

**OXFORD CAMBRIDGE AND RSA EXAMINATIONS**  
**Advanced Subsidiary GCE**

**PHYSICS B (ADVANCING PHYSICS)**

**2861**

Understanding Processes

Friday **9 JUNE 2006** Morning 1 hour 30 minutes

Candidates answer on the question paper.  
Additional materials:  
Data, Formulae and Relationships Booklet  
Electronic calculator  
Ruler (cm/mm)

Candidate Name

Centre Number

Candidate  
Number

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**TIME** 1 hour 30 minutes

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

- Write your name in the space above.
- Write your Centre number and Candidate number in the boxes above.
- Answer **all** the questions.
- Write your answers in the spaces provided on the question paper.
- Read the questions carefully and make sure you know what you have to do before starting your answer.
- Show clearly the working in all calculations and give answers to only a justifiable number of significant figures.

**INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES**

- You are advised to spend about 20 minutes on **Section A**, 40 minutes on **Section B** and 30 minutes on **Section C**.
- The number of marks is given in brackets [ ] at the end of each question or part question.
- There are four marks available for the quality of written communication in **Section C**.
- The values of standard physical constants are given in the Data, Formulae and Relationships Booklet. Any additional data required are given in the appropriate question.

| FOR EXAMINER'S USE |      |      |
|--------------------|------|------|
| Section            | Max. | Mark |
| <b>A</b>           | 20   |      |
| <b>B</b>           | 40   |      |
| <b>C</b>           | 30   |      |
| <b>TOTAL</b>       | 90   |      |

**This question paper consists of 23 printed pages and 1 blank page.**

## Section A

Answer **all** the questions.

1 Here are three graphs representing different features of the same accelerated motion.

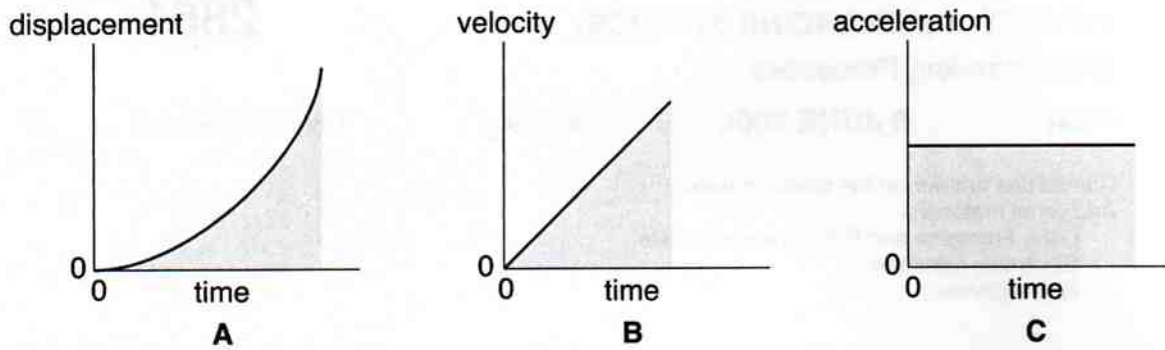


Fig. 1.1

In which graph, **A**, **B**, or **C**, in Fig. 1.1, does

(a) the gradient represent the acceleration

answer .....[1]

(b) the gradient represent the velocity

answer .....[1]

(c) the shaded area represent the distance travelled?

answer .....[1]

- 2 This question is about a car attempting an overtaking manoeuvre.

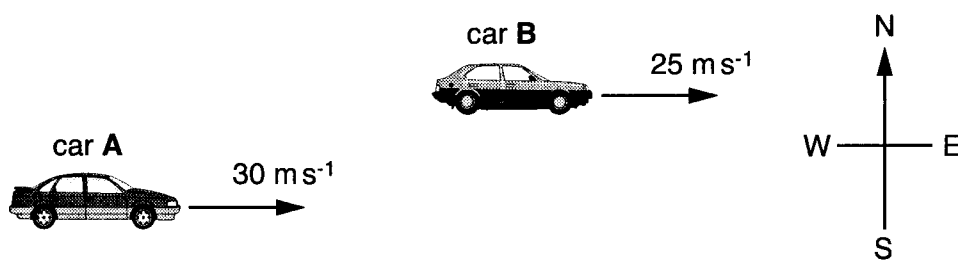


Fig. 2.1

Fig. 2.1 shows two cars travelling in an easterly direction. Car A is attempting to overtake car B on a straight, level road.

