

IMPERIAL COLLEGE LONDON

DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING  
EXAMINATIONS 2006

Corrected Copy

**DISCRETE MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTATIONAL COMPLEXITY**

Monday, 22 May 2:00 pm

Time allowed: 3:00 hours

**There are FIVE questions on this paper.**

**Answer Question One (29%), Question TWO (29%) and TWO other questions.**

**Any special instructions for invigilators and information for candidates are on page 1.**

Examiners responsible      First Marker(s) :      G.A. Constantinides  
Second Marker(s) :      T.J.W. Clarke

## NOTATION

The following notation is used throughout this paper:

$\mathbb{R}$ : The set of real numbers.

$\mathbb{Z}$ : The set of integers.

$\mathbb{C}$ : The set of complex numbers.

$\mathbb{N}$ : The set of natural numbers.

# The Questions

## 1. [Compulsory]

- a) Give an example of a countable infinite set. [ 2 ]
- b) i) Draw the digraph of the relation  $R$  on the set  $\{a, b, c\}$ , where  $xRy$  iff  $x$  immediately precedes  $y$  in the alphabet.  
ii) State whether this  $R$  is symmetric, transitive, and/or reflexive.  
iii) List the elements of  $R^*$  for this  $R$ . [ 10 ]
- c) Consider the function  $f : \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  given by  $f(x) = |x|$ .  
i) Is this function injective? Justify your answer.  
ii) Is this function surjective? Justify your answer. [ 5 ]
- d) Let  $p$  be the proposition 'I am in an exam', and let  $q$  be the proposition 'I am not allowed to talk'. Consider the proposition  $q \rightarrow p$ . Is it true now? Would it be true if you were revising in the 'silent section' of the library? Briefly justify your answers. [ 5 ]
- e) Express the proposition 'there is an EE3 student who finds this exam easy' in symbolic logic, given the following predicates.  $P(x)$  is the predicate ' $x$  is an EE3 student',  $Q(x)$  is the predicate ' $x$  finds this exam easy'. You should take the set of students studying Discrete Mathematics and Computational Complexity as the universe of discourse. [ 4 ]
- f) "This exam is either difficult or I didn't revise properly. But I'm sure I revised properly, so this exam must be difficult". What is the name given to the rule of inference being applied here? [ 3 ]
- g) If  $f(x)$  and  $g(x)$  are both  $O(x^2)$ , use the results from the lectures to provide a big-O expression for (i)  $f(x) + g(x)$  and (ii)  $f(x)g(x)$ . [ 4 ]
- h) Briefly define the term 'polynomial-time reduction'. [ 7 ]

## 2. [Compulsory]

Let  $D$  be the set of all decision problems, and  $A(d)$  be the set of all algorithms that solve a particular decision problem  $d \in D$ . Let  $T_d : A(d) \times \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a function where  $T_d(a, n)$  is the worst-case execution time (in seconds) of algorithm  $a$  operating on an instance of size  $n$ , for a particular machine.

- a) A divide-and-conquer recursive algorithm has run-time  $f(n)$ , when operating on an instance of size  $n$ , when  $n$  is multiple of an integer  $b > 1$ . For this algorithm,  $f(n) = af(n/b) + cn^d$ , where  $a \geq 1$ ,  $c > 0$  are real numbers and  $d \geq 0$  is an integer. Over what range of values for  $a$ ,  $b$ ,  $c$ , and  $d$  does this algorithm's run time fall into the following categories. Justify your answers in each case. *Hint: Consider  $d = 0$ ,  $d = 1$ ,  $d = 2$ , and  $d \geq 3$  separately.*
- i)  $O(n)$
  - ii)  $O(n^2)$
  - iii)  $O(2^n)$  [ 18 ]
- b) Briefly distinguish, in words, between the concepts of a polynomial-time algorithm, and a problem of polynomial complexity. [ 2 ]
- c) Use symbolic logic and big-O notation to express the predicate  $P(d)$ , meaning 'problem  $d$  is of polynomial complexity' in terms of  $A(d)$  and  $T_d(a, n)$ . [ 2 ]
- d) Hence express in logic that there are some decision problems unsolvable in polynomial time. Is this proposition true? Briefly justify your answer. [ 2 ]
- e) Write pseudo-code for a direct recursive implementations of the functions  $\text{func1}(x)$  and  $\text{func2}(x)$ , which return the values of  $f_1(x)$  and  $f_2(x)$ , respectively, defined by the following recurrence relations.
- i)
 
