

Closed book. No calculators are to be used for this quiz.
Quiz duration: 10 minutes

Name:

Student ID:

Signature:

Find how far above the Earth (in the number of times the radius of the Earth) is a satellite in geosynchronous motion around the Earth - i.e., the satellite, as viewed from Earth, seems to remain stationary at the same point in the sky.

For geosynchronous satellite we have: $T_{\text{sat}} = T_E$

From Eq. (13.12) of the book we have:

$$T = \frac{2\pi r^{3/2}}{\sqrt{GM_E}} \quad (\text{if we take orbit circular})$$

$$T_E = 24 \text{ hours} = 24 \times 60 \times 60 = 86400 \text{ s}$$

$$\Rightarrow T_{\text{sat}} = T_E \Rightarrow \frac{2\pi r^{3/2}}{\sqrt{GM_E}} = T_E$$

$$\Rightarrow r = \left(\frac{T_E \cdot \sqrt{GM_E}}{2\pi} \right)^{2/3}$$

$$\Rightarrow r = 4.23 \times 10^7 \text{ m}$$

$$\Rightarrow r = 42300 \text{ km} > R_E$$

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Assume the Earth's mass is $M_E = 6 \times 10^{24} \text{ kg}$ and radius is $R_E = 6000 \text{ km}$, and consider a 3000 kg satellite going around Earth in an orbit of radius $r = 8R_E$. What is the period of the orbit?

$$F_r = m a_r$$

$$\Rightarrow G \frac{m M_E}{r^2} = m \frac{v^2}{r}$$

$$\Rightarrow v = \sqrt{\frac{G M_E}{r}}$$

$$T = \frac{2\pi r}{v} = \frac{2\pi r}{\sqrt{\frac{G M_E}{r}}} = \frac{2\pi r \sqrt{r}}{\sqrt{G M_E}}$$

$$\Rightarrow T = \frac{2\pi r^{3/2}}{\sqrt{G M_E}}$$

$$\Rightarrow T = \frac{2\pi \times (8 \times 6000 \times 10^3)^{3/2}}{\sqrt{6.67 \times 10^{-11} \times 6 \times 10^{24}}}$$

$$\Rightarrow T = 1.04 \times 10^5 \text{ sec}$$

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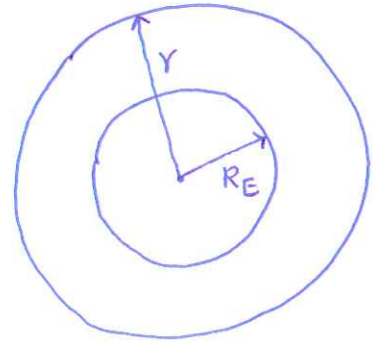
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Assume the Earth's mass is $M_E = 6 \times 10^{24} \text{ kg}$ and radius is $R_E = 6000 \text{ km}$, and consider a 3000 kg satellite going around Earth in an orbit of radius $r = 8R_E$. That far from the Earth, how large is the acceleration due to gravity?

$$\text{Earth: } \begin{cases} M_E = 6 \times 10^{24} \text{ kg} \\ R_E = 6000 \text{ km} = 6 \times 10^6 \text{ m} \end{cases}$$

$$\text{Satellite: } \begin{cases} m = 3000 \text{ kg} \\ r = 8R_E = 48 \times 10^6 \text{ m} \end{cases}$$



$$\Sigma \vec{F} = m\vec{a}$$

$$\Rightarrow F_r = ma_r$$

$$\Rightarrow a_r = \frac{F_r}{m} = \frac{\frac{GmM_E}{(8R_E)^2}}{m} = \frac{GM_E}{64R_E^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow a_r = \frac{6.67 \times 10^{-11} \times 6 \times 10^{24}}{64 \times (6 \times 10^6)^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow a_r = 0.144 \text{ m/s}^2$$

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Mercury is much less massive than Earth and closer to the Sun than Earth and orbits the Sun in only 88 days. Determine whether the following statement is true or false and explain your reasoning: If the Earth moved on the same orbit as Mercury does, it would have a period of 88 days.

The statement is true because of the following reasoning:

$$M_m < M_E$$

$$R_m < R_E$$

$$T_m = 88 \text{ days}$$

Taking mass of Sun as M_S and mass and orbital radius of typical planet as m_p and r_p , respectively, a planet moving around sun will have the following speed and thus period:

$$F_r = m a_r \Rightarrow \frac{G m_p M_S}{r_p^2} = \frac{m_p v^2}{r_p} \Rightarrow v = \sqrt{\frac{G M_S}{r_p}}$$

$$\Rightarrow T = \frac{2\pi r_p}{v} = \frac{2\pi r_p^{3/2}}{\sqrt{G M_S}}$$

The formula for T indicates that, period is just dependent on r_p , the distance of planet from sun, and is independent of m_p (mass of planet).

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Assume the Earth's mass is $M_E = 6 \times 10^{24} \text{ kg}$ and radius is $R_E = 6000 \text{ km}$, and consider a 3000 kg satellite going around Earth in an orbit of radius $r = 8R_E$. How fast must the satellite be moving to hold the orbit?

$$\text{Earth: } \begin{cases} M_E = 6 \times 10^{24} \text{ kg} \\ R_E = 6000 \text{ km} = 6 \times 10^6 \text{ m} \end{cases}$$

$$\text{Satellite: } \begin{cases} m = 3000 \text{ kg} \\ r = 8R_E = 48 \times 10^6 \text{ m} \end{cases}$$

$$F_r = ma_r \Rightarrow \frac{GmM_E}{r^2} = m \frac{v^2}{r}$$

$$\Rightarrow v = \sqrt{\frac{GM_E}{r}}$$

$$\Rightarrow v = \sqrt{\frac{6.67 \times 10^{-11} \times 6 \times 10^{24}}{48 \times 10^6}}$$

$$v \approx 2.89 \times 10^3 \text{ m/s}$$