- (a) Calculate the magnitude and direction of the relative velocity of approach of car A to car B, as seen from car B.

magnitude = .....  $\text{m s}^{-1}$  direction ..... [2]

- (b) At the instant shown in Fig. 2.1, car A is still some distance behind car B. In order to complete the overtaking safely, car A must move forwards a distance of 35 m relative to car B.

Using your answer to (a), calculate how long it will take for car A to reach this relative position.

time = ..... s [1]

- (c) Calculate the distance moved by car B in this time.

distance = ..... m [1]

3 Light emitted from a laser has wavelength 350 nm.

(a) Show that the energy of a photon of this light is  $5.7 \times 10^{-19}$  J.

the Planck constant  $h = 6.6 \times 10^{-34}$  J s  
velocity of light  $c = 3.0 \times 10^8$  m s<sup>-1</sup>

[2]

(b) Each pulse of light from the laser lasts for only  $1.2 \times 10^{-13}$  s.

The power delivered in a pulse is  $8.0 \times 10^4$  W.

Calculate the number of photons in a single pulse.

number = .....[2]

- 4 A stone is dropped down a well which is 6.80 m deep.

The time from releasing the stone to hearing the sound of it hitting the bottom of the well is 1.20 s.

- (a) A student calculates the time for the stone to reach the bottom of the well and finds that it is less than 1.20 s.

Carry out the calculation to show that the time is less than 1.20 s.

Ignore any effects of air resistance.

Give your answer to **three** significant figures.

$$g = 9.81 \text{ ms}^{-2}$$

time = ..... s [2]

- (b) The student realises that the difference between these times is the time it takes for the sound caused by the stone hitting the bottom to travel back up the well. This allows him to estimate the velocity of sound in the well.

Calculate the velocity of sound in the well.

velocity of sound = .....  $\text{ms}^{-1}$  [2]

- 5 When coherent light of a single wavelength passes through two narrowly spaced slits, an interference pattern is produced on a distant screen.

The fringe separation  $x$  in the pattern is given by the expression

$$x = \frac{\lambda L}{d}$$

where  $\lambda$  is the wavelength of the light

$d$  is the slit separation

and  $L$  is the distance between the slits and the screen.

Here is a list of four graphs that could be plotted relating fringe separation  $x$  and slit separation  $d$ , with  $\lambda$  and  $L$  constant.

- A**  $x$  against  $d$       **B**  $x$  against  $d^2$       **C**  $x$  against  $\frac{1}{d}$       **D**  $x$  against  $\frac{1}{d^2}$

Write down the letter (**A**, **B**, **C** or **D**) of the graph you would plot to obtain a straight line through the origin.

answer .....[1]

- 6 A projectile is launched horizontally at a speed of  $0.5 \text{ m s}^{-1}$  above the surface of the Moon.

The velocity of the projectile, at equal time intervals, is represented in magnitude and direction by the arrows shown in Fig. 6.1.

