

8 (a) (i) Define simple harmonic motion.

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[2]

- (ii) A ball is hanging on an extensible cord. The ball is displaced vertically and then released. The variation with displacement x of the acceleration a of the ball is shown in Fig. 8.1.

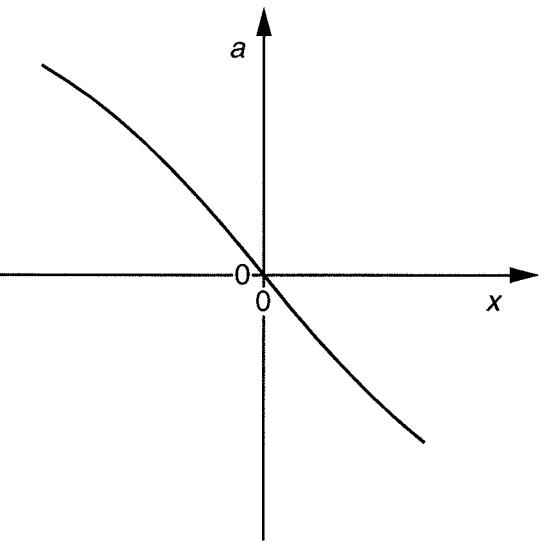


Fig. 8.1

Use Fig. 8.1 to state and explain how it can deduced that

1. the ball is oscillating,

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.....

[2]

2. the oscillations are not simple harmonic.

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[2]



- (b) A longitudinal sound wave is travelling through a gas causing oscillations of gas molecules that are simple harmonic.

(i) Explain what is meant by

1. a *longitudinal* wave,

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[2]

2. the *speed of the wave*.

.....

[1]

- (ii) The gas molecules, each of mass 5.3×10^{-26} kg, are vibrating at a frequency of 835 Hz and have an amplitude of vibration of 610 nm.

The variation with time t of the vibrational kinetic energy E_K of a molecule is shown in Fig. 8.2.

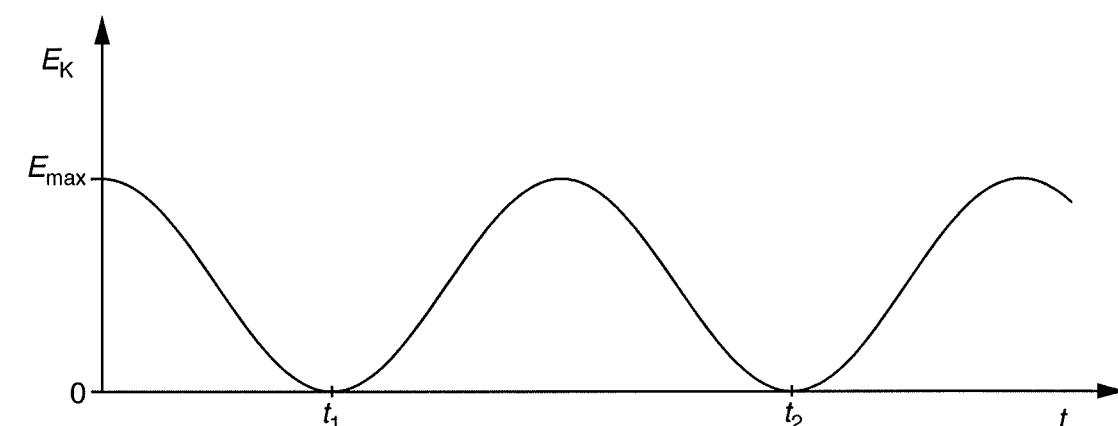


Fig. 8.2

Determine, for one vibrating molecule,

1. the period T of the vibrations,

$$T = \dots \text{ s} [2]$$

2. the time interval $(t_2 - t_1)$,

$$\text{time interval} = \dots \text{ s} [1]$$





3. the maximum speed v_{\max} ,

$$v_{\max} = \dots \text{ ms}^{-1} [2]$$

4. the maximum vibrational kinetic energy E_{\max} .

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

- (iii) By reference to the speed of sound in a gas at room temperature, comment on your answer in (ii)3.

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 [2]

- (c) For the sound wave in the gas, state the origin of

- (i) the energy of the wave,

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 [1]

- (ii) the restoring force on a molecule as it vibrates.

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 [1]