What is Gravitation?

Definition:

Gravitation is the force of attraction between any two objects in the universe due to their masses.

Examples:

- Apple falling from a tree
- Moon orbiting the Earth
- Earth pulling everything downward

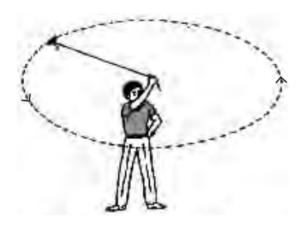


Fig. 9.1 – Stone tied to thread moving in circular motion (Activity 9.1)

⊴ Activity 9.1:

- Tie a stone to a string and whirl it in a circle
- Release it suddenly → it flies off tangentially

✓ Reason:

The stone stays in circular motion due to a force towards the center (centripetal force). Without it, it moves in a straight line.

9.1.1 Universal Law of Gravitation

Statement:

Every object attracts every other object in the universe with a force that is directly proportional to the product of their masses and inversely proportional to the square of the distance between them.

Formula:

 $F = G \times (M \times m) / d^2$

Where:

F = gravitational force

M & m = masses

d = distance between centers

G = gravitational constant = 6.67 × 10⁻¹¹ N·m²/kg²

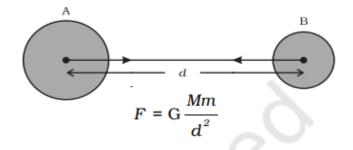


Fig. 9.2 – Force between two objects along line joining centers

This law applies to all objects — from small particles to planets → it's universal!

Importance of Universal Law of Gravitation

- 1. Explains why objects fall to Earth
- 2. Explains orbits of planets around the Sun
- 3. Explains Moon's orbit around Earth
- 4. Explains tides due to Sun & Moon

9.2 Free Fall

Definition:

When objects fall only under gravity (no air resistance), it's called free fall.

Acceleration due to gravity (g):

Acceleration of falling object due to Earth's gravitational pull.

 $g = 9.8 \text{ m/s}^2 \text{ near Earth's surface}$

- Throw a stone up → it rises and falls
 - ✓ Reason:

Earth's gravity causes the downward motion → it's under free fall.

Formula:

F = mg

 $g = GM / R^2$

M = Earth's mass, R = Earth's radius

Calculated Value:

 $g = 9.8 \text{ m/s}^2 \text{ (using M} = 6 \times 10^{24} \text{ kg, R} = 6.4 \times 10^6 \text{ m)}$

Drop paper & stone together

✓ Paper falls slower due to air resistance

If no air, both fall at same rate (Galileo's idea)

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- Equations of motion during free fall (replace a with g):
- 1. v = u + gt
- 2. $s = ut + \frac{1}{2}gt^2$
- 3. $v^2 = u^2 + 2gs$

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Example:

A car drops in 0.5 s →

- (i) Final speed: v = 5 m/s
- (ii) Avg speed: 2.5 m/s
- (iii) Height = 1.25 m
- Another Example:

Object reaches 10 m high:

- (i) u = 14 m/s
- (ii) Time = 1.43 s

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9.3 Mass

Definition:

Mass is the amount of matter. It is a measure of inertia and does not change with location.

Unit: kg

Same on Earth, Moon, or anywhere else.

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9.4 Weight

Definition:

Weight is the force with which an object is attracted towards the Earth.

W = mg

Unit: newton (N)

Weight is variable (depends on g)

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Weight on Moon

Moon has lower mass & radius → less gravity g(moon) ≈ (1/6) × g(earth)

So,

 $W(moon) = (1/6) \times W(earth)$

Example:

Object with mass 10 kg Weight on Earth = 98 N Weight on Moon = 16.3 N

9.5 Thrust and Pressure

Thrust:

Force acting perpendicular to a surface

Pressure = Thrust / Area
Unit: pascal (Pa) or N/m²

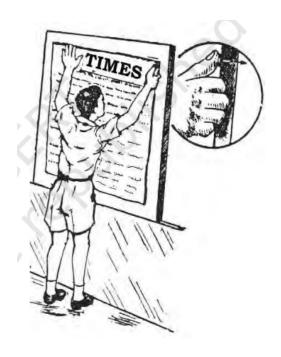


Fig. 9.3 – Pressing drawing pins → pressure applied on sharp tip

Example:

Block of 5 kg kept on table When laid on 0.02 m² \rightarrow Pressure = 2450 N/m² When laid on 0.08 m² \rightarrow Pressure = 612.5 N/m²

Smaller area → more pressure

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9.5.1 Pressure in Fluids

Liquids & gases exert pressure in all directions
This pressure increases with depth

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9.5.2 Buoyancy

Buoyant Force:

Upward force exerted by fluid on an immersed object

Push an empty bottle in water

- → Feels upward force → This is buoyant force
- Depends on fluid's density

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⊴ Activity 9.5:

Iron nail sinks, cork floats

- → Cork has lower density than water
- → Nail's density > water → sinks



Fig. 9.5 – Cork floats, nail sinks

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9.6 Archimedes' Principle

Statement:

When a body is immersed in fluid, it experiences an upward buoyant force equal to the weight of the fluid displaced.

⊴ Activity 9.6:

Place iron nail and cork in water → cork floats, nail sinks (density based)

⊴ Activity 9.7:

Tie stone to spring → note extension

Now dip in water → extension decreases

Reason: Upward buoyant force reduces net weight

Applications:

- Ship/Submarine design
- Hydrometer, Lactometer
- Used to measure fluid density

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E Summary – What You Have Learnt

- Gravitation is universal → every object attracts others
- Free fall → gravity only
- Weight = mass × g
- Mass is constant, weight varies
- Pressure = Force / Area
- Buoyancy → upward force in fluid
- Archimedes' principle → upward force = fluid displaced