

ANTI-GRAVITY?

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MATERIALS

Copper pipe section

Hex nut or ball bearing

Magnet

DIRECTIONS

Drop the hex nut or ball bearing through the pipe. Note how long it takes to come through.

Now, drop the magnet through the pipe- how fast does it travel through the pipe compared to the non-magnetic nut or ball bearing? What changed?

NOTES

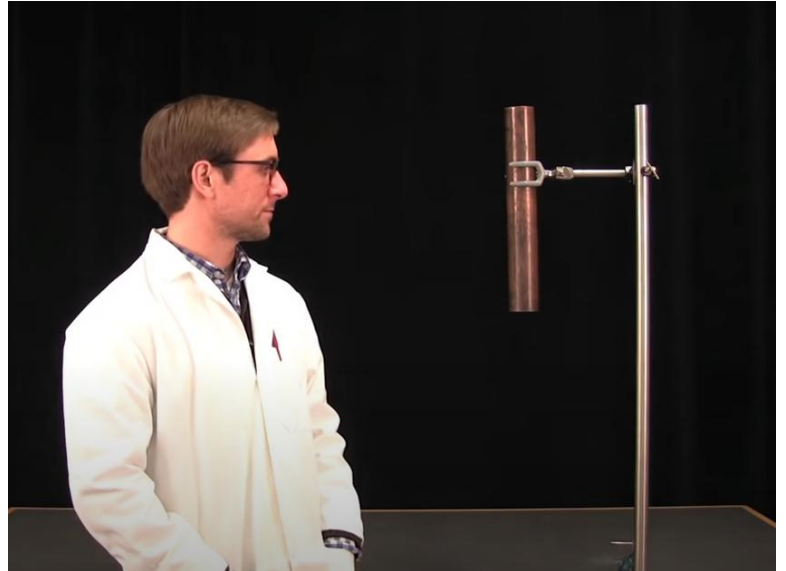
Copper isn't magnetic, so what's going on in this experiment? First discovered in 1834, now known as Lenz's Law, the magnet dropping through the copper creates a very small electrical charge, resulting in magnetic eddies within the pipe, which slow the magnet.

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Dropping a magnet through a copper tube with surprising results.

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