



Answer **all** the questions.

**Section A**

1 Here are equations for electrical resistivity and conductivity:

$$\rho = \frac{RA}{L} \quad \sigma = \frac{GL}{A}$$

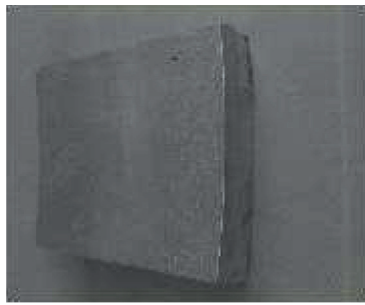
Write down correct units for

(a) electrical resistivity .....

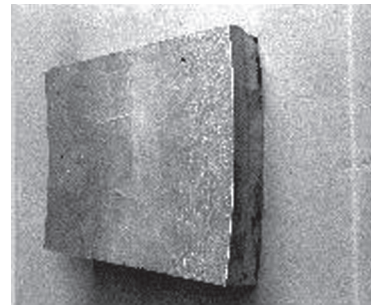
(b) electrical conductivity. ....

[2]

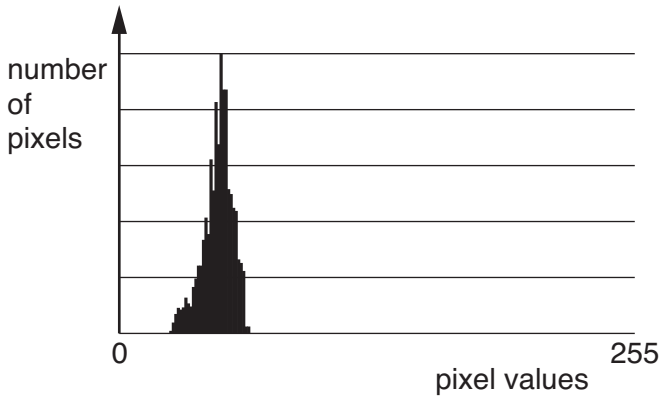
2 Fig. 2.1a shows an under-exposed image. Fig. 2.1b shows the image improved after processing. Below each image are histograms showing the number of pixels against the greyscale value 0 (black) and 255 (white) of each image.



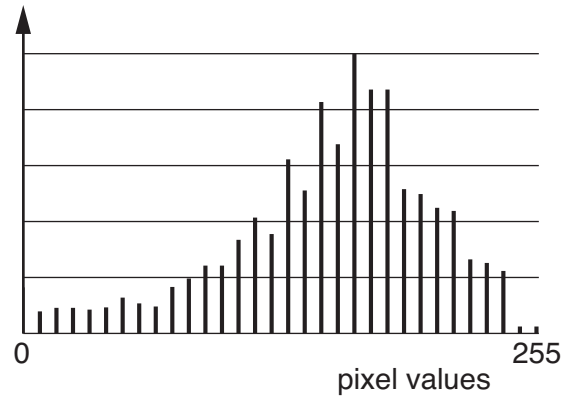
**under-exposed image**



**processed image**



**Fig. 2.1a**

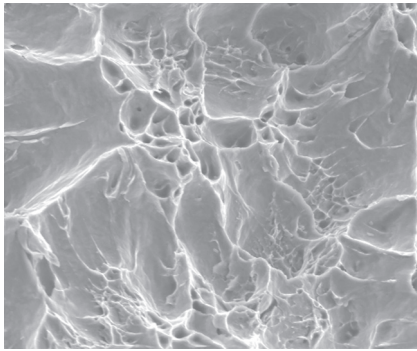


**Fig. 2.1b**

State one way in which the image has been modified to achieve this improvement.

