

- 2 Sara is using the “vena contractor phenomenon” to measure the rate of flow of liquid out of an inverted cone of semi-vertical angle α .

The standard formula for the rate of flow is:

$$R = \frac{8}{15} C_D \tan \alpha \sqrt{2gh^5},$$

where C_D is the coefficient of discharge which is a dimensionless constant and h is the height of liquid in the inverted cone.

By using dimensional analysis, show that the dimension of R is a rate of flow. (4 marks)

2	Dimensions of h is L Dimensions of g is LT^{-2} \therefore dimensions of $\frac{8}{15} C_D \tan \alpha \sqrt{2gh^5}$ is dimension of $(gh^5)^{\frac{1}{2}}$ $= (LT^{-2} \cdot L^5)^{\frac{1}{2}}$ $= (L^6 T^{-2})^{\frac{1}{2}}$ $= L^3 T^{-1}$ = volume/sec which is a rate of flow	B1 M1 A1 A1		Ability to handle powers
Total			4	

- 3 The gravitational force acting between two bodies of mass m_1 and m_2 in deep space is

$$\frac{km_1 m_2}{d^2}$$

where d is the distance between the bodies.

The dimensional constant, k , is of the form $M^\alpha L^\beta T^\gamma$.

By considering dimensions find α , β and γ . (4 marks)

Question	Solution	Marks	Total	Comments
3	Force = $\frac{km_1 m_2}{d^2}$ Dimensions of force is MLT^{-2} $k = \text{Force} \times \frac{d^2}{m_1 m_2}$ $= MLT^{-2} \cdot \frac{L^2}{M^2}$ $= M^{-1} L^3 T^{-2}$	B1 M1 A1 A1	(4)	
		TOTAL	(4)	

- 3 The gravitational force of the sun, which has mass m_1 , on a planet, of mass m_2 , is an attractive force directed along the line joining them and of magnitude $\frac{Gm_1m_2}{d^2}$ where d is the distance between their centres and G is the universal gravitational constant.

Use dimensional analysis to find the dimensions of G .

(4 marks)

Q	Solution	Marks	Total	Comments
3	Force = $G \frac{m_1 m_2}{d^2}$ or $G = \frac{d^2 \times \text{force}}{m_1 m_2}$ Dimensions of a force (ma) is $ML T^{-2}$ \therefore Dimensions of G are $\frac{L^2 \cdot ML T^{-2}}{M^2}$ $= L^3 T^{-2} M^{-1}$	B1 M1 A1A1	4	
Total			4	

- 2 The acceleration, a , of a body falling with speed v and subject to air resistance may be modelled by the equation

$$a = g - \lambda v^2$$

where λ is constant.

Find the dimensions of λ in order that the equation is dimensionally consistent.

(4 marks)

2	Dimensions of a and g are LT^{-2} Dimension of v is LT^{-1} $\lambda = \frac{LT^{-2}}{(LT^{-1})^2}$ $= L^{-1}$	B1 B1 M1 A1	4	
Total			4	

- 4 John believes that a possible formula is

$$Q = 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{l}{g}}$$

By considering dimensions, find the dimensions of Q .

(4 marks)

4	<p>Considering dimensions $2, \pi$ have no dimension, l has length, L g is m/s^2</p> <p>i.e. $\frac{L}{T^2}$</p> <p>$\therefore 2\pi\sqrt{\frac{l}{g}}$ is $\sqrt{\frac{L}{\frac{L}{T^2}}}$ $=\sqrt{T^2}$ $=T$</p> <p>\therefore dimension of result is time</p>	M1		
	Total		4	

