



MERU UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

P.O. Box 972-60200 – Meru-Kenya

Tel: +254(0) 799 529 958, +254(0) 799 529 959, + 254 (0) 712 524 293,

Website: info@must.ac.ke Email: info@must.ac.ke

University Examinations 2024/2025

SECOND YEAR FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN FOOD SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

AFT 3200: FOOD ENGINEERING I

DATE: JANUARY 2025

TIME: 2 HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Answer Question ONE and any other TWO questions. Psychometric chat provided

QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)

- Differentiate the following terms as used in food engineering.
 - Extensive and intensive property (2 Marks)
 - Shear thinning and shear thickening (2 Marks)
 - Rising and falling film evaporator (2 Marks)
 - D-value and Z-value (2 Marks)
 - Electroporation and cavitation (2 Marks)
- A food sample had 380% moisture content in dry basis. Determine the moisture content on wet basis and the percentage dry matter. (3 Marks)
- A 1000kg fruit pulp contains 10% of suspended fruit solids. After filtration, a juice and wet solids were obtained. The wet solids contained 20% moisture. Determine the amount of juice and wet solids obtained (3 Marks)
- A layer of fat 5 mm thick underneath the skin covers a part of a human body. If the temperature of the inner surface of the fat layer is 36.6 °C and the body loses heat at a rate of 200 W/m², what will be the temperature at the surface of the skin? Assume that the thermal conductivity of fat is 0.2 W/m °C. (3 Marks)

- e) Highlight three sustainable energy sources of generating steam in food processing. (3 Marks)
- f) Determine the relative humidity and wet bulb temperature of air with 30 °C dry bulb temperature and moisture content of 20.5 g water/kg dry air at 1 atm. (2 Marks)
- g) Plot a well labelled diagram showing the relationship between drying rate and moisture content of a product during drying process. (3 Marks)
- h) Highlight 3 applications of artificial intelligence (AI) in food processing. (3 Marks)

QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

- a) Using an appropriate illustration, discuss the principle of operation of the following equipment listing one application in each case.
 - i. Solar drier (5 Marks)
 - ii. Pulsed electric fields electroporation chamber. (5 Marks)
 - iii. Counter current tubular heat exchanger (5 Marks)
 - iv. Peristaltic pump (5 Marks)

QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

- a) After completing your degree, you are employed as a supervisor in a food processing industry. The company wants to build a cold store with 100mm thick outer wall of concrete and a 10 mm thick inner wall of wood with a 120 mm space in between filled with polyurethane foam. If the inner temperature is 2 °C and the outer wall is maintained at the ambient air temperature of 25 °C.
Calculate the rate of heat penetration and temperature at interfaces. Thermal conductivity of concrete is 0.80, insulation 0.025 and wood 0.17 ($\text{WM}^{-1} \text{K}^{-1}$). The dimension of the wall are 2.5 x 4 metres. (15 Marks)
- b) Define 3D printing and discuss 3 applications of 3D printing in food processing. (5 Marks)

QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

- a) Ultrasound is a non-thermal food processing technology. Discuss the principle it employs to preserve the food and list 3 applications. (10 Marks)
- b) Determine the time required to dry a product from 80 to 20% moisture (wet basis) in a dryer where 2.5 kg dry solid/m² surface area is exposed to the air. The critical moisture content is 5 kg water/ kg dry solid, the equilibrium moisture content is 0.025 kg water/ kg dry solid, and the drying rate at the critical moisture content is 3 kg water/m² h. (10 Marks).