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Centre of gravity, Centre of Pressure,  
Floating bodies, Atmospheric pressure.

Centre of gravity of a body

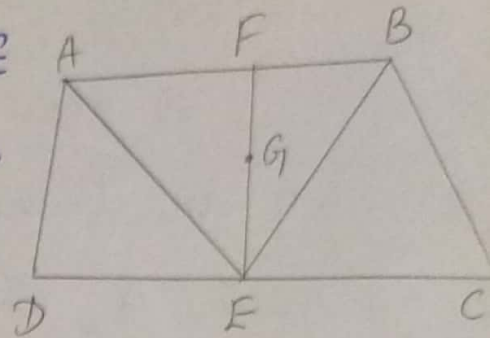
A rigid body may be regarded as made up of an indefinitely large number of particles each of which is attracted towards the centre of the earth by the force of gravity. These forces constitute a system of like parallel forces since the body is very small when compared to the distance of the centre of the earth. These resultant of these approximately parallel forces known as the weight of the body always act through a point which is fixed relative to the body whatever be the position of the body. This fixed point is called the centre of gravity of body.

2m Centre of gravity (Definition)

The centre of gravity of a body may therefore be defined as a point through which the line of action of the weight of the body always passes in what so manner the body is placed.

② Centre of gravity of a trapezoidal lamina :

Let ABCD be a trapezoidal lamina whose the length of the parallel sides AB and CB are  $2a$  and  $2b$  respectively. Let F & E be the midpoint of AB & CD. Join AE & BE. The trapezoidal lamina is divided into three triangular lamina ADE, AEB and BCE



The weights of the triangular laminae ADE, AEB and BEC are proportional to their areas which in turn are proportional to their bases  $b$ ,  $2a$  and  $b$  respectively. Since the altitudes of the triangle are equal.

The weight of the AEB is proportional to  $2a$  and is equivalent to  $\frac{2a}{3}$ ,  $\frac{2a}{3}$  and  $\frac{2a}{3}$  at A, E and B respectively. The weight of the ADE is proportional to  $b$  and is equivalent to  $\frac{b}{3}$ ,  $\frac{b}{3}$  and  $\frac{b}{3}$  at A, D and E respectively. The weight of BEC is proportional to  $b$  and is equivalent to  $\frac{b}{3}$ ,  $\frac{b}{3}$ ,  $\frac{b}{3}$  at B, E and C respectively.

The weights  $\frac{2a}{3} + \frac{b}{3}$  at A and B are

equivalent to  $\frac{4a+2b}{3}$  at P

Similarly,  $\frac{1}{3}b$  at D and  $\frac{1}{3}b$  at C are equivalent to  $\frac{2b}{3}$  at E.

The total weight at E is proportional to

$$\frac{2a}{3} + \frac{4b}{3} \text{ or } \frac{2a+4b}{3} \text{ at E}$$

The resultant of  $\frac{4a+2b}{3}$  at P and  $\frac{2a+4b}{3}$  at E will act equally, such that

$$\left(\frac{4a+2b}{3}\right) PG = \left(\frac{2a+4b}{3}\right) GE$$

$$\left(\frac{4a+2b}{3}\right) \frac{PG}{GE} = \frac{2a+4b}{3}$$

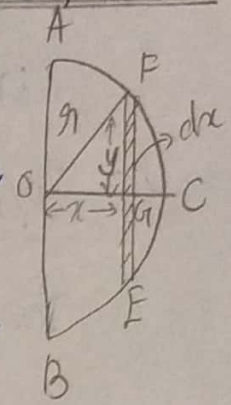
$$\frac{PG}{GE} = \left[\frac{2a+4b}{3}\right] \left[\frac{3}{4a+2b}\right]$$

$$\frac{PG}{GE} = \frac{2a+4b}{4a+2b} \Rightarrow \frac{PG}{GE} = \frac{2(a+2b)}{2(2a+b)}$$

$$\frac{PG}{GE} = \frac{a+2b}{2a+b}$$

### ③ Centre of gravity of a Solid Hemisphere:

Let ACB represent a section of a solid hemisphere of radius 'r' and centre 'O' and let  $\omega$  be the weight per unit volume of the material of the hemisphere. Consider a thin slice of the hemisphere of thickness  $dx$  at distance  $x$  from O. Let  $y$  be the radius of the slice.