$$f_1(x) = f_1(x-1) + 2f_1(x-2) + 1, \text{ with } f_1(1) = 1. \quad (2.1)$$
  - ii)
 
$$f_2(x) = f_2(\lfloor x/3 \rfloor) + 2f_2(\lfloor x/4 \rfloor) + 1, \text{ with } f_2(1) = 1. \quad (2.2)$$
- [ 2 ]
- f) Contrast the asymptotic execution times of the two implementations you have written. *Hint: you may assume that the execution time of  $\text{func2}(x)$  is an increasing function of its argument  $x$ .* [ 10 ]
- g) Consider the problems  $d_i \in D$  with parameter  $(x, k)$ , to determine whether  $f_i(x) > k$  for (2.1)-(2.2). State whether each decision problem is of polynomial computational complexity, justifying your answers. [ 4 ]

3. This question relates to a function  $f : A \rightarrow B$ , where  $A$  and  $B$  are finite sets.
- a) Let  $R$  denote the range of the function. What relationship exists between  $R$  and  $B$ ? In the case where  $f$  is a surjection, what more can be deduced about this relationship? [ 2 ]
  - b) Prove that the cardinality of the range of  $f$  is at most the cardinality of its domain. *Hint:* you may assume the pigeonhole principle without proof. [ 10 ]
  - c) Given that  $f$  is a surjection, and that  $A$  and  $B$  are finite sets, what can be deduced about the cardinalities of  $A$  and  $B$ ? Prove this result. [ 3 ]
  - d) Prove that  $f$  has an inverse iff it is a bijection. [ 15 ]

4. a) Let  $P$  be the proposition  $p \wedge (q \vee r) \vee \neg(p \vee (q \vee r))$ . Replacing all occurrences of  $(q \vee r)$  by  $(q \wedge r)$  gives the proposition  $P^* = p \wedge (q \wedge r) \vee \neg(p \vee (q \wedge r))$ .

Determine whether each of the following compound propositions is a tautology, and provide a suitable proof of your answer in each case.

- i)  $q \wedge r \rightarrow q \vee r$ .
- ii)  $P \rightarrow P^*$ .
- iii)  $P^* \rightarrow P$ .

[ 14 ]

- b) You ask two lecturers, G and T, for help, but they try to confuse you. G says 'If T is telling the truth, then so am I'. T says 'at least one of us is lying'. Let  $p$  be the proposition 'G is telling the truth'. Let  $q$  be the proposition 'T is telling the truth'.

- i) Express G's statement using appropriate logical connectives.
- ii) Express T's statement using appropriate logical connectives.
- iii) By considering possibilities consistent with the truth values of  $p$  and  $q$ , and the statements made by G and T, deduce who, if anyone, is a liar. Fully explain your answer.

[ 16 ]

5. a) Define what is meant by the statements  $f(x)$  is  $O(g(x))$ ,  $f(x)$  is  $\Omega(g(x))$ , and  $f(x)$  is  $\Theta(g(x))$ , using appropriate symbolic logic. [ 3 ]
- b) Prove that  $f(x) = a_n x^n + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \dots + a_0$  is  $\Theta(x^n)$  when  $a_i \geq 0$  for  $0 \leq i < n$  and  $a_n > 0$ . [ 9 ]
- c) Derive the number of each of the following type of operation performed by a call to the procedure `proc1(n)` of Figure 5.1, in terms of  $n$ :
- i) assignments (including for-loop initialization and incrementation assignments),
  - ii) multiplication,
  - iii) incrementation,
  - iv) comparison.
- [ 9 ]
- d) Given that the above operation types are responsible for the run-time of this code, and that each such operation takes  $\Theta(1)$  time, derive a big-Theta expression of the form  $\Theta(n^k)$  for the execution time of `proc1`. Hence derive a suitable big-O expression for the execution time of `proc2`, expressing your answer in terms of  $c$ , an integer constant. [ 9 ]

```

proc1(n)
{
    for i = 1 to n {
        t = 2*i
        for j = 1 to t
            a[i][j] = a[i][j]*2;
        }
    }

proc2(n)
{
    for i = 1 to c
        proc2( floor(n/2) )
    proc1(n)
}

```

Figure 5.1 Two procedures



1. a)  $\mathbb{Z}$



(ii) Not symmetric  
Not transitive  
Not reflexive

(iii)  $(a, b)$   $(b, c)$   $(a, c)$

c) (i)  $f(x) = f(y)$   
 $|x| = |y|$

Consider  $x = 1, y = -1$   
Then  $|x| = |y|$  but  $x \neq y$ , so not injective.

