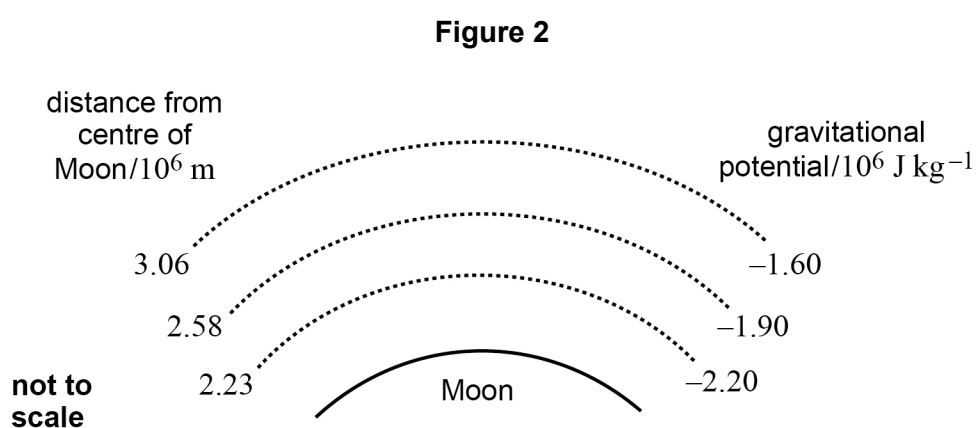


0 3 . 1 Define gravitational potential at a point.

[1 mark]

work done in bringing a 1Kg mass from infinity to that point

0 3 . 2 **Figure 2** shows the positions of equipotential surfaces at different distances from the centre of the Moon.



Explain how the equipotential surfaces in **Figure 2** show that the gravitational field is **not** uniform.

[1 mark]

if it were uniform then the equipotentials would be equal spaced - and they are not. The V varies in equal steps but the distance does not



**0 3 . 3** Calculate, using **Figure 2**, the escape velocity at the surface of the Moon.

radius of Moon =  $1.74 \times 10^6$  m

[4 marks]

Find mass of the moon - pick some data  $r=2.23 \times 10^6$   $V=-2.2 \times 10^6$

$$V = -\frac{GM}{r} \Rightarrow M = \frac{Vr}{G} = \frac{2.2 \times 10^6 \times 2.23 \times 10^6}{6.67 \times 10^{-11}}$$

$$M = 7.36 \times 10^{22} \text{ kg}$$

To find esc vel you convert all the V into Ek

$$\frac{GMm}{r} = \frac{1}{2}mv^2 \quad \sqrt{\frac{2GM}{r}} = v$$

$m = 1 \text{ kg}$

escape velocity = 2400 m s<sup>-1</sup>

255

6

Turn over for the next question

Turn over ►



**0 9** What is the angular speed of a satellite in a geostationary orbit around the Earth?

[1 mark]

- A  $1.2 \times 10^{-5} \text{ rad s}^{-1}$
- B**  $7.3 \times 10^{-5} \text{ rad s}^{-1}$
- C  $4.2 \times 10^{-3} \text{ rad s}^{-1}$
- D  $2.6 \times 10^{-1} \text{ rad s}^{-1}$

$2\pi$  rads in 24 hr  
 $\frac{2\pi}{24 \times 60 \times 60} = 7.3 \times 10^{-5}$

**1 0** A planet of mass  $M$  and radius  $R$  rotates so quickly that material at its equator only just remains on its surface.

What is the period of rotation of the planet?

material is effectively orbiting and grav force = centripeta;

- A  $2\pi\sqrt{\frac{R}{GM}}$
- B  $2\pi\sqrt{\frac{GM}{R}}$
- C  $2\pi\sqrt{\frac{R^3}{GM}}$
- D  $2\pi\sqrt{\frac{GM}{R^3}}$

$$\frac{GMm}{R^2} = \frac{mv^2}{R} \rightarrow v^2 = \frac{GM}{R}$$

$$v = \frac{d}{t} \rightarrow v = \frac{2\pi R}{T}$$

$$\frac{4\pi^2 R^2}{T^2} = \frac{GM}{R} \rightarrow \frac{4\pi^2 R^3}{GM} = T^2$$

$$\rightarrow T = 2\pi\sqrt{\frac{R^3}{GM}}$$



**1 1** Satellites **N** and **F** have the same mass and are in circular orbits about the same planet. The orbital radius of **F** is greater than that of **N**.

Which is greater for **F** than for **N**?

[1 mark]

*less* **A** gravitational force on the satellite

*less* **B** angular speed

*less* **C** kinetic energy

*✓* **D** orbital period

**1 2** An object moves freely at  $90^\circ$  to the direction of a gravitational field.

The acceleration of the object is

*grav will pull into  
circular orbit*

[1 mark]

**A** zero.

**B** opposite to the direction of the gravitational field.

**C** in the direction of the gravitational field.

**D** at  $90^\circ$  to the direction of the gravitational field.

Turn over for the next question

Turn over ►

