

## Circular Motion and Gravitation

# Problem D

### PERIOD AND SPEED OF AN ORBITING OBJECT

#### PROBLEM

The Galilean moon Io orbits Jupiter at a mean distance of  $4.22 \times 10^5$  km. Io's orbital period is 1.77 Earth days. Use this data to calculate the mass of Jupiter.

#### SOLUTION

##### 1. DEFINE

**Given:**  $T = 1.77 \text{ days} \times 24 \text{ h/day} \times 60 \text{ min/h} \times 60 \text{ s/min} = 1.53 \times 10^5 \text{ s}$   
 $r = 4.22 \times 10^5 \text{ km} = 4.22 \times 10^8 \text{ m}$

**Unknown:**  $m = ?$

##### 2. PLAN

**Choose an equation or situation:** Use the equation for the period of an object in circular orbit, and rearrange the equation to solve for  $m$ .

$$T = 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{r^3}{Gm}}$$

$$T^2 = 4\pi^2 \frac{r^3}{Gm}$$

$$m = 4\pi^2 \frac{r^3}{GT^2}$$

##### 3. CALCULATE

**Substitute the values into the equation(s) and solve:**

$$m = 4\pi^2 \frac{(4.22 \times 10^8 \text{ m})^3}{\left(6.673 \times 10^{-11} \frac{\text{N}\cdot\text{m}^2}{\text{kg}^2}\right)(1.53 \times 10^5 \text{ s})^2} = 1.90 \times 10^{27} \text{ kg}$$

##### 4. EVALUATE

The mass of Jupiter is  $1.90 \times 10^{27}$  kg.

#### ADDITIONAL PRACTICE

- Earth's moon orbits Earth at a mean distance of  $3.84 \times 10^8$  m and has an orbital period of 27.4 days. Use this data to calculate Earth's mass.
- Saturn's moon Titan orbits Saturn at a mean distance of  $1.22 \times 10^6$  km and has an orbital period of 15.9 Earth days. Use this data to calculate Saturn's mass.
- The Galilean moon Europa orbits Jupiter with a period of 3.55 Earth days. Calculate the mean distance between Europa and Jupiter.
- The asteroid Ceres orbits the sun with an orbital period of 4.61 Earth years. What is the mean radius of Ceres' orbit? ( $m_s = 1.99 \times 10^{30}$  kg)
- What is the orbital speed of the asteroid Ceres (see item 4 above)?

6. What is the orbital speed of a satellite that orbits Earth at an altitude of 30.0 km? ( $r_E = 6.38 \times 10^6$  m;  $m_E = 5.97 \times 10^{24}$  kg)
7. What is the orbital period of a satellite that orbits Earth at an altitude of 30.0 km? ( $r_E = 6.38 \times 10^6$  m)
8. Mercury has the shortest orbital period of any planet in the solar system. Mercury's mean distance from the sun is  $5.79 \times 10^{10}$  m. Calculate Mercury's orbital period, and express your answer in Earth days. ( $m_s = 1.99 \times 10^{30}$  kg)

**Givens****Solutions**

**7.**  $m_1 = m_2 = 9.95 \times 10^{41} \text{ kg}$

$$F_g = 1.83 \times 10^{29} \text{ N}$$

$$G = 6.673 \times 10^{-11} \frac{\text{N} \cdot \text{m}^2}{\text{kg}^2}$$

$$r = \sqrt{\frac{Gm_1m_2}{F_g}} = \sqrt{\frac{\left(6.673 \times 10^{-11} \frac{\text{N} \cdot \text{m}^2}{\text{kg}^2}\right)(9.95 \times 10^{41} \text{ kg})^2}{1.83 \times 10^{29} \text{ N}}} = [1.90 \times 10^{22} \text{ m}]$$

**8.**  $m_1 = 1.00 \text{ kg}$

$$m_2 = 1.99 \times 10^{30} \text{ kg}$$

$$F_g = 274 \text{ N}$$

$$G = 6.673 \times 10^{-11} \frac{\text{N} \cdot \text{m}^2}{\text{kg}^2}$$

$$r = \sqrt{\frac{Gm_1m_2}{F_g}} = \sqrt{\frac{\left(6.673 \times 10^{-11} \frac{\text{N} \cdot \text{m}^2}{\text{kg}^2}\right)(1.00 \text{ kg})(1.99 \times 10^{30} \text{ kg})}{274 \text{ N}}} = [6.96 \times 10^8 \text{ m}]$$

