



**KARATINA UNIVERSITY**  
**UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS**  
**2024/2025 ACADEMIC YEAR**  
**FOURTH YEAR FIRST SEMESTER REGULAR**  
**EXAMINATION**  
**FOR THE DEGREE OF**  
**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (P106, P103), BACHELOR OF**  
**EDUCATION (E100, E101, E111)**  
**COURSE CODE : MAT 418**  
**COURSE TITLE : PARTIAL DIFFERENTIAL**  
**EQUATIONS I**

**DATE: 13<sup>th</sup> Dec 2024      TIME: 12.00noon-2.00pm**

**INSTRUCTION TO CANDIDATES**

**SEE INSIDE**

**ANSWER QUESTION ONE (COMPULSORY) AND ANY OTHER TWO QUESTIONS**

**QUESTION ONE (30 marks)**

- a) Evaluate the following partial derivative

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} (x^3 e^{x+y})^2 \quad (2\text{marks})$$

- b) Consider the transport equation  $au_t(x,t) + bu_x(x,t) = 0$  where  $a$  and  $b$  are constants. Show that  $u(x,t) = f(bt - ax)$  is a solution where  $f$  is an arbitrary differentiable function in one variable. (3marks)

- c) Given the following family of hyperbolas  $x^2 - y^2 = k$  where  $k$  is arbitrary. Determine the orthogonal trajectories to these curves. (3marks)

- d) Using the change of variables technique with  $v = y - 2x$  and  $w = x$ . Solve the PDE  $u_x + 2u_y = 1$  (5marks)

- e) Solve the nonlinear PDE  $u_x + uu_y = 0$  using the following transformations  $\xi = x$  and  $\eta = y - xu$ . (5marks)

- f) Determine whether the function  $u(x,y) = e^{-\lambda^2 \alpha^2 t} (\cos \lambda x - 2 \sin \lambda x)$  is a solution to the PDE  $u_t - \alpha^2 u_{xx} = -u_x$  (3marks)

- g) Use the definition of the partial derivative to find  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}$  as a function of  $x$  and  $y$ , for  $f(x,y) = 3x^2 + xy$  (4marks)

- h) Given  $r(t) = (t^2, \ln(t), t)$ . Determine the following

- i. The normal to the level curve at  $t=2$  (2mark)
- ii. The directional derivative of  $r(t)$  at  $t=2$  in the direction of  $a = (1,1,1)$  (3marks)

**QUESTION TWO (20 marks)**

a) Solve the linear PDE  $u_x + u_y = u$  using the following transformations  $\xi = x + y$  and  $\eta = x - y$ . (6marks)

b) Show that  $u(x, y) = e^{-2y} \sin(x - y)$  is the solution to the initial value problem

$$\begin{aligned} u_x + u_y + 2u &= 0 \text{ for } x, y > 1 \\ u(x, 0) &= \sin x \end{aligned} \quad (3\text{marks})$$

c) Find the solution to  $-3u_x + u_y = 0$ ,  $u(x, 0) = e^{-x^2}$  (4marks)

d) Solve the initial value problem below using the method of Cauchy. (7marks)

$$\begin{aligned} u_x + u_y &= 1 \\ u(x, 0) &= f(x) \end{aligned}$$

### QUESTION THREE (20 marks)

a) Find the general solution of the equation  $xu_x + yu_y = xe^{-u}$ ,  $x > 0$  (5marks)

b) Given  $f(x, y, z) = e^{x+y+z}$ . Determine the following

i. The level surface (1mark)

ii. The normal to the level surface (2mark)

iii. The directional derivative of  $f$  at  $(0, 0, 0)$  in the direction of  $a = (1, 1, 1)$  (3marks)

c) Solve the partial differential equation  $u_x + u_y = 1$  by introducing the change of variables  $s = x + y$  and  $t = x - y$ . (6marks)

d) Find the general solution of the PDE  $yu_x + xu_y = x^2 + y^2$  (7marks)

### QUESTION FOUR (20 marks)

a) Solve the problem below using linear change of variables technique (10marks)

$$5 \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = x$$

$$u(x, 0) = \sin 2\pi x \text{ for } -\infty < x < \infty$$

a) Solve the following non-linear PDE using the Charpit method

$$(p^2 + q^2)y = qz \quad (10\text{marks})$$

**QUESTION FIVE (20 marks)**

- a) Determine every function  $u(x,t)$  that solves the function using the linear change of variable technique (10marks)

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + v \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = 0$$

Where  $v$  is a fixed constant.

- b) Solve the following partial differential equation  $p^2x + q^2y = z$  using Jacobi's method. (10marks)