

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FINAL EXAMINATION 2013

TITLE OF PAPER : ENVIRONMENTAL CHEMISTRY

COURSE NUMBER : ERM640

TIME ALLOWED : 3 HRS

INSTRUCTIONS : THIS EXAMINATION HAS SEVEN (6) QUESTIONS

: ANSWER ANY FOUR QUESTIONS

: EACH QUESTION HAS 25 MARKS

: THIS EXAMINATION HAS A TOTAL OF 100 MARKS

: DATA SHEETS ARE PROVIDED WITH THIS EXAMINATION PAPER

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Question 1 (25 Marks)

a) Using diagrams, examples and or equations write short notes on any two of the following terms.

- i) Octanol / water partition coefficient, K_{ow}
- ii) Water Solubility, S_w
- iii) Henry's, H

In each highlight the environmental relevance, methods of determination and where applicable give methods of estimation using Quality Structure Activity Relationships (QSAR's) [10]

b) A model environment has 6 major phases; air, water, soil, sediments, suspended solids and biota. It has an area of 1 km^2 and an atmosphere of 10 km high. Soil to depth of 3 cm covers 30% of the surface, while the rest is covered with water to an average depth of 10 m . Water has a 3-cm layer of sediment, contains 5 ml of suspended solids per cubic meter, and 0.5 m^3 of biota. All phases are homogeneous. 100 moles pp-DDT is discharged from a factory to this environment until steady concentrations in each phase are reached at 25°C .

pp-DDT has the following characteristics at 25°C .

K_{sorb} (soil, 2% organic carbon)	1,700
K_{sorb} (sediment, suspend solids, 4% organic carbon)	25,400
K_B (fish, 5% lipid)	77,400
K_{ow}	1,555,000
H	$2.3 \text{ mole}^{-1} \text{ m}^3 \text{ Pa}$

i) Determine Henry's constant, Z values for water, soil, fish and sediment, respectively. [10]

ii) Establish the overall distribution of the pollutant in this environment using the fugacity concept. [5]

Question 2 (25 Marks)

a) Write short notes on Soil Sorption as an environmental fate property. [15]

b) i) Using thermodynamic assumptions derive the Langmuir adsorption equation. [4]

$$\Gamma = \frac{\Gamma_{\infty} K C_{\text{equil.}}}{1 + K C_{\text{equil.}}}$$

- ii) The sorption of Cr^{+6} on a slit loam yielded the following results:

Equilibrium Concentration mg/l	Cr^{+6} Sorbed ($\mu\text{g/g}$)
0.08	13
0.20	31
0.32	51
0.40	67
0.53	86

Verify whether or not this sorption follows a one site Langmuir or the Freundlich Sorption Isotherm. [2]

Useful relations:

$$\Gamma = KC_{eq}^N \quad \Gamma = \frac{\Gamma_{\infty} KC_{eq}}{1 + KC_{eq}}$$

Determine the appropriate constants and comment on their magnitude. [4]

Question 3 [25 Marks]

- a) Write short notes on the following pollutant transport processes in aquatic environments.
- i) Diffusion [8]
 - ii) Advection [6]
 - iii) Dispersion [6]

- b) A truck which is carrying water containing 1275 mg/L benzene overturns and spills a volume of water sufficient to saturate a thin aquifer over an area 5 m^2 . The aquifer contains ground flowing with an average linear velocity of 0.45 m/day. Assume that DL and DT are $2.1 \text{ m}^2/\text{day}$ and $0.21 \text{ m}^2/\text{day}$ respectively.

