



CRAWFORD UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF NATURAL AND APPLIED SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL AND EARTH SCIENCES
(INDUSTRIAL CHEMISTRY UNIT)
HARMATTAN SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS 2013/2014 SESSION

COURSE CODE: ICH 443

COURSE TITLE: SURFACE CHEMISTRY

TIME ALLOWED: 2 HOURS

DATE: MARCH, 2014

UNITS: 2

INSTRUCTION: ATTEMPT ONLY THREE QUESTIONS

1. (a) Define the following terms as used in the surface and colloidal phenomena:
 - (i) Adsorbate
 - (ii) Adsorbent
 - (iii) Dispersed phase
 - (iv) Dispersion medium
 - (v) Desorption.
 - (b) Explain the phenomenon of surface tension.
 - (c) (i) Mention two methods used for the determination of surface tension.
(ii) Briefly describe one of the methods mentioned in question (c) (i) above.
 - (d) Determine the excess pressure of a droplet of water with radius 10^{-2} m for which γ is 0.0065 N.m^{-1} .
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2. (a) Explain Langmuir isotherm.
 - (b) The surface tension at 20°C for several alcohols is $\gamma(\text{CH}_3\text{OH}) = 22.6 \text{ dyne.cm}^{-1}$, $\gamma(\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{OH}) = 2.28 \times 10^{-2} \text{ N.m}^{-1}$, and $\gamma(\text{n-C}_3\text{H}_7\text{OH}) = 23.8 \text{ mJ.m}^{-2}$. Which of these alcohols has the greatest surface tension?
 - (c) Differentiate between surface and interface.
 - (d) (i) State the condition under which it is possible to obtain an ultra clean surface of a metal.
(ii) Mention all the possible intermolecular forces of attraction involved in the interactions between water-oil phases.
(iii) Write an the interfacial tension equation for all the forces of attraction mentioned in question (d) (ii) above.
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3. (a) Mention five factors that affect the nature of a colloidal system.

- (b) Briefly explain the following:
- (i) Colloidal dispersion
 - (ii) True solutions of macromolecular
- (c) State at least five differences between lyophilic and lyophobic.
- (d) Explain adsorption isotherm and state the three phenomena that may be involved in physical adsorption.
4. (a) (i) How much work is needed to break up a mole of water into tiny droplets, each in the form of a sphere with a radius of 10^{-3} cm if the surface tension, γ of water is 0.0928 N.m^{-1} ?
- (ii) State the assumption made in your calculation in question (a) (i) above.
- (b) (i) State two general methods of preparing sols or colloidal solutions.
- (ii) Explain one of the methods of preparing sols mentioned in question (b) (i) above.
- (c) Mention five applications of a colloidal system.
5. (a) (i) Derive the Kelvin Equation and state its application.
- (ii) What is the ratio of the vapour pressure of water in droplet with radius, $r = 1.0 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$ compared to that for bulk water at $25 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$? For H_2O at $25 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$, $\gamma = 71.97 \times 10^{-3} \text{ N.m}^{-1}$ and $\rho = 0.997 \text{ g.cm}^{-3}$.
- (b) State at least five differences between physisorption and chemisorption.
- (c) Explain the two methods of purifying sols or colloidal solutions.