Problem 7.43

Determine the work gravity, directed downward, does on a body that move over path:

a.) 0-A-C (the green line):

$$W_{g} = \vec{F}_{g} \cdot \vec{d}_{0 \text{toA}} + \vec{F}_{g} \cdot \vec{d}_{A \text{toC}}$$

$$= (mg) d \cos 90^{\circ} + (mg) d \cos 180^{\circ}$$

$$= (4.00 \text{ kg})(9.80 \text{ kg})(5.00 \text{ m})(-1)$$

$$= -196 \text{ J}$$

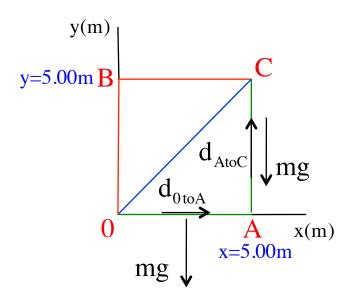
b.) 0-B-C (the red line):

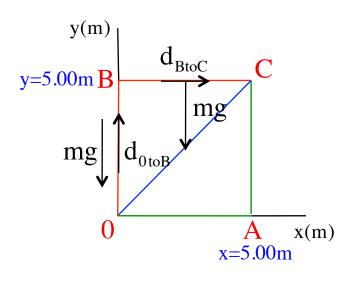
$$W_{g} = \vec{F}_{g} \cdot \vec{d}_{0 \text{toB}} + \vec{F}_{g} \cdot \vec{d}_{B \text{toC}}$$

$$= (mg)d\cos 180^{\circ} + (mg)d\cos 90^{\circ}$$

$$= (4.00 \text{ kg})(9.80 \text{ kg})(5.00 \text{ m})(-1)$$

$$= -196 \text{ J}$$





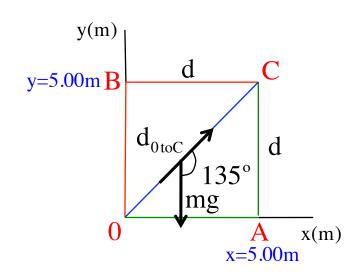
c.) 0-C (the blue line):

$$W_{g} = \vec{F}_{g} \cdot \vec{d}_{0toC}$$

$$= (mg) \left[\left(d^{2} + \vec{d}^{2} \right)^{1/2} \right] \cos 135^{\circ}$$

$$= (4.00 \text{ kg})(9.80 \text{ kg})(5.00\sqrt{2} \text{ m})(-.707)$$

$$= -196 \text{ J}$$



d.) Why are they the same?

Gravity is a conservative force, which is to say that the amount of work it does on a body moving through it is dependent upon the end-points ONLY(that is, the work it does is *path-independent*, as is the case with all conservative forces).