



UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS  
General Certificate of Education Ordinary Level

CANDIDATE  
NAME

CENTRE  
NUMBER

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**PHYSICS**

**5054/42**

Paper 4 Alternative to Practical

**May/June 2010**

**1 hour**

Candidates answer on the Question Paper.

No Additional Materials are required.

**READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST**

Write your Centre number, candidate number and name on all the work you hand in.

Write in dark blue or black pen.

You may use a soft pencil for any diagrams, graphs or rough working.

Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

**DO NOT WRITE IN ANY BARCODES.**

Answer **all** questions.

At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.

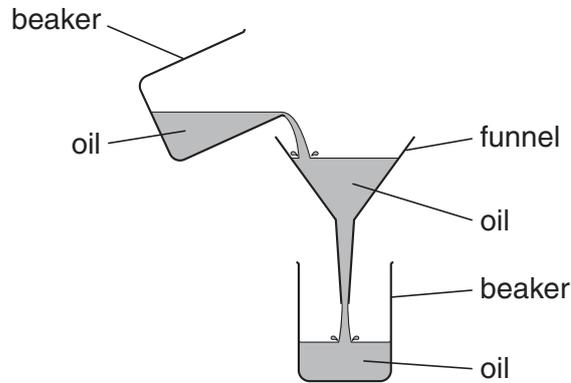
The number of marks is given in brackets [ ] at the end of each question or part question.

This document consists of **9** printed pages and **3** blank pages.



- 1 A group of students performs an experiment to investigate the flow of oil at different temperatures.

200 cm<sup>3</sup> of oil is heated gently and its temperature  $\theta$  is recorded. The oil is then poured through a funnel into a second beaker, as shown in Fig. 1.1.



**Fig. 1.1**

The time  $t$  taken for the oil to flow through the funnel is recorded with a stopwatch.

- (a) State why it is important to stir the oil during heating.

.....  
 ..... [1]

- (b) Explain why the oil is heated **gently**.

.....  
 ..... [1]

- (c) The experiment is repeated for several values of  $\theta$ . Values of  $\theta$  and  $t$  are recorded in the table of Fig. 1.2.

$\theta/^\circ\text{C}$	$t/\text{s}$
69	13.69
52	14.97
35	17.34
24	21.16
17	25.16
10	28.85

**Fig. 1.2**

- (i) On Fig. 1.3, plot the graph of  $t/s$  on the  $y$ -axis against  $\theta/^\circ\text{C}$  on the  $x$ -axis.  
Start your graph from  $\theta = 0^\circ\text{C}$  and  $t = 12\text{ s}$ . Draw the curved line of best fit.

