

A light elastic string of natural length a and modulus of elasticity λmg has one end attached to a fixed point O on a smooth horizontal surface. When a particle of mass m is attached to the free end of the string, it moves with speed v in a horizontal circle with centre O and radius x . When, instead, a particle of mass $2m$ is attached to the free end of the string, this particle moves with speed $\frac{1}{2}v$ in a horizontal circle with centre O and radius $\frac{3}{4}x$.

(a) Find x in terms of a . [5]

(b) Given that $v = \sqrt{12ag}$, find the value of λ . [2]