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General Certificate of Education  
January 2011

Centre Number

71

Candidate Number

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## Physics

### Assessment Unit A2 1

*assessing*

Momentum, Thermal Physics, Circular Motion,  
Oscillations and Atomic and Nuclear Physics

[AY211]



THURSDAY 27 JANUARY, AFTERNOON

#### TIME

1 hour 30 minutes.

#### INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Write your Centre Number and Candidate Number in the spaces provided at the top of this page.

Answer **all** questions.

Write your answers in the spaces provided in this question paper.

For Examiner's use only	
Question Number	Marks
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	
9	

#### INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The total mark for this paper is 90.

Quality of written communication will be assessed in question 2(a).

Figures in brackets printed down the right-hand side of pages indicate the marks awarded to each question.

Your attention is drawn to the Data and Formulae Sheet which is inside this question paper.

You may use an electronic calculator.

Question 9 contributes to the synoptic assessment required of the specification. Candidates should allow approximately 20 minutes for this question.

Total Marks	
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1 (a) Define momentum.

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[1]

Examiner Only

Marks

Remark

(b) A railway truck  $T_1$  of mass 1200 kg is rolling along a track at a speed of  $6.0 \text{ ms}^{-1}$  towards a stationary truck  $T_2$  as shown in Fig. 1.1.

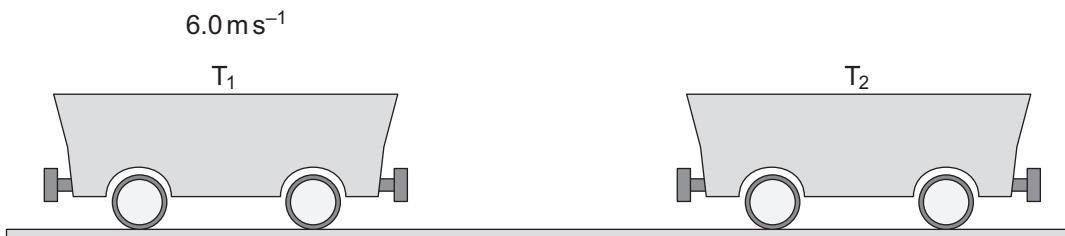


Fig. 1.1

(i) Calculate the initial momentum of the truck  $T_1$ .

Momentum = \_\_\_\_\_  $\text{kg ms}^{-1}$  [1]

(ii) On collision, trucks  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  become joined. They now move with a common velocity of  $2.0 \text{ ms}^{-1}$ . Find the mass of truck  $T_2$ .

Mass = \_\_\_\_\_ kg [3]

(iii) Is this an example of an **elastic** or an **inelastic** collision?  
Explain your answer.

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[2]

Examiner Only	
Marks	Remark

2 In part (a) of this question you will be assessed on the quality of your written communication.

(a) (i) The relationship between the pressure of a fixed mass of gas and its temperature when the volume of the gas is kept constant is referred to as the pressure law or Gay Lussac's law. In the space below draw a fully labelled diagram of the apparatus which would be used to show this relationship.

Examiner Only	
Marks	Remark

[3]

(ii) State the relationship between the pressure of a gas and its temperature.

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[1]

(iii) State what measurements are taken and how they are used to verify the relationship.

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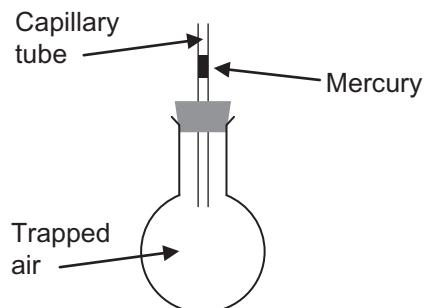
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[3]

Quality of written communication

[2]

(b) A flask contains air at a temperature of  $17^{\circ}\text{C}$  and is sealed with a rubber bung. A capillary tube of diameter 3.0 mm containing a short column of mercury is inserted into the bung. The volume of air trapped is  $40\text{ cm}^3$ . The arrangement is shown in **Fig. 2.1**.



