

SOLUTIONS TO THE PROBLEMS OF THE THEORETICAL COMPETITION

Problem 1 (10 points)

Problem 1.A

Let l_1 and l_2 be the lengths of the hanging ends of the rope ($l_1 < l_2$). Then $l_2 - l_1 = \frac{L}{2}$ and $l_1 + l_2 + \pi R = L$, from which $l_2 = \frac{3}{4}L - \frac{\pi}{2}R$.

1. Consider the rope after a very short time interval Δt from the moment when the height difference of the rope ends is $h = l_2 - l_1 = \frac{L}{2}$ to the moment when one end of the rope is displaced by the small interval Δx . Since there is no friction in the system, any increase in the kinetic energy of the rope should be equal to decrease in the potential energy. It could be easily noticed that the displacement of the rope along itself is equivalent to lowering of a small piece of the rope Δx by the height h :

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta \frac{mv^2}{2} &= \frac{m}{L} \Delta x \cdot gh, \\ \frac{m2v\Delta v}{2} &= \frac{m}{L} v \Delta t \cdot gh.\end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$a = \frac{\Delta v}{\Delta t} = \frac{h}{L} g = \frac{g}{2}.$$

2. Using similar approach as in section 1, an equation for the conservation of energy is written for the right hand part of the rope (from the top point) considered for a small time interval Δt .

Let $l = l_2 + \frac{\pi}{2}R = \frac{3}{4}L$ be the length of that part, $M = m \frac{l}{L} = \frac{3}{4}m$ is its mass, T is the tension at the top point, $H = l_2 + R = \frac{3}{4}L - R \left(\frac{\pi}{2} - 1 \right)$ is the difference in heights between the top point and the lowest points of the rope. Then:

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta \frac{Mv^2}{2} &= \frac{m}{L} \Delta x \cdot gH - T \Delta x, \\ Mva &= \frac{m}{L} v \cdot gH - Tv, \\ T &= \frac{mgH}{L} - Ma = mg \left[\frac{3}{8} + \frac{R}{L} \left(1 - \frac{\pi}{2} \right) \right].\end{aligned}$$

3. The second law of Newton for the small piece of the rope is written in projection to the tangent line:

$$\Delta m \cdot a = \Delta m \cdot g \sin \alpha + T_1 - T_2.$$

If that small piece is chosen at the point with the maximum tension, then $T_1 = T_2$, from which the following can be obtained:

$$\begin{aligned}\sin \alpha &= \frac{a}{g} = \frac{1}{2}, \\ \alpha &= 30^\circ\end{aligned}$$

Grading scheme for Problem 1.A

№	Description	Points
1.	Correct value of the acceleration	1
2.	There is a correct reasoning, some justification for the final answer	1
3.	Correct method to find T_{top} is presented	1
4.	Exact answer for T_{top}	0,5
5.	Reasonable method to solve for α is presented	1
6.	Final answer for α	0,5
	Total	5,0

Problem 1.B Assistant Vapor

Air, closed in the vessel at the temperature of 200°C , exerts the following pressure:

$$1 \text{ atm} \cdot \frac{473 \text{ K}}{293 \text{ K}} = 1,61 \text{ atm}$$

At the same temperature, the vapor pressure is $2,88 - 1,61 = 1,27 \text{ atm}$. Then, the vapor pressure at any temperature T when all water is vaporized is found as:

$$P_{\text{vap}} = 1,27 \cdot \frac{T}{473} \text{ atm} = \frac{T}{373} \text{ atm}$$

Let $P(T)$ be the temperature dependence of the saturated vapor pressure. Then, all water is evaporated at the temperature, which is derived from the following equation:

$$P(T) = \frac{T}{373} \text{ atm},$$

Solution of this equation could be obtained even without further knowledge of the function $P(T)$. It is well known, that at $P = 1 \text{ atm}$, $T = 373 \text{ K} = 100^\circ\text{C}$. Thus, this checks the solution.

Marking scheme for Problem 1B:

Nº	Description	Points
1.	Correct value for air pressure at $T=200^\circ\text{C}$	0,5
2.	Vapor pressure was found for any temperature T	0,5
3.	Condition for T_{vap} was written	0,5
4.	Correct final answer	0,5
Total		2.0

Problem 1.C Pyramid

1. Consider a beam, which falls down on one of the sides at the point, close to the top of the pyramid. The angle of incidence of the beam on the facet is equal to the angle between the lateral facet and the base of the pyramid $\angle AEO = \alpha$. It is easy to prove geometrically that $\cos \alpha = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}$, thus $\alpha = 54,7^\circ$.