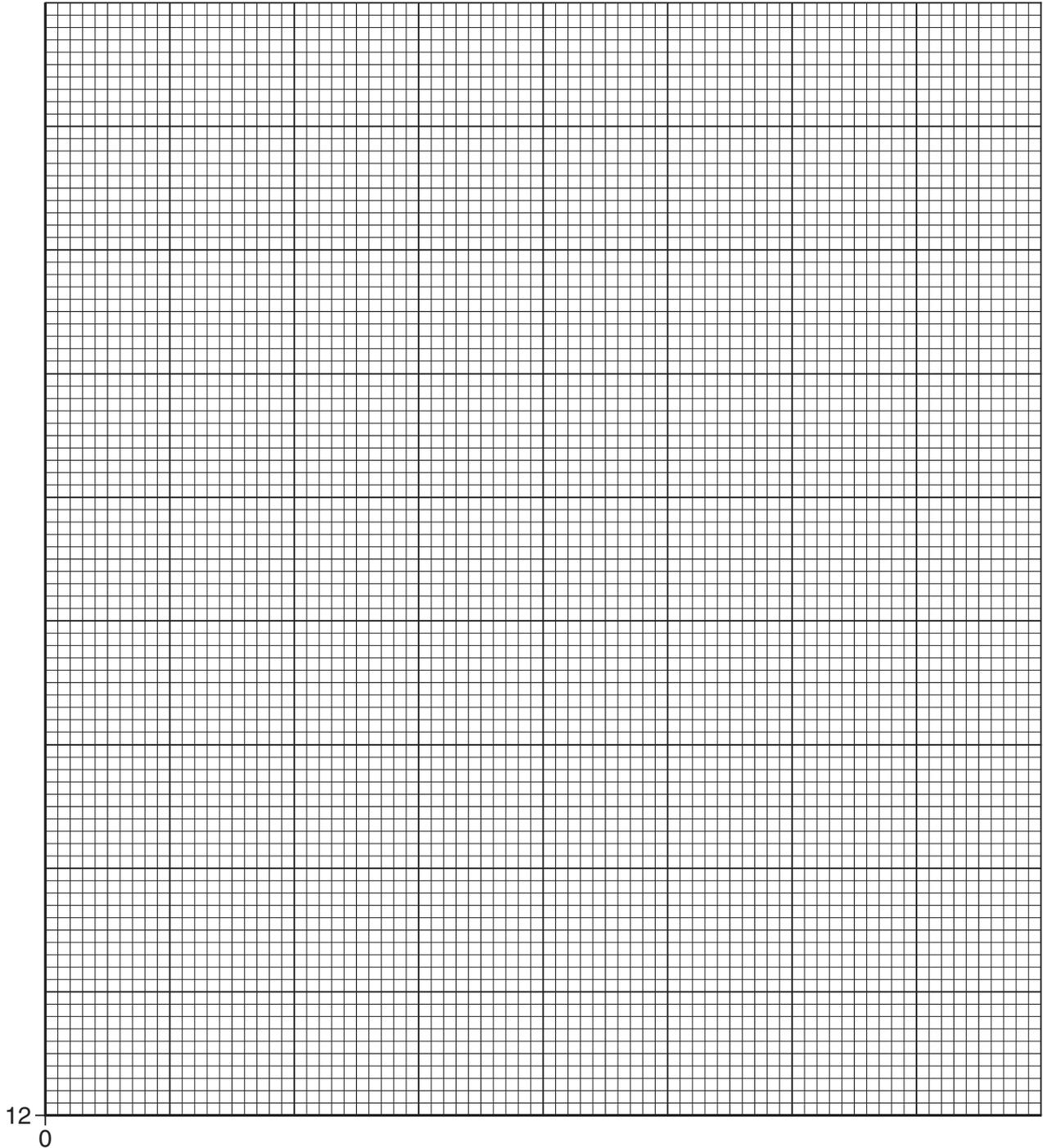


Fig. 1.3

[4]

- (ii) Estimate the time taken for oil at  $80^\circ\text{C}$  to flow through the funnel.  
..... [1]
- (iii) State the maximum reading on a standard laboratory liquid-in-glass thermometer that is suitable for this experiment.  
..... [1]

(d) Explain why it is not possible to repeat a reading immediately after it is taken.

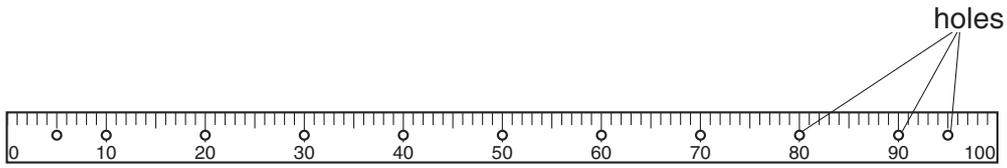
.....  
..... [1]

(e) Tick **two** boxes to show which of the following will make the experiment more accurate.

using a more sensitive thermometer	<input type="checkbox"/>
using two people to take the measurements	<input type="checkbox"/>
using a thicker oil	<input type="checkbox"/>
using a larger range of readings	<input type="checkbox"/>
pouring the oil quickly after taking its temperature	<input type="checkbox"/>

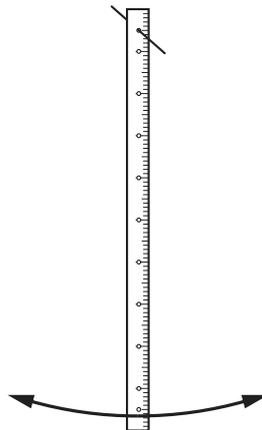
[2]

2 Fig. 2.1 shows a wooden metre rule with small holes drilled through it.



**Fig. 2.1**

The metre rule is suspended from the hole at 5.0cm so that it can swing freely, as shown in Fig. 2.2.



**Fig. 2.2**

The rule is made to swing from side-to-side and the time  $T$  for one complete swing is determined.

