

Law of Universal Gravitation

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Ex: Calculate the "attraction" between 2 students

To solve: estimate mass and distance

Ex: Find gravitational attraction of a 100 kg man on the surface of the earth

$$m_e = 5.98 \times 10^{24} \text{ kg}$$

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

$$m_m = 100 \text{ kg}$$

$$F = \frac{Gm_1m_2}{r^2} = \frac{Gm_e \cdot m_m}{r^2} = \frac{6.67 \times 10^{-11} \cdot 5.98 \cdot 10^{24} \cdot 100}{(6.38 \times 10^6)^2}$$
$$= 980 \text{ N}$$

Find the value of g on Mars

$$m_{\text{mars}} = 6.42 \times 10^{23} \text{ kg}$$

$$r_{\text{mars}} = 3.37 \times 10^6 \text{ m}$$

p. 223

$$g = ?$$

$$F = m \cdot g$$

$$F = \frac{G M \cdot m_2}{r^2}$$

$$g = \frac{G M}{r^2}$$

$$g = \frac{Gm_2}{r^2} = \frac{Gm_m}{r_m^2} = \frac{6.67 \times 10^{-11} \cdot 6.42 \times 10^{23}}{(3.37 \times 10^7)^2} = 3.77 \text{ m/s}^2$$