

2. We note that the container is cylindrical, the important aspect of this being that it has a uniform cross-section (as viewed from above); this allows us to relate the pressure at the bottom simply to the total weight of the liquids. Using the fact that $1 \text{ L} = 1000 \text{ cm}^3$, we find the weight of the first liquid to be

$$\begin{aligned} W_1 &= m_1 g = \rho_1 V_1 g \\ &= (2.6 \text{ g/cm}^3)(0.50 \text{ L})(1000 \text{ cm}^3/\text{L})(980 \text{ cm/s}^2) = 1.27 \times 10^6 \text{ g} \cdot \text{cm/s}^2 = 12.7 \text{ N} . \end{aligned}$$

In the last step, we have converted grams to kilograms and centimeters to meters. Similarly, for the second and the third liquids, we have

$$W_2 = m_2 g = \rho_2 V_2 g = (1.0 \text{ g/cm}^3)(0.25 \text{ L})(1000 \text{ cm}^3/\text{L})(980 \text{ cm/s}^2) = 2.5 \text{ N}$$

and

$$W_3 = m_3 g = \rho_3 V_3 g = (0.80 \text{ g/cm}^3)(0.40 \text{ L})(1000 \text{ cm}^3/\text{L})(980 \text{ cm/s}^2) = 3.1 \text{ N} .$$

The total force on the bottom of the container is therefore $F = W_1 + W_2 + W_3 = 18 \text{ N}$.