Surname		Other Names	
Centre Number		Candidate Number	
Candidate Signature			

For Examiner's Use

General Certificate of Education
June 2008
Advanced Level Examination

PHYSICS (SPECIFICATION A) **PHA8/W**
Unit 8 Nuclear Instability: Turning Points in Physics Option

Wednesday 11 June 2008 9.00 am to 10.15 am

For this paper you must have:
- a pencil and a ruler
- a calculator
- a data sheet insert.

Time allowed: 1 hour 15 minutes

Instructions
- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Fill in the boxes at the top of this page.
- Answer **all** questions.
- Answer the questions in the spaces provided. Answers written in margins or on blank pages will not be marked.
- Show all your working.
- Do all rough work in this book. Cross through any work you do not want to be marked.

Information
- The maximum mark for this paper is 40. This includes up to 2 marks for the Quality of Written Communication.
- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- A *Data Sheet* is provided as a loose insert to this question paper.
- You are expected to use a calculator where appropriate.
- Questions 1(c) and 3(a) should be answered in continuous prose. In these questions you will be marked on your ability to use good English, to organise information clearly and to use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

For Examiner's Use			
Question	Mark	Question	Mark
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
Total (Column 1) →			
Total (Column 2) →			
Quality of Written Communication			
TOTAL			
Examiner's Initials			

SECTION A: NUCLEAR INSTABILITY

Answer **all** of this question.

1 (a) An isotope of technetium ${}^{99}_{43}\mathrm{Tc}^{m}$, which is in a metastable state, decays emitting only γ rays. When the isotope is placed 20 cm from a γ ray detector the count rate is 25 counts per second. The background count rate is 120 counts per minute. Calculate the count rate, in counts per second, when the detector is placed 30 cm from the isotope.

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(3 marks)

1 (b) (i) Calculate the approximate radius of a nucleus of ${}^{99}_{43}\mathrm{Tc}^{m}$, given that the nuclear radius of ${}^{28}_{14}\mathrm{Si}$ is 3.7×10^{-15} m.

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1 (b) (ii) State **one** method by which the nuclear radius of ${}^{28}_{14}\mathrm{Si}$ could be determined experimentally.

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(4 marks)

1 (c) Explain why sources of β radiation often also produce γ rays of discrete frequencies.

You may be awarded additional marks to those shown in brackets for the quality of written communication in your answer to part (c).

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(3 marks)

10

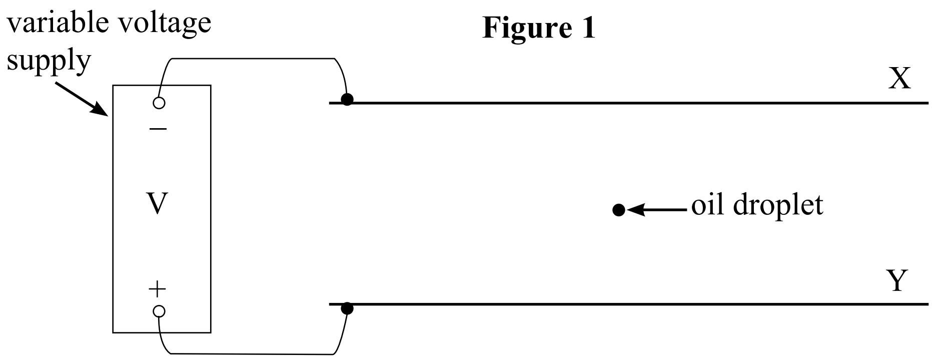
Turn over for the next question

SECTION B: TURNING POINTS IN PHYSICS

Answer **all** questions.

2 **Figure 1** shows a charged oil droplet between two oppositely-charged horizontal parallel plates X and Y which are 6.0 mm apart.

Figure 1



2 (a) When the potential difference between the two plates is zero, the droplet falls vertically at a steady speed of $7.8 \times 10^{-5}\,\text{m s}^{-1}$.

density of oil droplet = $960\,\text{kg m}^{-3}$
viscosity of air = $1.8 \times 10^{-5}\,\text{N s m}^{-2}$

2 (a) (i) Explain why the droplet falls at a steady speed.

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2 (a) (ii) Show that the radius of the droplet is $8.2 \times 10^{-7}\,\text{m}$.

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2 (a) (iii) Show that the mass of the droplet is 2.2×10^{-15} kg.

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(6 marks)

2 (b) The potential difference between X and Y is adjusted until the droplet becomes stationary.

