

## Section A

Answer **all** the questions in the spaces provided.

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

.....  
 .....  
 ..... [2]

- (b)** The planet Neptune has eight moons (satellites). Each moon orbits Neptune in a circular path of radius  $r$  with a period  $T$ .

Assuming that Neptune and each moon behave as point masses, show that  $r$  and  $T$  are related by the expression

$$GM_N = \frac{4\pi^2 r^3}{T^2}$$

where  $G$  is the gravitational constant and  $M_N$  is the mass of Neptune.

[3]

- (c)** Data for the moon Triton that orbits Neptune and for the moon Oberon that orbits the planet Uranus are given in Fig. 1.1.

planet	moon	radius of orbit $r/10^5 \text{ km}$	period of orbit $T/\text{days}$
Neptune	Triton	3.55	5.9
Uranus	Oberon	5.83	13.5

**Fig. 1.1**

Use the expression in (b) to determine the ratio

$$\frac{\text{mass of Neptune}}{\text{mass of Uranus}}.$$

ratio = ..... [3]