**Fig. 2.1**

The flask is warmed gently. Calculate the temperature reached when the mercury column moves 120 mm up the capillary tube if the pressure remains at atmospheric level throughout.

Temperature = \_\_\_\_\_  $^{\circ}\text{C}$

[4]

Examiner Only	
Marks	Remark

3 A motorcyclist goes round a bend in a horizontal road at a constant speed of  $40\text{ km h}^{-1}$ . The radius of curvature of the bend is 12.0 m.

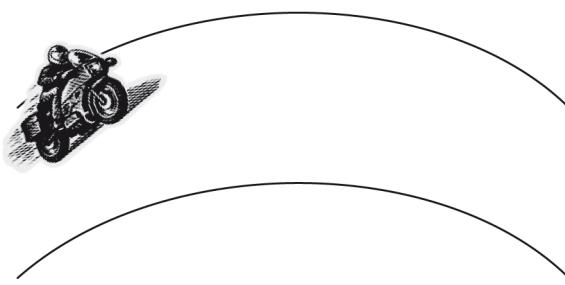


Fig. 3.1

(a) (i) Explain why this motorcyclist has an angular velocity.

\_\_\_\_\_ [1]

(ii) Calculate the value of the angular velocity,  $\omega$ , of the motorcyclist as he rounds the bend.

$$\omega = \text{_____} \text{ rad s}^{-1} \quad [3]$$

(b) (i) Explain why a force is needed if the motorcyclist is to get round the bend.

\_\_\_\_\_ [2]

(ii) State how this force is produced.

\_\_\_\_\_ [2]

Examiner Only	
Marks	Remark

(c) The motorcyclist has a mass of 90 kg and the motorcycle has a mass of 260 kg. Calculate the magnitude of the force needed to go round the bend at 40 km hr<sup>-1</sup>.

Examiner Only	
Marks	Remark

Force = \_\_\_\_\_ N

[3]

4 (a) Define simple harmonic motion.

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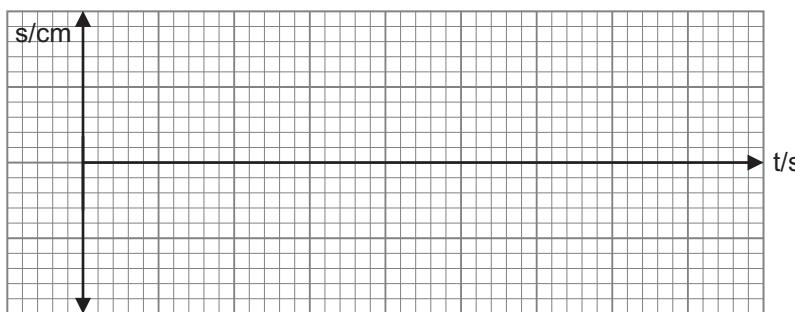
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[2]

(b) A body is pulled down and released. It then undergoes simple harmonic motion of amplitude 10 cm and frequency 2.5 Hz in a vertical plane. On the axes in **Fig. 4.1**, draw a graph of the variation of the displacement,  $s$ , of the body with time,  $t$ . Include values on the displacement and time axes.



[3]

**Fig. 4.1**

(c) Use the graph to find the velocity of the body 0.60 s from the start. Explain your answer.

Velocity = \_\_\_\_\_  $\text{ms}^{-1}$

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[3]

5 (a) Experimental evidence for the existence of atomic nuclei was provided by the scattering of  $\alpha$  particles through a thin gold foil. State two significant observations from the experiment and explain their significance.

Observation 1. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Explanation \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Observation 2. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Explanation \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ [4]

Examiner Only	
Marks	Remark

(b) Equation 1 states the relationship between nuclear radius and atomic mass number.  $r_0$  is the mean nucleon radius and equals 1.2 fm.

$$r = r_0 A^{\frac{1}{3}} \quad \text{Equation 1}$$

Equation 2 states the relationship between the volume of a sphere and its radius.

$$V = \frac{4}{3}\pi r^3 \quad \text{Equation 2}$$

(i) Given that the mean mass of a nucleon is  $1.66 \times 10^{-27}$  kg, use **Equations 1 and 2** to determine the density of a  $^{12}_6\text{C}$  (carbon 12) nucleus.

