

Markscheme

May 2023

Physics

Standard level

Paper 3

20 pages

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Subject Details: Physics SL Paper 3 Markscheme

Candidates are required to answer **all** questions in Section A and **all** questions from **one** option in Section B. Maximum total = **35 marks**.

1. Each row in the “Question” column relates to the smallest subpart of the question.
2. The maximum mark for each question subpart is indicated in the “Total” column.
3. Each marking point in the “Answers” column is shown by means of a tick (✓) at the end of the marking point.
4. A question subpart may have more marking points than the total allows. This will be indicated by “**max**” written after the mark in the “Total” column. The related rubric, if necessary, will be outlined in the “Notes” column.
5. An alternative wording is indicated in the “Answers” column by a slash (/). Either wording can be accepted.
6. An alternative answer is indicated in the “Answers” column by “**OR**”. Either answer can be accepted.
7. An alternative markscheme is indicated in the “Answers” column under heading **ALTERNATIVE 1** etc. Either alternative can be accepted.
8. Words inside chevrons « » in the “Answers” column are not necessary to gain the mark.
9. Words that are underlined are essential for the mark.
10. The order of marking points does not have to be as in the “Answers” column, unless stated otherwise in the “Notes” column.
11. If the candidate’s answer has the same “meaning” or can be clearly interpreted as being of equivalent significance, detail and validity as that in the “Answers” column then award the mark. Where this point is considered to be particularly relevant in a question it is emphasized by **OWTTE** (or words to that effect) in the “Notes” column.
12. Remember that many candidates are writing in a second language. Effective communication is more important than grammatical accuracy.
13. Occasionally, a part of a question may require an answer that is required for subsequent marking points. If an error is made in the first marking point then it should be penalized. However, if the incorrect answer is used correctly in subsequent marking points then **follow through** marks should be awarded. When marking, indicate this by adding **ECF** (error carried forward) on the script. “ECF acceptable” will be displayed in the “Notes” column.
14. Do **not** penalize candidates for errors in units or significant figures, **unless** it is specifically referred to in the “Notes” column.

Section A

Question			Answers	Notes	Total
1.	a		$[\mu] = \left\langle \frac{\text{kg} \times \text{m s}^{-2}}{\text{s}^{-2} \times \text{m}^2} \right\rangle = \text{kg} \times \text{m}^{-1} \checkmark$	Accept kg/m . Do not accept g m ⁻¹ .	1
1.	b	i	straight line through all error bars ✓		1
1.	b	ii	line does not go through the origin «and all error bars» ✓		1
1.	b	iii	mass of tray of weights neglected/friction at pulley/friction at slider/thickness of slider/zero off-set error ✓	Do not allow vague answers like friction neglected / error in length measurement	1
1.	b	iv	large enough triangle $\Delta m \geq 50 \text{ g} \checkmark$ answer in range 0.210 – 0.240 «kgm ⁻² » ✓	Accept answers in g m ⁻² . Do not allow ECF from MP1	2
1.	c		$\mu = \left\langle \frac{g \times \text{gradient}}{f^2} \right\rangle = 6.229 \times 10^{-4} \text{ «kg} \times \text{m}^{-1} \text{»} \checkmark$ percentage uncertainty = $6.0 + 2 \times 2.0 = 10\% \checkmark$	Accept μ in the range 5.7 to 6.6. Allow answer in g m ⁻¹ Allow ECF from (b).	2

