

WORKSHEET

Errors & Uncertainties

AS Level Physics 9702

9702/MJ/23/22/Q1

1 (a) (i) Define pressure.

.....
 [1]

(ii) Use the answer to (a)(i) to show that the SI base units of pressure are $\text{kg m}^{-1} \text{s}^{-2}$.

[1]

(b) A horizontal pipe has length L and a circular cross-section of radius R . A liquid of density ρ flows through the pipe. The mass m of liquid flowing through the pipe in time t is given by

$$m = \frac{\pi(\rho_2 - \rho_1)R^4 \rho t}{8kL}$$

where p_1 and p_2 are the pressures at the ends of the pipe and k is a constant.

Determine the SI base units of k .

SI base units [3]

(c) An experiment is performed to determine the value of k by measuring the values of the other quantities in the equation in (b).

The values of L and R each have a percentage uncertainty of 2%.

State and explain, quantitatively, which of these two quantities contributes more to the percentage uncertainty in the calculated value of k .

.....

 [1]

[Total: 6]

2 (a) (i) Define power.

.....
 [1]

(ii) Use the definition of power to show that the SI base units of power are $\text{kg m}^2 \text{s}^{-3}$.

[1]

(b) The intensity I of a sound wave moving through a gas is given by

$$I = f^2 A^2 v k$$

where f is the frequency of the wave,
 A is the amplitude of the wave,
 v is the speed of the wave
 and k is a constant that depends on the gas.

Determine the SI base units of k .

SI base units [3]

[Total: 5]

3 (a) Underline **all** the SI base units in the following list.

ampere coulomb current kelvin newton [1]

(b) A toy car moves in a horizontal straight line. The displacement s of the car is given by the equation

$$s = \frac{v^2}{2a}$$

where a is the acceleration of the car and v is its final velocity.

State **two** conditions that apply to the motion of the car in order for the above equation to be valid.

- 1
- 2 [2]

(c) An experiment is performed to determine the acceleration of the car in (b). The following measurements are obtained:

$$s = 3.89\text{ m} \pm 0.5\%$$

$$v = 2.75\text{ m s}^{-1} \pm 0.8\%$$

(i) Calculate the acceleration a of the car.

$$a = \dots\dots\dots \text{ m s}^{-2} \text{ [1]}$$

(ii) Determine the percentage uncertainty, to two significant figures, in a .

$$\text{percentage uncertainty} = \dots\dots\dots \% \text{ [2]}$$

(iii) Use your answers in (c)(i) and (c)(ii) to determine the absolute uncertainty in the calculated value of a .

$$\text{absolute uncertainty} = \dots\dots\dots \text{ m s}^{-2} \text{ [1]}$$

[Total: 7]

4 (a) State what is meant by work done.

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

(b) Use the answer to (a) to determine the SI base units of power.

SI base units [2]

(c) The maximum useful output power P of a car travelling on a horizontal road is given by

$$P = v^3 b$$

where v is the maximum speed of the car and b is a constant.

For the car,

$$P = 84 \text{ kW} \pm 5\%$$

and $b = 0.56 \pm 7\%$ in SI units.

(i) Calculate the value of v .

$v = \dots\dots\dots \text{ms}^{-1}$ [2]

(ii) Determine the absolute uncertainty in the value of v .

absolute uncertainty = ms^{-1} [2]

[Total: 7]

- 5 (a) The boxes in Fig. 1.1 contain terms on the left-hand side and examples of these terms on the right-hand side.

Draw a line between each term on the left and the correct example on the right.

