Exercise 1.83

A thief plans to steal a gold sphere with a radius of 28.9 cm from a museum. If the gold has a density of 19.3 g/cm³, what is the mass of the sphere in pounds? [The volume of a sphere is $V = (4/3)\pi r^3$.] Is the thief likely to be able to walk off with the gold sphere unassisted?

Solution

Determine the mass of gold by multiplying the density by the volume.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Mass} &= \text{Density} \times \text{Volume} \\ &= \left(19.3 \, \frac{\text{g}}{\text{cm}^3}\right) \times \left[\frac{4}{3}\pi (28.9 \, \text{cm})^3\right] \\ &= \left(19.3 \, \frac{\text{g}}{\text{cm}^3} \times \frac{1 \, \text{lb}}{453.59 \, \text{g}}\right) \times \left[\frac{4}{3}\pi (28.9 \, \text{cm})^3\right] \\ &\approx 4.30 \times 10^3 \, \text{lb} \end{aligned}$$

The thief will likely need assistance.