



MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY

University Examinations 2018/2019

SCHOOL OF PURE AND APPLIED SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL SCIENCES

SECOND YEAR FIRST SEMESTER SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION FOR
BACHELOR BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (TELECOMMUNICATION AND
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY)
BACHELOR OF EDUCATION
SPH 202: MODERN PHYSICS

DATE: 26/9/2019

TIME: 2:00 – 4:00 PM

INSTRUCTIONS:

- The paper consists of **two** sections.
- Section **A** is **compulsory** (30 marks).
- Answer any **two** questions from section **B** (each 20 marks).

You may choose constants that you need among the following

Atomic mass unit $u = 1.66 \times 10^{-27} \text{Kg}$, Avogadro's number $6.022 \times 10^{23} \text{particles/mol}$, boltzmann's constant $k_B = 1.38 \times 10^{-23} \text{J/K}$, Deuteron mass $m_d = 3.343 \times 10^{-27} \text{Kg}$, electron mass $m_e = 9.109 \times 10^{-31} \text{Kg}$, electron volt $\text{eV} = 1.602 \times 10^{-19} \text{J}$, charge $e = 1.602 \times 10^{-19} \text{C}$, Gas constant $R = 8.314 \text{J/K.mol}$, Gravitational constant $G = 6.672 \times 10^{-11} \text{N.m}^2/\text{kg}$, neutron mass $m_n = 1.674 \times 10^{-27} \text{Kg}$, Permeability of free space $\mu_0 = 4\pi \times 10^{-7} \text{T.m/A}$, Permetivity of free space $\epsilon_0 = 8.854 \times 10^{-12} \text{C}^2/\text{N.m}^2$. Plank's Constant $h = 6.626 \times 10^{-34} \text{J.s}$, $\hbar = 1.054 \times 10^{-34} \text{J.s}$, Proton mass $m_p = 1.672 \times 10^{-27} \text{Kg}$, Rydberg constant $R_H = 1.097 \times 10^7 \text{m}^{-1}$, speed of light in a vacuum $c = 2.997 \times 10^8 \text{m/s}$, One light year(1Ly) is the distance travelled by light in one year which is $9.4607 \times 10^{12} \text{ Km}$

SECTION A

QUESTION ONE

- a) A space ship of mass 12.0×10^{12} kg is to be accelerated to $0.96c$.
i) how much energy does this require? 4 marks
ii) how many kilograms of matter would it take to provide this much energy? 4 marks
- b) A spaceship flies by an observer with a speed of $0.95c$, if its rest length is 80 m what does the observer measure as it bypasses her. 4 marks
- c) A deuteron contains one proton and one neutron and has a mass of $3.013553u$. Calculate the mass difference between the deuteron and the sum of masses of proton and neutron and determine its binding energy. 4 marks
- d) Define the term red shift 2 marks
- e) A stationary body explodes into three fragments of mass 0.65 kg, 0.43 kg and 0.12 kg that move apart at speeds of $0.65c$, $0.78c$ and $0.99c$ respectively. Find the mass of the original body. 4 marks
- f) Based on proton neutron ratio explain instability in nuclides. 2 marks
- g) Give a reason as to why there is a gradual decrease in binding energy from 8.8 to 7.6MeV 2 marks
- h) A radioactive sample contains 2.3×10^{16} atoms and has an activity of $6.0 \times 10^{12}\text{Bq}$. What is its half life? 4 marks

QUESTION TWO

- a) i) Draw the set up for the Michelson interferometer 6 marks
ii) Describe the features of the Michelson interferometer and explain how it works 6 marks
- b) Derive the expression for Bohr total energy of the atom and for Bohr radius 8 marks

QUESTION THREE

- a) i) Draw the set up for the Michelson–Morley experiment citing the modifications made to the Michelson interferometer 6 marks
ii) Hence show that the time difference between horizontal and vertical beams is
$$\Delta t \approx \frac{LV^2}{c^3}$$
 12 marks
- b) State and explain the meaning of the Heisenberg uncertainty principle 2 marks

QUESTION FOUR

- a) Using a well drawn and described experiment, explain the concept of time dilation and show that $\Delta t = \gamma \Delta t_p$ 12 marks
- b) Show that the
- velocity of an electron in a hydrogen atom is given by 4 marks

$$v = \frac{e}{\sqrt{4\pi\epsilon_0 mr}}$$
 - total energy in a hydrogen atom is 4 marks

$$E = -\frac{e^2}{8\pi\epsilon_0 r}$$

QUESTION FIVE

- a) Show that if proper length of an object is L_p and moving with speed of v in a direction parallel to its length, it contracts to $L = \frac{L_p}{\gamma}$ 7 marks
- b) A girl travelling in a pickup tosses a ball vertically up when the car is at position A, (See **Figure 1**) the ball landed back on the girl when the car is at position B. According to the girl, the path taken by the ball is a vertical line as shown at position A.

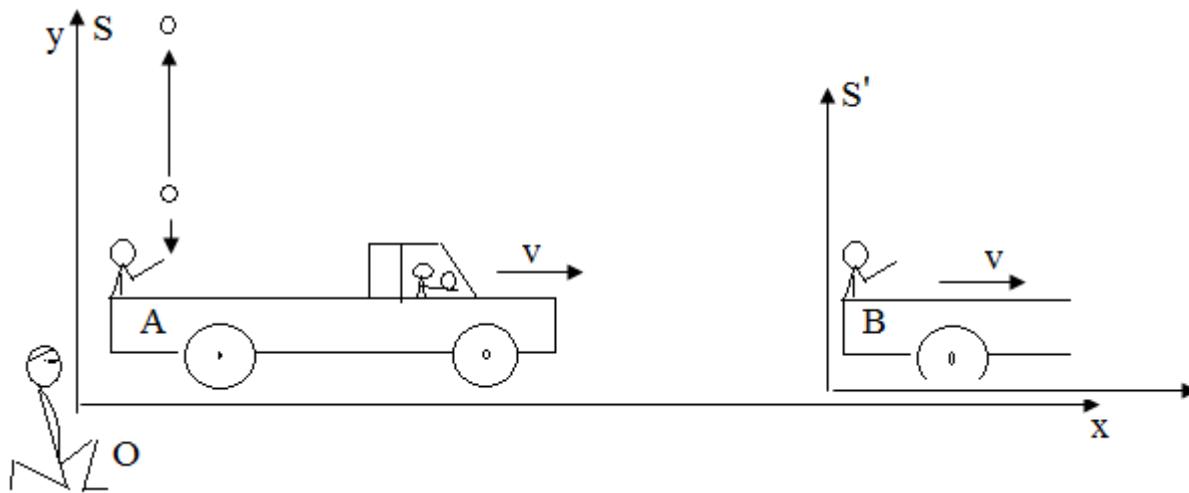


Figure 1

- Draw what the stationary observer will record. 4 marks
- Frame S' is in motion at a speed of v (**Figure 1**), redraw the diagram making proper labeling and show that $X' = X - vt$ 4 marks
- Write down the Lorentz Transformation equation and state when they reduce to familiar classical equations 5 marks