

Circular Motion Scenarios

The Pendulum

IB PHYSICS | CIRCULAR MOTION

IB Physics Data Booklet

Sub-topic 6.1 – Circular motion

$$v = \omega r$$

v – linear velocity (m s^{-1})

$$a = \frac{v^2}{r} = \frac{4\pi^2 r}{T^2}$$

ω – angular velocity (rad s^{-1})

r – radius (m)

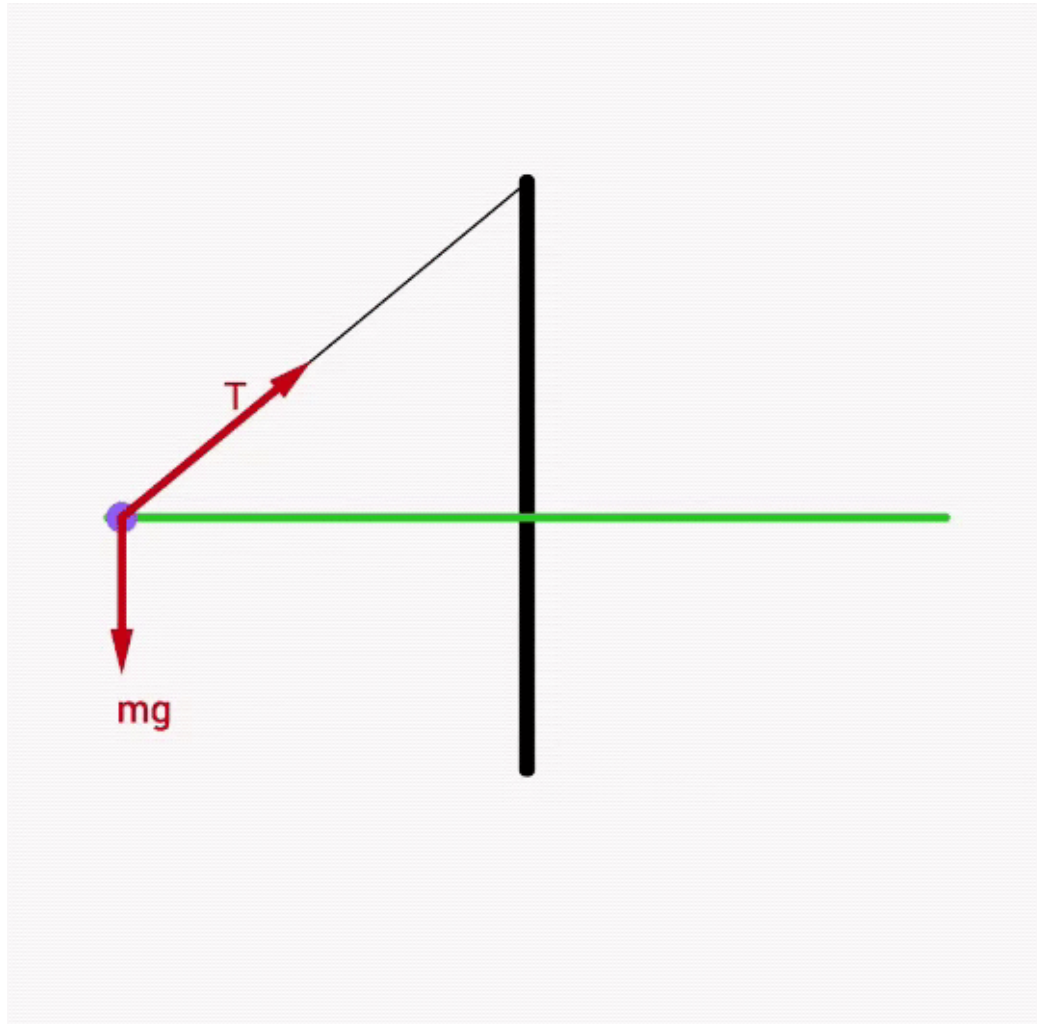
T – period (s)

