

29. Each side of the trough exerts a normal force on the crate. The first diagram shows the view looking in toward a cross section. The net force is along the dashed line. Since each of the normal forces makes an angle of  $45^\circ$  with the dashed line, the magnitude of the resultant normal force is given by  $N_r = 2N \cos 45^\circ = \sqrt{2}N$ . The second diagram is the free-body diagram for the crate (from a “side” view, similar to that shown in the first picture in Fig. 6-36). The force of gravity has magnitude  $mg$ , where  $m$  is the mass of the crate, and the magnitude of the force of friction is denoted by  $f$ . We take the  $+x$  direction to be down the incline and  $+y$  to be in the direction of  $\vec{N}_r$ . Then the  $x$  component of Newton’s second law is  $mg \sin \theta - f = ma$  and the  $y$  component is  $N_r - mg \cos \theta = 0$ . Since the crate is moving, each side of the trough exerts a force of kinetic friction, so the total frictional force has magnitude  $f = 2\mu_k N = 2\mu_k N_r / \sqrt{2} = \sqrt{2}\mu_k N_r$ . Combining this expression with  $N_r = mg \cos \theta$  and substituting into the  $x$  component equation, we obtain  $mg \sin \theta - \sqrt{2}mg \cos \theta = ma$ . Therefore  $a = g(\sin \theta - \sqrt{2}\mu_k \cos \theta)$ .

