

Upper Sec Physics:

Year 3:

1. Physical Quantities and Units

2. Measurement Techniques

a. Random errors

- i. Occur in all measurements, cannot be predicted. Take many readings and find average to reduce random errors.

b. Systematic errors

- i. Constant, usually due to equipment used. (eg zero error) Cannot be reduced by averaging.

3. Waves

a. Longitudinal waves

- i. Waves travel in direction parallel to direction of vibration of particles

b. Transverse waves

- i. Waves travel in direction perpendicular to direction of vibration of particles

c. Definitions

- i. Peak/Crest: The high point of a wave
- ii. Trough: The low point of the wave
- iii. Amplitude (a): The maximum displacement from the rest position
- iv. Wavelength (λ): The distance between any two identical points on successive waves
- v. Frequency (f): The number of complete waves generated per second (measured in Hz, ie s^{-1})
- vi. Period (T): Time taken to generate 1 complete wave
- vii. Speed (v): Distance moved by a wave in one second

d. Equations:

- i. $T = \frac{1}{f}$

- ii. $v = f\lambda = \frac{\lambda}{T}$

e. Refraction of waves:

- f. $\frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_1} = \frac{v_2}{v_1} = \frac{n_1}{n_2}$

4. Electromagnetic Spectrum

- a. All travel at $3 * 10^8 \text{ ms}^{-1} = 300,000 \text{ km/s}$

5. Sound and CRO

a. Travels by vibrations in particles

- i. Compressions are regions of highest pressure
- ii. Rarefactions are regions of lowest pressure

- b. Humans hear 20 Hz to 20,000 Hz (audible range)

6. Lenses

a. Definitions

- i. Principal axis: Line passing through optical centre and perpendicular to plane of the lens
- ii. Optical centre: Point midway between the lens surfaces on its principal axis
- iii. Principal focus (aka Focal point): Point on the principal axis where light rays parallel to principal axis converge
- iv. Focal length (f): Distance between optical centre and principal focus
- v. Focal plane: Vertical plane passing through principal focus

b. $\frac{1}{u} + \frac{1}{v} = \frac{1}{f}$

- i. u: object distance
- ii. v: image distance (positive v denotes real image, negative v denotes virtual image)
- iii. f: focal length

c. Magnification = $\frac{\text{image height}}{\text{object height}} = \frac{\text{image distance}}{\text{object distance}}$ (by similar triangles)

7. Kinematics

a. Definitions (Vector units represent both magnitude and direction)

- i. Displacement (s): Distance moved in a particular direction
- ii. Velocity (initial: u, final: v): Rate of change of displacement
- iii. Acceleration (a): Rate of change of velocity
- iv. Time (t): Amount of time elapsed

b. Gravitational acceleration (g): 9.81 ms^{-2} (occurs during 'freefall')

c. 'SUVAT' equations

- i. $s = \frac{1}{2}(u + v)t$
- ii. $v = u + at$ OR $a = \frac{v-u}{t}$
- iii. $s = ut + \frac{1}{2}at^2$
- iv. $s = vt - \frac{1}{2}at^2$
- v. $v^2 = u^2 + 2as$

8. Scalars and Vectors

a. For separating vectors into 2 perpendicular components, (magnitude x)

- i. $x \cos \theta$ for the component adjacent to angle θ
- ii. $x \sin \theta$ for the component opposite to angle θ

9. Dynamics and Forces I and Gravitational Fields

a. $F_{grav} = mg$

- i. F_{grav} is gravitational force, N
- ii. m is mass of object, kg

- iii. g is gravitational field strength (ie 9.81), N kg^{-1}
- b. $F_{net} = ma$
 - i. F_{net} is net force, N
 - ii. m is mass of object, kg
 - iii. a is acceleration, m s^{-2}

10. Dynamics and Forces II (Moments)

- a. $T = Fd$
 - i. T is moment, N m
 - ii. F is the force, N
 - iii. d is the perpendicular distance from direction of force to pivot
- b. Principle of moments
 - i. For a body in rotational equilibrium about any point,
 - ii. the sum of clockwise moments is equal to the sum of anticlockwise moments.
- c. Centre of gravity (CG)
 - i. The point through which the whole weight of an object seems to act on.

11. Work, Energy and Power

- a. Principle of conservation of energy
 - i. The total energy in an isolated system remains constant, although it can change its form and flow from one body to another.
- b. $E_k = \frac{1}{2}mv^2$
 - i. E_k is kinetic energy, J
 - ii. m is mass of object, kg
 - iii. v is velocity, m s^{-1}
- c. $E_p = mgh$
 - i. E_p is gravitational potential energy, J
 - ii. M is mass of object, kg
 - iii. g is gravitational field strength (ie 9.81), N kg^{-1}
 - iv. h is height, m (relative)
- d. $W = Fs$
 - i. W is work done, J
 - ii. F is force, N
 - iii. s is displacement, m
- e. $P = \frac{W}{t} = Fv$
 - i. P is power, W
 - ii. W is work done, J
 - iii. t is time, s
 - iv. F is force, N
 - v. v is velocity, m s^{-1}

