



**RAJARATA UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA  
FACULTY OF APPLIED SCIENCES**

B.Sc. (General) Degree  
Second Year – Semester II Examination – October /Nonmember 2014

**PHY 2101-THERMODYNAMICS AND RADIATION**

Answer **Two** Questions Only

Time allowed: Two hours

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$$\text{Stefan's constant, } \sigma = 1.36 \times 10^{-8} \text{ J m}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-4}$$


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The use of a non-programmable electronic calculator is permitted.

1)

- a) Prove that the work done on the system of a fixed gas mass is given by  $-PdV$  for a small volume change  $dV$ , where “ $P$ ” is the pressure and “ $V$ ” is the volume.

(30 marks)

- b) An ideal gas contained in a vertical cylinder, with a piston of mass  $M$  at the top. Initially, no external force is applied to the piston, and it comes to some equilibrium height. If the atmospheric pressure is  $P_0$  and cross section area of the cylinder is  $A$ , what is the gas pressure in the cylinder?

(40 marks)

- c) The gas is now heated quasi-statically at constant pressure until its volume is tripled. How much work does the gas do against the environment during this process?

(30 marks)

2)

a) Write down the second law of thermodynamics.

(15 marks)

i) Prove that, a)  $C_p - C_v = P \left( \frac{\partial V}{\partial T} \right)_p$  for real gases andb)  $C_p - C_v = R$  for ideal gases.

(40 marks)

ii) An ideal gas undergoes an adiabatic and reversible process. Prove that;

$$PV^\gamma = \text{constant}, \text{ where } \frac{C_p}{C_v} = \gamma,$$

(30 marks)

b) Gibbs free energy can be used to predict whether a reaction will spontaneously proceed or not. Explain?

(15 marks)

Symbolizes;  $C_p$  and  $C_v$  are the molar heat capacity at constant pressure and at constant volume respectively.  $P$ ,  $V$  and  $T$  are pressure, volume and temperature.

3) Describe the operation of the Carnot ideal gas heat engine step by step with help of pressure versus volume diagrams.

(40 marks)

a) A heat engine is operating between two reservoirs, one contains steam at  $100^\circ\text{C}$  and the other contains water at  $30^\circ\text{C}$ . What is the maximum possible efficiency this engine can reach according to thermodynamic laws?

(30 marks)

b) Emissivity of a person is about 0.98 and the surface area of the human body is  $A = 1.07 \text{ m}^2$ . At a body temperature of  $37^\circ\text{C}$ , how much heat does a person radiate in each second?

(30 marks)