Density = \_\_\_\_\_ kg m<sup>-3</sup> [3]

(ii) Carbon 12 has an atomic density of 2.3 g cm<sup>-3</sup>. Titanium 48 has an atomic density of 4.5 g cm<sup>-3</sup>. State the nuclear density of titanium 48 and explain your reasoning.

Nuclear density of titanium 48 = \_\_\_\_\_ kg m<sup>-3</sup> [1]

Explanation \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ [1]

Examiner Only	
Marks	Remark

6 Radon 222 has a half-life of 3.8 days.

(a) Define half life.

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[1]

(b) Calculate the initial number of radon 222 nuclei present in the sample if its initial activity is  $1.52 \times 10^{15}$  Bq.

Initial number of nuclei = \_\_\_\_\_ [3]

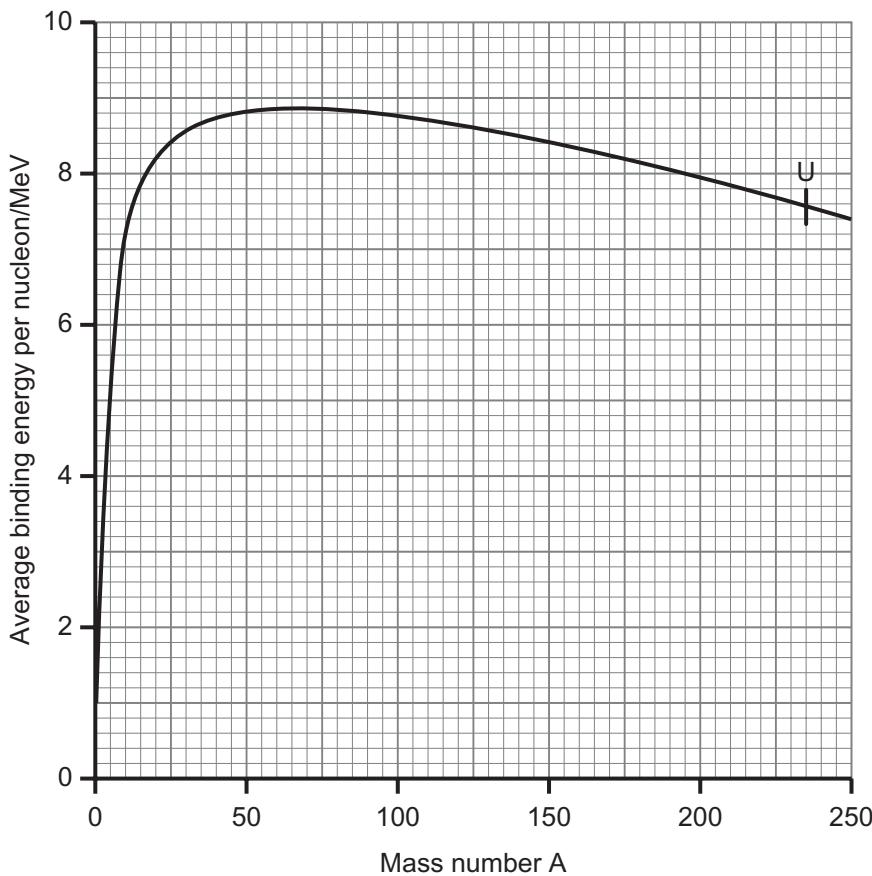
(c) Hence calculate the number of radon 222 nuclei present after a period of 8.6 days.

Number of radon 222 nuclei = \_\_\_\_\_ [3]

Examiner Only	
Marks	Remark

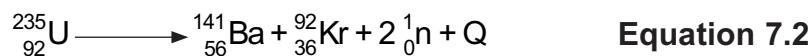
7 **Fig. 7.1** shows how the binding energy per nucleon varies with mass number.

