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**MASINDE MULIRO UNIVERSITY OFSCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
(MMUST)  
Main CAMPUS  
UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS  
2021/2022 ACADEMIC YEAR**

**THIRD YEAR SPECIAL AND SUPPLIMENTARY EXAMINATION**

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

**COURSE CODE: SCH 311**

**COURSE TITLE: Lanthanides and actinides**

**DATE: 01/08/2022**

**TIME: 8.00am – 10.00am**

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**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

Answer all the Questions

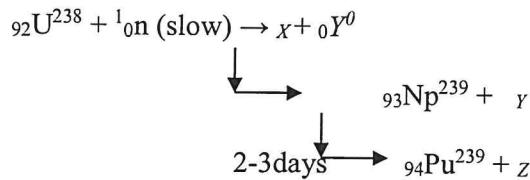
Find the attached periodic table

**TIME: 2 HOURS**

**MMUST observes ZERO tolerance to examination  
cheating**

### **QUESTION ONE (18 MARKS)**

- 1 a). Give any three differences between lanthanides and actinides (6 marks)
- b). Complete the following reaction equations (6 marks)
- Samarium reaction.  
$$2\text{Sm}^{2+} + 2\text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{W} + 2\text{OH}^- + \text{H}_2$$
  - Cerium reaction  
$$\text{Ce}^{4+} + \text{Fe}^{2+} \rightarrow \text{X} + \text{Fe}^{2+}$$
  - Reduction of anhydrous chloride  
$$\text{LaCl}_3 + 3\text{Na} \rightarrow (100^\circ\text{C}) \text{Y} + 3\text{NaCl}$$
  - Reduction of Uranium oxide to uranium metal  
$$\text{U}_3\text{O}_8 + 4\text{C} \rightarrow 3\text{U} + \text{Z}$$
- c). Complete the Uranium disintegration process by identifying species X,Y and Z (6 marks)



### **QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)**

- 2 a). Explain the following general characteristics of Actinides
- Electronic Configuration (3 marks)
  - Oxidation States (4 marks)
  - Ionic radius (3 marks)
  - Complex formation (2 marks)
- b. State and explain how electron configurations of the lanthanide elements are primarily established experimentally. (4 marks)
- c. State what is referred to as Lanthanide Contraction. (2 marks)
- d. What do the Lanthanides have in common with the Noble Gases? (2 marks)

**QUESTION THREE (18 MARKS)**

- 3 a). What are the chemical properties of Thorium in relation to the following (10 marks)
- i. Radioactive nature
  - ii. Combination with metals
  - iii. Action of Heat
  - iv. action of non-metals
  - v. Action of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$
- b). Thorium is an actinide that forms many compounds. Complete the following equations that show numerous compounds form thorium reactions (8 marks)
- i.  $\text{Th} + \text{O}_2 \rightarrow$
  - ii.  $\text{ThO}_2 + 2\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4 \rightarrow$
  - iii.  $\text{Th(OH)}_4 + 4\text{HNO}_3 \rightarrow$
  - iv.  $3\text{Th} + 2\text{N}_2 \rightarrow$
  - v.  $\text{ThO}_2 + 2\text{C} + 2\text{Cl}_2 \rightarrow$

**QUESTION FOUR (14 MARKS)**

- 4 a). Answer the following multiple choice question. Only one answer is correct for each question. (14 marks)
- i. How many elements are found under the lanthanide series?
    - a. 18
    - b. 20
    - c. 15
    - d. 57
  - ii. An element with atomic number 56 is grouped under
    - a. Actinides
    - b. Lanthanides
    - c. Alkaline earth metals
    - d. None of these
  - iii. What is the common oxidation state of the elements found in the lanthanide series?
    - a. (+3)
    - b. (+2)
    - c. (+1)
    - d. (+6)
  - iv. What types of binary ionic compounds are well-known for all lanthanides?
    - a. Oxides and Halides
    - b. Hydrides and Nitrides
    - c. Oxides, Halides, Hydrides, and Nitrides
    - d. None of these

