



Cambridge International AS & A Level

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PHYSICS

9702/54

Paper 5 Planning, Analysis and Evaluation

October/November 2025

1 hour 15 minutes

You must answer on the question paper.

No additional materials are needed.

INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **all** questions.
- Use a black or dark blue pen. You may use an HB pencil for any diagrams or graphs.
- Write your name, centre number and candidate number in the boxes at the top of the page.
- Write your answer to each question in the space provided.
- Do **not** use an erasable pen or correction fluid.
- Do **not** write on any bar codes.
- You may use a calculator.
- You should show all your working and use appropriate units.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 30.
- The number of marks for each question or part question is shown in brackets [].

This document has 8 pages.

1 Fig. 1.1 shows a horizontal turntable.

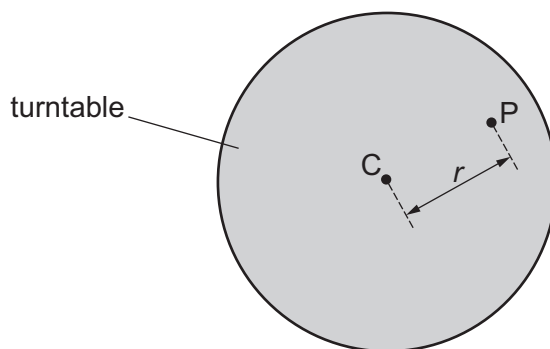


Fig. 1.1

Point C is at the centre of the turntable. Point P is a distance r from the centre.

Fig. 1.2 shows a side view of a d.c. motor attached to the turntable with a belt.



Fig. 1.2

The motor is used to rotate the turntable at frequency f_0 . The motor is switched off and the turntable continues to rotate at frequency f_0 .

A sphere of adhesive putty of mass m is dropped onto the turntable at point P. The frequency of the turntable is now f .

It is suggested that f is related to m by the relationship

$$\frac{Kf_0}{f} = \beta K + mr^2$$

where β and K are constants.

Plan a laboratory experiment to test the relationship between f and m .

Draw a diagram showing the arrangement of your equipment.

Explain how the results could be used to determine values for β and K .

In your plan you should include:

- the procedure to be followed
- the measurements to be taken
- the control of variables
- the analysis of the data
- any safety precautions to be taken.





Diagram

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.





[15]



- 2 A student places a slide with a double slit on a support clamped to the bench as shown in Fig. 2.1.

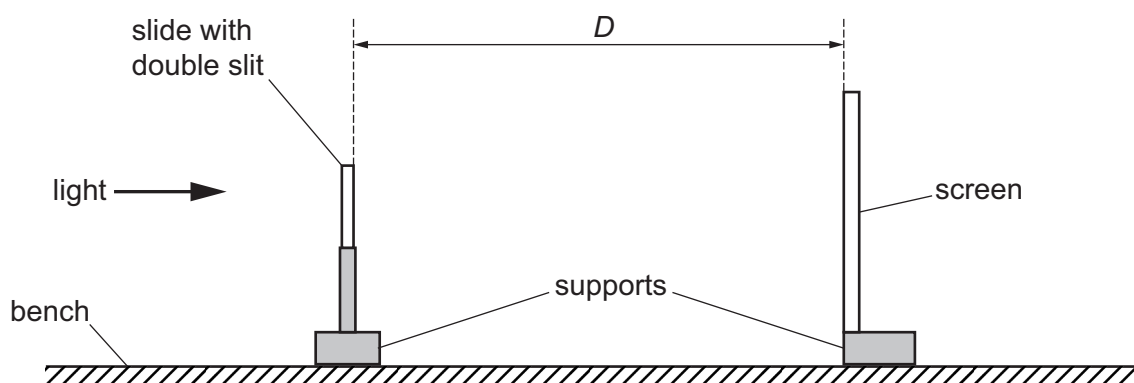


Fig. 2.1

The distance between the slide and the screen is D .

The separation s of the slits is determined.

Light from a laser is incident normally on the double slit. An interference pattern is observed on the screen. The distance w across 10 fringes is measured. The distance y between the centres of adjacent fringes is calculated using the equation

$$y = \frac{w}{10}.$$

The experiment is repeated with slides of different slit separation s .

It is suggested that y and s are related by the equation

$$\lambda = \frac{sy}{D}$$

where λ is the wavelength of the incident light.

- (a) A graph is plotted of y on the y -axis against $\frac{1}{s}$ on the x -axis.

Determine an expression for the gradient.

gradient = [1]



(b) Values of s and w are given in Table 2.1.

