

Answer on Question #62011-Physics-Astronomy-Astrophysics

The “Opportunity” rover that just landed on Mars transmitted music back to Earth. If the distance to Earth at the time was 9×10^7 km and radio waves (a kind of “light”) travel with a speed of 3×10^8 m/s, how long did it take for the signal to reach listeners on Earth?

Solution

$$t = \frac{d}{v} = \frac{9 \cdot 10^{10} \text{ m}}{3 \cdot 10^8 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}} = 300 \text{ s} = 5 \text{ min.}$$

Answer: 5 min.

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