



# Mark Scheme (Results)

Summer 2021

Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Subsidiary  
Level in Physics (WPH13)

Paper 01 Unit 3: Practical Skills in Physics I

Question Number	Answer	Mark
1(a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Metre rule - 0.1 cm <b>and</b> Vernier calipers - 0.1 mm</li> </ul>	(1) <b>1</b>
1(b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Measure length and width of sheet in multiple positions <b>and</b> obtain mean</li> <li>• Measure thickness for at least 20 sheets</li> <li>• Measure total mass for at least 20 sheets</li> <li>• Calculate density = mass / (length × width × thickness)</li> </ul> <p>MP2/3 – reference to number of sheets need only be seen once but the same number of sheets must be used for measurements of thickness and mass.</p>	(1) (1) (1) (1) <b>4</b>
1(c)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (Absolute) uncertainty would stay the same</li> <li>• <b>Or</b> resolution of the measuring device is the same</li> <li>• So, <u>percentage</u> uncertainty in thickness/mass would reduce</li> </ul> <p>MP2 dependent on MP1</p>	(1) (1) <b>2</b>
<b>Total for question 1</b>		<b>7</b>

Question Number	Answer	Mark
2(a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Difficult to identifying when sound was loudest <b>Or</b> Difficulty hearing tuning fork due to background noise (1)</li> <li>Tube moved when marking the water level <b>Or</b> Tube not vertical when water level was marked (1)</li> </ul>	2
2(b)(i)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Calculation of the mean using 5 values (1)</li> <li>Mean <math>l = 18.8</math> cm to 3 s.f. (1)</li> </ul> <p><u>Example of calculation</u>  Mean <math>l = (18.4 + 18.0 + 19.2 + 19.4 + 19.2) / 5</math>  Mean <math>l = 18.8</math> cm</p>	2
2(b)(ii)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use of half the range (1)</li> <li>Percentage uncertainty = 4 (%) (1)</li> </ul> <p><b>OR</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use of value furthest from the mean (18.0)</li> <li>Percentage uncertainty = 4 (%)</li> </ul> <p>Allow ecf from 2(b)(i) for use of 4 values (e.g. ignoring 18.0) for both mark points.</p> <p><u>Example of calculation</u>  Range = <math>19.4 - 18.0 = 1.4</math> cm  Percentage uncertainty = <math>(0.7 \text{ cm} / 18.8 \text{ cm}) \times 100 \% = 3.7 \%</math></p> <p>Difference from mean = <math>18.8 - 18.0 = 0.8</math> cm  Percentage uncertainty = <math>(0.8 \text{ cm} / 18.8 \text{ cm}) \times 100 \% = 4.3 \%</math></p>	2
2(c)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use of <math>v = f\lambda</math> (1)</li> <li>Speed of sound = <math>331 \text{ m s}^{-1}</math> (1)</li> </ul> <p>Allow e.c.f from 2(b)(i)</p> <p><u>Example of calculation</u>  <math>\lambda = 4 \times 0.188 \text{ m} = 0.752 \text{ m}</math>  <math>v = 440 \text{ Hz} \times 0.752 \text{ m} = 331 \text{ m s}^{-1}</math></p>	2
2(d)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use of percentage uncertainty from (b)(ii) to calculate relevant maximum/minimum value for speed of sound from (c) (1)</li> <li>Statement comparing this with <math>343 \text{ m s}^{-1}</math> (1)</li> </ul> <p>MP1 – only needs to calculate one boundary – e.g. maximum if their value in (c) is below <math>343 \text{ m s}^{-1}</math>, minimum if (c) is above <math>343 \text{ m s}^{-1}</math>.</p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Calculates the percentage difference between <math>343 \text{ m s}^{-1}</math> and their speed of sound from (c) (1)</li> <li>Statement comparing this with their percentage uncertainty from (b)(ii) (1)</li> </ul> <p><u>Example of calculation</u>  Percentage uncertainty = 4 %  <math>v = 331 \text{ m s}^{-1}</math>  Max <math>v = 331 \times 1.04 = 344 \text{ m s}^{-1}</math></p>	2
<b>Total for question 2</b>		<b>10</b>

