

# Hydrostatic Force

In class we derived the formula:

$$F = \int_a^b \rho L(y) (h-y) dy$$

Annotations for the formula:

- $a$ : bottom of plate
- $b$ : top of plate
- $\rho$ : weight density
- $L(y)$ : length of a cross section
- $(h-y)$ : depth

★ This set up is if the x-axis is placed at the bottom of the plate.

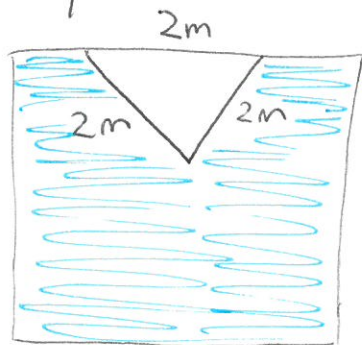
Examples from Calculus Books

by Stewart, Briggs / Cochran / Gillett, &

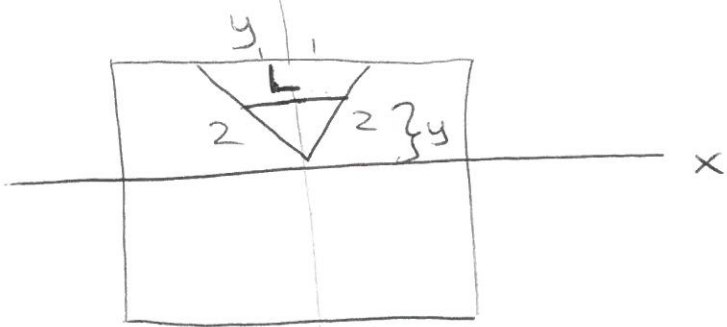
Larson / Hostetler / Edwards

**Ex 1** Find the hydrostatic force on the submerged vertical plate

Given:



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★ We need the height of the triangle.



$$2^2 = h^2 + 1 \quad h = \sqrt{3}$$

$$F = \int_a^b \rho L(y) (h-y) dy$$

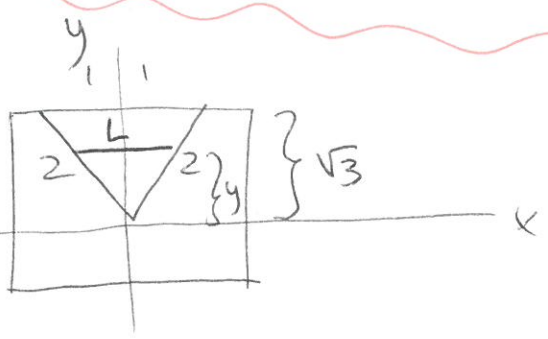
Length of a cross section is a function of y

$$F = \int_0^{\sqrt{3}} 1000(9.8) \left[ \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} y \right] (\sqrt{3} - y) dy \text{ N}$$

density of water  
gravity

$\rho$  would be given on a test

think how far your sample line is below the surface of the liquid.



We can find L with similar triangles (not the only way)

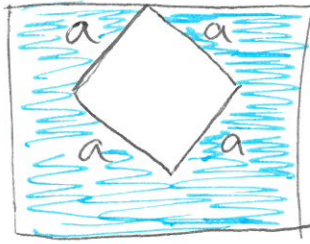
$$\frac{L}{y} = \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} \rightarrow L = \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} y$$

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Ex2

Find the hydrostatic force on the submerged vertical plate

Given:



★ This problem is a little tricky. I'm going to approach this as 2 problems, basically top triangle & bottom triangle.

Bottom triangle:

height:

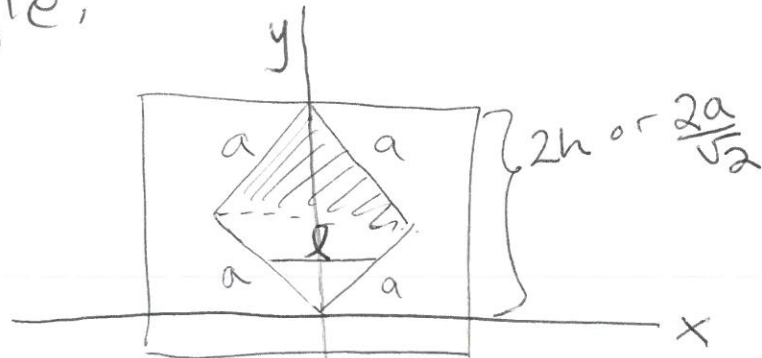


$$a^2 + a^2 = (2h)^2$$

$$2a^2 = 4h^2$$

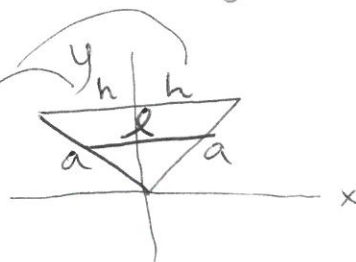
$$h = \sqrt{\frac{a^2}{2}} = \frac{a}{\sqrt{2}}$$

