



# RESULTANTS

The resultant of a system of forces is the simplest force combination which can replace the original forces without altering the external effect on the rigid body to which the forces are applied.

The most common type of force system occurs when the forces all act in a single plane, say, the *x*-*y* plane, as illustrated by the system of three forces  $F_1$   $F_2$ , and  $F_3$  in Figure. We obtain the magnitude and direction of the resultant force R by forming the *force polygon* shown in part *b* of the figure



#### **Principle of Moments**

This process is summarized in equation form by

$$\mathbf{R} = \Sigma \mathbf{F}$$
$$M_O = \Sigma M = \Sigma (Fd)$$
$$Rd = M_O$$



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## Problem 1

Determine the resultant of the four forces and one couple which act on the plate shown.



Solution



$$[R_x = \Sigma F_x] \qquad R_x = 40 + 80 \cos 30^\circ - 60 \cos 45^\circ = 66.9 \text{ N}$$

$$[R_y = \Sigma F_y] \qquad R_y = 50 + 80 \sin 30^\circ + 60 \cos 45^\circ = 132.4 \text{ N}$$

$$[R = \sqrt{R_x^2 + R_y^2}] \qquad R = \sqrt{(66.9)^2 + (132.4)^2} = 148.3 \text{ N} \qquad Ans.$$

$$\left[\theta = \tan^{-1} \frac{R_y}{R_x}\right] \qquad \theta = \tan^{-1} \frac{132.4}{66.9} = 63.2^\circ \qquad Ans.$$

$$[M_O = \Sigma(Fd)] \qquad M_O = 140 - 50(5) + 60 \cos 45^\circ(4) - 60 \sin 45^\circ(7)$$

$$= -237 \text{ N} \cdot \text{m}$$

$$[Rd = |M_O|] \qquad 148.3d = 237 \qquad d = 1.600 \text{ m}$$





## Problem 2

Determine and locate the resultant R of the two forces and one couple acting on the I-beam.



#### Solution



$$R = \Sigma F_y = 5 - 8 = -3 \text{ kN}$$

$$R|x = M_A : 3x = -5(2)$$

$$-25 + 8(6)$$

$$X = 4.33 \text{ m}$$