not all motion can be described as that of a particle. Rotation requires the idea of an extended object. This diver is moving toward the water along a parabolic trajectory, and she's rotating rapidly around her center of mass.

# **Chapter Goal:** To understand the physics of rotating objects.



### **Chapter 12. Rotation of a Rigid Body Topics:**

- Rotational Motion
- Rotation About the Center of Mass
- Rotational Energy
- Calculating Moment of Inertia
- Torque
- Rotational Dynamics
- Rotation About a Fixed Axis
- Static Equilibrium
- Rolling Motion
- The Vector Description of Rotational Motion
- Angular Momentum of a Rigid Body

### **Chapter 12. Reading Quizzes**

### A new way of multiplying two vectors is introduced in this chapter. What is it called:

A. Dot ProductB. Scalar ProductC. Tensor ProductD. Cross ProductE. Angular Product

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A. the rotational equivalent of mass.B. the point at which all forces appear to act.C. the time at which inertia occurs.

D. an alternative term for *moment arm*.

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### A rigid body is in equilibrium if

A. 
$$\vec{F}_{net} = 0$$
.  
B.  $\vec{\tau}_{net} = 0$ .  
C. neither A nor B.  
D. either A or B.

E. both A and B.

### A rigid body is in equilibrium if

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C. neither A nor B  
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### **Chapter 12. Basic Content and Examples**

### **Rotational Motion**

The figure shows a wheel rotating on an axle. Its angular velocity is

$$\omega = \frac{d\theta}{dt}$$

The units of  $\omega$  are rad/s. If the wheel is speeding up or slowing down, its angular acceleration is

$$\alpha = \frac{d\omega}{dt}$$

### The units of $\alpha$ are rad/s<sup>2</sup>.

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**FIGURE 12.3** Two points on a wheel rotate with the same angular velocity.

Every point on the wheel turns through the same angle and thus undergoes circular motion with the same angular velocity  $\omega$ .



All points on the wheel have a tangential velocity and a radial (centripetal) acceleration. They also have a tangential acceleration if the wheel has angular acceleration.

### **Rotational Motion**

**TABLE 12.1** Rotational kinematics forconstant angular acceleration

$$\omega_{\rm f} = \omega_{\rm i} + \alpha \,\Delta t$$
  

$$\theta_{\rm f} = \theta_{\rm i} + \omega_{\rm i} \,\Delta t + \frac{1}{2} \alpha (\Delta t)^2$$
  

$$\omega_{\rm f}^2 = \omega_{\rm i}^2 + 2\alpha \,\Delta \theta$$

FIGURE 12.4 The signs of angular velocity and angular acceleration.



### **QUESTION:**

### **EXAMPLE 12.1 A rotating crankshaft**

A car engine is idling at 500 rpm. When the light turns green, the crankshaft rotation speeds up at a constant rate to 2500 rpm over an interval of 3.0 s. How many revolutions does the crankshaft make during these 3.0 s?

**MODEL** The crankshaft is a rotating rigid body with constant angular acceleration.

**SOLVE** Imagine painting a dot on the crankshaft. Let the dot be at  $\theta_i = 0$  rad at t = 0 s. Three seconds later the dot will have turned to angle

$$\theta_{\rm f} = \omega_{\rm i} \,\Delta t + \frac{1}{2} \alpha (\Delta t)^2$$

where  $\Delta t = 3.0$  s. We can find the angular acceleration from the initial and final angular velocities, but first they must be converted to SI units:

$$\omega_{i} = 500 \frac{\text{rev}}{\text{min}} \times \frac{1 \text{ min}}{60 \text{ s}} \times \frac{2\pi \text{ rad}}{1 \text{ rev}} = 52.4 \text{ rad/s}$$
$$\omega_{f} = 2500 \frac{\text{rev}}{\text{min}} = 5\omega_{i} = 262.0 \text{ rad/s}$$

The angular acceleration is

$$\alpha = \frac{\Delta \omega}{\Delta t} = \frac{262.0 \text{ rad/s} - 52.4 \text{ rad/s}}{3.0 \text{ s}} = 69.9 \text{ rad/s}^2$$

During these 3.0 s, the dot turns through an angle

$$\Delta\theta = (52.4 \text{ rad/s})(3.0 \text{ s}) + \frac{1}{2}(69.9 \text{ rad/s}^2)(3.0 \text{ s})^2 = 472 \text{ rad}$$

Because  $472/2\pi = 75$ , the crankshaft completes 75 revolutions as it spins up to 2500 rpm.