Table 2.1

s/mm	$\frac{1}{s}/\text{mm}^{-1}$	w/mm	y/mm
0.18 ± 0.01		33.0	
0.21 ± 0.01		28.9	
0.24 ± 0.01		25.1	
0.27 ± 0.01		22.6	
0.31 ± 0.01		19.6	
0.38 ± 0.01		15.9	

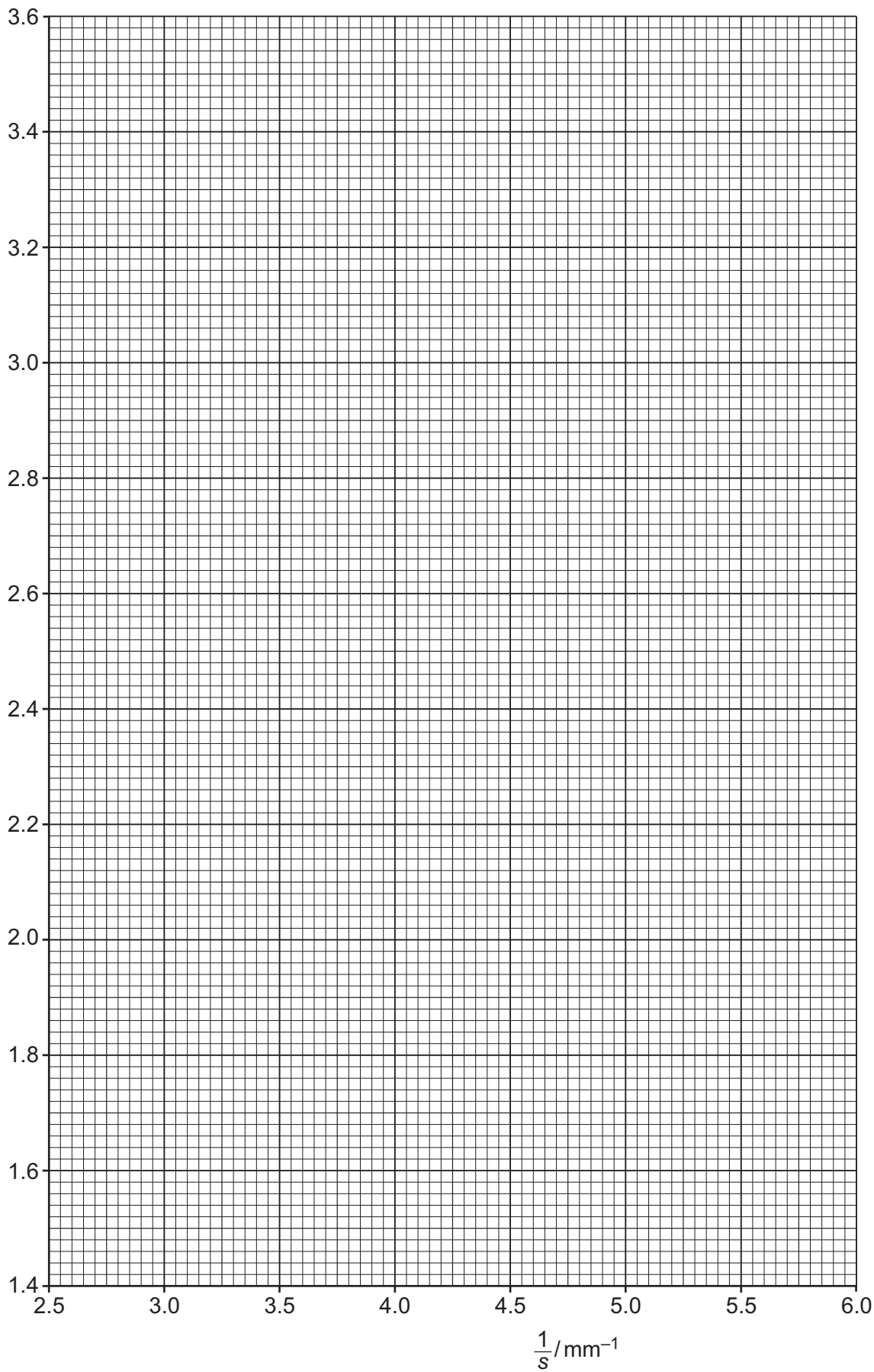
Calculate and record values of $\frac{1}{s}/\text{mm}^{-1}$ and y/mm in Table 2.1. Include the absolute uncertainties in $\frac{1}{s}$. [2]

- (c) (i) Plot a graph of y/mm against $\frac{1}{s}/\text{mm}^{-1}$. Include error bars for $\frac{1}{s}$. [2]
- (ii) Draw the straight line of best fit and a worst acceptable straight line on your graph. Label both lines. [2]
- (iii) Determine the gradient of the line of best fit. Include the absolute uncertainty in your answer.

gradient = [2]



y/mm





(d) The distance between the slide and the screen is measured several times:

0.929 m 0.918 m 0.913 m 0.918 m 0.927 m.

Determine the mean distance D . Include the absolute uncertainty.

$D = \dots\dots\dots$ m [1]

(e) (i) Using your answers to (a), (c)(iii) and (d), determine the value of λ . Include an appropriate unit.

$\lambda = \dots\dots\dots$ [2]

(ii) Determine the percentage uncertainty in λ .

percentage uncertainty in $\lambda = \dots\dots\dots$ % [1]

(f) The experiment is repeated. Determine the slit separation s that gives a value of y of (0.500 ± 0.005) cm. Include the absolute uncertainty.

$s = \dots\dots\dots$ m [2]

[Total: 15]

