

**OXFORD CAMBRIDGE AND RSA EXAMINATIONS**

**Advanced Subsidiary GCE (H156)**

**Advanced GCE (H556)**

**Physics A**

**DATA, FORMULAE AND  
RELATIONSHIPS BOOKLET**

**MODIFIED ENLARGED 24pt**

**INSTRUCTIONS TO EXAMS OFFICER/  
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**The information in this booklet is for the use of candidates following the Advanced Subsidiary in Physics A (H156) or the Advanced GCE in Physics A (H556) course.**

**The data, formulae and relationships in this datasheet will be printed for distribution with the examination papers.**

**Copies of this booklet may be used for teaching.**

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# Data, Formulae and Relationships

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## DATA

Values are given to three significant figures, except where more – or fewer – are useful.

## PHYSICAL CONSTANTS

acceleration of free fall	$g$	$9.81 \text{ m s}^{-2}$
elementary charge	$e$	$1.60 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$
speed of light in a vacuum	$c$	$3.00 \times 10^8 \text{ m s}^{-1}$
Planck constant	$h$	$6.63 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J s}$
Avogadro constant	$N_A$	$6.02 \times 10^{23} \text{ mol}^{-1}$
molar gas constant	$R$	$8.31 \text{ J mol}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1}$
Boltzmann constant	$k$	$1.38 \times 10^{-23} \text{ J K}^{-1}$
gravitational constant	$G$	$6.67 \times 10^{-11} \text{ N m}^2 \text{ kg}^{-2}$
permittivity of free space	$\epsilon_0$	$8.85 \times 10^{-12} \text{ C}^2 \text{ N}^{-1} \text{ m}^{-2}$ ( $\text{F m}^{-1}$ )
electron rest mass	$m_e$	$9.11 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg}$
proton rest mass	$m_p$	$1.673 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$
neutron rest mass	$m_n$	$1.675 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$
alpha particle rest mass	$m_\alpha$	$6.646 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$
Stefan constant	$\sigma$	$5.67 \times 10^{-8} \text{ W m}^{-2} \text{ K}^{-4}$

## QUARKS

up quark

$$\text{charge} = +\frac{2}{3}e$$

down quark

$$\text{charge} = -\frac{1}{3}e$$

strange quark

$$\text{charge} = -\frac{1}{3}e$$

## CONVERSION FACTORS

unified atomic mass unit

$$1 \text{ u} = 1.661 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$$

electronvolt

$$1 \text{ eV} = 1.60 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J}$$

day

$$1 \text{ day} = 8.64 \times 10^4 \text{ s}$$

year

$$1 \text{ year} \approx 3.16 \times 10^7 \text{ s}$$

light year

$$1 \text{ light year} \approx 9.5 \times 10^{15} \text{ m}$$

parsec

$$1 \text{ parsec} \approx 3.1 \times 10^{16} \text{ m}$$

## MATHEMATICAL EQUATIONS

$$\text{arc length} = r\theta$$

$$\text{circumference of circle} = 2\pi r$$

$$\text{area of circle} = \pi r^2$$

$$\text{curved surface area of cylinder} = 2\pi rh$$

$$\text{surface area of sphere} = 4\pi r^2$$

$$\text{area of trapezium} = \frac{1}{2}(a + b)h$$

$$\text{volume of cylinder} = \pi r^2 h$$

$$\text{volume of sphere} = \frac{4}{3}\pi r^3$$

$$\text{Pythagoras' theorem: } a^2 = b^2 + c^2$$

$$\text{cosine rule: } a^2 = b^2 + c^2 - 2bc\cos A$$

$$\text{sine rule: } \frac{a}{\sin A} = \frac{b}{\sin B} = \frac{c}{\sin C}$$

$$\sin \theta \approx \tan \theta \approx \theta \text{ and } \cos \theta \approx 1 \text{ for small angles}$$

$$\log(AB) = \log(A) + \log(B) \quad (\text{Note: } \lg = \log_{10} \text{ and } \ln = \log_e)$$

$$\log\left(\frac{A}{B}\right) = \log(A) - \log(B)$$

$$\log(x^n) = n \log(x)$$

$$\ln(e^{kx}) = kx$$

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# FORMULAE AND RELATIONSHIPS

## MODULE 2 – FOUNDATIONS OF PHYSICS

vectors

$$F_x = F \cos \theta$$

$$F_y = F \sin \theta$$

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## MODULE 3 – FORCES AND MOTION

uniformly accelerated motion

$$v = u + at$$

$$s = \frac{1}{2}(u + v)t$$

$$s = ut + \frac{1}{2}at^2$$

$$v^2 = u^2 + 2as$$

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force

$$F = \frac{\Delta p}{\Delta t}$$

$$p = mv$$

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turning effects

$$\text{moment} = Fx$$

$$\text{torque} = Fd$$

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density

$$\rho = \frac{m}{V}$$

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pressure

$$p = \frac{F}{A}$$

$$p = h\rho g$$

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**work, energy and power**

$$W = Fx \cos \theta$$

$$\text{efficiency} = \frac{\text{useful energy output}}{\text{total energy output}} \times 100\%$$

$$P = \frac{W}{t}$$

$$P = Fv$$

---

**springs and materials**

$$F = kx$$

$$E = \frac{1}{2}Fx; E = \frac{1}{2}kx^2$$

$$\sigma = \frac{F}{A}$$

$$\varepsilon = \frac{x}{L}$$

$$E = \frac{\sigma}{\varepsilon}$$

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## MODULE 4 – ELECTRONS, WAVES AND PHOTONS

