

Block Sliding Down a Frictionless Wedge

(Taylor Example 7.5) Consider a block with mass m sliding frictionlessly down an wedge with mass M that makes an angle α . The wedge itself slides frictionlessly across a horizontal floor near the surface of Earth. The block is released from the top of the wedge, with both objects initially at rest.

If length of the sloping face is d , how long does the block take to reach the bottom?

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