



# Cambridge International AS & A Level

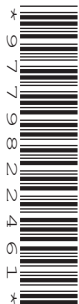
CANDIDATE  
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## PHYSICS

9702/31

Paper 3 Advanced Practical Skills 1

May/June 2020

2 hours

You must answer on the question paper.

You will need: The materials and apparatus listed in the confidential instructions

## INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **all** questions.
- Use a black or dark blue pen. You may use an HB pencil for any diagrams or graphs.
- Write your name, centre number and candidate number in the boxes at the top of the page.
- Write your answer to each question in the space provided.
- Do **not** use an erasable pen or correction fluid.
- Do **not** write on any bar codes.
- You will be allowed to work with the apparatus for a maximum of 1 hour for each question.
- You should record all your observations in the spaces provided in the question paper as soon as these observations are made.
- You may use a calculator.
- You should show all your working and use appropriate units.

## INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 40.
- The number of marks for each question or part question is shown in brackets [ ].

For Examiner's Use	
1	
2	
<b>Total</b>	

This document has **12** pages. Blank pages are indicated.



You may not need to use all of the materials provided.

1 In this experiment, you will investigate an electrical circuit.

- (a)
- Place the  $18\ \Omega$  resistor in component holder R.
  - Set up the circuit shown in Fig. 1.1.

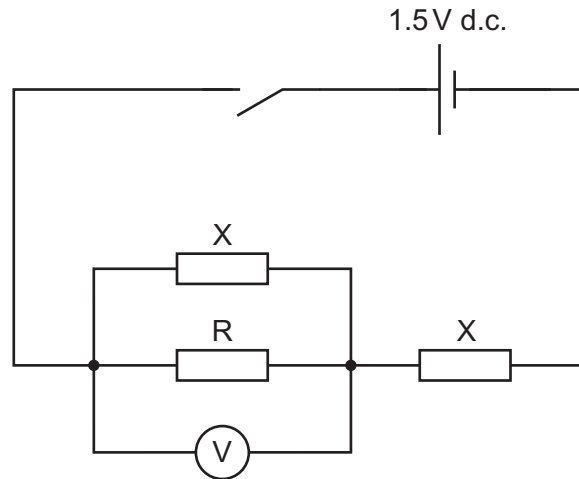


Fig. 1.1

- The resistor in R has resistance  $R$ . Record  $R$ .

$R = \dots\dots\dots\ \Omega$

- Close the switch.
- Record the voltmeter reading  $V$ .

$V = \dots\dots\dots$

- Open the switch.

[1]

- (b) Change the resistor in R and repeat (a) until you have six sets of readings of  $R$  and  $V$ . Include your values from (a).

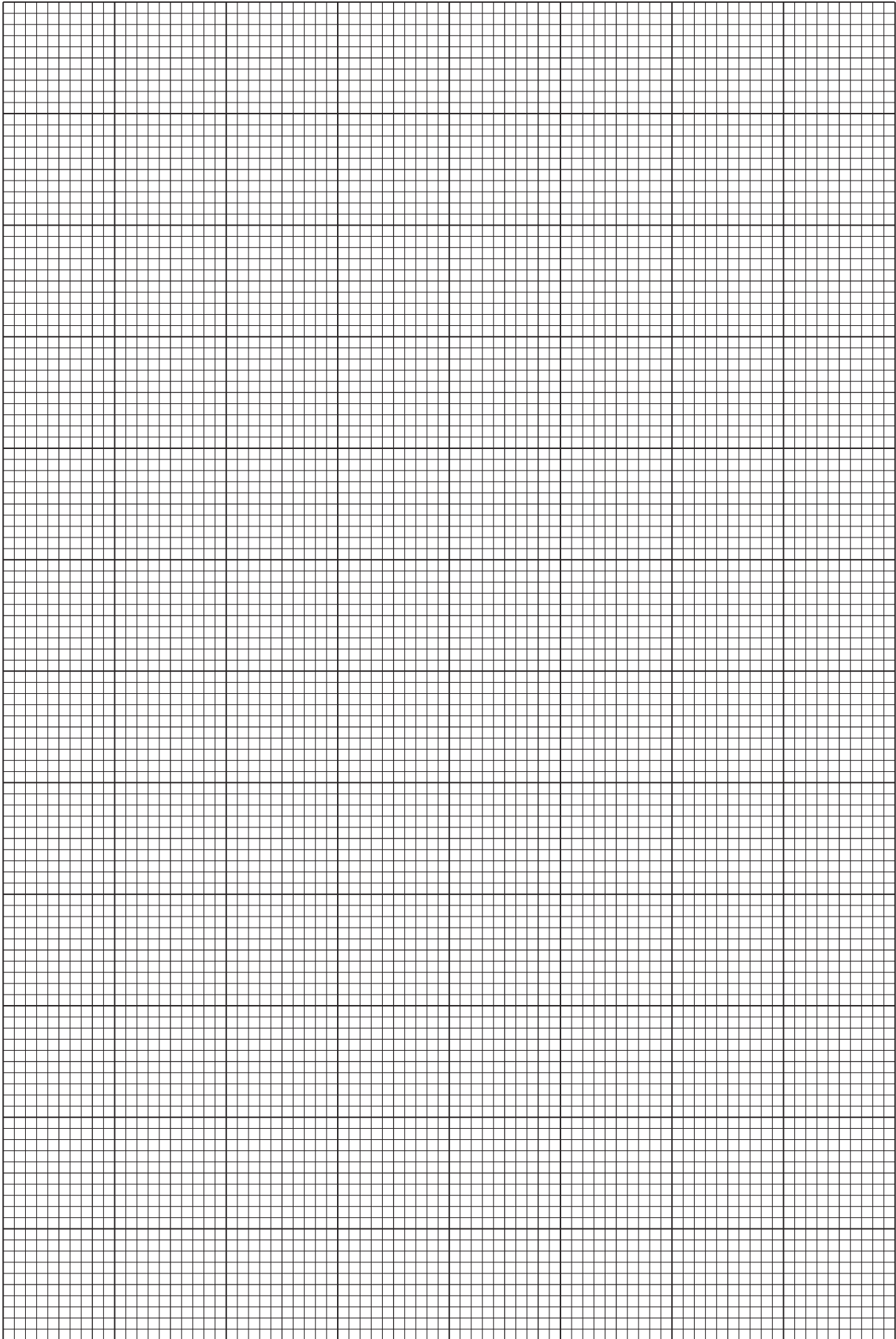
Record your results in a table. Include values of  $\frac{1}{R}$  and  $\frac{1}{V}$  in your table.