At  $\Delta OGF$ , by Pythagoras theorem,

$$x^2 + y^2 = r^2$$

$$y^2 = r^2 - x^2$$

$$y = \sqrt{r^2 - x^2}$$

Then

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{Volume of the} \\ \text{slice} \end{array} \right\} = \pi (\sqrt{r^2 - x^2})^2 dx$$
$$= \pi (r^2 - x^2) dx$$

$$\text{Weight of the slice} = \pi \omega (r^2 - x^2) dx$$

Distance of the centre of gravity of the slice from O =  $x$

$$\text{Moment of the weight of the slice about O} = \pi \omega (r^2 - x^2) dx \times x.$$

$$= \pi \omega (r^2 - x^2) x dx$$

(3)

Algebraic sum of the moments of all such slice into which the solid hemisphere could be divided

$$= \int_0^r \pi \omega (r^2 - x^2) x dx \quad \rightarrow (1)$$

$$\text{Weight of the hemisphere} = \omega \cdot \frac{2}{3} \pi r^3$$

Let the centre of gravity of the hemisphere from O be  $\bar{x}$

$$\text{The moment of weight of the hemisphere about O} \\ = \frac{2}{3} \pi \omega r^3 \times \bar{x} \quad \rightarrow (2)$$

Then equal the two moments, (1) & (2),

$$\frac{2}{3} \pi \omega r^3 \bar{x} = \int_0^r \pi \omega (r^2 - x^2) x dx$$

$$\frac{2}{3} \pi \omega r^3 \bar{x} = \pi \omega \int_0^r (r^2 - x^2) x dx$$

$$\frac{2}{3} \pi \omega r^3 \bar{x} = \pi \omega \int_0^r (r^2 x - x^3) dx$$

$$\frac{2}{3} \pi \omega r^3 \bar{x} = \pi \omega \left[ \frac{r^2 x^2}{2} - \frac{x^4}{4} \right]_0^r$$

$$\frac{2}{3} \pi \omega r^3 \bar{x} = \pi \omega \left[ \frac{r^2 \cdot r^2}{2} - \frac{r^4}{4} \right] - 0$$

$$\frac{2}{3} \pi r^3 \bar{x} = \pi \omega \left[ \frac{r^4}{2} - \frac{r^4}{4} \right]$$

$$\frac{2}{3} r^3 \bar{x} = \frac{4r^4 - 2r^4}{8}$$

$$\frac{2}{3} r^3 \bar{x} = \frac{2r^4}{8}$$

$$\frac{2}{3} \bar{x} = \frac{r}{4}$$

$$\bar{x} = \frac{r}{4} \cdot \frac{3}{2}$$

$$\bar{x} = \frac{3}{8} r$$

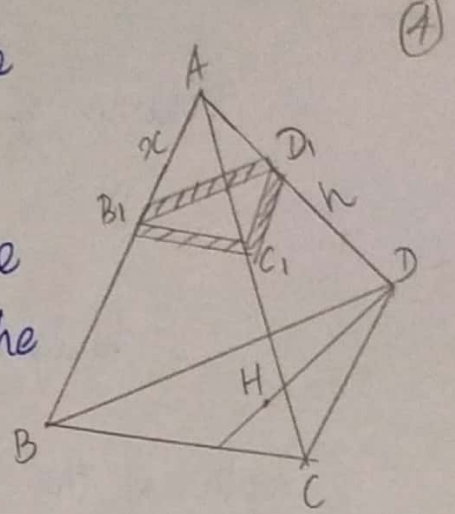
Hence, the centre of gravity of a solid hemisphere is at distance  $\frac{3}{8}r$  from the centre of hemisphere.

④ Centre of gravity of a solid tetrahedron:

Let ABCD be a solid tetrahedron whose base is BCD and whose vertex is A. Let  $h$  be the altitude of the tetrahedron and  $H$  the centre of gravity of its triangular base. The centre of gravity of the tetrahedron obviously lies on the line AH.