According to the refraction law the angle β can be written as follows:

$$\sin \beta = \frac{\sin \alpha}{n} = \frac{1}{n} \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}. \text{ Thus, } \beta = 24,6^\circ.$$

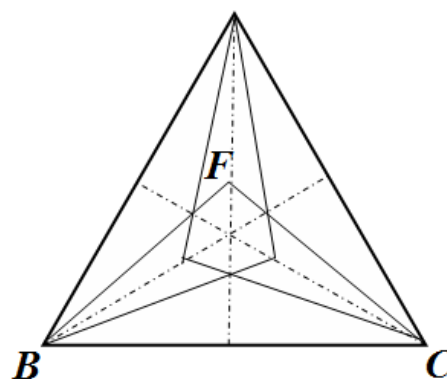
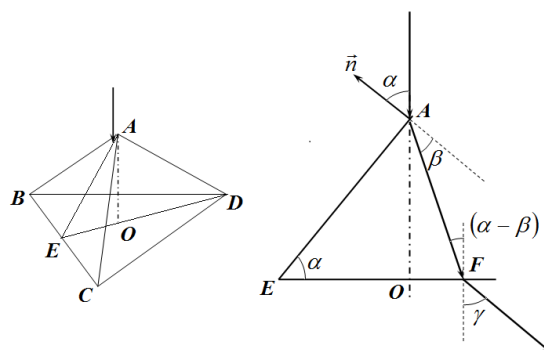
Let us find the point F, where that beam falls on the base of the pyramid. The height of the lateral facet is $|AE| = \frac{a}{2}$,

$$\text{pyramid's height } |AO| = \frac{a}{2} \sin \alpha = \frac{a}{2} \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} = 0,41 \text{ mm}.$$

Then, $|OF| = |AO| \tan(\alpha - \beta) = 0,24 \text{ mm}$. Finally, the point sought is located at the

$$\text{distance } |DF| = |OD| - |OF| = \frac{a}{\sqrt{3}} - 0,24 \text{ mm} = 0,91 \text{ mm}.$$

The same point is located at a distance

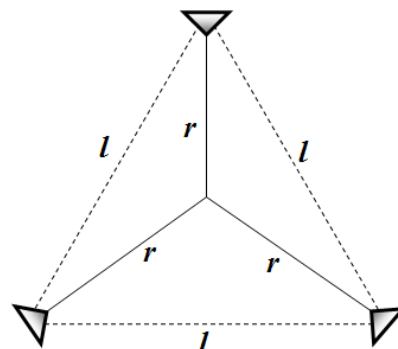


$|EO| = a \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} - |DF| = 0,82 \text{ mm}$ from the middle point of base's side. Thus, the beam refracted by the facet BCF illuminates a triangle at the base of the pyramid. Symmetrical triangles are illuminated by the other two facets (see figure 2).

2. Let us find an angle γ , of the beam after its refraction on the base of the pyramid. It follows from Figure 1 and the refraction law that:

$$\sin \gamma = n \sin(\alpha - \beta) = n(\sin \alpha \cos \beta - \cos \alpha \sin \beta) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} \sqrt{n^2 - \frac{2}{3}} - \frac{\sqrt{2}}{3}. \quad (1)$$

Numerical value of this angle is $\gamma = 41^\circ$. As the beams, refracted by one facet are parallel to each other, they illuminate similar regions on the screen as they do at the base of the pyramid. The only difference is that those triangular regions are displaced at the distance $r = L \tan \gamma = 8,6 \text{ cm}$. Thus, three small triangular regions are seen on the screen, which are located at the tops of the triangle of the side $l = r\sqrt{3} = 14,9 \text{ cm}$.

