

OXFORD CAMBRIDGE AND RSA EXAMINATIONS
Advanced Subsidiary GCE

PHYSICS A

Wave Properties



Thursday **12 JANUARY 2006** Morning 45 minutes

Candidates answer on the question paper.

Additional materials:
Electronic calculator

Candidate
Name

Centre
Number

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Candidate
Number

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TIME 45 minutes

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- Write your name, Centre number and candidate number in the boxes above.
- Answer **all** questions.
- Write your answers, in blue or black ink, in the spaces provided on the question paper.
- Pencil may be used for graphs and diagrams only.
- Read each question carefully and make sure you know what you have to do before starting your answer.
- Do not write in the bar code. Do not write in the grey area between the pages.
- **DO NOT WRITE IN THE AREA OUTSIDE THE BOX BORDERING EACH PAGE. ANY WRITING IN THIS AREA WILL NOT BE MARKED.**

FOR EXAMINER'S USE		
Qu	Max.	Mark
1	11	
2	9	
3	11	
4	5	
5	9	
TOTAL	45	

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

- The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.
- You may use an electronic calculator.
- You are advised to show all the steps in any calculations.

This question paper consists of 12 printed pages.



Data

speed of light in free space,	$c = 3.00 \times 10^8 \text{ m s}^{-1}$
permeability of free space,	$\mu_0 = 4\pi \times 10^{-7} \text{ H m}^{-1}$
permittivity of free space,	$\epsilon_0 = 8.85 \times 10^{-12} \text{ F m}^{-1}$
elementary charge,	$e = 1.60 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$
the Planck constant,	$h = 6.63 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J s}$
unified atomic mass constant,	$u = 1.66 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$
rest mass of electron,	$m_e = 9.11 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg}$
rest mass of proton,	$m_p = 1.67 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$
molar gas constant,	$R = 8.31 \text{ J K}^{-1} \text{ mol}^{-1}$
the Avogadro constant,	$N_A = 6.02 \times 10^{23} \text{ mol}^{-1}$
gravitational constant,	$G = 6.67 \times 10^{-11} \text{ N m}^2 \text{ kg}^{-2}$
acceleration of free fall,	$g = 9.81 \text{ m s}^{-2}$



Formulae

uniformly accelerated motion,	$s = ut + \frac{1}{2}at^2$
	$v^2 = u^2 + 2as$
refractive index,	$n = \frac{1}{\sin C}$
capacitors in series,	$\frac{1}{C} = \frac{1}{C_1} + \frac{1}{C_2} + \dots$
capacitors in parallel,	$C = C_1 + C_2 + \dots$
capacitor discharge,	$x = x_0 e^{-t/CR}$
pressure of an ideal gas,	$p = \frac{1}{3} \frac{Nm}{V} \langle c^2 \rangle$
radioactive decay,	$x = x_0 e^{-\lambda t}$
	$t_{\frac{1}{2}} = \frac{0.693}{\lambda}$
critical density of matter in the Universe,	$\rho_0 = \frac{3H_0^2}{8\pi G}$
relativity factor,	$= \sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}}$
current,	$I = nAve$
nuclear radius,	$r = r_0 A^{1/3}$
sound intensity level,	$= 10 \lg \left(\frac{I}{I_0} \right)$



Answer **all** the questions.

1 (a) State the **two** laws of refraction.

- 1.
.....
.....
- 2.
.....
.....[2]

(b) Fig. 1.1 shows a ray of light entering a glass prism at an angle of incidence of 50° .