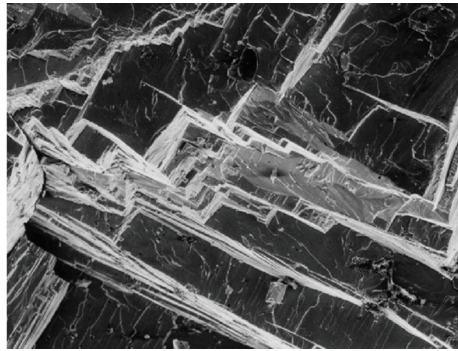
[2]

- 3 Fig. 3.1 shows electron microscope images of the fracture of the **same** material, mild steel. Fig. 3.1a shows ductile fracture at room temperature. Fig. 3.1b shows brittle fracture at the much lower temperature of  $-190^{\circ}\text{C}$ . Both images are on a scale of  $20\ \mu\text{m}$ .



room temperature

Fig. 3.1a



low temperature

Fig. 3.1b

20  $\mu\text{m}$

Fig. 3.1

- (a) Fig. 3.1a shows regions of plastic flow formed during the ductile fracture of the mild steel at room temperature.

State a feature from Fig. 3.1b that suggests mild steel undergoes brittle fracture at low temperature.

[1]

- (b) Suggest a reason why mild steel is not a suitable material for the outer skin of an artificial satellite to operate in space.

[1]

4 Fig. 4.1 shows part of an analogue signal with some random noise.

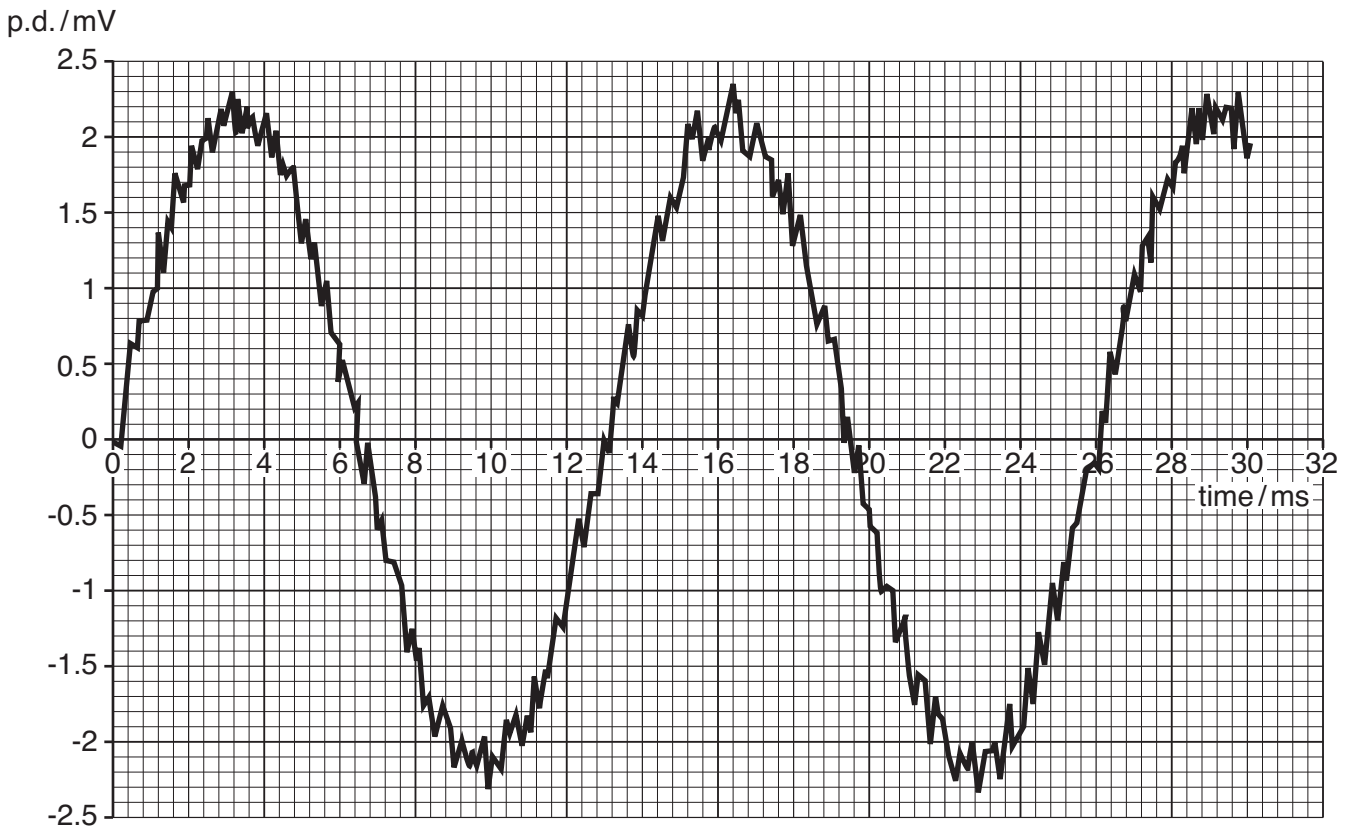


Fig. 4.1

(a) Estimate the peak to peak voltage of the **analogue signal**.

