

- 1 (a) State Newton's law of gravitation.

[2]

- (b) A binary star consists of star A, of mass  $4.0 \times 10^{30}$  kg, and star B, of mass  $2.0 \times 10^{30}$  kg, separated by a distance of  $3.3 \times 10^{12}$  m. The stars are both in circular orbit around their common centre of gravity X, as shown in Fig. 1.1.

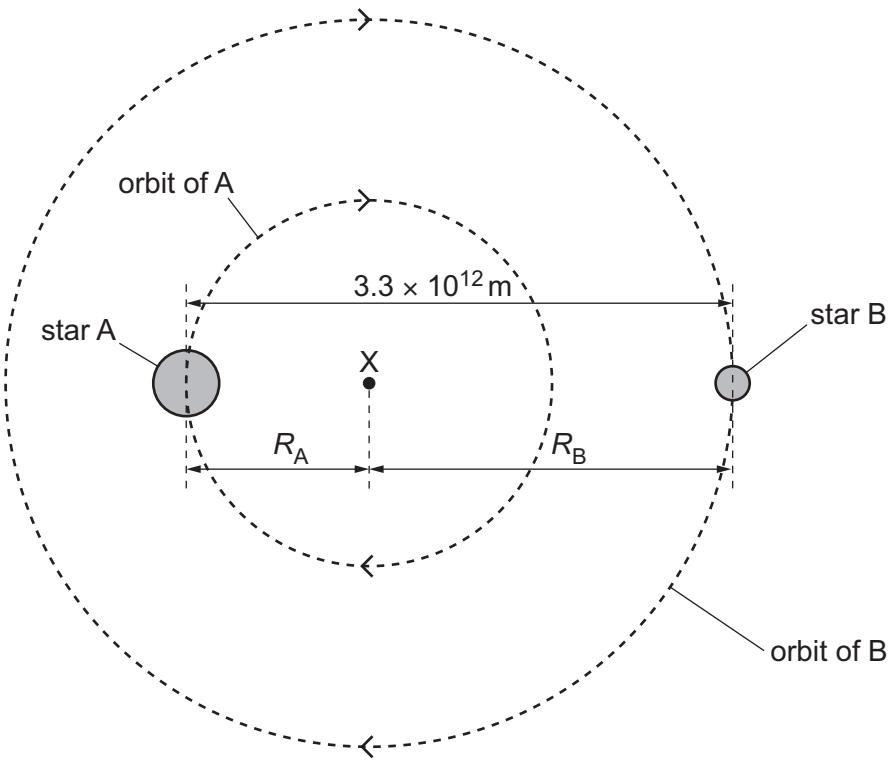


Fig. 1.1

The radius  $R_B$  of the orbit of star B is double the radius  $R_A$  of the orbit of star A.

- (i) Use Newton's law of gravitation to calculate the magnitude of the gravitational force exerted by each star on the other.

force = ..... N [2]



- (ii) Calculate the centripetal acceleration of star A.

$$\text{acceleration} = \dots \text{ m s}^{-2} [1]$$

- (iii) Use your answer in (b)(ii) to determine the period of the orbit of star A.

$$\text{period} = \dots \text{ s} [3]$$

- (iv) By placing a tick ( $\checkmark$ ) in each row, complete Table 1.1 to show how the quantities indicated for star B compare with the same quantities for star A.

**Table 1.1**

	B less than A	B equal to A	B greater than A
centripetal acceleration			
linear speed			
period			

[3]

[Total: 11]