



# **A-Level Physics**

## **The Young Modulus**

### **Mark Scheme**

**Time available: 66 minutes**

**Marks available: 46 marks**

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## Mark schemes

1.

- (a) place mirror behind ruler  $_1\checkmark$

adjust position (of eye / head) until pin hides its own reflection  $_2\checkmark$

*for  $_1\checkmark$  do not insist on contact between mirror and ruler; accept sketch if mirror is parallel to ruler*

*for  $_2\checkmark$  accept 'pin lines up with reflection / image'*

*allow  $_{12}\checkmark = 1$  MAX*

*for convincing explanation of set-square placed against vertical ruler then aligned with pin*

OR

*move (clamped) ruler closer to pin*

2

- (b) strategy:

$y$  (as the dependent variable) measured for different values of one independent variable  $_1\checkmark$

identifies one correct control variable  $_2\checkmark$

*for  $_1\checkmark$  accept  $y$  read OR recorded;*

*for  $_2\checkmark$  control variables  $m$  OR  $L$  only;*

*$m =$  independent variable and  $L =$  control variable OR*

*$m =$  control variable and  $L =$  independent variable  $_{12}\checkmark\checkmark$*

*if  $L$  is being varied and  $m = 250$  g is stated, this can be taken as  $m =$  control variable and therefore known;*

*take a similar approach if  $m$  is being varied but in this case  $L$  must be less than 30 cm*

*idea that  $w$  and/or  $t$  are control variables is neutral*

*for more than one independent variable, eg variation of both  $m$  and*

*$L$   $_{12}XX$  but allow ecf for  $_4\checkmark$  as long as plot is valid, eg  $y$  against  $mL^3$*

2

suitable measuring instruments for  $L$ ,  $w$  and  $t$   $_3\checkmark$

*use of ruler to measure  $L$  AND use of micrometer screw gauge OR*

*digital / electronic callipers to obtain  $w$  and  $d$*

*procedures to reduce random / systematic error are neutral*

1

analysis:

suggests valid plot  $4\checkmark$

identifies correctly how  $E$  can be found  $5\checkmark$

for  $4\checkmark$  expect  $y$  [by itself or combined with another factor] on the vertical axis and their independent variable / some valid manipulation of their independent variable on the horizontal axis

for  $5\checkmark$   $E$  must be the subject of the expression given examples:

$$\text{plot } y \text{ against } m \quad 4\checkmark \quad E = \frac{4 \times L^3 \times g}{w \times t^3 \times \text{gradient}} \quad 5\checkmark$$

$$\text{plot } y \text{ against } L^3 \quad 4\checkmark \quad E = \frac{4 \times m \times g}{w \times d^3 \times \text{gradient}} \quad 5\checkmark$$

$$\text{plot } y \text{ against } \frac{4 \times L^3}{w \times t^3} \quad 4\checkmark \quad E = \frac{m \times g}{\text{gradient}} \quad 5\checkmark$$

$$\text{log } y \text{ against log } m \quad 4\checkmark \quad E = \frac{4 \times g \times L^3}{w \times t^3 \times 10^{\text{intercept}}} \quad 5\checkmark$$

$$\text{log } y \text{ against log } L \quad 4\checkmark \quad E = \frac{4 \times m \times g}{w \times t^3 \times 10^{\text{intercept}}} \quad 5\checkmark$$

2

[7]

2.

(a) correctly deduces extension is 2.6 or 2.7 mm  $\checkmark$

$$\text{Should see } AC^2 = 1.50^2 + (6.34 \times 10^{-2})^2;$$

$$\text{(new) } AC = 1.50134;$$

Extension of AC =  $(1.50134 - 1.50 =) 0.00134$  m or 1.34 mm; and then doubles this

Final value must be to at least 2 sf

1

(b) evidence of correct working: ✓

$$\sin \theta = \frac{6.34 \times 10^{-2}}{\text{their new AC}} \quad \text{or } \theta = 2.42^\circ \text{ seen}$$

OR

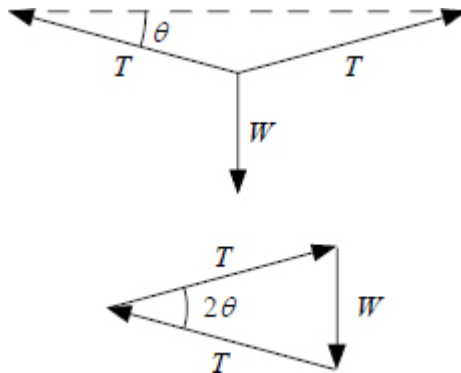
$$W = 2T \sin \theta \text{ seen}$$

OR

suitable vector diagram with  $\theta$  labelled

tension correctly calculated from  $\frac{1.0}{2 \times \text{their } \sin \theta}$  ✓

