

One end of a light elastic string of natural length 0.8 m and modulus of elasticity 36 N is attached to a fixed point O on a smooth plane. The plane is inclined at an angle α to the horizontal, where $\sin \alpha = \frac{3}{5}$. A particle P of mass 2 kg is attached to the other end of the string. The string lies along a line of greatest slope of the plane with the particle below the level of O . The particle is projected with speed $\sqrt{2}\text{ m s}^{-1}$ directly down the plane from the position where OP is equal to the natural length of the string.

Find the maximum extension of the string during the subsequent motion.

[5]