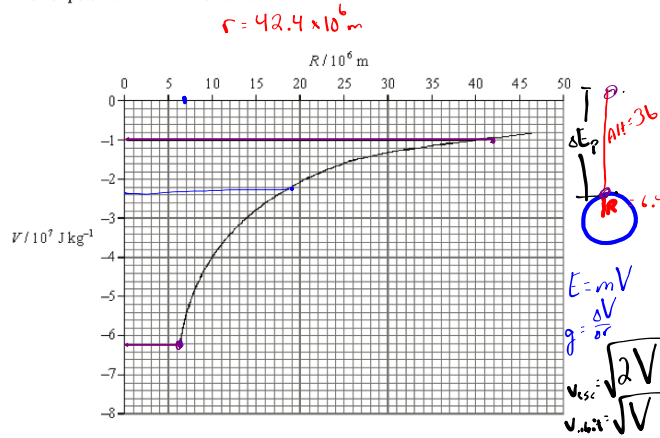


2. The graph below shows the variation of gravitational potential V due to the Earth with distance R from the centre of the Earth. The radius of the Earth is 6.4×10^6 m. The graph does not show the variation of potential V within the Earth.



Use the graph to determine the minimum energy required to put a satellite of mass 1.0×10^4 kg into an orbit at a height of 3.6×10^7 m above the surface of Earth.

$$E_{p_i} = m V_o = 10^4 \text{ kg} \cdot (-6.2 \times 10^9 \text{ J/kg}) = -6.2 \times 10^{13} \text{ J}$$

$$E_{p_f} = m V_f = 10^4 \text{ kg} \cdot (-1 \times 10^9 \text{ J/kg}) = -1 \times 10^{13} \text{ J}$$

$$\Delta E_p = 5.2 \times 10^{13} \text{ J}$$

$$E_k = \frac{1}{2} E_p = 2.6 \times 10^{13} \text{ J}$$

$$E_k = \frac{1}{2} m v^2$$

$$v_{orbit} = \sqrt{V}$$

$$v_{orbit} = \sqrt{\frac{GM}{r}}$$

$$V = -\frac{GM}{r}$$

More energy than this is needed because: