

Physics (4300005) - Summer 2024 Solution

Milav Dabgar

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Question 1(a) [3 marks]

Define derived physical quantities and give three examples with their S.I. unit and symbol.

Solution

Derived physical quantities are those which are obtained by multiplication or division of fundamental physical quantities.

Table 1. Examples of Derived Physical Quantities

Derived Quantity	S.I. Unit	Symbol
Force	Newton (N)	F
Energy	Joule (J)	E
Electric Current	Ampere (A)	I

Mnemonic

“FEI: Force-Energy-Current derive from fundamentals”

Question 1(b) [4 marks]

The length of a metal rod is 64.522 cm at 12°C temperature and 64.576 cm at 90°C temperature. Find the coefficient of linear expansion of the metal rod.

Solution

Formula: $\alpha = \frac{L_2 - L_1}{L_1 \times (T_2 - T_1)}$

Calculation:

- Initial length (L_1) = 64.522 cm
- Final length (L_2) = 64.576 cm
- Initial temperature (T_1) = 12°C
- Final temperature (T_2) = 90°C

$$\alpha = \frac{64.576 - 64.522}{64.522 \times (90 - 12)}$$

$$\alpha = \frac{0.054}{64.522 \times 78}$$

$$\alpha = \frac{0.054}{5032.716}$$

$$\alpha = 1.073 \times 10^{-5} / ^\circ C$$

Mnemonic

“Change in Length over Original Length times Change in Temperature”

Question 1(c) [7 marks]

Explain with figure: The principle, construction and working of a vernier calliper.

Solution

Principle: Vernier caliper works on the principle of vernier scale, which allows measurements with accuracy greater than the main scale.

Construction:

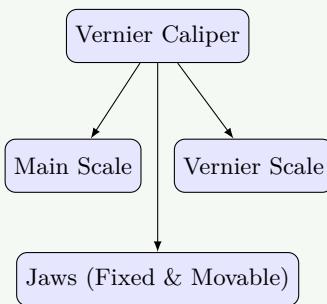


Figure 1. Components of Vernier Caliper

Diagram:

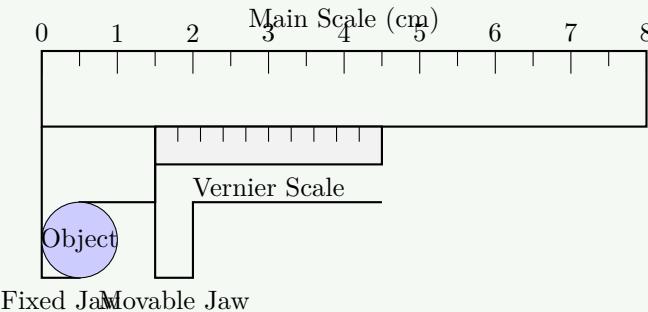


Figure 2. Vernier Caliper

Working:

- **Zero error check:** Close jaws and note if zero of vernier coincides with zero of main scale
- **External measurement:** Place object between fixed and movable jaws
- **Reading process:** Main scale reading + (coinciding vernier division × least count)
- **Least count =** $(\text{Smallest division on main scale}) / (\text{Number of divisions on vernier scale})$

Mnemonic

“Main Scale Reading Plus Vernier Division Times Least Count”

Question 1(c OR) [7 marks]

Explain with figure: The principle, construction and working of a micrometre screw gauge.

Solution

Principle: Micrometer screw gauge works on the principle of screw motion - rotational motion is converted into linear motion.

Construction:

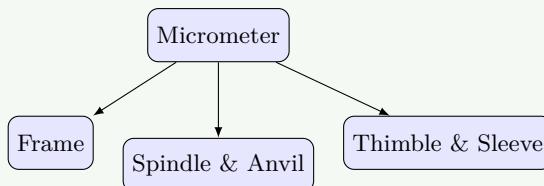


Figure 3. Components of Micrometer

Diagram:

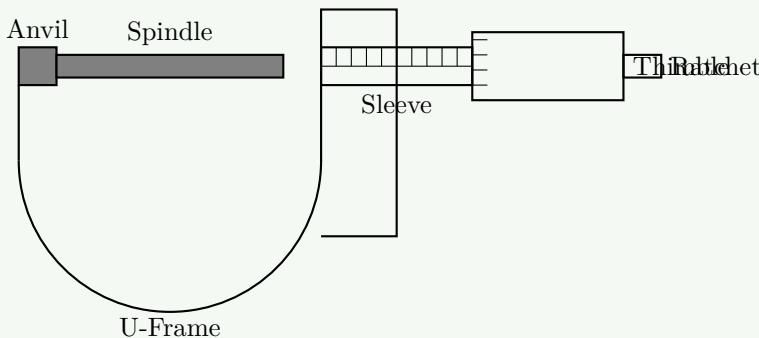


Figure 4. Micrometer Screw Gauge

Working:

- **Zero error check:** Close anvil and spindle, note if zero of circular scale aligns with reference line
- **Measurement process:** Place object between anvil and spindle
- **Reading:** Main scale reading + (Circular scale reading × Least count)
- **Least Count** = Pitch/Number of divisions on circular scale

Mnemonic

"PST: Pitch divided by Scale gives Thimble's least count"

Question 2(a) [3 marks]

Find the diameter of a sphere if pitch of micrometer screw gauge is 1 mm and there are 100 divisions on circular scale. The edge of circular scale lies between 7 and 8 mm of the main scale and 65th division of the circular scale coincides with the horizontal line of the main scale.

Solution

Formula: Diameter = Main scale reading + (Circular scale reading × Least count)

Calculation:

- Main scale reading = 7 mm
- Circular scale reading = 65 divisions
- Least count = Pitch/Number of divisions = $1/100 = 0.01 \text{ mm}$

$$\text{Diameter} = 7 + (65 \times 0.01) = 7 + 0.65 = 7.65 \text{ mm}$$

Mnemonic

“MSR + (CSR times LC) gives the final measurement”

Question 2(b) [4 marks]

Explain phase difference and coherence.

Solution

Phase Difference: The difference in phase angle between two waves of the same frequency.

Table 2. Phase Difference Characteristics

Phase Difference	Interference Type	Result
0° or 360°	Constructive	Maximum amplitude
180°	Destructive	Minimum amplitude

Coherence: Property of waves that have a constant phase relationship.

Types of Coherence:

- **Temporal coherence:** Related to frequency stability
- **Spatial coherence:** Related to wavefront uniformity

Mnemonic

“Constant Phase Relationship Creates Coherent waves”

Question 2(c) [7 marks]

Explain capacitor, its capacitance and the effect of dielectric material on the capacitance of parallel plate capacitor.

Solution

Capacitor: Device that stores electric charge and electrical energy in an electric field.

Capacitance: Ratio of charge stored to potential difference applied.

Formula: $C = Q/V$

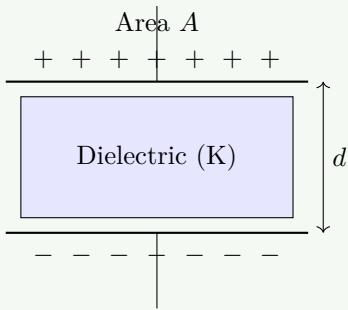
Parallel Plate Capacitor: Capacitance formula: $C = \frac{\epsilon_0 A}{d}$

- ϵ_0 = Permittivity of free space
- A = Area of plates
- d = Distance between plates

Effect of Dielectric:

- Increases capacitance by K times (K = dielectric constant)
- New formula: $C = \frac{K\epsilon_0 A}{d}$

Diagram:

**Figure 5.** Parallel Plate Capacitor with Dielectric**Mnemonic**

"KIDS: K Increases Dielectric Storage"

Question 2(a OR) [3 marks]

If the lengths of two cylinders are (6.52 ± 0.01) cm and (4.48 ± 0.02) cm respectively. Find the difference in their length with percentage error.

Solution**Calculation:**

- Length of first cylinder (L_1) = 6.52 ± 0.01 cm
- Length of second cylinder (L_2) = 4.48 ± 0.02 cm
- Difference in length (ΔL) = $L_1 - L_2 = 6.52 - 4.48 = 2.04$ cm

Absolute error in difference = $\sqrt{(0.01)^2 + (0.02)^2} = \sqrt{0.0001 + 0.0004} = \sqrt{0.0005} = 0.022$ cm

Percentage error = $\frac{\text{Absolute error}}{\text{Measured value}} \times 100$

$$= \frac{0.022}{2.04} \times 100 = 1.08\%$$

Mnemonic

"Add errors in quadrature for difference calculations"

Question 2(b OR) [4 marks]

Explain the types of interference with relevant figures.