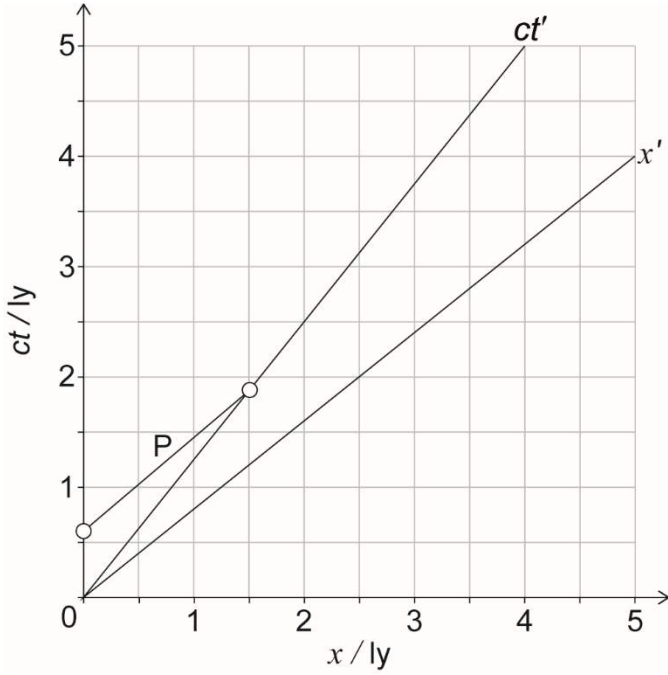
Question			Answers	Notes	Total
2.	a	i	mass OR diameter OR material of bob OR « initial » amplitude/angle ✓	<i>Do not allow statements about rulers, stopwatches, string, number of oscillations, constant gravity.</i>	1
2.	a	ii	student's reaction time «in starting and stopping stopwatch» / starting/stopping stopwatch ✓		1
2.	b		it reduces «the random» error/uncertainty ✓ by a factor of 20 «compared to that in a single period measurement» ✓	<i>For MP1, allow increasing accuracy/precision.</i> <i>Award [0] for answers related to number of trials, 20 measurements of one period.</i>	2
2.	c	i	T^2 ✓		1
2.	c	ii	$g = 9.7$ «ms ⁻² » ✓ $\Delta g = 0.8$ «ms ⁻² » ✓		2

Section B

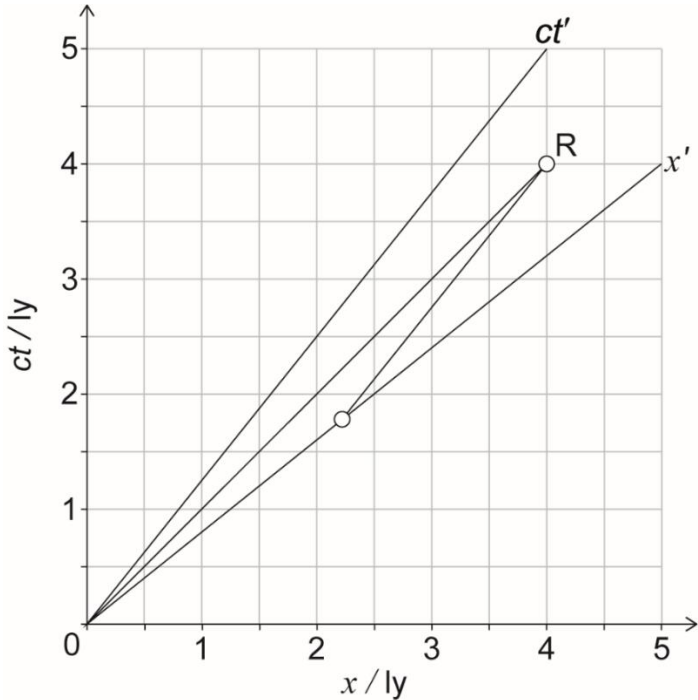
Option A — Relativity

Question			Answers	Notes	Total
3.	a		«in the proton rest frame » the speed of the proton is zero so force is zero ✓		1
3.	b		the proton sees an electric field / experiences electric force ✓ upward force ✓		2

Question			Answers	Notes	Total
4.	a		moves 4 ly in 5 years OR slope of angle with time axis is 0.8 ✓	<i>Allow evidence for mark on the graph.</i>	1
4.	b	i	$\gamma = 1.67$ OR $\frac{5}{3}$ OR $\frac{1}{\sqrt{1-0.8^2}}$ ✓ $ct' = \left\langle \gamma \left(ct - \frac{vX}{c} \right) \right\rangle = \frac{5}{3} \times (0.60 + 0)$ ✓ «=1.00 ly»	<i>For MP2, working should be seen.</i>	2