12. Pressure

- a. $p = \frac{F}{A}$
 - i. Pressure (Pa) is Force (N) over Area (m^2)
- b. $p = h\rho g$ (For liquid column)
 - i. p is pressure due to liquid column, Pa
 - ii. h is height of column (vertical), m
 - iii. ρ is density of liquid, $kg\ m^{-3}$
 - iv. g is gravitational field strength (ie 9.81), $N\ kg^{-1}$
- c. $\frac{p_i V_i}{t_i} = \frac{p_f V_f}{t_f}$
 - i. Initial pressure (Pa) multiplied by initial volume (m^3) over initial temperature (K) is equal to final pressure multiplied by final volume over final temperature
- d. Barometer
 - i. Atmospheric pressure (at sea level) will support a column of mercury 0.76m high
 - ii. Standard atmospheric pressure = $(0.76)(13.6 \times 10^3)(9.81)$
 $= 1.01325 \times 10^5\ Pa$
- e. Manometer
 - i. U-tube used to measure pressure difference
 - ii. $p = p_0 + h\rho g$
- f. Hydraulic press
 - i. Since $p_1 = p_2$
 1. Pressure on both sides must be the same
 - ii. Hence $\frac{F_1}{A_1} = \frac{F_2}{A_2}$
 1. The smaller the area, the smaller the force needed
 - iii. Since $V_1 = V_2$
 1. Volume of hydraulic fluid moved remains the same on both sides
 - iv. Hence $A_1 d_1 = A_2 d_2$
 1. The side with a smaller area will need to move more distance (press down more)

13. Kinetic Model of Matter

- a. Proposes that:
 - i. All matter is composed of a very large number of microscopic particles
 - ii. Particles are in a state of continuous random motion
 - iii. A higher temperature corresponds to greater average particle kinetic energies
- b. Evidences:
 - i. Brownian motion

ii. Diffusion

14. Temperature

- a. Temperature is the measure of average kinetic energy of the molecules in an object.
- b. Thermometer calibration
 - i. Ice point: Freezing/melting point, 0°C
 - ii. Steam point: Boiling/condensing point, 100°C
 - iii. $\theta = \frac{x_\theta - x_0}{x_{100} - x_0} \times 100$
 1. Where θ is the temperature on Celsius scale
- c. Kelvin Scale (AKA Absolute Zero Scale)
 1. 0 K = -273.15°C

15. Thermal Properties of Matter

Measure	Definition	Equation	Units
Heat capacity	Amount of thermal energy require to raise the temperature of the body by 1 K or 1°C	$C = \frac{Q}{\Delta\theta}$	J K ⁻¹ OR J °C ⁻¹
Specific heat capacity	Amount of thermal energy required to raise the temperature of a unit mass of the material by 1 K or 1°C	$c = \frac{Q}{m\Delta\theta}$	J kg ⁻¹ K ⁻¹ OR J kg ⁻¹ °C ⁻¹
Latent heat of fusion	The energy needed to change a substance from solid to liquid without change in temperature		J
Specific latent heat of fusion	The amount of energy needed to change a unit mass of the substance from solid to liquid without a change in temperature	$l_f = Q/m$	J kg ⁻¹
Latent heat of vaporization	The energy needed to change a substance from liquid to gas without a change in temperature		J
Specific latent heat of vaporization	The amount of energy needed to change a unit mass of the substance from liquid to gas without a change in temperature	$l_v = Q/m$	J kg ⁻¹

Year 4:

16. Electric Fields

17. Current of Electricity

a. Current

- i. Conventional current flow is the flow of positive charges, opposite to electron flow
- ii. $I = \frac{Q}{t}$ (1 Ampere of current is 1 Coulomb of charge flowing through in 1 second)

b. Electromotive force (EMF) / Current

- i. $\epsilon/V = \frac{W}{Q}$
- ii. $P = VI$

c. Resistance/resistivity

- i. $V = RI$ OR $R = \frac{V}{I}$
- ii. Resistivity is measure of resistance of conductor (excluding circumstances)
 1. $R = \frac{\rho l}{A}$
 2. Resistance $\rightarrow \Omega$
 3. Resistivity $\rightarrow \Omega \text{ m}$

18. D.C. Circuits

a. Series

- i. Current at every point in circuit is the same
- ii. EMF is equal to sum of PD
- iii. $R_{eff} = R_1 + R_2 + \dots + R_n$

b. Parallel

- i. Current from source is equal to sum of currents on branches
- ii. PD across each separate branch is the same
- iii. $\frac{1}{R_{eff}} = \frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2} + \dots + \frac{1}{R_n}$

19. Practical Electricity

a. Equations

- i. $P = VI = \frac{E}{t}$
- ii. Therefore $E = Pt = VIt$

b. Electricity is often measured in kW h, which is equal to $3.6 \times 10^6 \text{ J}$

20. Magnetic Fields

21. Electromagnetism

22. Electromagnetic Induction

23. Alternating Current