



Pick a small (rectangular) element (of area) $(dx \cdot dy)$

Its mass is $\sigma \cdot dx \cdot dy$

$$dm = \sigma dx dy$$

Let it exert force dF .

r is distance between point mass & element

Coordinate of point mass is $(0, 0, z)$ & element is $(x, y, 0)$

$$r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow dF_z = dF \cos \theta$$

$$\Rightarrow dF_z = dF \cdot \hat{r} \cdot \hat{z} = G \frac{dm}{r^2} \hat{r} \cdot \hat{z} = G \frac{dm}{r^2} \hat{r} \cdot \hat{z} \quad \text{where } \hat{r} = \frac{\vec{r}}{r}$$

\hat{r} is vector ~~between~~ pointing towards point mass from element

$$\Rightarrow \vec{r} = z \hat{z} - x \hat{x} - y \hat{y} \quad \Rightarrow \hat{r} \cdot \hat{z} = \frac{z}{r}$$

$$\Rightarrow dF_z = \frac{(dm) z}{r^3} G \Rightarrow dF_z = \frac{G \sigma z}{r^3} dx dy$$

$$F_z = \iint_{-L/2}^{L/2} \frac{G \sigma z}{(x^2 + y^2 + z^2)^{3/2}} dx dy$$

$$\Rightarrow dF_z = \frac{G \sigma z}{(\sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2})^3} dx dy$$

Integrating over plate,

$$F_z = \int_{-L/2}^{L/2} \int_{-L/2}^{L/2} \frac{G \sigma z}{(x^2 + y^2 + z^2)^{3/2}} dx dy$$

$$\Rightarrow F_z = G \sigma z \int_{-L/2}^{L/2} \int_{-L/2}^{L/2} \frac{dx dy}{(x^2 + y^2 + z^2)^{3/2}}$$