

3.

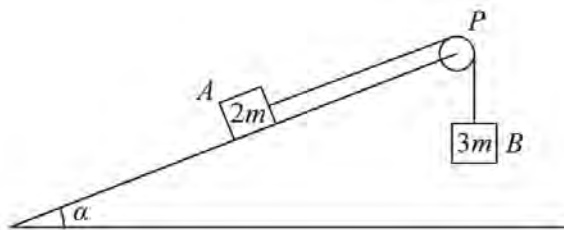


Figure 1

Two blocks,  $A$  and  $B$ , of masses  $2m$  and  $3m$  respectively, are attached to the ends of a light string. Initially  $A$  is held at rest on a fixed rough plane.

The plane is inclined at angle  $\alpha$  to the horizontal ground, where  $\tan \alpha = \frac{5}{12}$ .

The string passes over a small smooth pulley,  $P$ , fixed at the top of the plane.

The part of the string from  $A$  to  $P$  is parallel to a line of greatest slope of the plane. Block  $B$  hangs freely below  $P$ , as shown in Figure 1.

The coefficient of friction between  $A$  and the plane is  $\frac{1}{3}$ .

The blocks are released from rest with the string taut and  $A$  moves up the plane. The tension in the string immediately after the blocks are released is  $T$ . The blocks are modelled as particles and the string is modelled as being inextensible.

(a) Show that  $T = \frac{132}{65} mg$  (8)

After  $B$  reaches the ground,  $A$  continues to move up the plane until it comes to rest before reaching  $P$ .

(b) Determine whether  $A$  will remain at rest, carefully justifying your answer. (2)

(c) Suggest two refinements to the model that would make it more realistic. (2)

(Total for Question 3 is 12 marks)