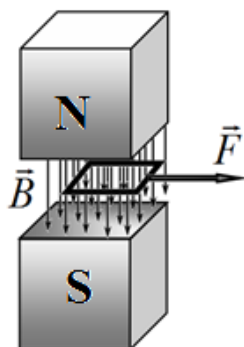


Marking scheme for Problem 1C:

No	Description	Points
1	Light refraction law	0.2
2	Incidence angle on the facet of the pyramid	0.4
3	Location of point F	1.0
4	Illuminated regions at the base of the pyramid	0.4
5	Outlet angle at the base	0.4
6	Illuminated regions at the screen	0.6
Total		3.0

Problem 2 (10 points) Square frame

1. In physics, it is agreed that the magnetic field lines begin at the north pole and ends at the South pole. Therefore, the drawing should look like this



2. When the frame is removed from the uniform magnetic field, the induced emf can be found from the Faraday law

$$\varepsilon = -\frac{d\Phi}{dt} = -\frac{d}{dt}(Bax) = Bav(t). \quad (1)$$

On the other hand Ohm's law is written as

$$\varepsilon = IR, \quad (2)$$

Thus, we get the relation between the current and the velocity

$$I(t) = \frac{Bav(t)}{R}. \quad (3)$$

The frame is affected by the force that pulls the frame back into the magnetic field. It is found from Ampere's law

$$F_A(t) = BaI(t) = \frac{B^2 a^2 v(t)}{R}. \quad (4)$$

Thus, the equation of motion is written as

$$m \frac{dv(t)}{dt} = F - \frac{B^2 a^2 v(t)}{R}. \quad (5)$$

Solution of equation (5) with the initial condition $v(0) = 0$ is

$$v(t) = \frac{FR}{B^2 a^2} \left[1 - \exp\left(-\frac{B^2 a^2}{mR} t\right) \right]. \quad (6)$$

3. Integrating (6) we get following relation

$$x(t) = \int_0^t v(t) dt = \frac{FR}{B^2 a^2} \left[t + \frac{mR}{B^2 a^2} \left(\exp\left(-\frac{B^2 a^2}{mR} t\right) - 1 \right) \right]. \quad (7)$$

When the frame leaves the magnetic field

$$x(t_0) = a, \quad (8)$$

Thus, we get an equation for t_0

$$t_0 + \frac{mR}{B^2 a^2} \left[\exp\left(-\frac{B^2 a^2}{mR} t_0\right) - 1 \right] = \frac{B^2 a^3}{FR}. \quad (9)$$

Equation (9) is transcendental and cannot be solved analytically. To estimate t_0 we can see from equation (6) that for the characteristic time $\tau \sim mR / B^2 a^2$ the frame reaches the steady velocity $v_0 = FR / B^2 a^2$. We assume that from 0 to τ the frame moves with the constant acceleration $w = F / m$, then it moves with the steady velocity v_0 . Hence, we get an estimate

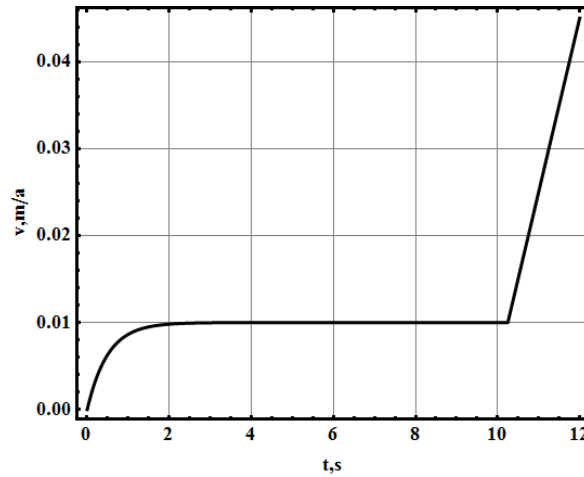
$$t_0 \sim \tau + \frac{a - \frac{wt^2}{2}}{v_0} = \frac{B^2 a^3}{FR} + \frac{mR}{2B^2 a^2} = 10.25 \tau. \quad (10)$$

Note that numerical solution of equation (9) gives $t_0 \approx 10.5 \tau$.

