

**NANYANG TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY**  
**SEMESTER 1 EXAMINATION 2018-2019**  
**MH1812 - DISCRETE MATHEMATICS**

December 2018

TIME ALLOWED: 2 HOURS

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INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

1. This examination paper contains **SEVEN (7)** questions and comprises **FOUR (4)** printed pages.
2. Answer **ALL** questions. The marks for each question are indicated at the end of each question.
3. Answer each question beginning on a **FRESH** page of the answer book.
4. This **IS NOT** an **OPEN BOOK** exam.
5. Candidates may use calculators. However, they should write down systematically the steps in the workings.

**QUESTION 1.**

- (a) Prove that  $\neg p \rightarrow \neg q$  and its inverse are not logically equivalent. **(10 marks)**

**Solution:** Truth values differ when  $p$  is false and  $q$  is true.

An alternative solution is to use the truth table.  $\square$

- (b) Prove that  $(q \wedge (p \rightarrow \neg q)) \rightarrow \neg p$  is a tautology using propositional equivalence and the laws of logic. **(10 marks)**

**Solution:**  $(q \wedge (p \rightarrow \neg q)) \rightarrow \neg p \equiv (q \wedge (\neg p \vee \neg q)) \rightarrow \neg p \equiv ((q \wedge \neg p) \vee (q \wedge \neg q)) \rightarrow \neg p \equiv (q \wedge \neg p) \rightarrow \neg p \equiv \neg(q \wedge \neg p) \vee \neg p \equiv (\neg q \vee p) \vee \neg p \equiv \neg q \vee (p \vee \neg p)$ , which is always true.  $\square$

**QUESTION 2.**

Prove that  $\sum_{j=n}^{2n-1} (2j+1) = 3n^2$  for all positive integers  $n$ . **(12 marks)**

**Solution:** The basis step holds since  $\sum_{j=1}^1 (2j+1) = 3 = 3 \cdot 1^2$ . Now assume that  $\sum_{j=k}^{2k-1} (2j+1) = 3k^2$ . It follows that  $\sum_{j=k+1}^{2(k+1)-1} (2j+1) = \sum_{j=k}^{2k-1} (2j+1) - (2k+1) + (4k+1) + (4k+3) = 3k^2 + 6k + 3 = 3(k+1)^2$ .  $\square$

**QUESTION 3.**

Find the solution to the recurrence relation  $a_n = a_{n-1} + 2n + 1$  with  $a_0 = 2$ . **(10 marks)**

**Solution:**  $a_n = a_{n-1} + 2n + 1 = a_{n-2} + 2((n-1) + n) + 2 = a_{n-3} + 2((n-2) + (n-1) + n) + 3 = a_{n-n} + 2(1 + 2 + \dots + (n-1) + n) + n = 2 + n(n+1) + n = n^2 + 2n + 2$ .  $\square$

## QUESTION 4.

- (a)  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k$  are positive integers such that  $\sum_{i=1}^k x_i = n$ , for some positive integers  $k, n$  and  $n \geq k$ . How many distinct tuples of  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k)$  are there? **(6 marks)**

**Solution:** Assume there are  $n$  '1's, and we are to place  $k-1$  separators to split the  $n$  '1's into  $k$  blocks, with the number of '1's in each block corresponding to  $x_i$ . Hence  $k-1$  separators to be placed in  $n-1$  possible positions,  $\binom{n-1}{k-1}$ .  
□

- (b) How many distinct tuples of  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k)$  are there for the above question if  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k$  are non-negative integers, rather than positive integers? **(4 marks)**

**Solution:** This corresponds to the above question with  $x'_i = x_i + 1$  (so  $x'_i$  are positive numbers) and  $n' = n + k$ , hence  $\binom{n+k-1}{k-1}$ . □

- (c) How many bit strings contain exactly 5 '0's and 9 '1's if every '0' must be immediately followed by a '1'? **(4 marks)**

**Solution:** This is an instance of the question above. The 5 '0's must be followed by '1's, hence there are 5 '01's, and extra 4 '1's ( $n = 4$ ), which are to be inserted into  $5 + 1$  places ( $k = 6$ ).  $\binom{4+6-1}{6-1} = \binom{9}{5}$ . □

## QUESTION 5.

Prove by the method of membership table that

$$\overline{(A - B) \cup (B - A)} = (A \cap B) \cup (\overline{A} \cap \overline{B}).$$

**(14 marks)**

**Solution:**

$A$	$B$	$A - B$	$B - A$	$(A - B) \cup (B - A)$	$\overline{(A - B) \cup (B - A)}$	$(A \cap B)$	$\overline{A \cap B}$	$(A \cap B) \cup (\overline{A \cap B})$
0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1
0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1

It is easy to see the two columns for  $\overline{(A - B) \cup (B - A)}$  and  $(A \cap B) \cup (\overline{A \cap B})$  are identical.

□

**QUESTION 6.**

Let  $A = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9\}$  and define the relation  $R$  as follows:  $\forall x, y \in A, x R y$  iff  $3^x \equiv 3^y \pmod{5}$ .

- (a) Prove  $R$  is an equivalence relation. **(8 marks)**

**Solution:** Reflexive:  $\forall x \in A, 3^x - 3^x = 0 = 0 \times 5$ , i.e.,  $3^x \equiv 3^x \pmod{5}$ , hence  $x R x$ .  
 Symmetric:  $\forall x, y \in A$ , if  $(x, y) \in R$ , then  $3^x \equiv 3^y \pmod{5}$ ,  $3^y \equiv 3^x \pmod{5}$ , hence  $y R x$ .  
 Transitive:  $\forall x, y, z \in A$ , if  $3^x \equiv 3^y \pmod{5}$  and  $3^y \equiv 3^z \pmod{5}$ , then  $3^x \equiv 3^z \pmod{5}$ , i.e.,  $x R z$ .  
 Hence, the relation is an equivalence relation.  $\square$

- (b) List all the equivalence classes and all the elements in each class. **(8 marks)**

**Solution:**

$$[1] = \{1, 5, 9\}$$

$$[2] = \{2, 6\}$$

$$[3] = \{3, 7\}$$

$$[0] = \{0, 4, 8\}$$

$\square$

**QUESTION 7.**

Define a function  $f : D \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  by  $f(x) = x^2 + 5$ , where  $D = \{-4, -3, -2, -1, 0\}$ .

- (a) Find the range of the function. **(8 marks)**

**Solution:**  $R = \{21, 14, 9, 6, 5\}$ .  $\square$

- (b) Find  $f^{-1}$ . **(6 marks)**

**Solution:**  $f^{-1}(x) = -\sqrt{x - 5}$ .  $\square$

**END OF PAPER**