



# TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OF MOMBASA

## Faculty of Applied & Health Sciences

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS & PHYSICS

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATION FOR:

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN CIVIL ENGINEERING/ BACHELOR OF SCIENCE  
IN ELECTRICAL & ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING/ BACHELOR OF SCIENCE  
IN FOOD TECHNOLOGY & QUALITY ASSURANCE (BSEE/BSCE/BSFQ)**

SPH 2170/SPH 2102/APS 4101: PHYSICS I

**END OF SEMESTER EXAMINATION**

SERIES: DECEMBER 2013

**TIME ALLOWED: 2 HOURS**

**Instructions to Candidates:**

You should have the following for this examination

- *Mathematical tables*
- *Scientific Calculator*

This paper consist of **FIVE** 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

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**You may use the following information where necessary:**

Acceleration due to gravity $g$	$= 9.8\text{ms}^{-2}$
Electron rest mass $m$	$= 9.11 \times 10^{-31} \text{kg}$
Bolts man constant $K$	$= 1.38 \times 10^{-23} \text{Jmol}^{-1} \text{k}^{-1}$
Triple point of water	$= 273.16\text{K}$
Speed of light in vacuo	$= 3.0 \times 10^8 \text{m/s}$
Universal gas constant $R$	$= 8.314 \text{Jmol}^{-1} \text{k}^{-1}$
Universal gravitation constant $G$	$= 6.673 \times 10^{-11}$
$\text{Nm}^2$	$= \text{kg}^{-2}$
Specific heat capacity of copper	$= 400 \text{Jkg}^{-1} \text{k}^{-1}$
Specific heat capacity of water	$= 4200 \text{Jkg}^{-1} \text{k}^{-1}$
Specific heat capacity of aluminium	$= 900 \text{Jkg}^{-1} \text{k}^{-1}$

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Latent heat of fusion of water =  $2.1 \times 10^3 \text{ Jkg}^{-1}$   
 Latent heat of vaporization of water =  $2.2 \times 10^6 \text{ Jkg}^{-1}$

**Question One (Compulsory)**

a) Use dimensional analysis to check that the equation below is correct:

$$V^2 = 2ax$$

where V is the velocity, a is the acceleration and x is the displacement **(2 marks)**

b) (i) For a vertically upward projection, what is the velocity at the top of the path? **(1 mark)**

(ii) If the velocity of a body changes by the same amount for each similar time interval, what can you say about the acceleration? **(1 marks)**

c) Two similar spheres of equal mass with initial velocities  $\vec{u}_1$  and  $\vec{u}_2$  respectively undergo an elastic collision. If  $\vec{u}_1 = 2\vec{u}_2 = 20\text{ms}^{-2}$ , determine their velocities after collision **(3 marks)**

d) (i) Explain the term “simple harmonic motion” **(1 mark)**  
 (ii) Given that an object executing simple harmonic motion on a spring has its displacement  $X = A\cos(\omega t + \phi)$

, show that  $\omega$ , the angular frequency is given as:

$$\omega^2 = \frac{k}{m}$$

where k is the spring constant and m mass of object **(3 marks)**

e) (i) What is surface tension? **(1 mark)**  
 (ii) Two bubbles are formed from an equal volume of water and soap which bubble would be larger? **(1 marks)**  
 (iii) What would happen to the bubbles in (ii) above if the temperature were increased? Explain. **(2 marks)**  
 (iv) Calculate the work done against surface tension in blowing a soap bubble 4mm in diameter given that the surface tension of soap solution is  $2.5 \times 10^{-2} \text{ Nm}^{-1}$  **(3 marks)**

f) State Newton’s Law of universal gravitation hence derive the dimensions of the gravitational constant. **(2 marks)**

g) Explain clearly the difference between a transverse and a longitudinal wave **(2 marks)**

h) Write an expression for instantaneous linear expansivity  $\alpha$  **(1 mark)**

i) (i) State Charle’s Law **(1 mark)**  
 (iii) A constant volume thermometer has a pressure of  $1.5 \times 10^4 \text{ Pa}$  at the triple point of water and a pressure of  $2.05 \times 10^4 \text{ Pa}$  at the normal boiling point. Find the temperature  $T_B$  at the normal boiling point **(3 marks)**

j) Find the total random Kinetic energy of the materials in 1 mole of a gas at a temperature of 300k

**Question Two**

a) (i) For a projection of  $45^\circ$ , how may the range be increased? **(1 mark)**

$$V^2 = u^2 + 2as$$

(ii) Show that the third equation is given by: **(2 marks)**

(iii) A coin is thrown vertically upwards from the ground with a speed of  $10\text{ms}^{-1}$ .