peak to peak voltage = ..... mV [1]

(b) Estimate the peak to peak voltage variation of the **noise** in the signal.

peak to peak voltage variation = ..... mV [1]

(c) The signal is sampled and digitised, using 8 bits per sample.

Calculate the number of sampling levels.

number of sampling levels = ..... [1]

(d) Suggest why it would be more appropriate to use 4 bits per sample for the digitisation of this noisy signal.

[2]

5 A mains kettle operates at 240V and is rated at 2.2kW.

Calculate the resistance of the kettle heating element when operating normally.

resistance = .....  $\Omega$  [2]

6 (a) Name two materials which together make a composite material.

..... and .....

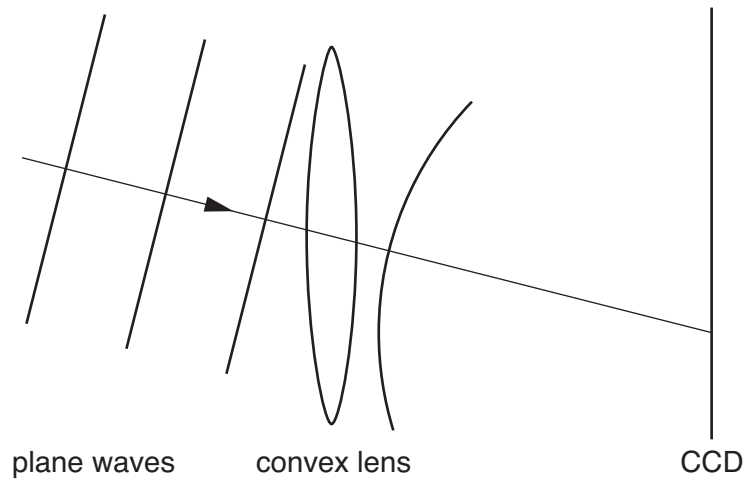
make the composite material ..... [2]

(b) State the useful properties that **each** material contributes to the composite.

[2]

- 7 Fig. 7.1 shows plane wavefronts (wavelength not to scale) from a point on a distant object approaching a converging lens in a digital camera.

Complete the diagram showing how the wavefronts after the lens are focused onto the CCD surface of the camera. The first wavefront has been drawn for you.



**Fig. 7.1**

[2]

