

- 4 (a) Explain why an object moving with uniform speed in a circle must experience a resultant force towards the centre of the circle.

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- (b) Fig. 4.1 shows a pendulum bob of mass m , attached to the end of a light rigid rod of length L , moving in a vertical circle at a constant speed v .

The rod starts from position A and sweeps through an angle θ in moving to position B.

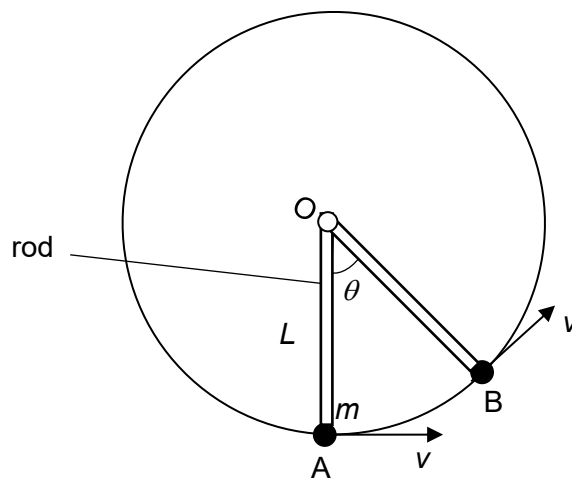


Fig. 4.1

- (i) Show that the tension T in the rod at position B is

$$T = mg \cos \theta + \frac{mv^2}{L}.$$

[2]

- (ii) As the bob moves in the vertical circle, the force in the rod can change from being in tension to being compressed at certain points in the circle.

For a rod of length $L = 0.80 \text{ m}$ and the bob moving at $v = 2.0 \text{ m s}^{-1}$, determine the angle θ beyond which the rod is under compression.

$$\theta = \dots\dots\dots^\circ \quad [2]$$

(iii) On the axes of Fig. 4.2, sketch the variation with θ of T (for $0^\circ \leq \theta \leq 180^\circ$). Label the maximum and minimum T in terms of m , v , L and g .

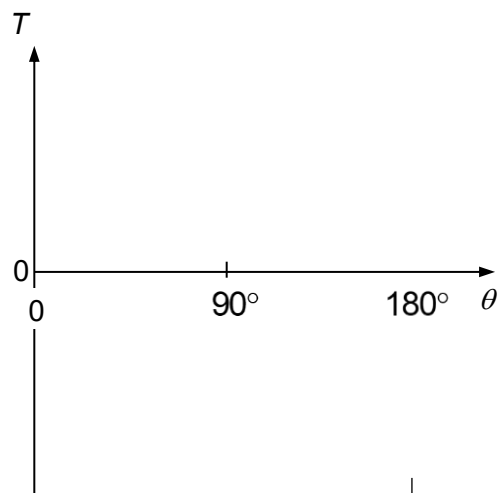


Fig. 4.2

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(iv) Using energy considerations, discuss how the mass can move at a constant speed in a vertical circle.

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