

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
FACULTY OF SCIENCE
DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY
FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER, MAY 2008

TITLE OF PAPER: INSTRUMENTAL ANALYSIS

COURSE CODE: C 304

TIME ALLOWED: THREE (3) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1. THIS EXAMINATIONS HAS 6 QUESTIONS AND TWO (2) DATA SHEETS. THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES IS SIX (6) INCLUDING THIS PAGE.**
- 2. ANSWER ANY FOUR (4) QUESTIONS FULLY; DIAGRAMS SHOULD BE CLEAR, LARGE AND PROPERLY LABELED. MARKS WILL BE DEDUCTED FOR IMPROPER UNITS AND LACK OF PROCEDURAL STEPS IN CALCULATIONS.**
- 3. EACH QUESTION IS WORTH 25 MARKS.**

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

- 1. Data sheets.**
- 2. Graph paper**

YOU ARE NOT SUPPOSED TO OPEN THIS PAPER UNTIL PERMISSION TO DO SO HAS BEEN GIVEN BY THE CHIEF INVIGILATOR.

QUESTION 1

- a. i) Explain the role of a solid support in liquid chromatography. [1]
- ii) List and discuss any two (2) desirable properties of a solid support in liquid chromatography. [3]
- iii) Describe the nature of the solid support "Chromosorb W-AW". [3]
- b. What is meant by a "silanol group" in chromatography? [1]
- c. How do silanol groups affect chromatographic separations? [2]
- d. Use equations to explain how the effect of silanol groups is eliminated in chromatography. [3]
- e. i) Explain the role of stationary phase in LC. [1]
- ii) Write down the formula of squalene used as stationary phase in LC. [1]
- iii) Explain why Carbowax 20M would be more efficient for separating a mixture of $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}/\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$ as compared with a mixture of CH_4 and CH_3CH_3 . [2]
- f. i) What is the reason for performing LC on bonded phases? [2]
- ii) Use equations to explain how bonded phases are fabricated. [3]
- iii) Explain the difference between NPBP and RPBP in bonded phase L.C. [3]

QUESTION 2

- a. State the range of the uv-visible portion of the electromagnetic spectrum in nanometers. [2]
- b. In the spectrophotometric analysis of trace iron using the bipyridine method,
- i) Write the full stoichiometric reaction. [3]
- ii) State why 1,10-phenanthroline is sometimes referred to as "batho-phenanthroline". [2]
- iii) Name the reagent used to convert Fe (III) species to Fe (II) species, and explain why this is necessary. [2]

iv) Explain why sodium acetate and sulphuric acid are added prior to addition of bipyridine. [2]

c. In an experiment to determine the concentration of trace iron in a sample, a 5 ppm Fe solution was prepared by addition of bipyridine and 3M H₂SO₄/10% sodium acetate into a solution of FeSO₄(NH₄)₂ · 6H₂O. Optical parameters were measured in a Bausch and Lomb Spectronic 20 uv-visible spectrophotometer with the following results:

Wavelength (nm)	480	500	520	540	560	580
Transmittance (%)	51.2	40.9	32.5	41.8	50.3	52.1

i) Plot the spectrum of the iron-bipyridine complex. [3]

ii) On the spectrum, indicate the λ_{max} . [1]

iii) Calculate the molar absorptivity of the complex if measurements were taken in a 1.11-cm cell. [4]

d. Two isomers, ortho- and para-, are simultaneously determined in a solution by uv-visible spectroscopy. At 410nm, the measured absorbance was 0.353, whereas at 560nm, the absorbance was 0.251 in a 1.00cm cell. Calculate the concentrations of the two isomers (molar absorptivities at 410nm are: 6000 for ortho-, 500 for para-;

QUESTION 3

(a) Explain fully the meaning of the expression “chromatography is a semi-batch, differential migration, phase distribution technique”. [3]

(b) Write the equation for Gaussian peaks in chromatography, and explain the analytical significance of its integral. [3]

(c) Describe each of the two ways of performing elution in Gas Chromatography, and explain why one would prefer elution in each case. [2]

(d) Describe each of the two ways of performing elution in Liquid Chromatography, and explain why one would prefer elution in each case. [3]

