



# Technical University of Mombasa

*Faculty of Applied and Health Sciences*

DEPARTMENT OF PURE AND APPLIED SCIENCES

DIPLOMA IN SCIENCE LABORATORY TECHNOLOGY

(DSL10 J / DAC 10J)

## **ACH 2310: INSTRUMENTATION III**

**SPECIAL/SUPPLEMENTARY: EXAMINATIONS**

**SERIES: FEBRUARY 2013**

**TIME: 2 HOURS**

### **INSTRUCTIONS:**

You should have the following for this paper

- *Answer booklet*

This paper consists of **FIVE** questions.

Answer Question **ONE (compulsory)** and any other **TWO** questions

*This paper consists of 2 PRINTED pages*

### Question ONE

- a) (i) Define the following terms
- I. Atomization in AAS (2marks)
  - II. Resolution in HPLC (2marks)
- (ii) Distinguish between isocratic elution and gradient elution (4marks)
- b) (i) A 20ppm solution of copper gives an AAS signal of 15 percent transmittance. Calculate the sensitivity of the instrument for copper ( $Cu = 64$ ) (4marks)
- (ii) List FOUR quantitative methods used in both HPLC and GLC (4marks)
- (iii) Outline the basic principle involved in the 'Normalized area' method of quantitative HPLC (4marks)
- c) (i) Distinguish between 'rich' and 'lean' flames as applied in AAS (4marks)
- (ii) Explain why solvents are purged off dissolved air during analysis by HPLC. (2marks)
- (iii) List FOUR characteristics of the mobile liquid phase in HPLC (4marks)
- d) (i) The chromatogram of a sample containing 1- and 2- naphthol had two peaks with retention times 228 and 235 seconds. Their widths at half-height were 2.4 sec and 2.5 sec respectively. Calculate the average number of theoretical plates. (4marks)
- (ii) State the advantages of AAS (4marks)
- State TWO causes of deviation from Beer-Lambert's Law in AAS (2marks)

### Question TWO

- a) (i) Name FOUR major parts of the HPLC instrument (2marks)
- (ii) Substance A and B have retention times of 16.40 and 17.63 minutes respectively, on a 30.0cm column. An unretained species passes the column in 1.30 minutes. The peak widths for A and B are 1.11 and 1.21 minutes, respectively. Calculate:
- I. The column resolution (1mark)
  - II. Average number of theoretical plates (4marks)
  - III. The plate height (2marks)
  - IV. State ONE advantage of using internal standard method in HPLC or GLC. (1mark)
- b) Draw a labeled diagram of a hollow cathode lamp and give ONE disadvantage of using such lamps in AAS. (5marks)

### Question THREE

- a) (i) Distinguish between 'releasing' and protecting agent as used in atomic spectroscopy, giving an example of each (5marks)
- (ii) Describe the following terms as used in HPLC or GC stating when and how they are applied
- I. Reversed phase – phase HPLC (4marks)
  - II. Resolution ( $R_s$ ) (4marks)
- b) Describe how a liquid can be injected into the HPLC column (2marks)

### Question FOUR

- a) (i) Explain the corpuscular theory of electromagnetic radiations and state its applications in AAS. **(4marks)**  
(ii) Give FOUR requirements for HPLC column packing materials **(4marks)**
- b) (i) Give reasons to explain why capillary columns (small diameter columns) are preferred over packed columns (larger diameter columns) in HPLC **(4marks)**  
(ii) Explain how a signal is produced in AAS **(3marks)**

### **Question FIVE**

- a) Differentiate between:  
(i) Dead and retention time **(2marks)**  
(ii) Mobile and stationary phase as used in chromatography. **(2marks)**
- b) Define the terms:  
(i) Elution **(1mark)**  
(ii) Eluent **(1mark)**  
(iii) Chromatogram **(2marks)**
- c) (i) Write the van Deemter equation and identify all symbols in it **(3marks)**  
(ii) Explain briefly how 'standard addition' technique is applied in AAS **(4marks)**