**9.**  $m_1 = 1.00 \text{ kg}$

$$m_2 = 3.98 \times 10^{31} \text{ kg}$$

$$F_g = 2.19 \times 10^{-3} \text{ N}$$

$$G = 6.673 \times 10^{-11} \frac{\text{N} \cdot \text{m}^2}{\text{kg}^2}$$

$$r = \sqrt{\frac{Gm_1m_2}{F_g}} = \sqrt{\frac{\left(6.673 \times 10^{-11} \frac{\text{N} \cdot \text{m}^2}{\text{kg}^2}\right)(1.00 \text{ kg})(3.98 \times 10^{31} \text{ kg})}{2.19 \times 10^{-3} \text{ N}}} = [1.10 \times 10^{12} \text{ m}]$$

**10.**  $F_g = 125 \text{ N}$

$$m_1 = 4.5 \times 10^{13} \text{ kg}$$

$$m_2 = 1.2 \times 10^{14} \text{ kg}$$

$$G = 6.673 \times 10^{-11} \frac{\text{N} \cdot \text{m}^2}{\text{kg}^2}$$

$$r = \sqrt{\frac{Gm_1m_2}{F_g}} = \sqrt{\frac{\left(6.673 \times 10^{-11} \frac{\text{N} \cdot \text{m}^2}{\text{kg}^2}\right)(4.5 \times 10^{13} \text{ kg})(1.2 \times 10^{14} \text{ kg})}{125 \text{ N}}} = [5.4 \times 10^7 \text{ m}]$$

$$r = \sqrt{\frac{Gm_1m_2}{F_g}} = \sqrt{\frac{\left(6.673 \times 10^{-11} \frac{\text{N} \cdot \text{m}^2}{\text{kg}^2}\right)(4.5 \times 10^{13} \text{ kg})(1.2 \times 10^{14} \text{ kg})}{125 \text{ N}}} = [5.4 \times 10^7 \text{ m}]$$

**Additional Practice D**

**1.**  $r = 3.84 \times 10^8 \text{ m}$

$$T = 27.4 \text{ d} = 2.37 \times 10^6 \text{ s}$$

$$m = 4\pi^2 \frac{r^3}{GT^2} = 4\pi^2 \frac{(3.84 \times 10^8 \text{ m})^3}{\left(6.673 \times 10^{-11} \frac{\text{N} \cdot \text{m}^2}{\text{kg}^2}\right)(2.37 \times 10^6 \text{ s})^2} = [5.96 \times 10^{24} \text{ kg}]$$

**2.**  $r = 1.22 \times 10^6 \text{ km} = 1.22 \times 10^9 \text{ m}$

$$T = 15.9 \text{ d} = 1.37 \times 10^6 \text{ s}$$

$$m = 4\pi^2 \frac{r^3}{GT^2} = 4\pi^2 \frac{(1.22 \times 10^9 \text{ m})^3}{\left(6.673 \times 10^{-11} \frac{\text{N} \cdot \text{m}^2}{\text{kg}^2}\right)(1.37 \times 10^6 \text{ s})^2} = [5.72 \times 10^{26} \text{ kg}]$$

**3.**  $T = 3.55 \text{ d} = 3.07 \times 10^5 \text{ s}$

$$m = 1.90 \times 10^{27} \text{ kg}$$

$$r = \sqrt[3]{\frac{GmT^2}{4\pi^2}} = \sqrt[3]{\frac{\left(6.673 \times 10^{-11} \frac{\text{N} \cdot \text{m}^2}{\text{kg}^2}\right)(1.90 \times 10^{27} \text{ kg})(3.07 \times 10^5 \text{ s})^2}{4\pi^2}} \\ r = [6.71 \times 10^8 \text{ m}]$$

**4.**  $T = 4.61 \text{ y} = 1.45 \times 10^8 \text{ s}$

$$m = 1.99 \times 10^{30} \text{ kg}$$

$$r = \sqrt[3]{\frac{GmT^2}{4\pi^2}} = \sqrt[3]{\frac{\left(6.673 \times 10^{-11} \frac{\text{N} \cdot \text{m}^2}{\text{kg}^2}\right)(1.99 \times 10^{30} \text{ kg})(1.45 \times 10^8 \text{ s})^2}{4\pi^2}} \\ r = [4.14 \times 10^{11} \text{ m}]$$

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5.  $T = 4.61 \text{ y} = 1.45 \times 10^8 \text{ s}$

$m = 1.99 \times 10^{30} \text{ kg}$

**Solutions**

$$r = \sqrt[3]{\frac{GmT^2}{4\pi^2}} = \sqrt[3]{\frac{\left(6.673 \times 10^{-11} \frac{\text{N} \cdot \text{m}^2}{\text{kg}^2}\right)(1.99 \times 10^{30} \text{ kg})(1.45 \times 10^8 \text{ s})^2}{4\pi^2}}$$

