

# Cambridge International AS & A Level

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**PHYSICS****9702/42**

Paper 4 A Level Structured Questions

**February/March 2025**

MARK SCHEME

Maximum Mark: 100

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**Published**

This mark scheme is published as an aid to teachers and candidates, to indicate the requirements of the examination. It shows the basis on which Examiners were instructed to award marks. It does not indicate the details of the discussions that took place at an Examiners' meeting before marking began, which would have considered the acceptability of alternative answers.

Mark schemes should be read in conjunction with the question paper and the Principal Examiner Report for Teachers.

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This document consists of **14** printed pages.








**Annotations guidance for centres**

Examiners use a system of annotations as a shorthand for communicating their marking decisions to one another. Examiners are trained during the standardisation process on how and when to use annotations. The purpose of annotations is to inform the standardisation and monitoring processes and guide the supervising examiners when they are checking the work of examiners within their team. The meaning of annotations and how they are used is specific to each component and is understood by all examiners who mark the component.

We publish annotations in our mark schemes to help centres understand the annotations they may see on copies of scripts. Note that there may not be a direct correlation between the number of annotations on a script and the mark awarded. Similarly, the use of an annotation may not be an indication of the quality of the response.

The annotations listed below were available to examiners marking this component in this series.

**Annotations**

| <b>Annotation</b>   | <b>Meaning</b>                                 |
|---|--|
|    | information missing or insufficient for credit |
|    | arithmetic error                               |
|    | benefit of the doubt given                     |
|  | contradiction in response, mark not awarded    |
|  | incorrect point or mark not awarded            |
|  | error carried forward applied                  |
|  | ignore the response                            |

| Annotation  | Meaning                                |
|-------------|--|
| <b>M0</b>   | mandatory mark not awarded             |
| <b>POT</b>  | power of ten error                     |
| <b>SEEN</b> | blank page seen                        |
| <b>SF</b>   | error in number of significant figures |
| <b>TE</b>   | transcription error                    |
| <b>✓</b>    | correct point or mark awarded          |
| <b>XP</b>   | incorrect physics                      |

| Question | Answer  | Marks     |
|----------|---|-----------|
| 1(a)     | arrow vertically downwards labelled 'weight' <u>and</u> arrow perpendicular to cone, inwards and upwards, labelled 'normal contact force' | <b>B1</b> |
| 1(b)     | vertical component of contact force = weight (so no resultant force vertically)   | <b>B1</b> |
|          | horizontal component of contact force is resultant force towards centre (of circle)   | <b>B1</b> |
| 1(c)     | $a = v^2 / r$   | <b>C1</b> |
|          | $a = g \tan 52^\circ$   | <b>C1</b> |
|          | $9.81 \times \tan 52^\circ = v^2 / 0.15$ leading to $v = 1.4 \text{ m s}^{-1}$  | <b>A1</b> |
| 1(d)     | $v = r\omega$ <u>or</u> $a = r\omega^2$   | <b>C1</b> |
|          | $\omega = 1.4 / 0.15$ or $\sqrt{(9.81 \times \tan 52^\circ / 0.15)}$<br>$= 9.3 \text{ rad s}^{-1}$  | <b>A1</b> |
| 1(e)     | same resultant force / same acceleration so $v^2$ is proportional to $r$ (so if speed increases radius must also increase)                | <b>A1</b> |

| Question | Answer  | Marks     |
|----------|---|-----------|
| 2(a)     | <u>sketch</u> :<br>line from $x = R$ to $x = 4R$ entirely in the negative $\phi$ region   | <b>B1</b> |
|          | curve with continuously decreasing magnitude and with gradient of continuously decreasing magnitude, starting at $(R, \pm\phi)$ | <b>B1</b> |
|          | line passing through $(2R, \pm\frac{1}{2}\phi)$ <u>and</u> $(4R, \pm\frac{1}{4}\phi)$   | <b>B1</b> |
| 2(b)     | horizontal straight line from $t = 0$ to $t = 24$ hours   | <b>B1</b> |
|          | line starting at $(0, -\phi)$   | <b>B1</b> |