(iii) Let  $y = f(x)$

(ii) There is no complex # with a negative magnitude  $\Rightarrow$  not surjective.

d) True now :  $p \rightarrow q$   
False then :  $p \rightarrow q$

TRUE	$\rightarrow$	TRUE	$\therefore$ TRUE
TRUE	$\rightarrow$	FALSE	$\therefore$ FALSE
<del>FALSE</del>	$\rightarrow$	<del>TRUE</del>	

$$e) \exists x (P(x) \wedge Q(x))$$

f) The disjunctive syllogism

g) (i)  $f(x) + g(x)$  is  $\cancel{O(\max(|f(x)|, |g(x)|))} \quad O(\max(x^2, x^2)) = O(x^2)$

(ii)  $f(x)g(x) \sim o(x^4)$

h) A polynomial time algorithm that transforms one given instance of one decision problem into an instance of another, such that the answer to the 1<sup>st</sup> problem is "YES" iff the answer to the 2<sup>nd</sup> problem is also "YES".



(Q2 FOR CEECS ONLY)  
— HARDER —

2. a)  $f(n) = \sim f(n/b) + cn^d$   $a > 1, b > 1, c > 0, d > 0$

This is covered by the Master Theorem:

$$\begin{aligned} a < b^d &\Rightarrow O(n^d) \\ a = b^d &\Rightarrow O(n^d \log n) \\ a > b^d &\Rightarrow \cancel{O(n^d)} O(n \log^a n) \end{aligned}$$

(i) For  $O(n)$

$$d=0: \quad a=1 \Rightarrow O(n^0 \log n) \\ \text{or } a > 1 \text{ with } \log_b a \leq 1, \text{ i.e. } a \leq b$$

So  $a \leq b$  is sufficient.

$$d=1: \quad \begin{aligned} a < b &\Rightarrow O(n) \\ a = b &\Rightarrow O(n \log n) \\ a > b &\text{ with } \log_b a \leq 1 - \text{Not possible} \end{aligned}$$

So  $a \leq b$

$$d=2: \quad a > b^2, \quad a \leq b - \text{Not possible} \\ (\& d \geq 3 \text{ similar})$$

So we require  $d \leq 1$  with  $a \leq b$

$$(ii) \quad d=0: \quad \begin{aligned} a=1 &\Rightarrow O(n^0 \log n) \\ \text{or } a > 1 &\text{ with } a \leq b^2 \end{aligned}$$

So  $a \leq b^2$  is sufficient

$$d=1: \quad \begin{aligned} a < b &\Rightarrow O(n) \\ \text{or } a = b &\Rightarrow O(n \log n) \\ \text{or } a > b &\text{ with } a \leq b^2 - \text{Not possible} \end{aligned}$$

So  $a \leq b$

$$d=2: \quad \begin{aligned} a < b^2 &\Rightarrow O(n^2) \\ a > b^2 &\text{ with } a \leq b^2 - \text{Not possible} \end{aligned}$$

So  $a \leq b^2$

$d \geq 3$  Not possible.

So we require  $d=0, a \leq b^2$   
or  $d=1, a \leq b$   
or  $d=2, a \leq b^2$

(iii)  $f(n)$  is  $O(n)$  in all cases.

2. b) A problem is of polynomial complexity if there exists an algorithm capable of solving the problem in polynomial time.

c)  $\exists a \in A(d) \exists c \in \mathbb{Z}^+ T_d(a, n) \text{ is } O(n^c)$

d)  $\exists d \neg P(d)$ .

This is known to be true for some special problems, e.g. Turing machine halting. So the overall proposition is TRUE.

e) ~~rec~~ func1(x)

if  $x = 1$  then  
return 1

else  
return func1(x-1) + 2 \* func1(x-2) + 1

end

func2(x)

if  $x = 1$  then  
return 1

else  
return func2( $\lfloor x/3 \rfloor$ ) + 2 \* func2( $\lfloor x/4 \rfloor$ ) + 1

end

f) let us first consider the run time of func1  
- we can count multiplications, although any other appropriate operation(s) are OK. We will call the number of mults  $g_1(n)$ .

We have  $g_1(1) = 0$

$$g_1(n) = g_1(n-1) + g_1(n-2) + 1, n > 1$$

This is a linear, non-homogeneous recurrence of degree 2. c.f.

$$a_n = C_1 a_{n-1} + C_2 a_{n-2} + K$$

We have  $C_1 = 1, C_2 = 1, C_1 + C_2 \neq 1$ .

