



THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF EASTERN AFRICA

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MAIN EXAMINATION

AUGUST - DECEMBER 2015 TRIMESTER

FACULTY OF SCIENCE

DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY

REGULAR PROGRAMME

CHEM 300: INSTRUMENTAL METHODS

Date: DECEMBER 2015

Duration: 2 Hours

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer Question ONE and ANY OTHER TWO Questions

- Q1. a) Consider 50.00ml of a solution that is 0.0429M in HCl that is mixed with 20.00 ml of a solution that is 0.106M in HCl. What is the concentration in the final solution? **(5 marks)**
- b) Define the following terms
- i Quantitation
 - ii Detection
 - iii Identification
 - iv Matrix effect
 - v Distinguishing characteristic **(10 marks)**
- c) What is the difference between a measurement and an observation? **(5 marks)**
- d) Why are values of response for the analyte near the detection limit inconclusive for the analytical goal of detection? **(4 marks)**
- e) Define /explain each of the following terms
- i Monochromatic light
 - ii Single beam instrument
 - iii Transmittance. **(6 marks)**

- Q2. a) What special quality must a differentiating characteristics have to be used for separation? **(4 marks)**
- b) What is the frequency and color of light that has a wavelength λ of 630 nm in a vacuum? What is the energy of one photon of this light? **(6 marks)**
- c) What is a spectrum, and what is the form of the spectrum of white light? **(4 marks)**
- d) Why is the use of a blank solution rather than no sample cell or an empty sample cell so important? **(6 marks)**
- Q3. a) A solution has an absorbance of 0.237. What is its percentage transmittance? **(5 marks)**
- b) What are the advantages of the double beam spectrometer over the single beam spectrometer? **(6 marks)**
- c) Explain why the validity of an analytical result ultimately depends on knowing the composition of some primary standards **(9 marks)**
- Q4. a) A solid mixture weighing 1.372g containing only sodium carbonate and sodium bicarbonate required 29.11 ml of 0.7344M HCl for complete titration.
- $$\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3 + 2\text{HCl} \longrightarrow 2\text{NaCl}_{(\text{aq})} + \text{CO}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$$
- FM 106
- $$\text{NaHCO}_3 + \text{HCl} \longrightarrow \text{NaCl}_{(\text{aq})} + \text{CO}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$$
- FM 84
- Calculate the mass of each component in the sample mixture. **(8 marks)**
- b) Calculate the absorptivity of a compound with molecular mass = 144 if concentration is 1.0×10^{-5} g/ml solution exhibits an absorbance of 0.400 when the optical path is unity. **(5 marks)**
- c) i) What is the difference between determinate errors and indeterminate errors? **(3 marks)**
- ii) Name the THREE kinds of determinate errors? **(4 marks)**

- Q5. a) What is electromagnetic radiation? **(4 marks)**
- b) Give the definitions of each of the following terms;
i Frequency of wave
ii Wavelength
iii The mathematical relationship between frequency and wavelength. **(6 marks)**
- c) List the colors of visible light in decreasing order of energy? **(4 marks)**
- d) Give a brief description of how a typical spectrophotometer functions. **(6 marks)**

END