4. After the t_0 the frame continues its motion with the constant acceleration w . At the same time the speed should be a continuous function of time, so the time dependence is written as

$$v(t) = \begin{cases} \frac{FR}{B^2 a^2} \left[1 - \exp\left(-\frac{B^2 a^2}{mR} t\right) \right], & t < t_0 \\ \frac{FR}{B^2 a^2} + \frac{F}{m} (t - t_0), & t \geq t_0 \end{cases}. \quad (11)$$

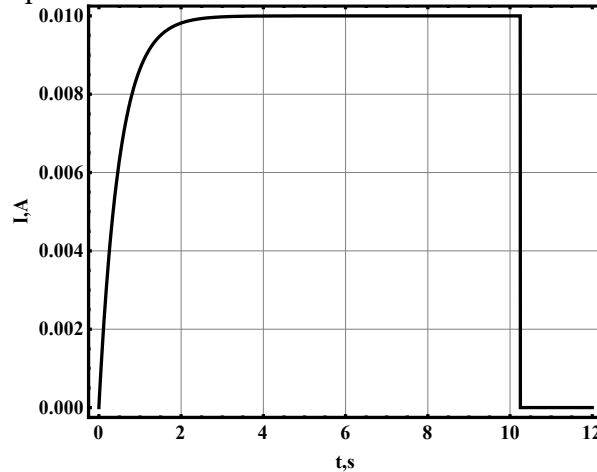
The corresponding graph is plotted as



5. While the frame is between the magnetic poles, the current is determined by the equations (3) and (6). After that, the frame current vanishes instantaneously. Thus,

$$I(t) = \begin{cases} \frac{F}{Ba} \left[1 - \exp\left(-\frac{B^2 a^2}{mR} t\right) \right], & t < t_0 \\ 0, & t \geq t_0 \end{cases} \quad (12)$$

The corresponding graph is plotted as



6. As in the previous part, when the frame is removed from the constant magnetic field, the emf (1) is induced. There is another emf appearing due to the self-induction of the superconductive frame

$$\varepsilon_L = -L \frac{dI}{dt}. \quad (13)$$

Since the resistance of the superconductive frame is zero, Ohm's law for the frame becomes

$$Bav(t) - L \frac{dI}{dt} = 0. \quad (14)$$

Taking into account that $I = 0$ when $x = 0$ we get from equations (13) and (14)

$$I = \frac{Bax}{L}. \quad (15)$$

The corresponding force is given by

$$F_A = BaI = \frac{B^2 a^2 x}{L}. \quad (16)$$

Thus, the equation of motion is written as

$$m \frac{d^2 x}{dt^2} = F - \frac{B^2 a^2}{L} x. \quad (17)$$

Expression (17) is an equation of simple harmonic oscillations with the frequency

$$\omega = \frac{Ba}{\sqrt{mL}}, \quad (18)$$

that are performed near the new equilibrium position with the coordinate

$$x_0 = \frac{FL}{B^2 a^2}. \quad (19)$$

Obviously, the force F is minimal when

$$x_0 = a/2, \quad (20)$$

whence

$$F_{\min} = \frac{B^2 a^3}{2L} = 5.00 \times 10^{-5} \text{ H}. \quad (21)$$

7. From previous section 6, the frame reaches the edge of the magnet for a half period of oscillations, thus

$$t_0 = \frac{\pi}{\omega} = \pi \frac{\sqrt{mL}}{Ba} = 7.02 \text{ c}. \quad (22)$$

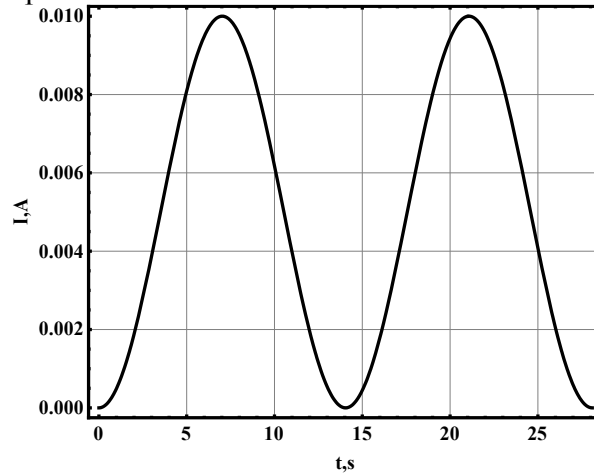
8. Solution of equation (17) with the initial conditions $x(0) = 0, x'(0) = 0$ is written as

$$x(t) = \frac{F_{\min} L}{B^2 a^2} (1 - \cos \omega t) = \frac{a}{2} (1 - \cos \omega t). \quad (23)$$

According to equation (15) the frame current varies as

$$I(t) = \frac{Bax(t)}{L} = \frac{Ba^2}{2L} (1 - \cos \omega t). \quad (24)$$

The corresponding graph is plotted as



9. Ohm's law for the frame is written as

$$Bav - L \frac{dI}{dt} = IR, \quad (25)$$

and its equation of motion is as follows

$$m \frac{dv}{dt} = -BIa. \quad (26)$$

Equations (25) and (26) can be rewritten in finite differences as follows

$$Ba^2 - LI_0 = qR, \quad (27)$$

$$mv_0 = Bqa, \quad (28)$$

where q is the charge flown through the circuit.

