

Law Three

Data from different sources varies so references were included below the following table. (4~5 sig figs)

Name	Average radius (m)	Mass (kg)	Mean Orbital Radius (m)	Period(days)	Orbital radius (AU)	Period (years)
Sun	696.0×10^6	1.991×10^{30}				
Mercury	2.43×10^6	3.2×10^{23}	5.80×10^{10}	87.77	0.388	0.240
Venus	6.073×10^6	4.88×10^{24}	1.081×10^{11}	224.70	0.723	0.615
Earth	6.3713×10^6	5.979×10^{24}	1.4957×10^{11}	365.25	1.000	1.000
Mars	3.38×10^6	6.42×10^{23}	2.278×10^{11}	686.98	1.523	1.881
Jupiter	69.8×10^6	1.901×10^{27}	7.781×10^{11}	4332.62	5.202	11.862
Saturn	58.2×10^6	5.68×10^{26}	1.427×10^{12}	10759.20	9.541	29.457
Uranus	23.5×10^6	8.68×10^{25}	2.870×10^{12}	30685	19.188	84.011
Neptune	22.7×10^6	1.03×10^{26}	4.500×10^{12}	60275.70	30.086	165.026
Pluto	1.15×10^6	1.2×10^{22}	5.9×10^{12}	90490.19	39.446	247.749

Calculate $K \left[\frac{\text{AU}^3}{\text{y}^2} \right]$ for 3 or 4

Q1. Use the data for Earth and Mars to illustrate Kepler's third law.

$$\begin{aligned}
 T_E &= 365.25 \text{ d} & K &= \frac{r_E^3}{T_E^2} = \frac{r_M^3}{T_M^2} \\
 r_E &= 1.4957 \times 10^{11} \text{ m} & K_E &= \frac{r_E^3}{T_E^2} = \frac{(1.4957 \times 10^{11} \text{ m})^3}{(365.25 \text{ d})^2} \\
 T_M &= 686.98 \text{ d} & &= 2.50815 \times 10^{28} \frac{\text{m}^3}{\text{d}^2} \\
 r_M &= 2.278 \times 10^{11} \text{ m} & \% \text{ diff} &= 0.12\% \\
 K_M &= \frac{r_M^3}{T_M^2} = \frac{(2.278 \times 10^{11} \text{ m})^3}{(686.98 \text{ d})^2} = 2.5047 \times 10^{28} \frac{\text{m}^3}{\text{d}^2}
 \end{aligned}$$

Q2. Use the data in the table to find the period of Neptune (referenced to Earth).

$$\begin{aligned}
 T_E &= 365.25 \text{ d} & \frac{r_E^3}{T_E^2} &= \frac{r_N^3}{T_N^2} \\
 r_E &= 1.4957 \times 10^{11} \text{ m} & & \\
 r_N &= 4.500 \times 10^{12} \text{ m} & T_N &= \sqrt{\frac{T_E^2 r_N^3}{r_E^3}} \\
 & & T_N &= \sqrt{\frac{(365.25 \text{ d})^2 (4.500 \times 10^{12} \text{ m})^3}{(1.4957 \times 10^{11} \text{ m})^3}} = 60275.70 \text{ d}
 \end{aligned}$$

Q3. Use the data in the table to find the period of Pluto (referenced to the Earth).

$$\begin{aligned}
 r_P &= 5.9 \times 10^{12} \text{ m} \\
 T_P &= \sqrt{\frac{T_E^2 r_P^3}{r_E^3}} = 90490.19 \text{ d}
 \end{aligned}$$

Q4. Complete the AU and year columns in the table for the remaining planets.

AU = astronomical unit

$$\text{ratio} = \frac{r_{\text{body}}}{r_{\text{Earth}}}$$

$$\text{ratio} = \frac{T_{\text{body}}}{T_{\text{Earth}}}$$