Balanced Forces

If the forces acting on the object are **balanced**, the resultant force is **zero**.

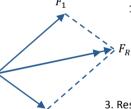
Newton's First Law of Motion states that every object will continue in its state of rest or *uniform* motion in a *straight* line unless a resultant force acts on it.

Vector Addition

For parallel vectors: Same direction (add), opposite direction (Subtract)

Non-Parallel vectors

Method 1: Parallelogram method



- 1. Choose an appropriate scale.
- 2. Complete parallelogram by adding dotted lines, parallel to original forces.
- 3. Resultant force is the diagonal of the parallelogram.

Method 2: Tip-to-tail method



- 1. Choose an appropriate scale.
- 2. Place 2^{nd} force to the tip of the 1^{st} force.
- 3. Join the tail of the 1st force to the tip of the 2nd force to obtain the resultant force.

When using the tip-to-tail method, if the resultant force is zero, the vector diagram would form a **closed triangle**.

The forces are said to be in equilibrium. F_3



DYNAMICS (FORCES)

Definition

A force is a **push** or **pull** that one exerts on another body. It can produce, slow down, speed up, stop or change direction of motion.

Unbalanced Forces

Newton's Second Law of Motion states that the resultant force acting on an object is equal to the product of mass and the acceleration of the object; the force acts in the same direction as the acceleration of the object.

F = ma

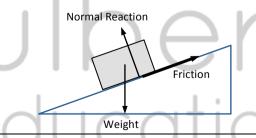
F: resultant force (N) m: mass (kg)

a: acceleration (ms⁻²)

If the object is moving at constant speed, the acceleration is zero. The resultant force is also zero.

Free-Body Diagrams (FBD)

- Identify and **isolate** the body.
- Draw all the physical forces acting on the body clearly.
 Length of arrow represents the magnitude of the force.
 Take note of the relative magnitude of forces.
- Ensure correct point of application of force.
- Label all forces drawn.



Types of Forces

Forces can be classified into two main types:

Contact Forces	Non-contact forces
Friction	Gravitational force (Weight)
Normal reaction	Electric force
Tension	Magnetic force

Action-Reaction Forces

Newton's Third Law of Motion states that for every action force acting on a body, there is an *equal* and *opposite* reaction force acting on the opposite body.

Characteristics action-reaction forces:

- 1) The forces are of the same nature.
- 2) They are equal in magnitude and opposite in direction.
- 3) Action and reaction act on different bodies.

Friction

Friction is a contact force that opposes or tends to oppose motion between surfaces in contact.

Effects of Friction

Positive effects	Negative effects	
Helps us to walk without	Reduces efficiency of	
slipping	machines	
Help us to grip things	Causes wear and tear	
Moving vehicles can slow	Causes unwanted	
down when needed.	heating	

Friction can be reduced by using

- 1. Wheels
- 2. Ball bearings
- 3. Lubricants and polished surfaces
- 4. Air cushion (hovercrafts, maglev etc)