

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

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[2]

- (ii) Use Newton's law of gravitation to show that the gravitational field strength g at a distance r away from a point mass M is given by

$$g = \frac{GM}{r^2}.$$

[2]

- (b) The Earth has a mass of 5.98×10^{24} kg and a radius of 6.37×10^6 m.

The Moon has a mass of 7.35×10^{22} kg and a radius of 1.74×10^6 m.

The Earth and the Moon can both be considered as point masses at their centres. Their centres are a distance of 3.84×10^8 m apart.

- (i) Show that the gravitational field strength at the surface of the Moon due to the mass of the Moon is 1.62 N kg^{-1} .

[1]

- (ii) Explain why there is a point X on the line between the centres of the Earth and the Moon where the resultant gravitational field strength due to the Earth and the Moon is zero.

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[2]

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- (iii) Calculate the distance x of point X from the centre of the Moon.

$x = \dots$ m [3]