Diagonals of squares bisect each other



$$F_{\text{Bottom triangle}} = \int_0^{\frac{\sqrt{2}a}{2}} \rho (2y) \left( \frac{2a}{\sqrt{2}} - y \right) dy$$

we weren't given units

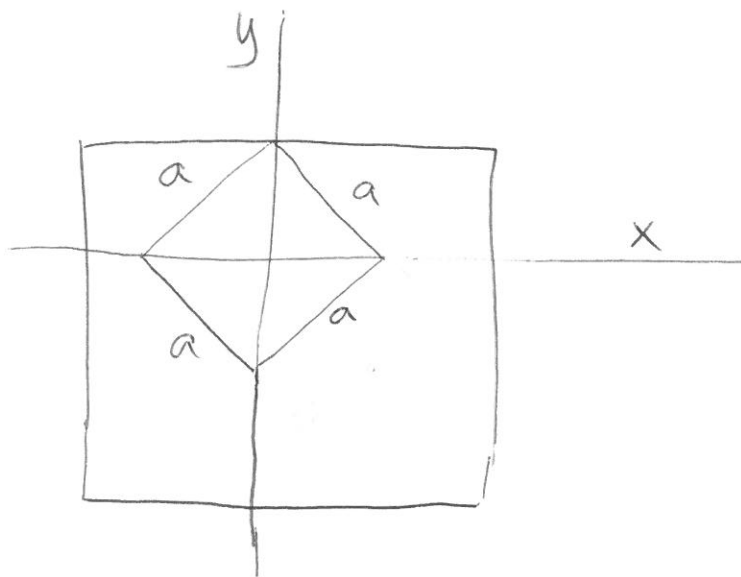


$$\frac{l}{y} = \frac{2h}{h} = 2$$

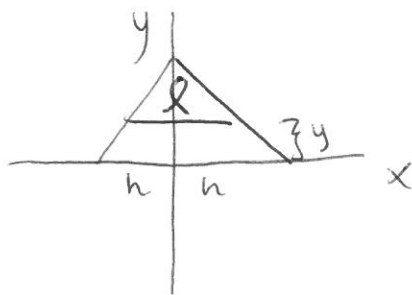
$$l = 2y$$

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Top triangle!  
I'm going to make  
my life easier &  
move the x-axis



$$F_{\text{Top triangle}} = \int_0^{\frac{a}{\sqrt{2}}} \rho \cdot 2 \left( \frac{a}{\sqrt{2}} - y \right) \left( \frac{a}{\sqrt{2}} - y \right) dy$$



$$\frac{l}{h-y} = \frac{2h}{h}$$

$$l = 2(h-y)$$

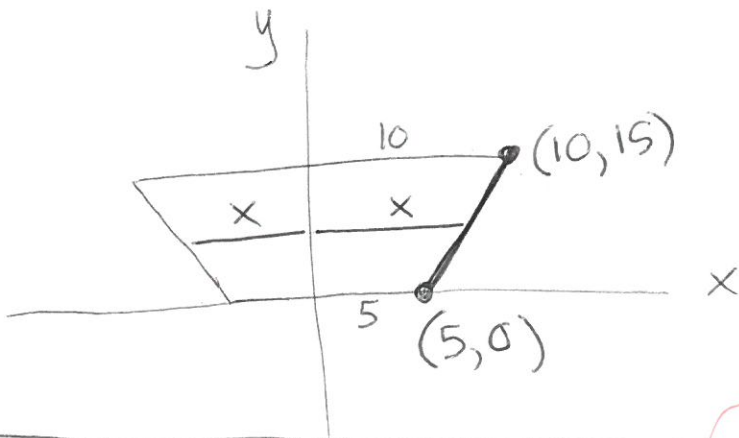
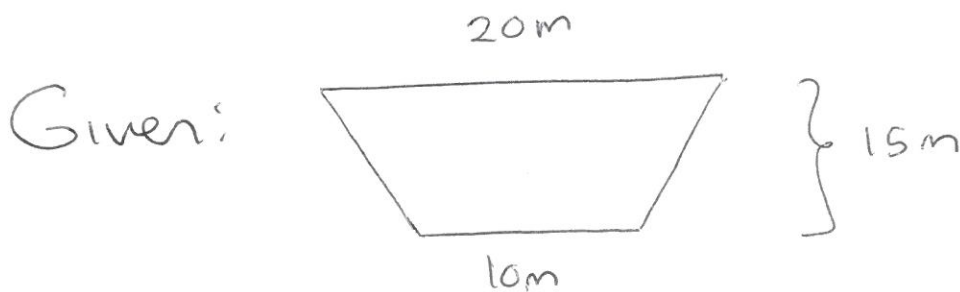
$$h = \frac{a}{\sqrt{2}} \text{ so}$$