(e) Use equations to describe “capacity factor” in chromatography, and explain its significance in analytical separations. [3]

- (f) Gas chromatography is used to separate cyclohexane and benzene in a mixture. Cyclohexane elutes after 15 sec with a peak width of 1.5 cm, whereas air and benzene elute after 8 sec and 30 sec respectively. The peak width of benzene is 1.2 cm. The chart speed used is 5cm/min, and the column is 2m long.
- i) Why is it not possible to separate benzene from cyclohexane by distillation? [2]
 - ii) Why do the three components elute in the order observed? [2]
 - iii) What is the capacity factor of benzene? [2]
 - iv) Calculate the HETP using the cyclohexane peak. [3]
 - v) Are the two peaks properly resolved? [2]

QUESTION 4

- a.
 - i) State the range of the mid IR portion of the electromagnetic spectrum in wave numbers. [2]
 - ii) Of the two molecules HCl and Cl₂, which one is IR-active and which one is not? Give an explanation for each of your answers. [3]
 - iii) State and explain the differences in sample placement between IR and UV-visible spectroscopy. [3]
- b. State Bragg's Law and explain all terms appearing in it. [2]
- c. Draw a prism, and use equations to explain how it works as a monochromator. [3]
- d. Use equations to explain how stray light leads to deviations in Beer's Law. [3]
- e. The following results obtained in an experiment involving the standardization of iron.

Concentration $\mu\text{g/mL}$	1.16	3.48	4.65
Absorbance	0.125	0.372	0.502

An unknown solid, weighing 0.5062g, was digested to a volume of 50mL, from which an aliquot of 10mL was pipeted into a 100mL volumetric flask prior to addition of reagents and dilution to volume. Absorbance readings obtained for

the sample are on average 0.337.

- i) Plot the calibration curve. [3]
- ii) Calculate the concentration of iron in the sample in parts-per-million. [7]

QUESTION 5

- a. Write brief notes on the following used in gas chromatography:
 - i) Carrier gas. [2]
 - ii) Purifier cartridge [2]
 - iii) Soap bubble. [2]
- a. Use diagrams to explain the following as relates to “race track” effect
 - i) its cause [1]
 - ii) its effect on peak width [2]
 - iii) how it is eliminated in GC [2]
- c. Use diagrams to describe the “Flame Ionization Detector”, and list any three compounds that cannot be detected by this method. [4]
- d.
 - i) Use a diagram to explain the concept of “laminar flow” in chromatography. [2]
 - ii) Use a diagram to explain the phenomenon of “longitudinal diffusion” in chromatography. [2]
 - iii) State the HETP equation for longitudinal diffusion in an open tube, and explain how it is different from a packed tube. [2]
 - iv) Explain the effect of linear velocity of mobile phase on band broadening due to longitudinal diffusion. [2]
 - v) How and why does longitudinal diffusion effect hand broadening in liquid chromatography? [2]

QUESTION 6

- a.
 - i) Describe the role of each of the reagents used in the analytical dissolution of sugar-cane soils by open vessel digestion in the determination of trace zinc. [3]

- ii) Draw the cross-flow nebulizer and explain how it works. [3]
- b. Discuss the path followed by $ZnCl_2$ as it is aspirated from solution up until it reaches the flame in atomic absorption spectroscopy. [3]
- c. Draw the hollow cathode lamp, explain how it works, and explain why it was not possible to perform atomic spectroscopic measurements prior to its invention in 1955? [4]
- d. For each of the following interferences in flame atomic absorption spectroscopy, describe the interference and explain how it is eliminated.
- i) ionization [2]
 - ii) chemical [3]
- e. "Nebulization in atomic spectroscopy is inefficient". Explain the meaning of this statement. [2]
- f. Describe the three stages involved in a furnace program in graphite furnace AAS, and explain why or why not the signal is sampled at each stage. [3]
- g. List and describe two (2) advantages of graphite furnace atomic absorption spectroscopy over flame methods. [2]

