



# THE MOMBASA POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

(A Constituent College of JKUAT)  
*Faculty of Applied & Health Sciences*

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS & PHYSICS

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATION FOR BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN  
ELECTRICAL/ELECTRONICS/CIVIL/MECHANICAL ENGINEERING  
(YR I, SEM I)

SMA 2371: PARTIAL DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS

SPECIAL/SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION

SERIES: MAY/JUNE 2012

TIME: 2 HOURS

## Instructions to Candidates:

You should have the following for this examination

- *Answer Booklet*

This paper consists of **FIVE** questions

Answer question **ONE (COMPULSORY)** and any other **TWO** questions

Maximum marks for each part of a question are clearly shown

This paper consists of **TWO** printed pages

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## Question 1 (Compulsory - 30 Marks)

$$z = yf(x) + xg(y)$$

- a) Derive the differential equation arising from (5 marks)

$$xy = a$$

- b) Show that every curve of the family  $xy = a$  is orthogonal to the curve of the family  $x^2 - y^2 = b$  [ $a, b \neq 0$ ]

(5 marks)

$$ax^2 + by^2 + cz^2 = 1, x + yz = 1$$

- c) Find the direction cosines of the tangent to the conic  $P(x, y, z)$  at the point

(5 marks)

$$y^2 zp - x^2 zq = x^2 y$$

- d) Find the general solution of the differential equation (6 marks)

- $\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = 12x^2(t+1)$        $x = 0, u = \cos 2t$  and  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \sin t$
- e) Solve      given that at      (6 marks)
- $u_u = a^2 u_{xx}$
- f) Show that the wave equation      is variable separable      (3 marks)

**Question 2 (20 Marks)**

- a) Find the orthogonal trajectories on the sphere  $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = a^2$  of it's intersection with the paraboloid  $\frac{xy}{z} = c, c$  being a parameter      (12 marks)
- b) Consider a curve which is the intersection of the surfaces  $F(x, y, z) = 0$  and  $G(x, y, z) = 0$ . Prove that  $(dx, dy, dz) \propto \left( \frac{\partial(F, G)}{\partial(y, z)}, \frac{\partial(F, G)}{\partial(z, x)}, \frac{\partial(F, G)}{\partial(x, y)} \right)$       (8 marks)

**Question 3 (20 Marks)**

- a) Find the differential equation arising from  $\phi(x + y + z, x^2 + y^2 + z^2) = 0$       (7 marks)
- b) Verify that the differential equation  $(x^2 z - y^3)dx + 3xy^2 dy + x^3 dz = 0$  is integrable      (5 marks)
- c) Find the integral curves of the equations  $\frac{dx}{y(x+y)+az} = \frac{dy}{x(x+y)-az} = \frac{dz}{z(x+y)}$  by eliminating one of the variables      (8 marks)

**Question 4 (20 Marks)**

- a) A bar length 2 metres is fully insulated along it's sides. It is initially at a uniform temperature of 10°C and at  $t = 0$  the ends are plunged into ice and maintained at a temperature of 0°C. Determine an expression for the temperature at a point P at a distance x from one end at any subsequent time t seconds after  $t = 0$ .

[use the heat conducton equation  $\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}$ ]

$ap + bq + cz = 0$       (15 marks)

- b) Solve the equation      (5 marks)

**Question 5 (20 Marks)**

$$z = ax + by + cxy$$

a) Eliminate the arbitrary constants a,b,c from (6 marks)

b) Solve by Laplace transform the boundary value problem

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = 4 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}, u(0, t) = 0, u(3, t) = 0, U(x, 0) = 10 \sin 2\pi x - 6 \sin 4\pi x$$

(10 marks)

c) Solve  $(D_x^2 + D_x D_y - 6D_y^2)z = 0$

(4 marks)