- How long does it take to reach the highest point? **(2 marks)**

- What is the maximum height reached by the coin? **(2 marks)**

b) Three blocks of masses 6kg, 10 kg and 9kg are connected as shown in the figure below. Determine the acceleration and hence the tensions in the strings **(4 marks)**

$T_2$

c) The position of a particle is given by:

$$x = (7 - 2t + 3t^2)$$

metres:

Determine:

(i) The average velocity between 2 seconds and 3 seconds **(2 marks)**

(ii) The average acceleration between 2 seconds and 3 seconds **(2 marks)**

d) A car travels at  $12\text{ms}^{-1}$  around a flat curve of radius 40m. What is the minimum coefficient of friction required? **(3 marks)**

### Question Three

a) State TWO characteristics of an ideal gas **(2 marks)**

b) A flask contains a mixture of hydrogen, neon and mercury vapour.:

(i) Compare the average kinetic energies of the three gases **(3 marks)**

(ii) Compare the root mean square speed. Give reasons **(3 marks)**

c) Five gas molecules chosen at random are found to have speeds  $500\text{ms}^{-1}$ ,  $600\text{ms}^{-1}$ ,  $800\text{ms}^{-1}$ ,  $700\text{ms}^{-1}$  and  $900\text{ms}^{-1}$ . Find the root mean square speed. Is it the same as the average speed? **(3 marks)**

d) Find the volume of 1 mole of an ideal gas at STP (i.e. a pressure of  $1.013 \times 10^5$  Pa and temperature of 273K) **(2 marks)**

e) The equation of a certain travelling transverse wave is:

$$y = 2 \sin 2\pi \left( \frac{t}{0.01} + \frac{x}{30} \right)$$

, where x and y are in cm and t in seconds. What are:

- (i) The amplitude (2 marks)
- (ii) The wavelength (2 marks)
- (iii) The frequency and (2 marks)
- (iv) The speed of propagation of the wave (1 mark)

#### Question Four

- a) Define the following terms: (2 marks)
- (i) Specific heat capacity
  - (ii) Latent heat
- b) How many 20g ice cubes whose initial temperature is  $-10^{\circ}\text{C}$  must be added to 1.0L of hot water whose initial temperature is  $90^{\circ}\text{C}$ , for the final mixture to have a temperature of  $10^{\circ}\text{C}$ . Take specific heat capacity of water as  $4200\text{Jkg}^{-1}\text{k}^{-1}$ , specific heat capacity of ice as  $2100\text{Jkg}^{-1}\text{k}^{-1}$  and latent heat of fusion of ice as  $3.36 \times 10^5\text{Jkg}^{-1}$  (4 marks)
- c) (i) State Hooke's Law (2 marks)
- (ii) Explain the following terms:
- I. Mechanical strength (1 mark)
  - II. Ductility (1 mark)
  - III. Brittleness (1 mark)
  - IV. Elasticity (1 mark)
- (iii) A rod with a radius of 0.05m and length of 2m stretches 0.002m when subjected to a tension force of 10,000N. What is Young's modulus for this rod? (4 marks)
- (iv) A piece of copper originally 305 mm long is pulled with stress of 276 Mpa. If the deformation is entirely elastic, what would be the resultant elongation? (4 marks)  
(E of Copper = 100Gpa)

#### Question Five

- a) (i) State Kepler's laws of planetary motion
- (ii) Show that Kepler's third law of motion is consistent with Newton's law of universal gravitation. (5 marks)
- b) Express the angular momentum of a satellite of mass m in a circular orbit of radius r in terms of its:
- (i) Kinetic energy (3 marks)
  - (ii) Potential energy (2 marks)
  - (iii) Total energy (2 marks)

c) Show that the period  $T$  of a body attached to a conical pendulum given a slight angular

$$T = 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{l \cos \theta}{g}}$$

displacement  $\theta$  is given by  
gravitational acceleration

, where  $l$  is the length of the pendulum and  $g$  the  
**(5 marks)**