$$l = 2 \left( \frac{a}{\sqrt{2}} - y \right)$$

$$\begin{aligned} F &= F_{\text{B.T.}} + F_{\text{T.T.}} = \int_0^{\frac{a}{\sqrt{2}}} \rho (2y) \left( \frac{2a}{\sqrt{2}} - y \right) dy + \int_0^{\frac{a}{\sqrt{2}}} \rho \cdot 2 \left( \frac{a}{\sqrt{2}} - y \right)^2 dy \\ &= \int_0^{\frac{a}{\sqrt{2}}} \rho (2\sqrt{2}ay - 2y^2) dy + \sqrt{2}a \int_0^{\frac{a}{\sqrt{2}}} \rho (a^2 - 2\sqrt{2}ay + 2y^2) dy \\ &= \int_0^{\frac{a}{\sqrt{2}}} \rho a^2 dy = \rho a^2 y \Big|_0^{\frac{a}{\sqrt{2}}} = \boxed{\rho \frac{a^3}{\sqrt{2}}} \end{aligned}$$

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**Ex 3** Assuming the water level is at the top of the dam, find the total force on the dam.



$L = 2x$ , similar triangles aren't easily applied to this problem. Instead we are going to find the equation of the line & solve for  $x$ .

$$m = \frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x} = \frac{15-0}{10-5} = 3$$

$$y = mx + b \rightarrow y = 3x + b$$

$(5, 0)$  is on our line so

$$0 = 3 \cdot 5 + b \quad b = -15$$

$$y = 3x - 15 \rightarrow \frac{y + 15}{3} = x$$

$$x = 5 + \frac{y}{3}$$

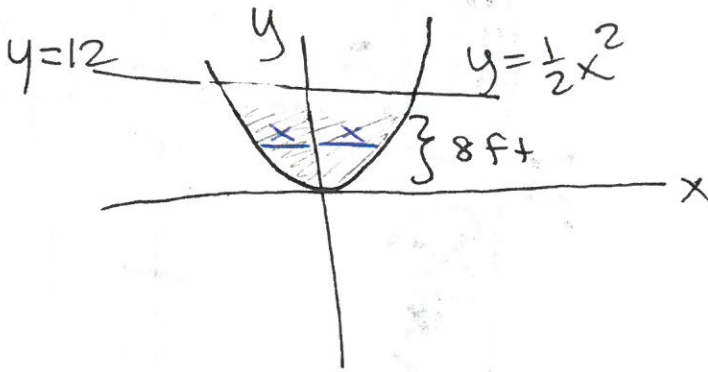
$$F = \int_0^{15} 1000(9.8) \left[ 2 \left( 5 + \frac{y}{3} \right) \right] (15 - y) dy \text{ N}$$

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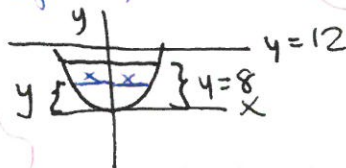
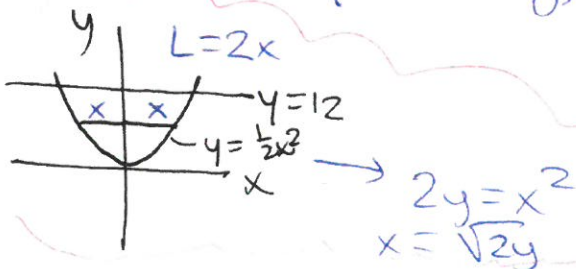
Ex 4

A large tank is designed with ends in the shape of the region between the curves  $y = \frac{1}{2}x^2$  &  $y = 12$ , measured in feet.