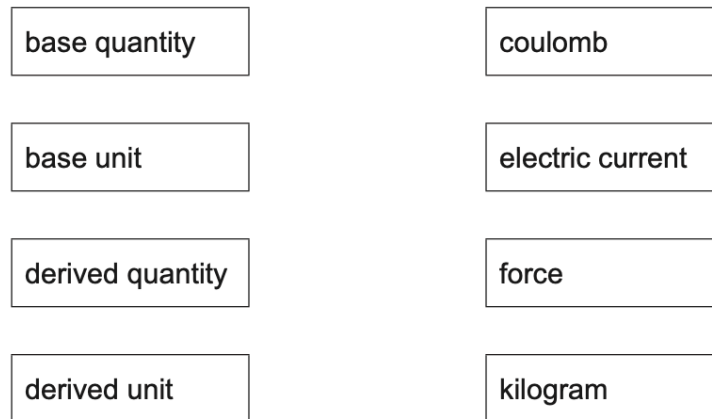


Fig. 1.1

[2]

- (b) A set of experimental measurements is described as precise and not accurate.

State what is meant by:

- (i) precise

.....
 [1]

- (ii) not accurate.

.....
 [1]

- (c) An object of mass m travels with speed v in a circle of radius r . The force F acting on the object is given by

$$F = \frac{mv^2}{r}.$$

The percentage uncertainties of three of the quantities are given in Table 1.1.

Table 1.1

quantity	percentage uncertainty
F	$\pm 3\%$
m	$\pm 4\%$
r	$\pm 5\%$

The value of v is determined from F , m and r .

- (i) Calculate the percentage uncertainty in v .

percentage uncertainty = % [2]

- (ii) The value of v is 15.0 m s^{-1} .

Calculate the absolute uncertainty in v .

absolute uncertainty = m s^{-1} [1]

[Total: 7]

6 (a) In the following list, underline all units that are SI base units.

ampere degree Celsius kilogram newton [1]

(b) Fig. 1.1 shows a horizontal beam clamped at one end with a block attached to the other end.

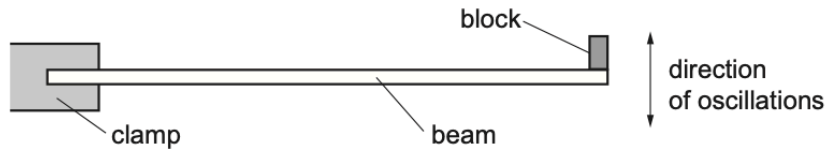


Fig. 1.1

The block is made to oscillate vertically.

The Young modulus E of the material of the beam is given by

$$E = \frac{kM}{T^2}$$

where M is the mass of the block,
 T is the period of the oscillations
 and k is a constant.

A student determines the values and percentage uncertainties of k , M and T .
 Table 1.1 lists the percentage uncertainties.

Table 1.1

quantity	percentage uncertainty
k	$\pm 2.1\%$
M	$\pm 0.6\%$
T	$\pm 1.5\%$

The student uses the values of k , M and T to calculate the value of E as 8.245×10^9 Pa.

(i) Calculate the percentage uncertainty in the value of E .

percentage uncertainty = % [2]

- 7 (a) A unit may be stated with a prefix that represents a power-of-ten multiple or submultiple.

Complete Table 1.1 to show the name and symbol of each prefix and the corresponding power-of-ten multiple or submultiple.

Table 1.1

prefix	power-of-ten multiple or submultiple
kilo (k)	10^3
tera (T)	
()	10^{-12}

[2]

- (b) In the following list, underline all the units that are SI base units.

ampere coulomb metre newton

[1]

- (c) The potential difference V between the two ends of a uniform metal wire is given by

$$V = \frac{4\rho LI}{\pi d^2}$$

where d is the diameter of the wire,
 I is the current in the wire,
 L is the length of the wire,
 and ρ is the resistivity of the metal.

For a particular wire, the percentage uncertainties in the values of some of the above quantities are listed in Table 1.2.

Table 1.2

quantity	percentage uncertainty
d	$\pm 3.0\%$
I	$\pm 2.0\%$
L	$\pm 2.5\%$
V	$\pm 3.5\%$

The quantities listed in Table 1.2 have values that are used to calculate ρ as $4.1 \times 10^{-7} \Omega \text{ m}$.