2 (b) (i) Explain why the droplet becomes stationary.

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2 (b) (ii) The droplet is stationary when the potential difference is 410 V. Show that the charge of the droplet is 3.2×10^{-19} C.

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2 (b) (iii) Discuss the significance of this result and the results of similar tests on other charged droplets.

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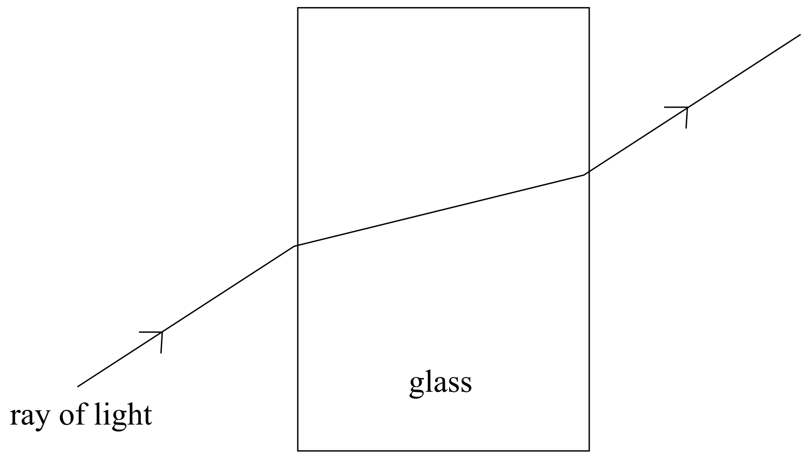
(5 marks)

11

3 **Figure 2** shows the path followed by a light ray incident on a glass block in air.

Figure 2



3 (a) Use Newton's theory of light to explain the refraction of the light ray on entering the glass block.

You may be awarded additional marks to those shown in brackets for the quality of written communication in your answer.

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(4 marks)

3 (b) Huygens put forward an alternative theory of light. Compare the explanations of refraction suggested by Newton and by Huygens.

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(2 marks)

6

4 A particle has a rest mass of 1.9×10^{-28} kg.

Calculate

4 (i) the speed of the particle at which its mass would be 9.5×10^{-28} kg,

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4 (ii) the kinetic energy, in J, of the particle at this speed.

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(6 marks)

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Areas outside the box will not be scanned for marking

5 In a transmission electron microscope operating at a pd of 15 kV, the beam of electrons is scattered after passing through a thin sample. The electrons are then focused by magnetic lenses onto a fluorescent screen to form an image on the screen of the sample.

5 (a) Calculate the de Broglie wavelength of a 15 keV electron.

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(3 marks)

5 (b) State and explain **one** effect on the image of increasing the operating voltage of the microscope.

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(2 marks)

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Quality of Written Communication *(2 marks)*

2

END OF QUESTIONS

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PHYSICS (SPECIFICATION A) **PHA8/W**

Unit 8 Nuclear Instability: Turning Points in Physics Option

Data Sheet

Fundamental constants and values

Quantity	*Symbol*	*Value*	*Units*
speed of light in vacuo	c	3.00×10^{8}	$\mathrm{m\ s^{-1}}$
permeability of free space	μ_0	$4\pi \times 10^{-7}$	$\mathrm{H\ m^{-1}}$
permittivity of free space	ε_0	8.85×10^{-12}	$\mathrm{F\ m^{-1}}$
charge of electron	e	1.60×10^{-19}	C
the Planck constant	h	6.63×10^{-34}	J s
gravitational constant	G	6.67×10^{-11}	$\mathrm{N\ m^{2}\ kg^{-2}}$
the Avogadro constant	N_A	6.02×10^{23}	$\mathrm{mol^{-1}}$
molar gas constant	R	8.31	$\mathrm{J\ K^{-1}\ mol^{-1}}$
the Boltzmann constant	k	1.38×10^{-23}	$\mathrm{J\ K^{-1}}$
the Stefan constant	σ	5.67×10^{-8}	$\mathrm{W\ m^{-2}\ K^{-4}}$
the Wien constant	α	2.90×10^{-3}	m K
electron rest mass (equivalent to 5.5×10^{-4}u)	m_e	9.11×10^{-31}	kg
electron charge/mass ratio	e/m_e	1.76×10^{11}	$\mathrm{C\ kg^{-1}}$
proton rest mass (equivalent to 1.00728u)	m_p	1.67×10^{-27}	kg
proton charge/mass ratio	e/m_p	9.58×10^{7}	$\mathrm{C\ kg^{-1}}$
neutron rest mass (equivalent to 1.00867u)	m_n	1.67×10^{-27}	kg
gravitational field strength	g	9.81	$\mathrm{N\ kg^{-1}}$
acceleration due to gravity	g	9.81	$\mathrm{m\ s^{-2}}$
atomic mass unit (1u is equivalent to 931.3 MeV)	u	1.661×10^{-27}	kg

