

6 (b) An elastic string of natural length one metre is extended 20 cm by a particle attached to its end and hanging freely. The particle is then pulled down a further distance of 40 cm and released.

- (i) Show that the particle moves with simple harmonic motion when the string is taut
- (ii) Find the height above the equilibrium position to which the particle will rise.

(i) Equilibrium position

$$T_0 = mg$$

$$k(0.2) = mg$$

$$\Rightarrow k = 5mg \quad \text{or} \quad 49m$$

Displaced position

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Force in direction of } x \text{ increasing} &= mg - k(0.2 + x) \\ &= mg - mg - 5mgx \\ &= -5mgx \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{acceleration} &= -5gx \\ &= -49x \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{S.H.M. about } x = 0 \text{ with } \omega = 7$$

(ii) Find velocity of particle when string is 1 m long

$$\begin{aligned} v &= \omega \sqrt{a^2 - x^2} \\ &= 7 \sqrt{(0.4)^2 - (0.2)^2} \\ &= 7 \sqrt{0.12} \quad \text{or} \quad 2.43 \end{aligned}$$

Find distance

$$\begin{aligned} v^2 &= u^2 + 2as \\ 0 &= 49(0.12) + 2(-9.8)s \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow s = 0.3 \quad \Rightarrow 0.5 \text{ m above the equilibrium position}$$

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