Question Number	Answer	Mark
3(a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Diameter value = 17.90 mm (1)</li> <li>Use of half resolution (0.005 mm) (1)</li> <li>Percentage uncertainty = 0.03 (%) (1)</li> </ul> <p><u>Example of calculation</u>  Percentage uncertainty = <math>(0.005 \text{ mm} / 17.90 \text{ mm}) \times 100 \% = 0.028 \%</math></p>	3
3(b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Check for zero error (1)</li> </ul> <p>Allow do not overtighten</p>	1
3(c)(i)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>When stationary, the reading on the force meter = weight (– upthrust) (1)</li> <li>When moving (at a constant speed), the reading on the force meter = weight + drag (– upthrust) (1)</li> <li>Subtracting the two readings gives the value of drag (1)</li> </ul> <p>For MP1 and MP2 – accept descriptions given as an equation  e.g. When stationary <math>F_1 = W - U</math>  When moving <math>F_2 = W + D - U</math></p>	3
3(c)(ii)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Subtracts the two forces (<math>F = 0.09 \text{ N}</math>) (1)</li> <li>Use of <math>F = 6\pi\eta rv</math> (1)</li> <li><math>\eta = 1.7 \text{ (Pa s)}</math> (1)</li> </ul> <p><u>Example of calculation</u>  <math>F = 0.29 \text{ N} - 0.20 \text{ N}</math>  <math>F = 0.09 \text{ N}</math>  <math>F = 6\pi\eta rv</math>  <math>\eta = F/6\pi rv</math>  <math>\eta = 0.09 \text{ N} / (6 \times \pi \times 0.00895 \text{ m} \times 0.32 \text{ m s}^{-1})</math>  <math>\eta = 1.67 \text{ Pa s}</math></p>	3
3(d)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A comment assessing uncertainty in force (1)</li> <li>A comment assessing uncertainty in distance (1)</li> <li>A comment assessing uncertainty in time (1)</li> <li>Conclusion justified by their assessments (1)</li> </ul> <p>MP4 requires some numerical comparison</p> <p><u>Examples of assessments for MP1-3</u></p> <p><i>Force</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Resolution of the force meter is 0.01 N, so percentage uncertainty is 11% (accept 5.5% or 6%)</li> <li>Force difficult to keep constant, variation likely to be larger than 0.01 N</li> </ul> <p><i>Distance</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meter rule resolution of 1mm, so percentage uncertainty is small</li> <li>Percentage uncertainty in distance measurement is 0.2% (accept 0.4%)</li> </ul> <p><i>Time</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Resolution of the stopwatch is 0.01 s, so percentage uncertainty is 0.6 % (accept 1.2%)</li> <li>Time is short, so reaction time (0.2 s) will be a significant percentage (25%) or fraction (1/4) of the time measured</li> <li>Not enough time to move eyeline, so there may be parallax error when judging when the sphere has passed the rubber band.</li> </ul>	4