For this value of ρ , calculate:

(i) the percentage uncertainty

percentage uncertainty =% [2]

(ii) the absolute uncertainty.

absolute uncertainty = $\Omega \text{ m}$ [1]

[Total: 6]

- 8 (a) Define *density*.

.....
 [1]

- (b) A smooth pebble, made from uniform rock, has the shape of an elongated sphere as shown in Fig. 1.1.

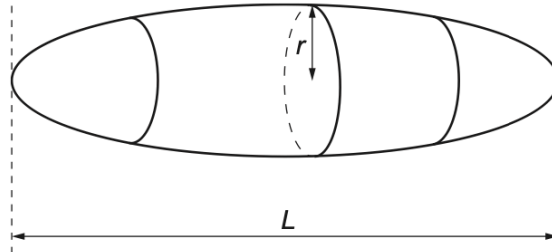


Fig. 1.1

The length of the pebble is L . The cross-section of the pebble, in the plane perpendicular to L , is circular with a maximum radius r .

A student investigating the density of the rock makes measurements to determine the values of L , r and the mass M of the pebble as follows:

$$L = (0.1242 \pm 0.0001) \text{ m}$$

$$r = (0.0420 \pm 0.0004) \text{ m}$$

$$M = (1.072 \pm 0.001) \text{ kg.}$$

- (i) State the name of a measuring instrument suitable for making this measurement of L .

..... [1]

- (ii) Determine the percentage uncertainty in the measurement of r .

percentage uncertainty = % [1]

(c) The density ρ of the rock from which the pebble in (b) is composed is given by

$$\rho = \frac{Mr^n}{kL}$$

where n is an integer and k is a constant, with no units, that is equal to 2.094.

(i) Use SI base units to show that n is equal to -2 .

[2]

(ii) Calculate the percentage uncertainty in ρ .

percentage uncertainty = % [3]

(iii) Determine ρ with its absolute uncertainty. Give your values to the appropriate number of significant figures.

$\rho = (\dots \pm \dots) \text{ kg m}^{-3}$ [3]

[Total: 11]

9 (a) Define *density*.

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.....
 [1]

(b) Fig. 1.1 shows a solid pyramid with a square base.

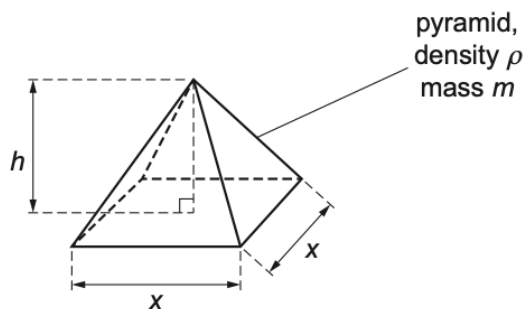


Fig. 1.1

The mass m of the pyramid is given by

$$m = \frac{1}{3}\rho hx^2$$

where ρ is the density of the material of the pyramid,
 h is the height, and
 x is the length of each side of the base.

Measurements are taken as shown in Table 1.1.

Table 1.1

quantity	measurement	percentage uncertainty
m	19.5 g	$\pm 2\%$
x	4.0 cm	$\pm 5\%$
h	4.8 cm	$\pm 4\%$

(i) Calculate the absolute uncertainty in length x .

absolute uncertainty = cm [1]

(ii) The density ρ is calculated from the measurements in Table 1.1.

Determine the percentage uncertainty in the calculated value of ρ .

percentage uncertainty = % [2]

(c) The square base of the pyramid in (b) rests on the horizontal surface of a bench.

Use data from Table 1.1 to calculate the average pressure of the pyramid on the surface of the bench. The uncertainty in your answer is not required.

pressure = Pa [3]

[Total: 7]

10 (a) Define *velocity*.

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

(b) The speed v of a sound wave through a gas of pressure P and density ρ is given by the equation

$$v = \sqrt{\frac{kP}{\rho}}$$

where k is a constant that has no units.