Examiner Only	
Marks	Remark



**Fig. 7.1**

**Equation 7.2** gives one possible fission reaction for  $U^{235}$



where Q represents a quantity of heat energy.

(a) Explain, making reference to **Fig. 7.1**, why this reaction could occur spontaneously.

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[2]

(b) Calculate the energy Q released in the reaction in **Equation 7.2**.  
Use the following values.

Mass of  $^{235}_{92}\text{U}$  = 235.04u

Mass of  $^{141}_{56}\text{Ba}$  = 140.91u

Mass of  $^{92}_{36}\text{Kr}$  = 91.91u

Mass of neutron = 1.01u

Energy released = \_\_\_\_\_ MeV

[3]

Examiner Only	
Marks	Remark

(c) Fig. 7.3 shows a simplified diagram for a fission reactor.

Examiner Only	
Marks	Remark

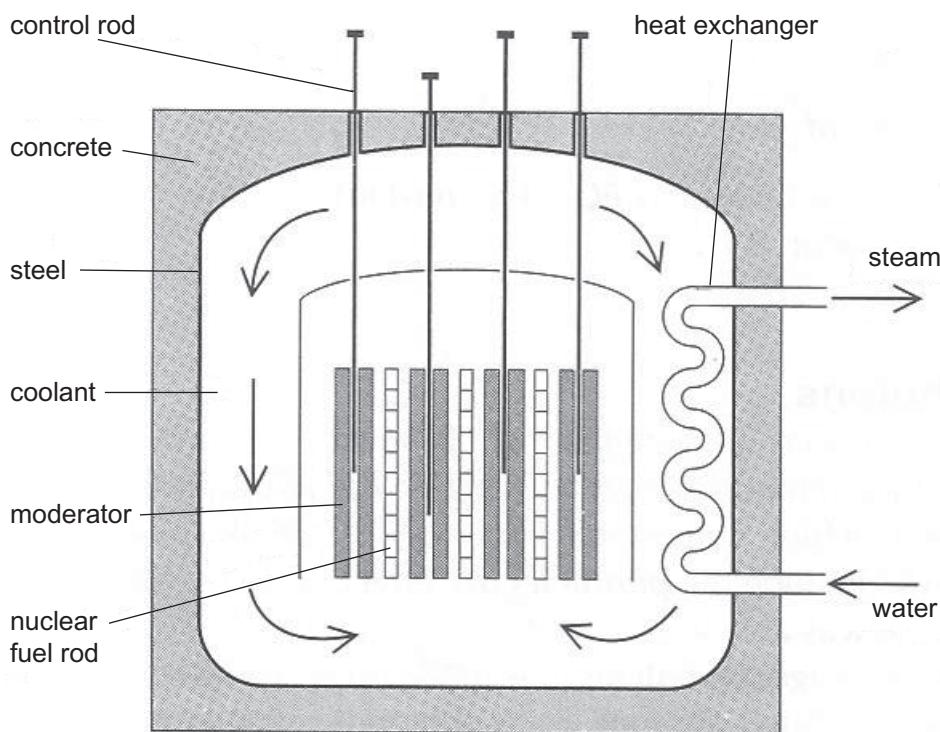


Fig. 7.3

(i) Explain briefly the purpose and name a suitable material for

1. the moderator:

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2. the control rods:

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[4]

(ii) Why must the total amount of uranium in the reactor core be greater than the critical size?

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[1]

(iii) Why must the total amount of uranium in a fuel rod be less than the critical size?

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[1]

8 (a) In the JET prototype fusion reactor charged plasma particles circulate. Very high temperatures are needed if nuclear fusion is to take place. Explain why such high temperatures are necessary.

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[2]

(b) Explain why, in a nuclear fusion reaction, the plasma must be confined.

