

The Open University of Sri Lanka
Faculty of Engineering Technology
Department of Mechanical Engineering



Study Programme	: Bachelor of Technology Honours in Engineering
Name of the Examination	: Final Examination
Course Code and Title	: DMX7301/DMX6535 Thermal Power Generation
Academic Year	: 2020/2021
Date	: 2 nd January 2022
Time	: 1400-1700hrs
Duration	: 3 hours

General instructions

1. Read all instructions carefully before answering the questions.
2. This question paper consists of **Eight (8)** questions in **Three (3)** pages.
3. Answer any **Five (5)** questions including **only one (1)** question from **part B**.
4. All questions carry equal marks.
5. Use separate answer books for part **A** and **B**.
6. Answer for each question should commence from a new page.
7. This is an Closed Book Test (CBT).
8. Answers should be in clear hand writing.
9. Do not use red colour pen.
10. h-s chart is provided.

PART A

- (01) (i) Thermal power plant of rated capacity 100 MW had an “availability” of 92% and a gross plant factor of 0.45 during its operation in a particular year. The plant had scheduled maintenance hours of 12% of the total hours available for power generation in the year. In addition, certain number of down time hours was observed due to breakdowns in the same year.

Calculate,

- (a) Total time lost due to breakdowns
- (b) Total power generated in the year
- (c) Net plant factor of the plant.

- (ii) Based on the operating principle, thermal generating plants can be broadly classified into three groups. What are these groups? Describe them briefly.

- (02) (i) Why is superheating of steam essential in a steam power plant?
- (ii) In a 120 MW steam power plant operating on ideal reheat-regenerative cycle, steam enters the high pressure (HP) turbine at 90 bar and 550°C. The condenser is maintained at a pressure of 0.07 bar. After expansion of steam in HP turbine to 7 bar pressure some of the steam goes to an open heater and the balance is reheated to 400°C. Then steam enters the low pressure (LP) turbine and expands to the condenser pressure. Neglect total feed pump work. Assume 100% isentropic efficiency for turbines,

Determine the,

- (a) steam flow rate to the HP turbine.
- (b) thermal efficiency of the cycle.
- (c) If there is a 15°C rise in the temperature of the cooling water, what is the rate of flow of the cooling water in the condenser?

(Saturated liquid enthalpy at 7 bar and 0.07 bar are 697 kJ/kgK and 163 kJ/kgK respectively)

- (03) In a gas turbine plant, the compressor takes in air at a temperature of 28°C and compresses it to four times the initial pressure with an isentropic efficiency of 82%. The air is then passes through a heat exchanger heated by the turbine exhaust before reaching the combustion chamber. In the heat exchanger 92% of the available heat is given to the air. The maximum temperature after constant pressure combustion is 600°C.

You may take following data,

combustion efficiency - 90%

isentropic efficiency of the turbine - 70%.

$C_p = 0.0045 \text{ kJ/kgK}$ and $\gamma = 1.4$ for air and constant specific heats throughout.

Determine the,

- (a) temperature of compressed air after the heat exchanger.
- (b) actual heat supplied by the combustion chamber.
- (c) thermal efficiency of the cycle.

- (04) (i) What is 'excess air' and why is it required for 'combustion' in a boiler?
- (ii) There are different types of valves on boilers. Name five types of such valves and mention where they are fitted on boilers.
- (iii) Why boiler blow-down is required?
- (iv) What are the advantages of having "bent tubes" in water tube boilers?

- (05) (i) Explain the concept of a nuclear power plant on the basis of a pressurised water reactor. In which aspects does a boiling water reactor differ from a pressurised water reactor?
- (ii) "The principal risks associated with nuclear power arise from health effects of radiation". Comment on this statement.
- (06) (i) Write a note on the nuclear fuel cycle, explaining in detail the different stages of the cycle.
- (ii) Give examples for the following types of reactors.
- (a) Reactor fueled with natural uranium.
- (b) Reactor fueled with enriched uranium.
- (iii) What are the main mechanisms of interaction of gamma rays with matter? Explain them briefly.
- (iv) Determine the energy released by the fission of 1.5g of U^{235} in kWh, assuming that energy released per fission is 200 MeV.

PART B

- (07) (i) A 3 phase Star connected synchronous generator is rated at 15 kVA, 400V, 50Hz. If rated load at 0.8 pf lagging is supplied where resistance is 0.5Ω and synchronous reactance is 10Ω . Find the voltage regulation of an alternator.
- (ii) Explain the advantages of having the revolving field of the alternator.
- (iii) A 10 pole 25 Hz alternator is directly coupled to and is driven by 60 Hz synchronous motor then calculate the number of poles in a synchronous motor.
- (iv) Explain the functions of a Governor.
- (08) (i) When the speed of an alternator changed from 3600 rpm to 1800 rpm, calculate the generated emf/phase, if the initial emf/phase is 11kV.
- (ii) Explain the function of damper winding in an alternator.
- (iii) A 3-phase 11kV star connected alternator has armature resistance of 1ohms/phase and a synchronous reactance of 20 ohms/phase. Calculate the regulation for a load of 1500 kW at P.F of; (i) 0.8 lagging (ii) unity (iii) 0.8 leading

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