An experiment is performed to determine the value of k . The data from the experiment are shown in Fig. 1.1.

quantity	value	uncertainty
v	$3.3 \times 10^2 \text{ ms}^{-1}$	$\pm 3\%$
P	$9.9 \times 10^4 \text{ Pa}$	$\pm 2\%$
ρ	1.29 kg m^{-3}	$\pm 4\%$

Fig. 1.1

- (i) Use data from Fig. 1.1 to calculate k .

$k = \dots\dots\dots$ [2]

- (ii) Use your answer in (b)(i) and data from Fig. 1.1 to determine the value of k , with its absolute uncertainty, to an appropriate number of significant figures.

$k = \dots\dots\dots \pm \dots\dots\dots$ [3]

[Total: 6]

11 (a) The diameter d of a cylinder is measured as $0.0125\text{ m} \pm 1.6\%$.

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Calculate the absolute uncertainty in this measurement.

absolute uncertainty = m [1]

(b) The cylinder in (a) stands on a horizontal surface. The pressure p exerted on the surface by the cylinder is given by

$$p = \frac{4W}{\pi d^2}.$$

The measured weight W of the cylinder is $0.38\text{ N} \pm 2.8\%$.

(i) Calculate the pressure p .

$p =$ N m^{-2} [1]

(ii) Determine the absolute uncertainty in the value of p .

absolute uncertainty = N m^{-2} [2]

[Total: 4]

- 12 (a) An analogue voltmeter is used to take measurements of a constant potential difference across a resistor.

For these measurements, describe **one** example of

- (i) a systematic error,

.....
[1]

- (ii) a random error.

.....
[1]

- (b) The potential difference across a resistor is measured as $5.0\text{ V} \pm 0.1\text{ V}$. The resistor is labelled as having a resistance of $125\ \Omega \pm 3\%$.

- (i) Calculate the power dissipated by the resistor.

power = W [2]

- (ii) Calculate the percentage uncertainty in the calculated power.

percentage uncertainty = % [2]

- (iii) Determine the value of the power, with its absolute uncertainty, to an appropriate number of significant figures.

power = \pm W [2]

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 s
 CG, ISL, LA, LGS) [Total: 8]

- 13 One end of a wire is connected to a fixed point. A load is attached to the other end so that the wire hangs vertically.

The diameter d of the wire and the load F are measured as

$$d = 0.40 \pm 0.02 \text{ mm},$$

$$F = 25.0 \pm 0.5 \text{ N}.$$

- (a) For the measurement of the diameter of the wire, state

- (i) the name of a suitable measuring instrument,

.....[1]

- (ii) how random errors may be reduced when using the instrument in (i).

.....

.....

.....[2]

- (b) The stress σ in the wire is calculated by using the expression

$$\sigma = \frac{4F}{\pi d^2}.$$

- (i) Show that the value of σ is $1.99 \times 10^8 \text{ N m}^{-2}$.

[1]

- (ii) Determine the percentage uncertainty in σ .

percentage uncertainty =% [2]

- (iii) Use the information in (b)(i) and your answer in (b)(ii) to determine the value of σ , with its absolute uncertainty, to an appropriate number of significant figures.

$$\sigma = \dots\dots\dots \pm \dots\dots\dots \text{Nm}^{-2} \text{ [2]}$$

[Total: 8]

- 14 (a) Define *density*.

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.....
[1]

- (b) The mass m of a metal sphere is given by the expression

$$m = \frac{\pi d^3 \rho}{6}$$

where ρ is the density of the metal and d is the diameter of the sphere.

Data for the density and the mass are given in Fig. 1.1.

quantity	value	uncertainty
ρ	8100 kg m ⁻³	± 5%
m	7.5 kg	± 4%

Fig. 1.1

- (i) Calculate the diameter d .

$$d = \dots\dots\dots \text{m [1]}$$

- (ii) Use your answer in (i) and the data in Fig. 1.1 to determine the value of d , with its absolute uncertainty, to an appropriate number of significant figures.

$$d = \dots\dots\dots \pm \dots\dots\dots \text{ m [3]}$$

[Total: 5]

15 (a) Make estimates of

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(i) the mass, in kg, of a wooden metre rule,

$$\text{mass} = \dots\dots\dots \text{ kg [1]}$$

(ii) the volume, in cm^3 , of a cricket ball or a tennis ball.

$$\text{volume} = \dots\dots\dots \text{ cm}^3 \text{ [1]}$$

(b) A metal wire of length L has a circular cross-section of diameter d , as shown in Fig. 1.1.

