



**DEDAN KIMATHI UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY**  
**UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2015/2016**  
**SECOND YEAR SEMESTER II EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN**  
**INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

**SPH 2172: PHYSICS**

**DATE: 22<sup>ND</sup> DECEMBER 2015**

**TIME: 1.30 PM – 3.30 PM**

**Some useful constants**

- (1) Charge of an electron  $e = 1.602 \times 10^{-19} C$   
 (2) Speed of light  $c = 3 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}$   
 (3) Permittivity of free space  $= 8.854 \times 10^{-12} F/m$

**INSTRUCTIONS**

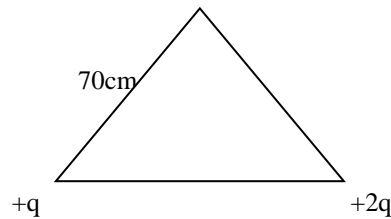
**Answer questions one and any other two questions.**

**QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)**

- (a) State
- (i) Lenz's law. **(1 mark)**
- (ii) Kirchhoff's loop law. **(1 mark)**
- (b) Show that if three resistors are connected in parallel with resistance  $R_1, R_2$  and  $R_3$  then the total resistance  $R_T$  is given by  $\frac{1}{R_T} = \frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2} + \frac{1}{R_3}$  **(4 marks)**
- (c) Determine the standard value of the carbon coded resistor
- Blue- violet- black- silver. **(2 marks)**
- (d) An alternating current is represented as  $i = 120 \sin(\omega t)$ . Calculate its  $i_{r.m.s.}$  **(2 marks)**
- (e) An R-L a.c circuit is connected in series to 60 Hz 240 Vr.m.s supply. If the resistance is  $120\Omega$  and the inductance is 300mH, determine the circuit impedance. **(3 marks)**
- (f) A motor coil has  $20\Omega$  and  $45\Omega$  resistance when its temperature is  $40^\circ C$  and  $90^\circ C$  respectively. Find  $R_0$  of the coil given that its temperature coefficient of resistance  $\alpha = 0.0044/^\circ C$ . **(4 marks)**
- (g) State two types of capacitors. **(2 mark)**
- (h) A certain station transmits its signals at 200km. Determine its frequency. **(3 marks)**
- (i) State and explain two ways how power loss can be reduced in a.c transmission. **(4 marks)**

- (j) Three charges are held fixed at the vertices of an equilateral triangle as shown below. Calculate their mutual electric potential energy (U). Take  $q = 1.5 \times 10^{-5} C$  and  $L = 70 \text{ cm}$ . (4 marks)

