

Civil Eng. Orientation 2.

Pressure and its Measurement

One day, Einstein, Newton, and Pascal meet up and decide to play a game of hide and seek. Einstein volunteered to be “It.” As Einstein counted, eyes closed, to 10, Pascal ran away and hid.

Newton is sitting right in front of Einstein, with a piece of chalk in his hand. He’s sitting on a one meter by one meter square drawn on the ground.

Einstein says “Newton you’re... terrible, I’ve found you!”

Newton says “No, no, Einy. You’ve found one Newton per square meter. You’ve found Pascal!”

If the force (F) is uniformly distributed over the area (A), then pressure at any point is given by

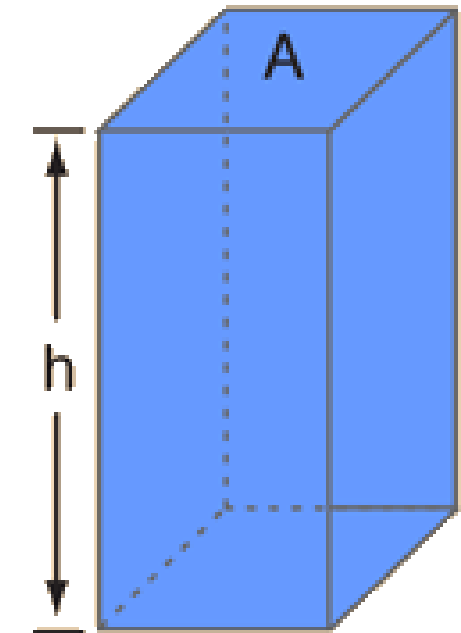
$$p = \frac{F}{A} = \frac{\text{Force}}{\text{Area}}$$

\therefore Force or pressure force, $F = p \times A$.

The units of pressure are : (i) kgf/m^2 and kgf/cm^2 in MKS units, (ii) Newton/m^2 or N/m^2 and N/mm^2 in SI units. N/m^2 is known as Pascal and is represented by Pa. Other commonly used units of pressure are :

$$\text{kPa} = \text{kilo pascal} = 1000 \text{ N/m}^2$$

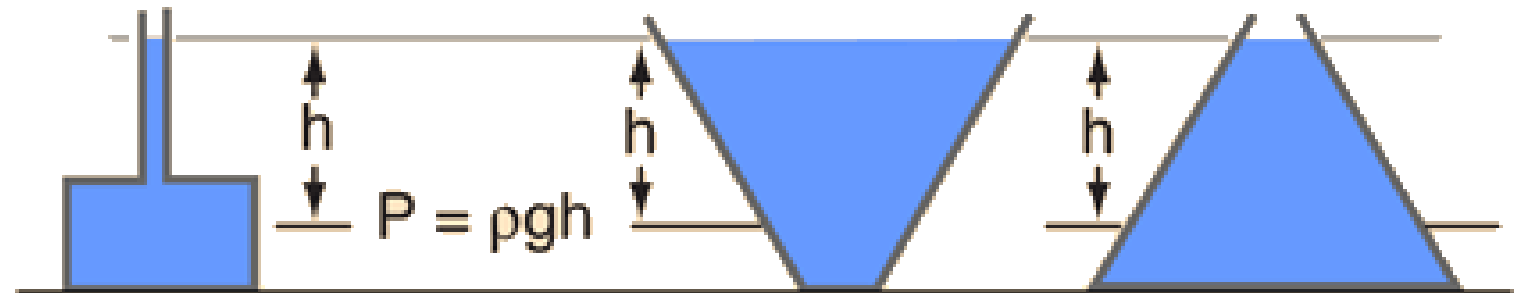
$$\text{bar} = 100 \text{ kPa} = 10^5 \text{ N/m}^2.$$



$V = hA = \text{volume}$
 $\text{weight} = mg$

Static fluid pressure does not depend on the shape, total mass, or surface area of the liquid.

$$\text{Pressure} = \frac{\text{weight}}{\text{area}} = \frac{mg}{A} = \frac{\rho Vg}{A} = \rho gh$$



Static Fluid Pressure

The pressure exerted by a static fluid depends only upon the depth of the fluid, the density of the fluid, and the acceleration of gravity.

