Answer on Question #66073 - Physics - Mechanics - Relativity

Condition:

A ball drops from 180 metres and rebounds one-third of its previous height on each bounce.

- i) Find the total distance it travels before it comes to rest.
- ii) Find the total distance traveled uptill the time the ball strikes the ground fifth time.

Solution:

i)
$$\begin{aligned} & \text{H=}180 \text{ m, } h_{after} = \frac{1}{3}h_{before} \\ & S = H + \frac{1}{3}H + \frac{1}{3}H + \frac{1}{9}H + \frac{1}{9}H + \frac{1}{27}H + \cdots \\ & = H\left(1 + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{9} + \frac{1}{27} + \cdots\right) + H\left(\frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{9} + \frac{1}{27} + \frac{1}{81} + \cdots\right) \\ & = \{\text{infinite geometric series}\} = H * \frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{3}} + H * \frac{\frac{1}{3}}{1 - \frac{1}{3}} = \frac{3}{2}H + \frac{1}{2}H \\ & = 2H = 2 * 180 = 360 \text{ m} \\ & \text{II}) \\ & L = H + \frac{1}{3}H + \frac{1}{3}H + \frac{1}{9}H + \frac{1}{9}H + \frac{1}{27}H + \frac{1}{27}H + \frac{1}{81}H + \frac{1}{81}H = H\left(1 + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{9} + \frac{1}{27} + \frac{1}{81}\right) + H\left(1 + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{9} + \frac{1}{27} + \frac{1}{81} - 1\right) = H\frac{\frac{1}{243} - 1}{\frac{1}{3} - 1} + H\frac{\frac{1}{243} - 1}{\frac{1}{3} - 1} - H = 2 * H * \frac{\frac{242}{243}}{\frac{2}{3}} - H = 2 * H * \frac{121}{81} - H = \frac{161}{81}H = \frac{161*180}{81} = \frac{28980}{81} = 357,778 \text{ m} \end{aligned}$$

Answer:

i) 360 m

ii)
$$\frac{28980}{81} = 357,778 \, m$$

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