$$F = \frac{mv^2}{r} = m\omega^2 r$$

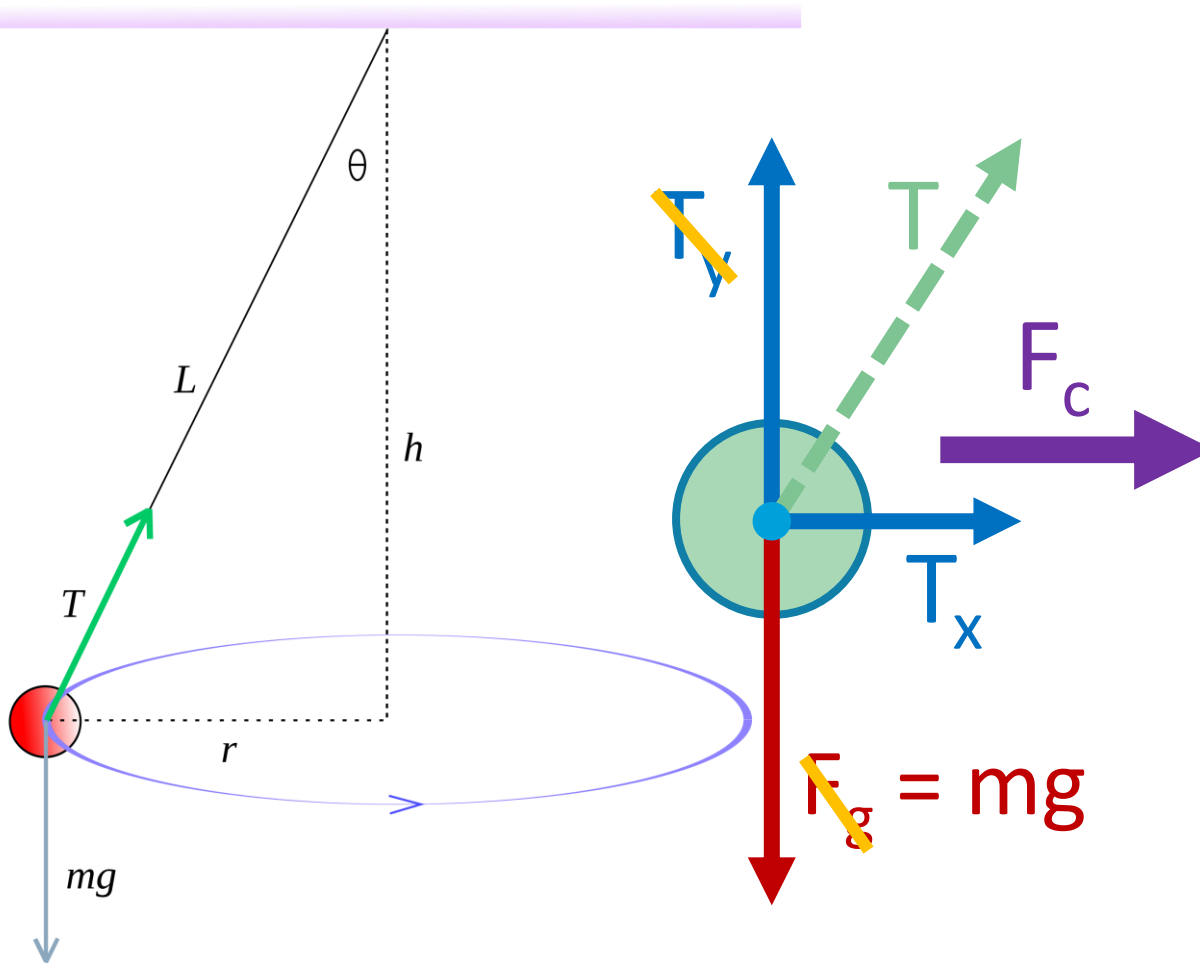
a – centripetal acceleration (m s^{-2})

F – centripetal force (N)

