



KARATINA UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS
2023/2024 ACADEMIC YEAR
FOURTH YEAR SPECIAL/ SUPPLIMENTARY
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: 16th JULY 2024

TIME: 3.00pm-5.00pm

INSTRUCTION TO CANDIDATES

SEE INSIDE

ANSWER QUESTION ONE (COMPULSORY) AND ANY OTHER TWO QUESTIONS

QUESTION ONE (30 marks)

- a) Compute the following partial derivative

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial y}(y^2 \sin xy^3) \quad (2\text{marks})$$

- b) Given the partial differential equation below

$$uu_{xx} + u_{yy} - u = 0$$

and defining the linear differential operator as L , express the above PDE using L . (2marks)

- c) State the order of each of the following PDEs and classify them as linear or non linear

i. $x^2 u_{xxy} + y^2 u_{yy} - \log(1 + y^2)u = 0$ (2marks)

ii. $uu_{xx} + u_{yy} - u = 0$ (2marks)

- d) 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)

- e) Compute the following partial derivatives

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

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

- 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) 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 $u_t - \alpha^2 u_{xx} = -u_x$ (4marks)

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

QUESTION TWO (20 marks)

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

$$u_x + u_y + 2u = 0 \text{ for } x, y > 1$$

$$u(x, 0) = \sin x$$

(4marks)

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

- c) Solve the problem below using linear change of variables technique (9marks)

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

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

QUESTION THREE (20 marks)

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

- b) $u_x + u_y = 1$
 $u(x, 0) = f(x)$ By use of the transformations $s = ax - \frac{a^2}{b}y$ and $t = aby$ show that the

$$\text{solution to the PDE } u_x + bu_y = 2 \text{ is } u(x, y) = \frac{1}{ab^2} [2aby + f(ax - \frac{a^2}{b}y)]$$

(6marks)

- c) Solve the following partial differential equation

$$z^2 = pqxy$$

using Jacobi's method

(7marks)

QUESTION FOUR (20 marks)

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

- b) Let $G(x, y) = \ln(x^2 + y) + xy^2$ Find

i. The level surface of G (1mark)

ii. The normal to the level surface above (3marks)

iii. The directional derivative of G at point $(1, 2)$ in the direction of $\vec{v} = 2i + 3j$ (3marks)

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

$$px + qy = pq$$

(7marks)

QUESTION FIVE (20 marks)

a) For $x \in \mathbb{R}$ and $t > 0$ we consider the initial value problem

$$u_{tt} + u_{xx} = 0$$

$$u(x, 0) = u_t(x, 0) = 0$$

Clearly $u(x, t) = 0$ is a solution to this problem

Let $0 < \varepsilon < 1$ be a very small number. Show that the function

$$u_\varepsilon(x, t) = \varepsilon^2 \sin\left(\frac{x}{\varepsilon}\right) \sinh\left(\frac{t}{\varepsilon}\right) \text{ where } \sinh x = \frac{e^x - e^{-x}}{2} \text{ is a solution to the problem}$$

$$u_{tt} + u_{xx} = 0$$

$$u(x, 0) = 0$$

(6marks)

$$u_t(x, 0) = \varepsilon \sin\left(\frac{x}{\varepsilon}\right)$$

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

c) Determine every function $u(x, t)$ that solves the function using the linear change of variable technique (9marks)

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

Where v is a fixed constant.