Question	Answers	Notes	Total
4. b ii	<p>identifies point with coordinates $x = 0, ct = 0.60$ on vertical axis ✓ draws line parallel to the x prime axis until it intersects the prime ct axis ✓</p> 	<p>Award [2] for correct position of P without working shown.</p>	2

Question	Answers	Notes	Total
4. c i	<p>R located at (4,4) ✓</p> <p>«as intersection of» vertical line through 4 ly and photon worldline at 45 degrees ✓</p>	<p>Allow MP2 even if one of the lines is not drawn.</p>	2

Question			Answers	Notes	Total
4.	c	ii	<p>ALTERNATIVE 1 <i>Using diagram:</i> line from R parallel to prime ct axis until it intersects space axis ✓ use of scale from (b) to estimate coordinate to $x' = (1.3 \pm 0.2) \text{ ly}$ ✓</p>  <p>ALTERNATIVE 2 <i>Using Lorentz transformation:</i> event R has coordinates $x = ct = 4.00 \text{ ly}$ in S ✓ so $x' = \gamma(x - vt) = \frac{5}{3} \times (4.00 - 0.80 \times 4.00) = 1.33 \text{ ly}$ ✓</p>		2

Question			Answers	Notes	Total
5.	a		$T_1 = 2.00 \times 1.56 \times 10^{-6}$ or 3.12×10^{-6} s ✓ $D = \llcorner 3.12 \times 10^{-6} \times 0.866 \times 3 \times 10^8 \Rightarrow 811$ m ✓	Award [2] for BCA	2
5.	b	i	$0.866c \times \text{half life} = 0.866c \times 1.56 \times 10^{-6} = \llcorner 405$ m» OR distance travelled by detector = $\frac{D}{y} = \frac{D}{2} = \llcorner 405\text{m} \gg$ ✓	<i>Working must be seen.</i>	1
5.	b	ii	transit time = $\frac{405}{0.866c} = 1.56 \mu\text{s}$ ✓	Award [1] for BCA.	1
5.	c		transit time is one half life ✓ so ratio has to be $\frac{1}{2}$ ✓	Award [2] for BCA.	2
5.	d		the answers are the same ✓ count rates cannot vary from frame to frame /OWTTE ✓	Do not allow ECF from (c). Award [2] for "count rates cannot vary" if student made a mistake OR no answer in (c) and well discussed here.	2

