Gravitational Field – 2023 A2 Physics 9702

- 1. Nov/2023/Paper_9702/41/No.1
 - (a) (i) State what is indicated by the direction of the gravitational field line at a point in a gravitational field.

 [1]

 (ii) Explain, with reference to gravitational field lines, why the gravitational field near the surface of the Earth is approximately constant for small changes in height.
 - (b) A large isolated uniform sphere has mass M and radius R.

Point P lies on a straight line passing through the centre of the sphere, at a variable displacement *x* from the centre, as shown in Fig. 1.1.

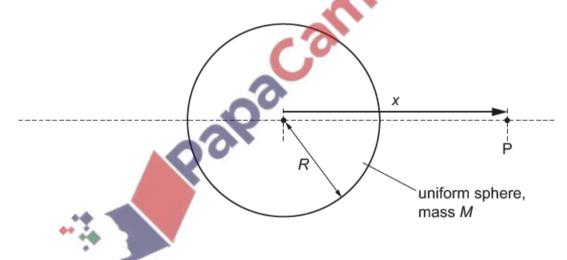


Fig. 1.1

Fig. 1.2 shows the variation with x of the gravitational field g at point P due to the sphere for the values of x for which P is inside the sphere.

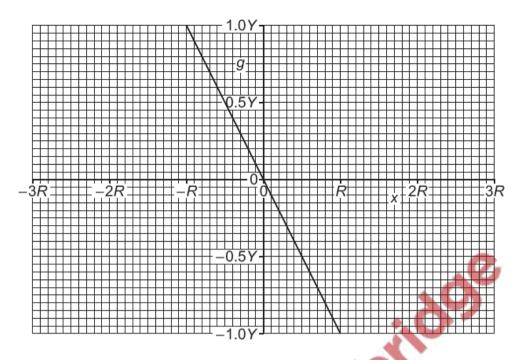


Fig. 1.2

The magnitude of the gravitational field at the surface of the sphere is Y.

(i) Determine an expression for Y in terms of M and R. Identify any other symbols that you use.



[2]

(ii) Explain why, at the surface of the sphere, g always has the opposite sign to x.

(iii) Complete Fig. 1.2 to show the variation of g with x for values of x, up to $\pm 3R$, for which point P is outside the sphere. [3]

[Total: 10]

2.		3/Paper_9702/42/No.2(a _ c) Define gravitational potential at a point.
		[2]
	(ii)	The Moon may be considered to be an isolated uniform sphere of mass 7.3×10^{22} kg and radius 1.7×10^6 m.
		Calculate the gravitational potential at the surface of the Moon. Give a unit with your answer.
		gravitational potential = unit [2]
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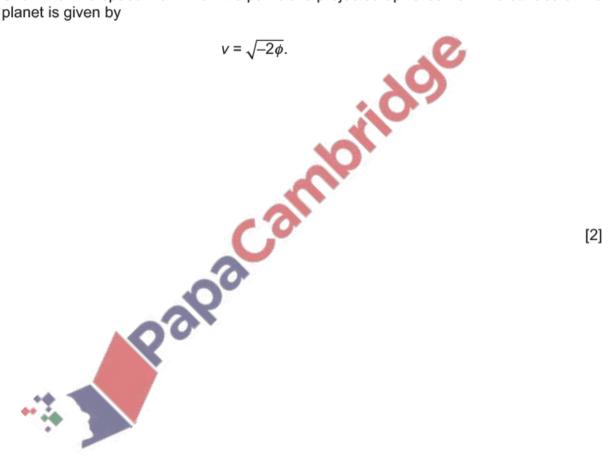
(b) An isolated uniform spherical planet has gravitational potential ϕ at its surface.

A particle of mass m is projected vertically upwards from the surface. The particle is given just enough kinetic energy to travel to an infinite distance away from the planet, escaping from the gravitational pull of the planet, without any additional work being done on it.

Determine an expression, in terms of m and ϕ , for the gravitational potential energy $E_{\rm p}$ of (i) the particle at the surface of the planet.

$$E_{P} =$$
 [1]

Show that the speed v at which the particle is projected upwards from the surface of the planet is given by



(c)	A particle is moving upwards at the surface of the Moon.
	Use your answer in (a)(ii) and the expression in (b)(ii) to determine the minimum speed of this particle that will result in it escaping from the gravitational pull of the Moon.
	this particle that will result in it escaping from the gravitational pair of the Moon.
	speed = ms ⁻¹ [1]
(d)	Hydrogen may be assumed to be an ideal gas. The mass of a hydrogen molecule is 3.34×10^{-27} kg.
	Calculate the root-mean-square (r.m.s.) speed of a hydrogen molecule in hydrogen gas that is at a temperature of 400 K.
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	r.m.s. speed = ms ⁻¹ [3]
(e)	The surface of the Moon reaches temperatures of approximately 400 K when in direct sunlight.
	Use your answers in (c) and (d) to suggest a reason why the Moon does not have an atmosphere consisting of hydrogen.
	[1]
	[Total: 12]
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(a) (i) Define gravitational field.

