

2 (a) State Coulomb's law.

[2]

- (b) Positronium is a system in which an electron and a positron orbit, with the same period, around their common centre of mass, as shown in Fig. 2.1.

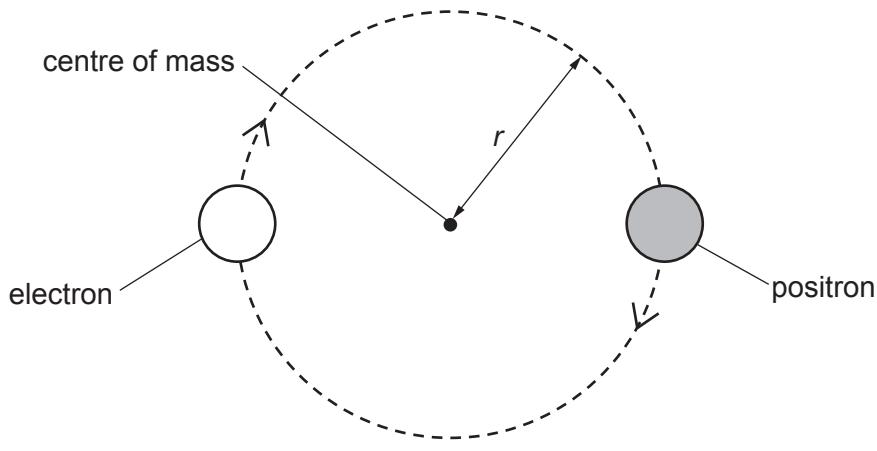


Fig. 2.1 (not to scale)

The radius r of the orbit of both particles is 1.59×10^{-10} m.

- (i) Explain how the electric force between the electron and the positron causes the path of the moving particles to be circular.

[2]

- (ii) Show that the magnitude of the electric force between the electron and the positron is 2.28×10^{-9} N.

[2]

- (iii) Use the information in (b)(ii) to determine the period of the circular orbit of the two particles.

period = s [3]

- (c) Positronium is highly unstable, and after a very short period of time it becomes gamma radiation.

- (i) Describe how gamma radiation is formed from the two particles in positronium.

.....
.....
.....
..... [3]

- (ii) State **one** medical application of the process described in (c)(i).

..... [1]