

Past-paper walk-through

Progressive waves ■ 7.1

eXercise

Questions in this set

- 9702/12 N25 Q25 ■ 1 mark
- 9702/12 N25 Q26 ■ 1 mark
- 9702/14 N25 Q24 ■ 1 mark
- 9702/11 J25 Q26 ■ 1 mark
- 9702/13 J25 Q24 ■ 1 mark
- 9702/13 J25 Q26 ■ 1 mark
- 9702/14 J25 Q20 ■ 1 mark
- 9702/21 J25 Q5 ■ 6 marks
- 9702/22 J25 Q3 ■ 8 marks
- 9702/12 M25 Q25 ■ 1 mark

Reading the mark scheme

- **B1** a mark that stands on its own – the point is either made or not.
- **M1** a *method* mark: the right approach, even if the number is wrong.
- **A1** an *answer* mark, and it usually needs its M mark first.
- **C1** a working mark on the way to the answer.
- **//** separates answers the examiner accepts equally.
- **ecf** = error carried forward: a later part is marked on your own earlier answer.
- **owtte** = “or words to that effect” – the wording need not match.

Question 25

9702/12 N25 ■ Q25 ■ 1 mark

What is the phase difference between points P and Q on the progressive wave shown in the diagram? [1]

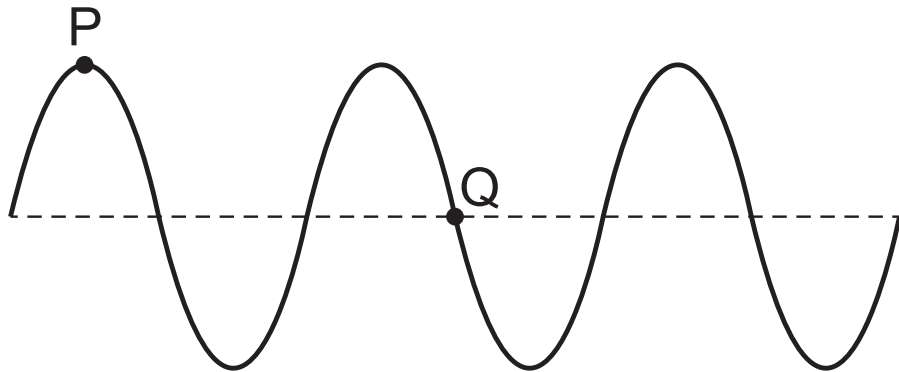
A 180°

B 450°

C 540°

D 720°

Question 25



Solution 25

A 180°

B 450°



C 540°

D 720°

Why

- Count the wavelengths between P and Q: they are $1\frac{1}{4}$ wavelengths apart.
- Each whole wavelength is 360° , so $1.25 \times 360 = 450^\circ$.
- A phase difference above 360° is perfectly normal for points more than one wavelength apart.

Question 26

9702/12 N25 ■ Q26 ■ 1 mark

The graph shows the variation of displacement with distance for two progressive waves X and Y of the same type in the same medium.

The intensity of wave X is I .

What is the intensity of wave Y?

[1]

