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UPDATE NOTICE

0625 IGCSE Physics

Please note the following changes:

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8.7 Presentation of data

The solidus (/) is to be used for separating the quantity and the unit in tables, graphs and charts, e.g. time/s for time in seconds.

- (a) Tables
 - Each column of a table should be headed with the physical quantity and the appropriate unit, e.g. time/s.
 - The column headings of the table can then be directly transferred to the axes of a constructed graph.
- (b) Graphs
 - Unless instructed otherwise, the independent variable should be plotted on the *x*-axis (horizontal axis) and the dependent variable plotted on the *y*-axis (vertical axis).
 - Each axis should be labelled with the physical quantity and the appropriate unit, e.g. time/s.
 - The scales for the axes should allow the majority of the graph grid to be used in both directions, and be based on sensible ratios, e.g. 2 cm on the graph grid representing 1, 2 or 5 units of the variable (or 10, 20 or 50 units, etc.).
 - The graph is the whole diagrammatic presentation, including the best-fit line when appropriate. It may have one or several data sets plotted on it.
 - Points on the curve should be clearly marked as crosses (x) or encircled dots (③).
 - Large 'dots' are penalised. Each data point should be plotted to an accuracy of better than one half of each of the smallest squares on the grid.
 - A best-fit line (trend line) should be a single, thin, smooth straight-line or curve. The line does not need to coincide exactly with any of the points; where there is scatter evident in the data, Examiners would expect a roughly even distribution of points either side of the line over its entire length. Points that are clearly anomalous may be ignored when drawing the best-fit line.
 - The gradient of a straight line should be taken using a triangle whose hypotenuse extends over at least half of the length of the best-fit line, and this triangle should be marked on the graph.
- (c) Numerical results
 - Data should be recorded so as to reflect the precision of the measuring instrument.
 - The number of significant figures given for calculated quantities should be appropriate to the least number of significant figures in the raw data used.