

Answer on Question #76073, Physics / Mechanics | Relativity | for completion

The gravitational potential at a distance  $2.26 \times 10^7$  m from the centre of a planet of radius  $8.55 \times 10^6$  m is  $-5.64 \times 10^7$  J kg<sup>-1</sup>.

Calculate the gravitational potential at a distance  $7.2 \times 10^7$  m from the centre of the planet,

$$V_1 = -5.64 \times 10^7 \frac{J}{kg}, r_1 = 2.26 \times 10^7 m, r_2 = 7.2 \times 10^7 m.$$

Gravitational potential can be found from expression:  $V(x) = -\frac{GM}{x}$ .

We can derive the expression for GM:  $V_1 = -\frac{GM}{r_1}, -GM = V_1 r_1$ .

Now let us obtain the value of gravitational potential an distance  $r_2$ :  $V_2 = -\frac{GM}{r_2} = \frac{V_1 r_1}{r_2} =$

$$\frac{-5.64 \times 10^7 \times 2.26 \times 10^7}{7.2 \times 10^7} = -1.77 \times 10^7 \frac{J}{kg}.$$

Answer:  $-1.77 \times 10^7$  J/kg.

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