The pressure in a static fluid arises from the weight of the fluid and is given by the expression

$$P_{\text{static fluid}} = \rho gh$$

where

$\rho = m/V =$ fluid density

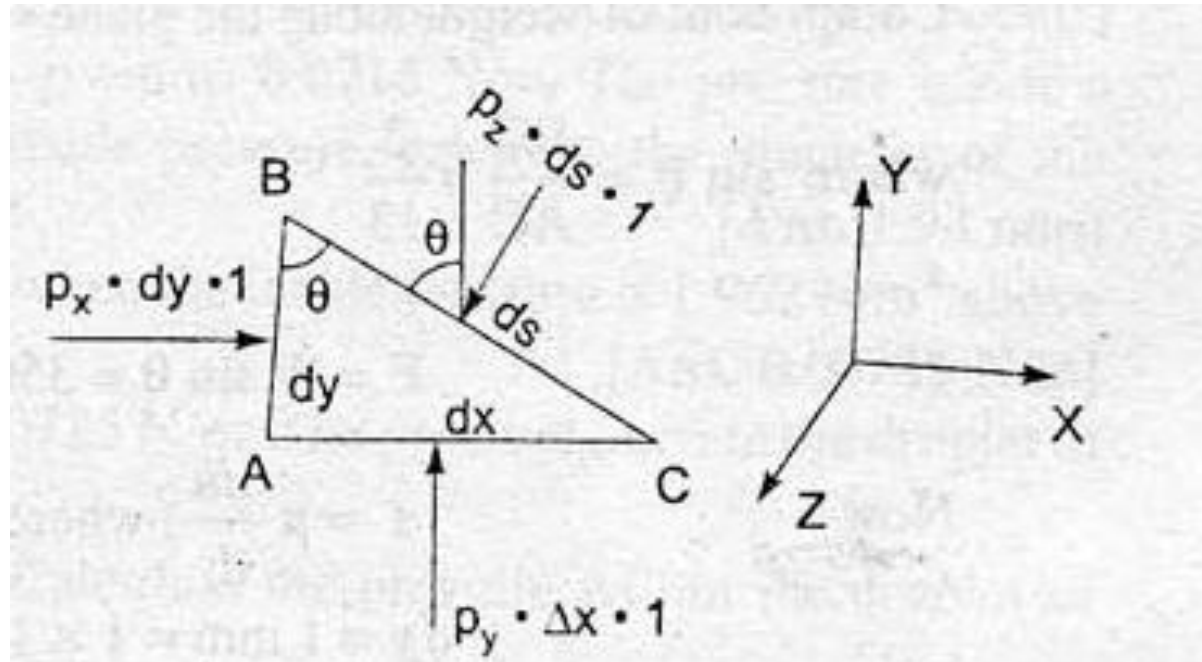
$g =$ acceleration of gravity

$h =$ depth of fluid

PASCAL'S LAW

- The pressure or intensity of pressure at a point in a static fluid is equal in all directions!

$$p_x = p_y = p_z$$



Pascal's Law

Example 2.3. The diameters of ram and plunger of an hydraulic press are 200 mm and 30 mm respectively. Find the weight lifted by the hydraulic press when the force applied at the plunger is 400 N.

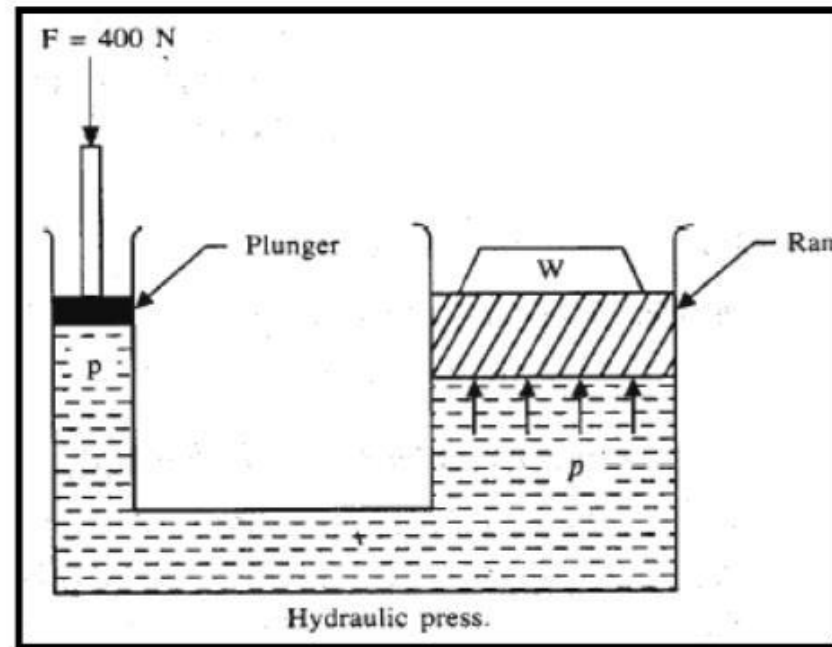
Sol. Diameter of the ram,
 $D = 200 \text{ mm} = 0.2 \text{ m}$
Diameter of the plunger,
 $d = 30 \text{ mm} = 0.03 \text{ m}$
Force on the plunger,
 $F = 400 \text{ N}$

