AQA A-LEVEL PHYSICS · 7408

PHYSICS



MARK SCHEME

3.7.5 MAGNETIC FIELDS

SCORE	PERCENTAGE
/135	%

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Q1.

(a) The direction of the induced emf (when there is a change of flux linkage) is such that it will (try) to oppose the change (of flux) that is producing it ✓ owtte

A reference to emf is needed rather than induced current as this is dependent on a circuit. Ignore reference to current if emf is given.

1

(b) (The reading shows a dc) current flow which then becomes zero (when the magnet stops moving) ✓

The reading does not have to be steady. So reading increasing or pulsing up before falling to zero is okay. There should be no hint that the reading changes direction.

1

(c) (The induced current produces) a north pole on the right hand side of the coil ✓

which opposes the motion of the bar magnet

OR

and the two north poles repel each other

OR

to try to maintain the (small) magnetic field as the magnet approaches the coil (without this the magnet would increase the magnetic field beside the coil) ✓

The polarity of the coil may be shown on the diagram.

The two marks are independent but the second mark does not stand completely alone as it has to be said in context. EG 'Two North poles repel' on its own will not gain a mark.

2

(d) (Use of $\varepsilon = Blv$ as the straight leading edge of the coil is the only conductor that cuts the magnetic flux lines. Also using $v = s / t$)

$t = Bls/\varepsilon$ ✓

(There must be some evidence of use for the mark but the mark can come from substituting numbers, eg $t = 0.38 \times 0.032 \times 0.032 / 2.9 \times 10^{-4}$)

$t = 1.3(4)$ (s)✓

OR

(Using $\varepsilon = (-)N\,\Delta\varphi/\Delta t$ then $\Delta t = \Delta(BA)/\varepsilon$)

$t = BA/\varepsilon$ ✓

(There must be some evidence of use for the mark but the mark can come from substituting numbers, eg. $t = 0.38 \times .032^2 / 2.9 \times 10^{-4}$)

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t = 1.3(4) (s) ✓

Useful numbers BA = 3.89×10^{-4}

Although the first mark can come from substituting numbers the equation mark may be lost if it is obvious that the equation is not understood by the way substitutions are made (this does not include a simple AE slip). This loss of a mark is directed at the candidate who quotes several equations and happens to hit on the correct equation but fails to use it properly.

Failure to square the side length is a PE.

Answer only gains 2 marks.

2

(e) (using $\varepsilon = BAN\omega \sin \omega t$ which give a maximum value of $\varepsilon_{max} = BAN\omega$)

ω (= ε_{max} /BAN) = 5.1×10^{-3} /$(0.38 \times (0.032)^2$. ✓

ω = 13(.1) (rad s^{-1}) ✓

Candidates who cannot maximise/remove sin ωt gain no marks.

{may see $\omega = 5.1 \times 10^{-3} / 3.9 \times 10^{-4}$}.

2

[8]

Q2.

C

[1]

Q3.

C

[1]

Q4.

A

[1]

Q5.

(a) attempt to apply principle of moments either about pivot or (LH) end of ruler $_1$✓

mass = 127(.04) (g) $_2$✓

assumption is that ruler is <u>uniform</u> / <u>mass</u> evenly distributed **OR**

<u>weight</u> acts at the centre/mid-point/middle **OR**

<u>centre of mass</u> / gravity is at the centre/mid-point/middle $_3$✓

for $_1$ ✓ for evidence of moments taken expect clockwise and anticlockwise moment;

for moment about pivot expect to see either 29 or 49; for use

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of LH end of ruler expect 30 or 50

don't insist on seeing masses in kg, distances in m or the inclusion of 9.81 or g in the working; condone g seen on one side only

rounding to 127 g earns $_1$✓ *and* $_2$✓

3

(b) force on wire is upwards **OR** ↑ $_1$✓

current is from **P** to **Q** **OR** rightwards **OR** (left) to (the) right **OR** → $_2$✓

states direction of force and direction of current (or $_3$✓= 0) and makes a suitably justified deduction, eg

using left-hand rule **OR** LH rule

AND

B is into the page **OR** into plane of **Figure 3** **OR** ⊗ $_3$✓

for $_1$✓ *condone 'motion is upwards'*

for $_2$✓ *'towards Q'* ***OR*** *'positive to negative' are not enough*

allow logically correct (using LH rule) $_3$✓ *for either downwards force with correct current* ***AND/OR*** *upwards force with wrong current*