$r = 4.14 \times 10^{11} \text{ m}$

$$v_t = \sqrt{\frac{m}{r}} = \sqrt{\frac{\left(6.673 \times 10^{-11} \frac{\text{N} \cdot \text{m}^2}{\text{kg}^2}\right)(1.99 \times 10^{30} \text{ kg})}{(4.14 \times 10^{11} \text{ m})}} = 1.79 \times 10^4 \text{ m/s}$$

6.  $r_1 = 30.0 \text{ km} = 3.00 \times 10^4 \text{ m}$

$r_2 = 6.38 \times 10^6 \text{ m}$

$m = 5.97 \times 10^{24} \text{ kg}$

$r = r_1 + r_2 = (3.00 \times 10^4 \text{ m}) + (6.38 \times 10^6 \text{ m}) = 6.41 \times 10^6 \text{ m}$

$$v_t = \sqrt{\frac{m}{r}} = \sqrt{\frac{\left(6.673 \times 10^{-11} \frac{\text{N} \cdot \text{m}^2}{\text{kg}^2}\right)(5.97 \times 10^{24} \text{ kg})}{(6.41 \times 10^6 \text{ m})}} = 7.88 \times 10^3 \text{ m/s}$$

7.  $r_1 = 30.0 \text{ km} = 3.00 \times 10^4 \text{ m}$

$r_2 = 6.38 \times 10^6 \text{ m}$

$m = 5.97 \times 10^{24} \text{ kg}$

$r = r_1 + r_2 = (3.00 \times 10^4 \text{ m}) + (6.38 \times 10^6 \text{ m}) = 6.41 \times 10^6 \text{ m}$

$$T = 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{r^3}{Gm}} = 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{(6.41 \times 10^6 \text{ m})^3}{\left(6.673 \times 10^{-11} \frac{\text{N} \cdot \text{m}^2}{\text{kg}^2}\right)(5.97 \times 10^{24} \text{ kg})}} = 5.11 \times 10^3 \text{ s}$$

8.  $r = 5.79 \times 10^{10} \text{ m}$

$m = 1.99 \times 10^{30} \text{ kg}$

$$T = 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{r^3}{Gm}} = 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{(5.79 \times 10^{10} \text{ m})^3}{\left(6.673 \times 10^{-11} \frac{\text{N} \cdot \text{m}^2}{\text{kg}^2}\right)(1.99 \times 10^{30} \text{ kg})}} = 7.60 \times 10^6 \text{ s}$$

$$T = 7.60 \times 10^6 \text{ s} \times \frac{1 \text{ min}}{60 \text{ s}} \times \frac{1 \text{ h}}{60 \text{ min}} \times \frac{1 \text{ d}}{24 \text{ h}} = 88.0 \text{ d}$$

**Additional Practice E**

1.  $d = 1.60 \text{ m}$

$\tau = 4.00 \times 10^2 \text{ N} \cdot \text{m}$

$\theta = 80.0^\circ$

$$F = \frac{\tau}{d(\sin \theta)} = \frac{4.00 \times 10^2 \text{ N} \cdot \text{m}}{(1.60 \text{ m})(\sin 80.0^\circ)}$$

$F = 254 \text{ N}$

2.  $\tau_{net} = 14.0 \text{ N} \cdot \text{m}$

$d' = 0.200 \text{ m}$

$\theta' = 80.0^\circ$

$\tau = 4.00 \times 10^2 \text{ N} \cdot \text{m}$

$\tau_{net} = \tau - \tau'$

$\tau' = F_g d' (\sin \theta') = \tau - \tau_{net}$

$$F_g = \frac{\tau - \tau_{net}}{d'(\sin \theta')} = \frac{4.00 \times 10^2 \text{ N} \cdot \text{m} - 14.0 \text{ N} \cdot \text{m}}{(0.200 \text{ m})(\sin 80.0^\circ)}$$

$$F_g = \frac{386 \text{ N} \cdot \text{m}}{(0.200 \text{ m})(\sin 80.0^\circ)} = 1.96 \times 10^3 \text{ N}$$

3.  $d = 2.44 \text{ m}$

$\tau = 50.0 \text{ N} \cdot \text{m}$

$\theta = 90^\circ$

$$F = \frac{\tau}{d(\sin \theta)} = \frac{50.0 \text{ N} \cdot \text{m}}{(2.44 \text{ m})(\sin 90^\circ)}$$

$F = 20.5 \text{ N}$