Area of ram,

$$A = \frac{\pi}{4} D^2 = \frac{\pi}{4} \times 0.2^2 = 0.0314 \text{ m}^2$$

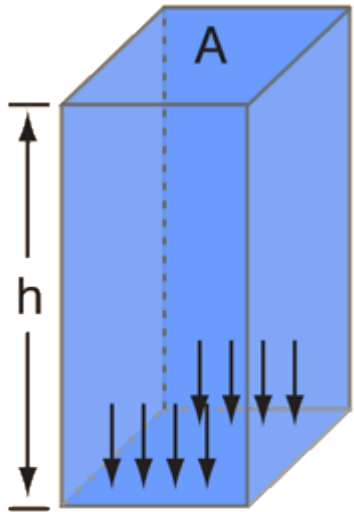
Area of plunger,

$$a = \frac{\pi}{4} d^2 = \frac{\pi}{4} \times 0.03^2 = 7.068 \times 10^{-4} \text{ m}^2$$



Fluid Pressure Calculation

Fluid column height in the relationship



Pressure at
depth h:

$$P = \rho gh$$

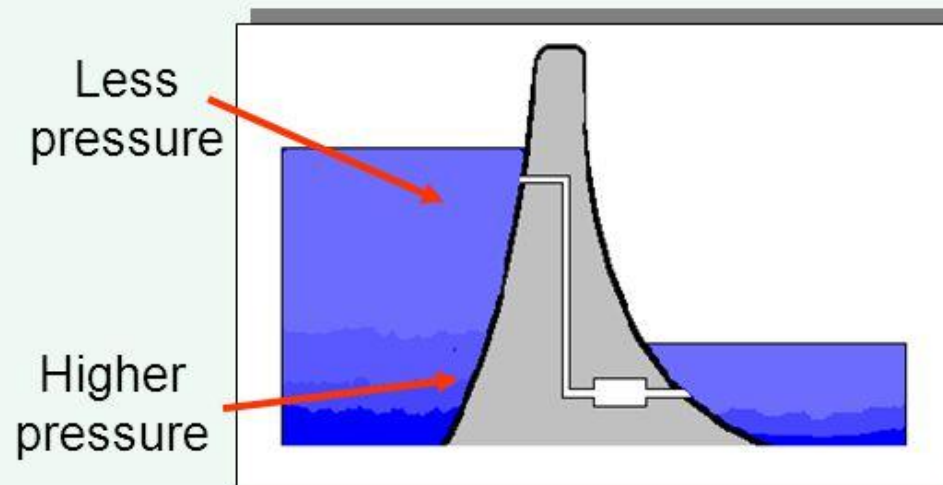
Fluid Pressure

The pressure in **SOLIDS** always acts **DOWNWARDS** because of the **PULL** of **GRAVITY**.

In **FLUIDS** (**LIQUIDS** and **GASES**) the pressure acts **IN ALL DIRECTIONS**.

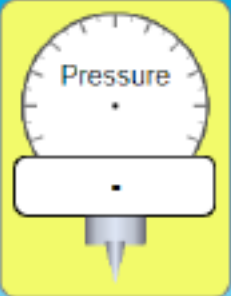
Pressure in fluids can be used to **TRANSFER FORCES**.

Also, in fluids, the **PRESSURE INCREASES WITH DEPTH**.



DAMS are **WIDER AT THE BOTTOM** than at the top because pressure increases with depth in water.

The image shows the PhET Density simulation interface. At the top left, there is a pressure gauge labeled "Pressure" with a needle pointing to zero. To its right are control panels: a "Ruler" panel with a scale from 0 to 2, a "Grid" panel with a checked box, an "Atmosphere" panel with "On" selected, and a "Units" panel with "Metric" selected. The main simulation area features a cross-section of a tank with a blue liquid. On the left, there are four icons representing different tank configurations: a simple tank, a tank with a narrow neck, a tank with a wide base, and a tank with a question mark. Above the tank, three weights are shown: 500 kg, 250 kg, and 250 kg. The tank's depth is marked with 0 m, 1 m, 2 m, and 3 m. On the right side, there are two control panels: "Fluid Density" with a slider set to 1000 kg/m³ (between gasoline and honey) and "Gravity" with a slider set to 9.8 m/s² (between Mars and Jupiter). A refresh button is located at the bottom right.