There is a nearby private well at a seasonal cottage. If the center of the spill is located at $X_0=0$ and $Y_0=0$, then the location of the well is $x=72 \text{ m}$ and $y=5.5 \text{ m}$. The owners of the Private well are away for the season and will not return for another 200 days. If there is no degradation or retardation of benzene as it moves through the aquifer, what will the concentration of benzene be in the well when the owners return ? [5]

Useful relation.

$$C = \frac{C_0 A}{2(\sqrt{\pi})^2 \{(2D_x t)(2D_y t)\}^{1/2}} \exp \left[-\frac{1}{2} \left\{ \frac{(x-x_0-u_x t)^2}{2D_x t} + \frac{(y-y_0-u_y t)^2}{2D_y t} \right\} \right]$$

Question 4 [25 Marks]

- a) Using an example of your choice define the term “risk”. [5]
- b) You are an environmental consultant and have been asked to conduct a risk assessment on a site on the outskirts of a city selected for domestic housing development. Outline diagrammatically the steps you would take in this evaluation.[15]
- c) Daily intake values and reference dose for Cu, Zn, Cd, inorganic arsenic and organic Hg from oysters are as follows:

Element	Reference dose (mg/kg/day)	Daily intake (mg/kg/day)	Reference dose (mg/kg/day)
Cu	40	373	909
Zn	300	531	129.3
Cd	0.5	0.340	0.832
As	0.3	0.484	11.8
Hg	0.1	0.056	0.178

Evaluate the risk associated with these elements at a maximum daily oyster intake of 139 g/day for an adult weight of 65 kg and comment on your results. [5]

Useful relation:

$$HQ = \frac{Efr \times ED_{tot} \times SFI \times MCS}{RFD_o \times BW_a \times AT_n}$$

Where:

Efr: Exposure frequency (350 day/yr)

ED_{tot}: exposure duration (30 yrs)

SFI: sea food ingestion g/day

RFD_o: Reference dose, oral (mg/kg/day) (TDI)

MCS: metal concentration in edible portion of food

AT_n: average time (30 yrs)

BW: Body weight.

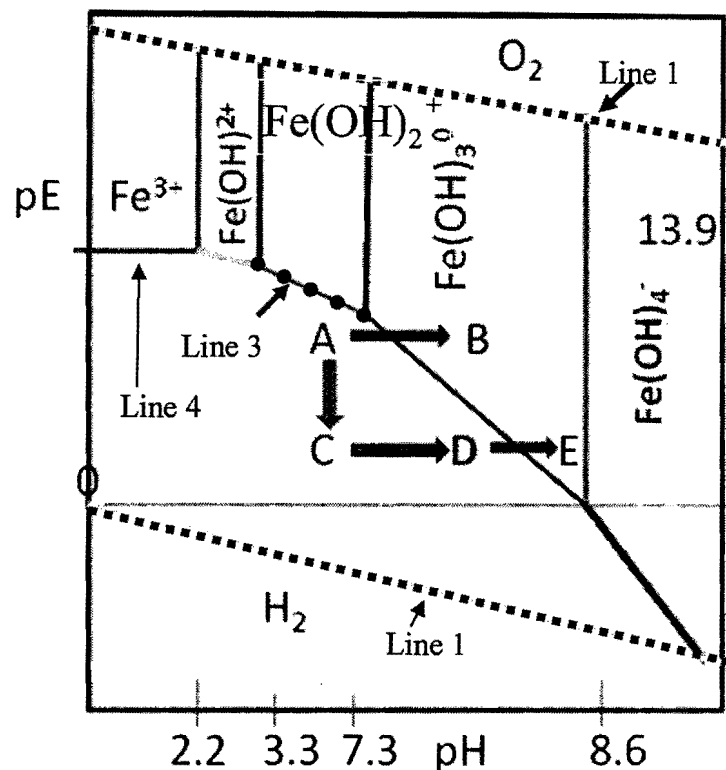
Question 5 [25 Marks]

a) Write short notes on the following terms

[12]

- Chemical speciation
- Water stratification in lakes

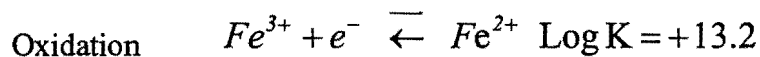
The diagram below illustrates some oxidation/reduction chemistry of Iron.