Find the hydrostatic force on one end of the tank if it is filled to a depth of 8 ft with gasoline,  $\rho = 42 \text{ lb/ft}^3$

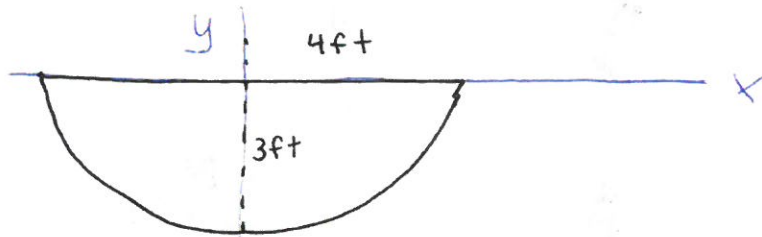


$$F = \int_0^8 \underbrace{42}_{\rho} \underbrace{2\sqrt{2y}}_{L(y)} \underbrace{(8-y)}_{\text{depth}} dy \text{ lb}$$

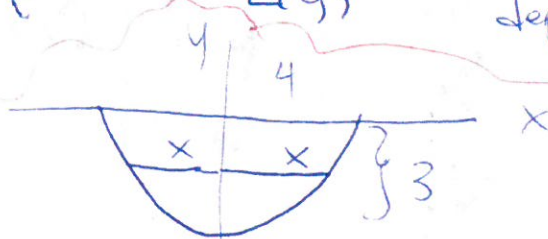


**Ex 5** The figure is the vertical side of a form for poured concrete that weighs  $140.7 \text{ lb/ft}^3$ . Determine the force on this part of the concrete form.

Semiellipse  $y = -\frac{3}{4} \sqrt{16-x^2}$



$$F = \int_{-3}^0 \underbrace{140.7}_p \left[ \underbrace{2\sqrt{16 - \frac{16}{9}y^2}}_{L(y)} \right] \underbrace{(-y)}_{\text{depth}} dy \text{ lb}$$



$$L = 2x$$

$$y = -\frac{3}{4} \sqrt{16-x^2}$$

$$-\frac{4}{3}y = \sqrt{16-x^2}$$

$$\frac{16}{9}y^2 = 16-x^2$$

$$x^2 = 16 - \frac{16}{9}y^2$$

$$x = \sqrt{16 - \frac{16}{9}y^2}$$

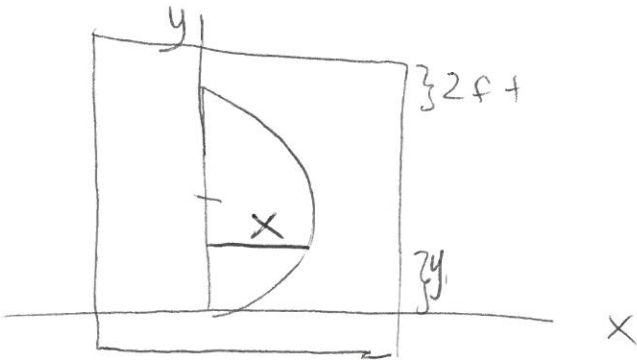
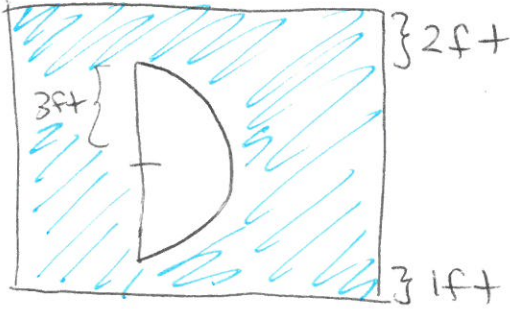
$$x \geq 0, \text{ since a distance}$$

★ This one would be harder if we move the x-axis, since the ellipse would also need to shift. Instead, I'll leave the x-axis where it is.

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**Ex 6** Find the hydrostatic force on the submerged vertical plate

Given:



$L(y) = x$ , our circle is centered at  $(0, 3)$  so  
 $(x-0)^2 + (y-3)^2 = 3^2$   
 $x = \sqrt{9 - (y-3)^2}$

$$F = \int_0^6 62.4 (\sqrt{9 - (y-3)^2}) (8-y) dy$$

(Annotations:  $62.4$  is  $\rho$  for  $H_2O$ , would be given;  $8-y$  is  $6+2$ ;  $dy$  is  $1b.$ )