



**STRATHMORE UNIVERSITY**  
**SCHOOL OF COMPUTING AND ENGINEERING SCIENCES**  
**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING**  
**END OF TERM II EXAMINATION**  
**PHY1201: PHYSICS 2**

DATE: 13<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2024

TIME: 15:30-18:30 HOURS

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**Instruction:**

1. This paper consists of **FIVE** questions.
2. Answer question 1 (Compulsory) and **ANY** other **TWO** questions
3. Show all your working in a systematic manner, where necessary, use diagrams to illustrate your concepts.

*Important constants*

Charge of an electron or proton,  $q_{e^-}$  or  $q_{e^+} = 1.6 \times 10^{-19} C$

Mass of an electron  $m_e = 9.1095 \times 10^{-31} kg$

Mass of a proton,  $m_p = 1.673 \times 10^{-27} kg$

Mass of deuterons,  $m_d = 2m_p$

Avogadro's constant,  $N_A = 6.02 \times 10^{23} mole^{-1}$

Mass density of copper  $\rho = 8.96 \times 10^3 kg/m^3$

Molar mass of copper,  $M = 63.54 \times 10^{-3} kg/mol$

Coulomb constant,  $k_e = 8.99 \times 10^9 N.m^2/C^2$

Permittivity of free space constant  $\epsilon_0 = 8.85 \times 10^{-12} C^2/N.m^2$

Permeability constant  $\mu_0 = 1.26 \times 10^{-6} T.m/A$

Gravitational acceleration  $g = 9.8 \text{ m/s}$

$1 \text{ MeV} = 1.60 \times 10^{-13} \text{ J}$

**QUESTION 1 (20 MARKS)**

- (i) State the characteristics of a conductor in electrostatics equilibrium (4 marks)
- (ii) A current of  $17.0 \text{ mA}$  is maintained in a single circular loop of  $2.00 \text{ m}$  circumference. A magnetic field of  $800 \text{ T}$  is then directed parallel to plane of the loop. Calculate the magnetic moment of the loop (3 marks)
- (iii) A charge  $+q$  is at  $x = a$  and the second charge  $-q$  is at  $x = -a$  as shown in Figure 1.
  - a. Find the electric field at an arbitrary point P a distance  $x > a$ . (3 marks)
  - b. Find the limiting form of electric field for  $x \gg a$ . (2 marks)

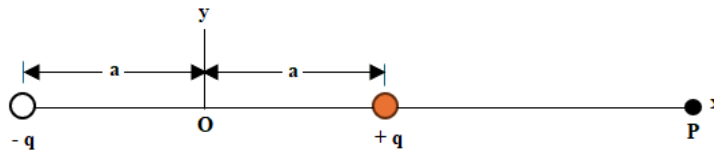


Figure 1

- (iv) Figure 2 shows five charged lumps of plastic and an electrically neutral coin. The cross section of a Gaussian surface S is indicated. Calculate the net electric flux through this surface given that  $q_1 = q_4 = +3.1 \text{ nC}$ ,  $q_2 = q_5 = -5.9 \text{ nC}$ , and  $q_3 = -3.1 \text{ nC}$  (3 marks)