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| Question | Answer  | Marks     |
|----------|---|-----------|
| 2(c)     | straight line with non-zero gradient from 0 to $d$    | <b>B1</b> |
|          | line with negative gradient from $(0, V)$ to $(d, 0)$ | <b>B1</b> |

| Question  | Answer  | Marks     |
|-----------|---|-----------|
| 3(a)(i)   | (P and Q are at the) same temperature   | <b>B1</b> |
|           | no <u>net</u> transfer of thermal energy (between P and Q)  | <b>B1</b> |
| 3(a)(ii)  | $Q = mc\Delta T$  | <b>C1</b> |
|           | $24 \times 10^3 = (0.54 \times 390 \times \Delta T) + (0.37 \times 910 \times \Delta T)$                                      | <b>C1</b> |
|           | $\Delta T = 44\text{K}$   | <b>A1</b> |
| 3(b)(i)   | work done = $p\Delta V$   | <b>C1</b> |
|           | $= (1.6 \times 10^5) \times (0.18 - 0.32)$  | <b>C1</b> |
|           | $= -2.2 \times 10^4\text{J}$  | <b>A1</b> |
| 3(b)(ii)  | $pV = NkT$  | <b>C1</b> |
|           | $N = (1.6 \times 10^5 \times 0.18) / (1.38 \times 10^{-23} \times 273)$<br>$= 7.6 \times 10^{24}$                             | <b>A1</b> |
| 3(b)(iii) | $\frac{1}{2}m\langle c^2 \rangle = (3/2)kT$   | <b>C1</b> |
|           | r.m.s. speed = $\sqrt{[(3 \times 1.38 \times 10^{-23} \times (210 + 273)) / (4.7 \times 10^{-26})]}$<br>$= 650\text{ms}^{-1}$ | <b>A1</b> |

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| Question | Answer   | Marks     |
|----------|--|-----------|
| 4(a)     | $\omega = 2\pi / T$  | <b>C1</b> |
|          | $= 2\pi / (0.15 \times 10^{-6}) = 4.2 \times 10^7 \text{ rad s}^{-1}$  | <b>A1</b> |
| 4(b)     | $a_0 = \omega^2 x_0$   | <b>C1</b> |
|          | $= (4.2 \times 10^7)^2 \times 40 \times 10^{-6}$<br>$= 7.1 \times 10^{10} \text{ ms}^{-2}$                         | <b>A1</b> |
| 4(c)     | $E = \frac{1}{2} m \omega^2 x_0^2$   | <b>C1</b> |
|          | $= \frac{1}{2} \times 2.4 \times 10^{-4} \times (4.2 \times 10^7)^2 \times (40 \times 10^{-6})^2$                  | <b>C1</b> |
|          | $= 340 \text{ J}$  | <b>A1</b> |
| 4(d)(i)  | apply alternating p.d. (to / across crystal)   | <b>B1</b> |
|          | applying p.d. to / across crystal causes it to distort   | <b>B1</b> |
| 4(d)(ii) | $Z = \rho c$<br><br>$Z_m = 1100 \times 1600 (= 1.76 \times 10^6)$<br>$Z_b = 1900 \times 4100 (= 7.79 \times 10^6)$ | <b>C1</b> |
|          | intensity reflection co-efficient = $[(7.79 - 1.76) / (7.79 + 1.76)]^2$<br><br>$= 0.40$ or 40%                     | <b>C1</b> |
|          | percentage transmitted = 60%   | <b>A1</b> |

