

Problems of Gravitational field on point masses

1) On the surface of Venus, which has a mass of 4.869×10^{24} kg, an object has a weight of 213 N and a mass of 24 kg. What is the radius of Venus?

$$G = 6.674 \times 10^{-11} \text{ N} \cdot \text{m}^2/\text{kg}^2.$$

Answer: 6051 km.

2) There is a point between the Earth and the Moon where the total gravitational field is zero. Calculate the distance of this point from the centre of the Moon.

$$\text{Mass of Moon} = 7.35 \times 10^{22} \text{ kg, mass of Earth} = 5.98 \times 10^{24} \text{ kg.}$$

$$\text{Earth-Moon distance} = 384\,000 \text{ km.}$$

Answer: 38320 km.

3) Find the altitude above the Earth's surface where Earth's gravitational field strength would be 75 % of its value at the surface.

$$\text{Radius of Earth} = 6370 \text{ km.}$$

Answer: 985.4 km.

4) What is the gravitational field (in N/kg) 1.400×10^5 km above the surface of the Sun?

$$\text{Radius of the Sun} = 6.960 \times 10^5 \text{ km, mass of the Sun} = 1.989 \times 10^{30} \text{ kg, } G = 6.674 \times 10^{-11} \text{ N} \cdot \text{m}^2/\text{kg}^2.$$

Answer: 190 N/kg.

5) Two spherical balls are placed so their centers are 74 m apart. The gravitational attraction between them is 2.362×10^{-7} N. If the mass of the smaller ball is 3800 kg, find the mass of the other ball.

$$G = 6.674 \times 10^{-11} \text{ N} \cdot \text{m}^2/\text{kg}^2.$$

Answer: 5100 kg.

6) The Moon has a gravitational field strength of 1.624 N/kg. Calculate its mass.

$$\text{Radius of the Moon} = 1737 \text{ km, } G = 6.674 \times 10^{-11} \text{ N} \cdot \text{m}^2/\text{kg}^2.$$

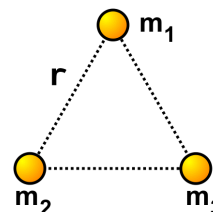
Answer: 7.342×10^{22} kg.

7) Three masses are located in the vertices of an equilateral triangle. Calculate the magnitude and direction of the gravitational force on the mass m_1 .

$$\text{Given: } m_1 = 38 \text{ kg, } m_2 = 340 \text{ kg, } m_3 = 340 \text{ kg, } r = 38 \text{ m.}$$

$$G = 6.674 \times 10^{-11} \text{ N} \cdot \text{m}^2/\text{kg}^2.$$

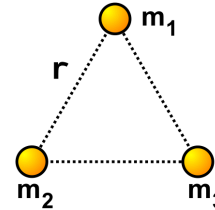
Answer: 1.034×10^{-9} N, downward.



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8) Three masses are located in the corners of an equilateral triangle. Find the magnitude and direction of the gravitational field at the center of the triangle.

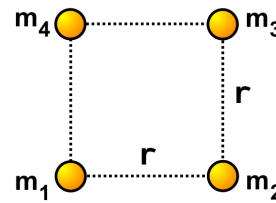
Given: $m_1 = 22 \text{ kg}$, $m_2 = 30 \text{ kg}$, $m_3 = 30 \text{ kg}$, $r = 12 \text{ cm}$.
 $G = 6.674 \times 10^{-11} \text{ N} \cdot \text{m}^2/\text{kg}^2$.



Answer: $1.112 \times 10^{-7} \text{ N/kg}$, downward.

9) Four masses are at the vertices of a square. Find the magnitude of the gravitational force on the mass m_1 .

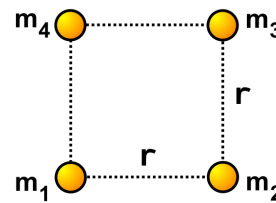
Given: $m_1 = 6 \text{ kg}$, $m_2 = 80 \text{ kg}$, $m_3 = 80 \text{ kg}$, $m_4 = 80 \text{ kg}$
 $r = 24 \text{ m}$. $G = 6.674 \times 10^{-11} \text{ N} \cdot \text{m}^2/\text{kg}^2$.



Answer: $1.065 \times 10^{-10} \text{ N}$.

10) Four masses are located in the corners of a square. Calculate the magnitude and direction of the gravitational field at the center of the square.

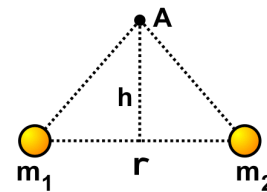
Given: $m_1 = 85 \text{ kg}$, $m_2 = 3 \text{ kg}$, $m_3 = 3 \text{ kg}$, $m_4 = 85 \text{ kg}$
 $r = 8 \text{ m}$, $G = 6.674 \times 10^{-11} \text{ N} \cdot \text{m}^2/\text{kg}^2$.



Answer: $2.419 \times 10^{-10} \text{ N/kg}$, to the left.

11) Two masses $m_1 = 350 \text{ kg}$ and $m_2 = 350 \text{ kg}$ are at a distance of 22 m from each other. Find the magnitude and direction of the gravitational field at point A.

Data: $h = 9 \text{ m}$, $G = 6.674 \times 10^{-11} \text{ N} \cdot \text{m}^2/\text{kg}^2$.



Answer: $1.465 \times 10^{-10} \text{ N/kg}$, downward.