Fundamental particles

Class	*Name*	*Symbol*	*Rest energy* /MeV
photon	photon	γ	0
lepton	neutrino	ν_e	0
		ν_μ	0
	electron	$e^{\pm}$	0.510999
	muon	$\mu^{\pm}$	105.659
mesons	pion	$\pi^{\pm}$	139.576
		π^{0}	134.972
	kaon	$K^{\pm}$	493.821
		K^{0}	497.762
baryons	proton	p	938.257
	neutron	n	939.551

Properties of quarks

Type	*Charge*	*Baryon number*	*Strangeness*
u	$+\frac{2}{3}$	$+\frac{1}{3}$	0
d	$-\frac{1}{3}$	$+\frac{1}{3}$	0
s	$-\frac{1}{3}$	$+\frac{1}{3}$	−1

Geometrical equations

arc length $= r\theta$

circumference of circle $= 2\pi r$

area of circle $= \pi r^2$

area of cylinder $= 2\pi rh$

volume of cylinder $= \pi r^2 h$

area of sphere $= 4\pi r^2$

volume of sphere $= \frac{4}{3}\pi r^3$

Mechanics and Applied Physics

$v = u + at$

$s = \left(\frac{u+v}{2}\right)t$

$s = ut + \frac{at^2}{2}$

$v^2 = u^2 + 2as$

$F = \frac{\Delta(mv)}{\Delta t}$

$P = Fv$

efficiency $= \frac{\textit{power output}}{\textit{power input}}$

$\omega = \frac{v}{r} = 2\pi f$

$a = \frac{v^2}{r} = r\omega^2$

$I = \sum mr^2$

$E_k = \frac{1}{2}I\omega^2$

$\omega_2 = \omega_1 + \alpha t$

$\theta = \omega_1 t + \frac{1}{2}\alpha t^2$

$\omega_2^2 = \omega_1^2 + 2\alpha\theta$

$\theta = \frac{1}{2}(\omega_1 + \omega_2)t$

$T = I\alpha$

angular momentum $= I\omega$

$W = T\theta$

$P = T\omega$

angular impulse = change of angular momentum $= Tt$

$\Delta Q = \Delta U + \Delta W$

$\Delta W = p\Delta V$

$pV^{\gamma} =$ constant

work done per cycle = area of loop

input power = calorific value × fuel flow rate

indicated power as (area of p – V loop) × (no. of cycles/s) × (no. of cylinders)

friction power = indicated power – brake power

efficiency $= \frac{W}{Q_{in}} = \frac{Q_{in} - Q_{out}}{Q_{in}}$

maximum possible efficiency $= \frac{T_H - T_C}{T_H}$

Fields, Waves, Quantum Phenomena

$g = \frac{F}{m}$

$g = -\frac{GM}{r^2}$

$g = -\frac{\Delta V}{\Delta x}$

$V = -\frac{GM}{r}$

$a = -(2\pi f)^2 x$

$v = \pm 2\pi f\sqrt{A^2 - x^2}$

$x = A\cos 2\pi ft$

$T = 2\pi\sqrt{\frac{m}{k}}$

$T = 2\pi\sqrt{\frac{l}{g}}$

$\lambda = \frac{\omega s}{D}$

$d\sin\theta = n\lambda$

$\theta \approx \frac{\lambda}{D}$

${}_1n_2 = \frac{\sin\theta_1}{\sin\theta_2} = \frac{c_1}{c_2}$

${}_1n_2 = \frac{n_2}{n_1}$

$\sin\theta_c = \frac{1}{n}$

$E = hf$

$hf = \phi + E_k$

$hf = E_1 - E_2$

$\lambda = \frac{h}{p} = \frac{h}{mv}$

$c = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\mu_0\varepsilon_0}}$

Electricity

$\epsilon = \frac{E}{Q}$

$\epsilon = I(R + r)$

$\frac{1}{R_T} = \frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2} + \frac{1}{R_3} + \cdots$

