

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION, 2014/2015**

TITLE OF PAPER : **Instrumental Methods For
Environmental Analysis - 1**

COURSE NUMBER : **EHS 573**

TIME ALLOWED : **Two(2) Hours**

INSTRUCTIONS : **Answer any four (4) questions. Each
Question carries 25 marks.**

A periodic table and other useful data have been provided with this paper.

***You are not supposed to open this paper until permission to do so has been
granted by the Chief Invigilator.***

Question 1(25 marks)

- (a) Identify the major differences between classical and instrumental methods of analysis. [2]
- (b) Summarize the unique advantages of instrumental methods of analysis over the classical methods. [4]
- (c) List the principal classes of chemical instrumentation. Give two specific examples of instrumental techniques from each principal class given. [6]
- (d) With the help a labeled diagram, show the basic components of an instrument for chemical/environmental analysis. Discuss the functions of any one of the components and give an example in named equipment. [8]
- (e) List and define five salient performance characteristics of an instrument for environmental analysis. [5]

Question 2 (25 marks)

- (a) Explain the following terms and obtain a relationship between them: 'Transmittance' and 'Absorbance'. [3]
- (b) Discuss very briefly, the effects of a medium's refractive index on the wavelength, velocity and frequency of a radiation passing through the medium. [3]
- [c] The wavelength of the sodium D line is 589 nm.
(i) Calculate its frequency, wave-number and energy.
(ii) Suppose another line is observed at a wavelength of 450nm. Is this line of a higher energy than the sodium D line (at 589 nm)? [11]
- (d) An environmental sample with an active ingredient, A (F.W. = 270), has a molar absorptivity $\epsilon = 703 \text{ M}^{-1}\text{cm}^{-1}$ at a wavelength of 262nm. A given amount of the sample was dissolved with water in a 5L volumetric flask and then made to the mark. A 1.00-cm cell was used to measure the absorbance of the solution at 262nm, and a reading of 0.275 was obtained. Calculate the amount of A (in grammes), present in the sample. [8]

Question 3 (25 marks)

- (a) What is a spectrophotometer? State four of its basic components and their corresponding functions. [8]

- (b) What is the requirement for a cell material before it can be used for a particular spectral region? [1]
- (c) Give two examples of materials generally used for each of the following regions:
 (i) UV & Visible; (ii) IR [4]
- (d) With respect to the 'Mull' and 'KBr Pellet' used during spectroscopic analysis:
 (i) State the nature of samples for which they are used and their respective spectral regions of application. [2]
 (ii) Briefly describe how they are prepared. [6]
- (e) What precautionary measures need be taken in the handling of a cell/cuvet during a UV-Visible spectroscopic analysis? Why are these measures crucial? [4]

Question 4 (25 marks)

- (a) What is a monochromator? [2]
- (b) For a spectrophotometer, list the components of a monochromator system and state the respective functions of each component given. [7]
- (c) For each of the following spectral regions, suggest an appropriate monochromator prism material :
 (i) Visible (ii) UV (iii) IR
 Justify your choice. [4]
- (d) Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of 'diffraction gratings' when compared with a 'glass prism' as dispersing media in monochromators for spectrophotometers. [4]
- (e)
 (i) Explain the term 'dispersion of a prism'. Hence, briefly describe the working principles of a prism as a monochromator dispersing medium.
 (ii) List the factors that increase the resolution of a 'prism' and 'diffraction gratings' [8]

Question 5 (25 marks)

- (a) Explain the term 'source' with regards to atomic spectroscopic methods. Give two examples and state four of its ideal goals. [7]

- (b) Discuss the major limitations of atomic spectroscopic methods. [2]
- (c) For the flame atomic absorption spectrophotometry (FAAS) :
- (i) What analyte property is measured and in what units ? [2]
 - (ii) Draw and label a schematic diagram of the 'atomic absorption spectrophotometer' [4]
 - (iii) Briefly describe its working principles.. [8]
 - (iv) Give four examples of environmental pollutants it can be used to analyze. [2]

Question 6(25 marks)

The hollow cathode lamp is a vital primary source of radiation in atomic absorption spectrometry. Discuss:

- (a) Its features as a sharp line radiation source. [3]
- (b) Its structure (configuration) plus a schematic diagram of it. [7]
- (c) Its working principles. [10]
- (d) The composition and short comings of multielement hollow cathode lamps. [6]
- (e) The essence of the cylindrical structure of the cathode tube. [2]

