

- 4 (a) Define gravitational field strength.

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..... [1]

- (b) Fig 4.1 shows point A and point B on the surface of the Earth and the Moon respectively, along the line joining their centres.



Fig 4.1 (not to scale)

- (i) There exist a point X on the line joining the centres of Earth and Moon where the resultant gravitational field strength is zero. Estimate and label this point X on Fig 4.1. [1]
- (ii) The mass of Earth is 5.97×10^{24} kg, the mass of Moon is 7.34×10^{22} kg, the radius of Earth is 6.37×10^3 km, and the radius of Moon is 1.74×10^3 km. The centre-to-centre distance between Earth and Moon is 3.84×10^5 km.

Determine the magnitude of gravitational field strength at A and B respectively.

gravitational field strength at A = N kg⁻¹

gravitational field strength at B = N kg⁻¹

[3]

- (iii) Without further calculations, sketch the variation with distance d of gravitational field strength g , experienced along the line joining the centre of Earth and Moon between points A and B in Fig. 4.2. [1]



$g / \text{N kg}^{-1}$

d / m

A

B

Fig. 4.2

[Total: 6 marks]