Consider a slice B<sub>1</sub>C<sub>1</sub>D<sub>1</sub> of the tetrahedron of thickness  $dx$  at a depth  $x$  below A, the plane

of the slice being parallel to the base  $BCD$ . Let  $S$  be the area of the triangular base  $BCD$  and  $w$  be the weight per unit volume of the tetrahedron.



$$\text{We have, } \frac{B_1C_1}{BC} = \frac{x}{h}$$

Also, if  $a_1$  and  $a$  be the altitudes of triangles  $B_1C_1D_1$  and  $BCD$  respectively.

$$\frac{a_1}{a} = \frac{x}{h}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Area of } \Delta B_1C_1D_1 &= \frac{1}{2} \text{ base} \times \text{height} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} B_1C_1 \times a_1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Area of } \Delta BCD = \frac{1}{2} BC \times a = S$$

Here,

$$\frac{\text{Area of } \Delta B_1C_1D_1}{S} = \frac{B_1C_1 a_1}{BC a}$$

$$\frac{\text{Area of } \Delta B_1C_1D_1}{S} = \frac{x^2}{h^2}$$

$$\text{Area of } \Delta B_1C_1D_1 = \frac{x^2}{h^2} S$$

$$\text{Volume of the slice } B, C, D, = \frac{Sx^2}{h^2} dx$$

[Area  $\times$  thickness]

$$\text{Weight of the slice} = \frac{hSx^2}{h^2} dx$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{Depth of the C.G. of the} \\ \text{slice below A} \end{array} \right\} = x$$

$$\text{Moment of the slice about A} = \frac{hSx^2}{h^2} dx \cdot x$$

$$A = \frac{hSx^3}{h^2} dx$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{Sum of the moments of the} \\ \text{slice in tetrahedron} \end{array} \right\} = \int_0^h \frac{hS}{h^2} x^3 dx$$

$$= \frac{hS}{h^2} \int_0^h [x^3] dx$$

$$= \frac{hS}{h^2} \left[ \frac{x^4}{4} \right]_0^h$$

$$= \frac{hS}{h^2} \left[ \frac{h^4}{4} - 0 \right]$$

$$= \frac{hSh^4}{h^2 \cdot 4}$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{Sum of the moments} \\ \text{of slice} \end{array} \right\} = \frac{hSh^2}{4} \rightarrow \textcircled{1}$$



(5)

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Volume of the whole tetrahedron} &= \int_0^h \frac{Sx^2}{h^2} dx \\ &= \frac{S}{h^2} \int_0^h [x^2] dx \\ &= \frac{S}{h^2} \left[ \frac{x^3}{3} \right]_0^h \\ &= \frac{S}{h^2} \left[ \frac{h^3}{3} - 0 \right] \\ &= \frac{Sh}{3} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Weight of the whole tetrahedron} &= \frac{1}{3} Sh \times k \\ &= \frac{1}{3} kSh \end{aligned}$$

Let  $\bar{x}$  be the depth of C.G. of below A

$$\text{The moment of tetrahedron about A} = \frac{1}{3} kSh \times \bar{x}$$

$$\text{The moment of tetrahedron about A} = \frac{1}{3} kSh \bar{x} \rightarrow \textcircled{2}$$

Then, equal the moments ① & ②

$$\frac{1}{3} kSh \bar{x} = \frac{1}{4} kSh^2$$

$$\frac{1}{3} \bar{x} = \frac{1}{4} h$$

$$\bar{x} = \frac{3}{4} h$$

The centre of gravity of the tetrahedron lies at a point  $G$  on the line such that  $AG:GH = 3:1$

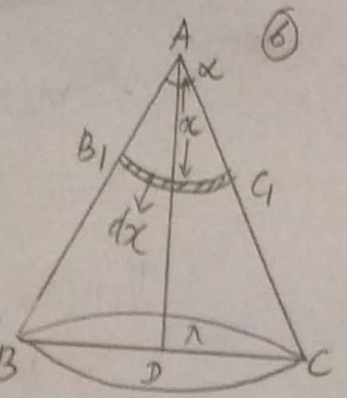
⑤ Centre of gravity of a right solid cone :

When the number of sides of the base of a pyramid is indefinitely increased the pyramid reduces approximately to a right solid cone. Hence, the centre of gravity of a solid cone of height  $h$  lies on line joining the vertex to the centre of the circular base at a depth  $\frac{3}{4}h$  from the vertex of the cone.