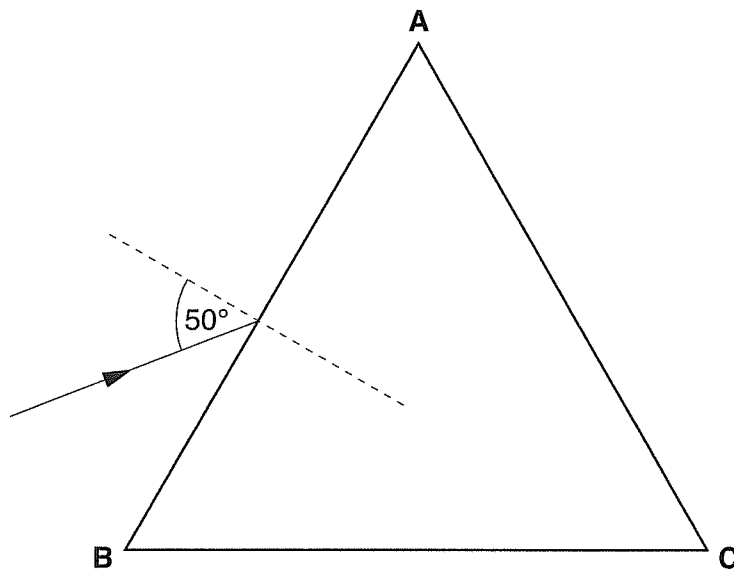


Fig. 1.1

(i) Sketch the approximate path of the ray as it passes through the prism (you do not need to measure any angles). [2]

(ii) State why the ray changes direction at the face **AB**.

-
-
-[1]



- (iii) The refractive index of the glass is 1.47. Calculate the angle of refraction of the ray for the angle of incidence of 50° .

angle = $^\circ$ [3]

- (iv) By changing the angle of incidence, the ray can be made to undergo *total internal reflection* at the face **AC**. Explain the condition required to produce total internal reflection in the prism.

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

- (v) Calculate the critical angle for the glass/air interface for this prism.

critical angle = $^\circ$ [2]

[Total: 11]

[Turn over



2 Fig. 2.1 shows an optic fibre used for data transmission.

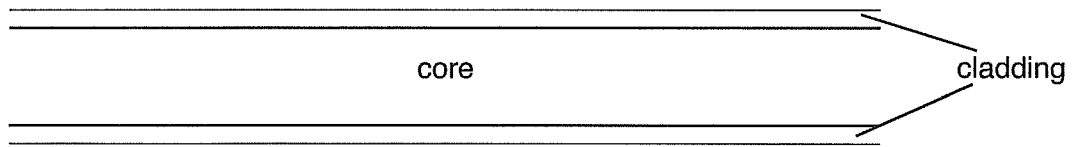


Fig. 2.1

(a) (i) The speed of light in a vacuum is $3.0 \times 10^8 \text{ m s}^{-1}$. Calculate the speed of light in the core of refractive index 1.52.

speed = m s^{-1} [2]

(ii) Calculate the minimum time taken for a light pulse to travel along a straight optic fibre of length 3000 m and refractive index 1.52.

time =s [2]

(b) One drawback of using an optic fibre to transmit pulses of light is known as *multipath dispersion*. State what is meant by multipath dispersion and explain how it may be reduced.

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.....[5]

[Total: 9]



- 3 (a) When waves from two coherent sources meet, they interfere. The principle of superposition of waves helps to explain this interference. State what is meant by

(i) *coherent sources*

.....

[2]

(ii) *principle of superposition of waves*

.....

[1]

- (b) Fig. 3.1 shows an arrangement to demonstrate interference effects with microwaves. A transmitter, producing microwaves of wavelength 3.0 cm, is placed behind two slits 6.0 cm apart. A receiver is placed 50 cm in front of the slits and is used to detect the intensity of the resultant wave as it moves along the line **AB**.