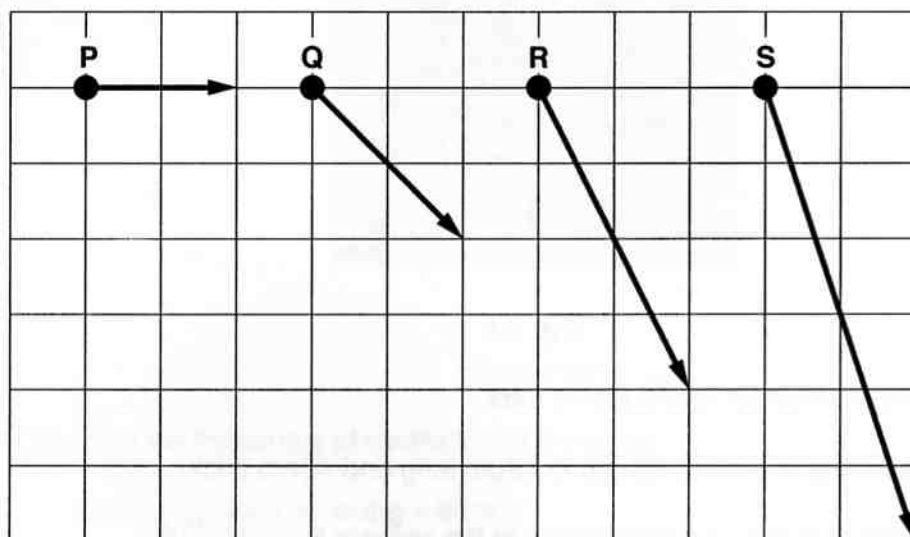


Fig. 6.1

- (a) (i) Construct arrows on the diagram to represent the **vertical** component of velocity for each of the vectors **Q**, **R** and **S**. [1]

- (ii) The grid on the diagram is drawn to the scale: 1 division represents  $0.25 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ .

Complete the table below.

| velocity vector                                    | P | Q | R | S |
|--|---|---|---|---|
| vertical component of velocity / $\text{m s}^{-1}$ | 0 |   |   |   |

[1]

- (b) The velocity vectors of the projectile are shown at  $0.3 \text{ s}$  intervals.

Using the information from (a), calculate the acceleration due to gravity on the Moon.

acceleration = .....  $\text{m s}^{-2}$  [2]

[Section A Total: 20]

## Section B

- 7 Fig. 7.1 is a photograph of the world's smallest guitar, created using nanotechnology.

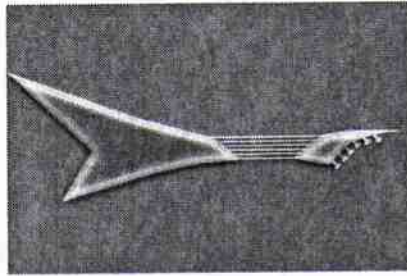


Fig. 7.1

Each string of the nanoguitar is 120 atoms thick.

- (a) The longest string of the nanoguitar is  $25\ \mu\text{m}$  long and  $40\ \text{nm}$  thick.

Show that the diameter of a single atom in the string is  $3.3 \times 10^{-10}\ \text{m}$ .

[1]

- (b) Fig. 7.2 represents one of the strings from the guitar.



Fig. 7.2

- (i) Draw on the diagram the standing wave representing the lowest frequency oscillation produced by the vibrating string.  
Label the positions of any displacement nodes and antinodes with the letters **N** and **A** respectively. [2]



- (ii) Calculate the wavelength of this standing wave. Show your reasoning.

length of string =  $25\ \mu\text{m}$

wavelength = ..... m [2]

- (iii) Calculate the frequency of oscillation of the string.

velocity of wave on string =  $60\ \text{m s}^{-1}$

frequency = ..... Hz [2]

- (iv) Suggest **two** reasons why we would not be able to hear the note produced by the oscillating string.

[2]

[Total: 9]

- 8 The frontal area  $A$  of a road vehicle is a major factor affecting the drag force on the vehicle when moving.  
As can be seen in Fig. 8.1, the frontal areas of different road vehicles vary considerably.

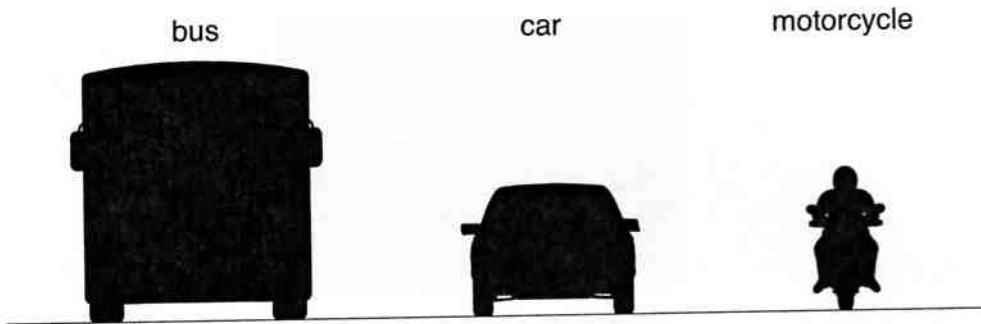


Fig. 8.1

The drag force  $F$  acting on a vehicle moving at velocity  $v$  through **still** air is given by the expression

