



TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OF MOMBASA
Faculty of Applied & Health
Sciences

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS & PHYSICS

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATION FOR:

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN MARINE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

APS 4109: FUNDAMENTALS OF PHYSICS

END OF SEMESTER EXAMINATION

SERIES: APRIL 2014

TIME ALLOWED: 2 HOURS

Instructions to Candidates:

You should have the following for this examination

- *Mathematical tables*
- *Scientific Calculator*

This paper consist of **FOUR** questions

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

Question One (Compulsory)

- a) (i) Differentiate between fundamental and derived quantities. Give an example of each and the corresponding units. **(2 marks)**
- (ii) Find by dimensional analysis an expression for electric potential. **(3 marks)**
- b) A kitten of mass 0.6kg leaps at 30° to the horizontal out of a toy truck of mass 1.2kg causing it to move over the horizontal ground at 4m/s. At what speed did the kitten leap? **(4 marks)**
- c) (i) State Columb's Law **(1 mark)**
- (ii) Figure 1 shows three charges, A, B and P in a line. The charge at A is positive, that at B is

negative and that at P is positive. The values are as shown. Calculate the force on the charge at P

$$\left(\frac{1}{4}\pi\epsilon_0 = 9 \times 10^9 \text{ Nm}^2\right)$$

due to A and B.

$$1 \times 10^{-9} \text{C}$$

d) Show that the expression for charging a capacitor through a resistor is given by:

$$Q = Q_0 \left(1 - e^{-t/RC}\right)$$

where the symbols have their usual meaning. **(5 marks)**

e) A stone of mass 0.6kg attached to a string of length 0.5m is whirled in a horizontal circle at a constant speed. If the maximum tension in the string is 30N before it breaks, calculate:

(i) The maximum speed of the stone **(3 marks)**

(ii) The maximum no. of revolutions per second it can make **(2 marks)**

$$y = 10 \sin\left(200\pi - \frac{\pi}{0.17}x\right)$$

e) Consider a wave represented by

Find:

(i) The speed of the wave **(3 marks)**

(ii) The period of the wave **(2 marks)**

Question Two

a) A ball A of mass 0.4kg moving with velocity 5m/s collides head on with ball B of mass 0.2kg moving with velocity 2m/s. After collision, A moves with velocity 6m/s

(i) Show that the collision obeys the law of conservation of momentum. **(5 marks)**

(ii) Is the momentum elastic or inelastic? Prove. **(5 marks)**

b) A body of mass 5kg is pulled up a plane inclined at an angle of 30° to the horizontal by a force of 40N acting parallel to the plane. If the frictional force between the plane and the body is 10N, find the acceleration of the body. ($g = 9.8\text{m/s}^2$) **(5 marks)**

c) A ball is thrown vertically upwards at 10m/s from a bridge which is 15m above the river.

(i) What is the speed of the stone as it hits the river? **(3 marks)**

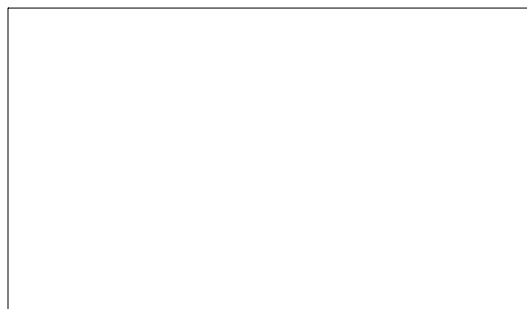
(ii) With what speed would it hit the river if it were thrown downwards at 10m/s ($g = 9.8\text{m/s}^2$) **(2 marks)**

Question Three

- a) A car of mass 1.2×10^3 kg moves 300m up a road which is inclined to the horizontal at an angle α
 where $\alpha = \frac{1}{15}$ By how much does the potential energy increase? (Take $g = 9.8\text{m/s}^2$) **(1 mark)**
- b) (i) Define critical angle. **(1 mark)**
 (ii) What are the conditions necessary for total internal reflection? **(2 marks)**
 (iii) Briefly describe THREE properties of wave nature of light. **(6 marks)**
 (iv) State the laws of refraction. **(2 marks)**
- c) Find the angle of refraction:
 (i) When a ray of light travels from air to glass at a an angle of 40° **(3 marks)**
 (ii) When a ray travels from glass to air at an angle of 20° (refractive index of glass with respect to air = 1.5) **(3 marks)**

Question Four

- a) (i) Two capacitors of capacitances $4 \mu\text{F}$ and $8 \mu\text{F}$ are charged to potential of 3V and 6V respectively. These two charged capacitors are then connected in parallel. Find the charge across each of the capacitors now. **(5 marks)**
 (ii) In the figure 2 the energy stored in C4 is 27J. Calculate the total energy stored in the system. **(8 marks)**
- b) Calculate the electrical conductivity of the material of a conductor of length 3m, area of cross-section 0.02mm^2 and having a resistance of 2Ω **(2 marks)**
- c) In the circuit shown in figure 3, the current in the 4Ω resistor is 1.2A. Determine the potential difference between b and c. **(5 marks)**



Question Five

a) Show that the potential V at a distance r from a point charge Q in a medium of permittivity ϵ_0 is given

by:

$$V = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{Q}{r}$$

(6 marks)

b) Find the potential at the centre of a 1m square having charges $1Q$, $-2Q$, $3Q$ and $2Q$ at its corners.

$$\left(Q = 1 \times 10^{-8} \text{ C } \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} = 9 \times 10^9 \text{ Nm}^2 \right)$$

(4 marks)

c) ABCD is a square of 4cm side charges of 16×10^{-9} , -16×10^{-9} and $32 \times 10^{-9} \text{ C}$ are placed at the points

$$\left(\frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} = 9 \times 10^9 \text{ units} \right)$$

A, C and D respectively. Find the intensity of the electric field at B

(6 marks)

d) At certain instant, a piece of radioactive material contains 10^{12} atoms. The half-life of the material is 30 days. What time will elapse before 10^4 atoms remain?

(4 marks)