



# UNIVERSITY OF EMBU

2016/2017 ACADEMIC YEAR

SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION

SECOND YEAR EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE  
AND BACHELOR OF EDUCATION SCIENCE

SPH 203: STRUCTURE AND PROPERTIES OF MATTER

**DATE: APRIL 5, 2017**

**TIME: 8:30-10:30 AM**

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

**Answer Question ONE and ANY Other TWO Questions.**

**Constants:**

$$g = 9.81 \text{ ms}^{-2}$$

$$c = 3.0 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}$$

$$m_e = 9.1 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg}$$

$$\epsilon_0 = 8.86 \times 10^{-12} \text{ C}^2/\text{Nm}^2$$

$$\text{Ionization of hydrogen atom} = 13.6 \text{ eV}$$

$$k = 1.38 \times 10^{-23} \text{ J/K}$$

$$e = 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$$

$$h = 6.6 \times 10^{-34} \text{ JS}$$

$$\mu_0 = 4\pi \times 10^{-7} \text{ Wbm}^{-2}$$

$$\text{Surface tension of water} = 0.072 \text{ Nm}^{-1}$$

**QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)**

- Calculate the root mean square speed of small particles of mass  $4 \times 10^{-17} \text{ kg}$  in air at  $0^\circ\text{C}$  and 1 atm pressure. (2 marks)
- A circular wire ring of radius 3 cm was placed on a flat surface of a liquid and then raised. The force required to raise the film was equal to 3.03 g mass more before the film broke than after it broke. Determine the surface tension of the liquid. (4 marks)
- Explain the concept of state variables of a system of a gas by giving relevant examples. (4 marks)
- Differentiate between extensive and intensive thermodynamic systems. (3 marks)
- Find the force required to stretch a steel wire to double its length if its area of cross-section is  $1 \text{ cm}^2$  and its young modulus is  $2 \times 10^{11} \text{ N/m}^2$ . (2 marks)



- f) Find the value of plank's constant  $h$ , if photoelectrons ejected from a surface of a certain metal by light of frequency  $2.2 \times 10^{15}$  Hz are fully retarded by a reverse potential of 6.6 V and those ejected by light of frequency  $4.6 \times 10^{15}$  Hz are stopped by a reverse potential of 16.5 V. (4 marks)
- g) Briefly describe a quasi-statistic process. (4 marks)
- h) Find the eigen values of the matrix given as:  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$  (4 marks)
- i) Give the physical interpretation of the wave function  $\Psi$  for an electromagnetic wave system. (3 marks)

**QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)**

- a) Determine the time taken by an electron to traverse the first Bohr's orbit in a hydrogen atom. (6 marks)
- b) Explain the classical probability distribution of the correspondence principle. (9 marks)
- c) Using a square matrix  $A$ , explain and show its eigen values and their corresponding eigen vectors. (5 marks)

**QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)**

Consider a perfect gas enclosed in a cube of side  $l$  which has perfectly elastic walls. Let each gas molecule have a mass,  $m$ , and the number of molecules present in the cube be  $n$ . Suppose the molecules move with a speed  $c_1$ , find:

- a) The total force exerted by all the  $n$  molecules on one face of the cube. (13 marks)
- b) Show that the pressure exerted by the ideal gas on the cube walls is given by:

$$P = \frac{1}{3} \rho c^2 \quad (7 \text{ marks})$$

**QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)**

- a) A beam of x- rays of wavelength  $\lambda = 8.42 \times 10^{-11}$  m was incident on a crystal plane at a glancing angle of  $8^\circ 35'$  when the first order Bragg's reflection occurs. Calculate the glancing angle for the third order reflection. (7 marks)

- b) A single electron orbits around a stationary nucleus of charge  $+Ze$ . It requires 47.2 eV to excite the electron from the second Bohr's orbit to the third. Suppose  $Z$  is a constant:
- By obtaining the value of  $Z$ , find the energy required to excite the electron from the third to the fourth orbit.  
(8 marks)
  - Find the wavelength of the electromagnetic radiation required to remove the electron from first Bohr's orbit to infinity.  
(5 marks)

**QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)**

- By giving an example briefly explain the use of the zeroth law of thermodynamics to measure temperature.  
(7 marks)
- A steel wire of 2 mm diameter is stretched between two fixed points at a temperature of 20 °C. Find its tension when the temperature falls to 10 °C.  
(6 marks)
- By use of the properties of a particle and those of a wave elaborate on the wave – particle duality of radiation. Give examples  
(7 marks)

**END**

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