



- 4 A cylindrical tube, containing some sand, floats upright in a liquid of density ρ as shown in Fig. 4.1.

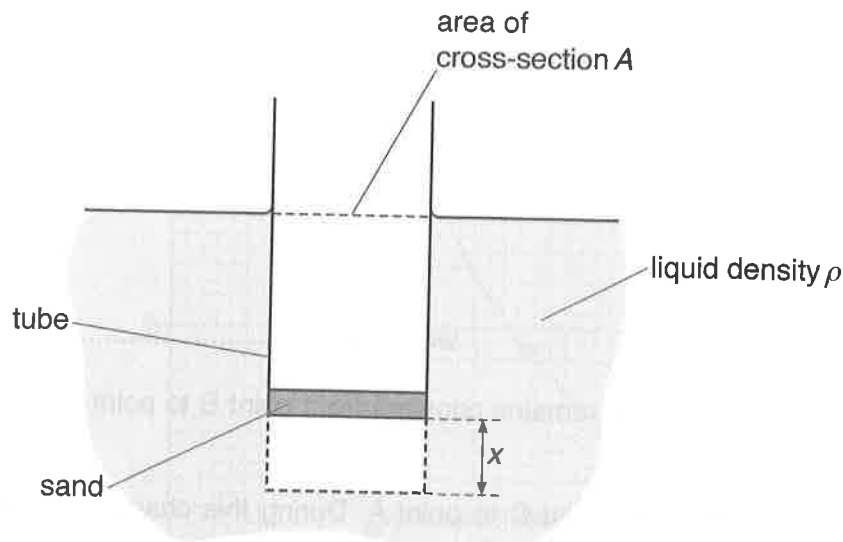


Fig. 4.1

The tube has cross-sectional area A . The total mass of the tube and sand is M .

The tube is displaced vertically downwards and then released. The tube oscillates vertically.

- (a) (i) Derive an expression, in terms of ρ , A , x and the acceleration of free fall g , for the resultant force F acting vertically on the tube when the displacement of the tube from its equilibrium position is x . Explain your working.

[3]

- (ii) Using the expression derived in (a)(i), show that the acceleration a of the tube at displacement x is given by

$$a = -\left(\frac{\rho Ag}{M}\right)x.$$





(b) The equation derived in (a)(ii) is a form of the expression for simple harmonic motion.

The mass M of the tube and sand is 130 g. The area of cross-section A of the tube is 5.3 cm^2 .

Calculate the frequency of oscillation of the tube when floating in a liquid of density $1.2 \times 10^3 \text{ kg m}^{-3}$.

frequency = Hz [4]

[Total: 9]