Pendulum Circle



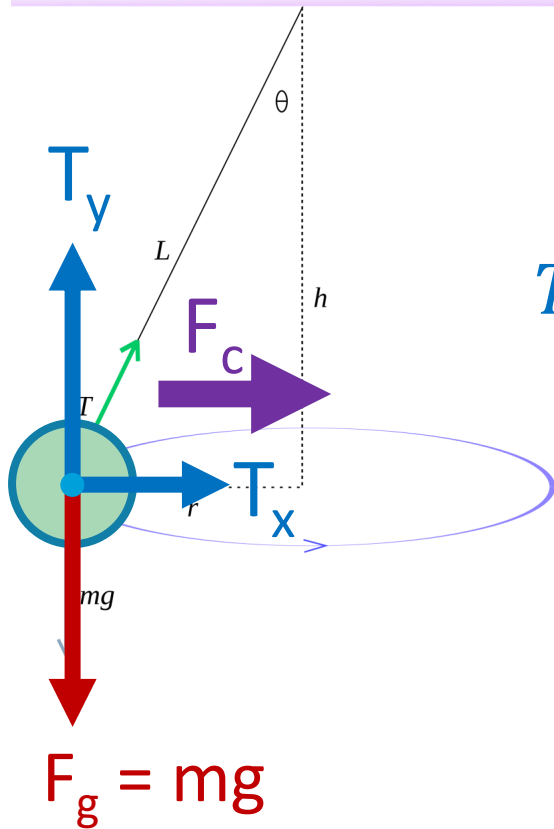
Pendulum Circle



$$F_{net} = F_c = T_x$$

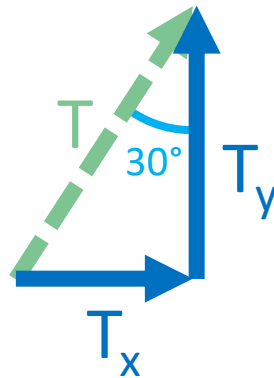
$$T_y = F_g$$

Pendulum Circle



What is centripetal force required to cause a 0.12 kg mass to swing in a horizontal circle with the string at an angle of 30° ?

$$T_y = F_g = mg = (0.12)(9.81) = 1.18 \text{ N}$$



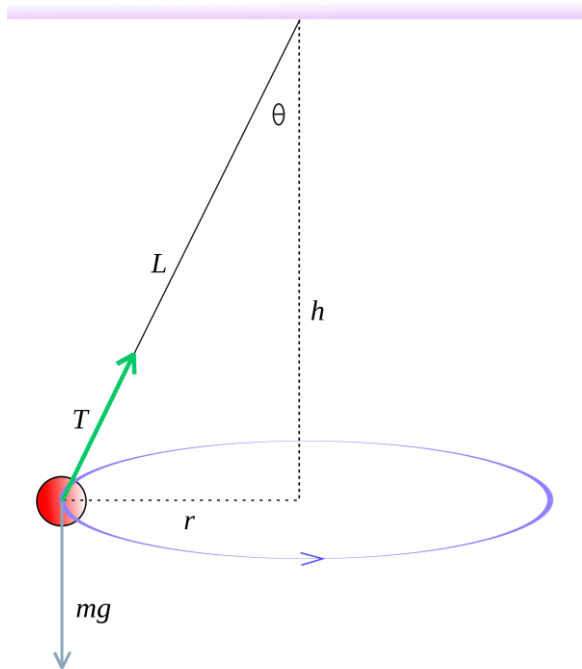
$$\tan(\theta) = \frac{T_x}{T_y} \quad T_x = T_y \tan(\theta)$$

$$T_x = 1.18 \tan(30^\circ) = 0.68 \text{ N}$$

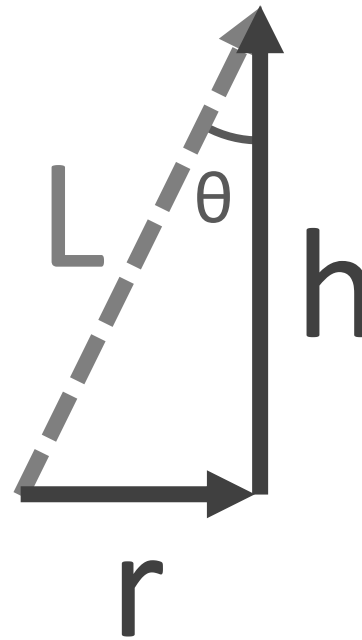
$$F_{net} = F_c = T_x = 0.68 \text{ N}$$

