

UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO- SRI LANKA  
FACULTY OF ARTS

Second Year Examination in Arts (Economics) 2017/2018  
(End of first semester)  
ECN 2132: Mathematical Economics  
Time Allowed: Two hours (02) only  
Calculators are allowed.

Candidate should answer 13 (thirteen) questions.  
All questions in section A, 4 questions from section B and 2 questions from section C.

**Section A: Answer all questions in this section (total marks 20)**

1. Differentiate following functions
  - a.  $y = 6e^{1-2x}$
  - b.  $y = x^3e^x$
  - c.  $y = \ln(2 + x^2)$
2.
  - a.  $f(X) = g(X) * h(x)$ , where  $g(x)$  and  $h(x)$  are both differentiable functions. Derive a formula to get the derivative of  $f(x)$  with respect to  $x$ .
3.
  - a.  $z = f(x, y)$  ( $z$  is a function of  $x$  and  $y$ )  
 $y = g(x)$  ( $x$  and  $y$  are not independent,  $y$  is a function of  $x$ )  
Derive an equation to measure the effect of change of  $x$  on  $z$ .
4.
  - a. Find the total differential for the following function  
 $z = 2x^2(4x - 4y)$
5. For the below function derive all second order partial derivatives and cross partial derivatives.
  - a.  $z = 32x^{0.5}w^{0.25}$
6. Find the integral of following functions
  - a.  $y = \int (2t^2 - 3t^{-\frac{1}{4}} + t) dt$
7. Evaluate the following definite integrals.
  - a.  $\int_1^4 (X^3 + X + 6) dx$
  - b.  $\int_1^8 (X^{-2/3} + X + 6) dx$

**Section B: Answer any 4 questions from section B. (total marks 10)**

Question number 8 and 9 are based on following function. State whether the following statements related to the given function are true or false. Prove your answer.

$$Y = f(x, z) = x^3z$$

8. The function is homogeneous of degree 3.
9. Value of  $Y$  increases with the increase of  $z$ , but at a decreasing rate
10. If  $Y = f(x) = x^3 - 3x^2 - 24x$ . The function is concave and relative maximum when  $x$  equal 4 ( $x = 4$ ) do you agree with this statement? and prove your answer.

Question number 11 to 13 are based on following Cobb Douglas production function

$$Q = AK^\alpha L^\beta \quad \text{where } A > 0, \alpha > 0, \beta > 0$$

11. Find the slope of the isoquant for above production function.
12. What happen to the slope of isoquant as K increases. (prove your answer)
13. Prove that output elasticity with respect to capital is equal to  $\alpha$  and output elasticity with respect to labour is equal to  $\beta$ .
14. Using an appropriate example, explain the difference between first order homogeneous differential equation and first order non-homogeneous differential equation.

**Section C: Answer any 2 questions from section C. (total marks 30)**

15. Consider a monopoly market whose Total Cost and Total Revenue functions are given below;

$$TC = 40 + 0.4Q^2$$

$$TR = 360Q - 2.1Q^2$$

- a. Determine the profit maximizing output level and price. (4 marks)
  - b. Derive the second order condition for profit maximization. (4 marks)
  - c. Assume government imposes a lump sum tax (T) on the firm. What would be the firm's total cost function after tax. (2 marks)
  - d. If the value of lump sum tax is Rs.12,920 what would be the profit of the firm. (5 marks)
16. Below information are related to firm in a competitive market.

$$Q_s = -a + bp \text{ supply function}$$

$$Q_d = c - dp \text{ demand function}$$

$$a, b, c, d \geq 0$$

- a. Find the equilibrium price and quantity. (4 marks)
  - b. Assume government imposed per unit tax (T). Derive new supply function after tax. (4 marks)
  - c. Find the new equilibrium price and quantity after tax. (2 marks)
  - d. Determine the value of tax (T) that maximizes tax revenue. (5 marks)
17. Consider the following production function. Firm can buy capita (K) at \$ 12 a unit and labor at \$ 3 a unit.

$$Q = 25K^{0.5}L^{0.5}$$

- a. Assume firm decides to produce 1250 units. Find out the number of units of capital and labour that minimise the costs (4 marks)
- b. Calculate the total minimum production cost. (4 marks)
- c. Calculate the value of lagrange multiplier. (2 marks)
- d. What would be the effect on cost if firm decreases output by 1 units. (5 marks)