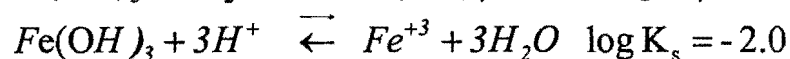
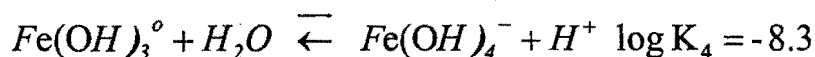
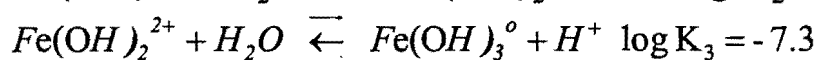
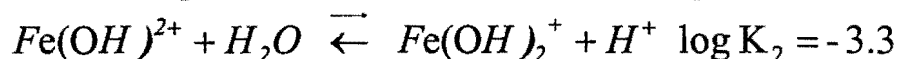
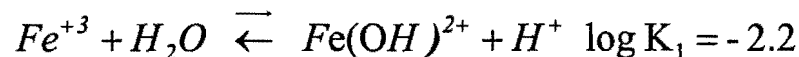
b) Using the diagram above and any other pertinent information:

- What are denoted by the two dashed lines indicates a line 1 and line 2 [2]
- Locate the pH and redox conditions in the following types of water [5]
 - Oceans
 - Acid mine drainage
 - Anoxic sediments
 - Ground water
 - Peat bogs

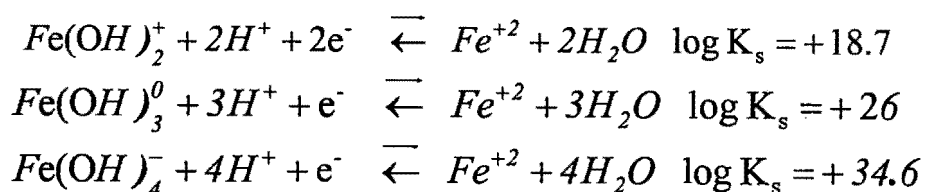
c) Using the appropriate equilibrium reactions of iron species below derive the equation for the equilibrium lines denotes line 3 and line 4. [6]



