

## STEP II, 2017, Q9 EC

This question was the least popular of the mechanics questions. Even amongst those who attempted this question only about a quarter made any meaningful attempt. As in so many mechanics questions a good, clearly labelled diagram often meant the difference between candidates making no progress and good attempts. It does seem that many students are reluctant to attempt these types of problems. It is hoped that looking at the hints and solutions should help candidates see that some resolving and taking of moments often leads to efficient solutions of problems like this.



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