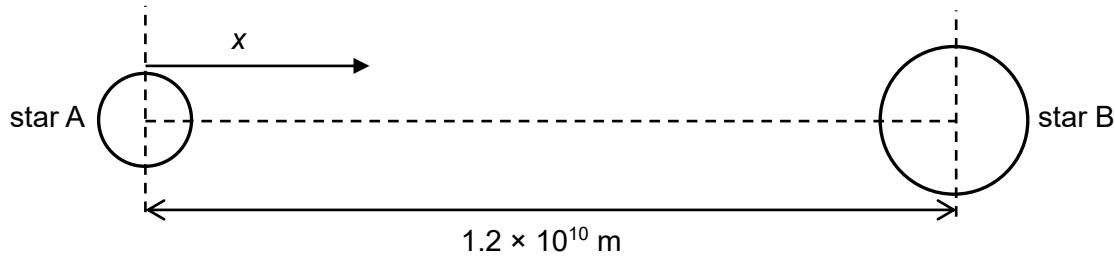
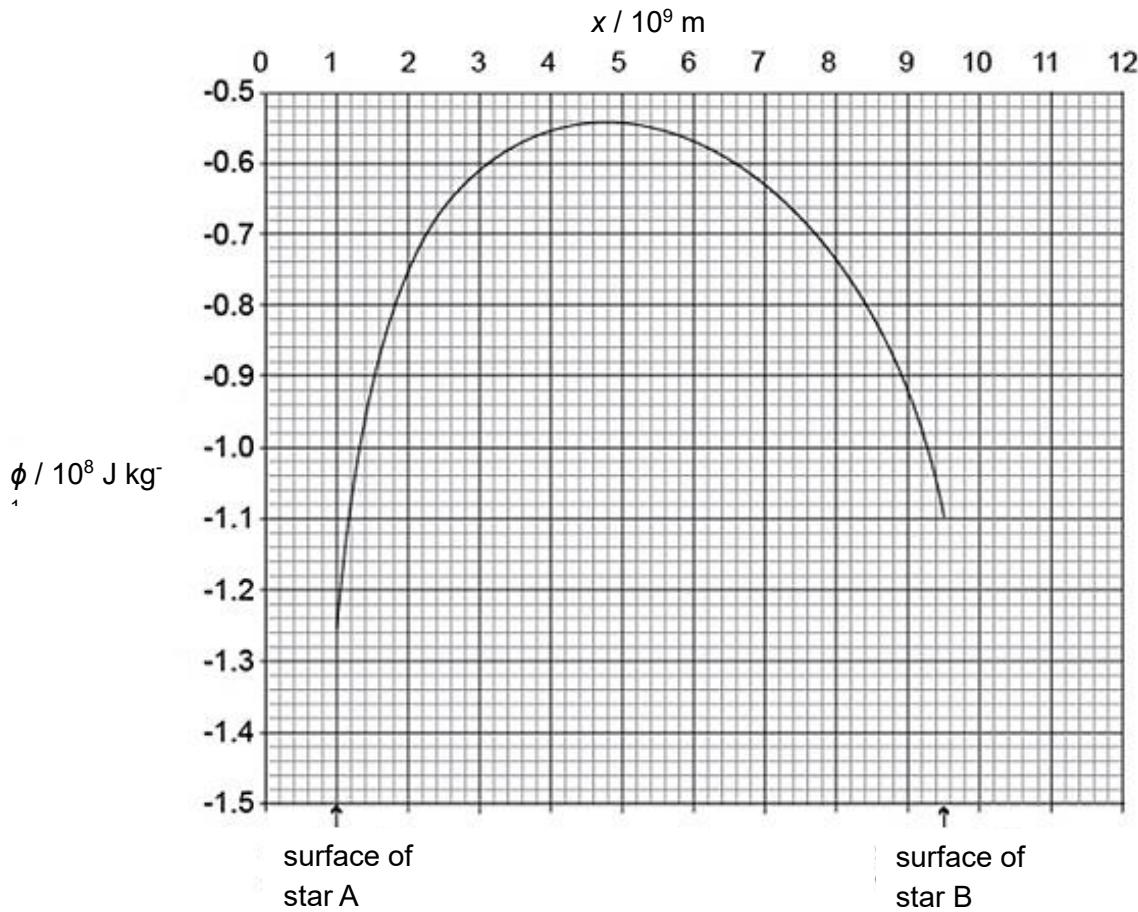


- 5 Two stars A and B are separated by a distance of  $1.2 \times 10^{10}$  m as shown in Fig. 5.1.  $x$  is the distance from the centre of star A, in the direction toward the centre of star B.



**Fig. 5.1**

The variation with  $x$  of the gravitational potential  $\phi$  due to the two stars along the line joining their centres is shown in Fig. 5.2.



**Fig. 5.2**

A body is launched with kinetic energy  $E_K$  from the surface of star B.

The body then arrives at the surface of the star A.

- (a) Define *gravitational potential* at a point.

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[1]

- (b) Use Fig. 5.2 to explain whether the kinetic energy of the body when it arrives at the surface of star A is less than, equal to, or larger than  $E_k$ .

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[2]

- (c) State and explain the distance  $x$  at which the resultant gravitational field strength due to the two stars is zero.

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[2]

- (d) Determine the ratio  $\frac{\text{average density of star A}}{\text{average density of star B}}$ .

ratio = ..... [3]

[Total: 8]

