

# KIBABII UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS  
2020/2021 ACADEMIC YEAR

FIRST YEAR FIRST SEMESTER  
SUPPLEMENTARY/SPECIAL EXAMINATIONS

FOR THE DEGREE OF BSC (PURE PHYSICS/CHEMISTRY) AND BSC  
(RENEWABLE ENERGY AND BIOFUELS TECHNOLOGY)

**COURSE CODE:** SPC 111

**COURSE TITLE:** MECHANICS, HEAT & PROPERTIES OF MATTER

**DURATION:** 2 HOURS

**DATE:** 21/7/2022

**TIME:** 11:00AM-1:00PM

---

## INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- Answer **QUESTION ONE** (Compulsory) and any other two (2) Questions.
- Indicate **answered questions** on the front cover.

Start every question on a new page and make sure question's number is written on each page  
This paper consists of 3 printed pages. Please Turn Over

KIBU observes ZERO tolerance to examination cheating

DENSITY of water=  $1000 \text{ kg m}^{-3}$   
 $g = 9.8 \text{ N kg}^{-1}$  or  $9.8 \text{ ms}^{-2}$

**SPC 111: MECHANICS & PROPERTIES OF MATTER**

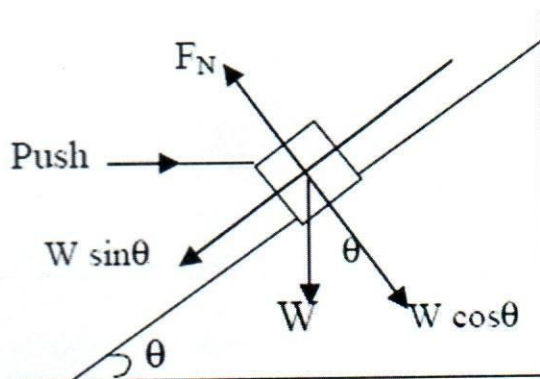
### **QUESTION ONE [30 Marks]**

- a) What is the meaning of the word *dimension* in physics? Differentiate between speed and velocity. [4 Marks]
- b) Find the magnitude of the resultant sum of the two vectors  $\vec{a} = (2.0\vec{i} + 4.0\vec{j})m$  and  $\vec{b} = (5.0\vec{i} + 2.0\vec{j})m$  lying in the xy plane. [4 marks]
- c) Using dimensional analysis, determine the units of acceleration. [3 marks]
- d) A coin is thrown vertically upward from the ground with the speed of 10 m/s. How long does it take to reach the highest point? What is the maximum height reached by the coin? [4 Marks]
- e) State the states of equilibrium. [3 Marks]
- f) A container can withstand a pressure of 75 kPa. At what depth in sea-water will it collapse? Density of sea-water is 1.024 g/cm<sup>3</sup>. [2 Marks]
- g) The air in a plastic bag trebles in volume as it rises from the bottom of a fresh-water lake. Find the depth of the lake if the barometric height is 0.76 m of mercury. [3 Marks]
- h) Define tensile stress and tensile strain. [2 Marks]
- i) Calculate the resultant velocity of a boat which is rowed at 1.5 m/s<sup>2</sup> at right-angles to the direction of a current of 1 m/s<sup>2</sup>. [4 Mark]
- k) State the law of conservation of linear momentum. [2 Marks]
- l) Find the maximum load which may be placed on a steel wire of diameter 1.0 mm if the permitted strain must not exceed  $\frac{1}{1000}$  and the Young's modulus for steel is  $2.0 \times 10^{11} \text{ Nm}^{-2}$ . [3 Marks]

### **QUESTION TWO [20 Marks]**

- a) Define the impulse of a force. State its unit. [2 mark]
- I. A 1 kg ball drops vertically on the floor with a speed of 30 m/s and rebounds with an initial speed of 20 m/s. What is the impulse that acts on the ball during the impact? [4 marks]
- II. A force of 200N pulls a box of mass 50 kg and overcomes a constant frictional force of 40 N. What is the acceleration of the sledge? [3 marks]
- b) I. State two effects of force on an object. [2 marks]
- II. A model car moves round a circular track of radius 0.3 m at 2 revolutions per second. What is (a) the angular velocity,  $\omega$  (b) The speed  $v$  of the car? [4 marks]
- c) The figure below shows a person applying a horizontal force in trying to push a 25 kg block up a frictionless plane inclined at an angle of  $15^\circ$ .
- I. Calculate the force needed just to keep the block in equilibrium.
- II. Suppose that she applies three times that force. What will be the acceleration of the block?

[5 marks]



**QUESTION THREE [20 Marks]**

- State the assumptions of projectile motion. [2 marks]
- A shell is projected with a velocity of 100 m/s with an elevation of  $30^\circ$  to the horizontal. Obtain the equations of motion. [5 marks]
- A stone is projected with a horizontal velocity of 10 m/s from the top of a cliff 50 m above sea-level. Calculate the range at sea-level, and the velocity of impact. [10 marks]
- A particle starts from origin at  $t=0$  with initial velocity having an x-component of 20 m/s and a y-component of -15 m/s. The particle moves in the xy plane with an x-component of acceleration only, given by  $a_x=4.0 \text{ m/s}^2$ . Determine the components of velocity vector at any time and the total velocity vector at any time. [3 marks]

**QUESTION FOUR [20 Marks]**

- What is Absolute Temperature? [2 Marks]
- In a car lift used in a service station, compressed air exerts a force on a small piston that has a circular cross section and a radius of 5.0 cm. This pressure is transmitted by a liquid to a piston that has a radius of 15.0 cm. What force must the compressed air exert to lift a car weighing 13 300N? What pressure produces this force? [6 Marks]
- A balloon contains  $1.5 \text{ m}^3$  of helium at a pressure of 100 kPa and at a temperature of  $27^\circ\text{C}$ . If the pressure is increased to 250 kPa at a temperature of  $127^\circ\text{C}$ , calculate the new volume of the balloon. [3 Marks]
- State Boyle's Law. Explain how Boyle's Law can be verified in a laboratory. [9 marks]

**QUESTION FIVE [20 Marks]**

- Define linear momentum of a particle. [2 marks]

- b) A bullet of mass 20 g travelling horizontally at 100 m/s, embeds itself in the center of a block of wood mass 1 kg which is suspended by light vertical strings 1 m long. Calculate the maximum inclination of the strings to the vertical. [5 marks]
- c) Draw a stress-strain graph and mark on it the elastic region, yield point and breaking stress. [3 Marks]
- d) Suppose 2 kg is attached to the end of a vertical wire of length 2 m and diameter 0.64 mm, and the extension is 0.60 mm. Determine the modulus of elasticity (Young's modulus) of the wire. [3 Marks]
- e) Define specific heat capacity. [2 marks]
- f) A metal of mass 0.2 kg at  $100^{\circ}\text{C}$  is dropped into 0.08 kg of water at  $15^{\circ}\text{C}$  contained in a calorimeter of mass 0.12 kg and specific heat capacity  $400\text{J/kg/K}$ . The final temperature reached is  $35^{\circ}\text{C}$ . Find the specific heat capacity of the metal. (Assume negligible heat losses and specific heat capacity of water is  $4200\text{J/kg/K}$ ) [ 5 marks]

.....**END**.....