Solution**Types of Interference:****Table 3.** Interference Types

Type	Phase Difference	Result	Amplitude
Constructive	$0^\circ, 360^\circ, 720^\circ\dots$	Reinforcement	Maximum
Destructive	$180^\circ, 540^\circ, 900^\circ\dots$	Cancellation	Minimum

Constructive Interference: When crest meets crest or trough meets trough.

Destructive Interference: When crest meets trough.

Diagram:

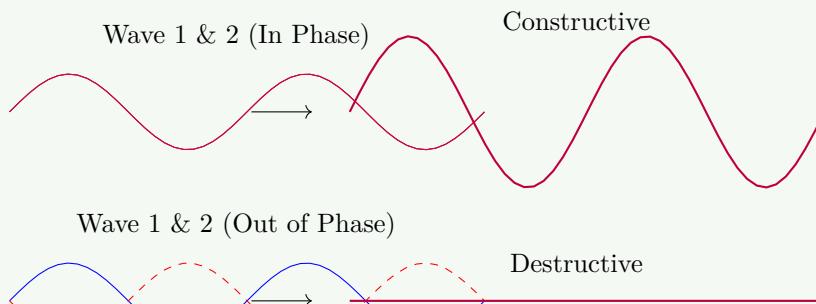


Figure 6. Types of Interference

Mnemonic

“Crest + Crest = Constructive, Crest + Trough = Destructive”

Question 2(c OR) [7 marks]

Derive the expression for potential due to point charge with necessary figure.

Solution

Potential at a point due to point charge:

Formula development:

- **Definition:** Work done per unit charge to bring a test charge from infinity to that point
- **Expression:** $V = W/q_0 = \int(F \cdot dr)$

Step-by-step derivation:

1. Force between charges (Coulomb's law): $F = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \times \frac{Qq}{r^2}$

2. Work done moving test charge: $W = \int(F \cdot dr)$

3. For radial motion: $W = \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \times \int_{\infty}^r \frac{1}{r^2} dr$

4. Integrating: $W = \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \times [-\frac{1}{r}]_{\infty}^r$

5. Final result: $V = \frac{W}{q_0} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{Q}{r}$

Final formula: $V = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{Q}{r}$

Diagram:



Figure 7. Potential due to Point Charge

Mnemonic

“POD: Potential Over Distance equals charge over r”

Question 3(a) [3 marks]

Explain in brief charging by friction and induction methods.

Solution

Charging by Friction: Process of charging by rubbing two different materials together.

Steps in friction charging:

- Electrons transfer from one material to another
- Material losing electrons becomes positively charged
- Material gaining electrons becomes negatively charged

Charging by Induction: Process of charging without direct contact.

Steps in induction charging:

- Bring charged body near a neutral conductor
- Redistribution of charges in neutral body
- Ground the conductor and remove ground
- Remove the charged body

Mnemonic

“FTEE: Friction Transfers Electrons Easily”

Question 3(b) [4 marks]

A tuning fork vibrates at frequency of 256 Hz. If its velocity is 340 m/s, find (a) wavelength and (b) distance travelled by it in 50 oscillations.

Solution

Formulas:

- Wavelength (λ) = Velocity (v) / Frequency (f)
- Distance (d) = Number of oscillations (n) \times Wavelength (λ)

Calculation: (a) Wavelength (λ) = $v/f = 340/256 = 1.328$ m

(b) Distance (d) = $n \times \lambda = 50 \times 1.328 = 66.4$ m

Mnemonic

“VFD: Velocity, Frequency and Distance are connected”

Question 3(c) [7 marks]

Write the principle and construction of a bimetallic thermometer with a labelled diagram. Also mention its advantages and disadvantages.

Solution

Principle: Different metals expand differently when heated, causing the strip to bend.