**ASSESS** This problem is solved just like the linear kinematics problems you learned to solve in Chapter 2.

### **Rotation About the Center of Mass**

An unconstrained object (i.e., one not on an axle or a pivot) on which there is no net force rotates about a point called the center of mass. The center of mass remains motionless while every other point in the object undergoes circular motion around it.





### **Rotation About the Center of Mass**

The center of mass is the mass-weighted center of the object.

$$x_{\rm cm} = \frac{1}{M} \int x \, dm$$
 and  $y_{\rm cm} = \frac{1}{M} \int y \, dm$ 

**FIGURE 12.5** Rotation about the center of mass.



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### **Rotational Energy**

A rotating rigid body has kinetic energy because all atoms in the object are in motion. The kinetic energy due to rotation is called **rotational kinetic energy**.

$$K_{\rm rot} = \frac{1}{2}I\omega^2$$

Here the quantity *I* is called the object's moment of inertia.

$$I = m_1 r_1^2 + m_2 r_2^2 + m_3 r_3^2 + \dots = \sum_i m_i r_i^2$$

## The units of moment of inertia are kg m<sup>2</sup>. An object's moment of inertia depends on the axis of rotation.

Object and axis	Picture	Ι	Object and axis	Picture	Ι
Thin rod, about center		$\frac{1}{12}ML^{2}$	Cylinder or disk, about center		$\frac{1}{2}MR^2$
Thin rod, about end		$\frac{1}{3}ML^2$	Cylindrical hoop, about center		MR <sup>2</sup>
Plane or slab, about center	b a	$\frac{1}{12}Ma^2$	Solid sphere, about diameter		$\frac{2}{5}MR^2$
Plane or slab, about edge	b a	$\frac{1}{3}Ma^2$	Spherical shell, about diameter	R	$\frac{2}{3}MR^2$

#### TABLE 12.2 Moments of inertia of objects with uniform density

### **QUESTION:**

### **EXAMPLE 12.5 The speed of a rotating rod**

A 1.0-m-long, 200 g rod is hinged at one end and connected to a wall. It is held out horizontally, then released. What is the speed of the tip of the rod as it hits the wall?

**MODEL** The mechanical energy is conserved if we assume the hinge is frictionless. The rod's gravitational potential energy is transformed into rotational kinetic energy as it "falls."

**VISUALIZE FIGURE 12.13** is a familiar before-and-after pictorial representation of the rod. We've placed the origin of the coordinate system at the pivot point.



**SOLVE** Mechanical energy is conserved, so we can equate the rod's final mechanical energy to its initial mechanical energy:

$$\frac{1}{2}I\omega_1^2 + Mgy_{cm1} = \frac{1}{2}I\omega_0^2 + Mgy_{cm0}$$

The initial conditions are  $\omega_0 = 0$  and  $y_{cm0} = 0$ . The center of mass moves to  $y_{cm1} = -\frac{1}{2}L$  as the rod hits the wall. From Table 12.2 we find  $I = \frac{1}{3}ML^2$  for a rod rotating about one end. Thus

$$\frac{1}{2}I\omega_1^2 + Mgy_{\rm cm1} = \frac{1}{6}ML^2\omega_1^2 - \frac{1}{2}MgL = 0$$

We can solve this for the rod's angular velocity as it hits the wall:

$$\omega_1 = \sqrt{\frac{3g}{L}}$$

The tip of the rod is moving in a circle with radius r = L. Its final speed is

$$v_{\rm tip} = \omega_1 L = \sqrt{3gL} = 5.4$$
 m/s

**ASSESS** Energy conservation is a powerful tool for rotational motion, just as it was for translational motion.

### Torque

Consider the common experience of pushing open a door. Shown is a top view of a door hinged on the left. Four pushing forces are shown, all of equal strength. Which of these will be most effective at opening the door?



The ability of a force to cause a rotation depends on three factors:

- 1. the magnitude F of the force.
- 2. the distance r from the point of application to the pivot.
- 3. the angle at which the force is applied.