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[1]

(c) Briefly describe the three main forms of plasma confinement.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

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2. \_\_\_\_\_

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3. \_\_\_\_\_

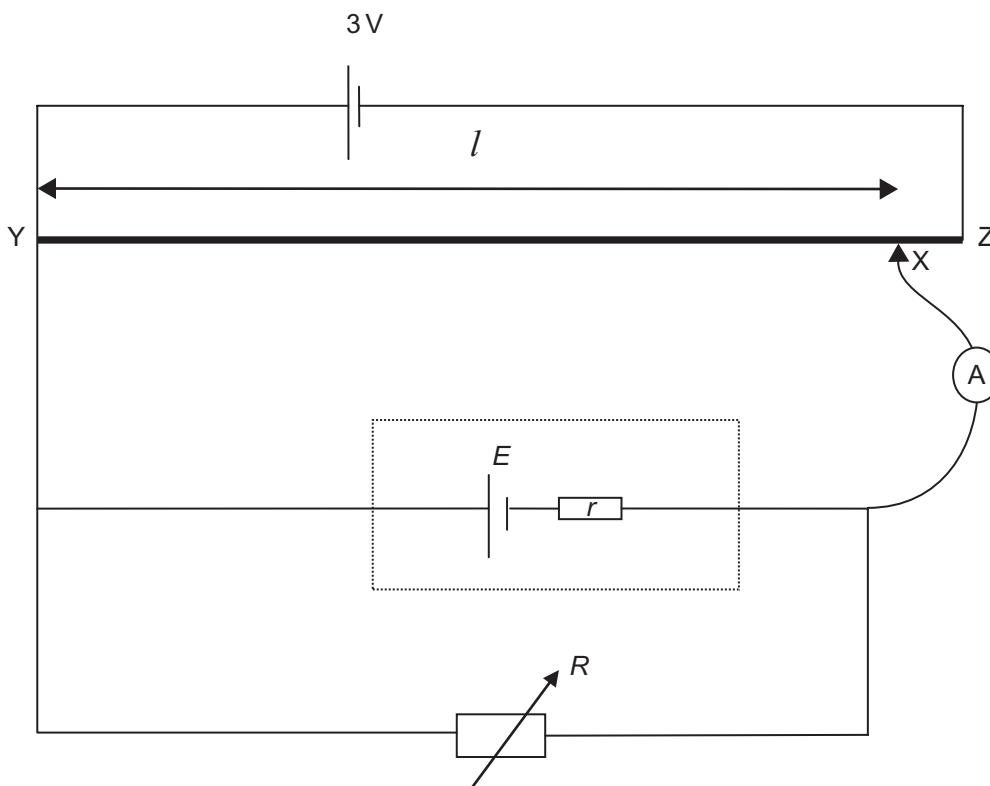
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[3]

Examiner Only	
Marks	Remark

9 The internal resistance  $r$  of a cell of EMF  $E$  can be found using the circuit shown in **Fig. 9.1**. YZ is a length of resistance wire connected to a 3V battery of zero internal resistance.

Examiner Only	
Marks	Remark



**Fig. 9.1**

Initially the variable resistor  $R$  is set to its highest resistance of  $20\Omega$ . The sliding contact X is then moved slowly along the wire until the reading on the sensitive ammeter A, is zero. The length of wire  $l$  is then recorded. This process is repeated for four further values of  $R$  and the results recorded in Table 9.1.

**Table 9.1**

Resistance $R/\Omega$	Length $l/m$		
20	0.91		
10	0.83		
5.0	0.71		
2.0	0.50		
1.0	0.33		

Theory shows that the relationship between  $R$  and  $l$  is of the form

$$\frac{1}{R} = \frac{E}{3lr} - \frac{1}{r} \quad \text{Equation 9.1}$$

where  $E$  is the EMF of the cell and its value is not known.

(a) (i) A graph of  $\frac{1}{R}$  against  $\frac{1}{l}$  should be plotted to enable  $r$  to be determined. Show why this graph is suitable.

