

1. A rocket is launched with velocity 10km/s. If radius of earth is R, then maximum height attained by it will be?

$$v = 10^4 \frac{m}{s}$$

$$R = 6.37 \cdot 10^6 m$$

$$h = ?$$

Solution.

The maximum height attained by the rocket is determined by the law of conservation and transformation energy: the sum of the potential energy of the rocket (gravity energy) and its kinematic energy keeps constant.

If the Earth's mass is M , then

$$-G \frac{mM}{R} + \frac{mv^2}{2} = -G \frac{mM}{R+h}.$$

The force of gravity at the surface of the Earth: $mg = G \frac{mM}{R^2}.$

One can find the height, at which the velocity equals to zero:

$$h = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{R} - \frac{v^2}{2GM}} - R, \quad \boxed{h = \frac{1}{\frac{2g}{v^2} - \frac{1}{R}}}.$$

Let check the dimension: $[h] = \frac{1}{\frac{\frac{m}{s^2}}{\left(\frac{m}{s}\right)^2} - \frac{1}{m}} = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{m} - \frac{1}{m}} = m.$

Let evaluate the quantity: $h = \frac{1}{\frac{2 \cdot 9.81}{(10^4)^2} - \frac{1}{6.37 \cdot 10^6}} = 2.55 \cdot 10^7 (m).$

Answer: $2.55 \cdot 10^4 km.$