**charge**

$$\Delta Q = I\Delta t$$

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**current**

$$I = Anev$$

---

**work done**

$$W = VQ; W = \varepsilon Q; W = VIt$$

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resistance and resistors

$$R = \frac{\rho L}{A}$$

$$R = R_1 + R_2 + \dots$$

$$\frac{1}{R} = \frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2} + \dots$$

---

power

$$P = VI, P = I^2R \text{ and } P = \frac{V^2}{R}$$

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internal resistance

$$\varepsilon = I(R + r) ; \varepsilon = V + Ir$$

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potential divider

$$V_{\text{out}} = \frac{R_2}{R_1 + R_2} \times V_{\text{in}}$$

$$\frac{V_1}{V_2} = \frac{R_1}{R_2}$$

---

waves

$$v = f\lambda$$

$$f = \frac{1}{T}$$

$$I = \frac{P}{A}$$

$$\lambda = \frac{ax}{D}$$

---

refraction

$$n = \frac{c}{v}$$

$$n \sin \theta = \text{constant}$$

$$\sin C = \frac{1}{n}$$

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quantum physics

$$E = hf \quad E = \frac{hc}{\lambda}$$
$$hf = \phi + KE_{\max}$$
$$\lambda = \frac{h}{p}$$

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## MODULE 5 – NEWTONIAN WORLD AND ASTROPHYSICS

thermal physics

$$E = mc\Delta\theta$$
$$E = mL$$

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ideal gases

$$pV = NkT; \quad pV = nRT$$
$$pV = \frac{1}{3}Nm \overline{c^2}$$
$$\frac{1}{2}m \overline{c^2} = \frac{3}{2}kT$$
$$E = \frac{3}{2}kT$$

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circular motion

$$\omega = \frac{2\pi}{T}; \quad \omega = 2\pi f$$
$$v = \omega r$$
$$a = \frac{v^2}{r}; \quad a = \omega^2 r$$
$$F = \frac{mv^2}{r}; \quad F = m\omega^2 r$$

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## oscillations

$$\omega = \frac{2\pi}{T}; \omega = 2\pi f$$

$$a = -\omega^2 x$$

$$x = A \cos \omega t; x = A \sin \omega t$$

$$v = \pm \omega \sqrt{A^2 - x^2}$$

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## gravitational field

$$g = \frac{F}{m}$$

$$F = -\frac{GMm}{r^2}$$

$$g = -\frac{GM}{r^2}$$

$$T^2 = \left(\frac{4\pi^2}{GM}\right)r^3$$

$$V_g = \frac{GM}{r}$$

$$\text{energy} = -\frac{GMm}{r}$$

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## astrophysics

$$hf = \Delta E; \frac{hc}{\lambda} = \Delta E$$

$$d \sin \theta = n\lambda$$

$$\lambda_{\max} \propto \frac{1}{T}$$

$$L = 4\pi r^2 \sigma T^4$$

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cosmology

$$\frac{\Delta\lambda}{\lambda} \approx \frac{\Delta f}{f} \approx \frac{v}{c}$$

$$p = \frac{1}{d}$$

$$v = H_0 d$$

$$t = H_0^{-1}$$

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## MODULE 6 – PARTICLES AND MEDICAL PHYSICS

capacitance and capacitors

$$C = \frac{Q}{V}$$

$$C = \frac{\epsilon_0 A}{d}$$

$$C = 4\pi\epsilon_0 R$$

$$C = C_1 + C_2 + \dots$$

$$\frac{1}{C} = \frac{1}{C_1} + \frac{1}{C_2} + \dots$$

$$W = \frac{1}{2} QV; \quad W = \frac{1}{2} \frac{Q^2}{C};$$

$$W = \frac{1}{2} V^2 C$$

$$\tau = CR$$

$$x = x_0 e^{-\frac{t}{CR}}$$

$$x = x_0 (1 - e^{-\frac{t}{CR}})$$

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**electric field**

$$E = \frac{F}{Q}$$

$$F = \frac{Qq}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^2}$$

$$E = \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^2}$$

$$E = \frac{V}{d}$$

$$V = \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r}$$

$$\text{energy} = \frac{Qq}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r}$$

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**magnetic field**

$$F = BIL\sin\theta$$

$$F = BQv$$

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**electromagnetism**

$$\phi = BA\cos\theta$$

$$\varepsilon = -\frac{\Delta(N\phi)}{\Delta t}$$

$$\frac{n_s}{n_p} = \frac{V_s}{V_p} = \frac{I_p}{I_s}$$

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radius of nucleus

$$R = r_0 A^{1/3}$$

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radioactivity

$$A = \lambda N; \frac{\Delta N}{\Delta t} = -\lambda N$$

$$\lambda t_{1/2} = \ln(2)$$

$$A = A_0 e^{-\lambda t}$$

$$N = N_0 e^{-\lambda t}$$

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Einstein's mass-energy equation

$$\Delta E = \Delta mc^2$$

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attenuation of X-rays

$$I = I_0 e^{-\mu x}$$

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ultrasound

$$Z = \rho c$$

$$\frac{I_r}{I_0} = \frac{(Z_2 - Z_1)^2}{(Z_2 + Z_1)^2}$$

$$\frac{\Delta f}{f} = \frac{2v \cos \theta}{c}$$

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