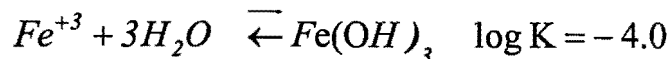
Hydrolysis reactions for Fe^{3+}



hydrolysis reactions of Fe^{2+}



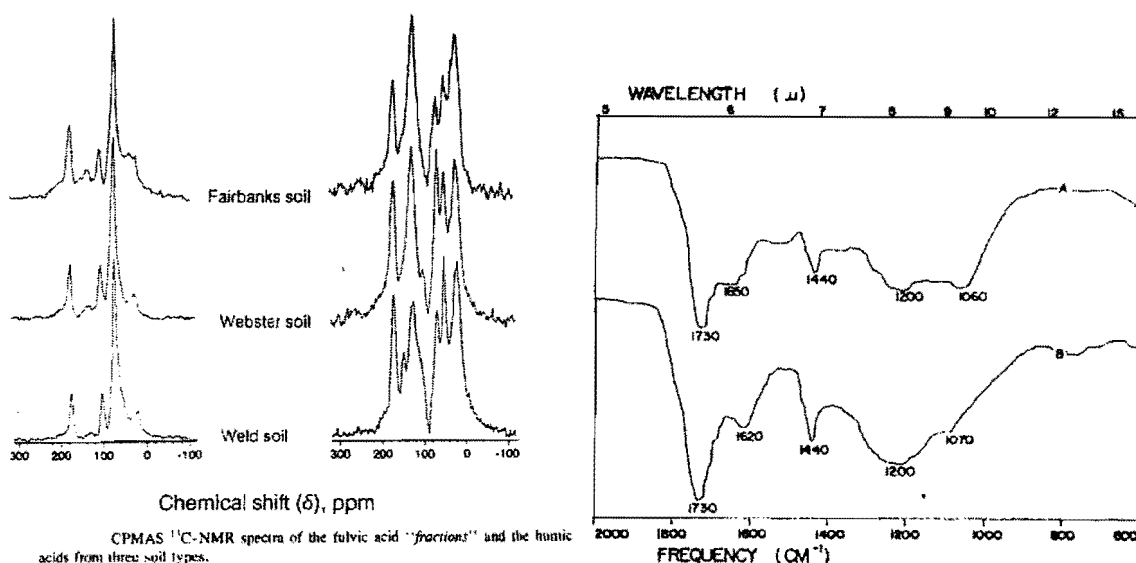
Interconversion



Question 6 [25 Marks]

a) With the aid of the ^{12}C -NMR and infra-red spectra below and any other pertinent facts compare and contrast humic and fulvic acids.

[15]



In your discussion include genesis reactions, chemical and physical properties, separation (extraction) techniques and any other important similarities/differences.

b) Using examples explain the role of humic/fulvic acids in pollutants transport.

[10]

In your analysis include the role of functional groups, complexation, binding capacity and its role in oxidation reduction reactions in the aquatic environment.

Useful Relations					General Data						
(RT) _{298.15K} =2.4789 kJ/mol					speed of light	c	2.997 925x10 ⁸ ms ⁻¹				
(RT/F) _{298.15K} =0.025 693 V					charge of proton	e	1.602 19x10 ⁻¹⁹ C				
T/K: 100.15 298.15 500.15 1000.15					Faraday constant	F=Le	9.648 46x10 ⁴ C mol ⁻¹				
T/Cm ⁻¹ : 69.61 207.22 347.62 695.13					Boltzmann constant	k	1.380 66x10 ⁻²³ J K ⁻¹				
1mmHg=133.222 N m ⁻²					Gas constant	R=Lk	8.314 41 J K ⁻¹ mol ⁻¹				
hc/k=1.438 78x10 ⁻² m K							8.205 75x10 ⁻² dm ³ atm K ⁻¹ mol ⁻¹				
1atm 1 cal 1 eV 1cm ⁻¹											
1.01325x10 ⁵ Nm ⁻² 4.184 J 1.602 189x10 ⁻¹⁹ J 0.124x10 ⁻³ eV					Planck constant	h	6.626 18x10 ⁻³⁴ Js				
760torr 96.485 kJ/mol 1.9864x10 ⁻²³ J						$\frac{h}{2\pi}$	1.054 59x10 ⁻³⁴ Js				
1 bar 8065.5 cm ⁻¹											
					Avogadro constant	L or N _{av}	6.022 14x10 ²³ mol ⁻¹				
SI-units:					Atomis mass unit	u	1.660 54x10 ⁻²⁷ kg				
1 L = 1000 ml = 1000cm ³ = 1 dm ³					Electron mass	m _e	9.109 39x10 ⁻³¹ kg				
1 dm = 0.1 m					Proton mass	m _p	1.672 62x10 ⁻²⁷ kg				
1 cal (thermochemical) = 4.184 J					Neutron mass	m _n	1.674 93x10 ⁻²⁷ kg				
dipole moment: 1 Debye = 3.335 64x10 ⁻³⁰ C m					Vacuum permittivity	ε ₀ = μ ₀ ⁻¹ c ⁻²	8.854 188x10 ⁻¹² J ⁻¹ C ² m ⁻¹				
force: 1N=1J m ⁻¹ = 1kgms ⁻² =10 ⁵ dyne pressure: 1Pa=1Nm ⁻² =1Jm ⁻³					Vacuum permeability	μ ₀	4πx10 ⁻⁷ Js ² C ⁻² m ⁻¹				
1J = 1 Nm					Bohr magneton	μ _B = $\frac{e\hbar}{2m_e}$	9.274 02x10 ⁻²⁴ JT ⁻¹				
power: 1W = 1J s ⁻¹ potential: 1V =1 J C ⁻¹											
magnetic flux: 1T=1Vsm ⁻² =1JCs m ⁻² current: 1A=1Cs ⁻¹					Nuclear magneton	μ _N = $\frac{e\hbar}{2m_p}$	5.05079x10 ⁻²⁷ JT ⁻¹				
Prefixes:					Gravitational constant	G	6.67259x10 ⁻¹¹ Nm ² kg ⁻²				
p	n	m	m	c	d	k	M	G	Gravitational	g	9.80665 ms ⁻²
pico	nano	micro	milli	centi	deci	kilo	mega	giga	acceleration		
10 ⁻¹²	10 ⁻⁹	10 ⁻⁶	10 ⁻³	10 ⁻²	10 ⁻¹	10 ³	10 ⁶	10 ⁹	Bohr radius	a ₀	5.291 77x10 ⁻¹¹ m