Solving (27) and (28) together, we obtain

$$I_0 = \frac{B^2 a^3 - mv_0 R}{aBL}. \quad (29)$$

Marking scheme

№	Description	points	
1	Properly set northern N and southern S poles	0.2	0.2
2	Eq (1)	0.2	1.2
	Eq (2)	0.2	
	Eq (3)	0.2	
	Eq (4)	0.2	
	Eq (5)	0.2	
	Solution (6)	0.2	
3	Eq (7)	0.2	0.8
	Eq (8)	0.2	
	Eq (9)	0.2	
	Numerical value of t_0	0.2	
4	Eq (11)	0.2	1.2
	Graph of $v(t)$: axis signed and digitized	0.2	
	Graph of $v(t)$: there is a part with a constant velocity	0.2	
	Graph of $v(t)$: there is a part with constant acceleration	0.2	
	Graph of $v(t)$: continuous	0.2	
	Graph of $v(t)$: correct numerical values	0.2	
5	Eq (12)	0.2	1.2
	Graph of $I(t)$: axis signed and digitized	0.2	
	Graph of $I(t)$: there is a part with constant current	0.2	
	Graph of $I(t)$: there is a part with zero current	0.2	
	Graph of $I(t)$: discontinuous	0.2	
	Graph of $I(t)$: correct numerical values	0.2	
6	Eq (13)	0.2	1.8
	Eq (14)	0.2	
	Relationship (15)	0.2	
	Quasi-elastic force (16)	0.2	
	Eq of motion (17)	0.2	
	Equilibrium point (19)	0.2	
	Condition (20)	0.2	
	Eq (21) for $F_{\min}$	0.2	
	Numerical value $F_{\min}$	0.2	
7	Frequency (18)	0.2	0.6
	Eq (22)	0.2	
	Numerical value of t_0	0.2	
8	Eq (23)	0.2	1.0
	Eq (24)	0.2	
	Graph of $I(t)$: axis signed and digitized	0.2	
	Graph of $I(t)$: two periods of current oscillation	0.2	
	Graph of $I(t)$: correct value of amplitude	0.2	
9	Ohm's Law (25)	0.2	
	Eq of motion (26)	0.2	

	Eq (27)	0.7	2.0
	Eq (28)	0.7	
	Expression (29)	0.2	
Total			10,0

Problem 3 (10 pts)

Bohr model for hydrogen atom

1. We can use Kepler's third law to find the free fall time of the electron onto the proton. Consider a circular orbit of radius R , then the equation of motion of the electron can be written as

$$m_e \left(\frac{2\pi}{T} \right)^2 R = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{e^2}{R^2}, \quad (1)$$

where T is the period of revolution.

Thus, Kepler's third law for the electron is given by

$$\frac{a^3}{T^2} = \frac{1}{16\pi^3\epsilon_0} \frac{e^2}{m_e}, \quad (2)$$

where a is the major semi-axis of an elliptic orbit.

Consider the free fall of the electron onto the proton as a motion along a very elongated ellipse with semi-axes $a = r_0 / 2$. Then, the free fall time of the electron equals to the half of this period

$$t_1 = \frac{T}{2} = \sqrt{\frac{\pi^3 m_e \epsilon_0 r_0^3}{2e^2}} = 2.46 \times 10^{-17} \text{ c}. \quad (3)$$

2. To find the dependence of the electron velocity on the orbit radius we again use Newton's second law, which is now written in the form

$$m_e \frac{v^2}{r} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{e^2}{r^2}, \quad (4)$$

which yields

$$v = \sqrt{\frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{e^2}{m_e r}}, \quad (5)$$

3. The angular momentum of the electron is found from equation (5) as

$$L = m_e v r = \sqrt{\frac{m_e r e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0}}. \quad (6)$$

