

**10.1** A remote sensing satellite is in circular orbit around Earth at an altitude of 1,500 km above Earth's surface. What is its orbital period?

**Solution:** The orbit's radius is  $R_0 = R_e + h = 6,378 + 1,500 = 7878$  km. Rewriting Eq. (10.6) for  $T$ :

$$\begin{aligned} T &= \left( \frac{4\pi^2 R_0^3}{GM_e} \right)^{1/2} = \left[ \frac{4\pi^2 \times (7.878 \times 10^6)^3}{6.67 \times 10^{-11} \times 5.98 \times 10^{24}} \right]^{1/2} \\ &= 5383.19 \text{ s} = 89.72 \text{ minutes.} \end{aligned}$$

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