



KIBABII UNIVERSITY

SUPPLIMENTARY/ SPECIAL UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

ACADEMIC YEAR 2021/2022

FOURTH YEAR FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

COURSE CODE: SPH 417

COURSE TITLE: SOLID STATE PHYSICS

DATE: 22/11/2022

TIME: 11:00AM-1:00PM

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Answer question ONE and any TWO of the remaining.

Time: 2 hours

KIBU observes ZERO tolerance to examination cheating

QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)

- a) State any two states of matter (2 marks)
- b) Differentiate between crystalline and amorphous solids (2 marks)
- c) Define the following terms crystals:
- (i) Lattice (2 marks)
 - (ii) Basis (2 marks)
 - (iii) Unit cell (2 marks)
- d) What is an ionic bond (2 marks)
- e) What is a lattice vibration and how does it occur (3 marks)
- f) Name any three forces in which metallic bonds depends (3 marks)
- g) Calculate the distance between two lattice planes which give first order diffraction at an angle of 26.42° with molybdenum of X-rays of wavelength 0.71\AA ? (3 marks)
- h) Using a well labelled diagram, define a face-centred cubic (fcc) unit cell. (2 marks)
- i) What is an atomic scattering factor? (3 marks)
- j) State Bragg's law in mathematical form (2 marks)
- k) Apply Miller indices to sketch (1 0 0) plane (2 marks)

QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

- (a) Derive the relationship between phase velocity and group velocity (12 marks)
- (b) Discuss the important properties of metal crystals (8 marks)

QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

- (a) State the Bloch theorem and show how it can be expressed in one dimension (12 marks)
- (b) A bcc crystal is used to measure the wavelength of some X-rays. The Bragg angle for the first order reflection from (100) planes is 20.2° . What is the wavelength? (Take lattice parameter of the crystal as 3.15\AA) (8 marks)

QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

- (a) Discuss any five assumptions of classical free electron model (10 marks)
- (b) A sample of silicon is doped with 10^{17} phosphorus atoms per cm^3 . What is the resistivity and the expected Hall voltage in a sample of $200\mu\text{m}$ thickness if the current density is 1 A/cm^2 and magnetic field of $1 \times 10^{-5}\text{ Wb/cm}^2$ is applied perpendicular to the direction of current flow. Given mobility = $600\text{ cm}^2/\text{volt-sec}$ (10 marks)

QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)

- (a) What is Hall effect? An n-type semi-conductor (Ge) has a donor density of $10^{15}/\text{cm}^3$. It is arranged in a Hall effect experiment where magnetic field $B_z = 0.5 \text{ Wb/m}^2$ is applied and a current density of $j_x = 500 \text{ A/m}^2$ results. What will be the Hall voltage if the specimen is 4 mm thick? (8 marks)
- (b) Calculate the extent of energy range between $f(\epsilon) = 0.9$ and $f(\epsilon) = 0.1$ at temperature $T = 200 \text{ K}$ and express it as a function of $\epsilon_f = 3 \text{ eV}$. (12 marks)