The centre of gravity of a right solid cone can be derived from the first principles as follows

Let  $ABC$  be a section of a right solid cone of height  $h$  and let the radius of the base be  $r$ . Let  $D$  be the centre of the base. Join  $AD$ . Then  $AD=h$  is the altitude of the cone. Consider a slice  $B_1C_1$  of the cone parallel to the plane base of width  $dx$  at depth  $x$  below the vertex  $A$ . If  $y$  be the radius of slice, then  $y = x \tan \alpha$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Volume of the slice} &= \pi y^2 dx \\ &= \pi x^2 \tan^2 \alpha dx\end{aligned}$$

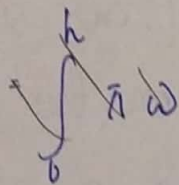


If  $\bar{w}$  be the weight per unit volume of the cone, the weight of the slice =  $\bar{w} \pi x^2 \tan^2 \alpha dx$

$$\text{Moment of the slice about A} = \bar{w} \pi x^3 \tan^2 \alpha dx$$

Sum of the moments of all such slices in the cone about A

$$= \int_0^h \bar{w} \pi x^3 \tan^2 \alpha dx$$



$$= \bar{w} \pi \tan^2 \alpha \int_0^h x^3 dx$$

$$= \bar{w} \pi \tan^2 \alpha \left[ \frac{x^4}{4} \right]_0^h$$

$$= \bar{w} \pi \tan^2 \alpha \frac{h^4}{4}$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} \bar{w} \pi h^4 \tan^2 \alpha \rightarrow \textcircled{1}$$

$$\text{Volume of the whole cone} = \frac{1}{3} \bar{w} \pi h^3 \tan^2 \alpha$$

$$\text{Weight of the cone} = \frac{1}{3} \bar{w} \pi h^3 \tan^2 \alpha$$

Let  $\bar{x}$  be the depth of the centre of gravity below A.

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{Moment of the weight of} \\ \text{the cone about A} \end{array} \right\} = \frac{1}{3} \pi w \tan^2 \alpha h^3 \bar{x}$$

Hence,

$$\frac{1}{3} \pi w h^3 \tan^2 \alpha \cdot \bar{x} = \frac{1}{4} w \pi h^4 \tan^2 \alpha$$

$$\frac{1}{3} \bar{x} = \frac{1}{4} h$$

$$\bar{x} = \frac{3}{4} h$$

### b) Centre of Pressure:

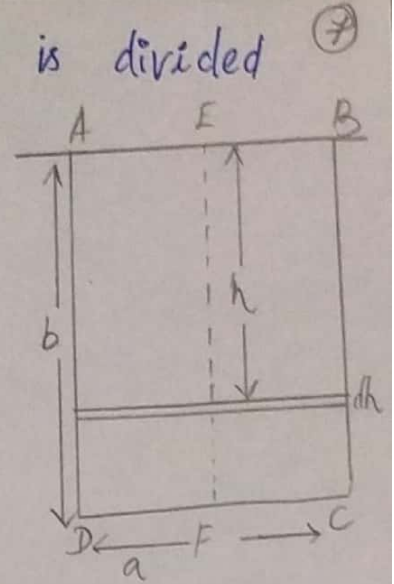
Centre of pressure of a plane surface in contact with a fluid is a point on the surface through which the line of action of the resultant of the thrusts on the various elements of the area passes.

### c) Rectangular lamina:

Centre of pressure of a rectangular lamina, immersed in a homogeneous liquid at rest with one side on the surface not subjected to any external pressure

Suppose a rectangle ABCD is immersed in a liquid of density  $\rho$  with the side AB in the surface

Let  $AB = a$  and  $AD = b$ . If rectangle is divided into a number of narrow strips are parallel to  $AB$  of width  $dh$ . Then considering one such strip at a depth  $h$  below the surface of the liquid. We have the area of the strip is  $dh$  and the thrust acting on it is  $h\rho gadh$



The moment of this about  $AB$  is  $h^2\rho gadh$

The sum of the moments on all the strips 
$$= \int_0^b h^2\rho gadh$$

The resultant of all the thrusts on all the strips 
$$= \int_0^b h\rho gadh \rightarrow (1)$$

The moment of this resultant about  $AB$  
$$= H \int_0^b h\rho gadh \rightarrow (2)$$

where,  $H$  is the depth of the centre of pressure below  $AB$ .