Construction:

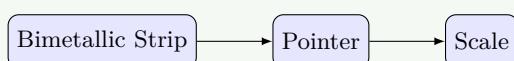
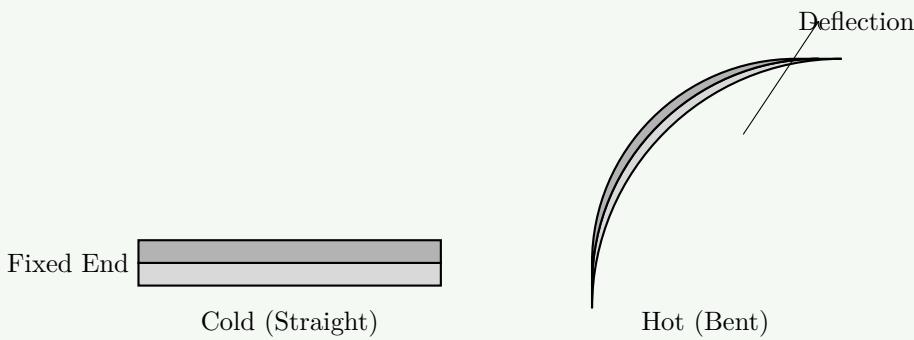


Figure 8. Construction Flow

Working:

- Temperature change causes different expansion rates
- Bimetallic strip bends toward metal with lower expansion coefficient
- Pointer movement indicates temperature

Diagram:

**Figure 9.** Bimetallic Strip Working**Advantages:**

- Simple, robust design
- No power supply needed
- Wide temperature range

Disadvantages:

- Less accurate than other types
- Slow response time
- Subject to mechanical wear

Mnemonic

"BEDS: Bimetallic Elements Deform with Stress"

Question 3(a OR) [3 marks]

Explain work done on a point charge in an electric field.

Solution

Work Done on Point Charge: The work done to move a point charge q in an electric field E .

Formula:

$$W = q(V_a - V_\beta) = q\Delta V$$

Where:

- q = charge being moved
- V_a = potential at initial position
- V_β = potential at final position
- ΔV = potential difference

Key properties:

- Work is independent of path taken
- Work is positive when moving against electric field
- Work is negative when moving along electric field

Mnemonic

"PEW: Potential difference times Electric charge equals Work"

Question 3(b OR) [4 marks]

What will be the distance travelled by a sound wave in 75 vibrations if its speed is 0.33 km/s and frequency is 660 Hz.

Solution**Formulas:**

- Wavelength (λ) = Velocity (v) / Frequency (f)
- Distance (d) = Number of vibrations (n) \times Wavelength (λ)

Calculation:

- Convert velocity: $v = 0.33 \text{ km/s} = 330 \text{ m/s}$
- Wavelength: $\lambda = v/f = 330/660 = 0.5 \text{ m}$
- Distance: $d = n \times \lambda = 75 \times 0.5 = 37.5 \text{ m}$

Mnemonic

“FVW: Frequency into Velocity gives Wavelength”

Question 3(c OR) [7 marks]

Write the principle and construction of a Mercury thermometer with a labelled diagram. Also mention its advantages and disadvantages.

Solution

Principle: Mercury thermometer works on the principle of thermal expansion of mercury when heated.

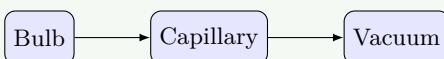
Construction:

Figure 10. Construction Components

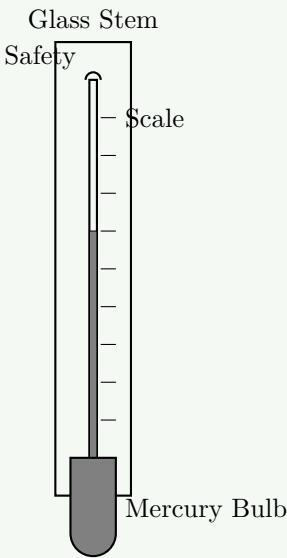
Diagram:

Figure 11. Mercury Thermometer

Working:

- Mercury expands when heated
- Expansion causes mercury to rise in capillary
- Height of mercury column indicates temperature

Advantages:

- High accuracy
- Wide temperature range (-38°C to 357°C)
- Linear expansion of mercury

- Good visibility of mercury thread

Disadvantages:

- Mercury is toxic
- Fragile glass construction
- Cannot be used below -38°C
- Slow response to temperature changes

Mnemonic

“MELT: Mercury Expands Linearly with Temperature”

Question 4(a) [3 marks]

The electric force between two positive ions of equal magnitude separated by distance 5×10^{-10} m from each other is 3.7×10^{-9} N. How many electrons would have been removed from each atom.