Ruler 0 1 2

Grid

Atmosphere

On Off

Units

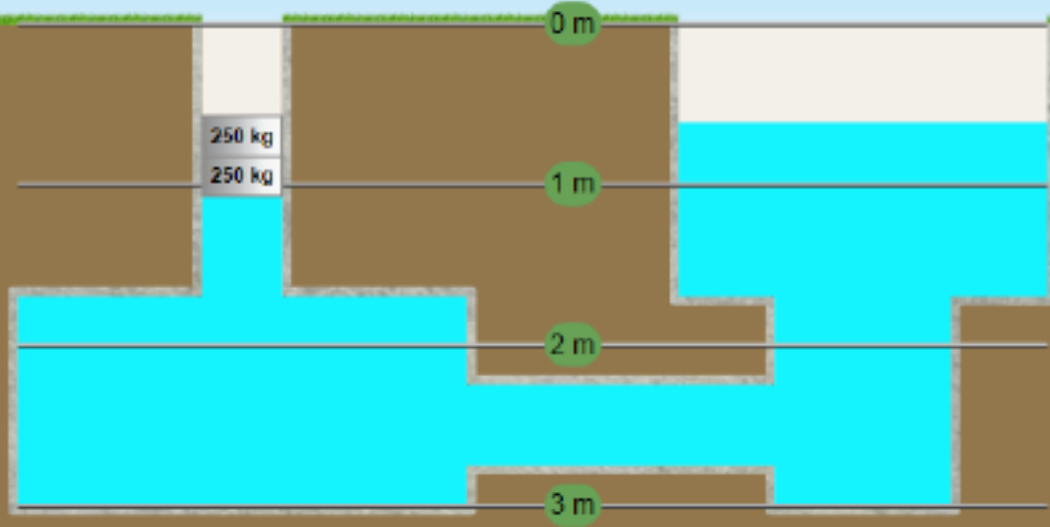
Metric

Atmospheres

English

500 kg

?