- v. One among the following is not a property of lanthanides
- a. They are metals with white silvery color
  - b. Gets tarnished rapidly by air
  - c. Their melting point ranges between 500-1000K
  - d. Hardness of the metals increases with increase in the atomic number
- vi. Why can transition elements form alloys easily?
- a. Almost same atomic size
  - b. Same electronic configuration
  - c. Same atomic number
  - d. None of the above
- vii. In which of the following series are all the elements are radioactive in nature
- a. Lanthanides
  - b. Actinides
  - c. D-block elements
  - d. S-block elements

.....70 marks.....

	H	1.0079	hydrogen
3	Li	6.941	lithium
4	Be	9.0122	beryllium
11	Na	22.991	sodium
12	Mg	24.305	magnesium
19	K	39.098	potassium
20	Ca	40.078	calcium
37	Rb	85.468	rubidium
38	Sr	87.62	strontium
55	Cs	132.91	cesium
56	Ba	137.33	barium
87	Fr	223	francium
88	Ra	226	radium

	<b>He</b>	4.0026	helium
5	<b>B</b>	10.811	boron
6	<b>C</b>	12.011	carbon
7	<b>N</b>	14.017	nitrogen
8	<b>O</b>	15.999	oxygen
9	<b>F</b>	18.998	fluorine
10	<b>Ne</b>	20.189	neon
13	<b>Al</b>	26.982	aluminum
14	<b>Si</b>	28.986	silicon
15	<b>P</b>	30.974	phosphorus
16	<b>S</b>	32.965	sulfur
17	<b>Cl</b>	33.975	chlorine
18	<b>Ar</b>	35.453	argon
31	<b>Ga</b>	63.973	gallium
32	<b>Ge</b>	63.973	germanium
33	<b>As</b>	74.922	arsenic
34	<b>Se</b>	78.96	selenium
35	<b>Br</b>	79.994	bromine
36	<b>Kr</b>	83.901	krypton
51	<b>In</b>	109.922	indium
52	<b>Sn</b>	118.71	tin
53	<b>Te</b>	121.76	tellurium
54	<b>I</b>	127.60	iodine
55	<b>Pb</b>	136.900	lead
85	<b>Po</b>	131.29	polonium
86	<b>At</b>	131.29	astatine
87	<b>Rn</b>	120.919	radon
111	<b>Uuu</b>	204.585	ununtrium
112	<b>Uub</b>	206.59	ununbium
114	<b>Uug</b>	207.2	ununug
277		[277]	
283		[283]	

*	<b>Yb</b>	70	ytterbium
68	<b>Tm</b>	167.26	thulium
69	<b>Ho</b>	164.93	holmium
70	<b>Er</b>	168.93	erbium
71	<b>Dy</b>	162.90	dysprosium
66	<b>Tb</b>	158.93	terbium
67	<b>Lu</b>	151.96	lutetium
64	<b>Sm</b>	150.96	praseodymium
62	<b>Eu</b>	151.96	europium
61	<b>Pr</b>	144.24	neodymium
60	<b>Nd</b>	140.91	promethium
58	<b>Ce</b>	140.91	cerium
57	<b>La</b>	138.91	lanthanum
90	<b>Th</b>	232.04	thorium
91	<b>Pa</b>	231.04	protactinium
92	<b>U</b>	238.03	uranium
93	<b>Np</b>	[237]	neptunium
94	<b>Pu</b>	[244]	plutonium
95	<b>Cm</b>	[243]	curium
96	<b>Bk</b>	[247]	berkelium
97	<b>Cf</b>	[251]	californium
98	<b>Es</b>	[253]	einsteinium
99	<b>Fm</b>	[254]	fermium
101	<b>Md</b>	[259]	mendelevium
102	<b>No</b>	[259]	nobelium
103			