

66. From Eq. 14-41, we obtain $v = \sqrt{GM/r}$ for the speed of an object in circular orbit (of radius r) around a planet of mass M . In this case, $M = 5.98 \times 10^{24}$ kg and $r = 700 + 6370 = 7070$ km $= 7.07 \times 10^6$ m. The speed is found to be $v = 7.51 \times 10^3$ m/s. After multiplying by 3600 s/h and dividing by 1000 m/km this becomes $v = 2.7 \times 10^4$ km/h.
- (a) For a head-on collision, the relative speed of the two objects must be $2v = 5.4 \times 10^4$ km/h.
- (b) A perpendicular collision is possible if one satellite is, say, orbiting above the equator and the other is following a longitudinal line. In this case, the relative speed is given by the Pythagorean theorem: $\sqrt{v^2 + v^2} = 3.8 \times 10^4$ km/h.