

3 (a) Define gravitational potential energy.

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[2]

(b) Fig. 3.1 shows part of the orbit of a satellite round the Earth.

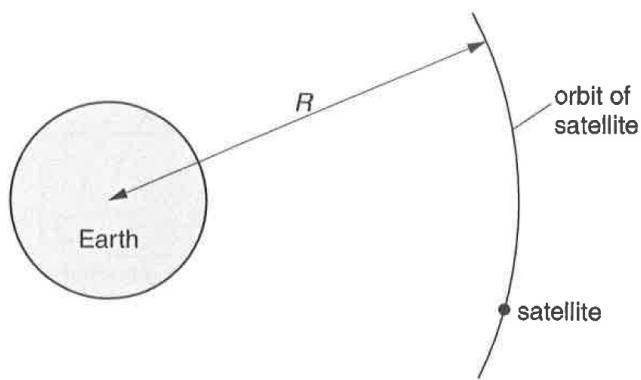


Fig. 3.1

The mass M of the Earth is 6.0×10^{24} kg. It may be assumed that the gravitational field of the Earth is the same as that of a point mass M situated at the centre of the Earth.

- (i) On Fig. 3.1 show, by means of an arrow, the direction of the gravitational force on the satellite. [1]

- (ii) Explain why the satellite does not move in the direction of the gravitational force.

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[1]

- (iii) Show that v , the linear speed of the satellite in its orbit of radius R , is given by the expression

$$v = \sqrt{\frac{GM}{R}}$$

where G is the gravitational constant.

[1]

- (c) The satellite is orbiting the Earth with a radius R of 6610 km at a speed v of 7780 m s^{-1} .

The satellite is boosted into a higher orbit of radius 6890 km. Determine the speed of the satellite in the new orbit.

speed of satellite = m s^{-1} [2]

(d) The satellite has a mass of 120 kg. Using the data in (c), calculate the change in

(i) kinetic energy, and

change in kinetic energy = J [1]

(ii) gravitational potential energy.

change in potential energy = J [2]