

A particle P , of mass m , is attached to one end of a light inextensible string of length a . The other end of the string is attached to a fixed point O . The particle P moves in complete vertical circles about O with the string taut. The points A and B are on the path of P with AB a diameter of the circle. OA makes an angle θ with the downward vertical through O and OB makes an angle θ with the upward vertical through O . The speed of P when it is at A is $\sqrt{5ag}$.

The ratio of the tension in the string when P is at A to the tension in the string when P is at B is $9 : 5$.

(a) Find the value of $\cos \theta$. [6]

(b) Find, in terms of a and g , the greatest speed of P during its motion. [2]