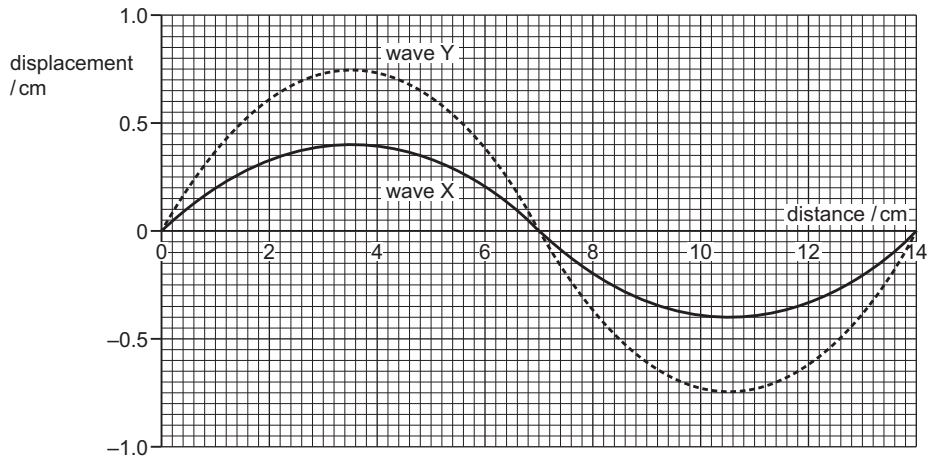
A $0.28I$

B $0.53I$

C $1.9I$

D $3.5I$

Question 26



Solution 26

A 0.28/

B 0.53/

C 1.9/

D 3.5/



Why

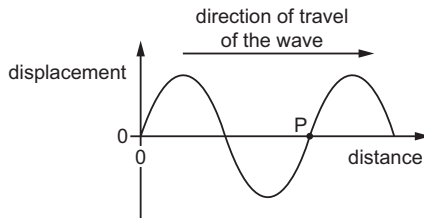
- Read the amplitudes off the graph: X is 0.40 cm and Y is 0.75 cm.
- Intensity is proportional to the *square* of the amplitude.
- $(0.75/0.40)^2 = 1.875^2 = 3.5$, so wave Y has intensity 3.5/; C is the ratio without squaring.

Question 24

9702/14 N25 ■ Q24 ■ 1 mark

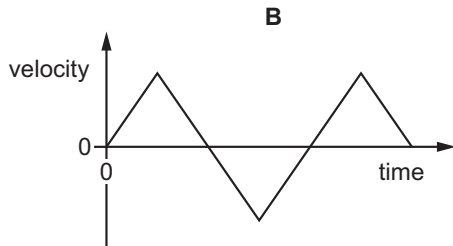
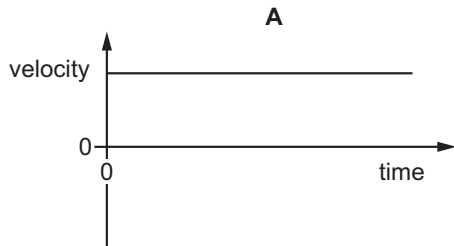
24 A transverse progressive wave travels along a string.

The graph shows the variation with distance of the displacement of the string at time $t = 0$.

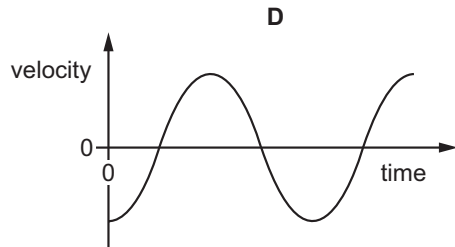
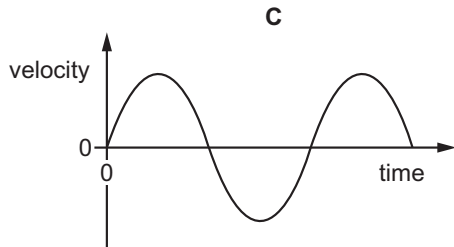


Which graph represents the variation with time of the velocity of point P on the string?

Question 24



Question 24



Solution 24

Answer: **D**

Why

- The wave moves to the right, so P next takes on the displacement of the string just to its left – which is below the axis.
- P is therefore moving downwards at $t = 0$, and since it sits at zero displacement it is at maximum speed.
- So the velocity starts at its largest *negative* value; C has the right shape but starts at zero.

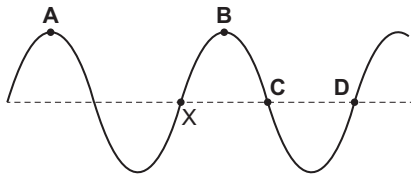
Question 26

9702/11 J25 ■ Q26 ■ 1 mark

26 The diagram shows a progressive transverse wave on a stretched string at one instant in time.

One point on the string is labelled X.

Which point on the string is 270° out of phase with X?



