

Isaac Physics Skills

Linking concepts in
pre-university physics

Lisa Jardine-Wright, Keith Dalby, Robin Hughes, Nicki Humphry-Baker,
Anton Machacek, Ingrid Murray and Lee Phillips
Isaac Physics Project



Periphyseos Press
Cambridge, UK.

TABLE OF PHYSICAL CONSTANTS

Quantity & Symbol		Magnitude	Unit
Permittivity of free space	ϵ_0	8.85×10^{-12}	F m^{-1}
Electrostatic force constant	$1/4\pi\epsilon_0$	8.99×10^9	$\text{N m}^2 \text{C}^{-2}$
Speed of light in vacuum	c	3.00×10^8	m s^{-1}
Specific heat capacity of water	c_{water}	4180	$\text{J kg}^{-1} \text{K}^{-1}$
Charge of proton	e	1.60×10^{-19}	C
Gravitational field strength on Earth	g	9.81	N kg^{-1}
Universal gravitational constant	G	6.67×10^{-11}	$\text{N m}^2 \text{kg}^{-2}$
Planck constant	h	6.63×10^{-34}	J s
Boltzmann constant	k_{B}	1.38×10^{-23}	J K^{-1}
Mass of electron	m_{e}	9.11×10^{-31}	kg
Mass of neutron	m_{n}	1.67×10^{-27}	kg
Mass of proton	m_{p}	1.67×10^{-27}	kg
Mass of Earth	M_{Earth}	5.97×10^{24}	kg
Mass of Sun	M_{Sun}	2.00×10^{30}	kg
Avogadro constant	N_{A}	6.02×10^{23}	mol^{-1}
Gas constant	R	8.31	$\text{J mol}^{-1} \text{K}^{-1}$
Radius of Earth	R_{Earth}	6.37×10^6	m

OTHER INFORMATION YOU MAY FIND USEFUL

Electron volt	1 eV	=	$1.60 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J}$
Unified mass unit	1 u	=	$1.66 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$
Absolute zero	0 K	=	$-273 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$
Year	1 yr	=	$3.16 \times 10^7 \text{ s}$
Light year	1 ly	=	$9.46 \times 10^{15} \text{ m}$
Parsec	1 pc	=	$3.09 \times 10^{16} \text{ m}$

PREFIXES

1 km = 1000 m	1 Mm = 10^6 m	1 Gm = 10^9 m	1 Tm = 10^{12} m
1 mm = 0.001 m	1 μm = 10^{-6} m	1 nm = 10^{-9} m	1 pm = 10^{-12} m

23 Energy and fields – accelerator

It is helpful to be able to calculate the kinetic energy, momentum or speed of a charged particle which has been accelerated by a known voltage.

Example context: many particle accelerators, and the electron guns in older TVs and oscilloscopes, produce beams of charged particles using an electric field. A knowledge of the accelerating voltage enables the speed to be calculated.

Quantities:	m mass (kg)	q charge (C)
	p momentum (kg m s^{-1})	K kinetic energy (J)
	u initial speed (m s^{-1})	V accelerating voltage (V)
	v final speed (m s^{-1})	E electric field (N C^{-1})
	F force (N)	L length of accelerating region (m)
	λ wavelength (m)	

Equations: $p = mv$ $\Delta K = K_{\text{final}} - K_{\text{initial}} = \frac{1}{2}mv^2 - \frac{1}{2}mu^2$ $\Delta K = qV$
 $\lambda = \frac{h}{p}$ $F = qE$ $\Delta K = FL$ $1 \text{ eV} = 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J}$

23.1 Use the equations to derive expressions for

- the momentum p in terms of V , m and q if $u = 0$,
- the speed v in terms of V , m and q if $u = 0$,
- the speed v if $u \neq 0$,
- the additional kinetic energy ΔK in terms of E , L and q ,
- the electric field E in terms of V and L ,
- the momentum p in terms of E , L , m and q if $u = 0$,
- the wavelength λ in terms of V , m and q when $u = 0$.

Example – Calculate the voltage needed to accelerate an electron to $1.2 \times 10^7 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ from rest.

$$K = \frac{1}{2}mv^2 = \frac{1}{2} \times 9.11 \times 10^{-31} \times (1.2 \times 10^7)^2 = 6.552 \times 10^{-17} \text{ J}$$

$$V = \frac{K}{q} = \frac{6.552 \times 10^{-17}}{1.60 \times 10^{-19}} = 410 \text{ V}$$

23.2 Calculate the voltage needed to accelerate a proton to $3.5 \times 10^6 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ from rest.

- 23.3 Calculate the voltage needed to accelerate an electron to $3.5 \times 10^6 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ from rest.
- 23.4 A 1.00 MeV proton has a kinetic energy of $1.0 \times 10^6 \text{ eV}$.
- Express this energy in joules.
 - Calculate the speed of the proton.
 - What is the accelerating voltage needed to produce it?
 - Calculate its momentum.
 - Calculate its wavelength.
- 23.5 The electron gun in an old TV accelerates electrons from rest with 3.0 kV.
- Calculate the final speed of the electrons.
 - Calculate the momentum of the electrons.
 - Calculate the wavelength of the electrons.
- 23.6 Fill in the missing entries in the table below.

