

- 17 Makemake is a dwarf planet in the solar system. Makemake has a mass of $3.1 \times 10^{21} \text{ kg}$ and a radius of 715 km.

(a) Calculate the gravitational field strength at the surface of Makemake.

(2)

Gravitational field strength at surface =



- (b) The average distance of Makemake from the Sun is similar to the average distance of the dwarf planet Pluto from the Sun.

A website states:

“The time taken by Makemake to complete one orbit of the Sun is 20% greater than the time taken by Pluto to complete one orbit of the Sun.”

Assess the accuracy of the website statement.

mass of Sun = 1.99×10^{30} kg

orbit radius of Makemake = 6.80×10^{12} m

orbit time of Pluto = 248 years

1 year = 3.15×10^7 s

(6)