

**Spring 2014**

**PHYS-2010**

**Lecture 22**

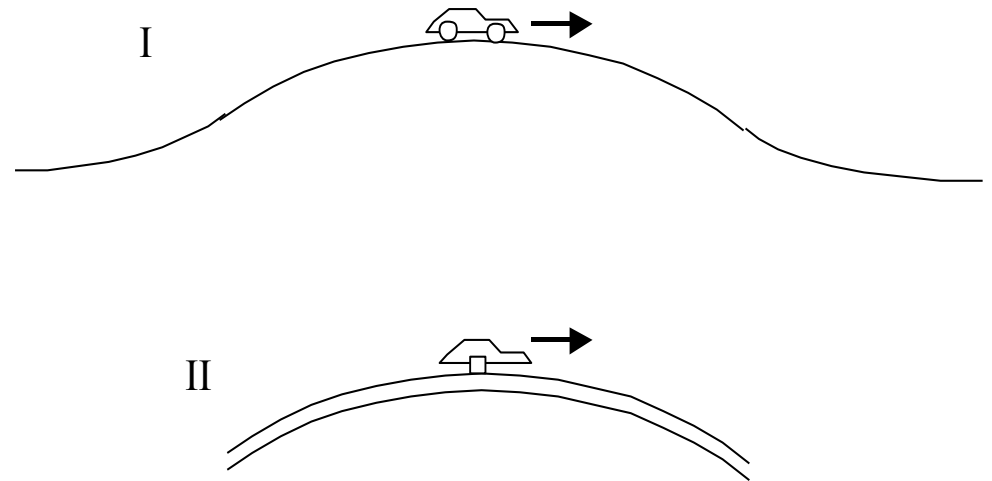
Consider the following two situations:

Situation I: A car on Earth rides over the top of a round hill, with radius of curvature  $R = 100$  m, at constant speed  $v = 35$  mph.

Situation II: A monorail car in intergalactic space (no gravity) moves along a round monorail, with radius of curvature  $R = 100$  m, at constant speed  $v = 35$  mph.

Which car experiences larger acceleration?

- A) Earth car
- B) Space car
- C) Both cars have the same acceleration.



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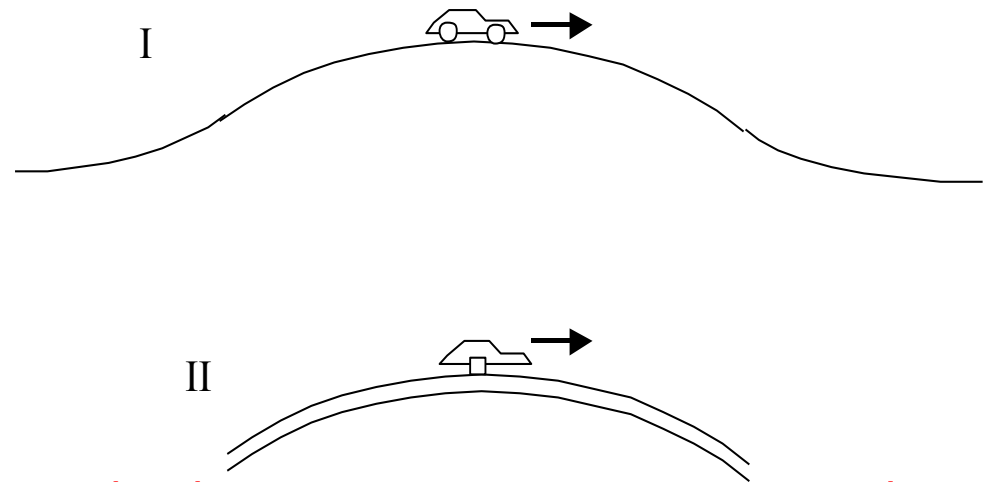
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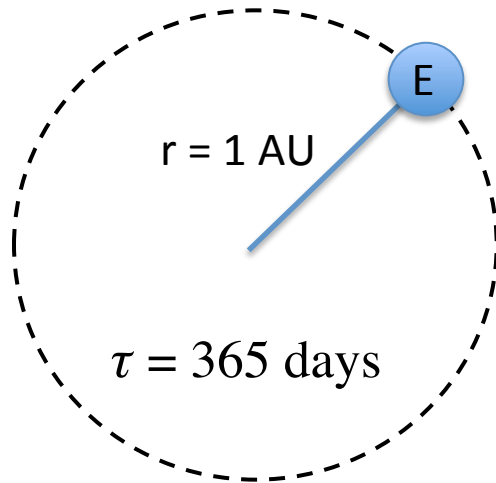


Both objects are moving on a circle of the same radius  $R$  at the same speed  $v$ . The magnitude of the acceleration is  **$a = v^2/R$** .

