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

.....

.....

..... [2]

(b) Planets have been observed orbiting a star in another solar system. Measurements are made of the orbital radius r and the time period T of each of these planets.

The variation with R^3 of T^2 is shown in Fig. 1.1.

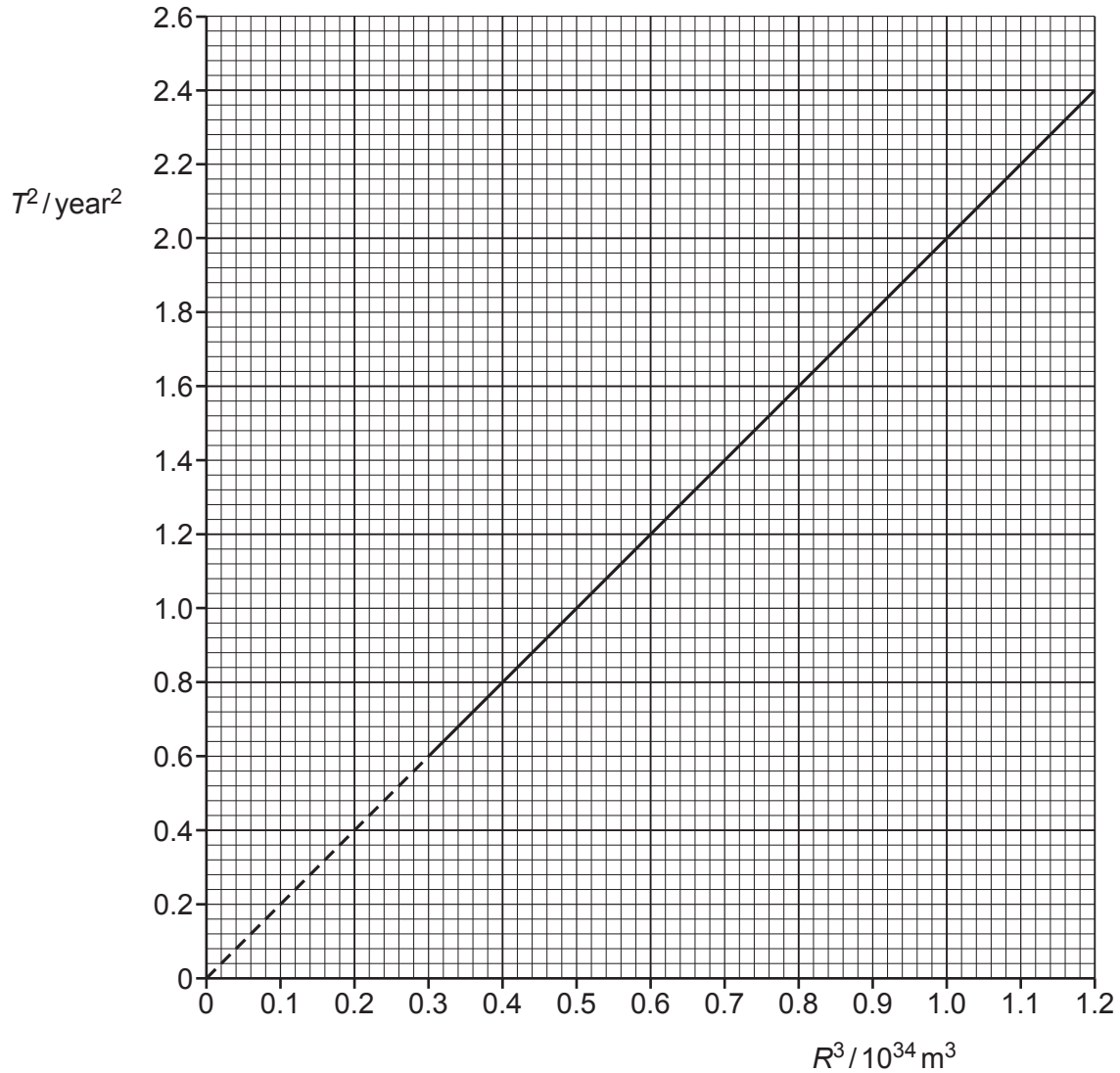

Fig. 1.1

The relationship between T and R is given by

$$T^2 = \frac{4\pi^2 R^3}{GM}$$

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

Determine the mass M.

M = ... kg [3]

(c) A rock of mass m is also in orbit around the star in **(b)**. The radius of the orbit is r.

(i) Explain why the gravitational potential energy of the rock is negative.

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.....

.....

..... [3]

(ii) Show that the kinetic energy E_k of the rock is given by

$$E_k = \frac{GMm}{2r}.$$

[2]

(iii) Use the expression in **(c)(ii)** to derive an expression for the total energy of the rock.

[2]

[Total: 12]