

60. Since all surfaces are frictionless, the contact force  $\vec{F}$  exerted by the lower sphere on the upper one is along that  $45^\circ$  line, and the forces exerted by walls and floors are “normal” (perpendicular to the wall and floor surfaces, respectively). Equilibrium of forces on the top sphere lead to the two conditions

$$N_{\text{wall}} = F \cos 45^\circ \quad \text{and} \quad F \sin 45^\circ = mg .$$

And (using Newton’s third law) equilibrium of forces on the bottom sphere lead to the two conditions

$$N'_{\text{wall}} = F \cos 45^\circ \quad \text{and} \quad N'_{\text{floor}} = F \sin 45^\circ + mg .$$

- (a) Solving the above equations, we find  $N'_{\text{floor}} = 2mg$ .
- (b) Also, we obtain  $N'_{\text{wall}} = N_{\text{wall}} = mg$ .
- (c) And we get  $F = mg / \sin 45^\circ = mg\sqrt{2}$ .