$r^2 - r - 1 = 0$  has ~~not~~ distinct roots

$$r = \frac{1 \pm \sqrt{5}}{2}$$

So recurrence has soln.  $a_n = \alpha_1 r_1^n + \alpha_2 r_2^n$   
 $\Rightarrow$  EXPONENTIAL TIME.

2f) [contd]

Now consider the number of multipliers in  $\text{func2}(\hat{x})$ , which we still denote  $g_2(n)$ .

$$g_2(1) = 0$$

$$g_2(n) = g_2(n/3) + g_2(n/4) + 1$$

when  $n$  is a multiple of 12.

$g_2(n)$  is increasing, so  $g_2(n) \leq 2g_2(n/3) + 1$

Using the Master Theorem,  $g_2(n)$  is  $O(n^{\log_3 2})$

$\Rightarrow$  SUBLINEAR TIME

- g)  $d_1$  is of poly complexity, despite the exp nature of  $\text{func1}$  as you could compute  $f1$  in a more efficient way.
- $d_2$  is of poly complexity - just use  $\text{func2}$ .



3. a)  $R \subseteq B$ .

when  $f$  is a surjection,  $R = B$ .

b)  ~~$|A| \leq |B|$~~   
 ~~$|A| \geq |B|$~~

b) We want to prove that  $|f(A)| = |R| \leq |A|$ .

Assume  $|f(A)| > |A|$

let us define a function  $g: f(A) \rightarrow A$  by  
 $g(b) = a$  for some  $a \in A$  such that  $f(a) = b$ ,  
 so  $f(g(b)) = b$ .

$g$  is an injection since  $g(b) = g(c) \Rightarrow f(g(b)) = f(g(c)) \Rightarrow b = c$ .

But by the pigeonhole principle on  $g$ , it cannot be an injection.

c)  $|A| \geq |B|$

Since  $f$  is surjective  $f(A) = B$  so  $|f(A)| = |B|$ .  
 However  $|f(A)| \leq |A|$  for part (b).

$$|B| = |f(A)| \leq |A|.$$

d)

First, prove that if  $f: A \rightarrow B$  is a bijection, then it has an inverse  $f^{-1}$ .

$$\text{Construct } f^{-1} = \bigcup_{(a,b) \in f} \{(a,b)\} \subseteq B \times A$$

here  $f^{-1}$  is a relation from  $B$  to  $A$ .

As  $f$  is an injection, no more than one element of  $A$  for each element of  $B$ .

As  $f$  is a surjection, no less than one element of  $A$  for each element of  $B$ .

So  $f^{-1}$  is a function.

Next, prove that if  $f: A \rightarrow B$  has inverse  $f^{-1}: B \rightarrow A$ , then  $f$  is a bijection.

If  $f(a) = f(b)$  then  $f^{-1}(f(a)) = f^{-1}(f(b)) \Rightarrow a = b$ , so  $f$  is an injection.

Since for any  $b \in B$   $a = f^{-1}(b) \in A$ , we have  $f(a) = f(f^{-1}(b)) = b$ .  $f$  is a surjection.

4. a) (i)  $q \wedge r \rightarrow q \vee r$

$q$	$r$	$q \wedge r$	$q \vee r$	$q \wedge r \rightarrow q \vee r$
F	F	F	F	T
F	T	F	T	T
T	F	F	T	T
T	T	T	T	T

✓ TAUTOLOGY

(ii)  $p \rightarrow p^*$ ,  $p^* \rightarrow p$  — Neither are tautologies  
& (iii)

$p$	$q$	$r$	$p$	$p^*$	$p \rightarrow p^*$	$p^* \rightarrow p$
F	F	F	F	T	T	F
F	F	T	T	T	T	T
F	T	F	T	T	T	T
F	T	T	T	F	F	T
T	F	F	F	F	T	T
T	F	T	T	F	F	T
T	T	F	T	F	F	T
T	T	T	T	T	T	T

As a counter example, consider for  $p^* \rightarrow p$  and  $p$  false,  $q$  &  $r$  false,  $q$  &  $r$  true for  $p \rightarrow p^*$ .

b) (i)  $q \rightarrow p$

(ii)  $\neg p \vee \neg q$

(iii) Consider the case that  $q$  &  $\neg q$  are both false.

	$p$	$q$	$q \rightarrow p$	$\neg p \vee \neg q$
(1) $\rightarrow$	F	F	T	T
(2) $\rightarrow$	F	T	F	T
(3) $\rightarrow$	T	F	T	T
(4) $\rightarrow$	T	T	T	F

(\*)

4. b) (iii) [contd]

Consider each possibility in the truth table.