increased flux density below wire is acceptable alternative to LH rule

3

(c) gradient calculated from ΔM divided by ΔI, condone read off errors of ± 1 division; minimum I step ≥ 2.0 A $_1$✓

evidence of g = 9.81 or 9.8 correctly used in working for σ or B $_2$✓

$|B|$ in range 1.76×10^{-2} to 1.87×10^{-2} or 1.8×10^{-2} (T) $_3$✓

for $_1$✓ *expect (–)0.28 (g A*$^{-1}$*); do not penalise for missing – sign*

for $_2$✓ *look for σ = their gradient × 9.81 (× 10*$^{-3}$ *N)*

OR $B = \dfrac{\text{their gradient} \times 9.81\left(\times 10^{-3}\right)}{15\left(\times 10^{-2}\right)}$ *; condone POT errors*

for $_3$✓*CAO by correct method only; ignore – sign if provided; no limit on maximum sf*

3

(d)

	Reduced	**No effect**	**Increased**
Force acting on wire		$_1$✓	
Force acting on prism	$_2$✓		
Gradient of graph	$_3$✓		

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Vertical intercept	$_4$✓		

$_1$✓ = 1 mark

$_2$✓ = 1 mark

$_3$✓ and $_4$✓ = 1 mark

allow any distinguishing mark as long as only one per row

for ✓ and ✗ in same row ignore ✗

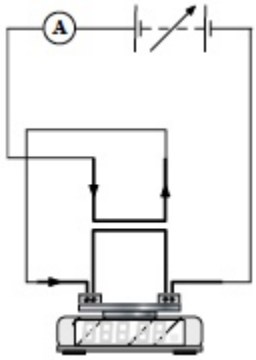
for ✓ and ✓ in same row give no mark

ignore any crossed-out response unless only distinguishing mark on row

3

(e) any complete circuit connecting the power supply in **Figure 6** to **X** and to **Y** that produces currents in **X** and in **Y** that travel left to right $_1$✓

wiring correct so that **X** and **Y** are in series (see below) $_2$✓



allow parallel circuit for $_1$✓ but reject use of additional power supply

*if **X** and/or **Y** is/are short-circuited award no marks;*

for impractical circuits eg voltmeter added in series, award no marks

ignore any current arrows added to diagram

2

(f) strategy:

states that readings of M (as the dependent variable) will be measured for different values of independent variable, I or d only $_1$✓

clearly identifies the correct control variable, d or I only;

condone $\frac{d}{L}$ = constant if I varied **OR** I^2L OR IL = constant if d varied;

it must be clear how the value of the control variable is known $_2$✓

states that L will be measured or gives value eg L = 5.0 cm $_3$✓

use of g to convert M reading to F; evidence may be found in expression for k $_4$✓

for $_1$✓ condone F identified as the dependent variable or as

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the balance reading;

reject 'measure change in mass / change in F'

failure to make M or F the dependent variable cannot score 1✓ or 2✓

for 2✓if d is being varied and I = 5.0 A is stated, this can be taken to mean I is the control variable and the value is known

*for 1✓ and for 3✓ insist that M and L are being <u>read</u> **OR** <u>measured</u> **OR** <u>recorded</u>*

for 4✓ 'work out force' is not enough; reject 'acceleration' for g

MAX 3

analysis:

suggests a plot with M or F [by itself or combined with another factor] on the vertical axis and some <u>valid manipulation</u> of their independent variable on the horizontal axis 5✓

identifies correctly how k can be found using the gradient of their graph; k must be the subject of the expression given 6✓ **OR**

if suggesting a plot with log M or log F on the vertical axis etc identifying correctly how k can be found from the graph intercept 6✓

OR

suggesting a plot with M or F on the vertical axis etc and identifying correctly how k is found using the area under the line 56 ✓ = 1 MAX

the intention to plot M against I^2 is taken to mean that M is the <u>dependent</u> variable and is plotted on the vertical axis

examples: plot M against I^2 will earn 5✓

and then $k = \frac{g \times d \times \text{gradient}}{L}$ will earn 6✓

or plot F against $\frac{1}{d}$ will earn 5✓ and then

$k = \frac{\text{gradient}}{I^2 \times L}$ *will earn 6✓ (note that when F is the dependent variable g will not appear in the expression for k)*

2

[19]

Q6.

(a) Vertically up (third row of table) ✓

1

(b) (Using Flemings LHR) the configuration of the letters is S
N ✓

Answer must be near / on the dashed lines.