Examiner Only	
Marks	Remark

[2]

(ii) Additional values are needed to enable you to plot the graph suggested in (a)(i). Calculate these values to 2 significant figures and use the blank columns in **Table 9.1** to record them. Remember to include units. [3]

(b) (i) Using the graph paper with the origin (0,0) as shown in the grid of **Fig. 9.2**, plot the graph.

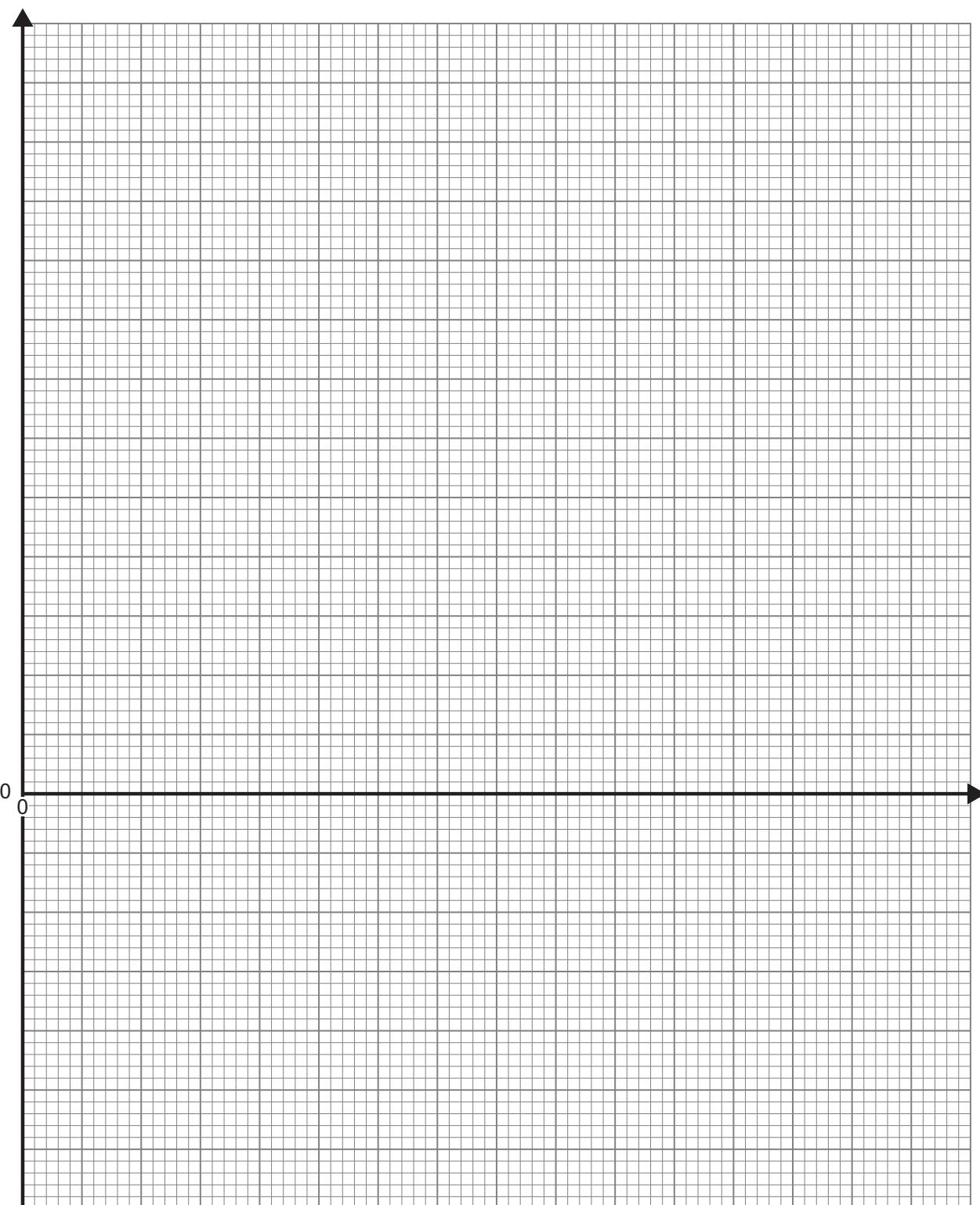


Fig. 9.2

[5]

Examiner Only	
Marks	Remark

(ii) Hence calculate the value of  $r$ , the internal resistance of the cell.