$$F = \frac{1}{2}k\rho A v^2$$

where  $k$  is the shape constant depending only on the shape of the vehicle,  $\rho$  is the density of the air, and  $A$  is the frontal area of the car.

- (a) (i) A car of frontal area  $A = 2.5 \text{ m}^2$ , and shape constant  $k = 0.4$ , is travelling at a steady speed of  $20 \text{ m s}^{-1}$  in still air.

Calculate the drag force  $F$  acting on the car.  
density of air  $\rho = 1.2 \text{ kg m}^{-3}$

$$F = \dots\dots\dots \text{ N [2]}$$

- (ii) In a more up-to-date model of the car, the shape constant  $k$  has been reduced by 9%, from  $k$  to  $0.91k$ , but this has only been achieved at the expense of an increase in the frontal area of 7%, from  $A$  to  $1.07A$ .

Show that the drag force on this car, travelling at  $20 \text{ m s}^{-1}$  through still air, is about 3% less than on the first car.

[2]

- (b) Fig. 8.2 shows two of the forces acting on a car travelling at a constant velocity of  $20 \text{ m s}^{-1}$  along a level road.

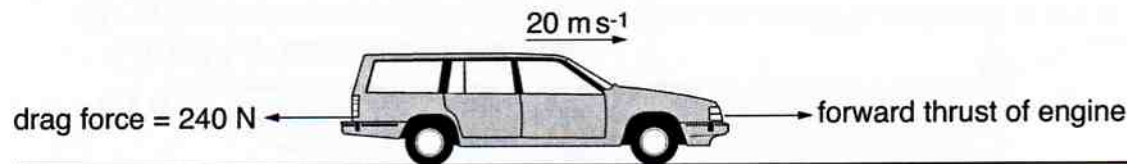


Fig. 8.2

- (i) State the magnitude of the forward thrust required from the engine in this situation. Explain your answer.

forward thrust = ..... N

explanation

[2]

- (ii) The power provided by the engine is given by the expression

$$\text{power} = \text{drag force} \times \text{velocity of vehicle.}$$

Calculate the power required from the engine to maintain a constant velocity of  $20 \text{ m s}^{-1}$  against this drag force, in still air.

power = ..... unit ..... [2]

- (iii) Explain why the **power** required from the engine will be **four** times greater if the car travels at a constant velocity of  $20 \text{ m s}^{-1}$  into a headwind of  $20 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ .

[2]

[Total: 10]

- 9 This question is about water waves travelling in a large wave tank.

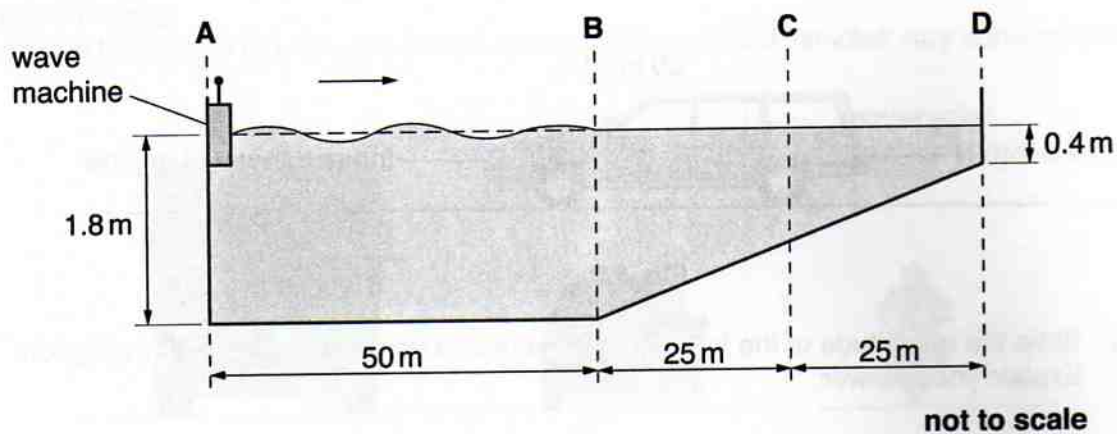


Fig. 9.1

Fig. 9.1 shows a wave tank in a research laboratory.