Fluid Density

1000 kg/m³

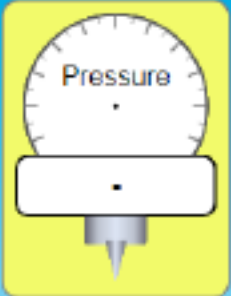
gasoline water honey

Gravity

9.8 m/s²

Mars Earth Jupiter

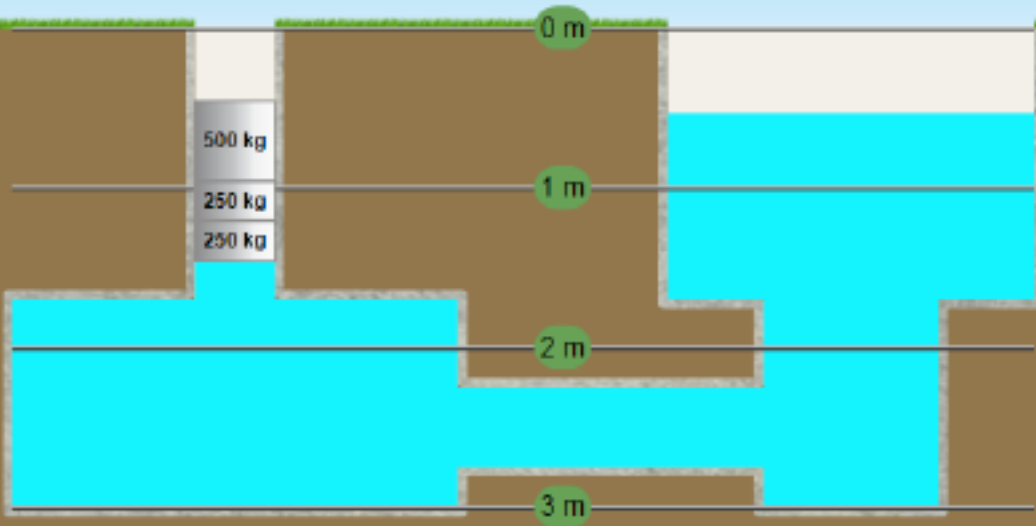




Ruler 0 1 2
 Grid

Atmosphere
 On Off

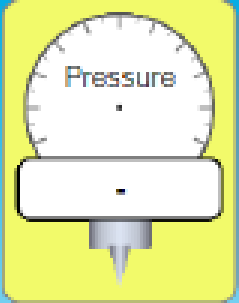
Units
 Metric
 Atmospheres
 English



Fluid Density
1000 kg/m³
gasoline water honey

Gravity
9.8 m/s²
Mars Earth Jupiter





Ruler 0 1 2

Grid

Atmosphere

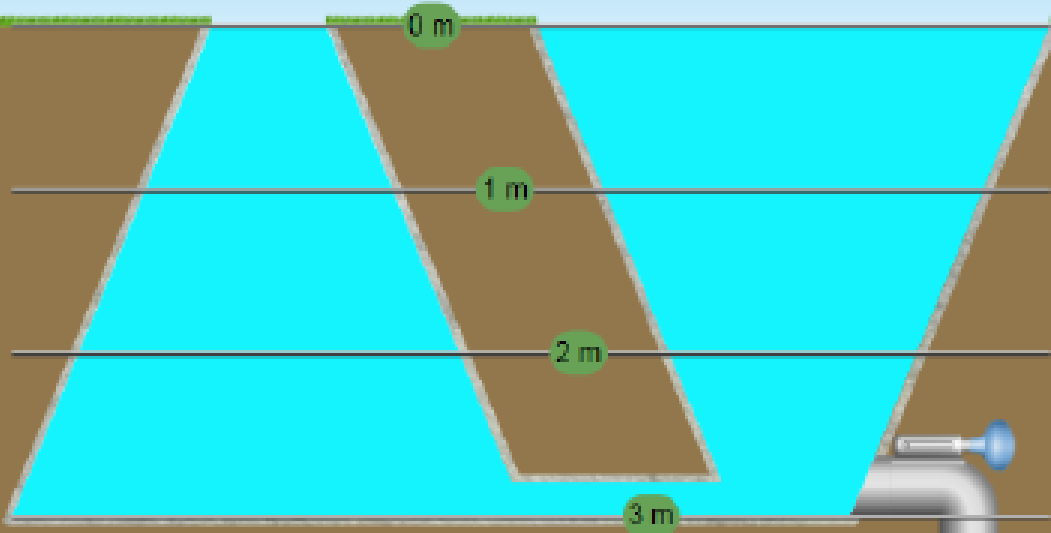
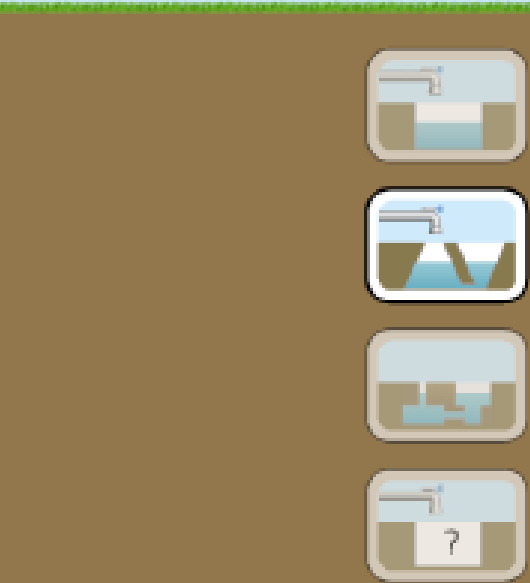
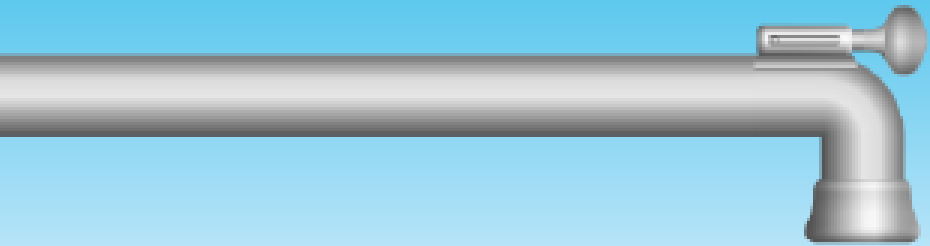
On Off