Solution

Formula: $F = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \times \frac{q_1 q_2}{r^2}$

Calculation:

- $F = 3.7 \times 10^{-9}$ N
- $r = 5 \times 10^{-10}$ m
- $q_1 = q_2 = ne$ (n = number of electrons, e = electron charge)
- $1/4\pi\epsilon_0 = 9 \times 10^9 \text{ Nm}^2/\text{C}^2$
- $e = 1.6 \times 10^{-19}$ C

$$3.7 \times 10^{-9} = (9 \times 10^9) \times \frac{n^2 e^2}{(5 \times 10^{-10})^2}$$

$$3.7 \times 10^{-9} = (9 \times 10^9) \times \frac{n^2 \times (1.6 \times 10^{-19})^2}{25 \times 10^{-20}}$$

Solving: $n = 1$ (1 electron removed from each atom)

Mnemonic

“FACE: Force Affects Charge Equally”

Question 4(b) [4 marks]

State Snell's law and derive its formula.

Solution

Snell's Law: The ratio of sine of angle of incidence to sine of angle of refraction is constant for a given pair of media.

Formula:

$$\frac{\sin i}{\sin r} = \frac{n_2}{n_1} = \text{constant}$$

Derivation steps:

1. Light travels at different speeds in different media
2. When light passes from one medium to another, it changes direction
3. Using Fermat's principle of least time
4. Ratio of speeds equals ratio of refractive indices

5. Final formula: $n_1 \sin i = n_2 \sin r$

Diagram:

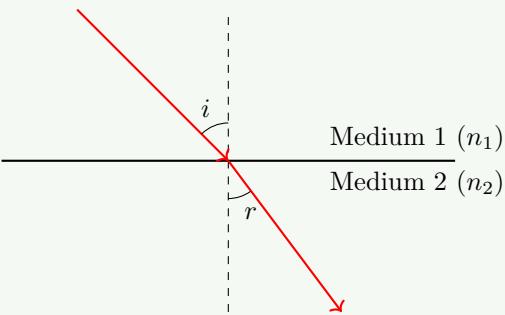


Figure 12. Refraction and Snell's Law

Mnemonic

“SINIS: SIN I over SIN R equals refractive index ratio”

Question 4(c) [7 marks]

Explain any three applications of Ultrasonic waves.

Solution

Applications of Ultrasonic Waves:

Table 4. Ultrasonic Applications

Application	Principle	Use
Medical Imaging	Reflection from tissues	Visualize internal organs
NDT (Non-Destructive Testing)	Reflection from defects	Find flaws in materials
Cleaning	Cavitation effect	Clean jewelry, surgical instruments

1. Medical Imaging (Sonography):

- Frequencies: 1-10 MHz
- Principle: Pulse-echo technique
- Uses: Fetal imaging, organ scanning, blood flow measurement

2. Industrial NDT:

- Detects cracks, voids, and flaws in materials
- Quality control in manufacturing
- Thickness measurement of materials

3. Ultrasonic Cleaning:

- Creates microscopic bubbles (cavitation)
- Removes contaminants from surfaces
- Used for jewelry, optical components, surgical instruments

Mnemonic

“MIC: Medical, Industrial, Cleaning applications”

Question 4(a OR) [3 marks]

Obtain the equivalent capacitance for series and parallel combinations of 3 capacitors

having capacitances $5 \mu\text{F}$, $10 \mu\text{F}$ and $15 \mu\text{F}$ respectively.

Solution

Parallel Combination:

$$C_p = C_1 + C_2 + C_3 = 5 + 10 + 15 = 30 \mu\text{F}$$

Series Combination:

$$\frac{1}{C_s} = \frac{1}{C_1} + \frac{1}{C_2} + \frac{1}{C_3}$$

$$\frac{1}{C_s} = \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{10} + \frac{1}{15}$$

$$\frac{1}{C_s} = 0.2 + 0.1 + 0.067 = 0.367$$

$$C_s = \frac{1}{0.367} = 2.72 \mu\text{F}$$

Mnemonic

“ASAP: Add for Series, Add inverse for Parallel”

Question 4(b OR) [4 marks]

Explain the construction of an optical fibre with a neat diagram.

