## **CONCEPT: Kepler's Third Law**

• For any circular orbit, the orbital period (T) squared is proportional to the orbital radius (r) cubed.



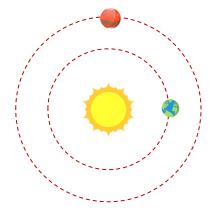
- The relationship between **r** and **T** depends only on (**M | m**).
- If you're given 2 out of 3 (M, r or h, T) use Kepler's 3rd Law!



ullet If 2 objects orbit the same mass lacktriangle, their ratios  $\frac{r^3}{T^2}$  are a \_\_\_\_\_ and are \_\_\_\_\_

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- Units can be non-SI when comparing, as long as they are consistent.



<u>EXAMPLE</u>: Jupiter orbits once every 11.86 years and orbits at a distance of 5.2 AU, where 1 AU is the average distance between Earth and the Sun. If Neptune's orbital distance from the Sun is 30.11 AU, how long does it take to complete its orbit (in years)? Calculate **without** using M<sub>SUN</sub>.

EQUATIONS	GRAV. CONSTANTS
$\begin{split} F_G &= \frac{Gm_1m_2}{r^2}  r = R + h \\ g &= \frac{GM}{r^2}  g_{surf} = \frac{GM}{R^2} \\ T_{sat}^2 &= \frac{4\pi^2r^3}{GM} \end{split}$	$G = 6.67 \times 10^{-11} \frac{m^3}{\text{kg·s}^2}$ $M_E = 5.97 \times 10^{24} \text{ kg}$ $R_E = 6.37 \times 10^6 \text{ m}$

<u>PRACTICE</u>: lo and Ganymede are two of Jupiter's four Galilean moons. lo orbits at an average distance of 422,000km in 1.77 days. What is Ganymede's average orbital distance (in km), if it takes 4 times longer to orbit Jupiter?

EQUATIONS	GRAV. CONSTANTS
$F_G = \frac{Gm_1m_2}{r^2}  r = R + h$	$G = 6.67 \times 10^{-11} \frac{m^3}{kg \cdot s^2}$
$g = \frac{GM}{r^2} \qquad g_{surf} = \frac{GM}{R^2}$ $T_{sat}^2 = \frac{4\pi^2 r^3}{GM}$	$M_E = 5.97 \times 10^{24} \text{ kg}$ $R_E = 6.37 \times 10^6 \text{ m}$
$\frac{{r_1}^3}{{T_1}^2} = constant = \frac{{r_2}^3}{{T_2}^2}$	