



PHYSICS

NCERT - NCERT PHYSICS(TELUGU)

GRAVITATION

Example

1. Let the speed of the planet at the perihelion point be v_P and the Sun-planet distance SP be r_P . Relate $\{r_P, v_P\}$ to the corresponding

quantities at the aphelion $\{r_A, v_A\}$. Will the planet take equal times to traverse BAC and CPB ?



[View Text Solution](#)

2. Three equal masses of m kg each are fixed at the vertices of an equilateral triangle ABC.

(a) What is the force acting on a mass $2m$ placed at the centroid G of the triangle?

(b) What is the force if the mass at the vertex

A is doubled ?

Take $AG = BG = CG = 1 \text{ m}$



[View Text Solution](#)

3. Find the potential energy of a system of four particles placed at the vertices of a square of side l . Also obtain the potential at the centre of the square.



[View Text Solution](#)

4. Two uniform solid spheres of equal radii R , but mass M and $4M$ have a centre to centre separation $6R$, as shown. The two spheres are held fixed. A projectile of mass m is projected from the surface of the sphere of mass M directly towards the centre of the second sphere. Obtain an expression for the minimum speed v of the projectile so that it reaches the surface of the second sphere.



[View Text Solution](#)

5. The planet Mars has two moons, phobos and delmos. (i) phobos has a period 7 hours, 39 minutes and an orbital radius of 9.4×10^3 km. Calculate the mass of mars. (ii) Assume that earth and mars move in circular orbits around the sun, with the martian orbit being 1.52 times the orbital radius of the earth. What is the length of the martian year in days ?



[View Text Solution](#)

6. Weighing the Earth : You are given the following data: $g = 9.81 \text{ m s}^{-2}$, $R_E = 6.37 \times 10^6 \text{ m}$, the distance to the moon $R = 3.84 \times 10^8 \text{ m}$ and the time period of the moon's revolution is 27.3 days. Obtain the mass of the Earth M_E in two different ways.



[View Text Solution](#)

7. Express the constant k of Eq. (8.38) in days and kilometres. Given $k = 10^{-13} \text{ s}^2 \text{ m}^{-3}$. The moon is at a distance of 3.84×10^5 km from the earth. Obtain its time-period of revolution in days.



[View Text Solution](#)

8. A 400 kg satellite is in a circular orbit of radius $2R_E$ about the Earth. How much energy is required to transfer it to a circular orbit of

radius $4R_E$? What are the changes in the kinetic and potential energies ?



[View Text Solution](#)

Exercises

1. An astronaut inside a small space ship orbiting around the earth cannot detect gravity. If the space station orbiting around the earth has a large size, can he hope to detect gravity ?



[View Text Solution](#)

2. If you compare the gravitational force on the earth due to the sun to that due to the moon, you would find that the Sun's pull is greater than the moon's pull. (you can check this yourself using the data available in the succeeding exercises). However, the tidal effect of the moon's pull is greater than the tidal effect of sun. Why ?



[View Text Solution](#)

3. Acceleration due to gravity increases/decreases with increasing altitude.

 [View Text Solution](#)

4. Acceleration due to gravity increases/decreases with increasing depth (assume the earth to be a sphere of uniform density).

 [View Text Solution](#)

5. Acceleration due to gravity is independent of mass of the earth/mass of the body.



[View Text Solution](#)

6. Suppose there existed a planet that went around the Sun twice as fast as the earth. What would be its orbital size as compared to that of the earth ?



[View Text Solution](#)

7. Let us assume that our galaxy consists of 2.5×10^{11} stars each of one solar mass. How long will a star at a distance of 50,000 ly from the galactic centre take to complete one revolution? Take the diameter of the Milky Way to be 10^5 ly.



[View Text Solution](#)

8. If the zero of potential energy is at infinity, the total energy of an orbiting satellite is negative of its kinetic/potential energy.



[View Text Solution](#)

9. Does the escape speed of a body from the earth depend on (a) the mass of the body, (b) the location from where it is projected, (c) the direction of projection, (d) the height of the location from where the body is launched?



