

To show that the function  $e(h) = \frac{\epsilon}{h} + \frac{h^2}{6}M$  has a minimum at  $h = \sqrt[3]{\frac{3\epsilon}{M}}$ , we need to find the critical points by setting the first derivative equal to zero and then verify that this critical point is a minimum using the second derivative test.

## Step-by-Step Solution

### 1. Function Definition:

$$e(h) = \frac{\epsilon}{h} + \frac{h^2}{6}M$$

### 2. First Derivative:

To find the critical points, we first compute the first derivative of  $e(h)$  with respect to  $h$ :

$$e'(h) = -\frac{\epsilon}{h^2} + \frac{2h}{6}M$$

Simplify the derivative:

$$e'(h) = -\frac{\epsilon}{h^2} + \frac{h}{3}M$$

### 3. Setting the First Derivative to Zero:

Set  $e'(h) = 0$  to find the critical points:

$$-\frac{\epsilon}{h^2} + \frac{h}{3}M = 0$$

Solve for  $h$ :

$$\frac{h}{3}M = \frac{\epsilon}{h^2}$$

Multiply both sides by  $h^2$  to get rid of the denominator:

$$h^3M = 3\epsilon$$

Solve for  $h$ :

$$h^3 = \frac{3\epsilon}{M}$$

$$h = \sqrt[3]{\frac{3\epsilon}{M}}$$

#### 4. Second Derivative Test:

To confirm that this critical point is a minimum, we need to check the second derivative  $e''(h)$ :

$$e''(h) = \frac{d}{dh} \left( -\frac{\epsilon}{h^2} + \frac{h}{3}M \right)$$

Compute the second derivative:

$$e''(h) = \frac{2\epsilon}{h^3} + \frac{M}{3}$$

Evaluate  $e''(h)$  at  $h = \sqrt[3]{\frac{3\epsilon}{M}}$ :

$$e''\left(\sqrt[3]{\frac{3\epsilon}{M}}\right) = \frac{2\epsilon}{\left(\sqrt[3]{\frac{3\epsilon}{M}}\right)^3} + \frac{M}{3}$$

Simplify:

$$e''\left(\sqrt[3]{\frac{3\epsilon}{M}}\right) = \frac{2\epsilon}{\frac{3\epsilon}{M}} + \frac{M}{3}$$

$$e''\left(\sqrt[3]{\frac{3\epsilon}{M}}\right) = \frac{2\epsilon M}{3\epsilon} + \frac{M}{3}$$

$$e''\left(\sqrt[3]{\frac{3\epsilon}{M}}\right) = \frac{2M}{3} + \frac{M}{3}$$

$$e''\left(\sqrt[3]{\frac{3\epsilon}{M}}\right) = M$$

Since  $M > 0$ , the second derivative  $e''(h)$  is positive at  $h = \sqrt[3]{\frac{3\epsilon}{M}}$ . Therefore, the function  $e(h)$  has a minimum at this point.

## Conclusion

The function  $e(h) = \frac{\epsilon}{h} + \frac{h^2}{6}M$  has a minimum at  $h = \sqrt[3]{\frac{3\epsilon}{M}}$ , and this result is verified using the second derivative test, which shows that the second derivative is positive at this critical point.