### Torque

**FIGURE 12.19** Force  $\vec{F}$  exerts a torque about the pivot point.



Let's define a new quantity called torque  $\tau$  (Greek tau) as

 $\tau \equiv rF\sin\phi$ 

### **QUESTION:**

### **EXAMPLE 12.9** Applying a torque

Luis uses a 20-cm-long wrench to turn a nut. The wrench handle is tilted 30° above the horizontal, and Luis pulls straight down on the end with a force of 100 N. How much torque does Luis exert on the nut?

**VISUALIZE** FIGURE 12.22 shows the situation. The angle is a negative  $\phi = -120^{\circ}$  because it is *clockwise* from the radial line.





**SOLVE** The tangential component of the force is

$$F_t = F\sin\phi = -86.6$$
 N

According to our sign convention,  $F_t$  is negative because it points in a cw direction. The torque, from Equation 12.21, is

$$\tau = rF_t = (0.20 \text{ m})(-86.6 \text{ N}) = -17 \text{ Nm}$$

Alternatively, Figure 12.22 shows that the moment arm from the pivot to the line of action is

$$d = r\sin(60^\circ) = 0.17 \text{ m}$$

Inserting the moment arm in Equation 12.22 gives

$$|\tau| = dF = (0.17 \text{ m})(100 \text{ N}) = 17 \text{ Nm}$$

The torque acts to give a cw rotation, so we insert a minus sign to end up with

$$\tau = -17 \text{ Nm}$$

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**ASSESS** Luis could increase the torque by changing the angle so that his pull is perpendicular to the wrench ( $\phi = -90^{\circ}$ ).

### Analogies between Linear and Rotational Dynamics

Rotational dynamics		Linear dynamics		
torque	$ au_{ m net}$	force	$\vec{F}_{\rm net}$	
moment of inertia	Ι	mass	m	
angular acceleration	$\alpha$	acceleration	$\vec{a}$	
second law	$\alpha = \tau_{\rm net}/I$	second law	$\vec{a} = \vec{F}_{\rm net}/m$	

 TABLE 12.3
 Rotational and linear dynamics

In the absence of a net torque ( $\tau_{net} = 0$ ), the object either does not rotate ( $\omega = 0$ ) or rotates with *constant* angular velocity ( $\omega = \text{constant}$ ).

### Problem-Solving Strategy: Rotational Dynamics Problems

**STRATEGY 12.1 Rotational dynamics problems** 

MP

**MODEL** Model the object as a simple shape.

### Problem-Solving Strategy: Rotational Dynamics Problems

**VISUALIZE** Draw a pictorial representation to clarify the situation, define coordinates and symbols, and list known information.

- Identify the axis about which the object rotates.
- Identify forces and determine their distances from the axis. For most problems it will be useful to draw a free-body diagram.
- Identify any torques caused by the forces and the signs of the torques.
# Problem-Solving Strategy: Rotational Dynamics Problems

**SOLVE** The mathematical representation is based on Newton's second law for rotational motion:

$$au_{\rm net} = I \alpha$$
 or  $\alpha = \frac{\tau_{\rm net}}{I}$ 

Find the moment of inertia in Table 12.2 or, if needed, calculate it as an integral or by using the parallel-axis theorem.

Use rotational kinematics to find angles and angular velocities.

# Problem-Solving Strategy: Rotational Dynamics Problems

**ASSESS** Check that your result has the correct units, is reasonable, and answers the question.

#### **QUESTION:**

#### **EXAMPLE 12.12 Starting an airplane engine**

The engine in a small airplane is specified to have a torque of 60 Nm. This engine drives a 2.0-m-long, 40 kg propeller. On startup, how long does it take the propeller to reach 200 rpm?

**MODEL** The propeller can be modeled as a rod that rotates about its center. The engine exerts a torque on the propeller.