Then equate (1) & (2).

$$\int_0^b h^2\rho gadh = H \int_0^b h\rho gadh$$

$$\rho ga \int_0^b h^2 dh = H \rho ga \int_0^b h dh$$

$$\rho g a \left[ \frac{h^3}{3} \right]_0^b = H \rho g a \left[ \frac{h^2}{2} \right]_0^b$$

$$\frac{b^3}{3} = H \frac{b^2}{2}$$

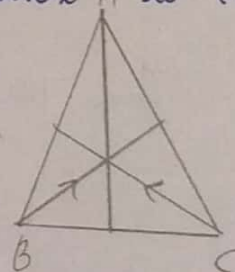
$$\frac{b}{3} = \frac{H}{2}$$

$$H = \frac{2b}{3}$$

It is clear from symmetry that the centre of pressure will lie on EF <sup>where</sup> E and F are midpoints of AB and DC

### ⑧ Triangular lamina :

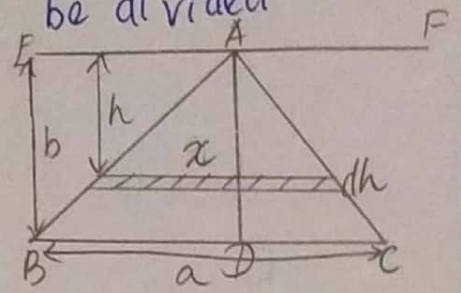
Triangular lamina which means the median of a triangle is a line from a vertex to the midpoint of the opposite side.



5m Centre of pressure of triangular lamina immersed in a liquid with its vertex on the surface and base horizontal nor subjected to any external pressure:

Consider a triangular lamina of base  $a$  immersed vertically in a liquid of density  $\rho$ . Its vertex  $A$  in the surface  $EF$  of the liquid

the base BC horizontal at a depth  $b$  below the surface. Let the triangle be divided into a number of elementary strips of width  $dh$  all parallel to the base BC.



Consider a strip of length  $x$  at a depth  $h$  below the surface EF. The area of strip is  $x dh$  and the thrust on it  $h \rho g x dh$  and the moment of this about EF is  $h^2 \rho g x dh$ .

By similar triangle,

$$\frac{x}{h} = \frac{a}{b}$$

$$x = \frac{ah}{b}$$

Substituting this value in the above expression,

We have the moment =  $\frac{ah^3 \rho g dh}{b} \rightarrow \text{①}$

The sum of the moment due to all the strips

$$= \int_0^b \frac{ah^3 \rho g dh}{b}$$

The resultant of the thrusts on all the strips

$$= \int_0^b \frac{ah^2 \rho g dh}{b}$$

The moment of this resultant thrust about EF

$$= H \int_0^b \frac{ah^3 \rho g dh}{b}$$

where H is the depth of the centre of pressure below EF.

Hence

$$\int_0^b \frac{ah^3 \rho g dh}{b} = H \int_0^b \frac{ah^2 \rho g dh}{b}$$

$$\frac{a \rho g}{b} \int_0^b (h^3) dh = H \frac{a \rho g}{b} \int_0^b (h^2) dh$$

$$\left[ \frac{h^4}{4} \right]_0^b = H \left[ \frac{h^3}{3} \right]_0^b$$

$$\frac{b^4}{4} = H \frac{b^3}{3}$$

$$\frac{b}{4} = \frac{H}{3}$$

$$\boxed{H = \frac{3b}{4}}$$

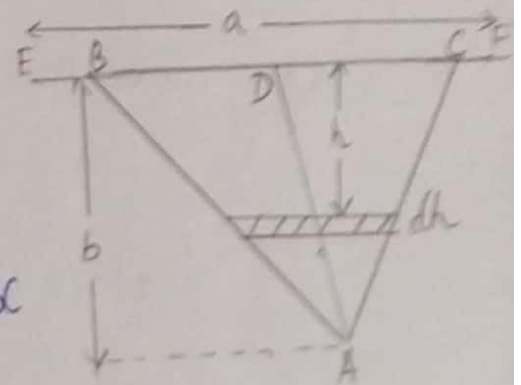
Hence, the Centre of pressure lies  $\phi$  in the median AD at a depth  $\frac{3}{4}b$  below the surface at a distance of  $\frac{3}{4}AD$  from A.

