



A particle 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 point A is such that $OA = a$ and OA makes an angle α with the upward vertical through O . The particle is held at A and then projected downwards with speed \sqrt{ag} so that it begins to move in a vertical circle with centre O . There is a small smooth peg at the point B which is at the same horizontal level as O and at a distance $\frac{1}{3}a$ from O on the opposite side of O to A (see diagram).

- (i) Show that, when the string first makes contact with the peg, the speed of the particle is $\sqrt{ag(1 + 2 \cos \alpha)}$. [2]

The particle now begins to move in a vertical circle with centre B . When the particle is at the point C where angle $CBO = 150^\circ$, the tension in the string is the same as it was when the particle was at the point A .

- (ii) Find the value of $\cos \alpha$. [10]