**SOLVE** The moment of inertia of a rod rotating about its center is found from Table 12.2:

$$I = \frac{1}{12}ML^2 = \frac{1}{12}(40 \text{ kg})(2.0 \text{ m})^2 = 13.33 \text{ kgm}^2$$

The 60 Nm torque of the engine causes an angular acceleration

$$\alpha = \frac{\tau}{I} = \frac{60 \text{ Nm}}{13.33 \text{ kgm}^2} = 4.50 \text{ rad/s}^2$$

The time needed to reach  $\omega_f = 200 \text{ rpm} = 3.33 \text{ rev/s} = 20.9 \text{ rad/s is}$ 

$$\Delta t = \frac{\Delta \omega}{\alpha} = \frac{\omega_{\rm f} - \omega_{\rm i}}{\alpha} = \frac{20.9 \text{ rad/s} - 0 \text{ rad/s}}{4.5 \text{ rad/s}^2} = 4.6 \text{ s}$$

**ASSESS** We've assumed a constant angular acceleration, which is reasonable for the first few seconds while the propeller is still turning slowly. Eventually, air resistance and friction will cause opposing torques and the angular acceleration will decrease. At full speed, the negative torque due to air resistance and friction cancels the torque of the engine. Then  $\tau_{net} = 0$  and the propeller turns at *constant* angular velocity with no angular acceleration.

# **Static Equilibrium**

- The condition for a rigid body to be in *static equilibrium* is that there is **no net force** and **no net torque**.
- An important branch of engineering called *statics* analyzes buildings, dams, bridges, and other structures in total static equilibrium.
- No matter which pivot point you choose, an object that is not rotating is not rotating about that point.
- For a rigid body in total equilibrium, there is no net torque about any point.
- This is the basis of a problem-solving strategy.

**STRATEGY 12.2** Static equilibrium problems

MP

**MODEL** Model the object as a simple shape.

**VISUALIZE** Draw a pictorial representation showing all forces and distances. List known information.

- Pick any point you wish as a pivot point. The net torque about this point is zero.
- Determine the moment arms of all forces about this pivot point.
- Determine the sign of each torque about this pivot point.

**SOLVE** The mathematical representation is based on the fact that an object in total equilibrium has no net force and no net torque:

$$\vec{F}_{\rm net} = \vec{0}$$
 and  $\tau_{\rm net} = 0$ 

• Write equations for  $\Sigma F_x = 0$ ,  $\Sigma F_y = 0$ , and  $\Sigma \tau = 0$ .

Solve the three simultaneous equations.

**ASSESS** Check that your result is reasonable and answers the question.

#### **QUESTION:**

#### **EXAMPLE 12.17 Will the ladder slip?**

A 3.0-m-long ladder leans against a frictionless wall at an angle of 60°. What is the minimum value of  $\mu_s$ , the coefficient of static friction with the ground, that prevents the ladder from slipping?

**MODEL** The ladder is a rigid rod of length *L*. To not slip, it must be in both translational equilibrium ( $\vec{F}_{net} = \vec{0}$ ) and rotational equilibrium ( $\tau_{net} = 0$ ).



**SOLVE** The *x*- and *y*-components of  $\vec{F}_{net} = \vec{0}$  are

$$\sum F_x = n_2 - f_s = 0$$
$$\sum F_y = n_1 - Mg = 0$$

The net torque is zero about *any* point, so which should we choose? The bottom corner of the ladder is a good choice because two forces pass through this point and have no torque about it. The torque about the bottom corner is

$$\tau_{\text{net}} = d_1 F_{\text{G}} - d_2 n_2 = \frac{1}{2} (L\cos 60^\circ) Mg - (L\sin 60^\circ) n_2 = 0$$

The signs are based on the observation that  $F_G$  would cause the ladder to rotate ccw while  $\vec{n}_2$  would cause it to rotate cw. All together, we have three equations in the three unknowns  $n_1$ ,  $n_2$ , and  $f_s$ . If we solve the third for  $n_2$ ,

$$n_2 = \frac{\frac{1}{2}(L\cos 60^\circ)Mg}{L\sin 60^\circ} = \frac{Mg}{2\tan 60^\circ}$$

we can then substitute this into the first to find

$$f_{\rm s} = \frac{Mg}{2\tan 60^{\circ}}$$

Our model of friction is  $f_s \leq f_{s \max} = \mu_s n_1$ . We can find  $n_1$  from the second equation:  $n_1 = Mg$ . Using this, the model of static friction tells us that

 $f_{\rm s} \leq \mu_{\rm s} M g$ 

Comparing these two expressions for  $f_s$ , we see that  $\mu_s$  must obey

$$\mu_{\rm s} \ge \frac{1}{2\tan 60^\circ} = 0.29$$

Thus the minimum value of the coefficient of static friction is 0.29.

