

- 4 A ball of mass m is attached to one end of a light inextensible string of length L . The other end of the string is attached to a fixed point O.

- (a) The ball is swung around in a vertical circle, as shown in Fig. 4.1. The speeds of the ball at the top and bottom of the vertical circle are v_T and v_B respectively.

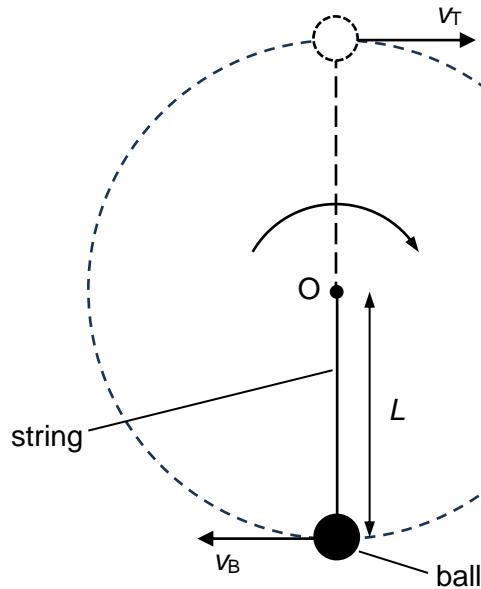


Fig. 4.1

- (i) Show that for the ball to just complete the vertical circle, $v_T = \sqrt{gL}$. Explain your working.

[2]

- (ii) Explain why the ratio $\frac{v_B}{v_T}$ must be greater than 1 for the ball to complete the vertical circle.

[1]

- (iii) A student wishes to swing the ball in a vertical circle such that $\frac{v_B}{v_T} = 3$.

With appropriate calculations, state and explain if this ratio is achievable.

[3]

- (b) The ball is now swung in a horizontal circle around the fixed point O, as shown in Fig. 4.2.

When the ball is swinging around with angular velocity ω , the string is at an angle θ from the vertical and the tension in the string is T .

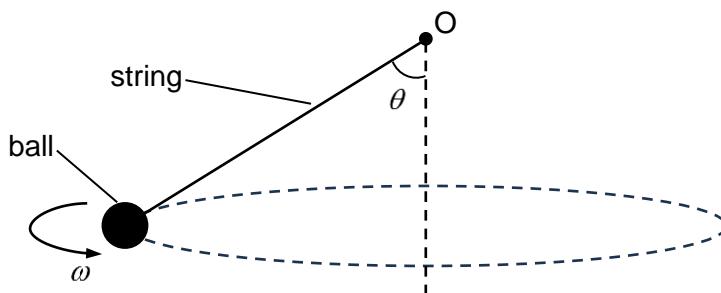


Fig. 4.2

Determine the tension in the string, in terms of T , when the angular velocity of the ball is doubled.

tension =

[2]