Solution 26

Answer: **A**

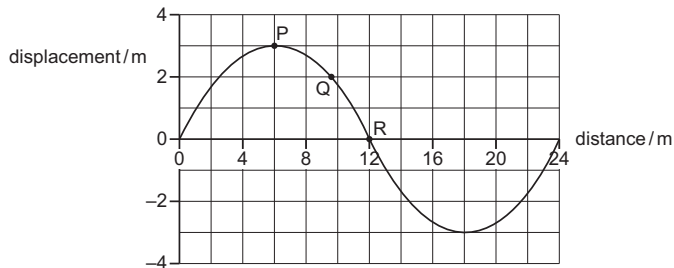
Why

- A phase difference of 270° is three quarters of a wavelength along the string.
- One wavelength is the distance between successive crests, so measure $\frac{3}{4}$ of that from X.
- For comparison, a whole wavelength apart is in phase and half a wavelength apart is antiphase.

Question 24

9702/13 J25 ■ Q24 ■ 1 mark

- 24** The graph shows the variation with distance along the wave of the displacement of water particles at a particular instant in time for a transverse water wave.



P, Q and R show the positions of three water particles in the wave.

Question 24

P, Q and R show the positions of three water particles in the wave.

Which particle has the greatest speed at the instant shown?

- A** all have the same speed
- B** particle P
- C** particle Q
- D** particle R

Solution 24

Answer: **D**

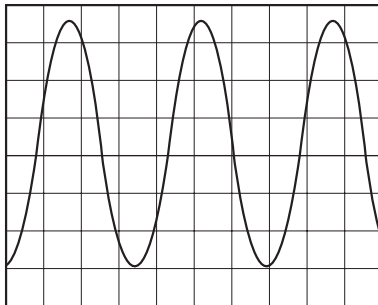
Why

- In a transverse wave a particle moves fastest as it passes through zero displacement.
- At a crest or a trough it is momentarily at rest before reversing.
- So the fastest particle is the one sitting on the axis, not the one at the largest displacement.

Question 26

9702/13 J25 ■ Q26 ■ 1 mark

26 A wave is displayed on an oscilloscope.



Question 26

The oscilloscope settings are:

time-base: $300\ \mu\text{s div}^{-1}$

y-gain: $40\ \mu\text{V div}^{-1}$.

What is the frequency of the wave?

A 130 Hz

B 950 Hz

C 1100 Hz

D 7100 Hz

Solution 26

Answer: **B**

Why

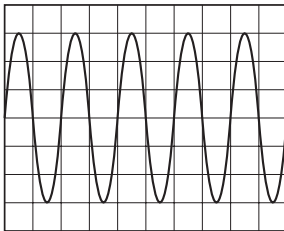
- Measure one whole cycle crest to crest: it spans 3.5 divisions.
- With the time-base at $300 \mu\text{s}$ per division, $T = 3.5 \times 300 = 1050 \mu\text{s}$.
- $f = 1/(1.05 \times 10^{-3}) = 950 \text{ Hz}$; the y-gain plays no part in a frequency.

Question 20

9702/14 J25 ■ Q20 ■ 1 mark

- 20** A microphone is connected to a cathode-ray oscilloscope (CRO). The diagram shows the waveform on the display of the CRO when the microphone detects a sound.

The y-gain is set to 1 V div^{-1} . The time-base is set to 2.0 ms div^{-1} .



Which row gives the amplitude and frequency of the waveform?

Question 20

Which row gives the amplitude and frequency of the waveform?

	amplitude/V	frequency/Hz
A	3	125
B	3	250
C	6	125
D	6	250

Solution 20

Answer: **B**

Why

- Amplitude is measured from the centre line to a peak: 3 divisions at 1 V per division is 3 V.
- One complete cycle spans 2 divisions, so $T = 2 \times 2.0 = 4.0$ ms.
- $f = 1/(4.0 \times 10^{-3}) = 250$ Hz; C and D take the peak-to-peak height as the amplitude.

Question 5

9702/21 J25 ■ Q5 ■ 6 marks

(a) Use the definitions of speed v , frequency f and wavelength λ to derive the wave equation

$$v = f\lambda.$$

(b)(i) Calculate the frequency of the sound waves detected by the microphone.

