

# 1 | Escape Velocity and Gravitational Potential Energy

## 1.1 | Newton's Universal Gravitation Law

$$\vec{F}_g = -\frac{GM_1M_2}{r^2}\hat{r} \quad (1)$$

where,  $\vec{F}_g$  is the force of gravity on  $M_2$ ;  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  are two point masses;  $G$  the universal gravitation constant;  $r$  the magnitude of the vector from  $M_1$  to  $M_2$  and  $\hat{r}$  the unit vector in the  $\vec{r}$  direction.

Also, introduce the following variables:

- $M_e$  for the mass of the earth
- $g$  for the acceleration of gravity on the surface of the Earth

## 1.2 | Equation for Gravitational Potential Energy

The general equation for work is as follows:

$$W = \int \frac{dF}{dx} dx \quad (2)$$

The total gravitational potential energy induced by performing work to move the object from