

**6.4 Work** (Work = “total effort”)

The concept “work” measures energy expended in completing a task.

When a **constant** force is applied through a fixed distance, we define:

Work = Force · Distance (W = F · D)

*First, some units.*

Note: Force = Mass· Acceleration (F = m·a)

	Metric (SI) Units	Imperial Units
Mass		
Accel. (Earth)		
Force		
Dist.		
Work		

### ***Idea***

If force or distance change in some way during the task (i.e. NOT constant),

then break up the problem into subtasks,  
approximate each with Force · Dist,

and add up the approximations:

$$\text{Work} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^n (\text{Force} \cdot \text{Distance})$$

But, we must ***find the pattern*** for the force and distance for each subdivision.

### **PROBLEM TYPE 1: “LEAKY BUCKET”**

*Force changing.*

Moving an object from  $x = a$  to  $x = b$   
and  $f(x) = \text{“FORCE at } x\text{”}$

$\Delta x = \text{DISTANCE}$

$$\text{Work} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^n f(x_i) \Delta x = \int_a^b f(x) dx$$

**Examples** (of *LEAKY BUCKET*):

1. *Leaky bucket*: A leaking bucket is lifted 10 feet. At the bottom the bucket weighs 120 pounds and at the top the bucket weighs 100 pounds. Assume the water leaked out a constant rate as it was lifted.

How much work was done to lift the bucket?

## ***Just FYI: Other examples***

- *Springs* – A weight is attached to a spring which is attached to a wall.

*Hooke's law*: Force is proportional to the distance from natural length. That is, there is a constant  $k$  such that

$$f(x) = kx = \text{"FORCE to hold } x \text{ units beyond natural length."}$$

$$\Delta x = \text{DISTANCE}$$

- *Gravity* – Newton's Law of Gravitation

$$f(x) = G \frac{Mm}{x^2}$$

= "FORCE between two masses ( $M$  and  $m$ ) that are  $x$  apart"  
( $G$  is the gravitation constant)

$$\Delta x = \text{DISTANCE}$$

## PROBLEM TYPE 2: “STACK OF BOOKS”

*Force & dist. changing.*

In some problems, we subdivide and find

$d(x)$  = `DISTANCE lifted for subtask starting at  $x$ '

$f(x)$  = `density (force/length) of subtask at  $x$ '

$f(x)\Delta x$  = `FORCE of subtask at  $x$ '

$$\text{Work} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^n d(x_i) f(x_i) \Delta x = \int_a^b d(x) f(x) dx$$

*Examples:*

1. (Chains/Cables) You are lifting a heavy chain to the top of a building. The chain has a density of 3 lbs/foot. The chain hangs over the side by 25 feet before you start pulling it up. How much work is done in pulling the chain all the way to the top?

2. (Pumping Liquid) You are pumping water out of a tank. The tank is a rectangular box with a base of 2 ft by 3 ft and height of 10ft. The density of water is 62.5 lbs/ft<sup>3</sup>.

If the tank starts full, how much work is done in pumping all the water to the top and out over the side?