

Problem 2: Mechanical Blackbox

I. Determination of CM (1.0 points) *marks are either full or zero

Physical concepts/Understanding (0.4 points)	
Points	Concepts/Details
0.4	P1* Method for CM measurement (schematic drawing) is scientifically reasonable: e.g. hanging the cylinder with a thread loop, hanging with strings at ends, placing at edge of table or moving balance points together until they meet.
Experimental skills and Analysis (0.2 points)	
0.2	E1* ≥ 3 measurements
Accuracy and uncertainties (0.4 points) (penalty for unsuitable sig. figs. (-0.1) and missing units (-0.1))	
0.2	A1* Position of centre of mass 17.6 – 18.0 cm (from light end), 12.0-12.4 cm (from heavy end)
0.2	A2 Error estimate ≤ 0.3 cm from statistical error (0.2), 0.1-0.2 cm from single measurement error (0.1)

II: Determination of other parameters (9.0 points) *marks are either full or zero

Points	Concepts/Details
Physical concepts/Understanding (2.2 points)	
0.4	P2* Obtain expression for the period/frequency: e.g. using formula for simple harmonic motion, solving differential equation etc.
1.0	P3* Form a straight line equation that leads to a graph (e.g. T^2R vs. R^2 or T^2/R vs. $1/R^2$) to extract relevant parameters.
0.4	P4* $I_{CM} = \frac{1}{3}M\left(\frac{L}{2}\right)^2 + M\left(x_{CM} - \frac{L}{2}\right)^2 + m(z - x_{CM})^2$
0.4	P5* $x_{CM} = \frac{mz + M\frac{L}{2}}{m + M}$
Experimental skills and Data analysis (3.7 points)	
0.6	E2 Table: measurements T (0.2), R (0.2) and units (0.2)
1.0	E3 Graph: appropriate scale to cover good area of the graph paper (area enclosing data points plotted covers at least half of graph paper area) (0.3)*, correct plotting of data (all correct (0.4)/some incorrect (0.2)/all wrong (0)) and units (0.3)

Points	Concepts/Details
1.3	E4 Quality of data: For each measurement: ≥ 10 oscillations (0.5), ≥ 7 oscillations (0.3), others (0) -Number of measurement at each pivoting position: ≥ 3 meas. (0.3), 2 meas. (0.1), 1 meas. (0 pt) -Number of pivoting positions: ≥ 10 pos. (0.5), ≥ 8 pos. (0.4), ≥ 5 pos. (0.3), < 5 (0).
0.4	E5 Form two equations between z and M/m . (0.2 each)
0.4	E6 Use these equations to find z (0.2) and M/m (0.2).
Accuracy and uncertainties (3.1 points) (penalty for unsuitable sig. figs. (-0.1) and missing units (-0.1))	
0.6	A3 Obtain a correct value of g from the slope of the graph. The value of g 968 – 988 (0.6) 958 – 967 or 989 – 998 (0.3) cm/s^2
0.3	A4 Equation for finding error of g (0.2), acceptable method of finding the precursor error(s) (0.1).
0.6	A5 Obtain a correct value of z The value of z 25.9 – 26.2 (0.6) 25.5 – 25.8 or 26.3 – 26.6 (0.3) cm
0.6	A6 Obtain a correct value of M/m The value of M/m 2.6 – 2.8 (0.6) 2.5 – 2.59 or 2.81 – 2.9 (0.3)
0.6	A7 Equation for finding error of z (0.2), acceptable method of finding the precursor error(s) (0.1). Equation for finding error of (M/m) (0.2), acceptable method of finding the precursor error(s) (0.1).
0.4	A8* $\Delta z \leq 0.4 \text{ cm}$ or $\Delta(M/m) \leq 0.15$