

2. A spring is compressed by 0.05 in for every 1 lb_f of applied force. Determine the deflection of the same spring when the applied force is 6.5 lb_m. Let g_o = 32.0 ft/sec².

According to Newton's Second Law of Motion:

$$F = m \left(\frac{a_o}{g_c} \right)$$

$$F = 6.5 \text{ lb}_m \left(\frac{32.0 \frac{\text{ft}}{\text{sec}^2}}{32.2 \frac{\text{lb}_m \cdot \text{ft}}{\text{lb}_f \cdot \text{sec}^2}} \right)$$

$$F = 6.4596 \text{ lb}_f$$

Multiply the calculated force by the spring's compression rate (0.05 in/lb_f):

$$\text{deflection} = s = 6.4596 \text{ lb}_f \left(\frac{0.05 \text{ in}}{1 \text{ lb}_f} \right)$$

$$s = 0.3230 \text{ in}$$

Because the local gravity on this planet or environment $\left(32.0 \frac{\text{ft}}{\text{sec}^2} \right)$ is slightly weaker than standard Earth gravity $\left(32.2 \frac{\text{ft}}{\text{sec}^2} \right)$, a 6.5 lb_m object pulls down with slightly less than 6.5 lb_f of actual force (specifically, 6.4596 lb_f). Consequently, the spring compresses just a fraction less than it would under standard Earth conditions, resulting in a final deflection of 0.3230 in.