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Useful Relations

$(RT)_{298.15K} = 2.4789 \text{ kJ/mol}$
 $(RT/F)_{298.15K} = 0.025693 \text{ V}$
 $T/K: 100.15 \quad 298.15 \quad 500.15 \quad 1000.15$
 $T/Cm^{-1}: 69.61 \quad 207.22 \quad 347.62 \quad 695.13$
 $1 \text{ mmHg} = 133.222 \text{ Nm}^{-2}$
 $hc/k = 1.43878 \times 10^{-2} \text{ mK}$

$1 \text{ atm} = 1 \text{ cal} = 1 \text{ eV} = 1 \text{ cm}^{-1}$
 $1.01325 \times 10^5 \text{ Nm}^{-2} = 4.184 \text{ J} = 1.602189 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J} = 0.124 \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}$
 $760 \text{ torr} = 96.485 \text{ kJ/mol} = 1.9864 \times 10^{-23} \text{ J}$
 8065.5 cm^{-1}

General Data

speed of light $c = 2.997925 \times 10^8 \text{ m}^{-1}$
 charge of proton $e = 1.60219 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$
 Faraday constant $F = Le = 9.64846 \times 10^4 \text{ C mol}^{-1}$
 Boltzmann constant $k = 1.38066 \times 10^{-23} \text{ J K}^{-1}$
 Gas constant $R = Lk = 8.31441 \text{ J K}^{-1} \text{ mol}^{-1}$
 $8.20575 \times 10^{-2} \text{ dm}^3 \text{ atm K}^{-1} \text{ mol}^{-1}$

Planck constant $h = 6.62618 \times 10^{-34} \text{ Js}$
 $h = \frac{h}{2\pi}$
 $1.05459 \times 10^{-34} \text{ Js}$
 Avogadro constant $L \text{ or } N_{av} = 6.02214 \times 10^{23} \text{ mol}^{-1}$
 Atomis mass unit $u = 10^{-3} \text{ kg/(Lmol)}$
 $1.66054 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$

Electron mass $m_e = 9.10939 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg}$
 Proton mass $m_p = 1.67262 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$
 Neutron mass $m_n = 1.67493 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$
 Vacuum permittivity $\epsilon_0 = \mu_0^{-1} \text{ C}^{-2}$
 $8.854188 \times 10^{-12} \text{ J}^{-1} \text{ C}^2 \text{ m}^{-1}$
 Vacuum permeability $\mu_0 = 4\pi \times 10^{-7} \text{ Js}^2 \text{ C}^{-2} \text{ m}^{-1}$
 $1.256637 \times 10^{-6} \text{ N A}^{-2}$
 Bohr magneton $\mu_B = \frac{eh}{2m_p}$
 $9.27402 \times 10^{-24} \text{ JT}^{-1}$
 Nuclear magneton $\mu_N = \frac{eh}{2m_p}$
 $5.05079 \times 10^{-27} \text{ JT}^{-1}$

Bohr radius $a_0 = 5.29177 \times 10^{-11} \text{ m}$
 Gravitational constant $G \text{ or } g = 6.67259 \times 10^{-11} \text{ Nm}^2 \text{ kg}^{-2}$

Prefixes:
 p nano 10^{-9}
 n nano 10^{-9}
 m micro 10^{-6}
 m milli 10^{-3}
 c centi 10^{-2}
 d deci 10^{-1}
 k kilo 10^3
 M mega 10^6
 G giga 10^9

SI-units:

$1 \text{ cal (thermochemical)} = 4.184 \text{ J}$
 dipole moment: $1 \text{ Debye} = 3.33564 \times 10^{-30} \text{ C m}$
 force: $1 \text{ N} = 1 \text{ J m}^{-1} = 1 \text{ kgms}^{-2} = 10^5 \text{ dyne}$ pressure: $1 \text{ Pa} = 1 \text{ Nm}^{-2} = 1 \text{ Jm}^{-3}$
 power: $1 \text{ W} = 1 \text{ J s}^{-1}$ potential: $1 \text{ V} = 1 \text{ J C}^{-1}$
 magnetic flux: $1 \text{ T} = 1 \text{ Vs m}^{-2} = 1 \text{ J Csm}^{-2}$ current: $1 \text{ A} = 1 \text{ Cs}^{-1}$