

- 8 (a) Define simple harmonic motion.

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[2]

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- (b) Fig. 8.1 shows a U-tube containing a liquid that was initially at rest. The U-tube has a uniform cross-sectional area A . The density of the liquid is ρ and the total length of the liquid is L .

Due to a small disturbance, the liquid level on the right limb is displaced upwards by a distance x as shown in Fig. 8.2. The difference in the liquid levels between the two limbs will produce a pressure difference and this in turn will cause a restoring force to act on the length of liquid to accelerate it back towards its equilibrium position.

- (i) In terms of A , L and ρ , write down the expression for the total mass M of the liquid.

[1]

- (ii) Derive the expression for the magnitude of the restoring force F acting on the liquid in terms of ρ , g and x and A .

[2]

(iii) Using the relationship

$$F = Ma$$

where a is the acceleration of the liquid, and your answers in parts (i) and (ii), show that the liquid will oscillate with simple harmonic motion after it is disturbed from its equilibrium state. You may assume that viscous forces in the liquid are negligible.

[3]

(iv) Hence, show that the angular frequency of the oscillations is $\omega = \sqrt{\frac{2g}{L}}$.

[1]

(c) The liquid shown in Fig. 8.2 has a length L of 0.92 m, mass M of 1.2 kg and an initial displacement of 0.080 m.

(i) Calculate the angular frequency ω .

$$\omega = \text{.....} \text{ rad s}^{-1} \quad [1]$$

(ii) Determine the period T of the oscillations.

$$T = \text{.....} \text{ s} \quad [1]$$

(iii) Determine the maximum kinetic energy $E_{K,\text{max}}$ of the oscillating liquid.

$$E_{K,\max} = \dots\dots\dots \text{ J} \quad [2]$$

(d) Viscous forces in the liquid in **(c)** are assumed to be negligible. In practice, there will be damping due to small viscous forces in the liquid.

(i) Explain what is meant by damping.

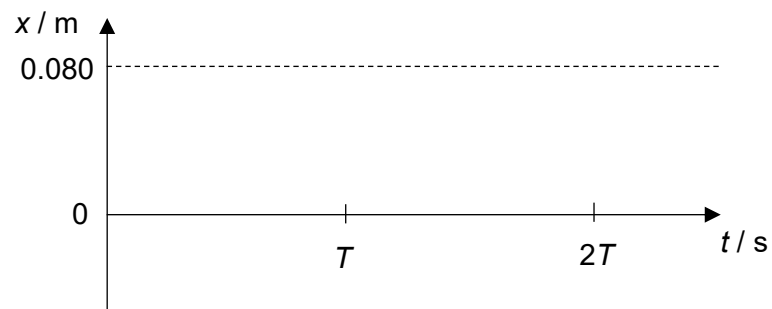
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[1]

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(ii) On the axes in Fig. 8.3, sketch the variation with time t of the displacement x of the liquid in **(c)** for the first two cycles of oscillations.

Assume that the period of oscillations is unaffected by the viscous forces.



[2]

- (iii) On the axes in Fig. 8.4, sketch the corresponding variation with time t of the kinetic energy of the liquid for the first two cycles of oscillation.

You need not label any numerical values on your graph.

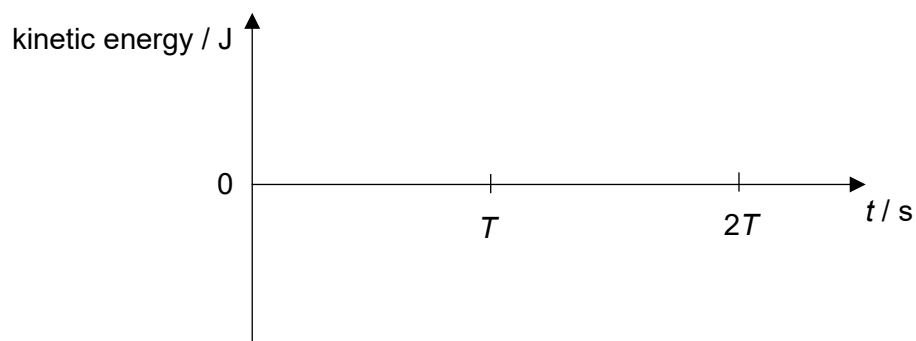


Fig. 8.4

[2]

- (e) Damping is important in some applications. State one such application and explain why damping is important.

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[Total: 20]