



Queen Mary  
University of London

B. Sc. Examination by Course Unit 2008

MAE 113 Discrete Techniques for Computing

Duration: 2 hours

Date and time: 7th May 2008, 10.00 am

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*This paper has two Sections and you should attempt both Sections. Please read carefully the instructions given at the beginning of each Section.*

**YOU ARE NOT PERMITTED TO START READING THIS QUESTION PAPER UNTIL INSTRUCTED TO DO SO BY THE INVIGILATOR.**

**SECTION A** Each question carries 11 marks. You should attempt ALL questions.

**Question 1** Let  $A$  be the set  $\{1, 3, 5, 7, 9\}$  and  $B$  the set  $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$ . What are the following?

- (a) [2 marks] The set  $A \cap B$ .
- (b) [4 marks] The numbers  $|A \cap B|$  and  $|A \cup B|$ .
- (c) [2 marks]  $\{x : x \in A \text{ and } x \notin B\}$ .
- (d) [3 marks] The number of subsets of  $A$ .

**Question 2** Answer the following for the boolean formula  $(p' \vee q)' \vee q$  in the two variables  $p$  and  $q$ .

(Note the alternative notation for this formula is:  $\neg(\neg p \vee q) \vee q$ .)

- (a) [4 marks] Draw the logic circuit for this boolean formula.
- (b) [5 marks] Write out the truth table for this boolean formula.
- (c) [2 marks] Is this boolean formula equivalent to  $p \vee q$ ? Explain your answer.

**Question 3** (a) [3 marks] Multiply the binary numbers:  $111 \times 11001$ .

- (b) [3 marks] Convert the binary number  $1011011$  into the corresponding decimal number.
- (c) [5 marks] Convert the decimal number  $505$  into the corresponding binary number.

**Question 4** (a) [3 marks] Simplify the following expression in  $\mathbb{Z}_7$ , the integers modulo 7. (Your answer should be one of  $\{0, [1], [2], \dots, [6]\}$ .)

$$([3] - [5]) + ([2] + [3])([5] - [2]).$$

- (b) [2 marks] Calculating in  $\mathbb{Z}_7$  find a number  $a$  such that  $[3] \times [a] = [1]$ .
- (c) [6 marks] Draw a digraph with vertices  $u, v, w, x$  and adjacency matrix.

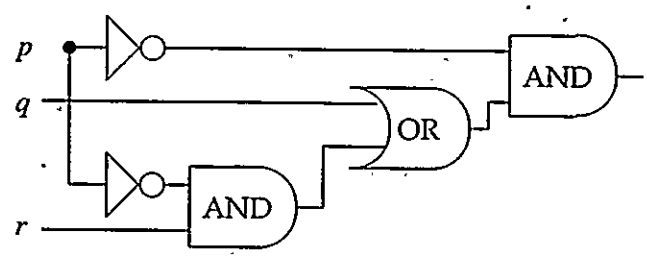
	$u$	$v$	$w$	$x$
$u$	1	0	0	1
$v$	0	1	0	1
$w$	0	1	0	1
$x$	0	1	0	0

**Question 5** (a) [3 marks] Calculate the number  $\frac{8!}{5!}$ .

- (b) [3 marks] Calculate the number  $C(7, 3)$ .
- (c) [5 marks] How many rearrangements are there for the letters of the word REGREET?

SECTION B Each question carries 15 marks. You may attempt all questions. Except for the award of a bare pass, only marks for the best THREE questions will be counted.