1

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(c) The tesla is the (strength) of the magnetic field / flux density that produces a force of 1 newton in a wire of length 1m with 1 ampere (flowing perpendicular to the field). ✓
(owtte but must contain 1N, 1A and 1m)

For mark a reference to 1N, 1A and 1m must be seen. However the word 'unit' is equivalent to '1'.

E.g. unit force = 1N.

Do not allow definitions based on F = Bqv.

1

(d) Use of ($B = F / I l$) = $m g / I l$ ✓ (mark may come from substitution as in next line)

Treat power of 10 error as an AE so lose one mark only.

$B = 0.620 \times 10^{-3} \times 9.81 / (3.43 \times 0.0500) = 0.035$ or 0.036 (T) ✓

Lack of use of 'g' is a PE and scores zero.

2

[5]

Q7.

(a) It is not possible as the force (due to the magnetic field) is perpendicular to the motion / direction of travel / velocity ✓
(it can only change the charged particle's direction or alternatively no work is done on the proton)
Or
No component of force in the direction of motion.

The main part being examined is the reference to the force being perpendicular to the motion.

1

(b) $B Q v = m v^2 / r$ ✓

$t_{\text{semi-circle}}$ (= distance / speed) = $\pi r / v$
Or use of t_{circle} (= distance / speed) = $2 \pi r / v$ ✓(this mark can only be awarded if it follows an attempt to answer the first mark)
combining gives
($t_{\text{circle}} = 2\pi m / B Q$ so)
$t_{\text{semi-circle}} = \pi m / B Q$
(which does not contain r / is independent of r) ✓

Accept 'e' if used instead of 'Q'

Alternatives can be given for the first two marks.

1st needs a centripetal force term.

2nd is a circular motion expression to enable r to be removed.

3

(c) (rearranging first equation in (b) or from data booklet $v = B Q r / m$)
$v = 0.44 \times 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \times 0.55 / 1.67 \times 10^{-27}$ ✓
$v = 2.3 \times 10^7$ (m s^{-1}) ✓

Correct answer scores both marks.

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2

[6]

Q8.

C

[1]

Q9.

(a) Ionisation is when an atom / molecule loses (or gains) one (or more) electrons ✓

1

(b) Potential energy of ion is transferred to kinetic energy of ion✓

Power supply transfers energy to the ion✓

Decrease in energy stored in supply = increase in (kinetic) energy stored by the ion✓

3

(c) electric force is constant✓

magnetic force increases with speed✓

(magnetic force dominates) direction of force predicted by any consistent named force rule✓

3

(d) Path curves upwards between the plates✓

1

(e) The magnetic force is the same (Bqv) ✓

So *r* increases / less curvature✓

OR

$Bqv = \frac{mv^2}{r}$ so $r = \frac{mv}{Bq}$ ✓

v, B, q constant so $r \propto m$ and *r* increases✓

2

(f) Same path in velocity separator ✓

since Bqv=Eq so v independent of q ✓

In mass selector radius is decreased ✓

since $r = \frac{mv}{Bq}$ so $r \propto \frac{1}{q}$ ✓

Both correct with one correct justification would get 3 marks

MAX 3

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[13]

Q10.

(a) the core focuses / directs the magnetic field round to the secondary ✓

Ensures more of the flux from the primary coil links with the secondary coil

1

(b) made from soft iron to allow easy magnetization and demagnetization / reduce hysteresis loss ✓

laminated (structure) to reduce eddy currents ✓

made from high resistivity metal to reduce eddy currents ✓

Do not allow "reduce energy loss" as this is implicit in question.

MAX 2

(c) To produce a continually changing (magnetic) flux in the core ✓

1

(d) $N_P = N_S V_P / V_S = 300 \times 230 / 20 = 3500$ (3450) turns ✓

1

(e) efficiency = power out / power in = 65 / (230 × 0.30) ✓

= 0.94 ✓ or 94%

2

[7]

Q11.

B

[1]

Q12.

D

[1]

Q13.

A

[1]

Q14.

(a) period determined from at least 4 cycles, in range 3.8(0) to 5.0(0) × 10^{-4} s ✓

$\text{frequency} = \frac{1}{\text{period}}$ in range 2300 ± 300 Hz ✓

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accept 2 sf period, 2.3 × 10^3 Hz

2

(b) peak to peak voltage = 6.8 divisions seen ✓

rms voltage = 24 mV ✓

accept 24.0 or 24.1 mV

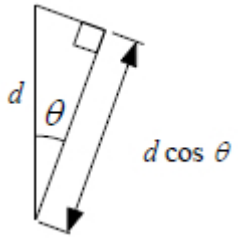
2

(c) flux linked with the search coil depends on the <u>area</u> of coil presented $_1$✓
area is proportional to $d\cos\theta_2$✓

[flux linked with the search coil depends on component of B perpendicular to the plane of the coil$_1$ ✓
component is prop $B\cos\theta$, or suitable sketch]$_2$ ✓

for $_1$ ✓ accept $N\varphi = BA$

for $_2$ ✓ accept evidence in sketch, e.g.