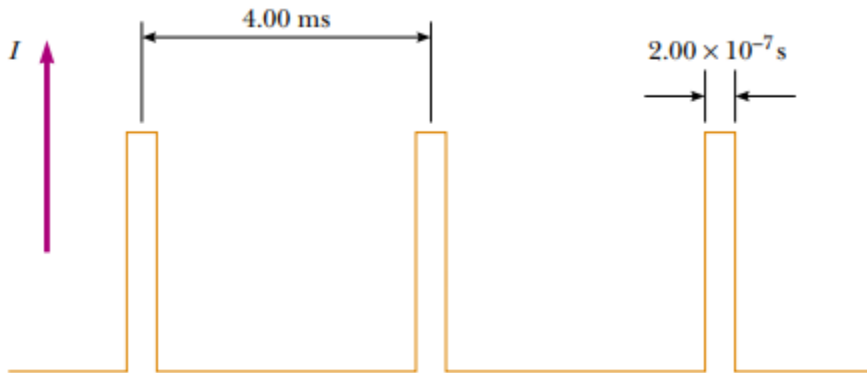
Figure 2

- (v) An isolated conducting sphere whose radius is  $6.85 \text{ cm}$  has a charge of  $q = 1.25 \text{ nC}$ .
  - a. Show that the capacitance of the isolated sphere is given as  $4\pi\epsilon_0 R$  (3 marks)
  - b. The potential energy stored in the electric field of the charged sphere (3 marks)

- c. The energy density of the surface of the sphere (3 marks)
- (vi) A uniform magnetic field  $\vec{B}$ , with magnitude of  $1.2 \text{ mT}$ , is directed vertically upward throughout the volume of a laboratory chamber. A proton with kinetic energy  $5.3 \text{ MeV}$  enters the chamber, moving horizontally from south to north.
- Find the deflecting force experienced by the proton as it enters the chamber (4 marks)
  - The magnitude of the proton's acceleration due to this deflecting force (2 marks)

**QUESTION 2 (15 MARKS)**

- (i) In a certain particle accelerator, pulses of electrons at a rate of 250 pulses per second emerge with an energy of  $40 \text{ MeV}$ . The time interval between the pulses is  $4.00 \text{ ms}$  and each of the pulse has a duration of  $200 \text{ ns}$  as shown in Figure 3.



*Figure 3*

If an electron in a pulse has a current of  $250 \text{ mA}$  and the current is zero between the pulses.

Calculate

- The number of electrons delivered by the accelerator per pulse (3 marks)
  - The average current per pulse delivered by the accelerator (2 marks)
  - The peak power delivered by the electron beam (2 marks)
  - The average power delivered by the electron beam (2 marks)
- (ii) Two long parallel wires  $5.0 \text{ cm}$  apart carry current  $i_1 = 15 \text{ A}$  and  $i_2 = 32 \text{ A}$  in opposite directions as shown in Figure 4. Determine the magnitude and direction of the net magnetic field at point P shown in the figure. (6 marks)

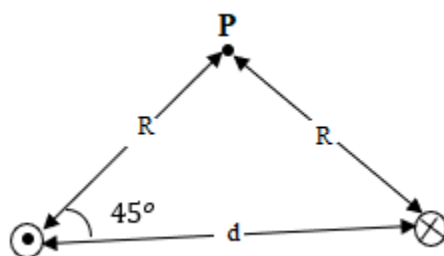


Figure 4

**QUESTION 3 (15 MARKS)**

- (i) A proton is released from rest in a uniform electric field that has a magnitude of  $8.0 \times 10^4 \text{ V/m}$ , as shown in Figure 5. The proton undergoes a displacement of 0.50 m in the direction of the electric field  $\vec{E}$ .

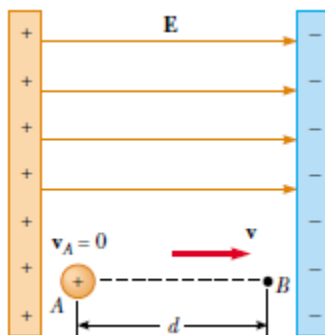


Figure 5

- a. Find the change in electric potential between points A and B, (2 marks)
  - b. Find the speed of the proton after completing the 0.50m in displacement in the electric field (3 marks)
- (ii) Three light waves combine at a certain point where the electric components are,
- $$E_1 = E_0 \sin \omega t$$
- $$E_2 = E_0 \sin(\omega t + 60^\circ)$$
- $$E_3 = E_0 \sin(\omega t - 30^\circ)$$
- Find the resultant component  $E(t)$  at that point (6 marks)
- (iii) Calculate the drift speed of the conduction electrons in a copper wire of radius  $r = 900 \mu\text{m}$  when a uniform current of  $i = 17 \text{ mA}$  passes through it. (assume that each copper atom

contributes one electron conduction to the current and the current density  $J$  is uniform across the wire's cross section). (4 marks)