Question 6 (a) [5 marks] Write out the boolean formula for the logic circuit

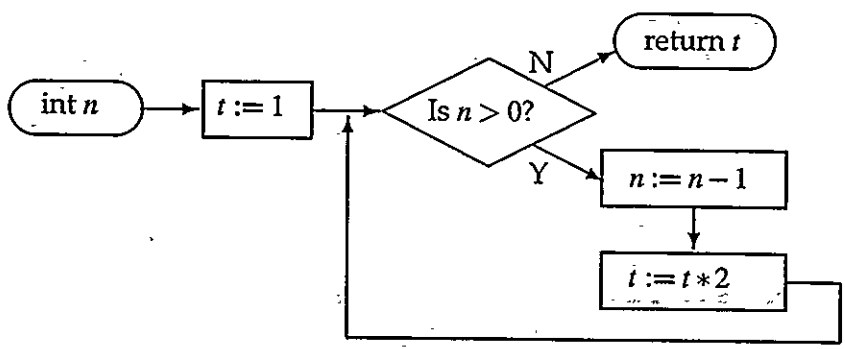


- (b) [6 marks] Write out the truth table for the boolean formula you have found in (a).
- (c) [4 marks] Express the boolean formula in (a) as a disjunction of one or more minterms.

Question 7 (a) [5 marks] Draw an algorithm for calculating the function  $x(x+4)$ .

- (b) [10 marks] Walk through the following algorithm
  - (i) when  $n = 5$ , and
  - (ii) when  $n = -2$

If an integer  $n$  is input, what number will the algorithm return?



Question 8 (a) [4 marks] Describe how one can tell from the lookup table for a function from a finite set  $X$  to a finite set  $Y$  whether it is (i) onto and (ii) one-to-one.

(b) [11 marks] Let  $X$  be the set  $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9\}$  and let  $f$  and  $g$  be functions from  $X$  to  $X$  with the following lookup tables:

$f$ :	$X$	$X$
	1	3
	2	5
	3	1
	4	2
	5	7
	6	6
	7	9
	8	4
	9	8

$g$ :	$X$	$X$
	1	2
	2	2
	3	4
	4	2
	5	8
	6	8
	7	6
	8	3
	9	3

- (i) Write out the lookup table for  $g \circ f$ .
- (ii) One of the functions  $f$  and  $g$  has an inverse from  $X$  to  $X$ . Which one is it? Write out a lookup table for this inverse.
- (iii) Let  $R$  be the relation

$$aRb \Leftrightarrow g(a) = g(b).$$

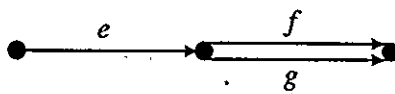
This relation  $R$  is an equivalence relation on the set  $X$ ; write down its equivalence classes.

Question 9 (a) [5 marks] A coin is tossed four times. The coin is biased and the probability of heads is  $1/4$ . Calculate the probabilities of each of the following events:

- (i) The outcome is HTTH (i.e. heads then tails then tails then heads).
- (ii) There is at least one T.

Question 9 continues on next page

(b) [10 marks] We are given the following communication network



A message will get through this network as long as  $e$  doesn't fail and at least one of  $f$  and  $g$  doesn't fail. We write  $A_e, A_f, A_g$  for the events that edge  $e$  fails, that  $f$  fails and that  $g$  fails. The probabilities of  $A_e, A_f$  and  $A_g$  are respectively 0.1, 0.2 and 0.3, and these three events are independent.

(i) Suppose we call a row of the following table *good* if it allows a message to get through the communication network. Which are the good rows?

	$A_e$	$A_f$	$A_g$	probability
1.	T	T	T	
2.	T	T	F	
3.	T	F	T	
4.	T	F	F	
5.	F	T	T	
6.	F	T	F	
7.	F	F	T	
8.	F	F	F	

(ii) Fill in the probabilities in this table ONLY for the good rows.

(iii) What is the probability that a message will get through the network?

Question 10 (a) [2 marks] Explain what is meant by saying that a list of edges is a *cut* for a network.

(b) [2 marks] If  $f$  is a flow in a network, and  $C$  is a cut for the network, state what information can be obtained about the value of  $f$  from the value of  $C$ .

(c) [5 marks] Which of the following lists of edges are CUTS for the network below? For each that is a cut, what is its value?

(i)  $ab, ae, cd, ed$       (ii)  $ab, eb, dt$ .

(d) [6 marks] Find a maximum flow in the network below. Give the value of the flow, and explain how you know that it is maximal.

