

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

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

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.....[2]

- (b) A distant star is orbited by several planets. Each planet has a circular orbit with a different radius.

- (i) Each planet orbits at constant speed.
Explain whether the planets are in equilibrium.

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.....[1]

- (ii) The radius of the orbit of a planet is R and the orbital period is T .

Data for some of the planets are given in Fig. 1.1.

planet	R/m	T^2/s^2
c	9.6×10^{10}	2.5×10^{11}
e	4.0×10^{11}	1.8×10^{13}
g	2.1×10^{12}	2.6×10^{15}

Fig. 1.1

The relationship between R and T is given by the expression

$$R^3 = kT^2.$$

1. Show that the constant k is given by the expression

$$k = \frac{GM}{4\pi^2}$$

where G is the gravitational constant and M is the mass of the star.

[3]

2. Use data from Fig. 1.1 for the three planets and the expression for k to calculate the mass M of the star.

$M = \dots\dots\dots$ kg [3]

[Total: 9]