

## Mark scheme for Topic 4

- 1 The acceleration is proportional to and opposite to displacement and so we must have a straight line through the origin with a negative gradient, **A**.
- 2 The period is independent of amplitude. The energy is proportional to amplitude squared, and so **D**.
- 3 Draw an identical graph but shifted slightly to the right. The marked point is now lower, hence **C**.
- 4 Draw an identical graph but shifted slightly to the right. The marked point is now lower, i.e. the point has a smaller positive displacement than before. Hence it is moving to the left, **B**.

Exam tip: make sure you understand the last 2 questions.

- 5 All waves will diffract but appreciable diffraction takes place only for waves whose wavelength is comparable to the size of the opening, hence only sound, **B**.
- 6 All quantities will change except for frequency, hence **B**.

- 7 a i The maximum kinetic energy is given by  $E_{\max} = \frac{1}{2}m\omega^2 A^2$ .

$$0.60 = \frac{1}{2} \times 0.25 \times \omega^2 \times 0.15^2, \text{ giving } \omega = 14.6 \text{ s}^{-1}$$

$$\omega = \frac{2\pi}{T}, T = \frac{2\pi}{14.6} = 0.43 \text{ s}$$

[3]

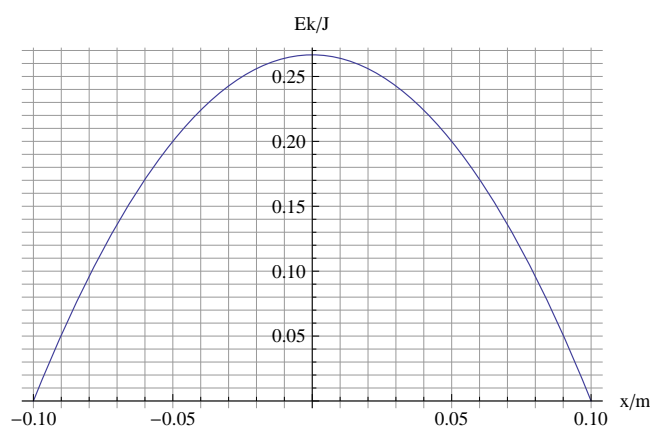
ii  $a_{\max} = -\omega^2 A = -14.6^2 \times 0.15$

$$a_{\max} = 31.97 \approx 32 \text{ m s}^{-2} \text{ (for the magnitude).}$$

[2]

- b Correct amplitude.

Correct maximum.



[2]

c i  $T = 2\pi\sqrt{\frac{m}{k}} \Rightarrow f = \frac{1}{2\pi}\sqrt{\frac{k}{m}}$

$$f = \frac{1}{2\pi}\sqrt{\frac{6.0 \times 10^4}{1200}} = 1.1 \text{ Hz};$$

[2]

ii The car hits the bumps every  $\frac{d}{v} = \frac{15}{16} = 0.9375 \text{ s},$

i.e. with a frequency of  $\frac{1}{0.9375} = 1.1 \text{ Hz}.$

Therefore at this speed we will have **resonance** and the amplitude of oscillations will be large.

[3]

- 8 a i** The acceleration is proportional to  
and opposite to displacement, and this is what this equation is stating.

[2]

Exam tip: do not forget that there are **2 statements** to be made.

**ii**  $a = -\omega^2 x$  and so  $\omega^2 = 39 \Rightarrow \omega = 6.245 \text{ s}^{-1}$ .

From  $\omega = 2\pi f \Rightarrow f = \frac{6.245}{2\pi} = 0.99 \text{ Hz}$ .

