

APRIL 2022
PHY 302SW
SPECIAL THEORY OF RELATIVITY
2 HOURS

Candidate's Index Number
Signature:

UNIVERSITY OF CAPE COAST
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION STUDIES
SCHOOL OF EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND OUTREACH
INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION

FIVE-SEMESTER BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (SANDWICH) PROGRAMME
LEVEL 350, END-OF-FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS, APRIL 2022

APRIL 26, 2022

SPECIAL THEORY OF RELATIVITY

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Answer **THREE** questions in all, Question 1 and any other **TWO** questions in this Paper.

1. (40marks)
- State the **two** postulates of special theory of relativity and show how Lorentz – transformation follows from the postulates of the special theory of relativity.
 - What is the important dynamical effect of special theory of relativity?
 - What is Proper time interval?
 - The length of a rocket is measured as 100 m before launching. During the flight apparent length is found to be 96 m when measured from the launching station. Calculate its speed.
 - Write the components of momentum in four-vector space and hence prove the invariance of $(E^2 - p^2c^2)$
2. In actual Michelson –Morley experiment the total distance from the partially silvered mirror to each of the two mirrors was 10 meters. The wavelength of the light used was 5000 \AA . If the orbital velocity of the earth is taken as 30 km/s, calculate the expected total fringe shift when the apparatus is rotated through 90° . (30marks)
3. Define four-vector. Show that the magnitude of momentum four-vector is $\gamma m_0 c$, where $\gamma = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}}}$, m_0 is rest mass and c is the velocity of light. (30marks)
4. A particle of rest mass m_0 moves with a speed $\frac{c}{\sqrt{2}}$, calculate its momentum, kinetic energy and total energy. (30marks)