	[1]
·	

(ii) Define electric field.

Define closure note.	
	[1]

(iii) State **one** similarity and **one** difference between the gravitational potential due to a point mass and the electric potential due to a point charge.

similarity:		
,		5
difference:	. 89	()
	(0)	[2]

- (b) An isolated uniform conducting sphere has mass M and charge Q. The gravitational field strength at the surface of the sphere is g. The electric field strength at the surface of the sphere is E.
 - (i) Show that



where α is a constant.



(ii) Show that the numerical value of α is $1.35 \times 10^{20} \,\mathrm{kg^2\,C^{-2}}$.

(c)	Assume that the Earth is a uniform conducting sphere of mass 5.98×10^{24} kg.
	The surface of the Earth carries a charge of -4.80×10^5 C that is evenly distributed.

(i) Use the information in (b) to determine the electric field strength at the surface of the Earth. Give a unit with your answer.

	electric field strength = unit [2]
(ii)	State how the direction of the electric field at the surface of the Earth compares with the direction of the gravitational field.
	[1]
	[Total: 11]
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June/	/2023/Paper_9702/42/No.1
(a)	State Newton's law of gravitation.
	[2]
(b)	A satellite is in a circular orbit around a planet. The radius of the orbit is R and the period of the orbit is T . The planet is a uniform sphere.
	Use Newton's law of gravitation to show that R and T are related by
	$4\pi^2 R^3 = GMT^2$
	where <i>M</i> is the mass of the planet and <i>G</i> is the gravitational constant.
(c)	The Earth may be considered to be a uniform sphere of mass $5.98 \times 10^{24} \text{kg}$ and radius $6.37 \times 10^6 \text{m}$.
	A geostationary satellite is in orbit around the Earth.
	Use the expression in (b) to determine the height of the satellite above the Earth's surface.

4.

(d)	Another satellite is in a circular orbit around the Earth with the same orbital radius and period as the satellite in (c).		
	(i)	Calculate the angular speed of the satellite in this orbit. Give a unit with your answer.	
		angular speed = unit [2]	
	(ii)	Despite having the same orbital period, the orbit of this satellite is not geostationary.	
		Suggest two ways in which the orbit of this satellite could be different from the orbit of the satellite in (c) . 1	
		[2]	
		[Total: 11]	

5.	March/2023/Paper_9702/42/No.1		
	(a)	Define gravitational potential at a point.	

(b) Artemis is a spherical planet that may be assumed to be isolated in space. The variation with distance x from the centre of Artemis of the gravitational potential ϕ is shown in Fig. 1.1.

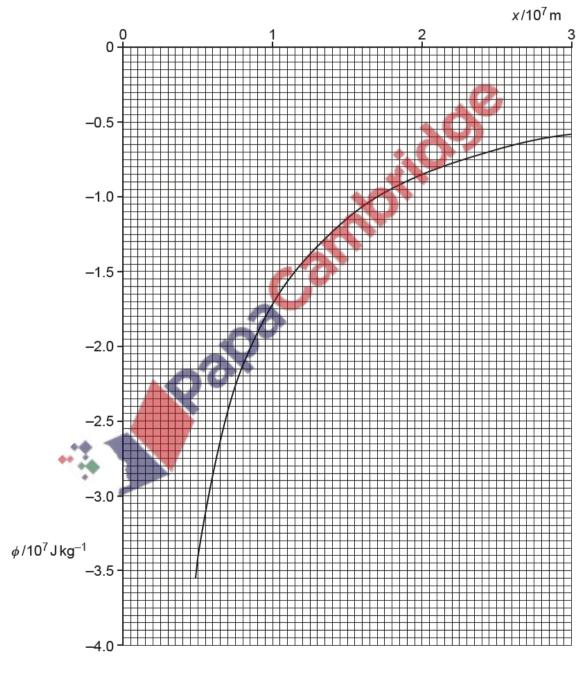


Fig. 1.1

(i)	The radius of Artemis is 4800 km.
	Determine the value of ϕ on the surface of Artemis.
(ii)	$\phi = \label{eq:phi} \mbox{J kg}^{-1} \ \ \mbox{[1]}$ Show that the mass of Artemis is $2.55 \times 10^{24} \mbox{kg}.$
(iii)	$\begin{tabular}{ll} \end{tabular} \begin{tabular}{ll} \end{tabular} \beg$
(iv)	g=
	gravitational potential is $-0.65 \times 10^7 \mathrm{Jkg^{-1}}$. Calculate the period, in hours, of rotation of Artemis.
	period = hours [4]

(c)	State one similarity and one difference between gravitational potential due to a point mass and electric potential due to a point charge.
	similarity
	difference
	[2]

[Total: 12]

