

2007 6.

- (a) A particle of mass m kg is suspended from a fixed point p by a light elastic string.

The extension of the string is d when the particle is in equilibrium.

The particle is then displaced vertically from the equilibrium position a distance not greater than d and is then released from rest.

- (i) Show that the motion of the particle is simple harmonic.

- (ii) Find, in terms of d , the period of the motion.

- (i) Equilibrium position :

$$T_0 = kd \Rightarrow mg = kd$$

Displaced position :

$$\text{Force in dirn. of } x \text{ inc.} = mg - k(d + x)$$

$$= mg - kd - kx$$

$$= -kx$$

$$\text{Acceleration} = -\frac{kx}{m}$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{S.H.M. about } x = 0 \text{ with } \omega = \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}}$$

- (ii)

$$\text{Period} = \frac{2\pi}{\omega}$$

$$= 2\pi\sqrt{\frac{m}{k}}$$

$$= 2\pi\sqrt{\frac{d}{g}}$$

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