Particle	Energy / MeV	Momentum / kg m s^{-1}	Speed / m s^{-1}
Electron	0.001 50	(a)	(b)
Proton	10.0	(c)	(d)
Electron	(e)	4.55×10^{-24}	(f)
Proton	(g)	8.35×10^{-21}	(h)
Alpha particle	5.0	(i)	(j)

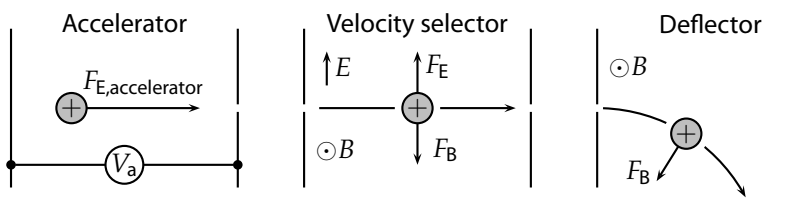
- 23.7 Calculate the final speed of a proton which was travelling at $2.5 \times 10^6 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ before being accelerated through 1.4 MV.
- 23.8 Calculate the accelerating voltage required to accelerate particles from rest to achieve the desired wavelength.
- Electrons of wavelength 2.0 nm.
 - Electrons of wavelength 20 nm.
 - Protons of wavelength $1.5 \times 10^{-13} \text{ m}$.
 - Alpha particles of wavelength $1.5 \times 10^{-14} \text{ m}$.

30 Vectors and fields – mass spectrometer

A mass spectrometer is used to measure the mass/charge ratio of ions or particles. An understanding of electric and magnetic fields enables us to analyse the data.

Example context: the radius of the path in a magnetic field, coupled with a knowledge of the accelerating voltage, enables us to measure the mass of a carbon ion. Multiple measurements allow a measurement of the fraction of $^{14}_6\text{C}$ in the sample.

Quantities:	m particle mass (kg)	q particle charge (C)
	v particle speed (m s^{-1})	V_s velocity selector voltage (V)
	V_a accelerating voltage (V)	d velocity selector plate gap (m)
	r path radius (m)	B magnetic flux density (T)
	E electric field in velocity selector ($\text{N C}^{-1} = \text{V m}^{-1}$)	
	F_E electric force (N)	F_B magnetic force (N)



Equations: $F = ma$ $F_E = qE$ $F_B = Bqv$ $qV_a = \frac{1}{2}mv^2$ (see page 45)

$$E = \frac{V_s}{d} \quad a = \frac{v^2}{r}$$

30.1 Use the equations to derive expressions for

- the radius r of the path in the magnetic field in terms of B , v , q and m ,
- the radius r in terms of B , V_a , q and m ,
- the specific charge q/m in terms of B , r and v ,
- the specific charge q/m in terms of B , r and V_a ,
- the voltage V_s across the plates in the velocity selector so that particles of speed v are not deflected.

30.2 Calculate the speed electrons emerge from a 95 V accelerator. Assume that the electrons start from rest.

30.3 Calculate the radius of curvature of a $2.5 \times 10^6 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ electron in a 1.5 mT magnetic field.

30.4 Repeat question 30.3 for a proton of the same speed in the same field.

Example – Calculate the radius of curvature of a proton accelerated to 25 MV in a 0.75 T magnetic field.

We use $qV_a = \frac{1}{2}mv^2$ to calculate the speed $v = \sqrt{\frac{2qV_a}{m}}$

$$v = \sqrt{\frac{2 \times 1.60 \times 10^{-19} \times 2.5 \times 10^7}{1.67 \times 10^{-27}}} = 6.921 \times 10^7 \text{ m s}^{-1}.$$

In the magnetic field $F_B = ma$ so $Bqv = \frac{mv^2}{r}$ and $r = \frac{mv}{Bq}$

$$r = \frac{1.67 \times 10^{-27} \times 6.921 \times 10^7}{0.75 \times 1.60 \times 10^{-19}} = 0.96 \text{ m to 2sf.}$$

30.5 Fill in the missing entries in the table below for a proton with $B = 2.2 \text{ T}$.

V_a / V	$v / \text{m s}^{-1}$	r / m
	2.5×10^5	(a)
1.2×10^6	(b)	(c)
	(d)	0.014
(e)		0.12

30.6 Calculate the specific charge q/m of a particle travelling at $2.0 \times 10^6 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ in a magnetic field if $r = 11.9 \text{ mm}$ and $B = 0.175 \text{ T}$.

30.7 Calculate V_s needed in a velocity selector to pass $1.6 \times 10^6 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ electrons in a 2.2 T magnetic field if $d = 6.5 \text{ cm}$.

30.8 Protons pass through a velocity selector with $B = 1.5 \text{ T}$ and $d = 8.0 \text{ cm}$ when $V_s = 420 \text{ kV}$. Calculate their speed.