- (1) Contradiction: G & T both lying but what they say is true.
- (2) No contradiction
- (3) Contradiction: T is lying but what he says is true.
- (4) Contradiction: T is telling the truth but what he says is false.

Only one possibility is consistent: G is a liar, while T tells the truth.



~~4.15~~ a)  $f(x)$  is  $O(g(x)) \equiv \exists c \in \mathbb{R}^+ \exists \kappa \in \mathbb{R}^+ \forall x (x > \kappa \rightarrow (|f(x)| \leq c|g(x)|))$   
 $f(x)$  is  $\Omega(g(x)) \equiv \exists c \in \mathbb{R}^+ \exists \kappa \in \mathbb{R}^+ \forall x (x > \kappa \rightarrow (|f(x)| \geq c|g(x)|))$   
 $f(x)$  is  $\Theta(g(x)) \equiv \exists c_1 \in \mathbb{R}^+ \exists c_2 \in \mathbb{R}^+ \exists \kappa \in \mathbb{R}^+ \forall x (x > \kappa \rightarrow (c_1|g(x)| \leq |f(x)| \leq c_2|g(x)|))$

b) Need to prove

(i)  $f(x)$  is  $O(x^n)$   
(ii)  $f(x)$  is  $\Omega(x^n)$

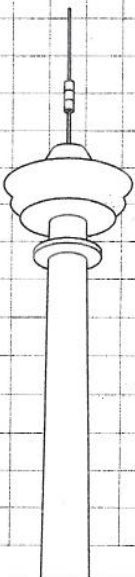
(i)  $|f(x)| \leq |a_n x^n| + |a_{n-1} x^{n-1}| + \dots + |a_1 x| + |a_0|$   
 $= |x^n| (|a_n| + |a_{n-1}|/|x| + \dots + |a_0|/|x^n|)$   
 $\leq |x^n| (|a_n| + |a_{n-1}| + \dots + |a_0|)$  for  $x > 1$

So with  $c = |a_n| + \dots + |a_0| (> 0)$  and  $\kappa = 1$   
 $f(x)$  is  $O(x^n)$

(ii)  $|f(x)| = |a_n x^n + \dots + a_0|$   
 $> |a_n x^n|$  for  $x > 0$   
 $= |x^n| a_n$  since  $a_n > 0$

So with  $c = a_n$  and  $\kappa = 1$  (say)  
 $f(x)$  is  $\Omega(x^n)$

Thus  $f(x)$  is  $\Theta(x^n)$





4. c) We can derive a  $\Theta(\cdot)$  expression for all the operations - first count # ops

There are  $n$  iterations of the outer loop &  
 $\sum_{i=1}^n 2i = 2 \sum_{i=1}^n i = n(n+1)$  iterations of the inner loop.

(i) assignments of  $a[i][j]$  :  $n(n+1)$   
 assignments due to init of  $i$  : 1  
 assignments due to increment of  $i$  :  $n$   
 assignments due to init of  $j$  :  $n$   
 assignments due to increment of  $j$  :  $n(n+1)$   
 TOTAL =  $2n(n+1) + 3n + 1$   
 $= \underline{2n(n+2) + 1} = n(2n+5) + 1$

(ii) mult of  $i$  :  $n$   
 mult of  $a$  :  $n(n+1)$   
 TOTAL =  $\underline{n(n+2)}$

(iii) increment of  $i$  :  $n$   
 increment of  $j$  :  $n(n+1)$   
 TOTAL =  $\underline{2n(n+2)}$

(iv) comparison of  $i$  :  $n+1$   
 comparison of  $j$  :  $n(n+1) + n = n(n+2)$   
 TOTAL =  $n(n+2) + n + 1$   
 $= \underline{n(n+3) + 1}$

d) Total run time is  $\Theta(n(2n+5))$

$$\begin{aligned} & \Theta(1)[n(2n+5) + 1] + \Theta(1)[n(n+2)] \\ & + \Theta(1)[n(n+2)] + \Theta(1)[n(n+3) + 1] \\ & = \underline{\Theta(n^2)} \end{aligned}$$

9/10



~~4.5d)~~ contd)

5 Denote the exec-time of  $\text{proc}(n)$  by  $g(n)$ . Then

$$g(n) \leq c g(n/2) + d n^2$$

This is a D&C recurrence.

If  $c < 2^2 = 4$  run time is  $O(n^2)$

If  $c = 2^2 = 4$  run time is  $O(n^2 \log n)$

If  $c > 2^2 = 4$  run time is  ~~$O(n^2 \log n)$~~   $O(n^{\log_2 c})$