Answer on Question #55775-Physics-Classical Mechanics

A satellite in force free space sweeps stationary interplanetary dust at a rate of dM/dt = kV where M is mass and V is the speed of satellite and k is a constant. Tangential acceleration of satellite is

Options are-

- (1) -kV^2/2M
- (2) -kV^2
- (3) -2kV^2/M
- (4) -kV^2/M

Solution

Thrust on the satellite,

$$F = -V\frac{dM}{dt} = -V \cdot kV = -kV^{2}.$$

Tangential acceleration of satellite is

$$\frac{F}{M} = \frac{-kV^2}{M}$$

Answer: 4) -kV^2/M.

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