**QUESTION 4 (15 MARKS)**

- (i) Two identical small-charged spheres  $q_1$  and  $q_2$ , each having a mass of  $3.0 \times 10^{-2} kg$ , hang in equilibrium as shown in Figure 6. The length of each string is  $0.15 m$  and the angle  $\theta$  is  $5.0^\circ$ . Find the magnitude of the charge on each sphere. (6 marks)

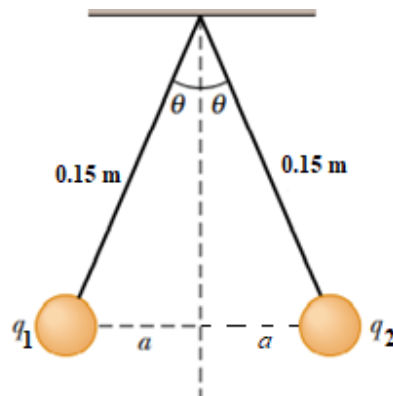


Figure 6

- (ii) Two uncharged spherical conductors of radius  $R_1 = 6.0 cm$  and  $R_2 = 2.0 cm$  as shown in Figure 7 and separated by a distance much greater than  $6.0 cm$  are connected by a long, very thin connecting wire. A total charge of  $Q = +80 nC$  is placed on one of the spheres and the system is allowed to reach electrostatic equilibrium.



Figure 7

- a. Calculate the charge total charge distributed on each sphere when the system attains electrostatic equilibrium, (3 marks)
- b. Find the electric field strength at the surface of each sphere (3 marks)
- (iii) A cross section of three infinitely large nonconducting sheets on which charge is uniformly spread is shown in Figure 8. The surface charge densities on the conducting sheets are  $\sigma_1 = 2.0 \mu\text{C}/\text{m}^2$ ,  $\sigma_2 = +4.0 \mu\text{C}/\text{m}^2$ ,  $\sigma_3 = -5.0 \mu\text{C}/\text{m}^2$ , and the distance  $L = 1.50 \text{ cm}$ . In unit vector notation, find the net electric field at point P. (3 marks)

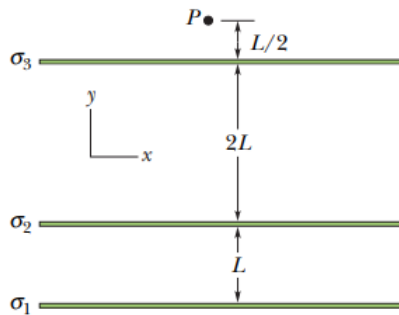


Figure 8

### QUESTION 5 (15 MARKS)

- (i) State the properties of an electric charge (3 marks)
- (ii) A dead battery is charged by connecting it to a live battery of another car with jumper wires as shown in Figure 9.

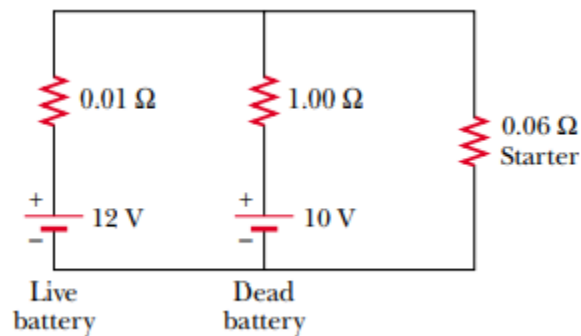


Figure 9

- a. Redraw the circuit indicating the direction of the current, (2 mark)

- b. Determine the current needed by the starter. (7 marks)
- (iii) Using how magnetic permeability of materials compare to permeability of free space, classify magnetic substances (3 marks)