

Unit: - 5 - Gravitation

Newton's Law of Gravitation

"Every particle of matter in this universe attracts every other particle with a force which varies directly as the product of the masses of two particles and inversely as the square of distance between them."

* The force of attraction between any two bodies in the universe is known as the force of gravitation.

* This force is mutual and acts along the line joining the centre of the two bodies.

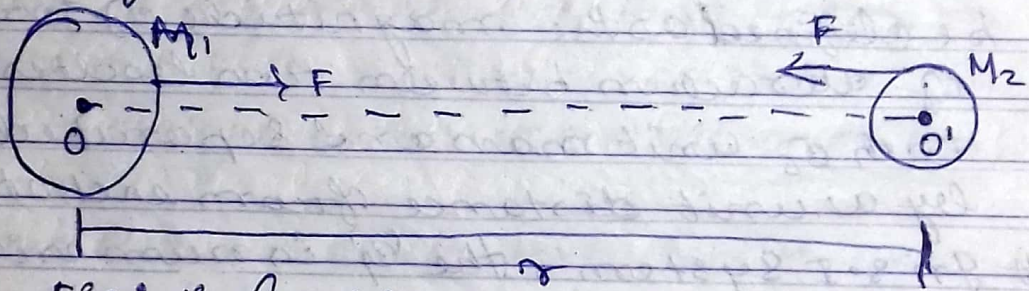


Fig: 1: Gravitation attraction betⁿ two bodies.

Consider two bodies of masses m_1 and m_2 as shown in figure (1). Let r be the distance betⁿ their centres and F be the magnitude of force of attraction between them. According to the law of gravitation,

(i) $F \propto m_1 m_2$

(ii) $F \propto \frac{1}{r^2}$

Combining the above two factors we get,

$$F \propto \frac{M_1 M_2}{r^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow F = G \frac{M_1 M_2}{r^2} \quad (i)$$

where the proportionality constant G is known as universal constant of gravitation or gravitational constant.

Definition of G :-

Let $m_1 = m_2 = 1$ unit

$r = 1$ unit

then, from eqⁿ (i) we get;

$$F = G \cdot \frac{1 \times 1}{r^2} = G$$

or $G = F$.

* Thus, the gravitational constant may be defined as the magnitude of force of attraction between two bodies each of unit mass and separated by a unit distance from each other.

* In S.I system, the G is numerically equal to the force of attraction between two masses of 1 kg each and placed at a distance of 1 m from each other.

* In c.g.s system, the G is numerically equal to the force of attraction between two masses of 1 g each and placed at a distance of 1 cm from each other.

Units and value of G :-

(i) S.I unit :- we know that,

$$F = G \cdot \frac{m_1 \cdot m_2}{r^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow G = \frac{F \cdot r^2}{m_1 \cdot m_2}$$

$$= \frac{Nm^2}{kg^2}$$

Value of G in S.I System = $6.67 \times 10^{-11} \text{ N m}^2 \text{ kg}^{-2}$
 (ii) C.G.S unit :- We know that,

$$F = G \frac{M_1 M_2}{r^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow G = \frac{F r^2}{M_1 M_2}$$

$$= \frac{\text{dyne} \cdot \text{cm}^2}{\text{gm}^2}$$

value of G in C.G.S System = $6.67 \times 10^{-8} \text{ dyne cm}^2 \text{ gm}^{-2}$

Acceleration Due To Gravity (g)

* Gravity is a special case of gravitation in which one of the bodies is earth and the second body is either placed on earth or near it.

* Force between earth and a body near it is called gravity.

* The acceleration produced by gravity is called acceleration due to gravity and is denoted by ' g '.

Relation between g and G :-

We know that ; $F = mg$ — (i)

Since the body is placed on the surface of the earth of mass ' M ' or radius ' R ', then

according to Newton's law of gravitation,

$$F = G \frac{Mm}{R^2} \text{ — (ii)}$$



Fig: 2

From eqⁿ (i) and (ii) we have,

$$mg = G \frac{Mm}{R^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow g = \frac{GM}{R^2} \quad \text{--- (v)}$$

Since, 'g' depends upon the mass and radius of the planet it is not a universal constant.

unit of g:

$$\text{SI unit} = \frac{M}{\text{Sec}^2} \text{ or } M \cdot \text{Sec}^{-2}$$

$$\text{CGS unit} = \frac{CM}{\text{Sec}^2} \text{ or } \text{cm} \cdot \text{Sec}^{-2}$$

Variation of g' with altitude:

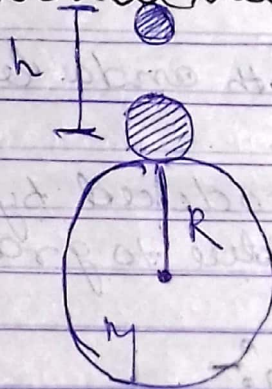


Fig-3: Effect of altitude on g'.