For 1✓ acceptable diagrams are shown below



Correct final answer of 11.8 N or 12 N earns both marks

(c) ruled best-fit line between first and sixth points;

line must pass above 2<sup>nd</sup> point

**and**

must pass below 4<sup>th</sup> point <sub>1</sub>✓

for <sub>1</sub>✓ withhold mark if line is thick, faint or discontinuous

gradient calculated from  $\frac{\Delta(W/y)}{\Delta y^2}$  with  $\Delta y^2 \geq 0.004$  <sub>2</sub>✓

(gradient ~ 3850)

for <sub>2</sub>✓ condone read off errors of  $\pm 1$  division

for <sub>3</sub>✓ note that  $1.50^3 = 3.375$  so allow sub of 3.38

for <sub>4</sub>✓ reject 2 sf  $1.2 \times 10^{11}$

evidence of using  $E = \frac{\text{their gradient} \times 1.50^3}{1.11 \times 10^{-7}}$  <sub>3</sub>✓

for <sub>3</sub>✓ note that  $1.50^3 = 3.375$  so allow sub of 3.38

$E$  in range  $1.10 \times 10^{11}$  to  $1.24 \times 10^{11}$  (Pa) <sub>4</sub>✓

for <sub>4</sub>✓ reject 2 sf  $1.2 \times 10^{11}$

4

(d)  $\text{kg s}^{-2}$  ✓

no credit for  $\text{N m}^{-1}$

correct answer only

1

[8]

3.

(a) Attempt to resolve **A** or **B** eg  $430 \times \cos 35^\circ$  or  $T_B \times \cos 12^\circ$  ✓

360 (N) ✓

If no other mark given, allow  $430 \times \sin 35^\circ = T_B \times \sin 12^\circ$  to give 1190 N for 1 mark.

2

(b) Substitution of  $F$  and  $A$  into Young modulus or stress equation ✓

$4.4 \times 10^{-2}$  (m) ✓

Condone POT error for Young modulus

2

- (c) Angle of **A** decreases or angle of **B** increases ✓

*Accept references to 35° or 12°*

Any correct application of trig or geometry to the situation

(eg  $T_B/T_A = \cos\theta_A/\cos\theta_B$  so as  $\theta_A$  decreases,  $\cos\theta_A$  increases,  $\cos\theta_B$  decreases, so  $T_B/T_A$  increases)

**OR**

eventually  $\theta_B$  will equal 35°,  $\theta_A = 12°$  so forces will be reversed (as system is symmetrical)

**OR**

sum of vertical components remains unchanged and vertical component of tension becomes less as angle **A** decreases ✓

*Allow idea that more of the weight is supported by B*

$T_A$  decreases, following some relevant discussion ✓

3

- (d) Greater rate occurs when pulses are shorter (in time)/less modal dispersion ✓

*Allow reverse arguments*

Smaller diameter (leads to less modal dispersion) means smaller range of path lengths ✓

*Accept idea of fewer reflections*

**X** is more suitable because narrower core leads to lower modal dispersion or reduced pulse broadening ✓

3

[10]

4.

- (a) 37.8 ✓

CAO

1

- (b) random (error)

condone 'statistical' ✓

*the following are neutral:*

*'parallax' / 'human (error)' / '(some) results are anomalous'*

1

(c) advantage (of using thinner beam):

(same load produces) larger (values of)  $s$  or wtte 1✓

so

the percentage uncertainty / error (in  $s$ ) is reduced 2✓

*for 1✓ accept 'beam bends / deflects more'*

*'beam extends more' / 'easier to bend' are neutral*

*for 2✓ the following are neutral:*

*'easier to make readings' / 'values (of  $s$ ) are more accurate' / 'more precise' / 'less mass needed' / 'wider range of readings'*

disadvantage (of beam bending more):

idea that beam may undergo plastic deformation 3✓

so

the graph will be non-linear / curve or wtte 4✓

**or**

beam 'may break' / 'slip off knife edges' **and** relevant comment about safety / health / hazard / 'cannot get unload data'

**or**

reduces range of  $m$  or wtte **and** relevant comment about the effect on the graph, eg increase scatter 34✓ = 1 MAX

*for 3✓ accept / 'beam may become permanently deformed' or wtte / 'necking may occur' / 'hysteresis may occur' / 'beam can reach (go past) elastic limit'*