Units

Metric

Atmospheres

English



Fluid Density

◀ 1000 kg/m³ ▶

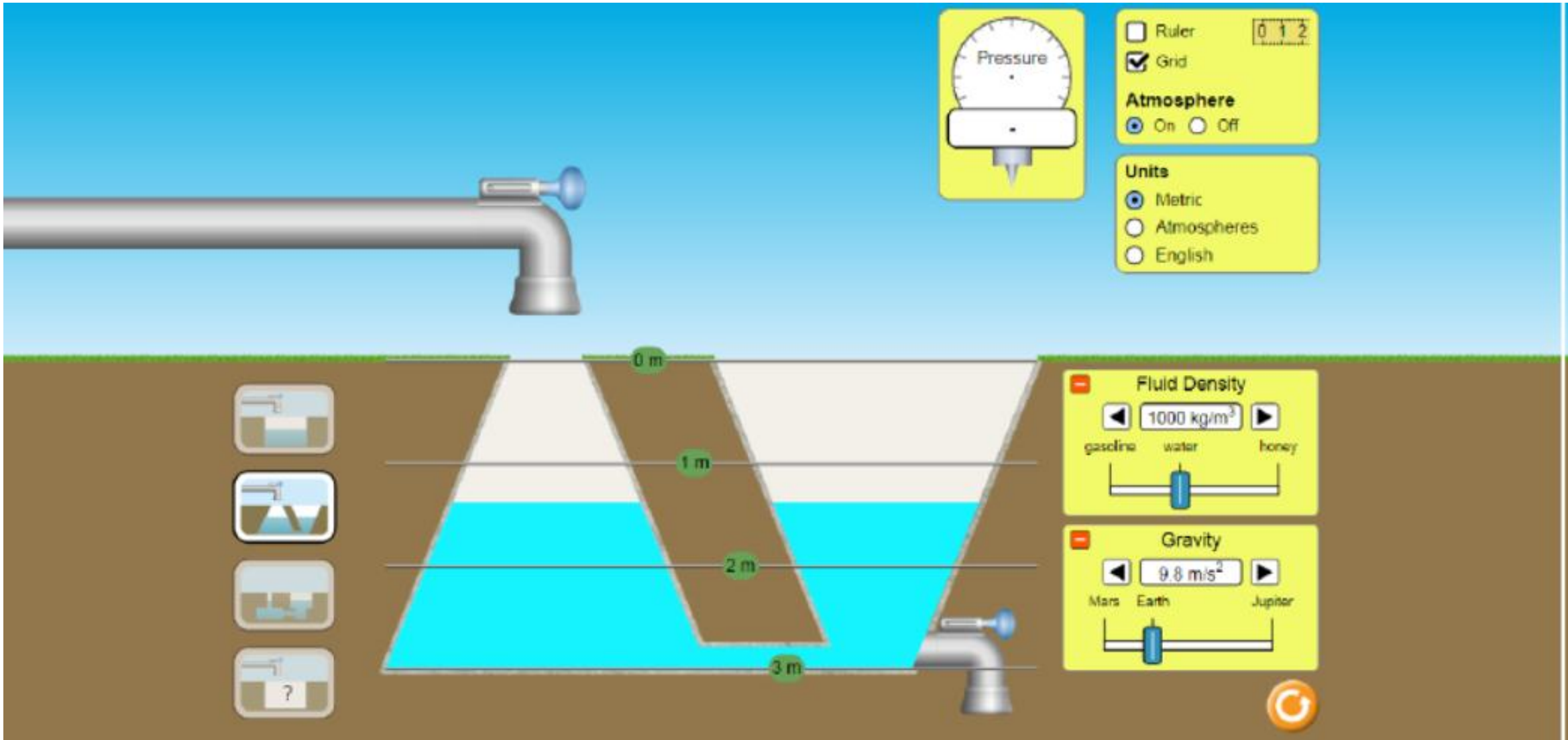
gasoline water honey

Gravity

◀ 9.8 m/s² ▶

Mars Earth Jupiter





Ruler 0 1 2
 Grid
Atmosphere
 On Off

Units
 Metric
 Atmospheres
 English

-
-
-
-

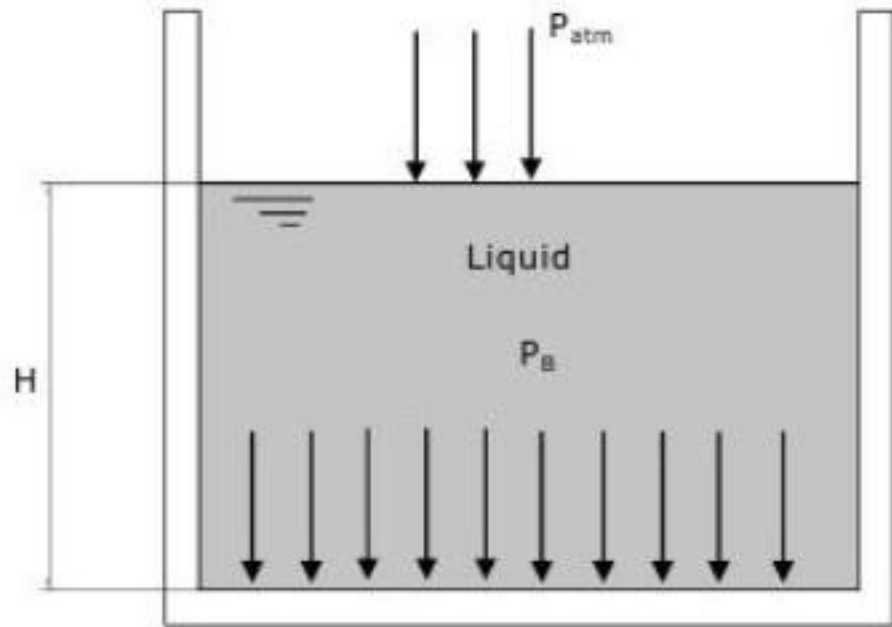
Fluid Density
◀ 1000 kg/m³ ▶
gasoline water honey
[Slider bar]

Gravity
◀ 9.8 m/s² ▶
Mars Earth Jupiter
[Slider bar]