We know that on earth surface,

$$g = \frac{GM}{R^2} \quad \text{--- (i)}$$

When the body is taken to a height 'h' above the surface of earth. The acceleration due to gravity is given by,

$$g' = \frac{GM}{(R+h)^2} \quad \text{--- (ii)}$$

Since $R+h > R$, thus $g' < g$

Thus from the above it is clear that the value of acceleration due to gravity decreases with increase in ~~height~~ height above the earth surface.

Variation of g' with depth:-

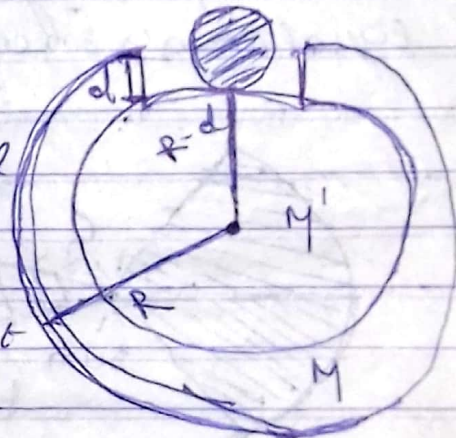
Acceleration due to gravity when a body is taken to a depth d' below the earth surface is:-

$$g' = \frac{GM'}{(R-d)^2} \quad \text{--- (vii)}$$

where M' is the mass of the earth at a depth d' below the surface.

* From mathematical calculations it is observed that $g \propto d$.

* It is clear from the above that as d increases g' must decrease. Thus, the value of acceleration due to gravity decreases ~~the~~ as the depth increases.



Definition of g' :-

Mass:- Mass is the amount of matter contained in a given body and doesn't vary in its geographical position on the earth surface.

Weight:- The weight of an object is a measure of the ~~force~~ force exerted on the object by gravity and therefore the weight of the body will vary with its geographical position on the earth surface.

Kepler's Law of planetary Motion:-

First Law - Law of Elliptical Orbits

"A planet moves around the sun in an elliptical orbit with sun situated at one of its foci."

Second Law - Law of Areal velocity

"A planet moves around the sun in such a way that its areal velocity is constant. i.e., the line joining the planet with sun sweeps equal areas in equal intervals of time."

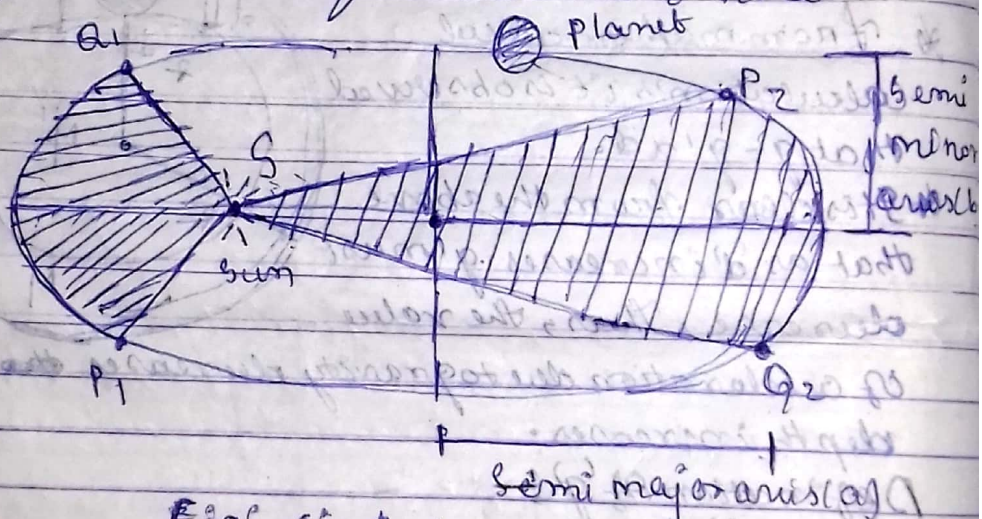


Fig-5: Rotating of planet around the sun.

If 't' is the time taken by the planet to move from P_1 to A_1 and also from P_2 to A_2 then, $AA_1 = AA_2$.

Third Law - Law of Time periods (Harmonic)

"A planet moves around the sun in such a way that the square of its time period is proportional to the cube of the semi-major axis of its elliptical orbit."

$$\Rightarrow T^2 \propto a^3 \quad \text{--- (viii)}$$

$$9 = 9.882 - 9.789.$$