

PHYSICS 534

EXERCISE-18

Elasticity



Max von Laue received the Nobel prize for physics in 1914 for his work with crystal diffraction in X-rays.

von LAUE

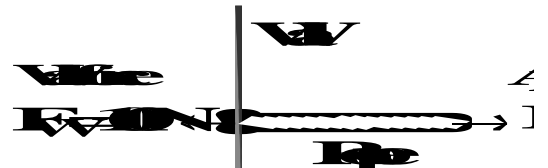
Two equal but opposite applied forces acting in parallel produce what is called a "stress".

A stress can be considered as a force "inside" a solid material produced by two parallel forces acting on the material. If the stress is *within* the "elastic limit" of the material, the material will return to its original shape when the stress is removed. If the stress causes the material to deform *beyond* its elastic limit, the material will be permanently deformed when the stress is removed.

Strain refers to the *deformation* a material undergoes due to a stress acting on it. The strain can be temporary when the stress acts *within* the elastic limit, or permanent when the stress acts *beyond* the elastic limit. Strain is simply the *shape* of the deformation.



Note: A wire (or string or rope) is under "tension" when pulled and has two *equal* but *opposite* forces acting on it. The *tension* is equal to the applied force pulling the wire (even though the resultant force is zero). In the illustration on the right, a rope is attached to a wall and is pulled with an applied force F_A equal to 100 N.



1. Define *elasticity*.

The ability of a material to be stretched.

2. Explain the difference between a perfectly *elastic* and a perfectly *inelastic* material.

In a perfectly elastic material, there is no energy loss.
In a perfectly inelastic material, there is total energy loss.



3. Define *stress*.

Two equal but opposite forces acting in parallel.

4. Define *strain*.

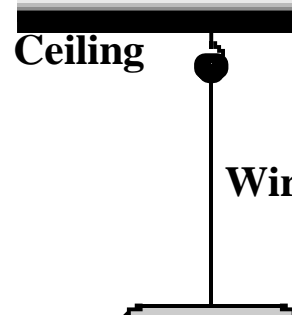
The deformation that an object undergoes due to a stress.

5. A 20 kg object is suspended from a ceiling by a wire.
What is the tension in the wire?

Since the object is at rest, $F_R = 0$.

Thus, $\Sigma F_{UP} = \Sigma F_{DOWN}$

$\therefore F_{UP} = (20 \text{ kg})(10 \text{ m/s}^2) = 200 \text{ N}$



6. List the *five* types of stress, draw the forces corresponding to the stresses acting on an object (under FORCES), and state the strain associated with each stress:

Write the STRESS	Draw the FORCES	Write the STRAIN
a) Tension		Stretched
b) Compression		Shortened
c) Bending		Bent
d) Twisting		Twisted
e) Shearing		Warped