



**NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA**  
**Plot 91, Cadastral Zone, Nnamdi Azikwe Expressway. Jabi, Abuja**  
**FACULTY OF SCIENCES**  
**DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS**  
**September 2020\_1 Examination**

**Course Code: MTH 309**

**Course Title: Optimization Theory**

**Credit Unit: 3**

**Time Allowed: 3 Hours**

**Instruction: Answer Question Number One and Any Other Four Questions**

1 (a) Define clearly the following terms:

- (i) Feasible Solution.
- (ii) Basic feasible solution.
- (iii) Non-degenerate feasible solution.
- (iv) Degenerate basic feasible solution.
- (v) Convex set.
- (vi) Convex function.

**(12 marks)**

(b) Consider the following problem.

$$\text{Maximize } 2x_1 + 5x_2$$

$$\text{Subject to: } x_1 + 2x_2 \leq 16$$

$$2x_1 + x_2 \leq 12$$

$$\text{With } x_1, x_2 \geq 0$$

- (i) Sketch the feasible region in the  $(x_1, x_2)$  space.
- (ii) Identify the region in the  $(x_1, x_2)$  space where the slack variable  $x_3$  and  $x_4$  are equal to zero.
- (iii) Solve the problem using graphical method.

**(10 marks)**

- 2 (a) State five important results in duality. **(5 marks)**  
(b) Solve the following LPP

$$\text{Maximize } z = 6x_1 + 8x_2$$

$$\text{Subject to: } 5x_1 + 2x_2 \leq 20$$

$$x_1 + 2x_2 \leq 10$$

$$\text{With } x_1, x_2 \geq 0$$

by solving its dual problem. **(7 marks)**

- 3 Define and give an example (with justification) of the following in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .  
(a) Continuous function  
(b) Differentiability  
(c) Partial derivative  
(d) Directional derivative. **(12 marks)**

- 4 (a) When is a quadratic form said to be:  
(i) Positive semidefinite; **(2 marks)**  
(ii) Negative semidefinite. **(3 marks)**

(b) Let  $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a function which satisfies  $f(x + y) = f(x)f(y) \forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}$

(i) Show that if  $f$  is continuous at  $x = 0$ , then it is continuous at every point of  $\mathbb{R}$

(ii) Show that  $\forall m \in \mathbb{Z}; f(mx) = (f(x))^m$ . **(7 marks)**

- 5 (a) State (without proof) the Weierstrass theorem. **(4 marks)**  
(b) Let  $f: D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , where  $D$  is a nonempty closed subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Prove that if  $f$  is coercive and continuous on some open set containing  $D$  then  
(i) the function  $f$  is bounded below on  $D$ .  
(ii) any minimizing sequence of  $f$  in  $D$  is bounded. **(8 marks)**

- 6 (a) Find the minimum and maximum of  $f(x, y) = x^2 - y^2$  on the unit circle  $x^2 + y^2 = 1$  using the Lagrange multipliers method. **(5 marks)**

(b) Find the Local and global minimizers and maximizers of the  $f(x) = x^2 e^{-x^2}$ . **(4 marks)**

(c) State any theorem that links convexity and optimization. **(3 marks)**