$R_T = R_1 + R_2 + R_3 + \cdots$

$P = I^2R$

$E = \frac{F}{Q} = \frac{V}{d}$

$E = \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0}\frac{Q}{r^2}$

$E = \frac{1}{2}QV$

$F = BIl$

$F = BQv$

$Q = Q_0 e^{-t/RC}$

$\Phi = BA$

Turn over ▶

magnitude of induced emf $= N\dfrac{\Delta\Phi}{\Delta t}$

$I_{rms} = \dfrac{I_0}{\sqrt{2}}$

$V_{rms} = \dfrac{V_0}{\sqrt{2}}$

Mechanical and Thermal Properties

the Young modulus $= \dfrac{\textit{tensile stress}}{\textit{tensile strain}} = \dfrac{F}{A}\dfrac{l}{e}$

energy stored $= \frac{1}{2} Fe$

$\Delta Q = mc\,\Delta\theta$

$\Delta Q = ml$

$pV = \frac{1}{3} Nm\overline{c^2}$

$\frac{1}{2} m\overline{c^2} = \frac{3}{2} kT = \dfrac{3RT}{2N_A}$

Nuclear Physics and Turning Points in Physics

force $= \dfrac{eV_p}{d}$

force $= Bev$

radius of curvature $= \dfrac{mv}{Be}$

$\dfrac{eV}{d} = mg$

work done $= eV$

$F = 6\pi\eta rv$

$I = k\dfrac{I_0}{x^2}$

$\dfrac{\Delta N}{\Delta t} = -\lambda N$

$\lambda = \dfrac{h}{\sqrt{2meV}}$

$N = N_0 e^{-\lambda t}$

$T_{\frac{1}{2}} = \dfrac{\ln 2}{\lambda}$

$R = r_0 A^{\frac{1}{3}}$

$E = mc^2 = \dfrac{m_0c^2}{\left(1 - \dfrac{v^2}{c^2}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}}$

$l = l_0\left(1 - \dfrac{v^2}{c^2}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$

$t = \dfrac{t_0}{\left(1 - \dfrac{v^2}{c^2}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}}$

Astrophysics and Medical Physics

Body	*Mass*/kg	*Mean radius*/m
Sun	2.00×10^{30}	7.00×10^{8}
Earth	6.00×10^{24}	6.40×10^{6}

1 astronomical unit = 1.50×10^{11} m

1 parsec = 206265 AU = 3.08×10^{16} m = 3.26 ly

1 light year = 9.45×10^{15} m

Hubble constant (H) = 65 km s^{-1} Mpc^{-1}

$M = \dfrac{\text{angle subtended by image at eye}}{\text{angle subtended by object at unaided eye}}$

$M = \dfrac{f_o}{f_e}$

$m - M = 5\log\dfrac{d}{10}$

$\lambda_{max}T = \text{constant} = 0.0029$ m K

$v = Hd$

$P = \sigma AT^4$

$\dfrac{\Delta f}{f} = \dfrac{v}{c}$

$\dfrac{\Delta\lambda}{\lambda} = -\dfrac{v}{c}$

$R_s \approx \dfrac{2GM}{c^2}$

Medical Physics

power $= \dfrac{1}{f}$

$\dfrac{1}{u} + \dfrac{1}{v} = \dfrac{1}{f}$ and $m = \dfrac{v}{u}$

intensity level $= 10\log\dfrac{I}{I_0}$

$I = I_0 e^{-\mu x}$

$\mu_m = \dfrac{\mu}{\rho}$

Electronics

Resistors

Preferred values for resistors (E24)
Series: 1.0 1.1 1.2 1.3 1.5 1.6 1.8 2.0 2.2 2.4 2.7 3.0 3.3 3.6 3.9 4.3 4.7 5.1 5.6 6.2 6.8 7.5 8.2 9.1 ohms
and multiples that are ten times greater

$Z = \dfrac{V_{rms}}{I_{rms}}$

$\dfrac{1}{C_T} = \dfrac{1}{C_1} + \dfrac{1}{C_2} + \dfrac{1}{C_3} + \cdots$

$C_T = C_1 + C_2 + C_3 + \cdots$

$X_C = \dfrac{1}{2\pi fC}$

Alternating Currents

$f = \dfrac{1}{T}$

Operational amplifier

$G = \dfrac{V_{out}}{V_{in}}$ voltage gain

$G = -\dfrac{R_f}{R_1}$ inverting

$G = 1 + \dfrac{R_f}{R_1}$ non-inverting

$V_{out} = -R_f\left(\dfrac{V_1}{R_1} + \dfrac{V_2}{R_2} + \dfrac{V_3}{R_3}\right)$ summing