## Advanced Level Experimental Physics

## 85-Q1: Relative Density of a Liquid

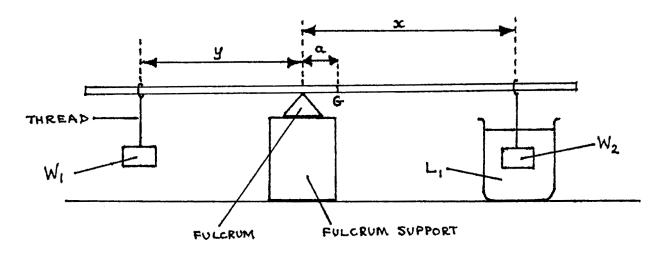
Time:  $1\frac{1}{2}$  hr.

## Apparatus

Metre rule; thread ( $\approx$  50cm); fulcrum (eg. prism); fulcrum support (height  $\approx$  10cm;  $L_1$  200ml water in 250ml beaker;  $L_2$  200ml motor oil (or kerosene) in 250ml beaker;  $W_1$  50g mass (metal);  $W_2$  20g mass (plastic or rubber); piece of chalk; 2 sheets graph paper.

In this experiment you are required to determine the density of liquid  $L_2$  relative to that of liquid  $L_1$ , and find the mass M of the metre rule provided. Proceed as follows:

- a. Locate and mark the centre of gravity  $\it G$  of the metre rule.
- b. Set up the apparatus as illustrated below, where  $a=5\mathrm{cm}$ , and  $W_1$  and  $W_2$  are masses of 50g and 20g respectively. '



c. With  $W_2$  totally immersed in liquid  $L_1$  and x=10cm, balance the metre rule by adjusting the position of  $W_1$ . Read and record distance y. Repeat the process for X=20cm, 30cm, 40cm, 50cm, and 54cm. Tabulate the values of x and y. (7

marks)

- d. Replace liquid  $L_1$  by liquid  $L_2$  and then repeat the procedure outlined in (c) above. (7 marks)
- e. Plot a graph of y vs. x using the table obtained in (c): (8 marks)
- f. Read and record I, the value of y when x=0. Calculate  $10 \times I$ , which is equal to the mass of the metre rule. (4 marks)
  - ii. Find the slope  $S_1$  of the graph. (4 marks)
  - iii. Find the value of  $\lambda_1$  given that  $\lambda_1=0.4-S_1$ . (2 marks)
- f. Plot a graph of y against x using the table obtained in (d). (8 marks)
- g. Find the slope  $S_2$  of this graph. (4 marks)
  - ii. Find the value of  $\lambda_2$  given that  $\lambda_2=0.4-S_2$ . (2 marks)
  - iii. Evaluate the ratio  $\frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_1}$ , which is equal to the density of liquid  $L_2$  relative to that of liquid  $L_1$ . (4 marks)

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