- ⑨ Centre of pressure of a triangular lamina immersed in a liquid with one side on the surface not subject to any external pressure;



Consider a triangular lamina of base  $a$  immersed vertically in a liquid of density  $\rho$  with the side  $BC$  in the surface of the liquid. Let  $b$  be the depth of the vertex  $A$  below one surface. Suppose the area is divided into an indefinitely large number of narrow strips each of width  $dh$  parallel to the base  $BC$ .

Consider a strip of length  $x$  at a depth  $h$  below  $BC$ . The thrust on it is  $h\rho g x dh$  and the moment of this about  $BC$  is  $h^2 \rho g x dh$ .



But, by similar triangles,

$$\frac{x}{a} = \frac{b-h}{b}$$

$$x = \frac{a(b-h)}{b}$$

The moment of the thrust on the strip

$$= \frac{h^2 \rho g a (b-h) dh}{b}$$

The sum of the moments of the thrusts on all the strips

$$= \int_0^b \frac{ah^2 \rho g (b-h) dh}{b}$$

The resultant of the thrusts on all the strips

$$= \int_0^b h \rho g x dh$$

and moment of this about BC

$$= H \int_0^b \frac{ah(b-h)\rho g dh}{b}$$

where H is the depth of the centre of pressure below the base BC

Hence,

$$\int_0^b \frac{ah^2(b-h)\rho g dh}{b} = H \int_0^b \frac{ah(b-h)\rho g dh}{b}$$

$$\frac{a\rho g}{b} \int_0^b h^2(b-h) dh = H \frac{a\rho g}{b} \int_0^b h(b-h) dh$$

$$\int_0^b (h^2b - h^3) dh = H \int_0^b (hb - h^2) dh$$

$$\left[ \frac{bh^3}{3} - \frac{h^4}{4} \right]_0^b = H \left[ \frac{bh^2}{2} - \frac{h^3}{3} \right]_0^b$$

$$\left[ \frac{b^4}{3} - \frac{b^4}{4} \right] = H \left[ \frac{b^3}{2} - \frac{b^3}{3} \right]$$

$$\frac{b^4}{12} = H \frac{b^3}{6}$$

$$b/12 = H/6$$

$$H = \frac{6b}{12}$$

$$H = \frac{b}{2}$$

the resultant thrust on each strip passes through its midpoint and since AD is the median, the resultant of the thrusts on all the strips must pass through the point in AD. Hence the centre of pressure lies on the median AD at a depth  $\frac{1}{2}b$  below BC or at a distance of  $\frac{1}{2}AD$  from D.

In all the cases discussed above, we have taken the lamina to be immersed vertically. However, the result is same even if the lamina is inclined at angle  $\theta$  with the vertical. If  $H$  &  $h$  reckoned as distances measured along the plane of the lamina, the vertical components of  $H$  and  $h$  are  $H \cos \theta$  and  $h \cos \theta$  and the expression becomes,

$$\int h \cos \theta \rho g ds = H \int h^2 \cos \theta \rho g ds$$

$$\int h ds = H \int h^2 ds$$

Hence, the result is same.

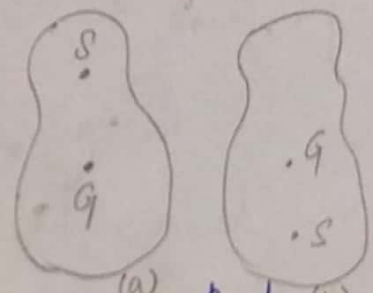
(i) Conditions of equilibrium of a floating body:

⇒ the weight of the liquid displaced by the immersed part must be equal to the weight of the body

⇒ the centre of gravity and the centre of buoyancy of the body should be along the same vertical line

(ii) Stability of equilibrium of a floating body:

A freely suspended body is in equilibrium, if the centre of gravity of the body is vertically below or above or the point of suspension. But the equilibrium is stable, only if the centre of gravity of the body is below the point of suspension and unstable [fig (a)]. If the centre of gravity of the body is about <sup>ve</sup> the point of suspension.



