

GRAVITATIONAL FIELDS QUIZ

1. A satellite, with a mass of 1000.0 kg, orbits a faraway planet, at a height of 4.5×10^6 m above the surface. The satellite experiences a force of gravity equal to 525 N. If the planet has a mass of 7.56×10^{30} kg, determine the radius of the planet.

$$m_s = 1000.0 \text{ kg}$$

$$h = 4.5 \times 10^6 \text{ m}$$

$$F_g = 525 \text{ N}$$

$$M = 7.56 \times 10^{30} \text{ kg}$$

$$r_p = ?$$

$$F_g = \frac{GMm}{r^2} \quad (1)$$

$$F_g = \frac{GMm}{(r_p + h)^2} \quad (1)$$

$$(r_p + h)^2 = \frac{GMm}{F_g}$$

$$\sqrt{(r_p + h)^2} = \sqrt{\frac{GMm}{F_g}}$$

$$r_p = \sqrt{\frac{GMm}{F_g}} - h \quad (1)$$

$$r_p = \sqrt{\frac{(6.67 \times 10^{-11} \text{ Nm}^2/\text{kg}^2)(7.56 \times 10^{30} \text{ kg})(1000.0 \text{ kg})}{525 \text{ N}}} - 4.5 \times 10^6 \text{ m}$$

$$r_p = 3.098711177 \times 10^{10} \text{ m}$$

$$r_p = 3.1 \times 10^{10} \text{ m} \quad (1)$$