A wave machine, situated at one end of the tank, generates waves that travel from one end of the tank to the other.

- (a) The wave machine produces waves that travel from A to B in 12 s.

- (i) Calculate the velocity of the waves between A and B.

velocity = .....  $\text{ms}^{-1}$  [1]

- (ii) The wave machine produces 32 waves per minute.

Calculate the frequency of the waves.

frequency = ..... Hz [1]

(b) The velocity of water waves in this tank is given by the equation  $v^2 = gd$  where  $g$  is the acceleration due to gravity and  $d$  is the depth of water.

(i) Use the equation to calculate the velocity of the waves at the points **C** and **D** shown in Fig. 9.1, and complete the table.

$$g = 9.8 \text{ m s}^{-2}$$

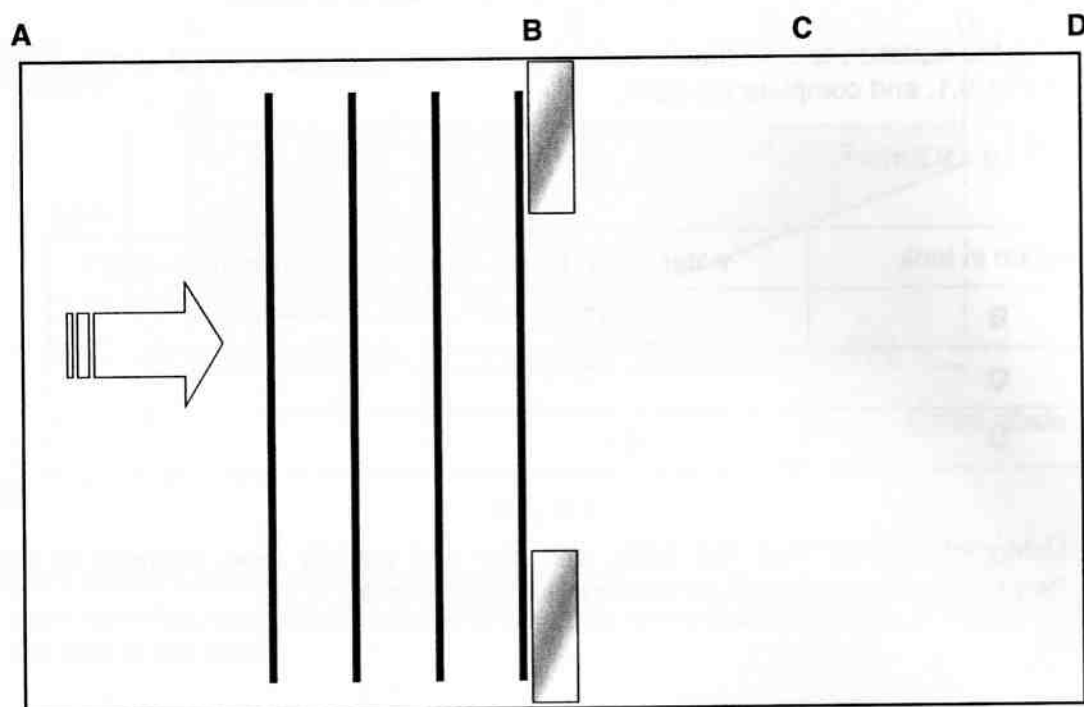
| position in tank | water depth $d$ / m | velocity of waves / $\text{m s}^{-1}$ |
|------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <b>B</b>         | 1.8                 | 4.2                                   |
| <b>C</b>         |                     |                                       |
| <b>D</b>         | 0.4                 |                                       |

[2]

(ii) Using information from the table, describe and explain what happens to the frequency and wavelength as waves travel from **B** to **D**.

