

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

- 1 A binary star consists of two stars A and B that orbit one another, as illustrated in Fig. 1.1.

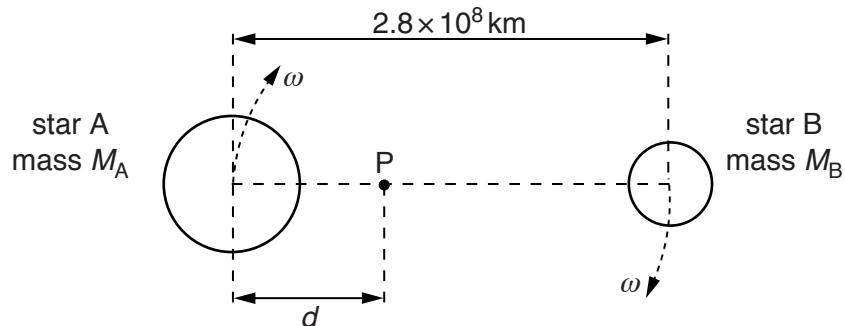


Fig. 1.1

The stars are in circular orbits with the centres of both orbits at point P, a distance d from the centre of star A.

- (a) (i) Explain why the centripetal force acting on both stars has the same magnitude.

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.....
.....

[2]

- (ii) The period of the orbit of the stars about point P is 4.0 years.

Calculate the angular speed ω of the stars.

$$\omega = \dots \text{ rad s}^{-1} \quad [2]$$

- (b) The separation of the centres of the stars is 2.8×10^8 km.
The mass of star A is M_A . The mass of star B is M_B .
The ratio $\frac{M_A}{M_B}$ is 3.0.

- (i) Determine the distance d .

$$d = \dots \text{km} \quad [3]$$

- (ii) Use your answers in (a)(ii) and (b)(i) to determine the mass M_B of star B.
Explain your working.

$$M_B = \dots \text{kg} \quad [3]$$

[Total: 10]