

- 1 (a) Explain why the gravitational potential near to a point mass is negative.

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[2]

- (b) A planet may be assumed to be a uniform sphere. It has gravitational potential  $\phi$  at distance  $r$  from the centre of the planet.

The variation with  $\frac{1}{r}$  of  $\phi$  is shown in Fig. 1.1.

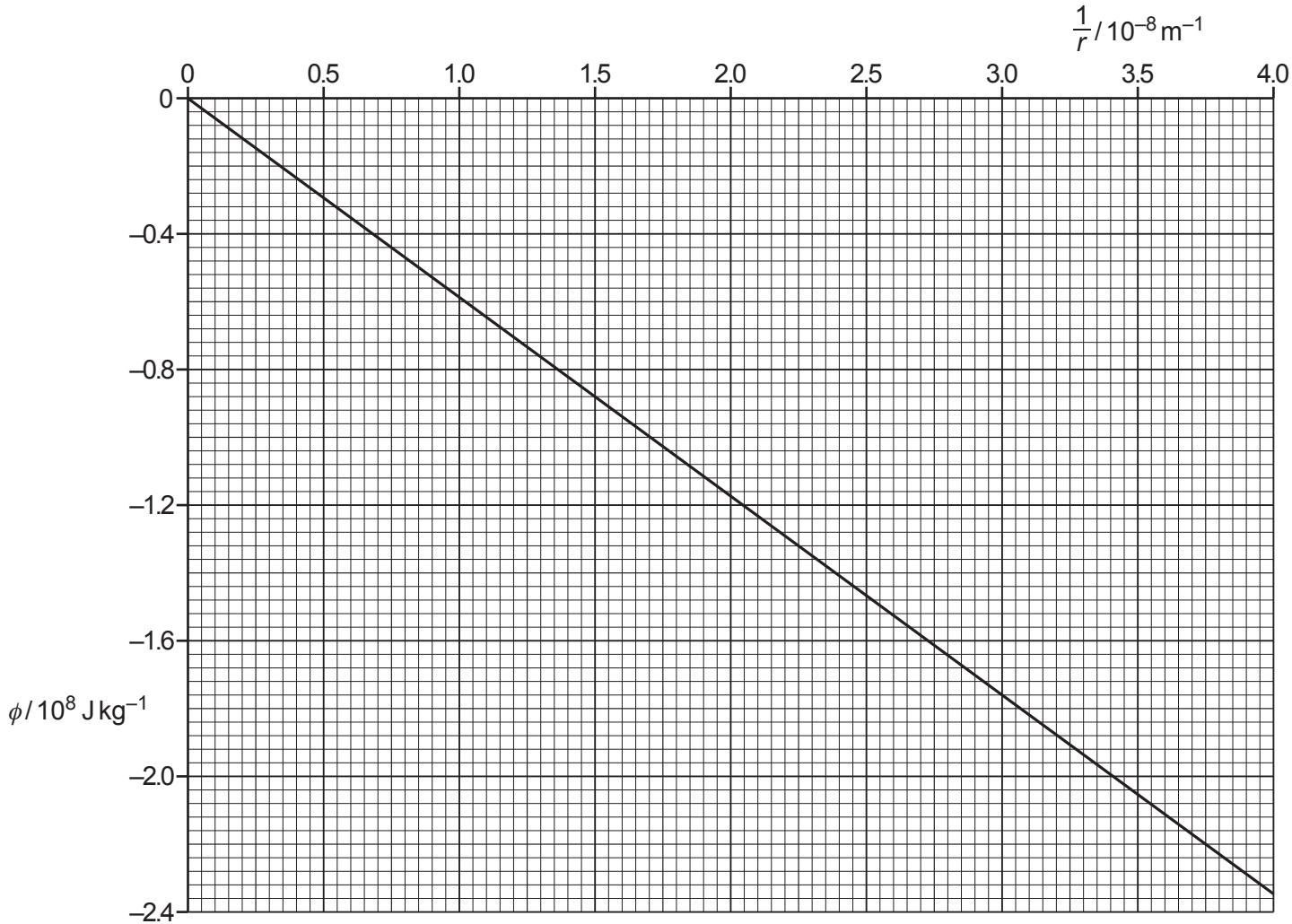


Fig. 1.1

- (i) Show that the mass of the planet is  $8.8 \times 10^{25} \text{ kg}$ .

[2]

- (ii) The period of rotation of the planet is 0.72 Earth days.

A satellite in orbit around the planet remains above the same point on the surface of the planet.

Use the mass of the planet in (b)(i) to determine the radius  $R$  of the orbit of the satellite.

$$R = \dots \text{ m} \quad [3]$$

- (iii) The speed of the satellite in (b)(ii) is  $8400 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ . The mass of the satellite is  $1200 \text{ kg}$ .

Determine the additional energy required to move the satellite from its orbit to infinity.

$$\text{energy required} = \dots \text{ J} \quad [3]$$