FLUIDS AT REST: FORCE CONSIDERATIONS

HORIZONTAL PLANE SURFACES SUBMERGED IN LIQUIDS



$$P_B = \gamma H$$

P_B = Pressure at bottom of tank due to the liquid head

γ = Specific weight of the liquid

H = Head of liquid above the tank

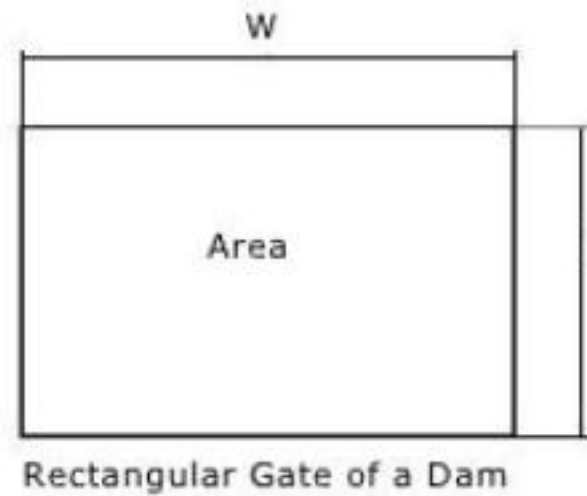
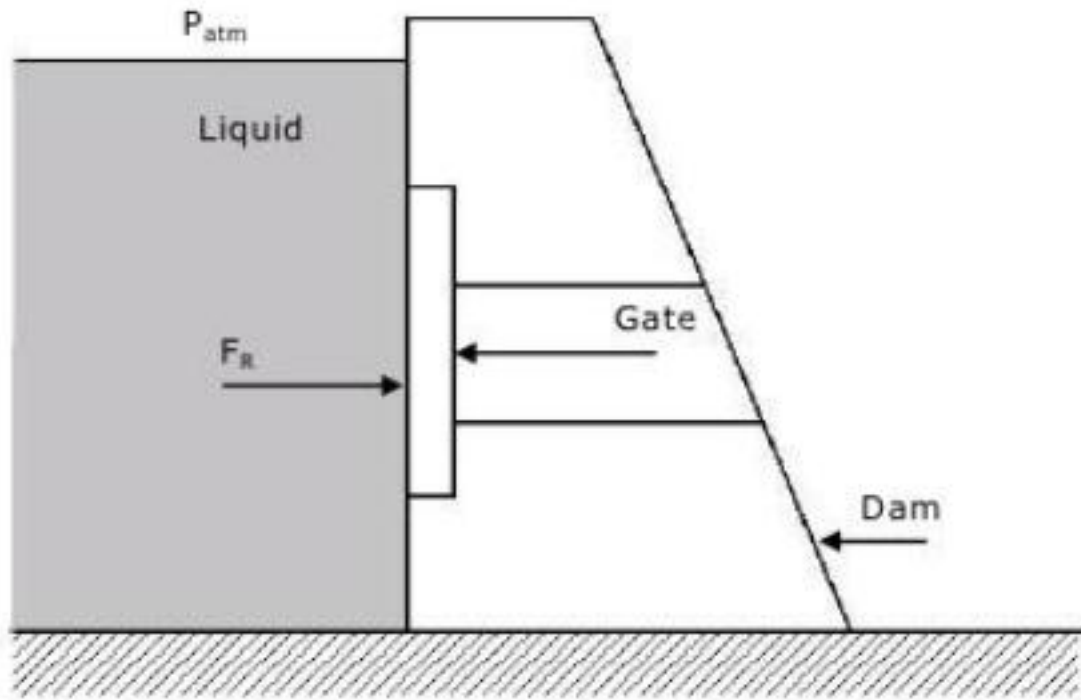
Magnitude of Resultant Force acting on the tank bottom is:

