



**SOUTH EASTERN KENYA UNIVERSITY**  
**UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2016/2017**

**FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF  
SCIENCE (ELECTRONICS)**

**PHY 201: WAVES AND OSCILLATIONS**

**9<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2016**

**TIME: 1.30-3.30 P.M**

**INSTRUCTIONS TO THE CANDIDATES**

- (a) This paper consists of five questions  
(b) Answer question **ONE** and **ANY OTHER TWO** questions

**Question One 30 marks**

- a)** Given a body executing Simple Harmonic Motion (SHM)
- i)** State two conditions necessary for SHM to occur **(2 marks)**
  - ii)** For a periodic motion write the condition for periodicity to occur **(2 marks)**
- b)** A body vibrates periodically exhibiting SHM
- i)** Write down the basic equation governing SHM **(2 marks)**
  - ii)** Show that  $x = A \cos \omega t$  is solution to the equation in **(b)(i)** above **(2 marks)**
- c)** Show that the energy of a system in simple harmonic motion is constant **(4 marks)**
- d)** A system exhibits damped free oscillations
- i)** What are damped free oscillations? **(1 mark)**
  - ii)** Write the equation of damped free oscillations **(2 marks)**
- e)** A certain system executes a motion described by the equation below

$$m \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x^2} + b \frac{dy}{dx} + kx = F_0 e^{j\omega t}$$

- i) Name the kind of oscillatory motion above **(2 marks)**
- ii) By putting  $Z = Ae^{j(\omega t + d)}$  derive the expression for the amplitude A **(4 marks)**
- iii) Show that the phase angle  $\delta$  can be obtained as  $\delta = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{\gamma\omega}{\omega_0^2 - \omega^2}\right)$  **(2 marks)**

f) A system of two masses tied together by a spring of constant  $k$  as shown may exhibit coupled oscillations



- i) State one other example of systems that exhibit coupled oscillations **(1 marks)**
- ii) Write the equations of motion for each mass if they are stretched  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  respectively **(2 marks)**

g) For transverse waves propagating through a string;

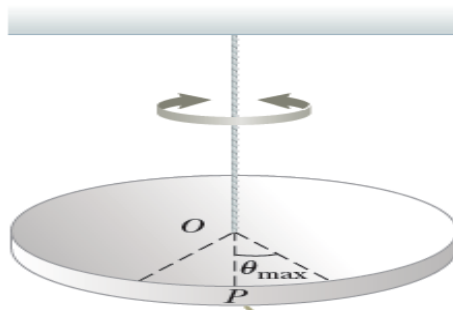
- i) Define the term transverse wave **(1 marks)**
- ii) Show that the transverse wave on a string can be described by the equation  $T \frac{\Delta\theta}{\Delta x} = \mu \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial t^2}$   
Where T is the tension and  $\mu$  is the mass per unit length of the string **(3 marks)**

### **Question Two 20 marks**

a) A partially floating body exhibits simple harmonic motion

- i) Give two example of such bodies **(2 marks)**
- ii) Derive the expression for the restoring force **(3 marks)**
- iii) Derive the expression for the natural frequency  $\omega$  **(3 marks)**
- iv) Given that body is submerged a depth  $l = 0.02m$  determine the period T of the oscillation **(3 marks)**

b) The rotating disc shown below exhibits torsional vibration.



- i) Show that the system exhibits SHM ( 5 marks)
- ii) Write the expression of its period T in terms of its torsional constant c and the moment of inertia I (2 marks)
- iii) Find its period T given  $r = 0.5m$  mass,  $m = 0.1kg$  and  $c = 0.01kgm^2$  (2 marks)

**Question Three 20 marks**

a) The SHM for a damped free system can be described by the equation  $\frac{d^2z}{dt^2} + \gamma \frac{dz}{dt} + \omega^2z = 0$

By putting  $p = (\alpha + jw)$  in the solution  $z = Ae^{(\alpha+j\omega)t}$  of the equation, show the condition; for

- i) Critical damping (3 marks)
  - ii) Heavy damping (5 marks)
  - iii) Light damping (5 marks)
- b) Show that the energy of a damped free oscillator is constant (7 marks)

**Question Four 20 marks**

a) Given that the forces on a vibrating membrane of a drum can be described by

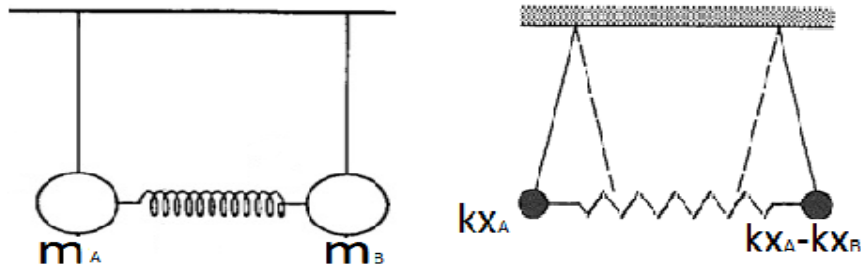
$$F_1 = S\Delta y\Delta\theta_z \text{ for vibration along the } YZ \text{ plane and } F_2 = S\Delta x\Delta\theta_y \text{ for the waves along ZX plane}$$

- i) Show that these vibration obey the general wave equation  $\frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x^2} = \frac{1}{v^2} \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial t^2}$  (6 marks)
- ii) Explain the meaning of following symbols S and  $\sigma(\text{sigma})$  you have used in deriving equation in (4)a)i above (4 marks)

- iii) The modes of vibration can be obtained by applying boundary conditions, state the two boundary conditions (2 marks)
- iv) Write an expression for the lowest frequency  $\omega$ . (5 marks)
- v) The solution for equation in (4)a)i) can be best obtained using Fourier analysis. Explain why (3 marks)

**Question Five 20 marks**

a) A coupled pendulum can be made by tying two masses together using a spring as shown



- i) Write down the equation of motion for the mass at point A (3 marks)
  - ii) Write down the equation of motion for the mass at point B (3 marks)
  - iii) By introducing the normal coordinates  $q_1 = x_A + x_B$  and  $q_2 = x_A - x_B$  show that couple oscillations do not move SHM but show the phenomenon of beats (6 marks)
- b) Using the equation of force coupled oscillations;
- i) derive the expression for the amplitude  $A$  (6 marks)
  - ii) Write the expression for  $q_1$  and  $q_2$  (2 marks)