[2]

**b i**  $E_{\text{max}} = \frac{1}{2} m \omega^2 A^2$

$$E_{\text{max}} = \frac{1}{2} \times 1.2 \times 39 \times 0.15^2$$

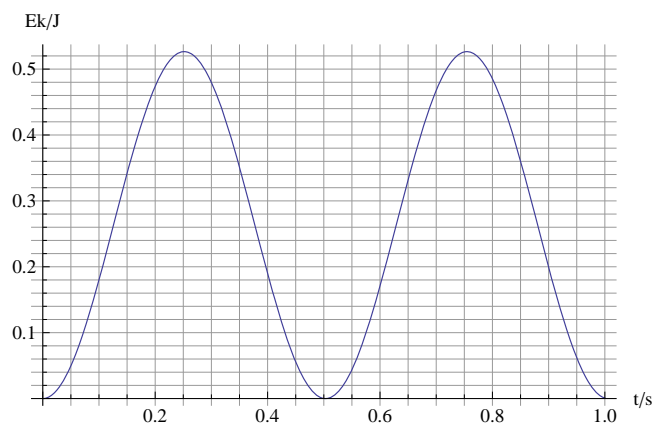
$$E_{\text{max}} = 0.53 \text{ J}$$

[3]

- ii** Overall shape and beginning at origin.

Correct maximum.

Correct period.



[3]

Exam tip: students often make a mistake with period here.

- iii** Any peak.

[1]

- c i** The period would be very slightly larger,  
and the peaks of the curve would be decreasing. [2]

- ii** The period would stay the same.

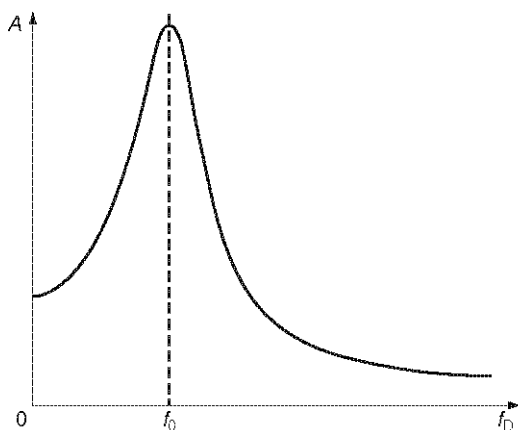
The energy is proportional to the square of the amplitude, and so the increase from 0.15 m to 0.21 m implies an increase in maximum energy by a factor of  $\left(\frac{0.21}{0.15}\right)^2 \approx 2$ . [2]

- d** Peak at/close to natural frequency.

Amplitude going to constant value as  $f \rightarrow 0$ .

Amplitude going to zero as  $f \rightarrow \infty$ . [3]

Exam tip: you need detail, quantitative whenever possible.



- 9 a** In a transverse wave the displacement of the medium particles is at right angles to the direction of energy transfer of the wave, whereas in a longitudinal wave the displacement is parallel to the direction of energy transfer. [2]

**b i** 4.0 cm. [1]

**ii** 0.65 m. [1]

**iii** In 92 ms the crest moved forward 0.15 m,

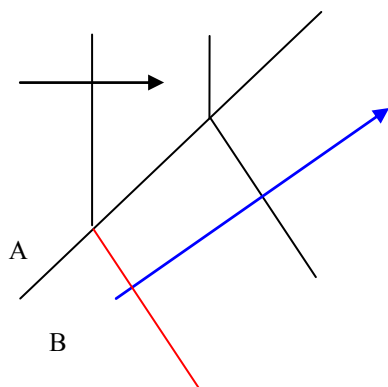
and so  $v = \frac{0.15}{92 \times 10^{-3}} = 1.63 \approx 1.6 \text{ ms}^{-1}$ . [2]

**iv** From  $v = f\lambda$  we get  $f = \frac{1.63}{0.65}$ .

$f = 2.51 \approx 2.5 \text{ ms}^{-1}$  [2]

- 10 a** A surface at right angles to the direction of energy transfer, where all its points are in phase. [2]

**b**



**i** Red line in diagram. [1]

**ii** Blue line in diagram. [1]

**iii** Measuring the distance between successive wavefronts in each medium to get a ratio of about 1.3. [2]

- 11 a** When two similar waves meet, the resulting displacement is the algebraic sum of the individual displacements. [1]
- b i** The difference in the length of the paths followed by the two waves from their source to point P. [1]
- ii** Assuming zero phase difference initially, we will have constructive/destructive interference.
- If the path difference is an integral / half integral multiple of the wavelength. [2]
- c** No interference pattern will be observed.
- Because the phase difference between the two lasers is constantly changing, and so at point P we sometimes have constructive interference and sometimes destructive in very short succession (of the order of nanoseconds),
- and so no pattern will be observable. [3]