



Government of **Western Australia**  
School Curriculum and Standards Authority



**PHYSICS**  
**ATAR COURSE YEAR 12**  
**FORMULAE AND DATA BOOKLET**  
**2020**

Note: the variable  $t$  refers to the 'time taken', sometimes referred to as the 'change in time' or  $\Delta t$ .

### Gravity and motion

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Average velocity

$$v_{av} = \frac{s}{t}$$

Equations of motion

$$v = u + at \quad s = ut + \frac{1}{2} at^2 \quad v^2 = u^2 + 2as$$

$$p = mv$$

Force

$$F_{net} = ma$$

Weight force

$$F = mg$$

Kinetic energy

$$E_k = \frac{1}{2} mv^2$$

Gravitational potential energy

$$E_p = m g \Delta h$$

Work done

$$W = Fs = \Delta E$$

Equations of circular motion

$$v = \frac{2\pi r}{T} \quad a_c = \frac{v^2}{r} \quad F_c = ma_c = \frac{mv^2}{r}$$

Newton's law of universal gravitation

$$F = G \frac{m_1 m_2}{r^2}$$

Kepler's 3rd law

$$T^2 = \frac{4\pi^2}{GM} r^3$$

Gravitational field strength

$$g = G \frac{M}{r^2}$$

Moment of a force

$$\tau = r F \sin\theta$$

(force at angle  $\theta$  to lever arm)

### Wave particle duality and the quantum theory

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Wave period

$$T = \frac{1}{f}$$

Wave equation

$$c = f\lambda$$

Energy of photon

$$E = hf$$

Energy transitions

$$\Delta E = E_2 - E_1 = hf$$

Photoelectric effect

$$E_k = hf - W$$

De Broglie wavelength

$$\lambda = \frac{h}{p}$$

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**Electromagnetism**

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Coulomb's law	$F = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q_1 q_2}{r^2}$		
Electric field strength	$E = \frac{F}{q} = \frac{V}{d}$		
Magnetic field strength	$B = \frac{\mu_0}{2\pi} \frac{I}{r}$		
Magnetic force on a charged particle	$F = q v B$ where $v \perp B$		
Magnetic force on a current-carrying conductor	$F = I \ell B$ where $\ell \perp B$		
Particle motion in a magnetic field	$r = \frac{m v}{q B}$		
Torque on a coil	$\tau = r F$		
Magnetic flux	$\Phi = B A_{\perp}$		
Electromagnetic induction	induced emf: $\mathcal{E} = \ell v B$ where $v \perp B$		
	induced emf: $\mathcal{E} = -N \frac{(\Phi_2 - \Phi_1)}{t} = -N \frac{\Delta\Phi}{t} = -N \frac{\Delta(B A_{\perp})}{t}$		
	AC generator emf <sub>max</sub> : $\mathcal{E}_{\text{max}} = 2N\ell v B = 2\pi N B A_{\perp} f$ $\mathcal{E}_{\text{rms}} = \frac{\mathcal{E}_{\text{max}}}{\sqrt{2}}$		
Ohm's law	$V = IR$		
Electric current	$I = \frac{q}{t}$	Work and energy	$W = Vq$
Ideal transformer turns ratio	$\frac{V_p}{V_s} = \frac{N_p}{N_s}$	Power	$P = VI$