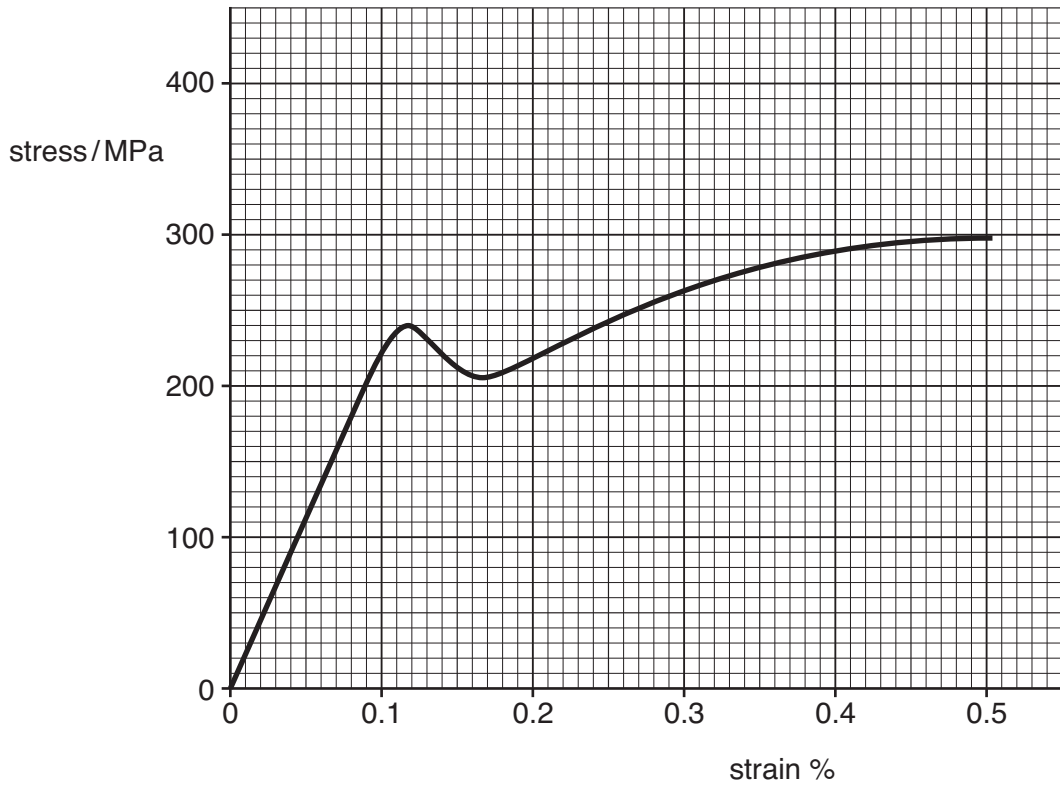
[Total Section A:19]

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**8**  
**Section B**

- 8** Fig. 8.1 shows part of the stress against strain graph for mild steel, up to a strain of 0.5%, obtained from a tensile testing machine.



**Fig. 8.1**

- (a) (i)** Describe the behaviour of mild steel up to a strain of 0.1%.

**[1]**

- (ii)** Calculate the Young modulus for mild steel.  
Make your method clear.

Young modulus = ..... Pa **[3]**



(b) The sample of mild steel tested had a diameter  $D$  of 8.0 mm and original length  $L$  of 0.20 m.

(i) Calculate the extension of the specimen at the end of the test, when the strain is 0.5%.

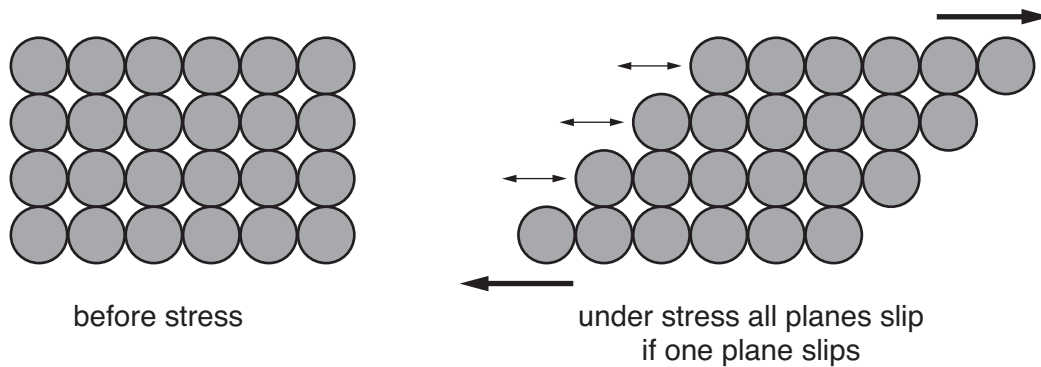
extension = ..... m [1]

(ii) Calculate the maximum force applied by the tensile testing machine to the sample.  
Make your method clear.

maximum force = ..... N [3]

- (c) One student correctly states that plastic deformation must be occurring above a strain of about 0.11%.

A second student incorrectly argues that plastic flow cannot occur at such a low strain. He argues that if the stress is enough to make one plane of atoms slip, it must be enough to make **all** the planes slip together. He uses the following diagrams in Fig. 8.2 to illustrate his case.



**Fig. 8.2**

Write an explanation for the second student to point out where his ideas are going wrong and why the first student is correct.