$$F_c = 0.68 \text{ N}$$

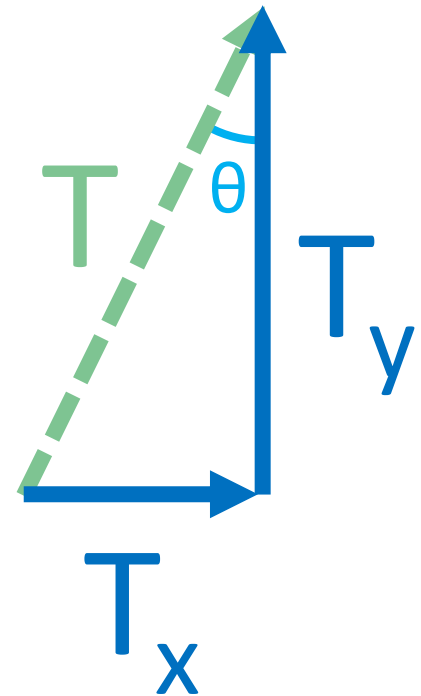
CAUTION! There are two triangles



Distances | [m]



Forces | [N]



All Together Now!

$$F_f = F_g$$

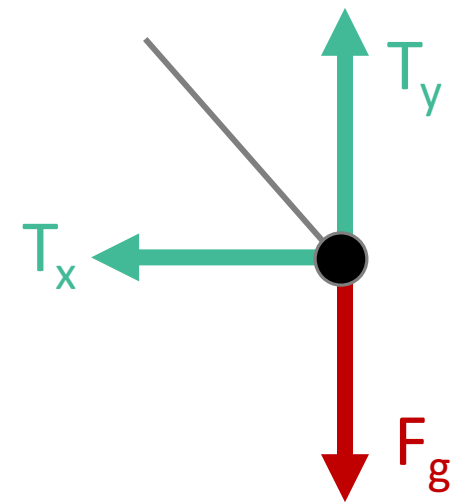
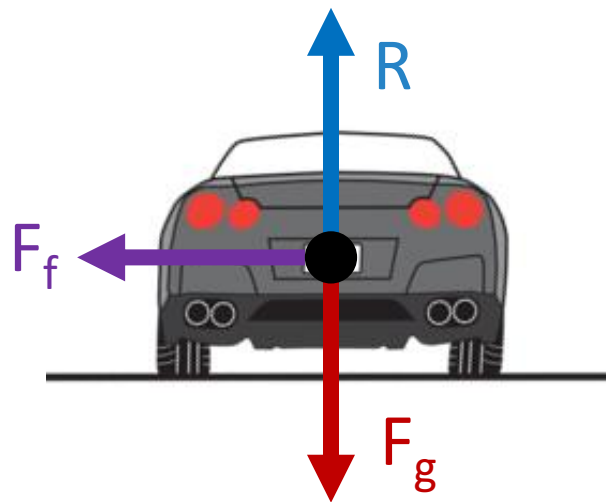
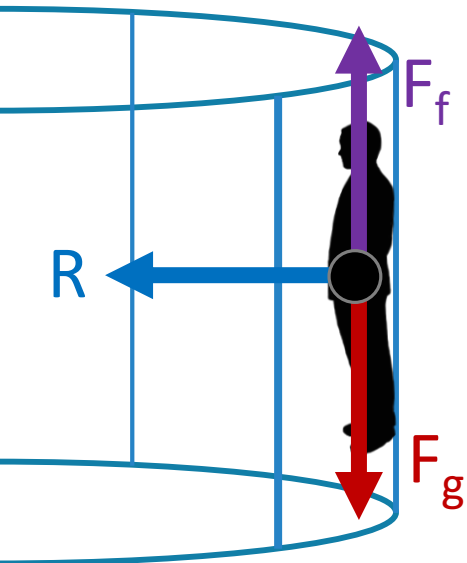
$$F_c = R$$

$$R = F_g$$

$$F_c = F_f$$

$$T_y = F_g$$

$$F_c = T_x$$



Lesson Takeaways

- ❑ I can draw a free body diagram and solve a problem when circular motion is produced by components of an angled tension force.