- [9]
- (c) (i) Plot a graph of  $\frac{1}{V}$  on the  $y$ -axis against  $\frac{1}{R}$  on the  $x$ -axis. [3]
- (ii) Draw the straight line of best fit. [1]
- (iii) Determine the gradient and  $y$ -intercept of this line.

gradient = .....

$y$ -intercept = .....

[2]



(d) It is suggested that the quantities  $V$  and  $R$  are related by the equation

$$\frac{1}{V} = \frac{A}{R} + B$$

where  $A$  and  $B$  are constants.

Using your answers in (c)(iii), determine values for  $A$  and  $B$ .

Give appropriate units.

$A =$  .....

$B =$  .....

[2]

(e) (i) Theory suggests that

$$B = \frac{2}{E}$$

where  $E$  is the electromotive force (e.m.f.) of the cell.

Determine  $E$ .

$E =$  ..... V [1]

(ii) The two other resistors in the circuit each have resistance  $X$ .

When  $R = X$ , theory suggests that

$$\frac{1}{V} = \frac{3}{E}$$

Determine  $X$ .

$X =$  .....  $\Omega$  [1]

[Total: 20]

You may not need to use all of the materials provided.

2 In this experiment, you will investigate the equilibrium of a metre rule.

(a) (i) You have been provided with a metre rule with two springs attached.

The distance between one end of the metre rule and the string is  $L$ , as shown in Fig. 2.1.

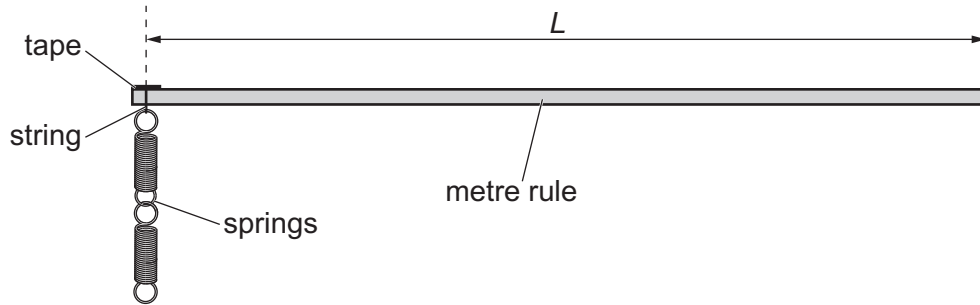


Fig. 2.1

Measure and record  $L$ .

$L = \dots\dots\dots$  [1]

(ii) Calculate  $\frac{L}{n}$  where  $n = 3$ .

$\frac{L}{n} = \dots\dots\dots$  [1]

- (b) (i) • Set up the apparatus as shown in Fig. 2.2.