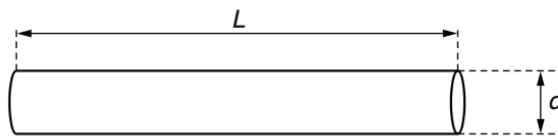


Fig. 1.1

The volume V of the wire is given by the expression

$$V = \frac{\pi d^2 L}{4}.$$

The diameter, length and mass M are measured to determine the density of the metal of the wire. The measured values are:

$$\begin{aligned} d &= 0.38 \pm 0.01 \text{ mm,} \\ L &= 25.0 \pm 0.1 \text{ cm,} \\ M &= 0.225 \pm 0.001 \text{ g.} \end{aligned}$$

Calculate the density of the metal, with its absolute uncertainty. Give your answer to an appropriate number of significant figures.

density = \pm kg m^{-3} [5]

[Total: 7]

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- 16 (a) Describe the effects, one in each case, of systematic errors and random errors when using a micrometer screw gauge to take readings for the diameter of a wire.

systematic errors:

.....

random errors:

.....

[2]

- (b) Distinguish between precision and accuracy when measuring the diameter of a wire.

precision:

.....

accuracy:

.....

[2]

[Total: 4]

- 17 (a) State two SI base quantities other than mass, length and time.

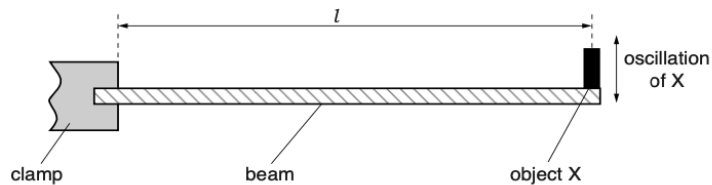
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1.

2.

[2]

- (b) A beam is clamped at one end and an object X is attached to the other end of the beam, as shown in Fig. 1.1.



The object X is made to oscillate vertically.

The time period T of the oscillations is given by

$$T = K \sqrt{\frac{Ml^3}{E}}$$

i Data in SI units for the oscillations of X are shown in Fig. 1.2.

quantity	value	uncertainty
T	0.45	$\pm 2.0\%$
l	0.892	$\pm 0.2\%$
M	0.2068	$\pm 0.1\%$
K	1.48×10^5	$\pm 1.5\%$

Fig. 1.2

Calculate E and its actual uncertainty.

$$E = \dots\dots\dots \pm \dots\dots\dots \text{kg m}^{-1} \text{s}^{-2} [4]$$

18 (a) Define *pressure*.

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..... [1]

(b) A cylinder is placed on a horizontal surface, as shown in Fig. 2.1.

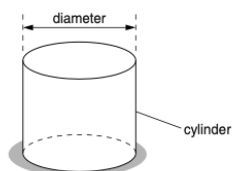


Fig. 2.1

The following measurements were made on the cylinder:

mass = 5.09 ± 0.01 kg

diameter = 9.4 ± 0.1 cm.

