



**MAASAI MARA UNIVERSITY**  
**REGULAR UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS**  
**2022/2023 ACADEMIC YEAR SECOND SEMESTER**  
**SCHOOL OF PURE APPLIED AND HEALTH SCIENCES**  
**MASTER OF SCIENCE IN CHEMISTRY**

**COURSE CODE:** CHE 8213

**COURSE TITLE:** ATOMIC AND MOLECULAR SPECTROSCOPY

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **TIME:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

Answer Question **ONE** and any other **TWO** questions.

**QUESTION ONE (20 mks)**

- The wavefunction for the  $2s$  orbital of a hydrogen atom is  $N(2 - r/a_0)e^{-r/2a_0}$ . Determine the normalization constant  $N$ . **(3mks)**
- Write the term symbols arising from the ground-state configurations of (a) Na and (b) F. **(4mks)**
- To what orbitals may a  $4s$  electron make electric-dipole allowed radiative transitions **(2mks)**

- d) Calculate the average kinetic and potential energies of a 2s electron in a hydrogenic atom of atomic number Z (**4mks**)
- e) When ultraviolet radiation of wavelength 58.4 nm from a helium lamp is directed on to a sample of xenon, electrons are ejected with a speed of  $1.79 \text{ Mm s}^{-1}$ . Calculate the ionization energy of xenon (**3mks**)
- f) Calculate the moment of inertia of an H<sub>2</sub>O molecule around the axis defined by the bisector of the HOH angle (3). The HOH bond angle is  $104.5^\circ$  and the bond length is 95.7 pm (**3mks**)
- g) Distinguish between singlet and triplet states (**1mk**)

### QUESTION TWO (20 mks)

- a) State the number and type of orbitals at  $n = 1, 2$  and  $3$  respectively (**3mks**)
- b) Describe the three types of atomic emission spectra (**6mks**)
- c) An electronic transition takes place from  $n = 4$  to  $n = 2$ . Calculate a) Wavelength b) frequency c) Energy emitted and state the name of the series (Take  $R_H = 109677 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ,  $C = 3 \times 10^8 \text{ ms}^{-1}$ ,  $h = 6.63 \times 10^{-34}$ ) (**5mks**)
- d) Given the principal quantum number,  $n = 4$ , state the values of  $l$  and  $m_l$  for this shell (**2mks**)
- e) The orbital wavefunction for a hydrogenic atom with  $z = 1$  is given by the expression;

$$\psi = \frac{1}{(\pi a_0^3)^{\frac{1}{2}}} e^{\frac{-r}{a_0}}$$

Derive the wavefunction for a two electron system with electrons positioned at distance  $r_1$  and  $r_2$  respectively from the nucleus. (**3mks**)

- f) Explain the Hund's rule (**2mks**)

### QUESTION THREE ( 20 mks)

- Distinguish penetration and shielding as used to describe atomic orbitals and list the s, p, d and f orbitals in the order of decreasing energy **(3mks)**
- Calculate the effective nuclear charge of a Helium atom whose charge is 3.6875 C and shielding constant is 2. **(3mks)**
- State and explain the electronic configuration of Nitrogen ( $Z = 7$ ) **(3mks)**
- Briefly explain the two factors that affect linewidths of spectral lines **(6mks)**
- Calculate the spin-orbit coupling energy in the ground state of an alkali metal atom **(5mks)**

### QUESTION FOUR (20 mks)

- Which of the following transitions are allowed in the normal electronic emission spectrum of an atom: (a)  $5d \rightarrow 2s$ , (b)  $5p \rightarrow 3s$ , (c)  $6p \rightarrow 4f$  **(3mks)**
- Calculate the shortest wavelength line in the Paschen series (Take  $R_H = 109677 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) **(3mks)**
- Explain the origin of spin-orbit coupling and how it affects the appearance of a spectrum. **(4mks)**
- State the electronic configurations of a helium atom in the singlet and triplet states and explain the energy difference of the states **(4mks)**
- Identify the levels of the configurations (a)  $p^1$  and (b)  $f^1$  **(2mks)**
- Find the terms that can arise from the configurations (a)  $f^1 d^1$  and (b)  $d^3$  **(4mks)**