Chapter 5 Problem 18<sup>†</sup>



## Given

$$\begin{split} m_c &= 12 \ kg \\ m_t &= 6.8 \ kg \\ \Delta x &= 60 \ cm = 0.60 \ m \end{split}$$

## Solution

a) Find the acceleration of the turkey.

Newton's  $2^{nd}$  law applied to the turkey is

$$\Sigma \vec{F} = m\vec{a}$$
$$\vec{N} + \vec{T_t} + \vec{W_t} = m_t \vec{a}$$

Choose the coordinate system with the x coordinate begin horizontal. The acceleration of the turkey is in the +x direction.

$$N\hat{j} + T\hat{i} - m_t g\hat{j} = m_t a\hat{i}$$

The x-component of this equation is

$$T = m_t a$$

The y-component of this equation is

 $N - m_t g = 0$ 

Newton's  $2^{nd}$  law applied to the child is

$$\Sigma \vec{F} = m\vec{a}$$
$$\vec{T_c} + \vec{W_c} = m_c \vec{a}$$

Choose the coordinate system with the x coordinate being horizontal. The acceleration of the child is in the -y direction.

$$T\hat{j} - m_c g\hat{j} = -m_c a\hat{j}$$

The y-component of this equation is

$$T - m_c g = -m_c a$$

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>†</sup>Problem from Essential University Physics, Wolfson

Take the x-component equation for the turkey and substitute it into the y-component equation for the child and solve for acceleration.

$$m_t a - m_c g = -m_c a$$
  

$$m_t a + m_c a = m_c g$$
  

$$a = \frac{m_c g}{m_t + m_c} = \frac{(12 \ kg)(9.8 \ m/s^2)}{6.8 \ kg + 12 \ kg} = 6.25 \ m/s^2$$

b) Find the time for the turkey to go over the edge.Begin with the following kinematic equation.

$$r = r_0 + v_0 t + \frac{1}{2}at^2$$

Displacement is  $r - r_0$  and the initial velocity is 0, so

$$r - r_0 = \frac{1}{2}at^2$$

Solving for t gives

$$\frac{2(r-r_0)}{a} = t^2$$
$$t = \sqrt{\frac{2(r-r_0)}{a}} = \sqrt{\frac{2(0.60 m)}{6.25 m/s^2}}$$
$$t = 0.438 s$$