

A particle P of mass 2 kg moves along a horizontal straight line. The point O is a fixed point on this line. At time $t\text{ s}$ the velocity of P is $v\text{ ms}^{-1}$ and the displacement of P from O is $x\text{ m}$.

A force of magnitude $\left(8x - \frac{128}{x^3}\right)\text{ N}$ acts on P in the direction OP . When $t = 0$, $x = 8$ and $v = -15$.

(a) Show that $v = -\frac{2}{x}(x^2 - 4)$. [5]

(b) Find an expression for x in terms of t . [4]