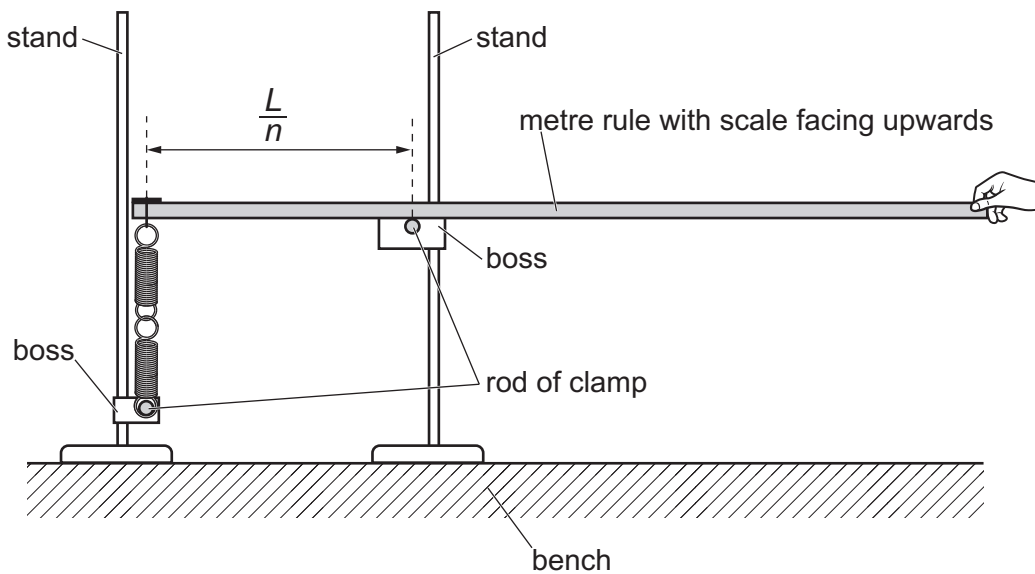


Fig. 2.2

- Adjust the apparatus until the horizontal distance between the centres of the rods of the clamps is equal to your value of  $\frac{L}{n}$ .
- Adjust the heights of the bosses so that the rule is horizontal and the springs are vertical and **unstretched** when the rule is held in position.
- Gradually release the rule by lowering your hand. The rule will tilt.
- The angle between the rule and the horizontal is  $\theta$ , as shown in Fig. 2.3.

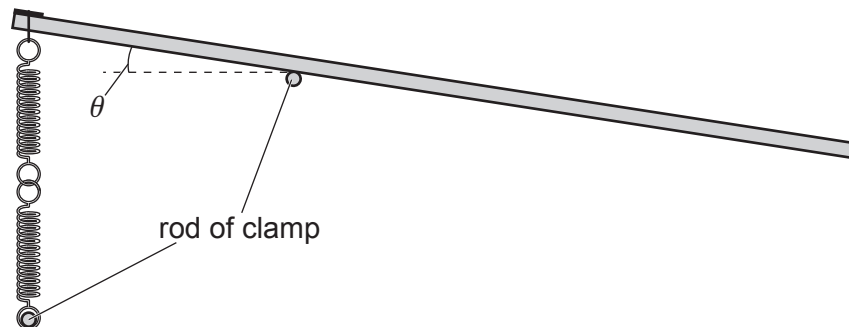


Fig. 2.3

Measure and record  $\theta$ .

$\theta = \dots\dots\dots^\circ$  [2]



(ii) Estimate the percentage uncertainty in your value of  $\theta$ . Show your working.

percentage uncertainty = ..... [1]

(iii) Calculate  $\sin \theta$ .

$\sin \theta =$  ..... [1]

(iv) Justify the number of significant figures that you have given for your value of  $\sin \theta$ .

.....  
 .....  
 ..... [1]

(c) • Calculate  $\frac{L}{n}$  where  $n = 4$ .

$\frac{L}{n} =$  .....

• Repeat (b)(i) and (b)(iii) using this value of  $\frac{L}{n}$ .

$\theta =$  ..... °

$\sin \theta =$  ..... [2]

(d) It is suggested that the relationship between  $\theta$  and  $n$  is

$$\sin \theta = C \left( \frac{n^2}{2} - n \right)$$

where  $C$  is a constant.

(i) Using your data, calculate two values of  $C$ .

first value of  $C = \dots\dots\dots$

second value of  $C = \dots\dots\dots$

[1]

(ii) Explain whether your results support the suggested relationship.

.....  
 .....  
 .....  
 ..... [1]

(e) Theory suggests that

$$C = \frac{Mg}{kL}$$

where

- $M$  is the mass of the metre rule given on the card
- $k$  is the spring constant of the spring system
- $g = 9.81 \text{ m s}^{-2}$ .

Use your second value of  $C$  to determine a value for  $k$ . Give appropriate units.

$k = \dots\dots\dots$  [1]

(f) (i) Describe four sources of uncertainty or limitations of the procedure for this experiment.

- 1. ....  
.....
- 2. ....  
.....
- 3. ....  
.....
- 4. ....  
.....

[4]

(ii) Describe four improvements that could be made to this experiment. You may suggest the use of other apparatus or different procedures.

- 1. ....  
.....
- 2. ....  
.....
- 3. ....  
.....
- 4. ....  
.....

[4]

[Total: 20]

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