[3]

(iii) In Fig. 9.2, the same tank is shown from above.



**Fig. 9.2**

A barrier is placed across the tank at **B**. The gap in the barrier is about four wavelengths wide. Waves are shown between **A** and **B**, where the depth of the tank is constant.

Complete the diagram by drawing the waves between **B** and **D**.

[4]

[Total: 11]

10 This question is about the quantum behaviour of photons.

(a) Light is emitted from a source **A** and detected by a detector at **B**.

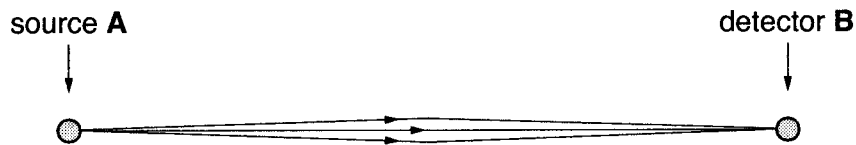


Fig. 10.1

Fig. 10.1 shows just three of the many paths a photon might take from **A** to **B**. These paths are very close to a straight line path drawn from **A** to **B**.

The path difference between these paths is almost zero, and the phasors associated with these paths will be almost in-phase at **B**. So, the resultant phasor amplitude at **B** for these paths is large.

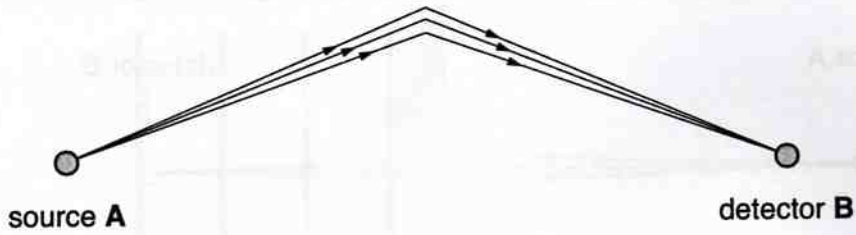
(i) Draw a diagram to show how the phasors at **B** for the three paths shown in Fig. 10.1 can combine to give a large resultant phasor amplitude.

[2]

(ii) Explain why this resultant phasor amplitude implies a high probability that photons arrive at **B** along paths like these.

[2]

- (b) Fig. 10.2 shows three other similarly close, but less direct, paths a photon might take from **A** to **B**.



**Fig. 10.2**

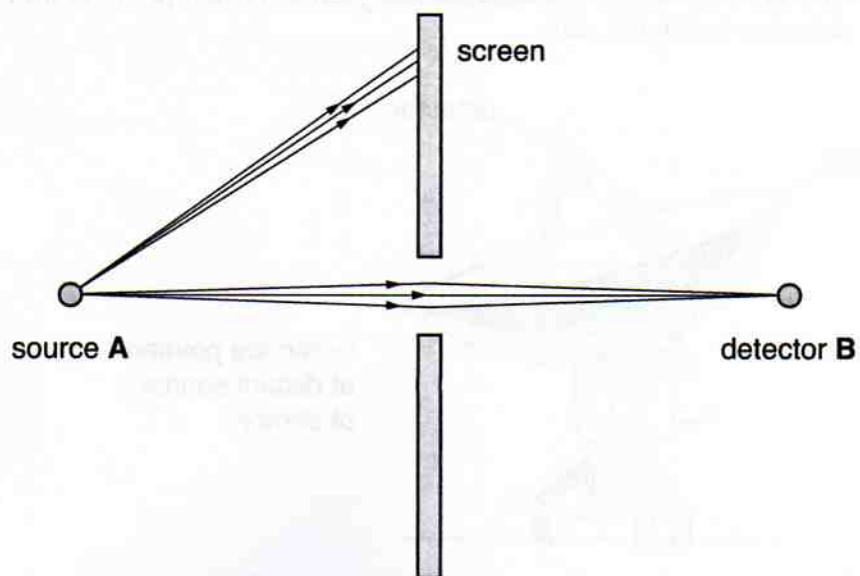
The path difference between these paths is larger than for the paths shown in Fig. 10.1. This means there is a smaller resultant phasor amplitude at **B** for these paths, and a lower probability that a photon will take paths like these.

