

Newtonian Gravitation

$$\vec{F} = -G \frac{mM}{r^2} \vec{e}_r$$



Force on m due to M.

\vec{e}_r is unit vector pointing from M to m.

$$r^2 \equiv |\vec{r}_m - \vec{r}_M|^2$$

Add forces linearly (due to different masses).

(Force on m)
$$\vec{F} = -Gm \int_V \frac{\rho(r) \vec{e}_r}{r^2} dv$$

$$\vec{e}_r = (\vec{r}_m - \vec{r}) / |\vec{r}_m - \vec{r}|$$
$$r^2 = |\vec{r}_m - \vec{r}|^2$$

Gravitational field \vec{g}

$$\vec{g} \equiv \frac{\vec{F}}{m} = \begin{cases} -G \frac{M}{r^2} \vec{e}_r & \text{Point mass } M \\ -G \int_V \frac{\rho(r) \vec{e}_r}{r^2} dv & \text{Distributed mass} \end{cases}$$

Gravitational potential Φ Potential energy per unit mass

$$-\vec{\nabla} \Phi = \vec{g}, \quad \Phi = -G \frac{M}{r} \quad (\text{for point mass})$$

Note that
$$\int_S \vec{g} \cdot d\vec{a} = -4\pi GM$$

for any surface S enclosing (total) mass M.

Generally:
$$\Phi(\vec{r}) = -G \int_V \frac{\rho(\vec{r}')}{|\vec{r} - \vec{r}'|} dv'$$

- $\int_S \vec{g} \cdot d\vec{a} = -4\pi G M$ $M = \text{enclosed mass}$

- $\int_V \rho \, dv = M$

- $\int_V \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{g} \, dv = \int_S \vec{g} \cdot d\vec{a}$ (Gauss' Law)

$$\int_V \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{g} \, dv = \int_V (-4\pi G \rho) \, dv \text{ for any } V$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{g} = -4\pi G \rho$$

$$\vec{g} = -\vec{\nabla} \Phi \Rightarrow \nabla^2 \Phi = +4\pi G \rho \text{ (Poisson)}$$

Wherever $\rho = 0$,
(outside bodies) $\nabla^2 \Phi = 0$ (Laplace)

Uniform spherical shell

- No gravitational force anywhere inside.
- Anywhere outside the force is the same as that of a point source at the shell's center with the total mass of the shell.



$$\begin{aligned}\Phi &= -G \int_S \frac{\rho}{r} da = -\int_0^\pi G \frac{\rho (2\pi a \sin\theta) a d\theta}{(R^2 + a^2 - 2aR \cos\theta)^{1/2}} \\ &= -\frac{GM}{2aR} [(R+a) - |R-a|] \\ &= \begin{cases} -\frac{GM}{R} & R > a \quad (\Leftrightarrow \text{Point source}) \\ -\frac{GM}{a} & R < a \quad (\text{No force}) \end{cases}\end{aligned}$$