



# Cambridge International AS & A Level

CANDIDATE  
NAME

CENTRE  
NUMBER

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**PHYSICS**

**9702/31**

Paper 3 Advanced Practical Skills 1

**May/June 2021**

**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. Any blank pages are indicated.

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

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

- (a) • Use the adhesive putty to attach the 100 g mass to the metre rule as close as possible to the 80 cm mark, as shown in Fig. 1.1.

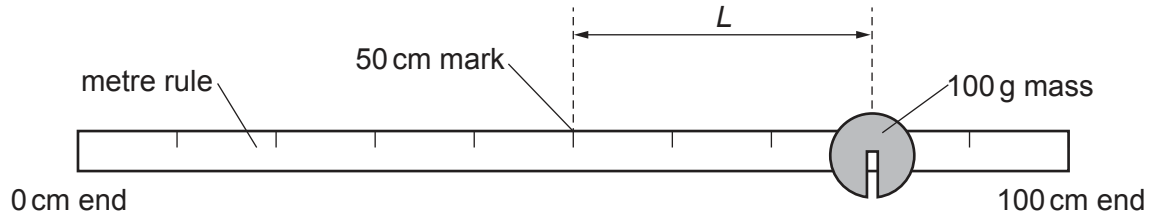


Fig. 1.1

- The distance between the 50 cm mark and the centre of the mass is  $L$ .

Measure and record  $L$ .

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

- (b) • Set up the apparatus as shown in Fig. 1.2.

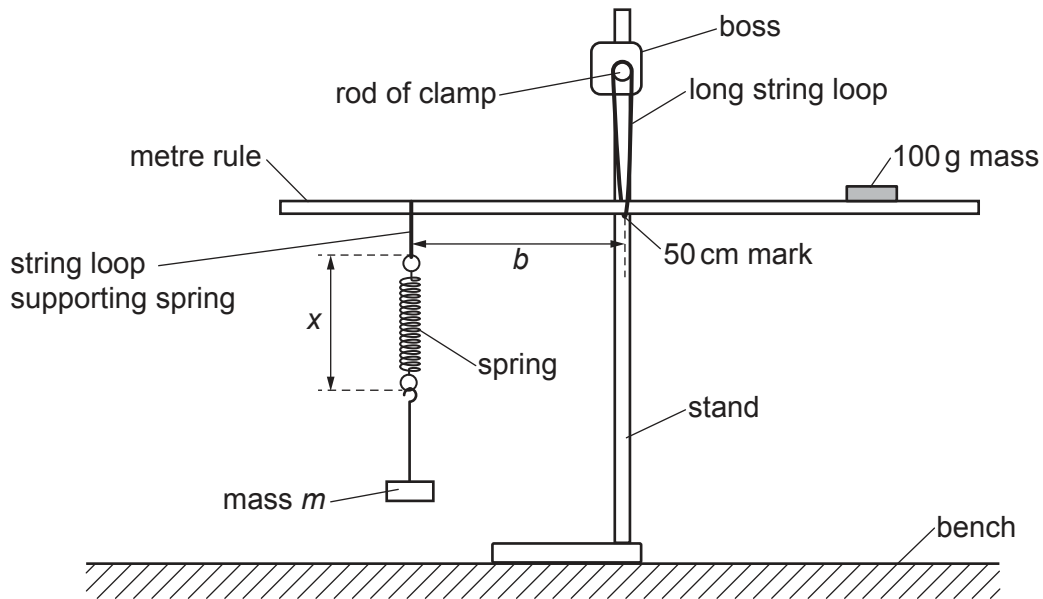


Fig. 1.2

- Suspend the rule from the long string loop at the 50 cm mark on the rule.
- Add the two 50 g masses to the mass hanger to make a total mass  $m$  of 110 g. Suspend mass  $m$  from the spring.
- Record  $m$ .

$m = \dots\dots\dots$  g

- The distance between the string loop supporting the spring and the 50 cm mark on the rule is  $b$ .

The distance between the top of the top loop of the spring and the bottom of the bottom loop of the spring is  $x$ , as shown in Fig. 1.2.