2

(d) six correctly calculated values of $\cos\theta$; accept all to 3 sf or all to 4 sf $_1$✓

axes labelled, correct separator and unit with l, suitable scales $_2$✓

plots correct to half a square (check at least one) $_3$✓

ruled straight line extrapolated to meet either or both axes $_4$✓

[for false plot allow $_2$✓ and $_4$✓ = 2 MAX]

θ/°	l/cm	$\cos\theta$
10	6.7	0.985
34	5.6	0.829
50	4.4	0.643
60	3.4	0.500
72	2.1	0.309
81	1.1	0.156

4

(e) direct proportionality is confirmed since graph is a straight line with zero [negligible] intercept✓

[allow ecf for false plot]

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must refer to intercept

1

(f) idea of repositioning trace $_1$✓

(to reposition the trace) so that an end of the line is aligned with [close to] a (horizontal) graduation $_2$✓

(to reposition the trace) so that the line is aligned with the central (vertical) graduation on the screen $_3$✓

associates *y*-shift and *x*-shift correctly with trace change $_4$✓

accept clear marks on Fig 7 for all except 4th point
allow alignment with graduation (can be major or minor) of either end of the line for$_2$✓

4

(g) adjust *y*-voltage gain to a less sensitive [precise] setting [20 mV cm^{-1}] ✓

since *I* is increased beyond the range of the screen [vertical length of trace is too great] ✓

because induced emf is proportional to rate of change of flux linkage [or quotes Faraday's Law] ✓

and rate of change of flux linkage is doubled [same flux change in half the time] ✓

accept 'reduce Y gain' but reject 'use lower Y gain setting'
no credit for suggestions that time-base setting should be changed
answer without quantitative detail 2 MAX

3 MAX

(h) evidence of suitable test employed to test whether curve shows exponential decrease, e.g. valid measurement of half life over more than one region $_1$✓

states that trend is not exponential $_2$✓

cannot earn $_2$✓ *without valid* $_1$✓

2

[20]

Q20.

A

[1]

Q21.

D

[1]

Q22.

C

[1]

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Q23.

B

[1]

Q24.

D

[1]

Q25.

(a) *(Faraday's law)*

(induced) emf ∝ rate of change of flux (linkage) ✓

(Lenz's law)

direction of induced emf (or current) ✓

is such as to oppose the change (in flux) producing it ✓

In either order.

Allow "(induced) emf = rate of change of flux linkage".

Ignore incorrect reference to names of laws.

3

(b) (i) current in coil produces magnetic field or flux (that passes through disc) ✓

rotating disc cuts flux inducing / producing emf **or** current (in disc) ✓

induced (eddy) currents (in disc) interact with magnetic field ✓

force on (eddy) currents slows (or opposes) rotation (of disc) ✓

***Alternative** for last two points:*

(eddy) currents in disc cause heating of disc ✓

energy for heating comes from ke of disc or vehicle (which is slowed) ✓

max 3

(ii) *Advantage*: any one ✓

- no material (eg pads or discs or drums) to wear out
- no pads needing replacement
- no additional (or fewer) moving parts

Disadvantage: any one ✓

- ineffective at low speed **or** when stationary
- dependent on vehicle's electrical system remaining in working order
- requires an electrical circuit (or source of electrical energy) to operate whereas pads do not

Answers must refer to advantages and disadvantages of the electromagnetic brake.

Only accept points from these lists.

2

[8]

Q26.

(a) (i) graph showing two pulses one at start and the other at the end with no emf between the pulses

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Positive and negative pulses shown

Similar shaped 'curved' pulses : negative between 0 and 0.22 ± 0.02 s and positive pulse 0.58 ± 0.02 and 0.8

3

(ii) emf induced when the flux is changing or induced emf depends on the rate of change of flux

emf induced when flux changes between 0 and 0.2(2) s and / or between 0.6(0.58)s and 0.8 s
OR
no change in flux between 0.2 and 0.6 so no induced emf

Induced emf / current produces a field to oppose the change producing it.

