



**TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OF MOMBASA**  
**Faculty of Applied & Health**  
**Sciences**

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS & PHYSICS

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATION FOR THE  
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

SPH 2173: PHYSICS FOR ENGINEERS I

SPECIAL/SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION

SERIES: OCTOBER 2013

TIME: 2 HOURS

**Instructions to Candidates:**

You should have the following for this examination

- *Answer Booklet*

This paper consist of **FIVE** questions in **TWO** sections **A & B**

Answer question **ONE (COMPULSORY)** and any other **TWO** questions

Maximum marks for each part of a question are as shown

This paper consists of **FOUR** printed pages

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**SECTION A (COMPULSORY)**

**Question One**

- a) Determine the dimensions of the following constants.
- |                  |          |
|------------------|----------|
| (i) Acceleration | (1 mark) |
| (ii) Density     | (1 mark) |
| (iii) Work       | (1 mark) |
- b) If the units of length, mass and force are chosen as fundamental units, what will be the dimensions of time in terms of these units. (2 marks)
- c) State Kepler's laws of planetary motion (3 marks)

- d) Show that for a circular track of radius  $r$  and angle of banking  $\theta$  :

$$\theta = \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{v^2}{vg} \right)$$

where  $v$  is the maximum velocity for negotiating the track and  $g$  is acceleration due to gravity. **(4 marks)**

- e) (i) Define simple harmonic motion **(1 mark)**  
(ii) A mass vibrates through an amplitude of 2cm in simple harmonic motion with a period 1S. What is the distance moved from the centre of oscillation in 0.4s **(3 marks)**
- f) Define the following terms:  
(i) Stress **(1 mark)**  
(ii) Strain **(1 mark)**  
(iii) Elasticity **(1 mark)**
- g) While at 0°C, a square steel plate of side 20cm is fixed at both ends so that it cannot expand. If its temperature is raised to 20°C, what force would be excited on the support at the ends. Young's modulus  $Y = 2 \times 10^{12} \text{Nm}^2$  and coefficient of expansion of steel =  $10^{-5} \text{C}^{-1}$  **(5 marks)**
- h) State the following laws:  
(i) Boyle's law **(1 mark)**  
(ii) Charles's law **(1 mark)**
- i) A standard resistance coil marked  $30 \Omega$  is found to have a true resistance of  $3.114 \Omega$  at 300K. Calculate the temperature at which the marking is correct. (The temperature coefficient of the material of the coil is  $4.2 \times 10^{-3} \text{C}^{-1}$ ) **(4 marks)**

## SECTION B (Answer any TWO questions from this section)

### Question Two

- a) Define the following terms:  
(i) Kinetics **(1 mark)**  
(ii) Kinematics **(1 mark)**
- b) The position coordinate of a particle which is confined to move along a straight line is given by:
- $$S = 24t^3 - 12t + 3$$
- Where  $S$  is measured in meters from the origin and  $t$  is the seconds. Determine:
- (i) The time required for the particle to reach a velocity of  $72 \text{ms}^{-1}$  from its initial condition at  $t = 0$  **(3 marks)**  
(ii) The acceleration of the particle when  $v = 30 \text{ms}^{-1}$  **(3 marks)**

- (iii) The net displacement of the particle during the interval from  $t = 35$  to  $t = 45$  (3 marks)
- c) Show that the relationship between the linear velocity  $v$  of the particle moving with angular velocity in a circular path of radius  $r$  is given by  $v = rw$  (4 marks)
- d) A stone of mass  $0.6\text{kg}$  attached to a string of length  $0.5\text{m}$  is whirled in a horizontal circle at a constant speed. If the tension in string is  $30\text{N}$  before its breaks, calculate:
- (i) The maximum angular speed of the stone (3 marks)
- (ii) The maximum number of revolutions it can make (2 marks)

### Question Three

- a) Define hence derive the formula for radius of gyration (5 marks)
- b) Derive the moment of inertia of a thin uniform rod.
- (i) About an axis passing through its centre and perpendicular to its length. (5 marks)
- (ii) A long an axis passing through one of its ends. (4 marks)
- c) A  $1\text{kg}$  stone attached to the end of a  $60\text{cm}$  chain is revolving at a rate of  $3\text{ rev s}^{-1}$
- (i) What is its angular momentum (3 marks)
- (ii) If after  $30\text{s}$  it is making only  $1\text{ rev s}^{-1}$  find the mean torque. (3 marks)

### Question Four

- a) State Hooke's law (1 mark)
- b) Differentiate between the three types of elastic modulus (3 marks)
- c) Show that the modulus of torsion of a cylinder is given by:

$$\frac{\pi n a^4}{2L}$$

Where the symbols have their usual meaning (8 marks)

- d) What force is required to stretch a steel wire to double its length when its area of cross-section is  $1\text{cm}^2$  and Young's modulus =  $2 \times 10^{11}\text{Nm}^{-2}$  (4 marks)
- e) Find the maximum load which may be placed on a steel wire of diameter  $1\text{mm}$  if the permitted strain must not exceed  $1/1000$  and the Young's modulus of steel is  $2 \times 10^{11}\text{ Pa}$ . (4 marks)

### Question Five

- a) What is:
- (i) Coefficient of viscosity (1 mark)
- (ii) Terminal velocity (1 mark)
- b) Show that the terminal velocity of a sphere falling through a viscous fluid is given by:

$$v_t = \frac{2r^2(T_s - T_f)g}{an}$$

State what the symbols stand for.

**(6 marks)**

c) Define the following terms:

**(i)** Specific heat capacity

**(2 marks)**

**(ii)** Latent heat of fusion

**(2 marks)**

d) A calorimeter with heat capacity of  $80\text{J}^\circ\text{C}^{-1}$  contains 50g of water at  $40^\circ\text{C}$ . What mass of ice at  $0^\circ\text{C}$  needs to be added in order to reduce the temperature to  $10^\circ\text{C}$ ? Assume no heat is lost to the surroundings. (Specific heat capacity of water =  $4.2 \times 10^3 \text{Jkg}^{-1}\text{C}^{-1}$ , specific latent heat of ice =  $3.4 \times 10^5 \text{Jkg}^{-1}$ .)

**(5 marks)**

e) An ideal gas has a volume of  $100\text{cm}^3$  at  $2 \times 10^5 \text{Pa}$  and  $27^\circ\text{C}$ . What is its volume at  $2 \times 10^5 \text{Pa}$  and  $60^\circ\text{C}$ . What is its volume at  $5 \times 10^5 \text{Pa}$  and  $60^\circ\text{C}$ .

**(3 marks)**