(a) Describe three experimental techniques used to obtain an accurate value for  $T$ .

1. ....
- .....
2. ....
- .....
3. ....
- .....

[3]

- (b) The distance  $d$  between a hole and the zero end of the rule is varied, by suspending the rule from different holes.

The time  $T$  is determined for each value of  $d$ .

The results are recorded in the table of Fig. 2.3.

$d/\text{cm}$	$T/\text{s}$
5.0	1.61
10.0	1.57
20.0	1.52
30.0	1.58
40.0	1.91

**Fig. 2.3**

- (i) Describe how  $T$  varies with  $d$ .

.....

.....

.....

..... [2]

- (ii) Suggest the value of  $T$  for  $d = 95.0$  cm.

$T =$  ..... [1]

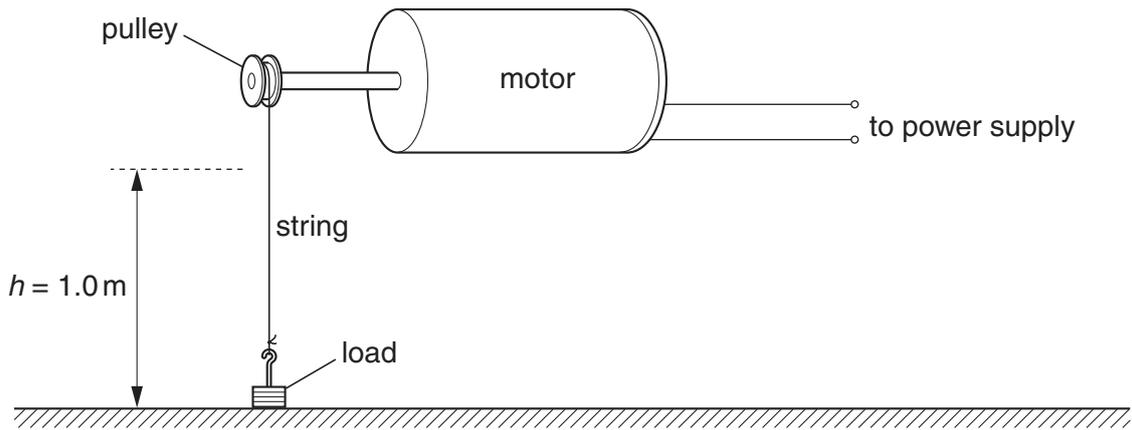
- (iii) Suggest why  $T$  was not measured for  $d = 50.0$  cm.

.....

.....

..... [1]

3 The efficiency of a motor is measured using the apparatus shown in Fig. 3.1.



**Fig. 3.1** (not to scale)

When the motor is switched on, the string winds round the pulley and the load is lifted. Six students measure the time  $t$  taken for the load to be lifted a height  $h$  of 1.0 m.

(a) The times recorded are

- 4.47 s,      4.53 s,      4.39 s,      4.44 s,      5.92 s,      4.61 s.

(i) The result of 5.92 s is discarded.

Suggest why this result is very much larger than the others.

..... [1]

(ii) Calculate the average time  $t_{av}$  of the other results.

Considering the variation in the students' results, give your answer to an appropriate number of significant figures. Show your working.

$t_{av} = \dots\dots\dots$  s [2]

(b) The efficiency  $E$  of the motor is given by the relationship

$$E = \frac{2 \times 10^2}{3 \times t_{av}} \%$$

Use this relationship to calculate  $E$ .

$E = \dots\dots\dots$  [1]

(c) Describe one way in which the students can measure  $h$  accurately.

.....  
 .....  
 ..... [1]

- 4 A student performs an experiment using optical pins to find the effect of a circular block, made of transparent plastic, on parallel rays of light.

Fig. 4.1 shows the circular plastic block on a sheet of white paper.

The student draws round the block with a sharp pencil. The student also draws three parallel lines up to the block before starting the experiment.

- (a) Explain why the student draws round the block.

.....  
..... [1]

- (b) The student places pins  $P_1$  and  $P_2$  on line 1, representing an incident ray of light.

Describe how the student places pins  $P_3$  and  $P_4$  to locate the emergent ray.