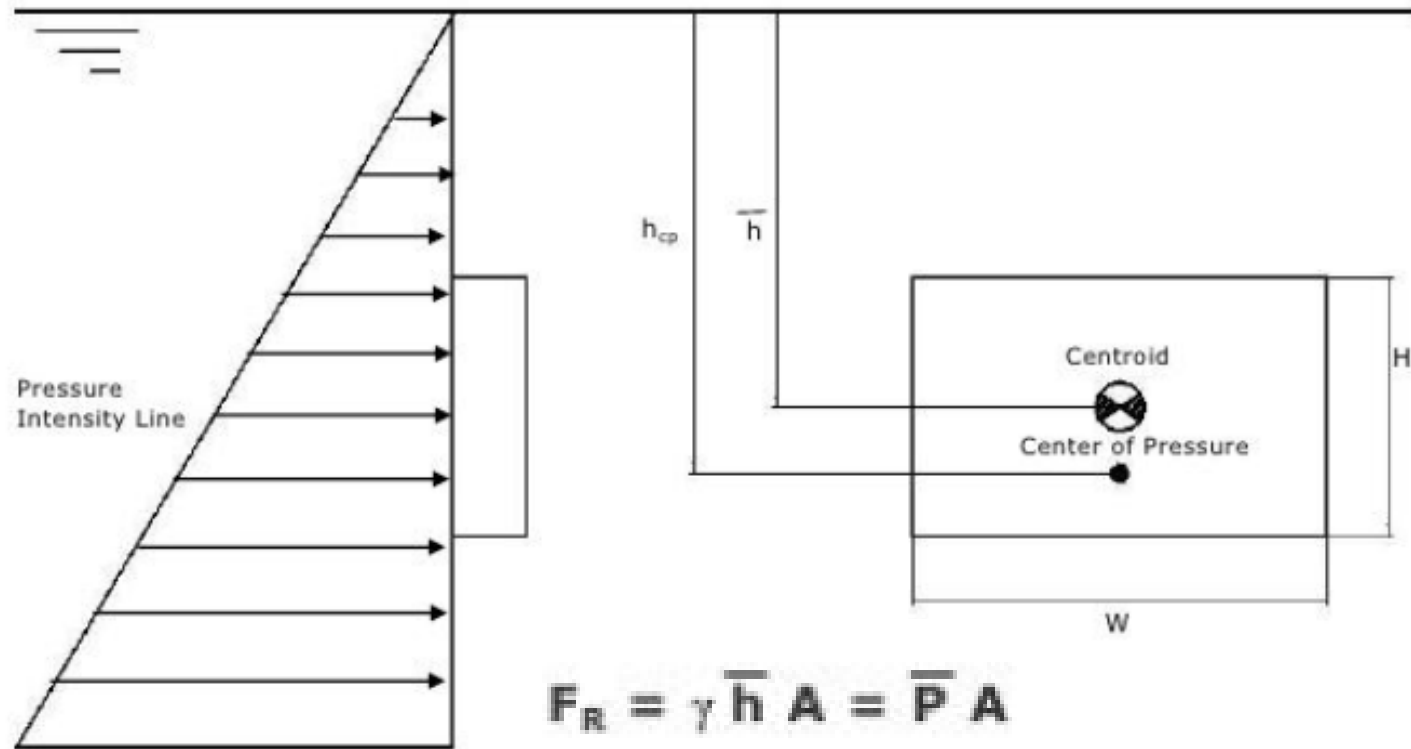
$$F_B = P_B A_B$$

A_B = Area of the tank bottom

Note: Pressure is constant, Resultant F_B acts at the centroid of the tank bottom area.

VERTICAL PLANE SURFACES SUBMERGED IN LIQUIDS





γ = Specific weight of liquid

\bar{h} = depth of the centroid of gate area

A = Area of gate

\bar{P} = Pressure at centroid of gate area

F_R = Resultant force on gate area / Hydrostatic force on the gate

Problem 2.1 A hydraulic press has a ram of 30 cm diameter and a plunger of 4.5 cm diameter. Find the weight lifted by the hydraulic press when the force applied at the plunger is 500 N.

Solution. Given :

Dia. of ram, $D = 30 \text{ cm} = 0.3 \text{ m}$

Dia. of plunger, $d = 4.5 \text{ cm} = 0.045 \text{ m}$

Force on plunger, $F = 500 \text{ N}$

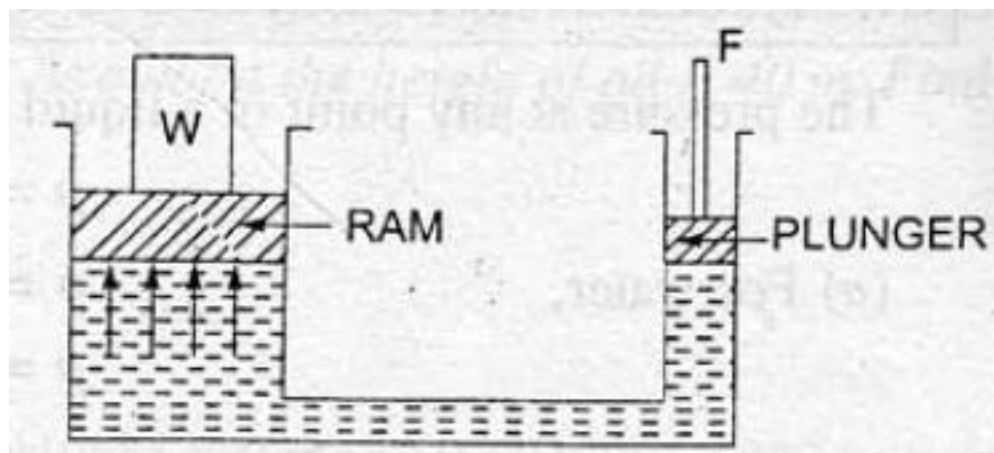
Find weight lifted $= W$

Area of ram, $A = \frac{\pi}{4} D^2 = \frac{\pi}{4} (0.3)^2 = 0.07068 \text{ m}^2$

Area of plunger, $a = \frac{\pi}{4} d^2 = \frac{\pi}{4} (0.045)^2 = .00159 \text{ m}^2$

Pressure intensity due to plunger

$$= \frac{\text{Force on plunger}}{\text{Area of plunger}} = \frac{F}{a} = \frac{500}{.00159} \text{ N/m}^2.$$



Due to Pascal's law, the intensity of pressure will be equally transmitted in all directions. Hence the pressure intensity at the ram

$$= \frac{500}{.00159} = 314465.4 \text{ N/m}^2$$

But pressure intensity at ram $= \frac{\text{Weight}}{\text{Area of ram}} = \frac{W}{A} = \frac{W}{.07068} \text{ N/m}^2$

$$\frac{W}{.07068} = 314465.4$$

Weight $= 314465.4 \times .07068 = 22222 \text{ N} = 22.222 \text{ kN}$