| Group | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | | |
|----------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| | IA | IIA | IIIB | IVB | VB | VIB | VII B | VIII B | IB | IIB | IIIA | IIIB | IIIA | IVA | VA | VIA | VIIA | VIIIA | | |
| Period 1 | 1 H 1.008 | NON-METALS | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 2 He 4.003 | |
| 2 | 3 Li 6.94 | 4 Be 9.01 | METALLOIDS | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 10 Ne 20.18 |
| 3 | 11 Na 22.99 | 12 Mg 24.31 | METALS | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 18 Ar 39.95 |
| 4 | 19 K 39.10 | 20 Ca 40.08 | 21 Sc 44.96 | 22 Ti 47.90 | 23 V 50.94 | 24 Cr 52.01 | 25 Mn 54.9 | 26 Fe 55.85 | 27 Co 58.71 | 28 Ni 58.71 | 29 Cu 63.54 | 30 Zn 65.37 | 31 Ga 69.7 | 32 Ge 72.59 | 33 As 74.92 | 34 Se 78.96 | 35 Br 79.91 | 36 Kr 83.80 | | |
| 5 | 37 Rb 85.47 | 38 Sr 87.62 | 39 Y 88.91 | 40 Zr 91.22 | 41 Nb 91.22 | 42 Mo 95.94 | 43 Tc 98.9 | 44 Ru 101.1 | 45 Rh 102.9 | 46 Pd 106.4 | 47 Ag 107.9 | 48 Cd 112.4 | 49 In 114.8 | 50 Sn 118.7 | 51 Sb 121.8 | 52 Te 127.6 | 53 I 126.9 | 54 Xe 131.3 | | |
| 6 | 55 Cs 132.9 | 56 Ba 137.3 | 71 Lu 174.9 | 72 Hf 178.5 | 73 Ta 180.9 | 74 W 183.8 | 75 Re 186.2 | 76 Os 190.2 | 77 Ir 192.2 | 78 Pt 195.1 | 79 Au 196.9 | 80 Hg 200.6 | 81 Tl 204.4 | 82 Pb 207.2 | 83 Bi 208.9 | 84 Po 210 | 85 At 210 | 86 Rn 222 | | |
| 7 | 87 Fr 223 | 88 Ra 226.0 | 103 Lr 257 | 104 Unq | 105 Unp | 106 Unh | 107 Uns | 108 Uno | 109 Une | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | Lanthanides | | 57 La 138.9 | 58 Ce 140.1 | 59 Pr 140.9 | 60 Nd 144.2 | 61 Pm 146.9 | 62 Sm 150.9 | 63 Eu 151.3 | 64 Gd 157.3 | 65 Tb 158.9 | 66 Dy 162.5 | 67 Ho 164.9 | 68 Er 167.3 | 69 Tm 168.9 | 70 Yb 173.0 | | | |
| | | Actinides | | 89 Ac 227.0 | 90 Th 232.0 | 91 Pa 231.0 | 92 U 238.0 | 93 Np 237.1 | 94 Pu 239.1 | 95 Am 241.1 | 96 Cm 247.1 | 97 Bk 249.1 | 98 Cf 251.1 | 99 Es 254.1 | 100 Fm 257.1 | 101 Md 258.1 | 102 No 255 | | | |

DATA SHEET

General Data

Avogadro's number $N_A = 6.022 \times 10^{23} \text{ mol}^{-1}$
Boltzmann's constant $k_B = 1.38 \times 10^{-23} \text{ J/K}$
Density of mercury = $1.36 \times 10^4 \text{ kg/m}^3$
Gas constant $R = 8.314 \text{ J/(mol}\cdot\text{K)}$
Gravitational acceleration $g = 9.80 \text{ m/s}^2$
Refractive index of air $n_{\text{air}} = 1.00$
Standard atmospheric pressure = $1.013 \times 10^5 \text{ Pa}$
Speed of light in vacuum $c = 2.9978 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}$
Speed of sound in air $v_s = 343 \text{ m/s}$
Stefan-Boltzmann constant $\sigma = 5.67 \times 10^{-8} \text{ W/(m}^2\cdot\text{K}^4)$
Threshold of hearing $I_0 = 10^{-12} \text{ W/m}^2$
Universal gravitational constant $G = 6.67 \times 10^{-11} \text{ N}\cdot\text{m}^2/\text{kg}^2$
1 calorie = 1 c = 4.186 J
1 food calorie = 1 Calorie = 1C = 10^3 calories = $4.186 \times 10^3 \text{ J}$

Water data

$c(\text{water}) = 4186 \text{ J/(kg}\cdot\text{K)}$ $c(\text{ice}) = 2090 \text{ J/(kg}\cdot\text{K)}$ $c(\text{steam}) = 2079 \text{ J/(kg}\cdot\text{K)}$
 $L_f(\text{ice}) = 3.33 \times 10^5 \text{ J/kg}$ $L_v(\text{water}) = 2.260 \times 10^6 \text{ J/kg}$
 $\rho(\text{water}) = 1000 \text{ kg/m}^3$ refractive index $n_w = 1.333$

Electricity and nuclear data

Alpha particle mass = $6.644657 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$
Charge of an electron = $-1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$
Charge of a proton = $+1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$
Coulomb's constant $k_e = 8.9875 \times 10^9 \text{ Nm}^2/\text{C}^2$
Deuteron mass = $3.343583 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$
Electron mass, $m_e = 9.109 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg}$
Neutron mass $m_n = 1.675 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$
Proton mass, $m_p = 1.673 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$
1 atomic mass unit = 1 amu = 1 u = $1.66 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$
 $\epsilon_0 = 8.85 \times 10^{-12} \text{ C}^2(\text{N}\cdot\text{m}^2)$
1 Ci = 3.7×10^{10} decays/s
1Bq = 1 decay/s

$$MAP = P_{dia} + \frac{(P_{sys} - P_{dia})}{3}$$