



NUI MAYNOOTH

Ollscoil na hÉireann Má Nuad

**OLLSCOIL NA hÉIREANN MÁ NUAD**

**THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND MAYNOOTH**

**AUTUMN 2014 EXAMINATION**

**CS424**

**Programming Language Design & Language  
Semantics**

Dr. D. Charles, Dr. A. Winstanley, Prof. B. Pearlmutter

Time allowed: 2 hours

Answer **four** questions

**All questions** carry equal marks

**1** (Scheme) [25 marks]

Define a function `add-numbers` which takes an s-expression and returns the sum of all the numbers contained therein. E.g.,

```
(add-numbers 17)           => 17
(add-numbers '(a (1 (2) 3) 4)) => 10
(add-numbers '(the quick fox)) => 0
```

Note: the Scheme predicate `"number?"` can be used to test if a given value is a number.

**2** (Haskell) [25 marks]

Define a function

```
sort :: (a -> a -> Bool) -> [a] -> [a]
```

which sorts a list according to the given predicate.

**3** (Prolog) [25 marks]

Define a predicate `sibling/3` which takes a list of parent-child pairs and two names and is true if the two are siblings. E.g.,

```
sibling([[fred,sam],[fred,sue]], sam, sue)
```

would be true, while

```
sibling([[fred,sam],[fred,sue]], sam, fred)
```

would be false.

**4** (Lambda Calculus) [25 marks]

Give a valid untyped lambda calculus expression which cannot be given a type in the simply typed lambda calculus, and explain why this is the case.

**5** (Scheme/Haskell)

[25 marks]

Consider the following Scheme function definition

```
(define foo
  (lambda (f xs ys)
    (if (null? xs)
        xs
        (cons (f (car xs))
                (foo f ys (cdr xs))))))
```

- (a) Describe what foo does, and give some examples.
- (b) Translate foo into Haskell, and give a type declaration for foo.