

37. We use the notation g as the acceleration due to gravity near the surface of Callisto, m as the mass of the landing craft, a as the acceleration of the landing craft, and F as the rocket thrust. We take down to be the positive direction. Thus, Newton's second law takes the form $mg - F = ma$. If the thrust is F_1 ($= 3260 \text{ N}$), then the acceleration is zero, so $mg - F_1 = 0$. If the thrust is F_2 ($= 2200 \text{ N}$), then the acceleration is a_2 ($= 0.39 \text{ m/s}^2$), so $mg - F_2 = ma_2$.

(a) The first equation gives the weight of the landing craft: $mg = F_1 = 3260 \text{ N}$.

(b) The second equation gives the mass:

$$m = \frac{mg - F_2}{a_2} = \frac{3260 \text{ N} - 2200 \text{ N}}{0.39 \text{ m/s}^2} = 2.7 \times 10^3 \text{ kg} .$$

(c) The weight divided by the mass gives the acceleration due to gravity: $g = (3260 \text{ N})/(2.7 \times 10^3 \text{ kg}) = 1.2 \text{ m/s}^2$.