Examiner Only	
Marks	Remark

$$r = \text{_____} \Omega$$

[2]

The unknown value of the EMF,  $E$ , of the cell can also be determined.

(iii) Calculate the value of  $E$ .

$$E = \text{_____} V$$

[4]

(c) The cell is now replaced with one which has a higher internal resistance but the same EMF. How will the graph you have drawn in (b)(i) be affected?

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[2]

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**THIS IS THE END OF THE QUESTION PAPER**

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## GCE Physics

## Data and Formulae Sheet for A2 1 and A2 2

## Values of constants

speed of light in a vacuum	$c = 3.00 \times 10^8 \text{ m s}^{-1}$
permittivity of a vacuum	$\epsilon_0 = 8.85 \times 10^{-12} \text{ F m}^{-1}$ $\left( \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} = 8.99 \times 10^9 \text{ F}^{-1} \text{ m} \right)$
elementary charge	$e = 1.60 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$
the Planck constant	$h = 6.63 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J s}$
(unified) atomic mass unit	$1 \text{ u} = 1.66 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$
mass of electron	$m_e = 9.11 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg}$
mass of proton	$m_p = 1.67 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$
molar gas constant	$R = 8.31 \text{ J K}^{-1} \text{ mol}^{-1}$
the Avogadro constant	$N_A = 6.02 \times 10^{23} \text{ mol}^{-1}$
the Boltzmann constant	$k = 1.38 \times 10^{-23} \text{ J K}^{-1}$
gravitational constant	$G = 6.67 \times 10^{-11} \text{ N m}^2 \text{ kg}^{-2}$
acceleration of free fall on the Earth's surface	$g = 9.81 \text{ m s}^{-2}$
electron volt	$1 \text{ eV} = 1.60 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J}$



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The following equations may be useful in answering some of the questions in the examination:

## Mechanics

Conservation of energy  $\frac{1}{2}mv^2 - \frac{1}{2}mu^2 = Fs$  for a constant force

Hooke's Law  $F = kx$  (spring constant  $k$ )

## Simple harmonic motion

Displacement  $x = A \cos \omega t$

## Sound

Sound intensity level/dB  $= 10 \lg_{10} \frac{I}{I_0}$

## Waves

Two-source interference  $\lambda = \frac{ay}{d}$

## Thermal physics

Average kinetic energy of a molecule  $\frac{1}{2}m \langle c^2 \rangle = \frac{3}{2}kT$

Kinetic theory  $pV = \frac{1}{3}Nm \langle c^2 \rangle$

Thermal energy  $Q = mc\Delta\theta$

## Capacitors

Capacitors in series  $\frac{1}{C} = \frac{1}{C_1} + \frac{1}{C_2} + \frac{1}{C_3}$

Capacitors in parallel  $C = C_1 + C_2 + C_3$

Time constant  $\tau = RC$

**Light**

Lens formula	$\frac{1}{u} + \frac{1}{v} = \frac{1}{f}$
Magnification	$m = \frac{v}{u}$

**Electricity**

Terminal potential difference	$V = E - Ir$ (E.m.f. $E$ ; Internal Resistance $r$ )
Potential divider	$V_{\text{out}} = \frac{R_1 V_{\text{in}}}{R_1 + R_2}$

**Particles and photons**

Radioactive decay	$A = \lambda N$
	$A = A_0 e^{-\lambda t}$
Half-life	$t_{\frac{1}{2}} = \frac{0.693}{\lambda}$
de Broglie equation	$\lambda = \frac{h}{p}$

**The nucleus**

Nuclear radius	$r = r_0 A^{\frac{1}{3}}$
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