*In your answer, you should make clear the changes in arrangement of atoms and how this accounts for the large scale behaviour of the metal.*

[3]

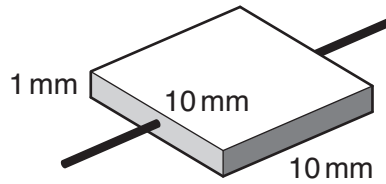
[Total: 11]

11  
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- 9 This question is about measuring the electrical conductivity of a semiconductor. The semiconductor is in the form of a square chip of side about 10 mm, and about 1 mm thick as shown in Fig. 9.1.

The resistance of the slice is of order of magnitude  $100\ \Omega$ .  
Current is passed into the shaded vertical end of the slice as shown.



**Fig. 9.1**

- (a) Draw a diagram of a circuit that could be used to obtain the electrical measurements required to determine the electrical conductivity of the semiconductor.

[2]

- (b) Describe clearly how to obtain all the measurements needed to determine the conductivity.

[3]

- (c) Describe how the data is used to calculate a value for the conductivity of the semiconductor.

[2]

- (d) Suggest **one** way in which you could improve the measurement of the conductivity, by reducing uncertainty or systematic error in part of the measurement.



*In your answer, you should clearly identify a source of uncertainty or systematic error, describe clearly the change you suggest, and explain how it would improve the measurement.*

[3]

[Total: 10]

**10** A HDTV (high definition television) image consists of  $720 \times 1280$  colour pixels each coded by 24 bits of information. 50 separate images are displayed each second during transmission.

**(a) (i)** Show that the maximum rate of flow of information to the screen is greater than  $10^9$  bits per second.

[1]

**(ii)** Show that the maximum amount of information that might be required for transmission of **one hour** of HDTV in this system is nearly 500 **Gbytes**.

[2]

**(iii)** A digital TV recorder has a memory capacity of 200 Gbytes and can record up to 80 hours of HDTV programmes.

Show that the recorder is using less than 3 Gbytes of memory for storing each hour of recording.

[1]

**(b)** The carrier frequency of the electromagnetic waves for transmitting the HDTV signal is 850 MHz. The bandwidth of the signal is 10 MHz, between 845 and 855 MHz.

**(i)** Use the calculations in **(a)** to explain why data compression is needed for recording 80 hours of TV.

[1]

- (ii) Use the calculations in (a) to explain why compression is needed for transmission with a bandwidth of 10MHz.

[1]

- (c) The carrier wave is vertically polarised.

Explain what is meant by *vertically polarised*. You may wish to use labelled diagrams in your answer.

[2]

[Total: 8]

- 11 Fig. 11.1 shows a pressure gauge. A pressure difference curves a thin metal plate **P**. Identical strain gauge resistors **F** and **B** are glued to the front and back of plate **P**. As plate **P** curves resistor **F** is compressed and resistor **B** is stretched.

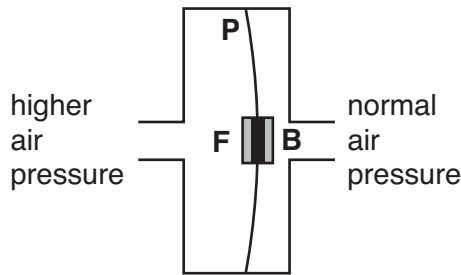


Fig. 11.1

- (a) The strain gauge resistors are made of thin metal films of unstrained resistance  $120\ \Omega$ . The resistors are connected in series across a  $6.0\text{V}$  supply of negligible internal resistance as shown in Fig. 11.2. The output p.d. of the circuit is measured across the stretched resistor **B**.