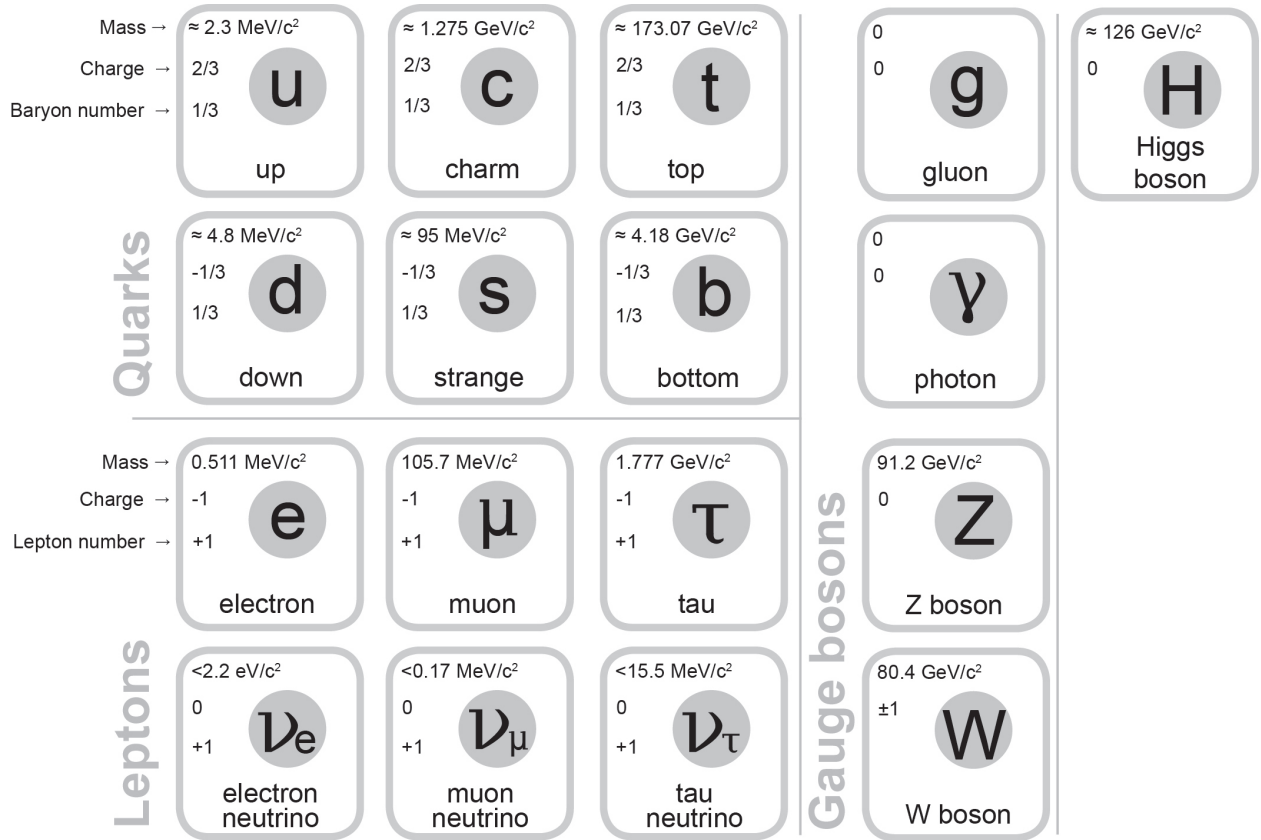
**Special relativity**

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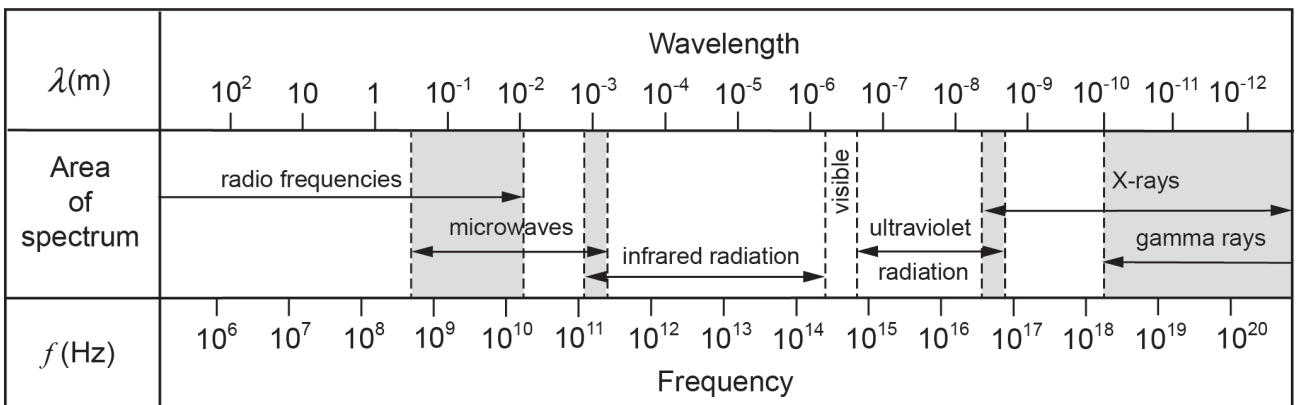
Relativistic effects	$\ell = \ell_0 \sqrt{\left(1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}\right)}$	$t = \frac{t_0}{\sqrt{\left(1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}\right)}}$	
	$u = \frac{v + u'}{1 + \frac{v u'}{c^2}}$	$u' = \frac{u - v}{1 - \frac{v u}{c^2}}$	
Relativistic momentum	$p = \frac{m v}{\sqrt{\left(1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}\right)}}$		
Mass-energy equivalence	$E = \frac{m c^2}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}}}$	Rest energy	$E = m c^2$

