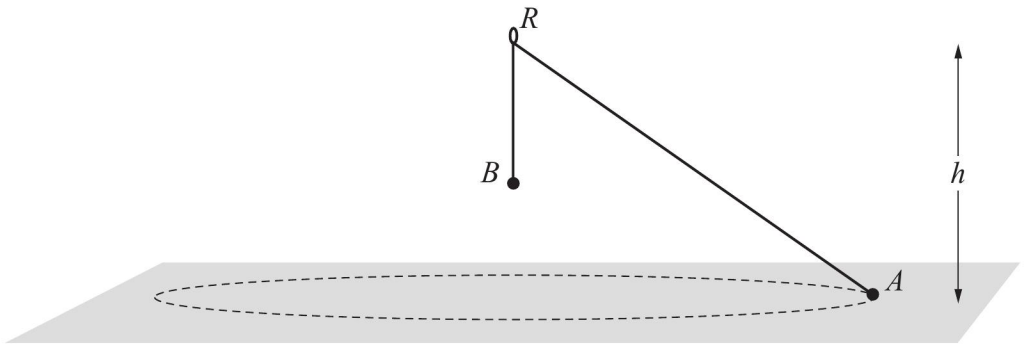

A light inextensible string is threaded through a fixed smooth ring R which is at a height h above a smooth horizontal surface. One end of the string is attached to a particle A of mass m. The other end of the string is attached to a particle B of mass $\frac{6}{7}m$. The particle A moves in a horizontal circle on the surface. The particle B hangs in equilibrium below the ring and above the surface (see diagram).

When A has constant angular speed ω, the angle between AR and BR is θ and the normal reaction between A and the surface is N.

When A has constant angular speed $\frac{3}{2}\omega$, the angle between AR and BR is α and the normal reaction between A and the surface is $\frac{1}{2}N$.

(a) Show that $\cos\theta = \frac{4}{9}\cos\alpha$. [5]

(b) Find N in terms of m and g and find the value of $\cos\alpha$. [4]