Flux linking bracelet increases as the bracelet enters the field produced by C and decreases as it leaves so opposite emfs

4

(b) (Takes 0.21 s or 0.22 s for flux to change from 0 to maximum so)
diameter = 0.28 × 0.21 = 0.059 (0.588) (m)
or 0.28 × 0.22 = 0.062 (0.616) (m)
must be to at least 2sf

1

(c) Area of bracelet = 3.14×0.031^2

$B = 1120 \times 10^{-6} / (3.14 \times 0.031^2) = 0.38$ (T)
$B = 0.40$ T if 3 cm used for radius
Condone incorrect power of 10
Allow answers in range 0.38T to 0.41 T (depends on value used for r)

2

(d) Use of steepest gradient of graph or tangent drawn on Figure 2
Correct data from tangent or points on the steepest part of the graph
10 to 11 mV

3

[13]

Q27.

A

[1]

Q28.

B

[1]

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Q29.

A

[1]

Q30.

C

[1]

Q31.

B

[1]

Q32.

(a) (i) meter deflects then returns to zero ✓
current produces (magnetic) field / flux ✓
change in field / flux through Q induces emf ✓
induced emf causes current in Q (and meter) ✓

Deflection to right (condone left) then zero is equivalent to 1st mark.

Accept momentary deflection for 1st point.

"Change in field / flux induces current in Q" is just ✓ from the last two marking points.

max 3

(ii) meter deflects in opposite direction (or to left, or ecf) ✓
field / flux through P is reduced ✓
induces emf / current in opposite direction ✓

Ignore references to magnitude of deflection.

max 2

(b) (i) flux linkage (= $n\Phi = nBA$) = 40 × 0.42 × 3.6 × 10^{-3}
= 6.0(5) × 10^{-2} ✓

Unit mark is independent.

Allow 6 × 10^{-2}.

Wb turns ✓

Accept 60 mWb turns if this unit is made clear.

Unit: allow Wb.

2

(ii) change in flux linkage = $\Delta(n\Phi)$= 6.05 × 10^{-2} (Wb turns) ✓

induced emf $\left(=\frac{\Delta(n\phi)}{\Delta t}\right) = \frac{6.05 \times 10^{-2}}{0.50}$ = 0.12(1) (V) ✓

Essential to appreciate that 6.05 × 10^{-2} is change in flux linkage for 1st mark. Otherwise mark to max 1.

2

[9]

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Q33.

(a) emf = $\Delta(BAN) / t$
Change in flux = $A \times \Delta B$ or $12 \times (23 - 9)$ seen

C1

Substitution ignoring powers of 10

C1

1.2 V

A1
3

(b) Reduced

M0

Magnet will move (with the case)

A1

Increased

M0

Flux linkage increases or emf is proportional to N

A1
2

(c) (i) Formula used
$2\pi\sqrt{\frac{8\times10^{-3}}{2.6}}$ seen

B1

0.348 / 0.349 seen to at least 3 sf

B1
2

(ii) Period consistent at 0.35 s or V_o = 8 V

B1

Shape shows decreasing amplitude

M1

At least 3 cycles starting at 8 V

A1
3

[10]

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Q1.

(a) Although a few students quoted Faraday's law of electromagnetic induction or some other rule, a majority gave the impression that they knew about Lenz's law. However, many failed to gain marks due to missing necessary details. The most common was to confuse the word 'opposite' with 'oppose'. A huge number of students wrote that the direction of the emf was opposite to the force, motion or flux change. Also, many students left out a reference to the emf and went straight for "the induced magnetic field opposes the change in flux". It was evident that very weak students did not think about the situation given, but instead tried to remember some law by heart. The sentences written by these students often did not make any sense. Only 21.4% of students gained a mark.

(b) A majority of students (53.9%) gave clear correct answers. Students failed to gain a mark mainly by not being clear about what happens when the magnet stops. To be awarded a mark, it needed to be explicitly stated that the reading falls to zero. Stating that "the dial stops" does not make it clear whether the reading retains its value or falls to zero.

(c) Less than a third of students were aware that it was a repulsion between magnetic fields that provided the opposition to movement. These students generally scored both marks and gave a good explanation. Many other students made statements like "the current is pointing in a direction opposite to the magnets movement, so this shows Lenz's law". They gave an answer in this form to match up with their previously wrong quote of Lenz's law. It appeared as if a majority of students did not appreciate that the opposition to the flux change manifests itself in a physical force that needs to be worked against.

(d) This question was tackled well by two-thirds of students, with the majority choosing to equate the rate of change of flux linkage to the emf. A simple, but common, error was to calculate the area wrongly. The side length was often seen doubled rather than squared.