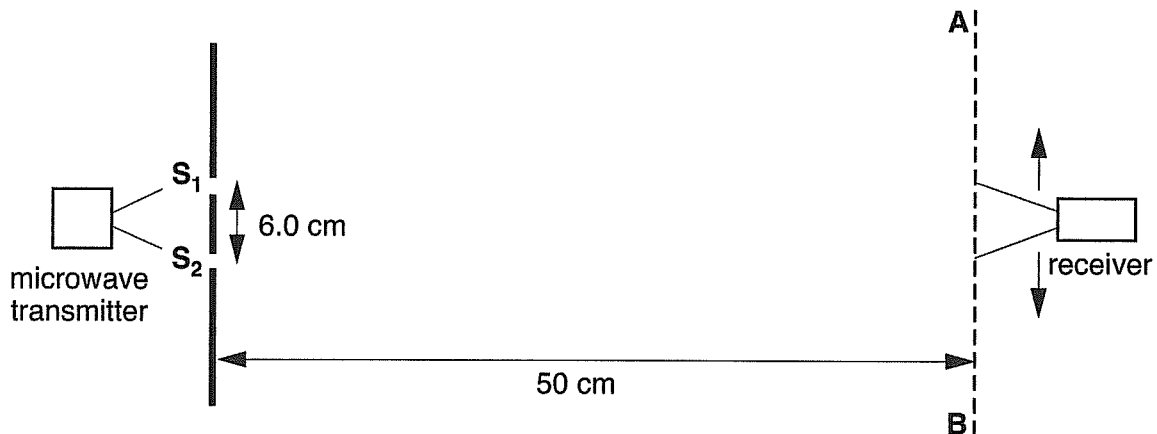


Fig. 3.1

- (i) Explain, in terms of the **path difference** between the waves emerging from the slits **S₁** and **S₂**, why a series of interference maxima and minima are produced along the line **AB**.

.....

[3]

[Turn over



- (ii) Assuming that the interference of the microwaves is similar to double slit interference using light, calculate the distance between neighbouring maxima along the line **AB**.

distance =cm [3]

- (iii) The microwaves from the transmitter are *plane polarised*. State what this means and suggest what would happen if the receiver were slowly rotated through 90° while still facing the slits.

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.....
.....
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.....[2]

[Total: 11]



4 Fig. 4.1 shows a stretched wire held horizontally between supports 0.50 m apart.

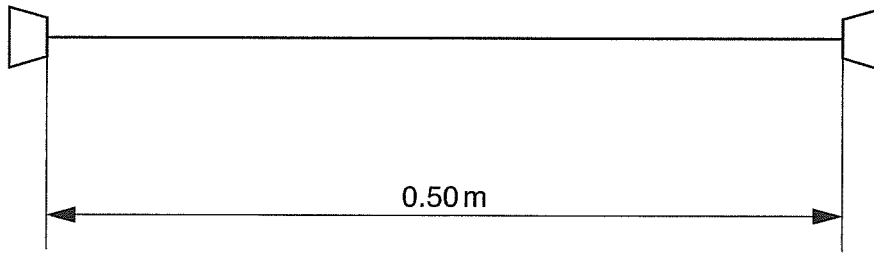


Fig. 4.1

When the wire is plucked at its centre, a standing wave is formed and the wire vibrates in its fundamental mode (lowest frequency).

(a) Explain how the standing wave is formed.

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.....

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.....[2]

(b) On Fig. 4.1, draw the fundamental mode of vibration. Label the position of any nodes with the letter **N** and any antinodes with the letter **A**. [2]

(c) What is the wavelength of this standing wave?

wavelength =m [1]

[Total: 5]

[Turn over



5 (a) State what is meant by *diffraction*.

.....

[2]

(b) Fig. 5.1 shows plane water waves in a ripple tank approaching a narrow gap the size of which is approximately the same as the wavelength of the waves.

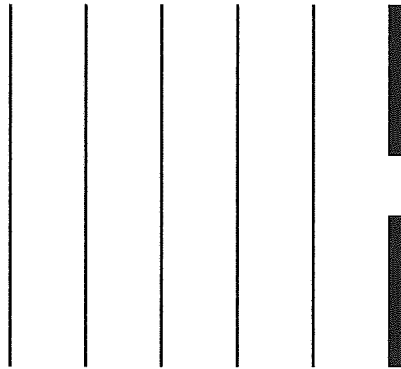


Fig. 5.1

- (i) On Fig. 5.1, draw the pattern of the wavefronts emerging from the gap. [2]
- (ii) Describe how the pattern of wavefronts emerging from the gap would change if the size of the gap were significantly increased.

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[2]



(iii) Describe and explain the difference in the amount of diffraction for sound waves and light waves passing through an open door.

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.....[3]

[Total: 9]

END OF QUESTION PAPER



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