30.9 Repeat question 30.8 for electrons with the same values for B , d and V_s .

30.10 Calculate the radius of the path of a ${}^{235}_{92}\text{U}$ nucleus travelling at $4.2 \times 10^6 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ in a 1.25 T magnetic field. Assume that $m = 235 \text{ u}$ where $1 \text{ u} = 1.66 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$.

30.11 A singly charged ion is accelerated by a 650 kV potential before passing into a region with a 1.25 T magnetic field. It curves with a radius of 0.322 m. Calculate its mass.

30.12 Express your mass from question 30.11 in terms of atomic mass units u where $1 \text{ u} = 1.66 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$.

30.13 Calculate the radius of curve expected for a singly charged ion of ${}^{14}_6\text{C}$ in the mass spectrometer of question 30.11. Assume that $m = 14 \text{ u}$.

22 Electromagnetic induction – rotating coil

(a) $\phi = BA = BA_0 \cos \omega t$

(b) $\varepsilon = -N \frac{d\phi}{dt} = -N \frac{d}{dt} (BA_0 \cos \omega t) = -NBA_0 \frac{d}{dt} \cos \omega t$
 $= NBA_0 \omega \sin \omega t$

(c) maximum value $\sin \omega t$ can take is 1, so $\varepsilon_{\max} = NBA_0 \omega$

(d) $\varepsilon^2 = N^2 B^2 A_0^2 \omega^2 \sin^2 \omega t$
 $(\varepsilon^2)_{\text{mean}} = N^2 B^2 A_0^2 \omega^2 (\sin^2 \omega t)_{\text{mean}} = N^2 B^2 A_0^2 \omega^2 \times \frac{1}{2}$
 $\sqrt{(\varepsilon^2)_{\text{mean}}} = \varepsilon_{\text{rms}} = NBA_0 \omega \times \sqrt{0.5} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} NBA_0 \omega$ hence,
 $\varepsilon_{\text{rms}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \varepsilon_{\max}$

23 Energy and fields – accelerator

(a) $p = mv = m \sqrt{\frac{2K}{m}} = \sqrt{2mK} = \sqrt{2mqV}$

(b) $v = \sqrt{\frac{2K}{m}} = \sqrt{\frac{2qV}{m}}$

(c) $v = \sqrt{\frac{2K}{m}} = \sqrt{\frac{2}{m} \left(\frac{mu^2}{2} + qV \right)} = \sqrt{u^2 + \frac{2qV}{m}}$

(d) $\Delta K = FL = qEL$

(e) $E = \frac{F}{q} = \frac{\Delta K}{qL} = \frac{V}{L}$

(f) $p = mv = m \sqrt{\frac{2K}{m}} = \sqrt{2mK} = \sqrt{2mqV} = \sqrt{2mqEL}$

(g) $\lambda = \frac{h}{p} = \frac{h}{mv} = \frac{h}{m \sqrt{2K/m}} = \frac{h}{\sqrt{2Km}} = \frac{h}{\sqrt{2mqV}}$

29 Vectors and fields – helix in magnetic field

(a) $F = ma$, so $qv_{\perp}B = \frac{mv_{\perp}^2}{r}$ and $qvB \sin \theta = \frac{mv^2 \sin^2 \theta}{r}$.

Rearranging gives $r = \frac{mv \sin \theta}{qB}$

(b) From a): $r = \frac{mv \sin \theta}{qB}$ and $v_{\perp} = \frac{2\pi r}{T} = v \sin \theta$.

So $r = \frac{mv \sin \theta}{qB} = \frac{T}{2\pi} v \sin \theta$. Therefore $T = \frac{2\pi m}{qB}$

(c) $v_{\perp}^2 + v_{\parallel}^2 = v^2 \sin^2 \theta + v^2 \cos^2 \theta = v^2 (\sin^2 \theta + \cos^2 \theta) = v^2$.

Thus $v = \sqrt{v_{\perp}^2 + v_{\parallel}^2}$.

(d) From c): $T = \frac{2\pi m}{qB}$ and $s_p = v_{\parallel} T = v \cos \theta \frac{2\pi m}{qB}$.

Re-arranging gives $q/m = \frac{2\pi}{Bs_p} v \cos \theta$.

30 Vectors and fields – mass spectrometer

(a) $F_B = ma$ so $Bqv = \frac{mv^2}{r}$. Rearranging gives $r = \frac{mv}{Bq}$

(b) $qV_a = \frac{1}{2}mv^2$ so $v = \sqrt{\frac{2qV_a}{m}}$. Now using our result for r from (a),

$$r = \frac{mv}{Bq} = \frac{m}{Bq} \sqrt{\frac{2qV_a}{m}} = \sqrt{\frac{2mV_a}{B^2q}}$$

(c) From (a): $r = \frac{mv}{Bq}$ so $\frac{q}{m} = \frac{v}{Br}$

(d) From (b): $r^2 = \frac{2mV_a}{B^2q}$ so $\frac{q}{m} = \frac{2V_a}{B^2r^2}$

(e) $F_E = F_B$ so $qE = qvB$ and $E = vB$. So $V_s = Ed = vBd$