(e) Students found this more difficult than the previous question (42.8% completely correct). A minority did know the emf equation to use but they could not obtain a maximum value. They failed to replace the trigonometric factor with 1.

Q2.

34.8% correct

Q3.

41.9% correct

Q4.

57.5% correct

Q5.

This question addressed some of the ideas behind required practical activity 10.

(a) Much of the working seen convinced examiners that the students had taken moments about the pivot, although some used 30.0 rather than 29.0 in the calculation. A few forfeited a mark by rounding their result to two significant figures. Weaker students attempted a solution based on proportions of the balance reading shown in Figure 2, while others simply copied the balance reading on to the answer line. While some stated the assumption they made was that the ruler was in equilibrium, examiners were looking for a statement implying that the ruler was uniform or that the centre of mass was at the 50 cm mark. Significant numbers of students gave a creditworthy assumption although those that stated “the ruler has uniform density” or “the mass is in the middle” were unsuccessful. Just over two-thirds of students scored at least one mark.

(b) The key failing of some students here was (surprisingly) that they seemed to think that the current direction was self-evident and not worthy of comment, even if they had correctly deduced the direction of the force (despite some tying themselves in knots with Newton’s third law). Some students relied on the examiners spotting relevant annotation made to Figure 3. Statements that the current was ‘from positive to negative’ or ‘clockwise’ were not accepted. Unless the directions of the force and the current were both stated, no credit was given for stating the direction of the field. Logically correct deductions, based on incorrect force and/or current directions, could score as long as the left-hand rule was mentioned in support. For these reasons, approximately a third of the students scored one of the three marks and nearly another third scored zero. Thankfully, 17.1% gave a detailed, fully-justified and correct response earning full credit.

(c) Most students recognised that they should find the gradient of the graph in Figure 4 to score the first mark, although a minority predictably failed to spot at least one of the false origins. Some mistakenly thought they should use the information in Figures 2 and 3, and others thought σ was the value of M when the current was 1 A. Correct use of 9.81 earned the second mark for many. While few students failed to correctly insert 5 cm into their calculation for B, most struggled with the various power of ten issues. This discriminated strongly in favour of the better students who could expect to score at least two marks.

(d) The first row of Table 1 attracted the most correct responses and thereafter things got patchier. Examiners needed to see correct responses in both row 3 and row 4 to earn the third marking point; this proved beyond all but the most able, with only 11.4% obtaining full credit.

(e) The need here to get the currents in X and Y travelling from left to right was met in most, but by no means all, solutions by drawing a parallel circuit. However, to guarantee that the currents had the same magnitude, X and Y needed to be in series. This involved a figure-of-eight arrangement; the subtlety of this was lost on all but 7.9% of the students. The majority of diagrams were drawn freehand and were often untidy so that, in some cases, gaps were left and no credit could be earned. The addition of superfluous detail such as a voltmeter sometimes led to unworkable circuits. A surprising proportion of students (11.5%) did not attempt this question.

(f) This was for many the most successful part of the paper, so much so that most students ran out of space in their enthusiasm to set out their solution. There were four marks available for outlining a suitable strategy and students could earn any three of these for maximum credit. In common with the approach on paper 7407/2, examiners insisted on seeing that the dependent variable, correctly identified as m or F, was ‘read’, ‘measured’ or ‘recorded’. These are the terms examiners expect students to use if similar questions are posed in future papers. Students were split on whether the perpendicular distance d or the current I would be the independent

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variable, but were nearly universal in their conviction that the balance reading would be the dependent variable. Despite being told that the pan of the balance moves a negligible amount during use, a few students decided that in varying I they could make d the dependent variable. Some students penalised themselves by overlooking the need to measure the length L of wire X. Others failed to clearly identify the remaining control variable and to state that this too should be measured. A few students thought the balance read the vertical force F directly, but many correctly saw the need to introduce g. The analyses given were impressive and varied; most could explain a relevant graph with m or F involved somewhere on the vertical axis. Examiners took statements such as “plot F against I 2” to mean that F was the dependent variable and would be plotted on the vertical axis, otherwise the use of the gradient to find k could not be verified. Most students gave an expression to show how their gradient could be manipulated to obtain k; examiners expected k to be the subject of this expression. There was strong representation at each mark for this question, from zero to five; 16% of students obtained full credit for their answer.

Q6.

(a) Many students failed to use the concept of Newton III and incorrectly chose the fourth alternative.