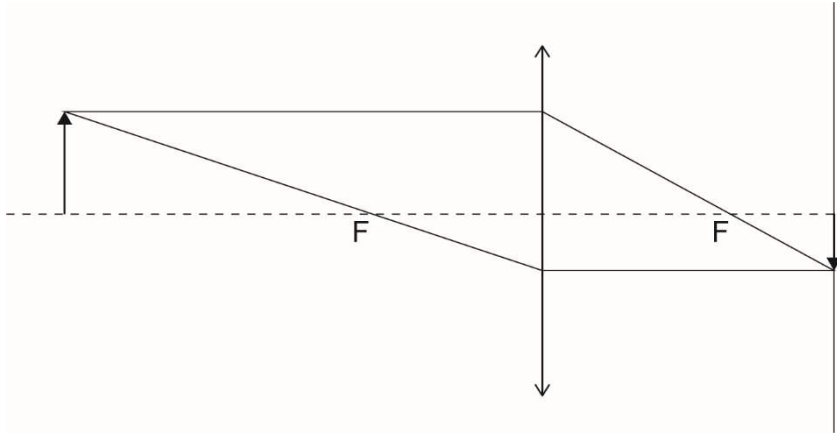
Option B – Engineering physics

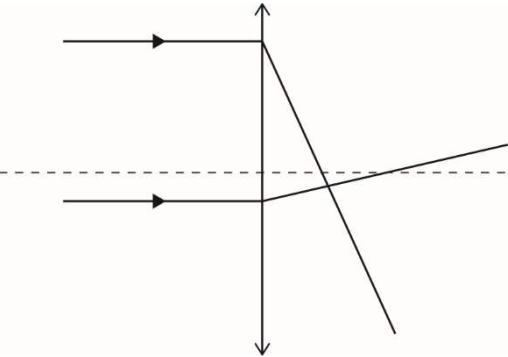
Question			Answers	Notes	Total
6.	a		$0.180 + 0.200 \times 0.60^2 \llcorner = 0.252 \text{ kg m}^2 \llcorner \checkmark$		1
6.	b		angular speed of particle = $\llcorner 12/0.6 = \llcorner 20 \llcorner \text{ rad s}^{-1} \llcorner$ OR angular momentum of particle $\llcorner 0.200 \times 12.0 \times 0.60 \llcorner = 1.44 \llcorner \text{ Js} \llcorner \checkmark$ $\llcorner \text{angular momentum of rod-particle system } 0.252 \omega \llcorner$ equating $\omega = \llcorner \frac{1.44}{0.252} \llcorner = 5.71 \text{ rads}^{-1} \checkmark$	<i>For MP2, working or answer to at least 3 SF should be seen.</i>	2
6.	c		$\frac{1}{2} \times 0.200 \times 12.0^2 - \frac{1}{2} (0.252) \times 5.71^2 \checkmark$ 10.3 J \checkmark	Award [1] for answer 11.5 J that neglects moment of inertia of particle but do not penalize this omission in (d)(i).	2
6.	d	i	$\alpha = \frac{0.152}{0.252} = 0.603 \text{ rads}^{-2} \checkmark$	<i>Accept negative values.</i>	1
6.	d	ii	$\theta = \frac{5.71^2}{2 \times 0.603} = 27.0 \text{ rad} \checkmark$ $N = \frac{27.0}{2 \times \pi} = 4.3 \checkmark$		2
6.	e		the rod will rotate $\llcorner \text{about centre of mass} \llcorner \checkmark$ $\llcorner \text{centre of mass} \llcorner$ will move along straight line $\llcorner \text{parallel to the particle's initial velocity} \llcorner \checkmark$	<i>For MP2, mention of translational motion is not enough.</i>	2

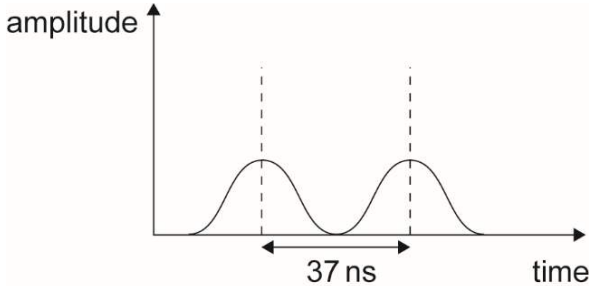
Question		Answers	Notes	Total
7.	a	<p>ALTERNATIVE 1</p> <p>«considering expansions from A» an adiabatic process will reduce/change temperature ✓</p> <p>and so curve AC must be the steeper ✓</p> <p>ALTERNATIVE 2</p> <p>temperature drop occurs for BC ✓</p> <p>therefore CA must increase temperature «via adiabatic process» ✓</p>		2
7.	b	<p>ALTERNATIVE 1</p> <p>Use of adiabatic formula «$p_A V_A^{\frac{5}{3}} = p_C V_C^{\frac{5}{3}} \Rightarrow V_C = \left(\frac{p_A}{p_C}\right)^{\frac{3}{5}} V_A$ ✓</p> <p>$V_C = \left(\frac{5.00 \times 10^5}{4.60 \times 10^3}\right)^{\frac{3}{5}} \times 2.00 \times 10^{-3} \approx 3.333 \times 10^{-2} \text{ m}^3$ ✓</p> <p>ALTERNATIVE 2</p> <p>$V_C = V_B$ AND $p_A V_A = p_B V_B$ ✓</p> <p>$V_C = \frac{5 \times 10^5 \times 2 \times 10^{-3}}{3 \times 10^4}$ ✓</p> <p>ALTERNATIVE 3</p> <p>$V_C = V_B$ AND $n = 0.2 \text{ mol}$ ✓</p> <p>$V_C = (0.2 \times 8.31 \times 602) / 4 \times 10^4$ ✓</p>	<p>For MP2, working or answer to at least 4 SF must be seen.</p>	2

