

- 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 ϕ at distance r from the centre of the planet.

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

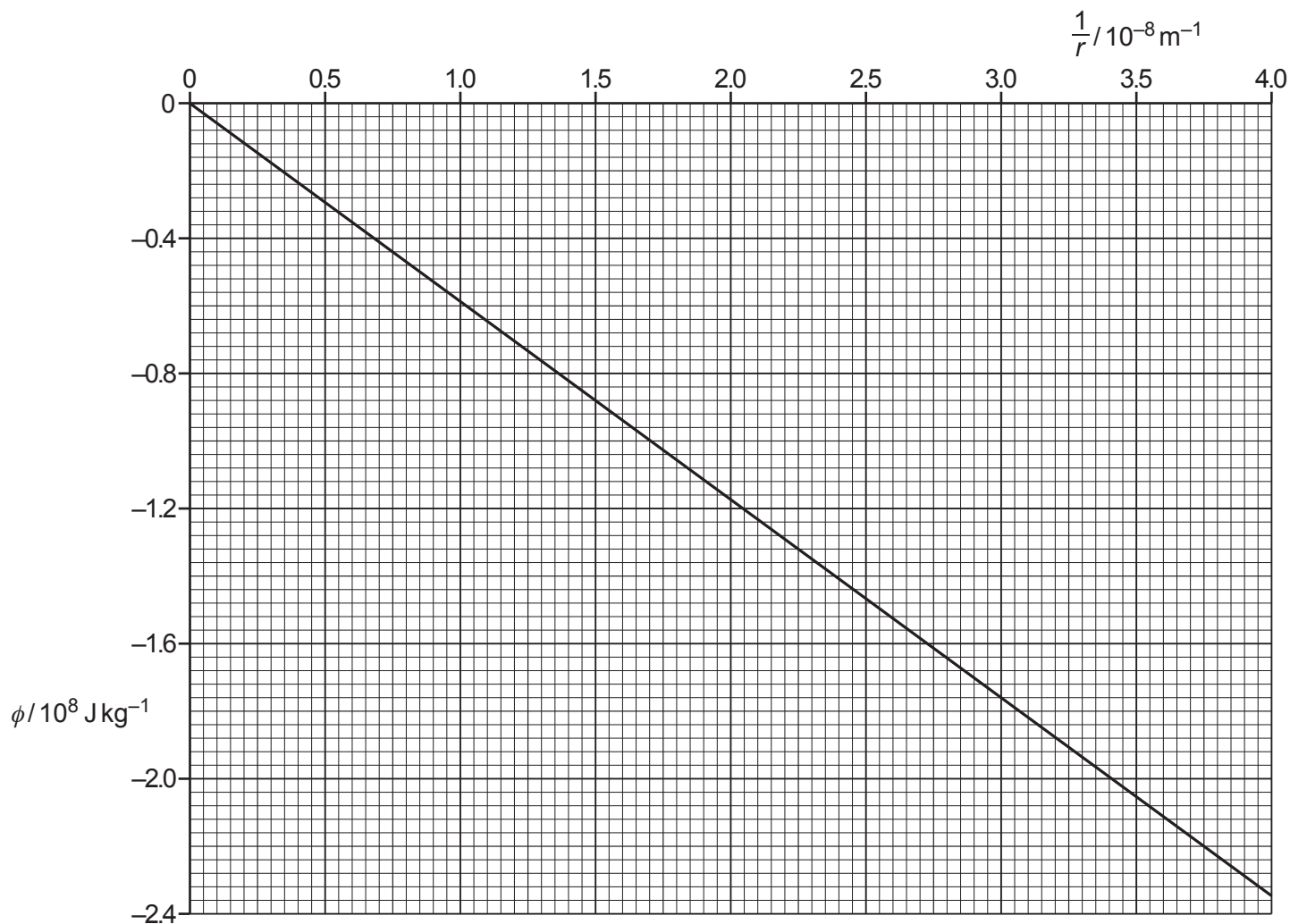


Fig. 1.1

- (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.

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

- (iii) The speed of the satellite in **(b)(ii)** is 8400 ms^{-1} . The mass of the satellite is 1200 kg.

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

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