.....  
.....  
..... [1]

- (c) On Fig. 4.1,

(i) complete the path of the ray along line 1 through the block, [1]

(ii) draw the normal at the point where the ray along line 1 enters the block, [1]

(iii) measure the angle of incidence  $i$  where the ray along line 1 enters the block.

$i =$  ..... [1]

- (d) Explain why a ray along line 2 passes through the block without changing direction.

.....  
..... [1]

- (e) On Fig. 4.1, complete the path of a ray along line 3 through the block. [1]

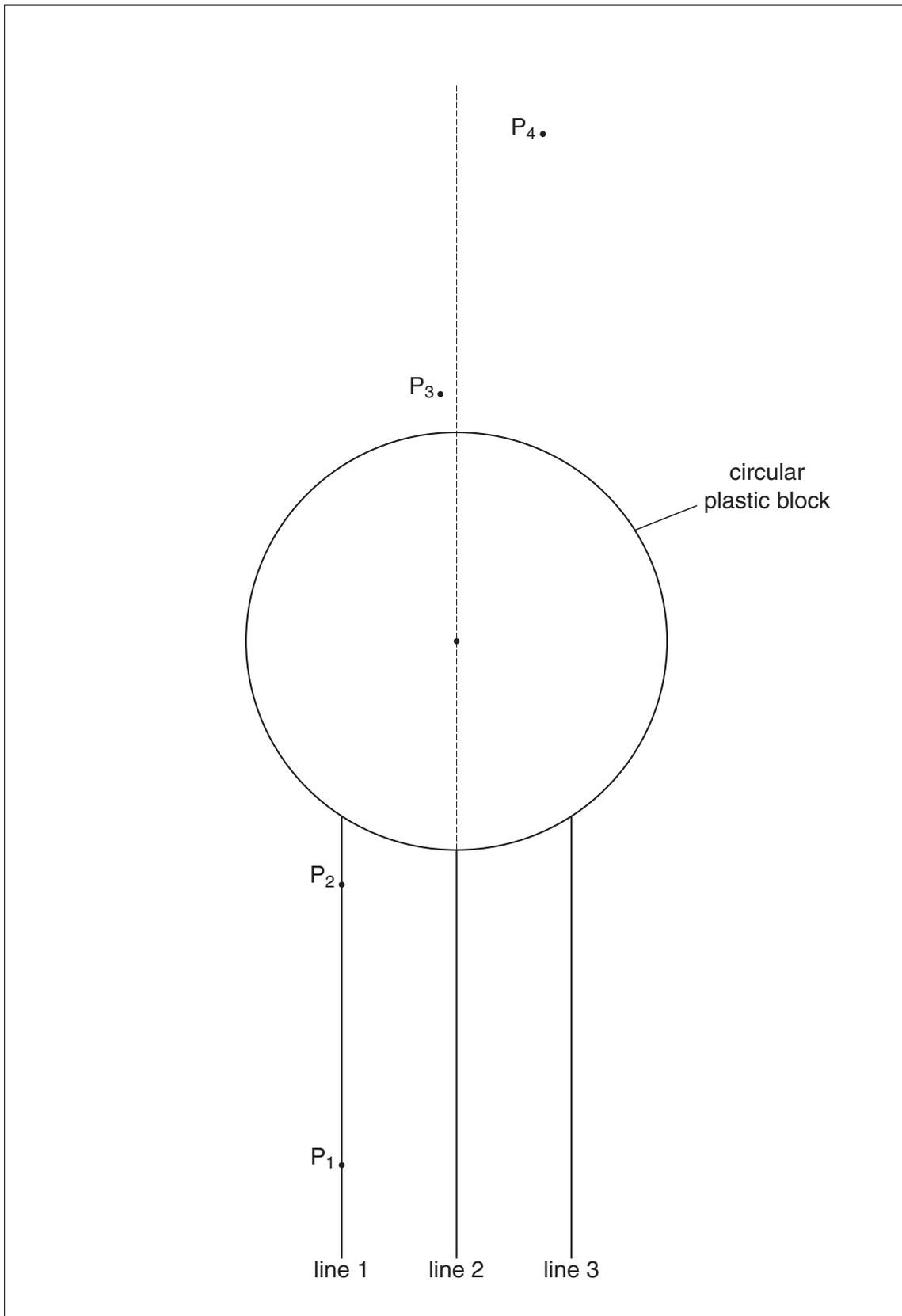


Fig. 4.1





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