



UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
Faculty of Health Sciences
Department of Environmental Health Science

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
SCIENCES
RESIT EXAMINATION PAPER 2019

TITLE OF PAPER : INSTRUMENTAL METHODS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS II

COURSE CODE : EHS 224

DURATION : 2 HOURS

MARKS : 100

INSTRUCTIONS :

- : READ THE QUESTIONS & INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY
- : ANSWER **ANY FOUR** QUESTIONS
- : EACH QUESTION **CARRIES 25** MARKS.
- : WRITE NEATLY & CLEARLY
- : NO PAPER SHOULD BE BROUGHT INTO OR OUT OF THE EXAMINATION ROOM.
- : BEGIN EACH QUESTION ON A SEPARATE SHEET OF PAPER.

DO NOT OPEN THIS QUESTION PAPER UNTIL PERMISSION IS GRANTED BY THE INVIGILATOR.

QUESTION ONE

- a. What type of transitions do IR and UV active molecules undergo? Use diagrams to illustrate these transitions. **[6 Marks]**
- b. Describe how a deuterium lamp can be used to provide a background correction for an atomic absorption spectrum. **[6 Marks]**
- c. State Beer's Law and explain its importance in spectrophotometry. Use appropriate equations to explain. **[7 Marks]**
- d. What is the function of a chopper in atomic absorption spectroscopy? **[6 Marks]**

[Total: 25 Marks]

QUESTION TWO

- a. Define the following terms.
- (i) λ_{\max}
 - (ii) Chromophore
 - (iii) Bernoulli effect
 - (iv) Plasma
 - (v) Natural broadening of spectral lines
 - (vi) Stray radiation
 - (vii) Electronic transitions
 - (viii) Matrix effect
 - (ix) Blank **[18 Marks]**
- b. What are the figures of merit when choosing a suitable detector for instrumental methods? **[7 Marks]**

[Total: 25 Marks]

QUESTION THREE

- a. For each of the following spectral regions, suggest an appropriate monochromator and state the reasons for each choice
- (i) Microwave
 - (ii) IR
 - (iii) Visible

- (iv) X-ray [12 Marks]
- b. Why is the nebulization of liquid samples important in AAS? [2 Marks]
- c. Draw and label hollow cathode lamp. [6 Marks]
- d. What is the function of the reference beam in a double beam AAS instrument? [5 marks]

[Total: 25 Marks]

QUESTION FOUR

- a. In a table similar to the one below, match the terms on column 1 with the suitable terms on column 2.

	Column 1	Column 2
(i)	ICP atomisation	Analyte ionisation
(ii)	Flame	Uniform cross sectional temperature
(iii)	Prism	Inert chemical environment
(iv)	Plasma	Secondary combustion zone
(v)	Chemical deviation	Refractive monochromator

[10 Marks]

- b. Explain the term deviation from Beer's law and list the different types of deviations [9 Marks]
- c. What are the possible causes for signal suppression/ amplification in instrumental analysis? Suggest possible corrective measures for each scenario. [6 Marks]

[Total: 25 Marks]

QUESTION FIVE

- a. Explain why compounds containing the same chromophore will have different maximum absorbance wavelengths. [7 Marks]
- b. Evaluate the missing quantities in the table below. Where needed, use 166 g/mol for the molar mass of the analyte.

A	%T	a (cm ⁻¹ ppm ⁻¹)	b (cm)	Concentration c	
				M	ppm
(i)	44.9	0.0258	(ii)	1.35 × 10 ⁻⁴	(iii)

(iv)	39.6	0.0912	(v)	(vi)	1.76
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[3 × 6 Marks]

[Total: 25 Marks]