**ASSESS** You know from experience that you can lean a ladder or other object against a wall if the ground is "rough," but it slips if the surface is too smooth. 0.29 is a "medium" value for the coefficient of static friction, which is reasonable.

#### **Balance and Stability**

FIGURE 12.40 Stability depends on the position of the center of mass.

(a) The torque due to gravity will bring the car back down as long as the center of mass is above the base of support.



(b) The vehicle is at the critical angle  $\theta_c$  when its center of gravity is exactly over the pivot.



(c) Now the center of mass is outside the base of support. Torque due to gravity will cause the car to roll over.



# **Rolling Without Slipping**

# For an object that is rolling without slipping, there is a **rolling constraint** that links translation and rotation:

 $v_{\rm cm} = R\omega$ 

**FIGURE 12.44** The motion of a particle in the rolling object.





# **Rolling Without Slipping**

We know from the rolling constraint that  $R\omega$  is the center-of-mass velocity  $v_{\rm cm}$ . Thus the kinetic energy of a rolling object is

$$K_{\text{rolling}} = \frac{1}{2} I_{\text{cm}} \omega^2 + \frac{1}{2} M v_{\text{cm}}^2 = K_{\text{rot}} + K_{\text{cm}}$$

In other words, the rolling motion of a rigid body can be described as a translation of the center of mass (with kinetic energy  $K_{cm}$ ) plus a rotation about the center of mass (with kinetic energy  $K_{rot}$ ).

# **The Angular Velocity Vector**



- The magnitude of the angular velocity vector is  $\omega$ .
- The angular velocity vector points along the axis of rotation in the direction given by the right-hand rule as illustrated above.

#### **Angular Momentum of a Particle**

**FIGURE 12.56** The angular momentum vector  $\vec{L}$ .



The particle is moving along a trajectory.

A particle is moving along a trajectory as shown. At this instant of time, the particle's momentum vector, tangent to the trajectory, makes an angle  $\beta$  with the position vector.

#### **Angular Momentum of a Particle**

**FIGURE 12.56** The angular momentum vector  $\vec{L}$ .



to determine the cross product.

# We define the particle's angular momentum vector relative to the origin to be

 $\vec{L} \equiv \vec{r} \times \vec{p} = (mrv \sin\beta, \text{direction of right-hand rule})$ 

## Analogies between Linear and Angular Momentum and Energy

Angular momentum	Linear momentum
$K_{\rm rot} = \frac{1}{2} I \omega^2$	$K_{\rm cm} = \frac{1}{2} M v_{\rm cm}^2$
$\vec{L} = I\vec{\omega} *$	$\vec{P} = M \vec{v}_{\rm cm}$
$d\vec{L}/dt = \vec{\tau}_{\rm net}$	$d\vec{P}/dt = \vec{F}_{\rm net}$
The angular momentum of a system is conserved if there is no net torque.	The linear momentum of a system is conserved if there is no net force.

 TABLE 12.4
 Angular and linear momentum and energy

\*Rotation about an axis of symmetry.

**Law of conservation of angular momentum** The angular momentum  $\vec{L}$  of an isolated system ( $\vec{\tau}_{net} = \vec{0}$ ) is conserved. The final angular momentum  $\vec{L}_f$  is equal to the initial angular momentum  $\vec{L}_i$ .

#### **Chapter 12. Summary Slides**

## **General Principles**

# **Rotational Dynamics**

Every point on a **rigid body** rotating about a fixed axis has the same angular velocity  $\omega$  and angular acceleration  $\alpha$ .

Newton's second law for rotational motion is

$$\alpha = \frac{\tau_{\text{net}}}{I}$$

Use rotational kinematics to find angles and angular velocities.

## **General Principles**

#### **Conservation Laws**

Energy is conserved for an isolated system.

- Pure rotation  $E = K_{rot} + U_g = \frac{1}{2}I\omega^2 + Mgy_{cm}$
- Rolling  $E = K_{rot} + K_{cm} + U_g = \frac{1}{2}I\omega^2 + \frac{1}{2}Mv_{cm}^2 + Mgy_{cm}$

Angular momentum is conserved if  $\vec{\tau}_{net} = \vec{0}$ .