Solution

Construction of Optical Fiber:

Components:

- Core: Light transmission medium
- Cladding: Outer layer with lower refractive index
- Buffer coating: Protective plastic covering

Parameters:

- Core diameter: $8\text{-}50 \mu\text{m}$ (single mode), $50\text{-}100 \mu\text{m}$ (multimode)
- Cladding diameter: $125\text{-}140 \mu\text{m}$
- Core refractive index $>$ Cladding refractive index

Diagram:

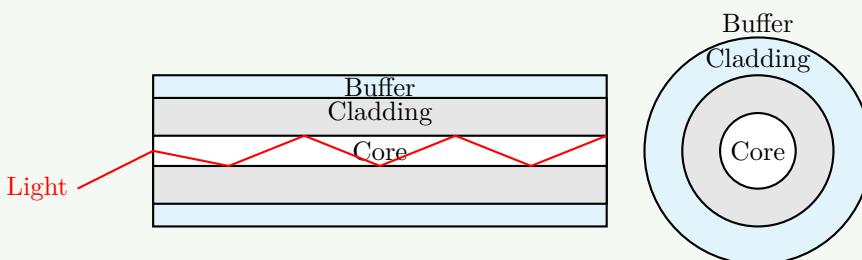


Figure 13. Optical Fiber Construction

Mnemonic

“CBC: Core-Buffer-Cladding from inside out”

Question 4(c OR) [7 marks]

Explain production of ultrasonic waves by magnetostriction method.

Solution

Magnetostriction Method: The process of generating ultrasonic waves using the property of ferromagnetic materials to change dimensions when placed in a magnetic field.

Principle: Ferromagnetic materials change length when magnetized, producing mechanical vibrations that create ultrasonic waves.

Construction:

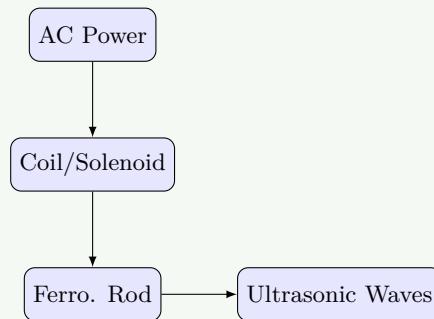


Figure 14. Magnetostriction Process

Working Process:

1. AC current passes through solenoid
2. Alternating magnetic field produced
3. Ferromagnetic rod expands and contracts
4. Vibrations transmitted to medium
5. Ultrasonic waves generated

Diagram:

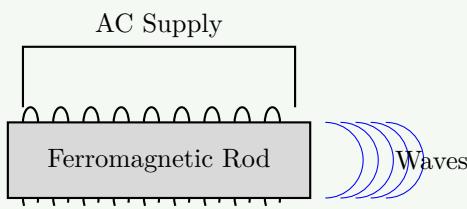


Figure 15. Magnetostriction Oscillation

Advantages:

- Simple construction
- High power output
- Suitable for liquids

Disadvantages:

- Limited to frequencies below 100 kHz
- Heating effects
- Lower efficiency

Mnemonic

“FAME: Ferromagnetic Alternating Magnetic Effect”

Question 5(a) [3 marks]

Explain in brief the three modes of heat transfer.

Solution

Three Modes of Heat Transfer:

Table 5. Heat Transfer Modes

Mode	Medium Requirement	Example
Conduction	Physical contact	Heat through metal rod
Convection	Fluid medium	Hot air rising
Radiation	No medium needed	Heat from sun

1. Conduction:

- Transfer through direct molecular collision
- No bulk movement of matter
- Good in solids, especially metals

2. Convection:

- Transfer through fluid movement
- Requires density differences
- Natural or forced convection

3. Radiation:

- Transfer through electromagnetic waves
- Works in vacuum
- Depends on temperature and surface properties

Mnemonic

“CCR: Conduction Contact, Convection Current, Radiation Rays”

Question 5(b) [4 marks]

Calculate the numerical aperture and acceptance angle of an optical fibre if the refractive indices of core and cladding of an optical fibre are 1.55 and 1.5 respectively.

Solution

Formulas:

- Numerical Aperture (NA) = $\sqrt{n_1^2 - n_2^2}$
- Acceptance angle (θ_a) = $\sin^{-1}(NA)$

Calculation:

- Core refractive index (n_1) = 1.55
- Cladding refractive index (n_2) = 1.5

$$NA = \sqrt{1.55^2 - 1.5^2} = \sqrt{2.4025 - 2.25} = \sqrt{0.1525} = 0.391$$

$$\theta_a = \sin^{-1}(0.391) = 23.03^\circ$$

Mnemonic

“CORE: Calculate Optical Refractive-index Exactly”

Question 5(c) [7 marks]

Explain any three applications of optical fibres.

