

- 4 A tube, closed at one end, has a constant area of cross-section A . Some lead shot is placed in the tube so that the tube floats vertically in a liquid of density ρ , as shown in Fig. 4.1.

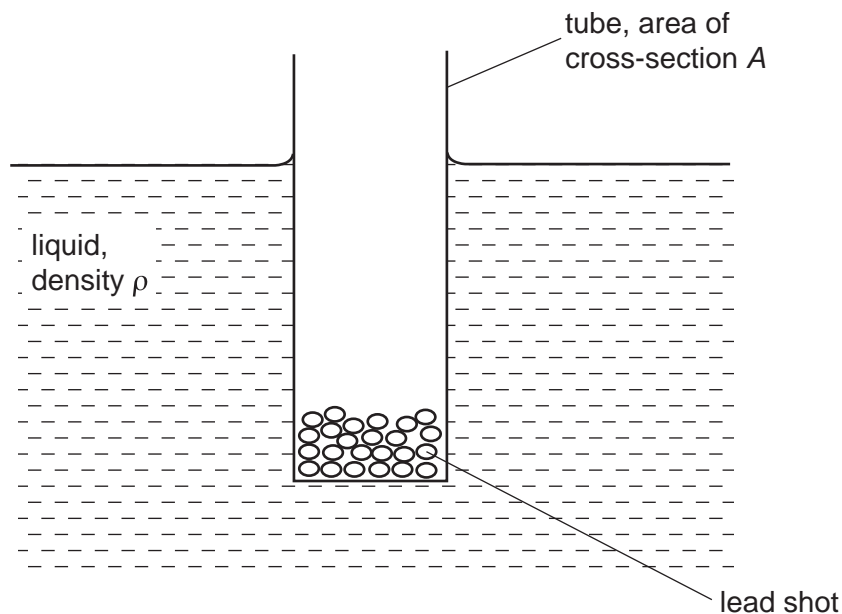


Fig. 4.1

The total mass of the tube and its contents is M .

When the tube is given a small vertical displacement and then released, the vertical acceleration a of the tube is related to its vertical displacement y by the expression

$$a = - \frac{A\rho g}{M} y,$$

where g is the acceleration of free fall.

- (a)** Define *simple harmonic motion*.

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[2]

- (b)** Show that the tube is performing simple harmonic motion with a frequency f given by

$$f = \frac{1}{2\pi} \sqrt{\frac{A\rho g}{M}}.$$

- (c) Fig. 4.2 shows the variation with time t of the vertical displacement y of the tube in another liquid.

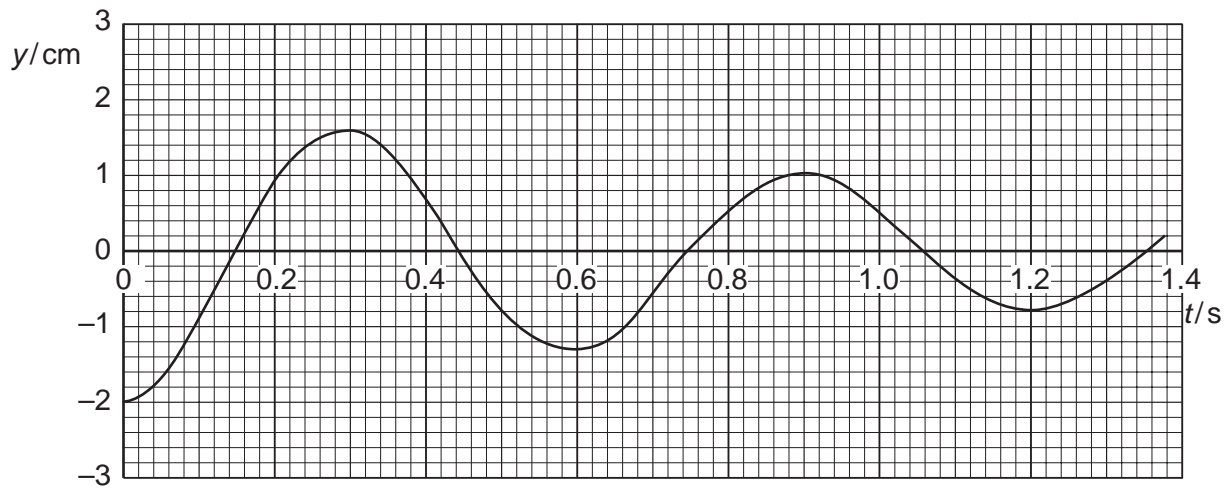


Fig. 4.2

- (i) The tube has an external diameter of 2.4 cm and is floating in a liquid of density 950 kg m^{-3} . Assuming the equation in (b), calculate the mass of the tube and its contents.

mass = kg [3]

- (ii) State what feature of Fig. 4.2 indicates that the oscillations are damped.

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.....[1]