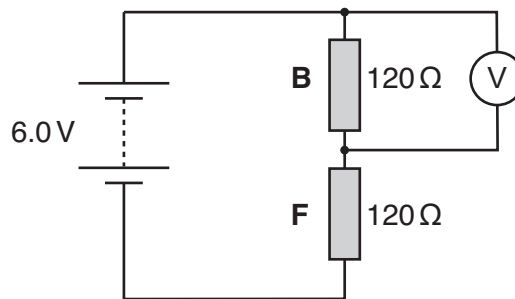


Fig. 11.2

- (i) Calculate the current in the two series resistors when the plate **P** is flat.

current = ..... A [1]

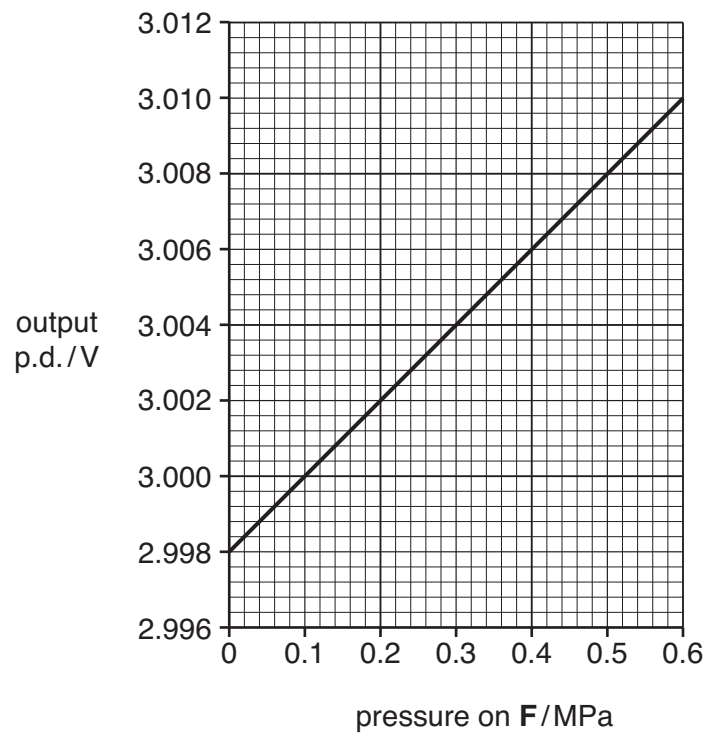
- (ii) A pressure difference now curves plate **P** as shown in Fig. 11.1. When the plate **P** curves, the p.d. across resistor **B** increases, but the current calculated in (i) remains the same.

Explain how both these effects can occur.

[3]



(b) Fig. 11.3 shows the calibration graph for the pressure sensor.



**Fig. 11.3**

(i) Use data from Fig. 11.3 to calculate the sensitivity of the pressure sensor.

sensitivity = .....  $\text{VMPa}^{-1}$  [2]

- (ii) A multimeter is used to measure the output p.d. of the circuit in Fig. 11.2. The meter can record the p.d. to the nearest 1 mV.

Calculate the pressure resolution of this pressure sensor.  
Make your method clear.

resolution = ..... Pa [2]

- (iii) Explain how there can be a systematic error of pressure measurement if the two resistors are not at the same temperature.

[2]

(c) The resolution of the sensor can be improved using the modified circuit shown in Fig. 11.4.

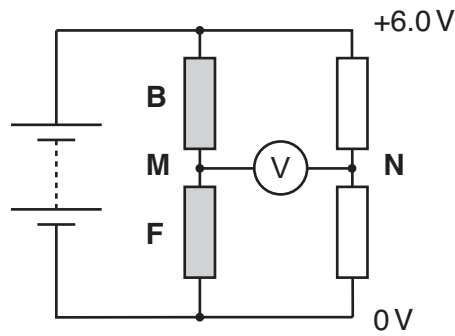


Fig. 11.4

A second pair of resistors, each having a fixed value of  $120\ \Omega$  is added in parallel with **B** and **F**. The multimeter is now connected between points **M** and **N** as shown.

- (i) All four resistors have the exact value  $120\ \Omega$  when there is no pressure difference across plate **P**.

By considering the voltage at points **M** and **N**, explain why the p.d. across the input of the multimeter is zero when all four resistances are equal.

[1]

- (ii) The multimeter can now be used on a more sensitive scale measuring to the nearest  $0.01\ \text{mV}$ .

State the improved resolution of the pressure sensor using the multimeter in this new arrangement.

pressure resolution = ..... Pa [1]

[Total: 12]

[Total Section B: 41]

**END OF QUESTION PAPER**

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