# Announcements

- Read Giancoli Chapter 5.
- **No Written homework** this week!
- **CAPA # 8** is due next Tuesday.
- **Midterm II** tomorrow, Thursday, March 6, at 7:30 pm.
- **Exam seating:**
  - if your TA is Rosemary Wulf or Andrew Hess, your exam is here, G1B30.
  - if your TA is Jake Fish or Clarissa Briner, your exam is next door, G1B20.
- More details about the exam are on the course website:  
[http://www.colorado.edu/physics/phys2010/phys2010\\_sp14/exams.html](http://www.colorado.edu/physics/phys2010/phys2010_sp14/exams.html)

The Earth circles the Sun at an average distance of  $1 \text{ AU} = 1.5 \times 10^{11} \text{ m}$  in 1 year.

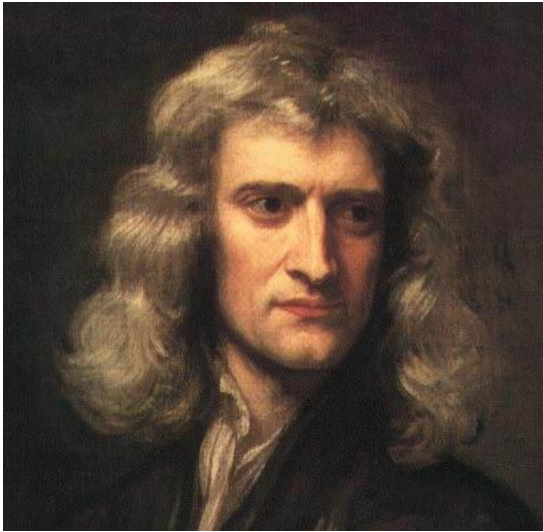


What's causing the centripetal acceleration?

- A) The electrostatic force between the Earth and Sun.
- B) The tension in the string connecting the Earth to the Sun.
- C) The force of gravity between the Earth and the Sun.
- D) Depends on the time of day.

# Newton's Law of Universal Gravitation

Insight: what keeps the Moon in orbit around the Earth and the Earth in orbit around the Sun is exactly the same thing that causes an “apple to fall from a tree”.

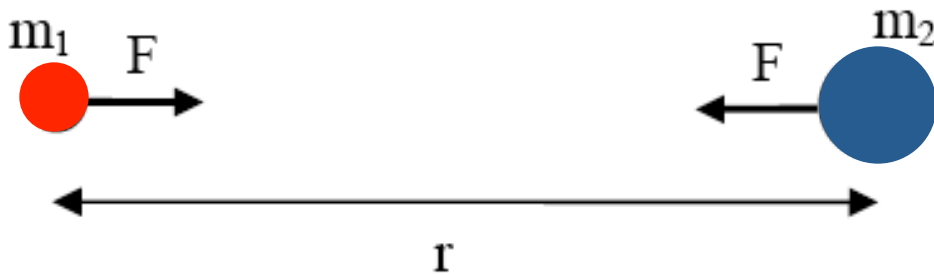


**“Every particle in the universe attracts every other particle.”**

# Newton's Law of Universal Gravitation

“Every particle in the universe attracts every other particle with a force proportional to the product of their masses and inversely proportional to the square of the distance between them.

The force points along the line joining the two particles.”



$$|\vec{F}|_{gravity} = G \frac{m_1 m_2}{r^2}$$

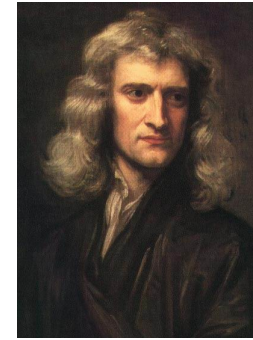
$$G \approx 6.67 \times 10^{-11} \text{ Nm}^2 / \text{kg}^2$$

*Gravitational Constant  
(Newton's Constant)*

# Universal Gravitation Verification

1687: Isaac Newton published Gravity Theory

$$|\vec{F}|_{gravity} = G \frac{m_1 m_2}{r^2}$$



1798: Henry Cavendish confirmed this formula experimentally and measured  $G$ .



1915: Albert Einstein's General Theory of Relativity explained why gravity behaves this way.