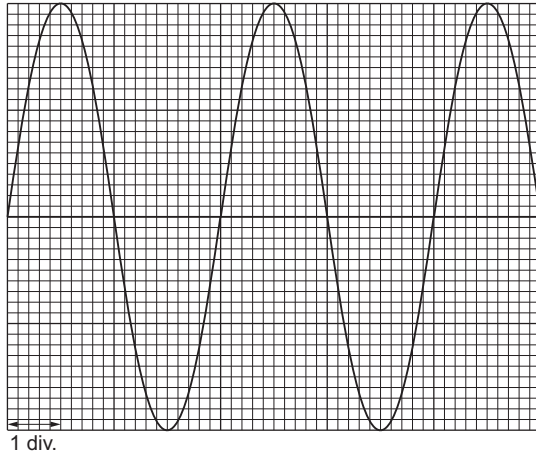
[2]

(b)(ii) Determine the speed of the sound in air.

[2]

[2]

Question 5



Solution 5

(a) Worked steps

Start from the definitions, not from the formula you are asked to reach.

- **Wavelength** λ is the distance between adjacent points in phase — one whole wave occupies that distance.
- **Frequency** f is the number of waves passing a point each second.
- So in one second, f waves pass, each λ long: the distance travelled per second is $f\lambda$.
- Speed is distance per unit time, so $v = f\lambda$.

Mark scheme

Solution 5

- wavelength:
 - wavelength = distance between successive / adjacent in phase points / wavefronts / crests / troughs
 - $\lambda = d / (\text{number of}) \text{ oscillations frequency:}$
 - frequency = (number of) oscillations / cycles crests / troughs / wavefronts (passing a point) per unit time
 - $f = (\text{number of}) \text{ oscillations} / t$
- One correct point from either list **B1**
- One correct point from both lists and speed = distance / time and one of:
 - wavelength $\times$ frequency (= distance per unit time) = speed
 - $[(\text{number of}) \text{ oscillations} / t] \times [d / (\text{number of}) \text{ oscillations}] = f\lambda$

Solution 5

$$\blacksquare \quad v (= d / t) = \lambda / (1/f) = f\lambda \text{ or } v (= d / t) = \lambda / T = f\lambda \quad \text{B1}$$

Solution 5

(b)(i) Worked steps

Read the **period** off the trace first: the time for one complete cycle.

- $T = 4 \text{ ms} = 4 \times 10^{-3} \text{ s}$

- $f = \frac{1}{T} = \frac{1}{4 \times 10^{-3}}$

- $f = 250 \text{ Hz}$

Solution 5

Mark scheme

- $T = 4 \times 10^{-3}$ $f = 1 / T = 1 / 0.004$ (C1)
- $f = 250 \text{ Hz}$ (A1)

Solution 5

(b)(ii) Worked steps

The detected frequency is higher than the emitted one, so the source is approaching: use the Doppler equation with $(v - v_s)$ on the bottom.

- $f_o = \frac{f_s v}{v - v_s}$, with $f_o = 250$ Hz, $f_s = 236$ Hz, $v_s = 20$ m s⁻¹.
- $250(v - 20) = 236v$
- $14v = 5000$, so $v = 357$ m s⁻¹ ≈ 360 m s⁻¹ (2 s.f.)

Solution 5

Mark scheme

- $f_o = f_s v / (v - v_s)$
- $250 = 236 \times v / (v - 20) \quad v = (250 \times 20) / (250 - 236) \quad \text{C1}$
- $= 360 \text{ m s}^{-1} \quad \text{A1}$

Question 3

9702/22 J25 ■ Q3 ■ 8 marks

Two progressive water waves X and Y travel along a straight line from point A to point B. The variation of displacement of the waves with distance from A at an instant in time is shown in Fig. 3.1.

(a) State the amplitude of wave X. [1]

(b)(i) Determine the speed of wave X. [2]

(b)(ii) State and explain whether X and Y are coherent. [1]

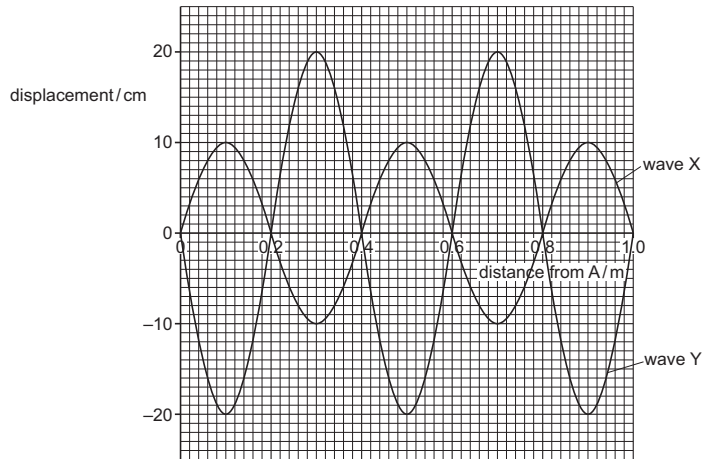
(c) Wave X and wave Y superpose to form a resultant wave.

