

- 2 A high-altitude balloon is stationary in still air. A solid sphere is suspended from the balloon by a string, as shown in Fig. 2.1.

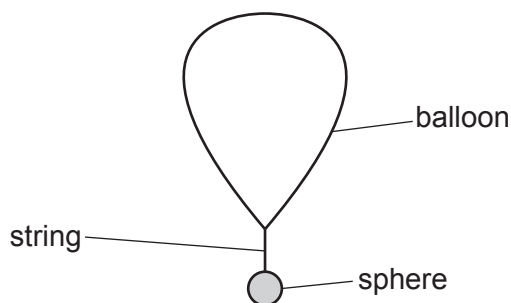


Fig. 2.1 (not to scale)

The volume of the balloon is 7.5 m^3 . The total weight of the balloon, string and sphere is 65 N . The upthrust acting on the string and sphere is negligible.

- (a) Calculate the density of the air surrounding the balloon.

density = kg m^{-3} [2]

- (b) The string breaks, releasing the sphere.

- (i) State the magnitude of the acceleration of the sphere immediately after the string breaks.

acceleration = ms^{-2} [1]

- (ii) State and explain the variation, if any, in the magnitude of the acceleration of the sphere when it is moving downwards **before** it reaches terminal (constant) velocity.

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(c) The sphere has a mass of 4.0 kg.

Calculate the total resistive force acting on the sphere at the instant when its acceleration is 1.9 ms^{-2} .

resistive force = N [2]