

Section 6.6 #15

A leaky 10-kg bucket is lifted from the ground to a height of 12 m at a constant speed with a rope that weighs 0.8 kg/m. Initially the bucket contains 36 kg of water, but the water leaks at a constant rate and finishes draining just as the bucket reaches the 12-m level. How much work is done to lift the bucket?

Solution

Bucket: The force of the bucket is $10 \text{ kg} \cdot 9.8$ (gravity constant) and the distance the bucket is lifted is 12 m, so the work involved in lifting the empty bucket is $9.8(10) \cdot 12 = 1176 \text{ J}$ (joules)

Rope: At a height of y meters ($0 \leq y \leq 12$), the mass of the rope is $0.8 \text{ kg/m} (12 - y) \text{ m}$ and the distance lifted is Δy , so the work to lift the rope is $\int_0^{12} 9.8 \cdot 0.8(12 - y) dy = 564.48 \text{ J}$

Water: The mass of the water at height y meters is $\frac{36}{12} \text{ kg/m}(12 - x) \text{ m} = 36 - 3x \text{ kg}$ and the distance the water is lifted is Δy , so the work to lift the water is $\int_0^{12} 9.8(36 - 3y) dy = 2116.8 \text{ J}$.

Adding all the work done to lift the bucket, rope and water you get about $1176 \text{ (bucket)} + 564.48 \text{ (rope)} + 2116.8 \text{ (water)} = 3857 \text{ J}$

When dealing with the water, you don't multiply by 1000 kg/m^3 because you weren't given the volume of the water, you were given the mass. You do multiply mass by 9.8 (the gravity constant) to get the force because $F = ma$ [Force = mass x acceleration (gravity)]