	<b>Total for question 3</b>	<b>14</b>
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Question Number	Answer	Mark														
4(a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Re-arranges equation <math>V_a = \frac{hc}{e} \frac{1}{\lambda} + \frac{W}{e}</math> and compares to <math>y = mx + c</math> (1)</li><li>Identifies <math>gradient = \frac{hc}{e}</math> (1)</li><li>States that <math>h</math>, <math>c</math> and <math>e</math> are all constants (1)</li></ul>	3														
4(b)(i)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Correct values calculated (1)</li><li>Values correctly rounded to 3 sig. fig. (1)</li></ul> <p>Example</p> <table><tr><td><math>\lambda / \times 10^{-7} \text{ m}</math></td><td><math>1/\lambda / \times 10^6 \text{ m}^{-1}</math></td></tr><tr><td>6.60</td><td>1.52</td></tr><tr><td>6.12</td><td>1.63</td></tr><tr><td>5.92</td><td>1.69</td></tr><tr><td>5.85</td><td>1.71</td></tr><tr><td>5.30</td><td>1.89</td></tr><tr><td>4.70</td><td>2.13</td></tr></table>	$\lambda / \times 10^{-7} \text{ m}$	$1/\lambda / \times 10^6 \text{ m}^{-1}$	6.60	1.52	6.12	1.63	5.92	1.69	5.85	1.71	5.30	1.89	4.70	2.13	2
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4(b)(ii)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Labels axes with quantities and units (1)</li><li>Sensible scales (1)</li><li>Plotting – 2 points furthest from their line (1)</li><li>Plotting – 2 points at the ends (1)</li><li>Line of best fit (1)</li></ul> <p>Refer to Mark Scheme Notes – Section 5 for guidance on axis labels, suitable scales &amp; checking accuracy of plots. An example of the graph can be seen on page 11.</p> <table><tr><td><math>V_a / \text{V}</math></td><td><math>1/\lambda / \times 10^6 \text{ m}^{-1}</math></td></tr><tr><td>1.82</td><td>1.52</td></tr><tr><td>1.97</td><td>1.63</td></tr><tr><td>2.02</td><td>1.69</td></tr><tr><td>2.07</td><td>1.71</td></tr><tr><td>2.31</td><td>1.89</td></tr><tr><td>2.58</td><td>2.13</td></tr></table>	$V_a / \text{V}$	$1/\lambda / \times 10^6 \text{ m}^{-1}$	1.82	1.52	1.97	1.63	2.02	1.69	2.07	1.71	2.31	1.89	2.58	2.13	5
$V_a / \text{V}$	$1/\lambda / \times 10^6 \text{ m}^{-1}$															
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4(b)(iii)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Calculates gradient using large triangle - at least half their line of best fit (1)</li><li>Use of <math>gradient = hc/e</math> (1)</li><li><math>h = 6.65 \times 10^{-34}</math> to <math>6.85 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J s}</math> (1)</li></ul> <p>Example calculation</p> <p>Gradient = <math>(2.55 - 1.80) \text{ V} / (2.10 - 1.60) \times 10^6 \text{ m}^{-1} = 1.25 \times 10^{-6} \text{ V m}</math> <math>h = 1.25 \times 10^{-6} \text{ V m} \times 1.60 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C} / 3.00 \times 10^8 \text{ m s}^{-1} = 6.67 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J s}</math></p>	3														
4(b)(iv)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Mathematical comparison between their value from (b)(iii) and <math>6.63 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J s}</math> (1)</li><li>Comparative statement consistent with MP1 (1)</li></ul> <p>MP2 is for a statement that is justified by their value for <math>h</math>. E.g. Difference between the values is <math>0.04 (\times 10^{-34})</math> is very small compared to <math>6.63 (\times 10^{-34})</math>, so method is accurate. <b>Or</b> Percentage difference is 0.6%, which is small, so method is accurate.</p>	2														

4(c)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Manufacturer's wavelength would be shorter (than the wavelength of photons with least energy)  <b>Or</b> Manufacturer's wavelength would be shorter (than the wavelength of photons emitted at <math>V_a</math>) (1)</li> <li>A lower <math>\lambda</math> would give a higher <math>1/\lambda</math> <b>Or</b> the line would shift to the right, (1)</li> </ul> <p><b>EITHER</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Difference in wavelength would be small, so negligible shift in points (Accept shift would be the same for all points, so same gradient) (1)</li> <li>No change in the value of <math>h</math> obtained. (1)</li> </ul> <p><b>OR</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Points for longer <math>\lambda</math> would shift <math>1/\lambda</math> values less, decreasing the gradient (1)</li> <li>Decreasing the value of <math>h</math> obtained. (1)</li> </ul>	<b>4</b>
	<b>Total for question 5</b>	<b>19</b>

Example of a graph for 4(b)(ii)

(ii) Plot a graph of  $V_a$  on the y-axis against  $1/\lambda$  on the x-axis.

(5)