Question		Answers	Notes	Total
7.	c	Increasing ✓ because thermal energy/heat is being provided to the gas « and temperature is constant, $\Delta S = \frac{\Delta Q}{T}$ » ✓		2
7.	d	<p>ALTERNATIVE 1</p> $Q = \Delta U = \frac{3}{2} V_c \Delta P \checkmark$ $Q = \left\langle \frac{3}{2} \times 3.33 \times 10^{-2} \times (3.00 \times 10^4 - 4.60 \times 10^3) \right\rangle = 1268.7 \approx 1270 \text{ «J» } \checkmark$ <p>ALTERNATIVE 2</p> $Rn = \frac{5 \times 10^5 \times 2 \times 10^{-3}}{602} = 1.66 \quad \text{OR } T_c = 4.6 \times 10^3 \times 3.33 \times 10^{-2} \times 1.66 = 92.2 \checkmark$ $\Delta U = \frac{3}{2} \times 1.661 \times (602 - 92.21) = 1270 \text{ «J» } \checkmark$	<p>Award [2] for BCA. Accept negative values.</p> <p>Award MP1 if $T_c = 92$ taken from (e)</p>	2
7.	e	$e_c = 1 - \frac{92}{602} = 0.847 \checkmark$ this engine has $e < e_c$ as it should ✓	<p>Award [0] if no calculation shown.</p>	2

Option C - Imaging

Question		Answers	Notes	Total
8.	a	 <p>one of the two rays above ✓</p>		1
8.	b	$-\frac{v}{u} = -\frac{1}{2} \text{ OR } v = \frac{u}{2} \quad \checkmark$ $\frac{1}{u} + \frac{2}{u} = \frac{1}{4.0} \quad \checkmark$ $u = 12 \text{ «cm»} \quad \checkmark$	<p>Diagram is not to scale so award [0] if answer obtained by measurement.</p> <p>Allow MP1 if mistake in negative sign.</p> <p>Do not allow ECF from MP1.</p> <p>Award [3] for BCA.</p>	3

Question			Answers	Notes	Total
8.	c	i	 <p>the extreme ray crosses principal axis closer than paraxial ray ✓</p>		1
8.	c	ii	image is curved / blurred / distorted / poorly focused ✓		1
8.	c	iii	block non-paraxial rays/ reduce aperture/use rays closer to axis/ OWTTE OR use aspherical lens ✓	<i>Allow parabolic lens.</i> <i>Allow use of additional lens OR compensation plates.</i>	1
8.	d	i	angular magnification is $\frac{75}{4.0} = 18.75$ ✓ angle = «18.75 × 0.51°» = 9.6° ✓		2
8.	d	ii	It would be «much» smaller ✓		1


Question			Answers	Notes	Total
9.	a	i	$1.500 \times \sin \theta_c = 1.489 \times 1 \checkmark$ $\theta_c = 83.06^\circ \checkmark$	Allow 83° OR 1.45 rad.	2
9.	a	ii	$1.00 \times \sin \theta_{\max} = 1.500 \times \sin(90^\circ - 83.06^\circ) \checkmark$ $\theta_{\max} = 10.4^\circ \checkmark$	Allow 11° Allow ECF from (a)(i).	2
9.	b		<p>« when ray 1 travels a distance 1.00 km » ray 2 travels a distance $\frac{1}{\sin \theta_c} = 1.0074$ km \checkmark</p> <p>speed is $\frac{c}{1.500} = 2.0 \times 10^8$ «ms⁻¹» \checkmark</p> <p>hence $\Delta t = \llcorner 0.0074 \times \frac{10^3}{2 \times 10^8} \Rightarrow 36.67 \llcorner$ «ns» \checkmark</p>	<p>Allow ECF from (a)(i).</p> <p>Time for ray 1 is 5000 ns , time for ray 2 is 5036.9 ns.</p> <p>Do not allow ECF from MP2.</p> <p>For MP3, working or answer to at least 3 SF should be seen.</p>	3
9.	c	i	 <p>pulses rounded and of lower amplitude, symmetrical about dotted lines. \checkmark</p> <p>just starting to overlap \checkmark</p>		2
9.	c	ii	the pulses would overlap/the signal will be lost/ OWTTE \checkmark		1

