



**MASINDE MULIRO UNIVERSITY OF  
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
(MMUST)**

**MAIN CAMPUS  
MAIN EXAMINATIONS**

**UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS  
2021/2022 ACADEMIC YEAR**

**THIRD YEAR SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS**

**FOR THE DEGREE  
OF  
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN BIOTECHNOLOGY**

**COURSE CODE: SBM 324  
COURSE TITLE: BIOREACTOR**

**DATE: MONDAY, 25<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2022**

**TIME: 3:00 – 5:00 P.M.**

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**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

Answer ALL questions in section A and ANY TWO selected from section B

TIME: 2 Hours

MMUST observes ZERO tolerance to examination cheating

This Paper Consists of 2 Printed Pages. Please Turn Over.

**SECTION A (SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS, 40 MARKS)**

1. Outline the steps followed during oxygen transfer from the gas bubble to the cell. (3Mks)
2. Where  $G$  is generation time,  $n$  is number of generations and  $t$  is time in min/hours derive the equation for microbial growth by binary fission. (6Mks)
3. What is the significance of the following Michaelis-Menten parameters? (5mks)
  - i. Michaelis constant,  $K_m$
  - ii. Maximum velocity,  $V_{max}$
4. The mechanism underlying the controlling effect of the dilution rate is expressed in the Monod equation. At steady state, show that  $\mu=D$  (6Mks)
5. A pilot sterilization process is carried out in  $10^8 \text{dm}^3$  vessel with a medium containing  $10^3$  organisms/ $\text{cm}^3$  with a probability of 1 in hundred microorganisms getting contaminated,
  - a. Calculate the overall del factor( $\Delta$ ) of the reaction (3Mks)
  - b. Calculate the overall del factor( $\Delta$ ) of the reaction if scaled up by 100 times for an industrial production (2Mks)
  - c. Given the holding time=15.52 and the cooling time=10.34. Calculate the overall del factor( $\Delta$ ) for the scaled up reaction process in b. (2mks)
6. What is an antifoam agent and state the properties of an ideal antifoam. (5mks)
7. Derive the equation that conforms with the thermal destruction of Nutrients in a fermentor (5Mks)
8. Explain the importance of the following in a bioreactor. (3mks)
  - i. Sparger
  - ii. Baffles
  - iii. Sealing
  - iv. Agitation
  - v. Jacket
  - vi. Motor

**SECTION B (ESSAY QUESTIONS, 30 MARKS)**

9. The following kinetic data were obtained for an enzyme in the absence of any inhibitor (1), and in the presence of two different inhibitors, (2) and (3), each at a concentration of 7.0 mM. Assume the total enzyme concentration,  $[E_t]$ , is the same for each experiment.

[S] $\mu\text{M}$	V ( $\mu\text{mol}/\text{min}$ ) with 0.0 nM Inhibitor (1)	V ( $\mu\text{mol}/\text{min}$ ) with 7.0 mM Inhibitor (2)	V ( $\mu\text{mol}/\text{min}$ ) with 7.0 mM Inhibitor (3)
0.4	0.22	0.21	0.20
0.67	0.29	0.26	0.24
1.00	0.32	0.30	0.28
2.00	0.40	0.36	0.32

- i. Using the Lineweaver–Burk plot, determine  $V_{max}$  and  $K_M$  for the uninhibited enzyme. [13 marks]
- a) Determine the type of inhibition for the inhibitor binding to the enzyme, for experiments (2) and (3) [2 marks]