



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

**B.Sc. (General) Degree in Applied Sciences
Second Year - Semester I Examination – September /October 2019**

PHY 2101 –THERMODYNAMICS AND RADIATION

Time: One (01) hour

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- **Answer all Questions**
 - A non-programmable calculator is permitted.
 - All undefined symbols appear below have their usual meanings.

$$\text{Boltzmann constant (k)} = 1.38 \times 10^{-23} \text{ J K}^{-1}$$

$$\text{Universal gas constant (R)} = 8.314 \text{ J K}^{-1} \text{ mol}^{-1}$$

$$\text{Atmospheric pressure} = 1 \text{ bar} = 100 \text{ k Pa}$$

$$\pi = 3$$

1. a) Derive expressions for average force and the pressure exerted by the molecules on container walls with length L. Clearly state the assumptions you made.

(10 marks)

- b) Calculate the translational kinetic energy and the root mean square speed of carbon dioxide (CO_2) molecule at 340 K. Derive any formulae you may use.

(Molar mass of $\text{CO}_2 = 44$)

(15 marks)

- c) Average distance between collisions determined by the kinetic theory is known as the mean free path. Derive an expression for the mean free path of a gas molecule in terms of Boltzmann constant (k), effective diameter (d), temperature (T) and pressure (P).

(10 marks)

- d) What is the mean free path for oxygen (O_2) molecule at 300 K temperature and 1 atm pressure. Assume that the molecular diameter is 290 pm and the gas is ideal.

(05 marks)

continued...

- e) Assuming that the average speed of O_2 is 450 m/s, what is the average time “t” between successive collisions for any given molecule and at which rate does the molecule collide? **(10 marks)**

2. A mass of air with 0.06 m^3 volume is initially at a temperature of 230°C and a pressure of 9 bars. The air is expanded at constant pressure to 0.18 m^3 , a polytropic process with $n = 1.7$ is then carried out followed by a constant temperature process which completes the cycle. All processes are reversible. Assume $R = 287 \text{ J/kg K}$ and $C_v = 0.713 \text{ kJ/kg K}$
- Sketch the cycle on pressure-volume and temperature-entropy planes. Name the processes on the cycles. **(10 marks)**
 - Calculate the change in entropy during each process. **(20 marks)**
 - What is the amount of heat received and rejected in the cycle? **(10 marks)**
 - Evaluate the efficiency of the cycle. **(10 marks)**

Hint: For polytropic process,

$$dQ = \left(\frac{\gamma - n}{\gamma - 1} \right) \frac{mR}{(1 - n)} dT$$

$$TV^{n-1} = \text{constant}$$

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