

# Forces

**COLLABORATORS**

	<i>TITLE :</i> Forces		
<i>ACTION</i>	<i>NAME</i>	<i>DATE</i>	<i>SIGNATURE</i>
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# Chapter 1

## Forces

### 1.1 MBlank 1.22 - Modules/Forces

Forces. (It's alive!)

Introduction...

Requirements...

Settings...

Changes...

Bugs...

### 1.2 MBlank 1.22 - Modules/Forces/Bugs

Movement can be a little jerky(yerky?), depending on your configuration and the settings of the forces module and also the current workload of your computer.

### 1.3 MBlank 1.22 - Modules/Forces/Requirements

Forces uses a few additional libraries.  
It tries to open mathffp.library + mathtrans.library, both of version 37. If it's unable to open these libraries, it will not use the MAGNETIC-MODE.

### 1.4 MBlank 1.22 - Modules/Forces/Introduction

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This module will display a number of objects on screen which are affected in their movements by forces.

Forces are:

- Gravitational pull from screen sides.  
You can specify the source of gravity by setting the 'Grav. Src.' cycle gadget on the settings window or by specifying the tooltype 'G\_SOURCE'. See Settings...  
Via tooltypes you can even specify multiple sources, for example 'G\_SOURCE=LEFT|TOP'.  
(Notice the vertical separator-bar)
- Gravitational pull from other objects.  
The pull is dependant on object-mass and 'other' object-mass.
- Air friction from the air.  
Not fully natural, not relative to speed.
- Wall friction from hitting screen sides.  
Speed deduction if screen sides are hit.

## 1.5 MBlank 1.22 - Modules/Forces/Help

Can someone tell me how I can speed up the rendering/double-buffering in a system-legal(friendly) way?

At present my routines, which are not to optimized, are way to slow. Even on my 68030 I can only display a few objects without an irritating slowdown.

At present Forces uses: CALLGFX BltBitMapRastPort  
(render(no mask) and clear)  
CALLGFX BltMaskBitMapRastPort  
(render(mask))  
CALLINT MakeScreen  
CALLINT RethinkDisplay  
(dblbuf)

Contact...

## 1.6 MBlank 1.22 - Modules/Forces/Settings

Settings preceded by a '+' can be set via the settings window.

+ MODE=GRAVITY|MAGNETIC|AUTOMATIC  
default: NONE

If NONE is specified, Forces will produce a rather dull display.

GRAVITY|MAGNETIC can be combined.

GRAVITY will cause the objects to be drawn to a specific side of the screen. See G\_SOURCE to see what the possibilities are.

MAGNETIC will cause the objects to be drawn to each other in a not so magnetic way. (unless you use M\_DIRECTION=MIX, see below)

AUTOMATIC will cause Forces to play a sequence of tooltype-settings.

+ SCREENDEPTH=1|2|3|4  
default: 4

These are mutually exclusive, first found=used.

1=2 colour display, fastest.

2=4 colour display, little slower.

3=8 colour display, slower.

4=16 colour display, slowest.

- DIM=number  
default: 0

Dimming percentage. (don't add % to the number).

Calculation: brightness = 100%-DIM% -> brightness%.

This determines the brightness of the objects, the background will always be black. The default, which is 0 percent dimming, means no dimming at all.

+ OBJECTS=number  
default: 7

Number of objects on screen. (On a 1230 50 MHZ + 4MB FAST), I use OBJECTS=10, but you can set it to anything you like, boundary checking is done on all tooltypes!

- PRECISION=number  
default: 9

Don't change this one. It will affect almost all other number-tooltype values. But if your adventurous:

Use only values between 8-11 here. This is really an internal variable representing a number of bits. It represents the internal speed-calculation-precision.

+ NOVA\_SPEED=number (Explosion Speed)  
default: 12000

Speed with which objects will be propelled in certain situations. If you use a larger M\_FORCE for instance, you will also need a larger NOVA\_SPEED to tear up clusters of magnetic objects.

+ AIR\_FRICTION=number  
default: 5

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The friction that's consistently working on moving objects. (Unfortunately this friction is not relative(reversed) to an object's speed.)  
Don't use to high values here, object's will go 'dead' fast.

+ WALL\_FRICTION=number  
default: 150

The friction applied to an object if it collides with a side of the screen. (This value will be subbed from the speed).

- STILL\_COUNT=number (number of frames, not allways 1/50th of a secs.)  
default: 1250

The amount of time an object may lie still before it is blanked. You don't want areas of your screen to lighten up for longer periods, otherwise the blanker would defeat it's own purpose.

- STILL\_MOVE=number (pixels)  
default: 1

If you want objects moving at very low speeds to be regarded by Forces as 'still' objects, set this value to 1. Don't use higher values, because otherwise apparently moving objects will be blanked out.

+ G\_SOURCE=BOTTOM|TOP|LEFT|RIGHT  
default: UP|DOWN

These can be combined, but two opposite sides will cancel out each other. (the calculations are performed though, so on a large number of objects it will have a negative effect.)  
G\_SOURCE, b.t.w. stands for Gravity-Source.

+ G\_FORCE=number  
default: 300

The higher this value, the stronger the gravitational force.

+ M\_FORCE=number  
default: 300

The higher this value, the stronger the magnetic force.

- M\_SUSTAIN=number  
default: 1

A higher value here will result in a slower decay of force with distance.

+ M\_RADIUS=number (in pixels)  
default: 800

The circle surrounding an object, in which the magnetic force is active.

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+ MASSES=RANDOM|EQUAL|ORDER  
default: RANDOM

RANDOM, objects masses are randomly picked.  
EQUAL, all objects have the same mass, and therefore size.  
ORDER, object masses will be MAX\_MASS, MAX\_MASS-1, ... ,  
MAX\_MASS-(OBJECTS-1)

- MAX\_MASS=number  
default: 15

The masses are used in the stupidly called MAGNETIC-MODE.  
A 'heavier' object will pull harder at other objects than a  
'lighter' object will.

+ M\_DIRECTION=PULL|PUSH|MIX  
default: PULL

I've included this option just because it was so easy to  
implement. Only the PULL gives interesting results I think.  
MODE=AUTOMATIC does use the MIX value for a short period of  
time.

- NOVA\_COUNT=number  
default: 5

If objects overlap each other(if they have exactly the  
same positions), a counter is incremented. If this counter  
reaches NOVA\_COUNT, Forces will let the (assumed) cluster  
explode with a maximum speed of NOVA\_SPEED.

## 1.7 MBlank 1.22 - Modules/Forces/Changes

Forces 1.19:  
29-01 +Settings window support.

Forces 1.22:  
02-02 +Full settings window with lots of variables.

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