Option D - Astrophysics

Question		Answers	Notes	Total
10.		open clusters are irregular in shape OR globular clusters are spherical ✓ open clusters have few stars OR globular clusters have many ✓ open clusters have young stars OR globular clusters have old stars ✓ open clusters have active stars OR globular clusters have mostly dead stars ✓ open clusters are less dense OR globular clusters are more dense ✓	<i>Open clusters are bigger / have stars further apart is not enough to award the mark.</i> <i>Globular clusters are round is not enough to award the mark.</i>	1 max

Question		Answers	Notes	Total
11.	a	$L = L_{\text{J}} \times 52^{3.5} = 1.01 \times 10^6 L_{\text{c}} \checkmark$	Accept back working. Working should be seen.	1
11.	b	$L_B = L_A = 10^6 L_{\text{sun}} \checkmark$ $\frac{L_B}{L_{\text{J}}} = \left(\frac{4\pi R_B^2}{4\pi R_{\text{J}}^2}\right) \left(\frac{3.0}{6.0}\right)^4 \quad \text{OR} \quad 1.0 \times 10^6 = \left(\frac{R_B}{R_{\text{J}}}\right)^2 \frac{1}{16} \checkmark$ $\frac{R_B}{R_{\text{J}}} = \sqrt{1.0 \times 10^6 \times 16} = 4 \times 10^3 \checkmark$	Award [3] for BCA Do not allow ECF from MP2 to MP3.	3
11.	c	«star A will evolve into a» red supergiant star ✓ will then explode/supernova ✓ creating a neutron star or black hole ✓ « neutron star if core/remnant mass < the Oppenheimer–Volkoff limit/ a black hole if core more massive »	For MP3, award the mark if only one of neutron star OR black hole is mentioned.	3
11.	d	$d = \sqrt{\frac{L}{4\pi b}} \checkmark$ $d = \sqrt{\frac{2.4 \times 10^{23}}{4\pi \times 4.1 \times 10^{-14}}} \ll \frac{6.8 \times 10^{17}}{3.09 \times 10^{16}} \gg \approx 22 \text{ pc} \checkmark$	Award [2] for BCA. For MP1, allow answer in unit m, value $6.8 \times 10^{17} \text{ m}$.	2
11.	e	the distance is well within the limit of about 1000 pc for stellar parallax, so yes it can ✓	Accept 100 pc OR similar distance in other units. Allow ECF from (d)	1

Question		Answers	Notes	Total
12.	a	$\frac{v}{c} = \frac{512 - 486}{486} \checkmark$ $\Rightarrow v = 1.6 \times 10^4 \text{ «kms}^{-1}\text{»} \checkmark$	Accept 0.053 c. Accept answer in m s ⁻¹ . Award [2] for BCA.	2
12.	b	$d = \frac{v}{H} = \frac{1.6 \times 10^4}{72} = 222 \approx 220 \text{ «Mpc»} \checkmark$	ECF from (a).	1
12.	c	it is important because it is related to the age of the universe ✓ it is important in testing models of the universe ✓ it is important for determining distances ✓		1 max

Question			Answers	Notes	Total
13.	a		the radiation filling the early universe was at a very high temperature ✓ the observed CMB at 3K shows cooling of this radiation ✓ that came about due to the expansion/stretching of the universe ✓ homogeneous and isotropic ✓ predicted by the BB theory ✓		3 max
13.	b	i	standard black body curve ✓ 		1
13.	b	ii	identify the peak wavelength AND use Wien's law ✓		1