

And now I'm in position to talk about what is the maximum force.

If I push F harder, as if I push F and the blocks go together, the accelerations are the same.

I push F harder.

Accelerations are the same.

I push F harder, and I push F so hard, that the static friction no longer reaches its maximum value.

And if I push F harder than that, I will not have-- the static friction can't get bigger, and the blocks 1 and 2 will start to slip relative to each other.

So my no slipping condition is that I want two things.

a_1 equals a_2 .

We'll call that a .

And the maximum force condition is that F_{static} is equal to maximum value.

Now, what is the normal force between that we refer to in our friction law?

There's two normal forces-- the ground and the normal force between the surfaces.

But the static friction that we're talking about is between the surfaces.

So that's why we use N here and not N_{ground} .

And now I can solve for this F_{max} .

By the way, we also have the condition that f_k is μ_k .

What normal force are we talking about?

N , which we've called $N_{\text{ground } 1}$.

And now I look at my equations, and my goal is to solve for F . I know N_{g1} from this equation.

It's just equal to M_1g plus N . I know N from that equation.

So N_{g1} is just the sum of the masses times g .

So I know this.

I have f , which is $m_2 a$.

And I can now apply my result.

So what we'll do is we'll solve for the a 's, a_1 equals a_2 , in terms of F_{\max} .

So over here we have that a is f over m_2 .

That's from this equation.

And now I'll substitute a_1 is equal to that.

I'll substitute that there.

And I get that F_{\max} is going to be equal to f_k plus $f_{\text{static max}}$.

That's that one.

Plus m_1 times a_1 , which is $f_{\text{static max}}$ divided by m_2 .

And so I get that F_{\max} equals-- now I'm going to substitute in all of these values.

It's going to look a little complicated.

And so I'd like to have a little space here for that, to get everything in here.

And we'll see that it's equal to $\mu_k m_1 + m_2 g$, f_k , μ_k , plus m_1 $2mg$ plus $f_{\text{static max}}$ times 1 plus and m_1 over m_2 .

But $f_{\text{static max}}$ is μN , and N is $m_2 g$.

So I get $m_2 g$ times 1 plus m_1 over m_2 .

And there is, if I push any harder than that, block 2 will slip with respect to block 1.

Again, all of our terms have the dimensions of acceleration.

This is dimensionless-- 1 , dimensions of acceleration.

And we did miss one little thing.

We missed the coefficient of static friction.

And there we have it, a tricky problem.