

Question#19087

A 20 kg box is initially sliding across the floor at 10 m/s. If the force of friction on the box is 50 N, how far will the box slide before coming to a stop?

Solution:

Let:

$$m = 20 \text{ kg}$$

$$v_0 = 10 \text{ m/s}$$

$$F = 50 \text{ N}$$

$$S = ?$$

$$S = v_0 t - \frac{1}{2} a t^2, \text{ where } t - \text{time to a stop}$$

$$\text{Such as } v = at, t = \frac{v}{a}$$

$$S = \frac{v_0^2}{a} - \frac{1}{2} \frac{v_0^2}{a} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{v_0^2}{a}$$

According to the second Newton's law:

$$a = \frac{F}{m}$$

$$S = \frac{1}{2} \frac{m v_0^2}{F}$$

$$S = \frac{1}{2} \frac{20 \cdot 10^2}{50} = 2 \text{ m}$$

Answer: 2 m.