+ 4q

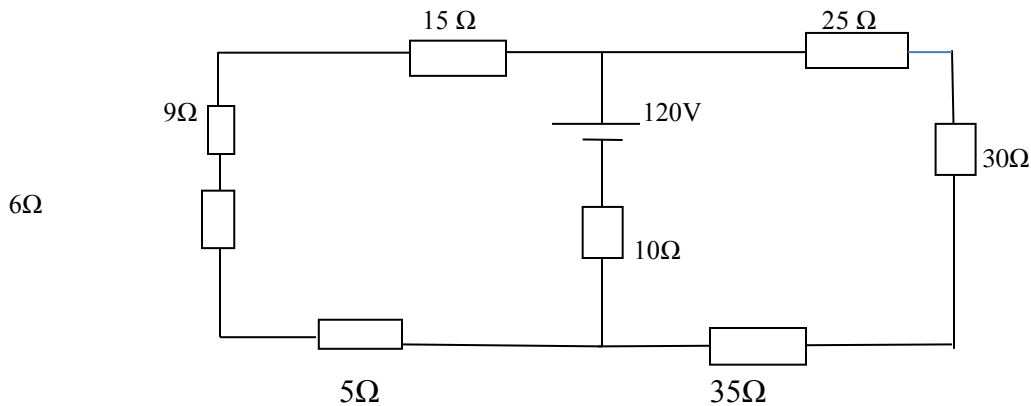


**QUESTION TWO (20 marks)**

- (a) For a purely inductive circuits show that the inductive reactance is given by  $X_L = \omega L$  (5 marks)
- (b) A capacitor of  $20 \mu F$  and resistor of  $100 \Omega$  are connected in series across a  $50 \text{ Hz } 230 V_{r.m.s}$  supply. Calculate
- (i) the impedance of the circuit. (3 marks)
  - (ii) the root mean square current. (2 marks)
- (c) Two signals  $V_1 = 70 \sin(\omega t)$  and  $V_2 = 90 \cos(\omega t)$  are fed into one circuit .Determine the representation of the superposed signal. (5 marks)
- (d) A particle having a charge  $q = 5 \times 10^{-7} C$  moves from point P to point Q along a straight line, covering a distance of 6 m. The electric field is uniform along this line, in the direction from P to Q with magnitude  $E = 600 \text{ N/C}$ . calculate
- (i) the force on the charge. (3 marks)
  - (ii) the work done on it by the field. (2 marks)

**QUESTION THREE (20 marks)**

- (a) Define the following terms.
- (i) electric current. (1 mark)
  - (ii) the potential (1 mark)
- (b) A certain circular conductor transmits a charge of  $1200 C$  in 5 minutes. Given that the material making the conductor is  $1.5 \text{ mm}$  in diameter, calculate
- (i) The current in the wire . (3 marks)
  - (ii) its current density . (3 marks)
- (c) A straight wire  $12 \text{ meters}$  long carries a current of  $2 \text{ A}$  and is placed in a uniform magnetic field of  $30 T$ . Determine the force on the conductor if its inclined at  $40^\circ$  to the direction of the field. (3 marks)
- (d) Calculate the current in the circuit and the p.d across each resistor. (9 marks)



**QUESTION FOUR (20 marks)**

- (a) Define the following terms.
- (i) power . **(1 mark)**
  - (ii) electric field. **(1mark)**
- (b) A R-L d.c circuit consists a 100 mH inductor, a 20Ω resistor and a 24V d.c. The switch is closed at  $t = 0$  seconds. Determine
- (i) the time constant of the circuit. **(2marks)**
  - (ii) the current in the circuit at  $t = 2.5$  seconds. **(3marks)**
- (c) Two capacitor 4μF and 8μF are connected in parallel and the parallel connection is connected in series to 6μF capacitor .If the system is connected to 50V d.c ,determine
- (i) the total capacitance of the circuit. **(3 marks)**
  - (ii) the total charge stored by the circuit. **(2 marks)**
  - (iii)the energy stored in the circuit. **(3 marks)**
- (d)A parallel plate capacitor has two plates each of area of 25cm<sup>2</sup>.It has a dielectric of 0.15mm thick and dielectric constant of 4.5.if the capacitor is connected across 12V d.c,calculate
- (i) Capacitance of the capacitor. **(3 marks)**
  - (ii) the flux density . **( 2 marks)**

**QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)**

- (a) State and explain three factors that determine the resistance of a resistor. **(3 marks)**
- (b) State three factors that determine the induced e.m.f in self inductance. **(3 marks)**
- (c) Derive an expression of the electric potential energy U as a charge is moved from point  $r_a$  to  $r_b$  . **(4marks)**

(d) Determine the color coding of  $34\text{ M}\Omega$  resistors having a tolerance a tolerance of  $\pm 2\%$ . **(3marks)**

(e) An a.c is represented as  $V = 150 \sin (55\pi t + 3.5)$ . Determine

- (i) the root mean square potential ( $V_{r.m.s}$ ). **(2 mark)**
- (ii) the frequency and the period of the a.c. **(3 marks)**
- (iii) the value of the voltage at  $t = 1.5$  seconds. **(2 marks)**