We have already seen that a floating body will be in equilibrium provided the weight of the displaced liquid is equal to the weight of the floating body and that of the displaced liquid lie in the same vertical line but the

equilibrium and may or may not be stable. (11)  
Another condition has got to be satisfied for the equilibrium to be stable.

When a body floats freely in a liquid, the resultant thrust acts through the centre of gravity of the liquid displaced. This point is called the centre of buoyancy.

When a body floats in a liquid, the section in which the surface of the liquid intersects the floating body is called plane of floatation.

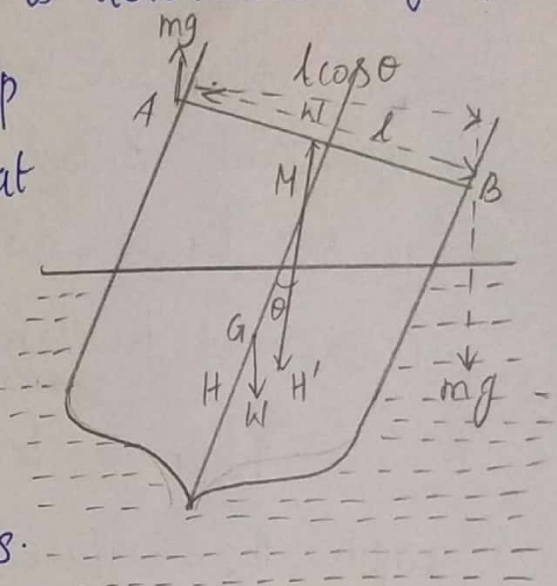
If a fluid floating body rotates about in such a way that it takes up in succession every position in which the volume of the liquid displaced by it remains the same, the centre of buoyancy traces a surface called the surface of buoyancy.

### (12) Metacentre:

If a floating body be slightly displaced such that the volume of liquid displaced by it remains the same, then the point in which the vertical line through the new centre of buoyancy meets the line joining the centre of gravity of the body to the original centre of buoyancy is called the metacentre.

(13) Experimental determination of a metacentric height of a ship.

The weight of a ship  $W$  is determined by the displacement method. This ship has two boats on the deck at a distance  $l$  apart and the mass of the water filling the <sup>boat</sup> ~~board~~ is determined from a knowledge of its cubical contents.



If A & B represents the boats at distance  $l$  apart on the deck filling A & B alternately with water is equivalent to moving a weight from A to B across the deck. The <sup>water</sup> filling the boat B with the same mass of water as in A, turns the ship through a very small angle  $\theta$ . This angle  $\theta$  is determined by means of a plumb line suspended in the ship.

Since the ship slightly inclined, the centre of buoyancy is altered. Let H & H' be altered positions of the centre of buoyancy, G the centre of gravity of the ship, M the metacentre and GM the metacentric height.

The deflecting couple due to filling the boats alternately with water (12)

$$= mg \times l \cos \theta \quad [\because kl = mg]$$

$$C = kl l \cos \theta \rightarrow (1)$$

The restoring couple due to the weight of the ship acting at  $G$  and the force of buoyancy acting through

$$H'C = kl \times GM \sin \theta \rightarrow (2)$$

Equate (1) & (2)

$$kl GM \sin \theta = kl l \frac{\cos \theta}{\sin \theta}$$

$$GM = \frac{kl l \frac{\cos \theta}{\sin \theta}}{kl \sin \theta}$$

$$GM = \frac{kl l \cos \theta}{kl \sin \theta}$$

$$\therefore \frac{\sin \theta}{\cos \theta} = \tan \theta$$

$$GM = \frac{kl l}{kl \tan \theta}$$

$$\boxed{GM = \frac{kl l}{wl \theta}}$$

Since  $\theta$  is small.