*the following are neutral:*

*'causes systematic error' / 'beam may go past limit of proportionality' / 'need to increase height of supports' / 'beam may bend under own weight'*

MAX 3

(d)  $E \approx 10^9$

or

$1.14 \times 10^9$  seen 1✓

*for 1✓ accept  $10^9$  seen in working*

1

correct manipulation seen in **body of answer** of  $s = \frac{\eta m}{E}$  2✓

for 2✓ **either**

substitution of their  $E$  and data from **Figure 8**

leaving  $\eta$  as only unknown: allow POT in  $s$  but not in  $m$

$$\text{eg } \eta = \frac{\text{their } E \times 25.5 (\times 10^{-3})}{0.25} \text{ or}$$

substitution of their  $E$  and result of a gradient calculation: allow POT in  $\Delta s$  but not in  $\Delta m$

$$\text{eg } \eta = 1.14 \times 10^9 \times 1.02 (\times 10^{-1}) \text{ or}$$

calculation involving orders of magnitude (expect  $10^{-1}$  but allow  $10^2$  for gradient)

$$\text{eg } \eta \approx 10^9 \times 10^{-1}$$

2

correct raw result (allow POT in  $E$ ) 3✓

for 3✓ expect  $1.16 \times 10^8$  but allow 1 sf gradient eg leading to  $1.14 \times 10^8$

(on answer line) order of magnitude consistent with their raw result 4✓

for 4✓  $\eta = 10^8$  or 8 only; allow use of their  $E$

award 34✓ = 1 MAX for use of gradient  $\approx 100$

leading to order of magnitude =  $10^{11}$  or 11 only

1



(e) identifies that  $s$  and  $L$  are linked by a power law ✓

*accept any correct expression (unless there is talk-out) with  $s$  or  $\log s$  as the subject;*

*treat any quantities other than  $s$  and  $L$  as constant except  $E$  and  $\eta$*

*possible answers are:*

$$s \propto L^n$$

*allow  $s \propto L^m$  if  $m$  identified as constant*

$$s \propto L^3$$

$$s = kL^n$$

$$\log s = n \log L + (\log) k$$

$$\log s = 3 \log L + (\log) k$$

$$\log s = \log L^3 + (\log) k$$

*reject*

$$s = L^n$$

$$\log s = n \log L$$

$$\log s \propto n \log L$$

$$10^s \propto 10^L$$

*' $s$  and  $L$  are linked logarithmically'*

*' $s$  is directly proportional to  $L$ '*

1

(f)  $(\log L =) -0.097$  seen

*for 1✓ accept any  $\log L$  rounding to  $-0.097$ ;*

1

**or**

working on **Figure 5** confirming a value of  $\log L$  between  $-0.095$  and  $-0.100$  1✓

uses **Figure 5** to obtain  $s$  in range  $2.9$  to  $3.1 \times 10^{-2}$  (m) 2✓

*working can be suitable ruled line or mark on the best-fit line / on graph axes*

*for 2✓ accept 29, 30 or 31 mm etc*

*reject 1sf  $3 \times 10^{-2}$  (m)*

1

use of wrong base

$$\ln L = -0.22(3);$$

uses **Figure 5** to obtain  $s$  in range  $1.49$  to  $1.51 \times 10^{-1}$  or  $1.5 \times 10^{-1}$  (m) 12✓

*accept 15 cm etc*

- (g) use of **Figure 4** to determine  $M$  ✓  
 their (final answer to) (f)  $\times$  gradient of **Figure 4** ( $9.8 \pm 2.5\%$ )  
 minimum 2sf  
 condone use of 1sf s

1  
**[13]**

**5.**

- (a) Sum of / total clockwise moments = sum of / total anticlockwise moments ✓  
For a body in equilibrium ✓

2

- (b) Clockwise moments =  $2.0 \times 9.81 \times 0.25 + 0.65 \times 9.81 \times 0.45$   
 =  $7.77$  (N m) ✓

Anticlockwise moments =  $T \sin 30 \times 0.3$  ✓

$T \sin 30 \times 0.3 = 7.77$  or  $T = 7.77 / (\sin 30 \times 0.3)$  ✓

$T = 52.0$  (N) ✓

*First mark for clockwise moments, workings or correct answer.*  
*Second mark for anticlockwise moments.*  
*Third mark for equating clockwise and anticlockwise moments.*  
*Fourth mark for correct answer.*

4

- (c) tensile stress =  $52.0 / (7.8 \times 10^{-7}) = 6.6 \times 10^7$  ✓  
 tensile strain =  $6.6 \times 10^7 / (180 \times 10^9) = 3.7 \times 10^{-4}$  ✓

2

**[8]**