



NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

FACULTY OF APPLIED SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF APPLIED PHYSICS

THERMAL PHYSICS II

SPH 2104

First Semester Examination Paper

December 2024

This examination paper consists of 4 pages

Time Allowed: 3 hours

Total Marks: 100

Special Requirements: None

Examiner's Names: Mr B Sibanda

INSTRUCTIONS

ANSWER ALL PARTS OF QUESTION 1 IN SECTION A AND ANY THREE QUESTIONS FROM SECTION B. SECTION A CARRIES 40 MARKS AND SECTION B CARRIES 60 MARKS.

MARK ALLOCATION

QUESTION	MARKS
1.	40
2.	20
3.	20
4.	20
5.	20
6.	20
Maximum possible mark	100

SECTION A

1. (a) Starting from the fundamental equation of thermodynamics, find an expression for the Entropy as a function of pressure and Temperature. [6]
- (b) Write down the total differential of the Helmholtz potential function involving its characteristics variables. Define all symbols. [4]
- (c) (i) Derive the equation $\left(\frac{\partial C_V}{\partial V}\right)_T = T \left(\frac{\partial^2 P}{\partial T^2}\right)_V$. [5]
- (i) Prove that C_V of an ideal gas is a function of T only. [2]
- (d) (i) Derive the equation $\left(\frac{\partial C_P}{\partial P}\right)_T = T \left(\frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial T^2}\right)_P$. [5]
- (i) Prove that C_P of an ideal gas is a function of T only. [2]
- (e) Show that in a Joule-Thompson expansion, no temperature change occurs if $\left(\frac{\partial V}{\partial T}\right)_P = \frac{v}{T}$. [4]
- (f) Derive the expression for the efficiency of a Carnot cycle directly from a TS diagram. [4]
- (g) Prove that the slope on a TS diagram of:
- (i) An isochoric curve is $\frac{T}{C_V}$. [4]
- (ii) An isobaric curve is $\frac{T}{C_P}$. [4]

SECTION B

2. (a) If β_p is the expansivity of a substance, show that for any substance

$$C_p - C_v = \frac{VT\beta_p^2}{\kappa_T} \quad [6]$$

- (b) (i) Explain the behaviour of an ideal gas as the absolute temperature approaches zero.

(ii) Show from the expression in (a) that $C_p = C_v$ as the temperature approaches zero. [10]

- (c) Show that the absolute zero temperature is not attainable. [4]

3.(a) Derive the third TdS equation: $TdS = C_v \left(\frac{\partial T}{\partial p}\right)_v dp + C_p \left(\frac{\partial T}{\partial V}\right)_p dV$. [5]

- (b) Show that the three TdS equations may be written as follows.

(i) $TdS = C_v dT + \frac{\beta T}{\kappa_T} dV$ [5]

(ii) $TdS = C_p dT - \beta VT dp$ [5]

(iii) $TdS = \frac{C_v \kappa}{\beta} dp + \frac{C_p}{\beta_p} dV$ [5]

4. (a) Show that the Joule-Kelvin coefficient $\mu = \frac{T \left(\frac{\partial V}{\partial T}\right)_p}{C_v} - \frac{V}{C_v}$ [6]

- (b) Find the expression for the inversion temperature of a van der Waals gas. [6]

- (c) Derive and name an equation which applies to phase transitions of the first kind. [8]

5. (a) Derive the equation $\left(\frac{\partial C_p}{\partial p}\right)_T = -T \left(\frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial T^2}\right)_p$ [6]

- (b) The free energy F of a gas is:

$$F = AT \ln(V - B) - \frac{C}{V} + DT^2 + E$$

where A, B, C, D and E are constants.

(i) Derive an expression for the pressure P [4]

(ii) Give an expression for C_v [4]

- (c) (i) Distinguish between transitions of the first kind and those of second kind [4]

(ii) In a phase Transition of the first kind which potential function remains the same. [2]

6. (a) State Nernst's Theorem. [4]

(b) Using Nernst Theorem:

(i) Find the expression for the Entropy of an ideal gas. [5]

(ii) If the expression $S(V, T)$ in (i) above does not satisfy Nernst's Heat Theorem, explain why. [6]

(iii) Show that the absolute zero temperature is unattainable [5]

******END OF EXAMINATION PAPER******