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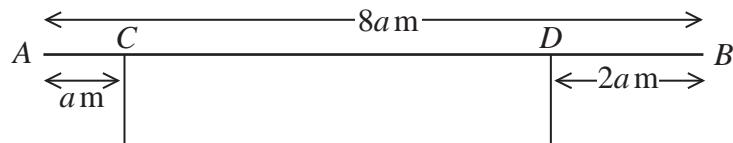


Figure 2

A non-uniform beam AB , of mass 60kg and length $8a$ metres, rests in equilibrium in a horizontal position on two vertical supports. One support is at C , where $AC = a$ metres and the other support is at D , where $DB = 2a$ metres, as shown in Figure 2.

The magnitude of the normal reaction between the beam and the support at D is three times the magnitude of the normal reaction between the beam and the support at C .

By modelling the beam as a non-uniform rod whose centre of mass is at a distance x metres from A ,

- (a) find an expression for x in terms of a .

(5)

A box of mass M kg is placed on the beam at E , where $AE = 2a$ metres.

The beam remains in equilibrium in a horizontal position.

The magnitude of the normal reaction between the beam and the support at C is now equal to the magnitude of the normal reaction between the beam and the support at D .

By modelling the box as a particle,

- (b) find the value of M .

(5)



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