(i) Calculate the pressure produced by the cylinder on the surface.

pressure = Pa [3]

(ii) Calculate the actual uncertainty in the pressure.

actual uncertainty = Pa [3]

(iii) State the pressure, with its actual uncertainty.

pressure = \pm Pa [1]

1	Question	Answer	Marks
	1(a)(i)	force / area (normal to the force)	B1
	1(a)(ii)	$(p = F / A \text{ so units are}) \text{ kg m s}^{-2} / \text{m}^2 = \text{kg m}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-2}$	A1
	1(b)	unit of R : m and unit of t : s and unit of L : m	C1
		unit of ρ : kg m^{-3} or $\rho = m / V$	C1
		base units of k : $(\text{kg m}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-2} \times \text{m}^4 \times \text{kg m}^{-3} \times \text{s}) / (\text{kg} \times \text{m}) = \text{kg m}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$	A1
	1(c)	R contributes $4 \times 2\%$ or 8% (and L contributes 2%) so R contributes more (to the percentage uncertainty in k)	B1

2	Question	Answer	Marks
	1(a)(i)	work done per unit time	B1
	1(a)(ii)	$(P = W / t \text{ gives}) \text{ units: kg m}^2 \text{ s}^{-2} / \text{s} = \text{kg m}^2 \text{ s}^{-3}$	B1
	1(b)	$(I = P / A \text{ so}) \text{ units of } I: \text{kg m}^2 \text{ s}^{-3} / \text{m}^2 \text{ or } \text{kg s}^{-3}$	C1
		units of f : s^{-1} and units of A : m and units of v : m s^{-1}	C1
		units of k : $\text{kg s}^{-3} / [(\text{s}^{-1})^2 \text{m}^2 \text{m s}^{-1}]$ $= \text{kg m}^{-3}$	A1

3	Question	Answer	Marks
	1(a)	only ampere and kelvin underlined	B1
	1(b)	initial speed / velocity is zero	B1
		(non-zero magnitude of) acceleration is constant / uniform (and in a straight line)	B1
	1(c)(i)	$a = 2.75^2 / (2 \times 3.89)$ $= 0.97 \text{ m s}^{-2}$	A1
	1(c)(ii)	percentage uncertainty = $(2 \times 0.8) + 0.5$	C1
		$= 2.1\%$	A1
	1(c)(iii)	absolute uncertainty = $(2.1 / 100) \times 0.97$ $= 0.02 \text{ m s}^{-2}$	A1

4	Question	Answer	Marks
	1(a)	force \times displacement in the direction of the force	B1
	1(b)	$P = Fs / t$	C1
		$= (\text{kg m s}^{-2} \times \text{m}) / \text{s}$	
		$= \text{kg m}^2 \text{ s}^{-3}$	A1
	1(c)(i)	$84 \times 10^3 = v^3 \times 0.56$	C1
		$v = 53 \text{ m s}^{-1}$	A1
	1(c)(ii)	percentage uncertainty = $(5\% + 7\%) / 3 (= 4\%)$ or fractional uncertainty = $(0.05 + 0.07) / 3 (= 0.04)$	C1
		absolute uncertainty = 0.04×53	A1
		$= (\pm) 2 \text{ m s}^{-1}$	

5	Question	Answer	Marks
1(a)	<p>any two joined correctly</p>	C1	
		all four joined correctly	A1
1(b)(i)	the measurements have a small range		B1
1(b)(ii)	(average of the) measurements not close to the true value		B1
1(c)(i)	percentage uncertainty = $(3 + 5 + 4) / 2$		C1
		= 6%	A1
1(c)(ii)	absolute uncertainty = $(6 / 100) \times 15.0$		A1
		= 0.9 m s^{-1}	

6	Question	Answer	Marks
1(a)	10^{12}		B1
	pico (p)		B1
1(b)	ampere and metre both underlined (and no other units underlined)		B1
1(c)(i)	percentage uncertainty = $3.5 + (3.0 \times 2) + 2.5 + 2.0$		C1
		= 14%	A1
1(c)(ii)	absolute uncertainty = $4.1 \times 10^{-7} \times 14 / 100$		A1
		= $6 \times 10^{-8} \Omega \text{ m}$	

