

Theoretical Question 2: An Electrified Soap Bubble

| Questions | Points | Concepts/Details |
|---------------------------|------------|---|
| 2.1 (Total 1.7) | 0.3 | 2.1a Know that the difference between pressure (or force) inside and outside the bubble comes from the surface pressure. |
| | 0.3 | 2.1b Surface tension with two surfaces. |
| | 0.5 | 2.1c use the concept of surface tension $dE = \gamma dA$ with correct $dA = d(4\pi r^2)$ (0.2) $dE = Fdr = \Delta P A dr$ (0.3) (other methods are also acceptable e.g. $F = \gamma L \frac{dE}{dx} = \gamma \frac{dA}{dx}$) If the sign of surface tension pressure is wrong, no mark awards. |
| | 0.3 | 2.1d Correct usage of Ideal gas equation (0.1) $P = \frac{\rho RT}{M}$ (0.2 correct expression) |
| | 0.3 | 2.1e Answer: $\frac{\rho_i T_i}{\rho_a T_a} = \left[1 + \frac{4\gamma}{R_0 P_a} \right]$ -If the sign of surface tension pressure is wrong, no mark awards. -No double penalty from part 2.1b - The term t cannot be included in this part since problem specify so |
| 2.2 (Total 0.4) | 0.4 | 2.2a Answer: $\frac{\rho_i T_i}{\rho_a T_a} - 1 = 0.0001$ For the answer ≥ 1 : -0.2 major error 50% For the answer ≥ 0.5 : -0.1 major error 25% |
| 2.3 (Total 2.0) | 0.6 | 2.3a Total weight from the mass of the bubble (0.2) and the inside air pulling downward (0.3), and substitute for ρ_i (0.1): $W = 4\pi R_0^2 \rho_s t g + \frac{4}{3} \pi R_0^3 \frac{\rho_a T_a}{T_i} \left[1 + \frac{4\gamma}{R_0 P_a} \right] g$ - In case that the student doesn't include the surface tension term, deduct 0.3 point if the answer in 2.2a is greater than 1. (a major error) Otherwise, full points. |
| | 0.6 | 2.3b Use $B = \rho_a g V$ (0.3) Use the correct volume term (0.3) $\frac{4}{3} \pi R_0^3$. The term $R_0 + t$ instead of R_0 is acceptable |
| | 0.4 | 2.3c Setting up $B = W$ or $B \geq W$. |
| | 0.4 | 2.3d Answer: $T_i \geq 307.1$ K - The range of answer within [305,309] is acceptable. |

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| 2.4 (Total 1.6) | 0.5 | 2.4a Setting the force balance $F \geq W - B$ (“equal sign” also acceptable) (0.5, but only give 0.1 for incorrect sign). |
| | 0.2 | 2.4b Correct expressions for the weight of the bubble (0.1) plus the inside air (0.1). $W = \left(4\pi R_0^2 \rho_s t + \frac{4}{3} \pi R_0^3 \rho_i \right) g$ |
| | 0.5 | 2.4c Thermal equilibrium means $T_i = T_a$ (0.3) and substitute for ρ_i (0.2) |
| | 0.4 | 2.4d Answer: $u \geq \frac{4R_0 \rho_s t g}{6\eta} + \frac{\frac{4}{3} R_0^2 \rho_a g \left(\frac{4\gamma}{R_0 P_a} \right)}{6\eta}$ - If the term due to surface tension is neglected in 2.3a, the second term above can also be neglected - In 2.3a, if the student uses $R_0 + t$ instead of R_0 , there will be an additional third term. That is acceptable. |
| 2.5 (Total 0.4) | 0.4 | 2.5a Answer: $u \geq 0.36$ m/s or $u_{\min} = 0.36$ m/s -The numerical value in range of [0.35,0.37] is acceptable |
| 2.6 (Total 2.0) Method A | 0.2 | 2.6a Gaussian Law leading to the electric field outside the soap bubble: $E_q = \frac{\sigma}{\epsilon_0}$ *If no factor 1/2, no mark for the following part b,c |
| | 0.2 | 2.6b Gaussian Law leading to the electric field on the pill box: $E_\sigma = \frac{\sigma}{2\epsilon_0}$ |
| | 0.3 | 2.6c Symmetry lead to the electric field from all other parts of the film excluding the pill box itself: $E = \frac{1}{2\epsilon_0} \frac{q}{4\pi R_1^2}$ |
| Or Method B | 0.2 | 2.6a Charge on a small stripe of the bubble film: $\delta q = \left(\frac{q}{4\pi R^2} \right) 2\pi R \sin \theta \cdot R \delta \theta$ |
| | 0.2 | 2.6b Form the integration with a correct stripe. |
| | 0.3 | 2.6c Do the integration correctly: $E = \frac{1}{2\epsilon_0} \frac{q}{4\pi R_1^2}$ |
| 2.6 cont. | 0.3 | 2.6d Repulsive force per unit area of the bubble: $\frac{(q/4\pi R_1^2)^2}{2\epsilon_0}$ |

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| | 0.4 | 2.6e Use Boyle's Law to find the new pressure. |
| | 0.3 | 2.6f Balancing the pressurized force pushing inward and outward |
| | 0.3 | 2.6g Answer: $\left(\frac{R_1}{R_0}\right)^4 - \left(\frac{R_1}{R_0}\right) - \frac{q^2}{32\pi^2\epsilon_0 R_0^4 P_a} = 0$ |
| 2.7 (Total 0.7) | 0.3 | 2.7a Apply the approximation: $R_1 = R_0 + \Delta R$, $\Delta R \ll R_0$ |
| | 0.4 | 2.7b Answer: $R_1 \approx R_0 \left(1 + \frac{q^2}{96\pi^2\epsilon_0 R_0^4 P_a}\right)$ |
| 2.8 (Total 1.2) | 0.7 | 2.8a Newton's Law (0.3). The balance between the weight (0.2) and the buoyancy (0.2). - Check the correct formula for weigh and buoyant force from (21) in the solution. No double penalty for the wrong formula of W from 2.4b. - If the student write down the weigh W in term of the new radius, R_1 , and new density, that solution is acceptable too as long as it is correct. |
| | 0.3 | 2.8b Answer: $q^2 \geq \frac{96\pi^2 R_0^3 \rho_s t \epsilon_0 P_a}{\rho_a}$ |
| | 0.2 | 2.8c Answer: $q \approx 256 \times 10^{-9} \text{ C} \approx 256 \text{ nC}$ -The numerical value in range of [250,260]nC is acceptable. |