

For all the following multiple-choice questions, circle your answers clearly. No partial credit will be awarded; any scratch work will be ignored.

1. Which of the following is an appropriate “guess” for the solution $u(x, t)$ that one uses in the first step of the method of separation of variables?

- (a) $u(x, t) = T(t)$
- (b) $u(x, t) = 0$
- (c) $u(x, t) = u_e(x)$
- (d) $u(x, t) = \phi(x)T(t)$
- (e) $u(x, t) = f(x)$

2. We have seen an integral condition of the form

$$\int_0^L \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \sin\left(\frac{m\pi x}{L}\right) dx = \begin{cases} 0, & m \neq n \\ L/2, & m = n \end{cases}$$

What is the mathematical name given to a relation of this form?

- (a) Separation of variables
- (b) An orthogonality condition
- (c) The equilibrium or steady-state solution
- (d) An ordinary differential equation
- (e) Integration by parts

3. What is the end goal of the method of separation of variables?

- (a) The heat equation is derived using separation of variables
- (b) It is used to compute the equilibrium solution for a PDE
- (c) To compute the full solution to a PDE problem
- (d) Ensuring conservation of energy is equivalent to separating variables
- (e) Deciding whether or not a PDE is linear requires separation of variables