4. Since, according to the Bohr model of the hydrogen atom the angular momentum of the electron is quantized, that is $L = n\hbar$, From equation (6) we can get

$$r_n = \frac{4\pi\epsilon_0 n^2 \hbar^2}{m_e e^2}. \quad (7)$$

5. From equation (7) we see that the minimal radius corresponds to the quantum number $n = 1$, hence

$$r_1 = \frac{4\pi\epsilon_0 \hbar^2}{m_e e^2} = 5.19 \times 10^{-11} \text{ m}. \quad (8)$$

6. The total energy of the electron in the atom is the sum of the kinetic and potential energies. Taking into account equation (5) we can write the total energy of electron in the following form

$$E = \frac{m_e v^2}{2} - \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r} = -\frac{e^2}{8\pi\epsilon_0 r}. \quad (9)$$

Substituting the possible values of the orbit radii of the electron (7), we immediately obtain

$$E_n = -\frac{m_e e^4}{32\pi^2 \varepsilon_0^2 \hbar^2 n^2}. \quad (10)$$

7. From equation (10) we see that the minimal total energy corresponds to the quantum number $n=1$, hence

$$E_1 = -\frac{m_e e^4}{32\pi^2 \varepsilon_0^2 \hbar^2} = -2.24 \times 10^{-18} \text{ Дж}. \quad (11)$$

8. The total energy of the electron (9) is spent on the emission of electromagnetic waves

$$\frac{dE}{dt} = -P. \quad (12)$$

From the equation (9) and (12) we get

$$r(t)^2 \frac{dr(t)}{dt} = -\frac{e^4}{12\pi^2 \varepsilon_0^2 m_e^2 c^3}. \quad (13)$$

By solving equation (13) with the initial condition $r(0) = r_1$, we get

$$r(t) = \sqrt[3]{r_1^3 - \frac{e^4}{4\pi^2 \varepsilon_0^2 m_e^2 c^3} t}. \quad (14)$$

9. The falling time τ_1 is found from the condition $r(t) = 0$. By substituting this into equation (14)

$$\tau_1 = \frac{4\pi^2 m_e^2 \varepsilon_0^2 c^3 r_1^3}{e^4} = \frac{256\pi^5 \varepsilon_0^5 c^3 \hbar^5}{m_e e^{10}} = 1.44 \times 10^{-11} \text{ с}. \quad (15)$$

10. For a short time interval dt the electron makes a turn by the angle $d\varphi$, defined as

$$d\varphi = \frac{v}{r} dt. \quad (16)$$

By substituting the velocity from equation (5) and dt from equation (13), we find

$$d\varphi = -\frac{6c^3 (\pi m_e \varepsilon_0)^{3/2}}{e^3} \sqrt{r} dr. \quad (17)$$

Total angle of rotation is found by the integration from r_1 to zero

$$\varphi = \int_{r_1}^0 d\varphi = \int_0^{r_1} \frac{6c^3 (\pi m_e \varepsilon_0)^{3/2}}{e^3} \sqrt{r} dr = \frac{4c^3 (\pi m_e \varepsilon_0 r_1)^{3/2}}{e^3} = \frac{32\pi^3 \varepsilon_0^3 c^3 \hbar^3}{e^6}. \quad (18)$$

Thus, the total number of revolutions is equal to

$$N = \frac{\varphi}{2\pi} = \frac{16\pi^2 \varepsilon_0^3 c^3 \hbar^3}{e^6} = 1.96 \times 10^5. \quad (19)$$

Marking scheme

№	Description	points	
1	Eq (1)	0.5	2.0
	Eq(2)	0.5	
	Eq(3)	0.5	
	Correct numerical value of t_1	0.5	
2	Eq (4)	0.5	1.0
	Eq (5)	0.5	
3	Eq (6)	0.5	0.5
4	Eq (7)	0.5	0.5
5	Correct numerical value of r_1	0.5	0.5

6	Eq (9)	0.5	1.0
	Eq (10)	0.5	
7	Correct numerical value of E_1	0.5	0.5
8	The conservation law (12)	0.5	1.5
	Eq (13)	0.5	
	Eq (14)	0.5	
9	Correct numerical value τ_1	0.5	0.5
10	Eq (16)	0.5	2.0
	Eq(17)	0.5	
	Eq(18)	0.5	
	Correct numerical value N	0.5	
Total			10,0