7	Question	Answer	Marks
1(a)	mass / volume		B1
1(b)(i)	(vernier/digital) calipers		B1
1(b)(ii)	percentage uncertainty = $(0.0004 / 0.0420) \times 100$		A1
		= 1%	
1(c)(i)	$\text{kg m}^{-3} = \text{kg} \times \text{m}^n / \text{m}$ or $\text{kg m}^{-3} = \text{kg} \times \text{m}^n \times \text{m}^{-1}$		M1
		$-3 = n - 1$ and (so) $n = -2$	A1
1(c)(ii)	$(\Delta\rho / \rho) = (\Delta M / M) + 2(\Delta r / r) + (\Delta L / L)$		C1
	percentage uncertainty = $[(0.001 / 1.072) + 2 \times (0.0004 / 0.0420) + (0.0001 / 0.1242)] (\times 100)$		C1
		= $0.09\% + 2 \times 0.95\% + 0.08\%$	A1
		= 2%	
1(c)(iii)	$\rho = (1.072 \times 0.0420^{-2}) / (2.094 \times 0.1242)$		C1
		= 2337 (kg m^{-3})	
	$\Delta\rho = 0.021 \times 2337$		C1
		= 49 (kg m^{-3})	
	$\rho = (2340 \pm 50) \text{ kg m}^{-3}$		A1

8	Question	Answer
	1(a)	mass / volume
	1(b)(i)	absolute uncertainty = $4.0 \times (5 / 100)$ = $(\pm) 0.2 \text{ cm}$
	1(b)(ii)	percentage uncertainty = $2 + 4 + (5 \times 2)$ = $(\pm) 16\%$
	1(c)	$p = F / A$ or $p = W / A$
		$p = (19.5 \times 10^{-3} \times 9.81) / (4.0 \times 10^{-2})^2$
		= 120 Pa

9	2(a)	(velocity =) change in displacement / time (taken)
	(b)(i)	$k = [1.29 \times (3.3 \times 10^2)^2] / 9.9 \times 10^4$
		$= 1.4$
	(b)(ii)	percentage uncertainty = $(3 \times 2) + 4 + 2$ (= 12%) or fractional uncertainty = $(0.03 \times 2) + 0.04 + 0.02$ (= 0.12)
$\Delta k = 0.12 \times 1.42$		
$= 0.17$ (allow to 1 significant figure)		
		$k = 1.4 \pm 0.2$
10	3(a)	absolute uncertainty = $(1.6 / 100) \times 0.0125$ $= 2 \times 10^{-4} \text{ m}$
	(b)(i)	$p = (4 \times 0.38) / (\pi \times 0.0125^2)$ $= 3100 \text{ N m}^{-2}$
	(b)(ii)	percentage uncertainty = $2.8 + (2 \times 1.6)$ (= 6%) or fractional uncertainty = $0.028 + (2 \times 0.016)$ (= 0.06)
absolute uncertainty = 0.06×3100 $= 190 \text{ N m}^{-2}$ (allow to 1 significant figure)		
11	(a)(i)	zero error or wrongly calibrated scale
	(a)(ii)	reading scale from different angles or wrongly interpolating between scale readings/divisions
	(b)(i)	$P = V^2 / R$ or $P = VI$ <u>and</u> $V = IR$
		$P = 5.0^2 / 125$ or 5.0×0.04 or $(0.04)^2 \times 125$ $= 0.20 \text{ W}$
	(b)(ii)	$\%V = 2\%$ or $\Delta V / V = 0.02$
		$\%P = (2 \times 2\%) + 3\%$ or $\%P = (2 \times 0.02 + 0.03) \times 100$ $= 7\%$
(b)(iii)	absolute uncertainty in $P = (7 / 100) \times 0.20$ $= 0.014$	
		power = $0.20 \pm 0.01 \text{ W}$ or $(2.0 \pm 0.1) \times 10^{-1} \text{ W}$

