



**NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**  
**DEPARTMENT OF APPLIED CHEMISTRY**  
**END OF SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS – JUNE 2010**  
**PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY II – SCH 2204**  
**TIME: (3) THREE HOURS**

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

**MATERIAL**

Reduction potential tables, graph papers.

**INSTRUCTIONS TO STUDENTS**

Answer All questions in section A and All questions in Section B.

Answer each question on a **FRESH** page.

$$R = 8.314 \text{ JK}^{-1} \text{ mol}^{-1} = 0.08205 \text{ dm}^3 \text{ atm}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1} \text{ mol}^{-1}.$$

$$F = eN_A = 96\,485 \text{ C mol}^{-1}$$

$$1 \text{ atm} = 760 \text{ torr} = 760 \text{ mmHg} = 101\,325 \text{ Pa}$$

$$\ln x = 2.3026 \log x$$

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**SECTION A** Answer ALL questions. Each question carries 10 marks

1. (a) The conductivity of  $0.01 \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$  aqueous solution of barium chloride at  $25^\circ\text{C}$  is  $0.2382 \text{ S m}^{-1}$  and the transport number of the barium ions in this electrolyte is 0.4375. Calculate the mobilities of barium and chloride ions [8 marks]
- (b) State two applications of conductometric methods. [2 marks]
2. (a) Consider an electrode that responds to the equilibrium between Oxygen, water and Hydroxide ions, according to the following reaction:  
$$\text{O}_2(\text{g}) + 2\text{H}_2\text{O}(\text{aq}) + 4\text{e}^- \rightleftharpoons 4\text{OH}^-(\text{aq})$$
Derive an expression for the potential difference across the electrode interface. [4 marks]
- (b) Using the electrode potentials, calculate the solubility of  $\text{AgCl}$  in  $\text{mol dm}^{-3}$  at  $25^\circ\text{C}$  [4 marks]
- (c) Write the cell reaction and half-reaction for the following cells reaction:  
$$\text{AgNO}_3 + \text{Fe}(\text{NO}_3)_2 \rightleftharpoons \text{Ag} + \text{Fe}(\text{NO}_3)_3$$
 [2 marks]
3. (a) State the conditions of temperature and pressure in which the BET isotherm is strongly obeyed. [2 marks]
- (c) Compare and contrast *physisorption* and *chemisorption*. [6 marks]

(c) When is the term *sorption* used? [2 marks]

4.

(a) Name three major techniques that are used in characterization of colloidal systems. Highlight the principle for each technique and briefly explain its application. [9 marks]

(b) What is a sol? [ 1mark]

## **SECTION B**

*Answer ALL questions from this section.*

5. (a) With the aid of a diagram outline the moving boundary method for determining transport numbers for ions [6 marks]

(b) With the aid of diagrams, describe the three models of the electric double layer at the electrode/electrolyte interface [10 marks]

(c) Write the cell reactions and half-reactions for the following cells:

(i)  $\text{Sn} | \text{SnCl}_2(\text{aq}) || \text{MnCl}_2(\text{aq}), \text{HCl}(\text{aq}) | \text{MnO}_2(\text{s}) | \text{Pt}$

(ii)  $\text{Pt} | \text{Fe}^{3+}(\text{aq}), \text{Fe}^{2+}(\text{aq}) || \text{Sn}^{4+}(\text{aq}) | \text{Sn}^{2+}(\text{aq}) | \text{Pt}$  [4 marks]

6.

(a) Outline the formation of an electric double layer on the surface of a colloidal particle. State the prime role of the electric double layer and explain how this role is performed [4 marks]

(b) From the principle of light scattering, explain why the sky is blue during the day [2 marks]

(c) Copy and complete the following table:

Disperse system	Disperse phase	Dispersion medium	Examples
(a).....	(b).....	(c).....	toothpaste
	(d).....	Solid	
(e).....	(f).....	(g).....	
	(h).....	(i).....	Fog
(j).....	Gas	Solid	
	(k).....	(l).....	
(m).....	liquid	Solid	
(n).....	(o).....		milk

[8 marks]

- (c) Calculate the ionic strength and the mean activity coefficient of  $0.001 \text{ mol kg}^{-1} \text{ CaCl}_2(\text{aq})$  at  $25^\circ\text{C}$ .

$$\log \gamma_{\pm} = -|z_- z_+| A I^{1/2}, \quad I = \frac{1}{2} \sum z_i^2 m_i, \quad A = 0.509 / (\text{mol kg}^{-1})^{1/2}$$

[6 marks]

7. The data below show the pressure of CO needed for the value of adsorption on charcoal (corrected to 1 atm and 273K) to be  $10 \text{ cm}^3$ . Calculate the adsorption enthalpy at this surface coverage.

T/K	200	210	220	230	240	250
p/Torr	30.0	37.1	45.2	54.0	63.5	73.9

Hint:  $\left( \frac{\partial \ln p}{\partial \left[ \frac{1}{T} \right]} \right) = \frac{\Delta H_{ads}^\theta}{R}$ .

[20 marks]

***END OF QUESTION PAPER!!!***