[View Text Solution](#)

10. A comet orbits the sun in a highly elliptical orbit. Does the comet have a constant (a)

linear speed, (b) angular speed, (c) angular momentum, (d) kinetic energy, (e) potential energy, (f) total energy throughout its orbit? Neglect any mass loss of the comet when it comes very close to the Sun.



[View Text Solution](#)

11. Which of the following symptoms is likely to afflict an astronaut in space (a) swollen feet, (b) swollen face, (c) headache, (d) orientational problem.



[View Text Solution](#)

12. For the above problem, the direction of the gravitational intensity at an arbitrary point P is indicated by the arrow (i) d, (ii) e, (iii) f, (iv) g.



[View Text Solution](#)

13. A rocket is fired from the earth towards the sun. At what distance from the earth's centre is the gravitational force on the rocket zero ?

Mass of the sun = 2×10^{30} kg. Mass of the

earth = 6×10^{24} kg. Neglect the effect of other planets etc. (orbital radius = 1.5×10^{11} m).



[View Text Solution](#)

14. How will you 'weigh the sun', that is estimate its mass? The mean orbital radius of the earth around the sun is 1.5×10^8 km.



[View Text Solution](#)

15. A saturn year is 29.5 times the earth year. How far is the saturn from the sun if the earth is $1.50x \times 10^8$ km away from the sun ?



View Text Solution

16. A rocket is fired vertically with a speed of 5 km s^{-1} from the earth's surface. How far from the earth does the rocket go before returning to the earth ? Mass of the earth = $6.0x \times 10^{24}$

kg, mean radius of the earth =
 $6.4 \times 10^6 m$, $G = 6.67 \times 10^{-11} \text{ N m}^2 \text{ kg}^{-2}$.



[View Text Solution](#)

17. The escape speed of a projectile on the earth's surface is 11.2 km s^{-1} . A body is projected out with thrice this speed. What is the speed of the body far away from the earth? Ignore the presence of the sun and other planets.



[View Text Solution](#)

18. A satellite orbits the earth at a height of 400 km above the surface. How much energy must be expended to rocket the satellite out of the earth's gravitational influence? Mass of the satellite = 200 kg, mass of the earth = 6.0×10^{24} kg, radius of the earth = 6.4×10^6 m, $G = 6.67 \times 10^{-11} \text{ Nm}^2 \text{ kg}^{-2}$.



View Text Solution

19. Two stars each of one solar mass ($= 2x \times 10^{30} kg$) are approaching each other for a head on collision. When they are a distance 10^9 km, their speeds are negligible. What is the speed with which they collide ? The radius of each star is 10^4 km. Assume the stars to remain undistorted until they collide. (Use the known value of G).



View Text Solution

20. Two heavy spheres each of mass 100 kg and radius 0.10 m are placed 1.0 m apart on a horizontal table. What is the gravitational force and potential at the mid point of the line joining the centres of the spheres ? Is an object placed at that point in equilibrium? If so, is the equilibrium stable or unstable ?



[View Text Solution](#)

Additional Exercises

1. As you have learnt in the text, a geostationary satellite orbits the earth at a height of nearly 36,000 km from the surface of the earth. What is the potential due to earth's gravity at the site of this satellite ? (Take the potential energy at infinity to be zero). Mass of the earth = $6.0 \times 10^{24} \text{ kg}$. radius = 6400 km .



[View Text Solution](#)

2. A star 2.5 times the mass of the sun and collapsed to a size of 12 km rotates with a speed of 1.2 rev. per second. (Extremely compact stars of this kind are known as neutron stars. Certain stellar objects called pulsars belong to this category). Will an object placed on its equator remain stuck to its surface due to gravity ?
(mass of the sun = $2 \times 10^{30} \text{ kg}$).



[View Text Solution](#)

3. A spaceship is stationed on Mars. How much energy must be expended on the spaceship to launch it out of the solar system ? Mass of the space ship = 1000 kg, mass of the sun = 2×10^{30} kg , mass of mars = 6.4×10^{23} kg, radius of mars = 3395 Km: radius of the orbit of mars = 2.28×10^8 km , $G = 6.67 \times 10^{-11} Nm^2 kg^{-2}$.



[View Text Solution](#)