(b) More students got this incorrect than got it correct. So again it appeared that errors came in the practical use of Newton’s third law. Some students wrote some side notes referring to Fleming’s left hand rule and they still made errors.

(c) This was the lowest scoring question on the paper. Most students interpreted the question as, ‘What is a tesla equal to?’ Most answers seen were based on formulae that happen to contain B, the magnetic field strength. So an answer such as, ‘The tesla is the force per unit current per unit length’, was one of the better attempts, but even here the tesla is being described in the wrong units. The least able students did not even get this far and simply gave vague answers such as, “it’s used for magnetic fields”.

(d) A majority of students tackled this question with little trouble. The most common error was in failing to convert the mass from g to kg.

Q7.

(a) Most students did not pick-up on the idea that the force is perpendicular to the motion. These students often searched for something to explain the situation, by writing something like, “the magnetic field is static or uniform so it can’t affect the speed”. A few students did know the answer had to do with directions, but only said the magnetic field was perpendicular to the motion, which misses the point.

(b) More than half the students could present the starting equation relating the force due to the magnetic field, to the centripetal force. Many continued to successfully find an expression for the period of motion. However, only some of these referred back to the question to give the time to travel round one semi-circle. Many of the other students got into difficulties if their initial expression for the centripetal force did not involve velocity. From this point on, they often took numerous false trails and the work presented looked very disorganised. Another route taken by some was to reduce their first equation to $R = mv / BQ$ and simply say that this radius does not involve time and is constant. This not only re-writes the question, but misses the point that v is different on each transit.

(c) This calculation was done well by the majority of students. There were also very

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few errors shown in the numerical calculations. The weaker scripts either showed students producing the wrong equation, or not rearranging the equation correctly.

Q20.

This question, concerning the magnitude and direction of the force acting on a current-carrying wire in a uniform magnetic field, was the easiest question (facility 88%). Evidently the application of $F = B I l$ together with Fleming's left hand rule caused few problems.

Q21.

This question required students to decide through what angle (in rad), and in which direction, a coil should be rotated in order to achieve maximum and minimum values of flux linkage. 66% of them were successful. Distractor A, which was almost the exact opposite of the correct answer, was the most popular incorrect response.

Q22.

A straightforward calculation of the emf induced in a moving straight conductor (using $\varepsilon = B l v$) was all that was needed. 68% of the students did this correctly. One in five of them selected distractor B, which could follow from an incorrect formula or substitution ($\varepsilon = B v / l$).

Q23.

This question tested students' knowledge of the flux linkages and currents in the primary and secondary windings of a step-up transformer. The same question had been used in an earlier examination. The facility this time was 54%, up from 46% when used previously.

Q24.

This question, with a facility of 86%, was one of the easiest questions in this test. Students readily appreciated that the real reason that power lines are operated at high voltage is that this reduces the current, hence lowering joule heating losses from the cables.

Q25.

Examiners were looking for precise statements of Faraday's and Lenz's laws, in the most general forms, in part (a). In Faraday's law, for instance, the induced emf is *proportional* to the rate of change of flux, but is *equal* to the rate of change of flux linkage. In statements of Lenz's law it was necessary to refer to the *direction* of the induced emf (or current), and to the *change* producing it, for full credit.

In some cases the operation of the electromagnetic brake in part (b)(i) was well understood, but in most cases it was not. Common errors were to consider the metal disc as a permanent magnet that would induce a current in the coil, or to suggest that the pole pieces would clamp onto the disc in the manner of brake pads, or to consider the current in the coil as an alternating one. Many answers just gained the first mark by understanding that the current in the coil would create a magnetic field across the disc. Recognition of the flux cutting by the rotating disc that would give an emf and current in the disc was much rarer, or less explicit. The exact cause of the force on the disc – the force on the disc's induced currents in the field of the electromagnet – was seldom identified. Attempts to apply Lenz's law were usually much too vague to deserve credit. The retardation of the disc can also be explained by an argument based on energy: the currents in the disc cause heating, dissipating the kinetic energy of the disc and vehicle,

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but this approach only appeared in the most exceptional examples.

In part (b)(ii) the clear principal advantage of an electromagnetic brake over the conventional friction brake is that it does not contain parts such as disc pads that wear out, needing replacement. Most students were able to make reference to this, however obscurely. Its clear disadvantage, that the electromagnetic brake becomes less effective as the speed drops, was hardly mentioned at all, but many were able to spot that it relies on an electrical circuit that is functioning.

Q26.

(a) (i) A difficult question for most students who did not realise the emf pulses occur as the bracelet enters and leaves the magnetic flux of the coil.