# How Strong is Gravity?

$m_1 = 70 \text{ kg}$



$m_2 = 70 \text{ kg}$

$r = 1 \text{ meter}$

$$|\vec{F}|_{gravity} = G \frac{m_1 m_2}{r^2} = \left( 6.67 \times 10^{-11} \frac{\text{Nm}^2}{\text{kg}^2} \right) \frac{(70\text{kg})(70\text{kg})}{(1\text{m})^2}$$

$$|\vec{F}|_{gravity} = 3.3 \times 10^{-7} \text{ Newtons} = 7.5 \times 10^{-8} \text{ Pounds}$$

That is about 1/60th the weight of a single hair!

# Big G, Little g

What is the force of gravity exerted by the Earth with mass  $M_E$  on a person of mass  $m$  on its surface?

Teach you I will !



$R_E$

$$|\vec{F}|_{gravity} = \frac{GM_E m}{R_E^2}$$

$$|\vec{F}|_{gravity} = \left(6.67 \times 10^{-11} \text{ Nm}^2 / \text{kg}^2\right) \frac{\left(5.98 \times 10^{24} \text{ kg}\right)}{\left(6.37 \times 10^6 \text{ m}\right)^2} m$$

$$|\vec{F}|_{gravity} = m \times \left(9.81 \text{ m} / \text{s}^2\right) \quad \text{Surprise, surprise !!}$$

$$|\vec{F}|_{gravity} = mg$$

Gravitational force on an object on the surface of the Earth!

# Who does the force act on?

$$m_1 = 70 \text{ kg}$$



$$m_2 = 70 \text{ kg}$$

$r = 1 \text{ meter}$

$$|\vec{F}|_{gravity} = 3.3 \times 10^{-7} \text{ Newtons}$$

**Answer = Both** – *Newton's 3<sup>rd</sup> law!*

Person #1 exerts a force on Person #2

Person #2 exerts a force on Person #1

Yoda is standing on the surface of the planet Dagobah.

Dagobah exerts a gravitational force  $F_{\text{Dagobah}}$  on Yoda, and Yoda exerts a gravitational force  $F_{\text{Yoda}}$  on Dagobah.

Strong is the Force with me!



Which of the following is correct:

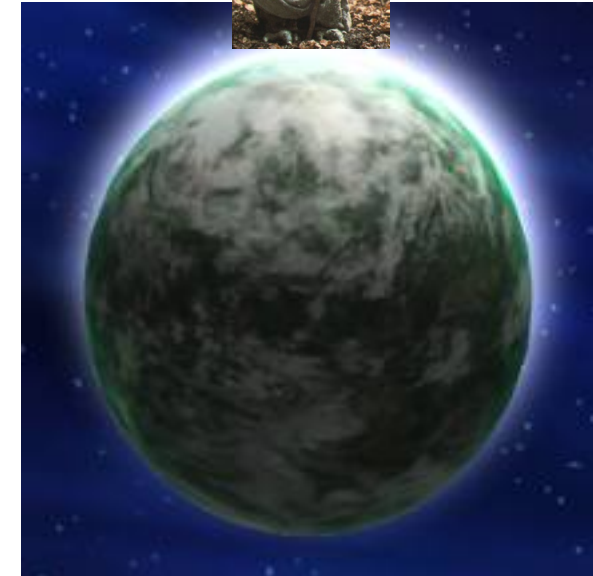
A)  $F_{\text{Dagobah}} > F_{\text{Yoda}}$

B)  $F_{\text{Dagobah}} < F_{\text{Yoda}}$

C)  $F_{\text{Dagobah}} = F_{\text{Yoda}}$

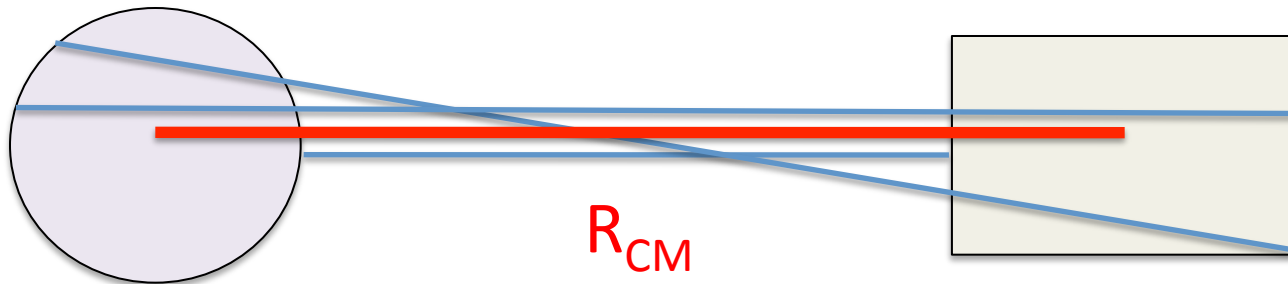
D) It's not so simple, we need more information.