Solution**Applications of Optical Fibers:****Table 6.** Major Optical Fiber Applications

Application	Advantage	Example
Communications	High bandwidth	Internet, phone networks
Medical	Flexibility, imaging	Endoscopy
Sensors	Immunity to EMI	Temperature sensing

1. Communication Networks:

- Telecommunications and internet
- Higher bandwidth than copper cables
- Less signal attenuation over long distances

2. Medical Applications:

- Endoscopy for minimally invasive procedures
- Light delivery for photodynamic therapy
- Surgical illumination

3. Sensing Applications:

- Temperature and pressure sensors
- Strain gauges for structural monitoring
- Gyroscopes for navigation

Mnemonic

“CMS: Communication, Medical, Sensing applications”

Question 5(a OR) [3 marks]

Give a detailed explanation of specific heat.

Solution

Specific Heat: Amount of heat required to raise the temperature of 1 kg of a substance by 1 Kelvin (or 1°C).

Formula: $Q = mc\Delta T$

Where:

- Q = Heat energy (J)
- m = Mass (kg)
- c = Specific heat capacity ($J/kg \cdot K$)
- ΔT = Temperature change (K)

Units: $J/kg \cdot K$ or $J/kg \cdot ^\circ C$

Significance:

- Measures thermal inertia of materials
- Higher specific heat means material requires more energy to heat up
- Water has unusually high specific heat (4,186 $J/kg \cdot K$)

Mnemonic

“STEM: Specific heat measures Temperature change per Energy and Mass”

Question 5(b OR) [4 marks]

If the refractive indices of core and cladding of an optical fibre are 1.48 and 1.45 respectively. Calculate its acceptance angle and critical angle.

Solution

Formulas:

- Numerical Aperture (NA) = $\sqrt{n_1^2 - n_2^2}$
- Acceptance angle (θ_a) = $\sin^{-1}(\text{NA})$
- Critical angle (θ_c) = $\sin^{-1}(n_2/n_1)$

Calculation:

- Core refractive index (n_1) = 1.48
- Cladding refractive index (n_2) = 1.45

$$\text{NA} = \sqrt{1.48^2 - 1.45^2} = \sqrt{2.1904 - 2.1025} = \sqrt{0.0879} = 0.296$$

$$\theta_a = \sin^{-1}(0.296) = 17.2^\circ$$

$$\theta_c = \sin^{-1}(1.45/1.48) = \sin^{-1}(0.9797) = 78.4^\circ$$

Mnemonic

“NA leads to AA, ratio leads to Critical Angle”

Question 5(c OR) [7 marks]

Explain the applications of LASER in engineering and medical field.

Solution

Applications of LASER:

Table 7. LASER Applications

Field	Application	Example
Engineering	Cutting/Welding	Metal fabrication
Engineering	Measurements	Distance measurement
Medical	Surgery	Eye surgery (LASIK)
Medical	Therapy	Cancer treatment

Engineering Applications:
1. Material Processing:

- Precision cutting of metals, plastics, ceramics
- Welding of dissimilar materials
- 3D printing and rapid prototyping

2. Metrology and Measurement:

- Distance measurement with high precision
- Alignment in construction and manufacturing
- Holography for 3D imaging

Medical Applications:
1. Surgical Procedures:

- Eye surgery (LASIK, cataract removal)
- Minimally invasive procedures
- Dental procedures

2. Therapeutic Uses:

- Photodynamic therapy for cancer
- Low-level laser therapy for pain
- Cosmetic procedures

Diagram:

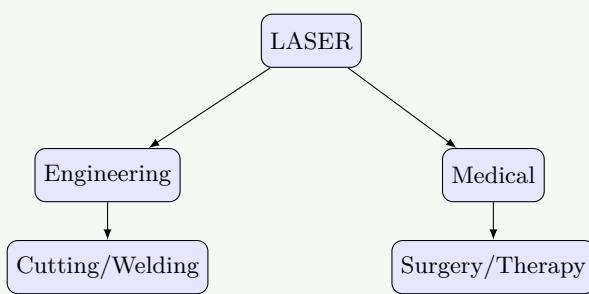


Figure 16. Fields of Laser Application

Mnemonic

“SMART: Surgery, Measurement, Analysis, Repair, and Treatment”