(ii) Since most of the graphs for (a)(i) were incorrect it was difficult or impossible to explain the shape correctly. However, marks were awarded for correct statements of the Faraday and Lenz laws.

(b) Few students knew how to tackle this one marker. Many incorrect times were chosen.

(c) Some did not read the graph scale correctly, others used $area = \pi d^2$ and there were many power of 10 errors. A final answer of 0.4 T (1 sf) was penalised.

(d) The vast majority of answers incorrectly used the average emf for the first 0.22 s, instead of using the gradient of the steepest part of the graph to find the maximum emf.

Q27.

In this question the students needed to know that reversing the current in a wire placed in a magnetic field would reverse the direction of the force on it, and that doubling the current would double the force. 60% of the responses were correct, up from 41% the last time this question appeared in an examination. The most common incorrect answer was distractor D (22%), where the force would be doubled but not reversed.

Q28.

This question gave the most surprising outcome because, although its facility of 54% was satisfactory, it was a very poor discriminator between the strongest and weakest students. The physics of the question is clear enough: the couple on the coil is proportional to its cross-sectional area. The puzzling outcome may have arisen because 39% of the answers were for distractor A. The ratios of the areas are actually 0.20, 0.25, 0.15 and 0.16 respectively, so why so many students selected 0.20 remains a mystery. Maybe they were put off by the greater length of the long side of the rectangle.

Q29.

This question required students to understand the trajectory of an electron moving in electric and / or magnetic fields. 73% gave a correct response.

Q30.

Calculation of the force acting on electrons moving in magnetic fields in relation to their kinetic energies was the basis of this question. Because the kinetic energy of X is half that of Y, it follows that $v_x = v_y / \sqrt{2}$ and that the ratio of the forces is $1 / \sqrt{2}$. The facility of this

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question was 54%; 18% of the students gave distractor A and 23% gave B.

Q31.

This question was a transformer calculation that caused few problems. Its facility was 78% and it discriminated very well.

Q32.

The topic of electromagnetic induction continues to challenge the understanding of A level students, as well as their ability to describe a sequence of processes systematically. Part (a) was set in the context of two coils linked by an iron bar, where the first coil acts as an electromagnet and the second is subject to magnetic flux changes produced by current changes in the electromagnet. Relatively few students stated in part (i) that the centre-zero meter would deflect *and then return to zero* when the current in coil P was switched on. There were frequent references to current flowing through the iron bar from P to Q and also to “ac batteries” and alternating currents. Only the best students described the processes sequentially and coherently: current in P produces magnetic flux, change in flux induces emf in Q, emf causes current in Q and meter, current falls to zero when flux becomes steady.

In part (a)(ii) more answers attempted to address the magnitude of the induced current than its direction. The effect on the magnitude could not in fact be determined, because there is no indication in the question of how rapidly the slider of the resistance is moved. What could be deduced is that a reduction in the electromagnet’s current would reduce the flux linkage and that this change would induce an emf in the opposite direction. This would cause a momentary deflection of the ammeter in the opposite direction to that in part (i).

Most students found the calculation of flux linkage in part (b)(i) to be routine. Both marks were usually awarded. The unit of flux linkage caused problems for some. The accepted unit for flux linkage is Wb turns. Some text books omit “turns” (which anyway is a dimensionless quantity) and quote flux linkage values in Wb. Either Wb turns or Wb were therefore considered to be acceptable; derived units such as T m^2 were not. Calculation of the emf induced when the coil was rotated by 90° was required in part (b)(ii). This tempted many students to attempt their solution by using the equation in the data booklet for a uniformly rotating coil, $\boldsymbol{\varepsilon} = BAN\omega \sin\omega t$, which does not apply in this case. Correct solutions should have started from $\boldsymbol{\varepsilon} = \Delta(N\Phi) / \Delta t$, and it should therefore have been clear that the induced emf is derived from the change in flux linkage rather than just one value of flux linkage. Almost inevitably, a few students confused flux with flux linkage.

Q33.

(a) Many candidates omitted the area in the formula, and there was some confusion over powers of 10.

(b) Very few candidates were able to give a satisfactory reason for the reduced emf when the spring stiffness increased. Of those who mentioned the magnet, most stated that it would move less, seemingly unaware that previously it did not move at all.

(c) (i) Well done by most.

(ii) Apart from some poor scripts where no scale was attempted, most answers gained at least 2 marks. The commonest errors were to start the graph at 0 instead of 8V and to draw fewer than 3 cycles.

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