THE PERIODIC TABLE OF ELEMENTS

Group	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	IA	IIA	IIIB	IVB	VB	VIB	VII	VIII			IB	II	IIIA	IVA	VA	VIA	VIIA	VIII
Period 1	1 H 1.008																	
2	3 Li 6.94	4 Be 9.01											5 B 10.81	6 C 12.01	7 N 14.01	8 O 16.00	9 F 18.99	10 Ne 20.18
3	11 Na 22.99	12 Mg 24.31											13 Al 26.9	14 Si 28.09	15 P 30.97	16 S 32.06	17 Cl 35.45	18 Ar 39.94
4	19 K 39.10	20 Ca 40.08	21 Sc 44.96	22 Ti 47.90	23 V 50.94	24 Cr 52.01	25 Mn 54.9	26 Fe 55.85	27 Co 58.71	28 Ni 58.71	29 Cu 63.54	30 Zn 65.37	31 Ga 69.7	32 Ge 72.59	33 As 74.92	34 Se 78.96	35 Br 79.90	36 Kr 83.80
5	37 Rb 85.47	38 Sr 87.62	39 Y 88.91	40 Zr 91.22	41 Nb 91.22	42 Mo 95.94	43 Tc 98.9	44 Ru 101.1	45 Rh 102.9	46 Pd 106.4	47 Ag 107.9	48 Cd 112.4	49 In 114.8	50 Sn 118.7	51 Sb 121.8	52 Te 127.6	53 I 126.9	54 Xe 131.3
6	55 Cs 132.9	56 Ba 137.3	71 Lu 174.9	72 Hf 178.5	73 Ta 180.9	74 W 183.8	75 Re 186.2	76 Os 190.2	77 Ir 192.2	78 Pt 195.1	79 Au 196.9	80 Hg 200.6	81 Tl 204.4	82 Pb 207.2	83 Bi 208.9	84 Po 210	85 At 210	86 Rn 222
7	87 Fr 223	88 Ra 226.0	103 Lr 257	104 Unq	105 Unp	106 Unh	107 Uns	108 Uno	109 Une									

Lanthanides	57 La 138.9	58 Ce 140.1	59 Pr 140.9	60 Nd 144.2	61 Pm 146.9	62 Sm 150.9	63 Eu 151.3	64 Gd 157.3	65 Tb 158.9	66 Dy 162.5	67 Ho 164.9	68 Er 167.3	69 Tm 168.9	70 Yb 173.0
Actinides	89 Ac 227.0	90 Th 232.0	91 Pa 231.0	92 U 238.0	93 Np 237.1	94 Pu 239.1	95 Am 241.1	96 Cm 247.1	97 Bk 249.1	98 Cf 251.1	99 Es 254.1	100 Fm 257.1	101 Md 258.1	102 No 255

Numbers below the symbol indicates the **atomic masses**; and the numbers above the symbol indicates the **atomic numbers**.

SOURCE: International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry, I mills, ed., *Quantities, Units, and symbols in Physical Chemistry*, Blackwell Scientific publications, Boston, 1988, pp 86-98.