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| Question | Answer   | Marks     |
|----------|--|-----------|
| 5(a)     | $Q = Q_1 = Q_2$ <u>and</u> $V = V_1 + V_2$   | <b>M1</b> |
|          | $V = Q / C$ so:<br>$Q / C = Q / C_1 + Q / C_2$ <u>leading to</u> $1 / C = 1 / C_1 + 1 / C_2$   | <b>A1</b> |
| 5(b)     | total capacitance = $C + \frac{1}{2}C = (3 / 2)C$  | <b>C1</b> |
|          | total capacitance = gradient<br>$= 400 \times 10^{-6} / 6.0$   | <b>C1</b> |
|          | <i>either:</i> $C = (2 \times 400 \times 10^{-6}) / (3 \times 6.0) = 4.4 \times 10^{-5} \text{ F} = 44 \mu\text{F}$<br><i>or:</i> $C = (2 \times 400) / (3 \times 6.0) = 44 \mu\text{F}$ | <b>A1</b> |
| 5(c)(i)  | $\tau = RC$  | <b>C1</b> |
|          | $= 54 \times 10^3 \times (3/2) \times 44 \times 10^{-6}$<br>$= 3.6 \text{ s}$  | <b>A1</b> |
| 5(c)(ii) | $0.15 = \exp(-t / 3.6)$  | <b>C1</b> |
|          | $t = 6.8 \text{ s}$  | <b>A1</b> |

| Question | Answer   | Marks     |
|----------|--|-----------|
| 6(a)     | $F_B = F_E$  | <b>B1</b> |
|          | <i>either:</i> $Bqu = qE$ and $E = V / d$ <u>leading to</u> $u = V / Bd$<br><i>or:</i> $Bqu = qV / d$ <u>leading to</u> $u = V / Bd$ | <b>B1</b> |

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| Question | Answer  | Marks     |
|----------|---|-----------|
| 6(b)     | $E_k = \frac{1}{2}mu^2$   | <b>C1</b> |
|          | $u = \sqrt{[(2 \times 4.1 \times 10^{-17}) / (3.2 \times 10^{-27})]}$<br>$= 1.6 \times 10^5 \text{ms}^{-1}$   | <b>C1</b> |
|          | $B = 980 / (3.6 \times 10^{-2} \times 1.6 \times 10^5)$<br>$= 0.17 \text{ T}$   | <b>A1</b> |
| 6(c)     | expression is independent of mass and charge  | <b>A1</b> |
| 6(d)     | <i>either:</i> electric <u>force</u> is downwards so magnetic force is upwards<br><i>or:</i> no resultant <u>force</u> so magnetic force is upwards | <b>B1</b> |
|          | (positive ions so) current is from left to right  | <b>B1</b> |
|          | from (Fleming's) left-hand rule, magnetic field is into the page  | <b>B1</b> |
| 6(e)     | curved path inside plates with consistent direction of curvature and with no discontinuity at entry or in curvature                                 | <b>B1</b> |
|          | direction of deflection is upwards  | <b>B1</b> |

| Question | Answer   | Marks     |
|----------|--|-----------|
| 7(a)     | (induced) e.m.f. is (directly) proportional to rate  | <b>M1</b> |
|          | of change of (magnetic) flux (linkage)   | <b>A1</b> |
| 7(b)(i)  | (uniform acceleration so) velocity is (directly) proportional to time                      | <b>M1</b> |
|          | (Fig. 7.2 shows) e.m.f. is (directly) proportional to time so $E$ is proportional to $v$ . | <b>A1</b> |



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| Question  | Answer   | Marks     |
|-----------|--|-----------|
| 7(b)(ii)  | $(v = at \text{ so}) \text{ distance moved in time } \Delta t = at\Delta t$      | <b>C1</b> |
|           | $\Phi = BA$  | <b>C1</b> |
|           | $E = (\Delta\Phi / \Delta t) = B \times L \times (at\Delta t) / \Delta t = BLat$ | <b>A1</b> |
| 7(b)(iii) | $B = (0.30 \times 10^{-3}) / (0.45 \times 7.8 \times 2.0)$                       | <b>C1</b> |
|           | $= 4.3 \times 10^{-5} \text{ T}$   | <b>A1</b> |