- Particle  $\vec{L} = \vec{r} \times \vec{p}$
- Rigid body rotating about axis of symmetry  $\vec{L} = I\vec{\omega}$



#### Vector description of rotation

Angular velocity  $\vec{\omega}$  points along the rotation axis in the direction of the right-hand rule.

For a rigid body rotating about an axis of symmetry, the angular momentum is  $\vec{L} = I\vec{\omega}$ .

Newton's second law is 
$$\frac{d\vec{L}}{dt} = \vec{\tau}_{net}$$
.



A system of particles on which there is no net force undergoes unconstrained rotation about the **center of mass**:

$$x_{\rm cm} = \frac{1}{M} \int x \, dm$$
  $y_{\rm cm} = \frac{1}{M} \int y \, dm$ 

The gravitational torque on a body can be found by treating the body as a particle with all the mass *M* concentrated at the center of mass.

The moment of inertia

$$I = \sum_{i} m_i r_i^2 = \int r^2 \, dm$$

is the rotational equivalent of mass. The moment of inertia depends on how the mass is distributed around the axis. If  $I_{cm}$  is known, the *I* about a parallel axis distance *d* away is given by the **parallel-axis theorem:**  $I = I_{cm} + Md^2$ .

#### Applications



# Applications

Rigid-body equilibrium

An object is in total equilibrium only if both  $\vec{F}_{net} = \vec{0}$  and  $\vec{\tau}_{net} = \vec{0}$ . No rotational or translational motion
### Applications

## **Rolling motion**

For an object that rolls without slipping

$$v_{\rm cm} = R\omega$$
  
 $K = K_{\rm rot} + K_{\rm cm}$ 



#### **Chapter 12. Questions**



## The fan blade is speeding up. What are the signs of $\omega$ and $\alpha$ ?



A. ω is positive and α is positive.
B. ω is positive and α is negative.
C. ω is negative and α is positive.
D. ω is negative and α is negative.

## The fan blade is speeding up. What are the signs of $\omega$ and $\alpha$ ?



A.  $\omega$  is positive and  $\alpha$  is positive. B.  $\omega$  is positive and  $\alpha$  is negative. C.  $\omega$  is negative and  $\alpha$  is positive. D.  $\omega$  is negative and  $\alpha$  is negative.

Four Ts are made from two identical rods of equal mass and length. Rank in order, from largest to smallest, the moments of inertia  $I_a$  to  $I_d$  for rotation about the dotted line.



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# Rank in order, from largest to smallest, the five torques $\tau_a - \tau_e$ . The rods all have the same length and are pivoted at the dot.



## Rank in order, from largest to smallest, the five torques $\tau_a - \tau_e$ . The rods all have the same length and are pivoted at the dot.





Rank in order, from largest to smallest, the angular accelerations  $\alpha_a$  to  $\alpha_e$ .

A. 
$$\alpha_{b} = \alpha_{e} > \alpha_{a} = \alpha_{c} > \alpha_{d}$$
  
B.  $\alpha_{b} > \alpha_{a} > \alpha_{c} > \alpha_{d} > \alpha_{e}$   
C.  $\alpha_{b} > \alpha_{a} > \alpha_{c} = \alpha_{d} = \alpha_{e}$   
D.  $\alpha_{a} = \alpha_{b} = \alpha_{c} > \alpha_{d} = \alpha_{e}$   
E.  $\alpha_{a} = \alpha_{b} = \alpha_{c} > \alpha_{d} > \alpha_{e}$ 



Rank in order, from largest to smallest, the angular accelerations  $\alpha_a$  to  $\alpha_e$ .





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A student holds a meter stick straight out with one or more masses dangling from it. Rank in order, from most difficult to least difficult, how hard it will be for the student to keep the meter stick from rotating.



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#### Two buckets spin around in a horizontal circle on frictionless bearings. Suddenly, it starts to rain. As a result,



- A. The buckets speed up because the potential energy of the rain is transformed into kinetic energy.
- B. The buckets continue to rotate at constant angular velocity because the rain is falling vertically while the buckets move in a horizontal plane.
- C. The buckets slow down because the angular momentum of the bucket + rain system is conserved.
- D. The buckets continue to rotate at constant angular velocity because the total mechanical energy of the bucket + rain system is conserved.
- E. None of the above.

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  - E. None of the above.