

## Gravitational force and acceleration

*Force of gravity* between two masses

$$F = G \frac{m_1 m_2}{r^2}$$

$F$  - Force, N;  $m_1, m_2$  - mass, kg;  $m$  - mass of planet, kg;  $r$  - distance between mass' centers, m

*Acceleration* due to a planet's gravity,  $g$

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

### Gravitational Constant

$$G = 6.67 \times 10^{-11}$$

## Orbits

*Orbital Velocity*

$$V_{orb} = \sqrt{G \frac{m}{r}}$$

$V_{orb}$  - Orbital velocity, m/s;  $T$  - orbital period, sec;  $m$  - mass of primary, kg;  $r$  - distance to primary center, m

*Orbital Period*

$$T = \frac{2\pi r}{V_{orb}}$$

## Miscellaneous

*Escape Velocity*

$$V_{esc} = \sqrt{2G \frac{m}{r}}$$

$$V_{esc} = \sqrt{2} V_{orb}$$

$V_{esc}$  - Escape velocity, m/s;  $m$  - mass of primary, kg;  $r$  - distance to primary center, m

*Kepler's Third Law: Orbital Period vs Radius*

$$\frac{T_1^2}{R_1^3} = \frac{T_2^2}{R_2^3}$$

For solar orbits:  $\frac{T^2}{R^3} = 1$