| Question | Answer   | Marks     |
|----------|--|-----------|
| 8(a)     | • quantum of energy  | <b>M1</b> |
|          | • of electromagnetic radiation   | <b>A1</b> |
| 8(b)(i)  | $(\Delta)E = hc / \lambda$   | <b>C1</b> |
|          | $\lambda = (6.63 \times 10^{-34} \times 3.00 \times 10^8) / (1.96 \times 1.60 \times 10^{-19})$  | <b>C1</b> |
|          | $= 6.3 \times 10^{-7} \text{ m}$   | <b>A1</b> |
| 8(b)(ii) | number per unit time = power / energy per photon<br><br>$= (1.0 \times 10^{-2}) / (1.96 \times 1.60 \times 10^{-19})$<br><br>$= 3.2 \times 10^{16} \text{ s}^{-1}$ | <b>A1</b> |

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| Question  | Answer  | Marks     |
|-----------|---|-----------|
| 8(b)(iii) | <i>either:</i> force = rate of change of momentum<br><i>or:</i> $F = \Delta p / t$  | <b>C1</b> |
|           | $p = E / c$   | <b>C1</b> |
|           | half the photons have change in momentum $p$ , the other half have change in momentum $2p$  | <b>C1</b> |
|           | $F = [(1.96 \times 1.60 \times 10^{-19}) / (3.00 \times 10^8)] \times 3.2 \times 10^{16} \times [(2 + 1) / 2]$<br>$= 5.0 \times 10^{-11} \text{ N}$ | <b>A1</b> |

| Question | Answer  | Marks     |
|----------|---|-----------|
| 9(a)(i)  | <i>either:</i> cannot predict when a (particular) nucleus will decay<br><i>or:</i> cannot predict which nucleus will decay next | <b>B1</b> |
| 9(a)(ii) | not affected by external / environmental factors  | <b>B1</b> |
| 9(b)     | time for activity to halve  | <b>B1</b> |
| 9(c)     | energy = $(189 \times 7.826) + (4 \times 7.074) - (193 \times 7.774)$   | <b>C1</b> |
|          | $= 7.03 \text{ eV}$   | <b>A1</b> |
| 9(d)(i)  | decay constant  | <b>A1</b> |
| 9(d)(ii) | decay constant / magnitude of gradient = $1.4 / 0.84$   | <b>C1</b> |
|          | half-life = $\ln 2 / (1.4 / 0.84)$<br>$= 0.42 \text{ ms}$   | <b>A1</b> |
| 9(e)(i)  | positrons collide with electrons and annihilate   | <b>B1</b> |
| 9(e)(ii) | long enough to have time to conduct investigation, not so long as to cause patient <u>unnecessary</u> exposure to radiation     | <b>B1</b> |

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| Question   | Answer  | Marks     |
|------------|---|-----------|
| 10(a)(i)   | total power of radiation emitted (by the star)  | <b>B1</b> |
| 10(a)(ii)  | standard candle has known luminosity  | <b>B1</b> |
|            | measure the radiant flux intensity  | <b>B1</b> |
|            | use $F = L / (4\pi d^2)$ to calculate $d$   | <b>B1</b> |
| 10(b)(i)   | $v = 2\pi R / T$  | <b>C1</b> |
|            | $v = 3.00 \times 10^8 \times (656.2877 - 656.2831) / 656.2831$  | <b>C1</b> |
|            | $R = [3.00 \times 10^8 \times (656.2877 - 656.2831) / 656.2831] \times (2.07 \times 10^6) / 2\pi = 6.93 \times 10^8 \text{m}$ | <b>A1</b> |
| 10(b)(ii)  | Z is moving towards Earth   | <b>M1</b> |
|            | so observed wavelength is less than the emitted wavelength  | <b>A1</b> |
| 10(b)(iii) | $L = 4\pi\sigma r^2 T^4$<br>$3.8 \times 10^{26} = 4\pi \times 5.67 \times 10^{-8} \times (6.93 \times 10^8)^2 \times T^4$     | <b>C1</b> |
|            | $T = 5800\text{K}$  | <b>A1</b> |