**Newton's Third Law!**



# Extended Objects

Objects are extended in space.  
Newton's Law of Universal Gravitation is based on  
computing the distance between two objects,  
but which distance?



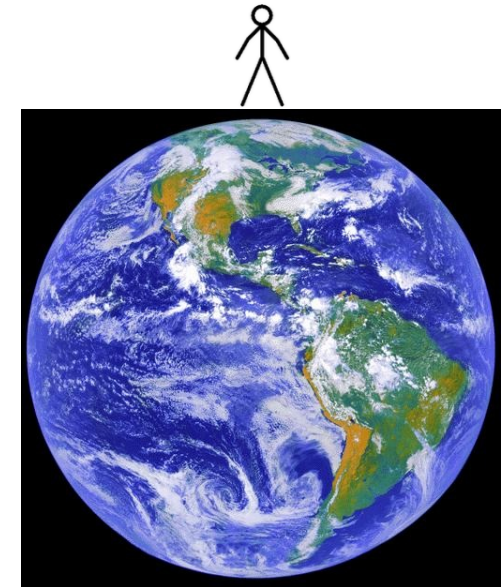
In fact, every part of object #1 exerts a gravitational attraction on every part of object #2, and vice versa.

When adding all vector components, we treat the force as acting between the “center of mass” of each object.

“Center of mass” for sphere = middle

You are on the surface of the Earth,  
and jump up for a second.

The Earth exerts a gravitational force  
on you  $\mathbf{F}_{\text{earth}}$ , and you exert a  
gravitational force on the Earth  $\mathbf{F}_{\text{person}}$ .



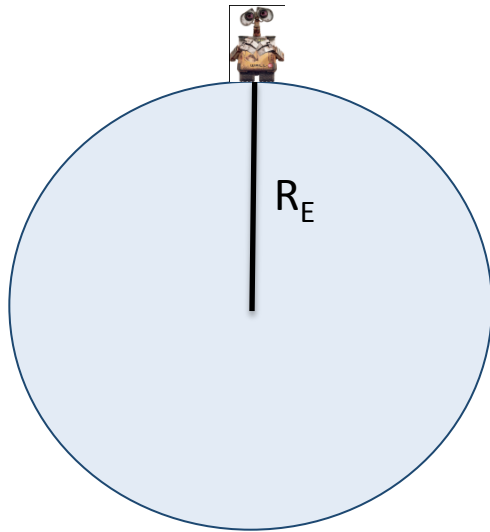
Which is correct about the accelerations of you and the Earth?

- A)  $a_{\text{earth}} > a_{\text{person}}$       $M_E a_E = G \frac{M_E M_p}{r^2} \implies a_E = G \frac{M_p}{r^2}$
- B)  $a_{\text{earth}} < a_{\text{person}}$**       $M_p a_p = G \frac{M_E M_p}{r^2} \implies a_p = G \frac{M_E}{r^2}$
- C)  $a_{\text{earth}} = a_{\text{person}}$

D) It's not so simple, we need more information.

# Weighing the Earth!

Consider the force of gravity exerted by the Earth's mass  $M$  on a person of mass  $m$  on its surface:



$$mg = F_g = G \frac{mM}{R_E^2} \rightarrow \boxed{g = a_g = G \frac{M}{R_E^2}}$$

We can use this to measure the mass of the Earth!

$$M_E = \frac{gR_E^2}{G} = \frac{9.8\text{m/s}^2 (6.37 \times 10^6 \text{m})^2}{6.67 \times 10^{-11} \text{Nm}^2/\text{kg}^2} = 5.98 \times 10^{24} \text{kg}$$



# International Space Station (ISS)



Circular orbit with altitude between 278 km and 460 km.

Average speed 27,000 km/hour and 15.7 orbits per day.

**Astronauts experience “weightlessness”.**





Astronauts aboard the International Space Station float around, experiencing weightlessness.

Why is this?

- A) The force of gravity from the earth is zero on the Space Station
- B) The force of gravity is much, much weaker on the Space Station
- C) The Space Station has the “inertial dampers” turned on.
- D) The Space Station is in circular orbit around the earth.
- E) The Space Station generates an anti-gravity field.