The Standard Model

Elementary particles



Electromagnetic spectrum



Note: shaded areas represent regions of overlap.

See next page

**Physical data**

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Mean acceleration due to gravity on the Earth..... $g$	=	$9.80 \text{ m s}^{-2}$
Mean acceleration due to gravity on the Moon..... $g_M$	=	$1.62 \text{ m s}^{-2}$
Mean radius of the Earth..... $R_E$	=	$6.37 \times 10^6 \text{ m}$
Mass of the Earth..... $M_E$	=	$5.97 \times 10^{24} \text{ kg}$
Mean radius of the Sun..... $R_S$	=	$6.96 \times 10^8 \text{ m}$
Mass of the Sun..... $M_S$	=	$1.99 \times 10^{30} \text{ kg}$
Mean radius of the Moon..... $R_M$	=	$1.74 \times 10^6 \text{ m}$
Mass of the Moon..... $M_M$	=	$7.35 \times 10^{22} \text{ kg}$
Mean Earth-Moon distance.....	=	$3.84 \times 10^8 \text{ m}$
Mean Earth-Sun distance.....	=	$1.50 \times 10^{11} \text{ m}$
Mass (at rest) of electron..... $m_e$	=	$9.11 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg}$
Mass (at rest) of proton..... $m_p$	=	$1.67 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$
Tonne..... $1 \text{ t}$	=	$10^3 \text{ kg}$

**Physical constants**

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Speed of light in vacuum or air..... $c$	=	$3.00 \times 10^8 \text{ m s}^{-1}$
Electron charge..... $e$	=	$-1.60 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$
Planck constant..... $h$	=	$6.63 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J s}$
Newtonian constant of gravitation..... $G$	=	$6.67 \times 10^{-11} \text{ N m}^2 \text{ kg}^{-2}$
Electric constant..... $\epsilon_0$	=	$8.85 \times 10^{-12} \text{ F m}^{-1}$
Magnetic constant..... $\mu_0$	=	$4\pi \times 10^{-7} \text{ N A}^{-2} = 1.26 \times 10^{-6} \text{ N A}^{-2}$

**Conversions**

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Electron volt..... $1 \text{ eV}$	=	$1.60 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J}$
Light year..... $\text{ly}$	=	$9.46 \times 10^{12} \text{ km}$
Megaparsec..... $\text{Mpc}$	=	$3.09 \times 10^{19} \text{ km} = 3.26 \times 10^6 \text{ ly}$

**Prefixes of the metric system**

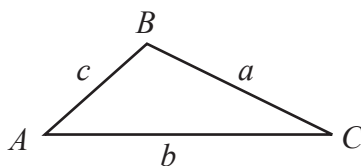
Factor	Prefix	Symbol	Factor	Prefix	Symbol
$10^{12}$	tera	T	$10^{-3}$	milli	m
$10^9$	giga	G	$10^{-6}$	micro	$\mu$
$10^6$	mega	M	$10^{-9}$	nano	n
$10^3$	kilo	k	$10^{-12}$	pico	p

**Mathematical expressions****Quadratic equations**

Given  $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ ,  $x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$

**Triangles**

The following expressions apply to the triangle ABC as shown:



$$\frac{a}{\sin A} = \frac{b}{\sin B} = \frac{c}{\sin C}$$

$$a = \sqrt{b^2 + c^2 - 2bc \cos A}$$

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

### Elementary particles

Adapted from Standard Model image: MissMJ. (2006). *File:Standard Model of Elementary Particles.svg*. Retrieved June, 2016, from [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Standard\\_Model\\_of\\_Elementary\\_Particles.svg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Standard_Model_of_Elementary_Particles.svg)  
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