12	(a)(i)	micrometer (screw gauge)/digital calipers
	(a)(ii)	take several readings (and average)
		along the wire or around the circumference
	(b)(i)	$\sigma = 4 \times 25 / [\pi \times (0.40 \times 10^{-3})^2] = 1.99 \times 10^8 \text{ N m}^{-2}$ or $\sigma = 25 / [\pi \times (0.20 \times 10^{-3})^2] = 1.99 \times 10^8 \text{ N m}^{-2}$
	(b)(ii)	%F = 2% and %d = 5%
or $\Delta F / F = \frac{0.5}{25} \text{ and } \Delta d / d = \frac{0.02}{0.4}$		
% σ = 2% + (2 × 5%) or % σ = [0.02 + (2 × 0.05)] × 100 % σ = 12%		
(b)(iii)	absolute uncertainty = $(12/100) \times 1.99 \times 10^8$ = 2.4×10^7 $\sigma = 2.0 \times 10^8 \pm 0.2 \times 10^8 \text{ N m}^{-2}$ or $2.0 \pm 0.2 \times 10^8 \text{ N m}^{-2}$	

13 (a) (density =) mass / volume

(b) (i) $d = [(6 \times 7.5) / (\pi \times 8100)]^{1/3}$
= 0.12(1) m

(ii) percentage uncertainty = $(4 + 5) / 3$ (= 3%)
or
fractional uncertainty = $(0.04 + 0.05) / 3$ (= 0.03)

absolute uncertainty = 0.03×0.121 = 0.0036

$d = 0.121 \pm 0.004$ m

14 (a) (i) $(50 \text{ to } 200) \times 10^{-3} \text{ kg}$ or $(0.05 \text{ to } 0.2) \text{ kg}$

(ii) $(50 \text{ to } 300) \text{ cm}^3$

(b) density = mass / volume or $\rho = M / V$

$V = [\pi(0.38 \times 10^{-3})^2 \times 25.0 \times 10^{-2}] / 4$ (= $2.835 \times 10^{-8} \text{ m}^3$)

$\rho = (0.225 \times 10^{-3}) / 2.835 \times 10^{-8}$
= 7940 (kg m^{-3})

$\Delta\rho / \rho = 2(0.01/0.38) + (0.1/25.0) + (0.001/0.225)$ [= 0.061]
or

% ρ = 5.3% + 0.40% + 0.44% (= 6.1%)

$\Delta\rho = 0.061 \times 7940 = 480$ (kg m^{-3})

density = $(7.9 \pm 0.5) \times 10^3 \text{ kg m}^{-3}$ or $(7900 \pm 500) \text{ kg m}^{-3}$

15

(a) systematic: the reading is larger or smaller than (or varying from) the true reading by a constant amount

random: scatter in readings about the true reading

(b) precision: the size of the smallest division (on the measuring instrument)

or

0.01 mm for the micrometer

accuracy: how close (diameter) value is to the true (diameter) value

16

(a) temperature
current

(allow amount of substance, luminous intensity)

b (i) % uncertainty in $E = 4\%$ (for T^2) + 0.6% (for l^3) + 0.1% (for M) + 3% (for K^2)
= 7.7%

$$E = [(1.48 \times 10^5)^2 \times 0.2068 \times (0.892)^3] / (0.45)^2$$

$$= 1.588 \times 10^{10}$$

$$7.7\% \text{ of } E = 1.22 \times 10^9$$

$$E = (1.6 \pm 0.1) \times 10^{10} \text{ kg m}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-2}$$

17

(a) pressure = force / area (normal to the force) [clear ratio essential]

(b) (i) $P = mg / A = (5.09 \times 9.81) / A$

$$A = (\pi d^2 / 4) = \pi \times (9.4 \times 10^{-2})^2 / 4 (= 0.00694 \text{ m}^2)$$

$$P = 49.93 / 0.00694$$

$$= 7200 (7195) \text{ Pa (minimum of 2 s.f. required)}$$

(ii) $\Delta P / P = \Delta m / m + 2\Delta d / d$

$$= 0.01 / 5.09 + (2 \times 0.1) / 9.4 (= 0.0020 + 0.021 \text{ or } 2.3\%)$$

$$\Delta P = 170 (165 \text{ to } 167) \text{ Pa}$$

(iii) $P = 7200 \pm 200 \text{ Pa}$