Adjust the position of the string loop supporting the spring until the rule is horizontal and in equilibrium.

- Measure and record  $x$  and  $b$ .

$x = \dots\dots\dots$

$b = \dots\dots\dots$

[1]

- (c) Repeat (b) with different values of  $m$  until you have six sets of readings. Record  $m$ ,  $x$  and  $b$ . Include your values from (b).

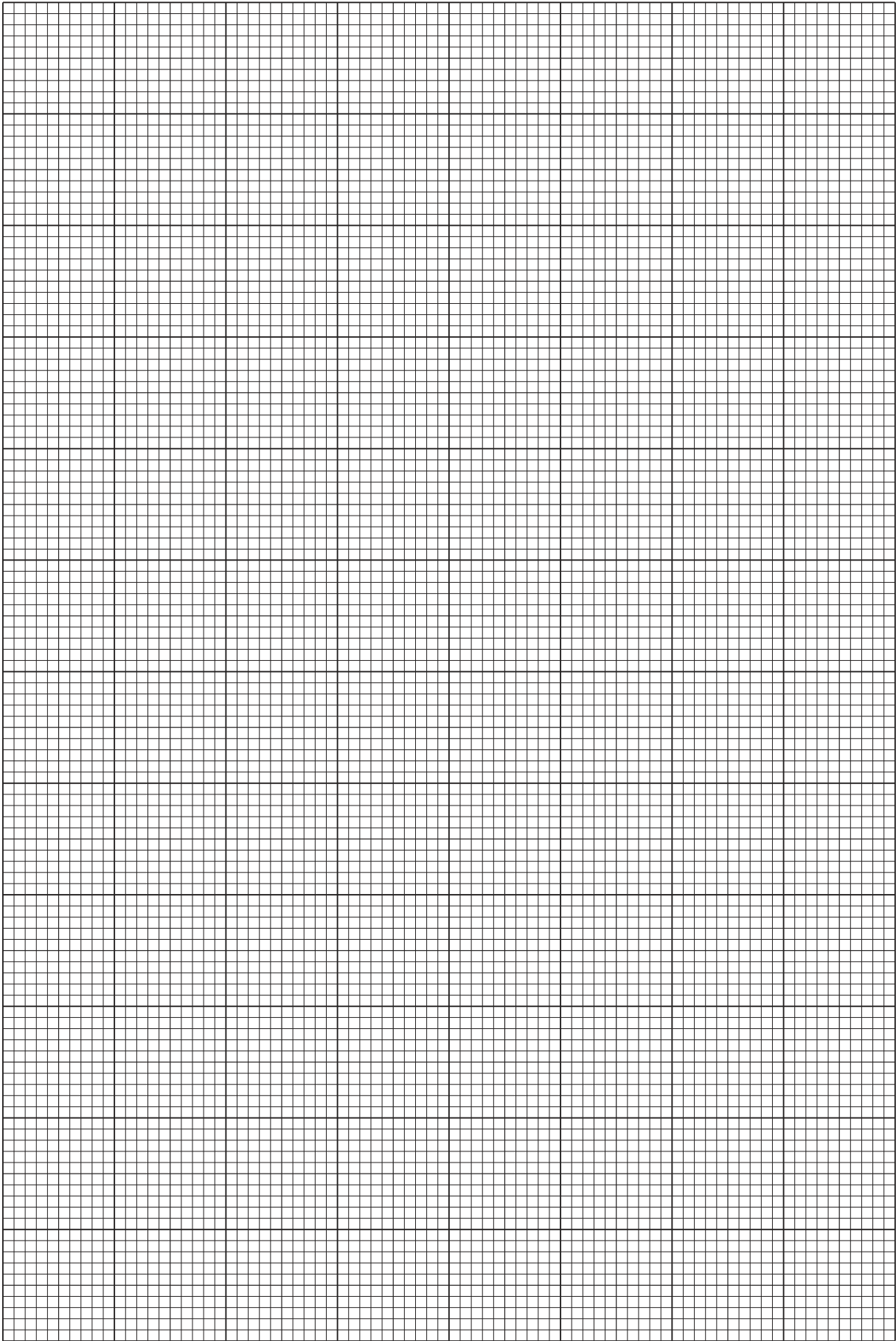
Record your results in a table. Include values of  $\frac{1}{b}$  in your table.

