

Chapter 7 – Properties of Bulk Matter

1. Introduction

So far, we treated matter as rigid. But real materials deform under forces, flow as liquids, or exist as gases.

This chapter covers elasticity, fluid mechanics, and surface phenomena — essential for understanding real-world physics.

2. Elasticity

When you stretch a spring, it returns. That restoring property is elasticity.

Hooke's Law:

$\text{Stress} \propto \text{Strain (within elastic limit)}$
 $\text{Stress} = E \times \text{Strain}$

Type	Formula	Example
Young's modulus	$Y = (F/A)/(\Delta L/L)$	Wire stretch
Bulk modulus	$K = (-\Delta P)/(\Delta V/V)$	Pressure on fluid
Shear modulus	$\eta = (F/A)/(\Delta x/L)$	Shearing metal block

Unit: N/m^2 (Pascal).

Elastic limit \rightarrow beyond it, permanent deformation occurs.

3. Fluid Pressure and Pascal's Law

Pressure = Force/Area.

Pascal's Law: External pressure applied on fluid transmits equally in all directions.

Applications:

- Hydraulic lift, brakes, press.
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4. Archimedes' Principle

A body submerged in fluid experiences upthrust equal to weight of displaced fluid.

$$F_B = \rho_f V g$$

Explains floating and sinking.

Condition for floatation: $\rho_{\text{body}} \leq \rho_{\text{fluid}}$.

Used in ships, hydrometers, submarines.

5. Viscosity

Viscosity = internal friction in fluids.

For laminar flow, Newton's law of viscosity:

$$F = \eta A \frac{dv}{dy} \quad F = \eta A \frac{dv}{dy}$$

Unit: Pa·s.

Stoke's Law (sphere in fluid):

$$F = 6\pi\eta r v \quad F = 6\pi\eta r v$$

Terminal velocity:

$$v_t = \frac{2r^2(\rho_s - \rho_f)g}{9\eta} \quad v_t = \frac{2r^2(\rho_s - \rho_f)g}{9\eta}$$

6. Streamline and Turbulent Flow

- **Streamline (laminar):** smooth, layers slide without mixing.
- **Turbulent:** irregular, eddy currents form.

Reynolds number:

$$Re = \frac{\rho v D}{\eta} \quad Re = \frac{\rho v D}{\eta}$$

If $Re < 2000 \rightarrow$ laminar; $> 4000 \rightarrow$ turbulent.

7. Surface Tension

Cohesive forces at surface create tension acting along the surface.

$$T = \frac{F}{L} \quad T = \frac{F}{L}$$

Unit: N/m.

Surface energy = $T \times$ increase in area.

Applications: capillarity, soap bubbles, insects walking on water.

8. Capillary Rise

Liquid rises or falls in a narrow tube due to surface tension:

$$h = \frac{2T \cos \theta}{\rho g r}$$

Water ($\theta < 90^\circ$) → rise, Mercury ($\theta > 90^\circ$) → fall.

9. Viscosity and Flow of Blood

Blood viscosity helps maintain uniform flow; too high → heart strain, too low → uncontrolled bleeding.

Thus, physics directly connects to physiology here.

10. Summary

- 1. Stress/strain describe deformation.**
- 2. Elastic moduli: Y , K , η .**
- 3. Pascal's law governs hydraulics.**
- 4. Archimedes' principle explains buoyancy.**
- 5. Viscosity controls flow; Reynolds number predicts turbulence.**
- 6. Surface tension causes capillarity and drop formation.**