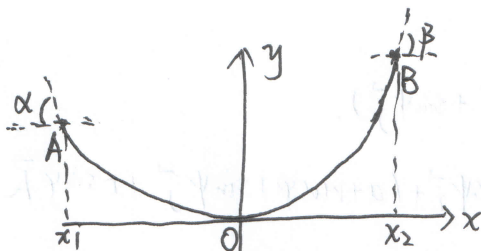


四. 解: 如图, 以绳最低点为原点,

竖直向上为 y 轴正方向, 建立坐标系.



从教材中推导可知绳方程为 $y = \frac{T_0}{w} \left(\cosh \frac{wx}{T_0} - 1 \right)$

其中 T_0 为绳在 O 点的张力, w 为绳单位长度重量.

设悬挂点 A, B 横坐标分别为 x_1, x_2 . 不妨设 $\beta > \alpha$.

$$y' = \sinh\left(\frac{w}{T_0}x\right) \quad \begin{cases} y'|_{x=x_1} = \sinh \frac{wx_1}{T_0} = -\tan \alpha \\ y'|_{x=x_2} = \sinh \frac{wx_2}{T_0} = \tan \beta. \end{cases} \quad \text{注意负号.}$$

$$y_A = \frac{T_0}{w} \cosh \frac{wx_1}{T_0} - 1, \quad y_B = \frac{T_0}{w} \cosh \frac{wx_2}{T_0} - 1.$$

$$\cosh \frac{wx_1}{T_0} = \sqrt{1 + \sinh^2 \frac{wx_1}{T_0}} = \frac{1}{\cos \alpha}, \quad \cosh \frac{wx_2}{T_0} = \sqrt{1 + \sinh^2 \frac{wx_2}{T_0}} = \frac{1}{\cos \beta}.$$

$$\text{绳在 } B \text{ 处张力 } T_B \text{ 满足 } \begin{cases} T_B \cos \beta = T_0 \\ T_B \sin \beta = w l_2, \end{cases} \quad A \text{ 处张力 } T_A \text{ 满足 } \begin{cases} T_A \cos \alpha = T_0 \\ T_A \sin \alpha = w l_1. \end{cases}$$

其中 l_1, l_2 分别为绳子 OA 段与 OB 段长度.

$$\therefore \begin{cases} \frac{w}{T_0} l_2 = \tan \beta \\ \frac{w}{T_0} l_1 = \tan \alpha \end{cases} \Rightarrow \frac{w}{T_0} (l_1 + l_2) = \frac{w}{T_0} \cdot 2L = \tan \alpha + \tan \beta.$$

$$\therefore \frac{T_0}{w} = \frac{2L}{\tan \alpha + \tan \beta}.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \Delta h = y_B - y_A &= \frac{T_0}{w} \left(\frac{1}{\cos \beta} - \frac{1}{\cos \alpha} \right) = \frac{2L}{\tan \alpha + \tan \beta} \left(\frac{1}{\cos \beta} - \frac{1}{\cos \alpha} \right) \\ &= \frac{2L (\cos \alpha - \cos \beta)}{\sin(\alpha + \beta)} \\ &= \frac{2L \cdot 2 \sin \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2} \sin \frac{\beta - \alpha}{2}}{2 \sin \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2} \cos \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2}} \\ &= 2L \sin \frac{\beta - \alpha}{2} \sec \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2}. \end{aligned}$$