General data and fundamental constants

Quantity	Symbol	Value
Speed of light	c	$2.997\ 924\ 58 \times 10^8 \text{ m s}^{-1}$
Elementary charge	e	$1.602\ 177 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$
Faraday constant	$F = N_A e$	$9.6485 \times 10^4 \text{ C mol}^{-1}$
Boltzmann constant	k	$1.380\ 66 \times 10^{-23} \text{ J K}^{-1}$
Gas constant	$R = N_A k$	$8.314\ 51 \text{ J K}^{-1} \text{ mol}^{-1}$ $8.205\ 78 \times 10^{-2} \text{ dm}^3 \text{ atm K}^{-1} \text{ mol}^{-1}$ $6.2364 \times 10 \text{ L Torr K}^{-1} \text{ mol}^{-1}$
Planck constant	h $\hbar = h/2\pi$	$6.626\ 08 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J s}$ $1.054\ 57 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J s}$
Avogadro constant	N_A	$6.022\ 14 \times 10^{23} \text{ mol}^{-1}$
Atomic mass unit	u	$1.660\ 54 \times 10^{-27} \text{ Kg}$
Mass		
electron	m_e	$9.109\ 39 \times 10^{-31} \text{ Kg}$
proton	m_p	$1.672\ 62 \times 10^{-27} \text{ Kg}$
neutron	m_n	$1.674\ 93 \times 10^{-27} \text{ Kg}$
Vacuum permittivity	$\epsilon_0 = 1/c^2 \mu_0$ $4\pi\epsilon_0$	$8.854\ 19 \times 10^{-12} \text{ J}^{-1} \text{ C}^2 \text{ m}^{-1}$ $1.112\ 65 \times 10^{-10} \text{ J}^{-1} \text{ C}^2 \text{ m}^{-1}$
Vacuum permeability	μ_0	$4\pi \times 10^{-7} \text{ J s}^2 \text{ C}^{-2} \text{ m}^{-1}$ $4\pi \times 10^{-7} \text{ T}^2 \text{ J}^{-1} \text{ m}^3$
Magneton		
Bohr	$\mu_B = e\hbar/2m_e$	$9.274\ 02 \times 10^{-24} \text{ J T}^{-1}$
nuclear	$\mu_N = e\hbar/2m_p$	$5.050\ 79 \times 10^{-27} \text{ J T}^{-1}$
g value	g_e	2.002 32
Bohr radius	$a_0 = 4\pi\epsilon_0 \hbar^2 / m_e e^2$	$5.291\ 77 \times 10^{-11} \text{ m}$
Fine-structure constant	$\alpha = \mu_0 e^2 c / 2\hbar$	$7.297\ 35 \times 10^{-3}$
Rydberg constant	$R_\infty = m_e e^4 / 8\hbar^3 c \epsilon_0^2$	$1.097\ 37 \times 10^7 \text{ m}^{-1}$
Standard acceleration of free fall	g	$9.806\ 65 \text{ m s}^{-2}$
Gravitational constant	G	$6.672\ 59 \times 10^{-11} \text{ N m}^2 \text{ Kg}^{-2}$

Conversion factors

1 cal	=	4.184 joules (J)	1 erg	=	$1 \times 10^{-7} \text{ J}$
1 eV	=	$1.602\ 2 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J}$	1 eV/molecule	=	96 485 kJ mol ⁻¹

Prefixes	f	p	n	μ	m	c	d	k	M	G
	femto	pico	nano	micro	milli	centi	deci	kilo	mega	giga
	10^{-15}	10^{-12}	10^{-9}	10^{-6}	10^{-3}	10^{-2}	10^{-1}	10^3	10^6	10^9

GROUPS

PERIODS	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
	IA	IIA	IIIB	IVB	VB	VIB	VIIIB	IB	IIIB	IIIA	IVA	VA	VIA	VIIA	VIIIA	VIIIA	VIIIA	VIIIA	
1	1.008 H																		4.003 He
2	6.941 Li	9.012 Be																	20.180 Ne
3	22.990 Na	24.305 Mg																	35.453 Cl
4	39.098 K	40.078 Ca	44.956 Sc	47.88 Ti	50.942 V	51.996 Cr	54.938 Mn	55.847 Fe	58.933 Co	58.69 Ni	63.546 Cu	65.39 Zn	69.723 Ga	72.61 Ge	74.922 As	78.96 Se	79.904 Br	83.80 Kr	
5	85.468 Rb	87.62 Sr	88.906 Y	91.224 Zr	92.906 Nb	95.94 Mo	98.907 Tc	101.07 Ru	102.91 Rh	106.42 Pd	107.87 Ag	112.41 Cd	114.82 In	118.71 Sn	121.75 Sb	127.60 Te	126.90 I	131.29 Xe	
6	132.91 Cs	137.33 Ba	138.91 *La	178.49 Hf	180.95 Ta	183.85 W	186.21 Re	190.2 Os	192.22 Ir	195.08 Pt	196.97 Au	200.59 Hg	204.38 Tl	207.2 Pb	208.98 Bi	(209) Po	(210) At	(222) Rn	
7	223 Fr	226.03 Ra	(227) **Ac	(261) Rf	(262) Ha	(263) Unh	(262) Uns	(265) Uno	(266) Une	(267) Uun									

Atomic mass →
Symbol →
Atomic No. →

TRANSITION ELEMENTS

PERIODS	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
	IA	IIA	IIIB	IVB	VB	VIB	VIIIB	IB	IIIB	IIIA	IVA	VA	VIA	VIIA	VIIIA	VIIIA	VIIIA	VIIIA	
1																			
2																			
3																			
4																			
5																			
6																			
7																			

*Lanthanide Series

**Actinide Series

() indicates the mass number of the isotope with the longest half-life.