- (i) Draw a diagram to show how the phasors at **B** for the three photon paths shown in Fig. 10.2 can combine to give a smaller resultant phasor amplitude than in (a)(i).

[2]



(ii)

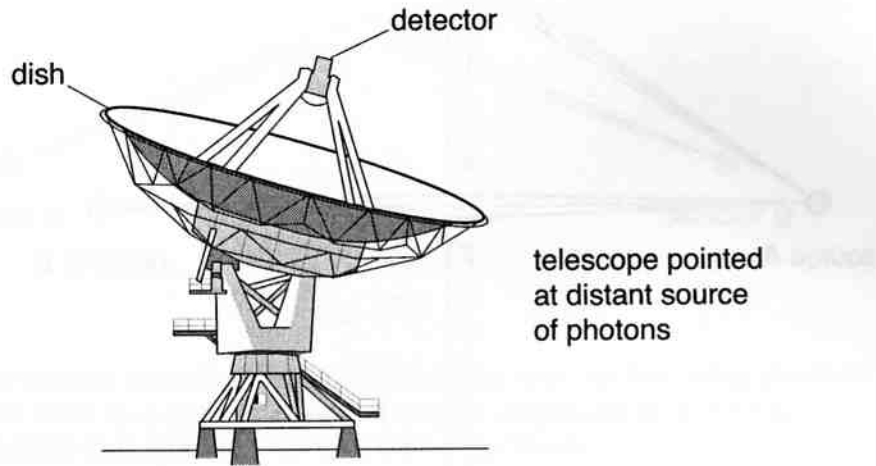
**Fig. 10.3**

Using a screen to block out most of the photon paths, as shown in Fig. 10.3, makes **very little** difference to the intensity of light arriving at **B**.

Use the ideas above to explain why this is so.

[2]

- (c) Fig. 10.4 shows an astronomical telescope designed to collect photons from a distant source at a detector, facing the dish.



**Fig. 10.4**

To increase the probability that photons will arrive at the detector, the dish has to be curved correctly in relation to the position of the detector.

Explain how a dish that is curved correctly can increase the probability that photons will be detected at the detector. Use ideas about quantum behaviour of photons.

[2]

[Total: 10]

[Section B Total: 40]

**Section C**

In this section of the paper, you will choose the context in which you give your answers.

Use diagrams to help your explanations and take particular care with your written English. In this section, four marks are available for the quality of written communication.

**11** In this question you are to choose, and write about, an effect caused by wave superposition.

**(a) (i)** State the type of wave being used in your example.

[1]

**(ii)** Give typical values of the wavelength and speed of these waves.

wavelength = ..... unit .....

wave speed = ..... unit .....

[2]

**(b)** Draw a suitably labelled diagram to show the arrangement of apparatus, or physical situation, required to produce the effect by wave superposition.

[3]

- (c) Describe **three** features of the superposition effect that could be observed. Explain these features using the principle of superposition.

[6]

[Total: 12]

**12** In this question, you are to write about a method of measuring the distance to a remote or inaccessible object. The distance measurement you choose to describe should be one that you can justify as being of particular use, interest, or importance.

**(a)** State the distance measurement you have chosen.

[1]

**(b)** Explain, in a few sentences, why you consider this distance measurement to be particularly useful, or interesting, or important to make.

[2]

**(c)** Show, with the aid of a labelled diagram, the arrangement of equipment that would be needed to make the measurement.

[3]

(d) Explain how the information is collected using the equipment, and how it can be used to calculate the distance.

[5]

(e) (i) Suggest one factor that could limit the accuracy of the measurement. Explain your reasoning.

(ii) Suggest how the accuracy might be improved.

[3]

[Total: 14]

Quality of Written Communication [4]

[Section C Total: 30]

**END OF QUESTION PAPER**