On Fig. 3.2, sketch the variation of displacement of the resultant wave with distance from A at the instant of time shown in Fig. 3.1. [2]

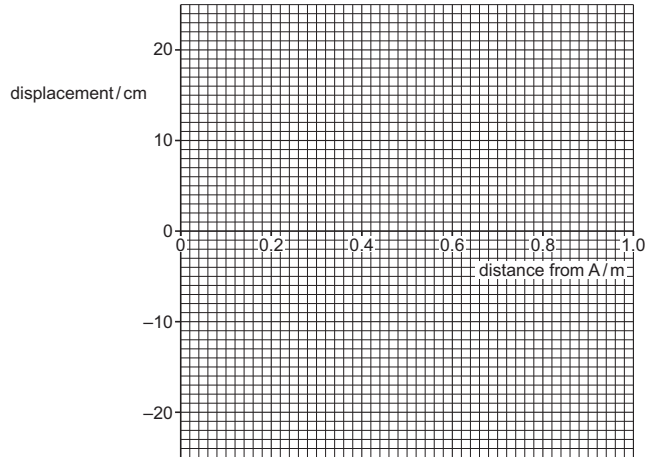
(d) The intensity of wave X is I_X . The intensity of wave Y is I_Y .

Use Fig. 3.1 to determine the ratio $\frac{I_X}{I_Y}$. [2]

Question 3



Question 3



Solution 3

(a)

Mark scheme

■ 10.0 cm **A1**

Solution 3

(b)(i)

Worked steps

- $v = f\lambda$
- $v = 16 \times 0.40$
- $v = 6.4 \text{ m s}^{-1}$

Mark scheme

- $v = f\lambda$
- $= 16 \times 0.40$ (C1)
- $= 6.4 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ (A1)

Solution 3

(b)(ii)

Mark scheme

- (X and Y have a) constant phase difference (of 180°) so (they are) coherent **B1**

Solution 3

(c) Worked steps

Superposition is addition of displacements, point by point — so do it at the places where the answer is easy to see.

- The two waves are **antiphase**: where X is at +10 cm, Y is at −20 cm.
- They partly cancel: the resultant amplitude is $20.0 - 10.0 = 10.0$ cm.
- The larger wave, Y, decides the sign, so the resultant follows Y's shape.
- Draw a single wave of amplitude 10.0 cm and wavelength 0.40 m, in phase with Y (i.e. inverted relative to X).

Solution 3

Mark scheme

- A single wave of amplitude 10.0 cm (B1)
- A single negative sine wave of wavelength 0.40 m (B1)

Solution 3

(d) Worked steps

■ Intensity is proportional to amplitude squared: $I \propto A^2$.

■ $\frac{I_X}{I_Y} = \frac{A_X^2}{A_Y^2} = \frac{10.0^2}{20.0^2}$

■ ratio = 0.25

Doubling the amplitude quadruples the intensity, which is why the ratio is a quarter and not a half. [Mark scheme](#)

■ $I \propto$ **A2**

■ X

Solution 3

- Y
- I
- I
- $= 102 / 202$ **C1**
- ratio = 0.25 **A1**

Question 25

9702/12 M25 ■ Q25 ■ 1 mark

25 A progressive wave of frequency 300 Hz is travelling with a speed of 600 ms^{-1} .

What is the phase difference between two points on the wave that are a distance of 0.50 m apart?

A 45°

B 90°

C 180°

D 360°

Solution 25

Answer: **B**

Why

- First the wavelength: $\lambda = v/f = 600/300 = 2.0 \text{ m}$.
- The two points are 0.50 m apart, which is a quarter of a wavelength.
- A whole wavelength is 360° , so a quarter is 90° .