- [9]
- (d) (i) Plot a graph of  $\frac{1}{b}$  on the  $y$ -axis against  $x$  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]



- (e) It is suggested that the quantities  $b$  and  $x$  are related by the equation

$$\frac{1}{b} = Px + Q$$

where  $P$  and  $Q$  are constants.

Using your answers in (d)(iii), determine values for  $P$  and  $Q$ .

Give appropriate units.

$P =$  .....

$Q =$  .....

[2]

- (f) A student repeats the experiment placing the 100g mass closer to the 50 cm mark on the rule.

Theory suggests that  $P$  and  $Q$  are both inversely proportional to  $L$ .

For this experiment, draw a second line on the graph to show the expected results.

Label this line W.

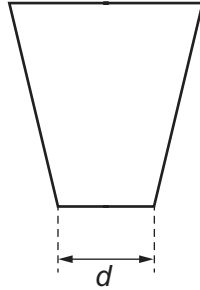
[1]

[Total: 20]

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

**2** In this experiment, you will investigate how the rate of cooling of a hot liquid depends on its volume.

**(a)** You have been provided with a cup. The diameter of the base of the cup is  $d$ , as shown in Fig. 2.1.



**Fig. 2.1**

Measure and record  $d$ .

$d = \dots\dots\dots$  [1]

- (b)**
- Pour boiling water into the cup until it is approximately one-third full.
  - When the temperature of the water is  $75^\circ\text{C}$ , start the stop-watch.

Record this starting temperature  $\theta_0$ .

$\theta_0 = \dots\dots\dots$   $^\circ\text{C}$

- After two minutes, measure and record the temperature  $\theta$ .

$\theta = \dots\dots\dots$   $^\circ\text{C}$

- Calculate  $\Delta\theta$  using

$$\Delta\theta = (\theta_0 - \theta).$$

$\Delta\theta = \dots\dots\dots$   $^\circ\text{C}$   
[1]

- (c) (i) The height of the water in the cup is  $h$  and the diameter of the surface of the water is  $D$ , as shown in Fig. 2.2.

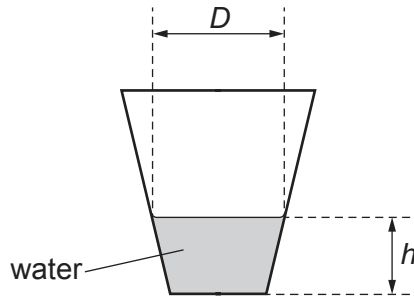


Fig. 2.2

Measure and record  $h$  and  $D$ .

$h =$  .....

$D =$  .....

[2]

- (ii) Estimate the percentage uncertainty in your value of  $h$ . Show your working.

percentage uncertainty = ..... [1]

- (iii) Calculate  $C$  where

$$C = \frac{D^3 - d^3}{D - d} .$$

$C =$  ..... [1]

- (iv) Justify the number of significant figures that you have given for your value of  $C$ .

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



- (d) • Empty the cup.
- Repeat (b), (c)(i) and (c)(iii) with the cup approximately two-thirds full.

$$\theta_0 = \dots\dots\dots \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$$

$$\theta = \dots\dots\dots \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$$

$$\Delta\theta = \dots\dots\dots \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$$

$$h = \dots\dots\dots$$

$$D = \dots\dots\dots$$

$$C = \dots\dots\dots$$

[3]

(e) It is suggested that the relationship between  $\Delta\theta$ ,  $h$  and  $C$  is

$$\Delta\theta = \frac{k}{\sqrt{(hC)}}$$

where  $k$  is a constant.

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

first value of  $k$  = .....

second value of  $k$  = .....

[1]

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

.....  
.....  
.....  
..... [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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