

7. Scientists have recently discovered a type of particle called a pentaquark. Pentaquarks are very short lived and contain five quarks.

A lambda b ( $\Lambda_b$ ) pentaquark contains the following quarks: 2 up, 1 down, 1 charm, and 1 anticharm quark.

(a) Quarks and leptons are fundamental particles.

(i) Explain what is meant by the term *fundamental particle*.

1

(ii) State the name given to the group of matter particles that contains quarks and leptons.

1

(b) The table contains information about the charge on the quarks that make up the  $\Lambda_b$  pentaquark.

Type of quark	Charge
up	$+\frac{2}{3}e$
down	$-\frac{1}{3}e$
charm	$+\frac{2}{3}e$
anticharm	$-\frac{2}{3}e$

Determine the total charge on the  $\Lambda_b$  pentaquark.

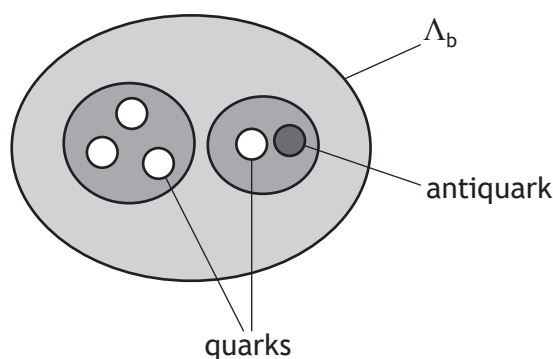
2

Space for working and answer



7. (continued)

- (c) One theory to explain the structure of the  $\Lambda_b$  pentaquark suggests that three of the quarks group together and one quark and the antiquark group together within the pentaquark.



- (i) State the type of particle that is made of a quark-antiquark pair.

1

- (ii) The mean lifetime of another quark-antiquark pair is  $8.0 \times 10^{-21} \text{ s}$  in its own frame of reference.

During an experiment the quark-antiquark pair is travelling with a velocity of  $0.91c$  relative to a stationary observer.

Calculate the mean lifetime of this quark-antiquark pair relative to the stationary observer.

3

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## 7. (continued)

(d) The  $\Lambda_b$  pentaquark has a mass-energy equivalence of 4450 MeV.

One eV is equal to  $1.60 \times 10^{-19}$  J.

(i) Determine the energy, in joules, of the  $\Lambda_b$  pentaquark.

1

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(ii) Calculate the mass of the  $\Lambda_b$  pentaquark.

3

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