



**Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology**  
**Semester 2 Examinations 2016/2017**

**MODULE:** COMP08015 – Theory of Algorithms

**PROGRAMME(S):**

GA\_KSOFG\_H08      B.Sc. (Honours) Software Development

**YEAR(S) OF STUDY:** 4

**EXAMINERS:**

Dr. Ian McLoughlin      (Internal)  
Dr. Des Chambers      (External)  
Mr. Tom Davis      (External)

**TIME ALLOWED:** 2 hours

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Answer 3 questions. All questions carry equal marks.

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**Please do not turn this page until you are instructed to do so.**

The use of programmable or text storing calculators is expressly forbidden. Please note that where a candidate answers more than the required number of questions, the examiner will mark all questions attempted and then select the highest scoring ones.

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There are no additional requirements for this paper.

## Question 1

Consider the following Racket code and answer the questions below.

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```
1  (define (twoper x)
2    (if (= 0 x)
3        1
4        (* 2 (twoper (- x 1)))))  
5
6  (twoper 8)
7  (map twoper (range 8))
8  (foldl + 0 (map twoper (range 8))))
```

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- (a) Determine the output on line 6, and explain how the value is calculated. (40 marks)
- (b) Explain what the `map` and `foldl` functions in Racket do with reference to lines 7 and 8 of the code above. (40 marks)
- (c) Explain why the well-known programming concept of MapReduce is well-suited parallel programming environments. (20 marks)

## Question 2

Consider the language  $L = \{a^i b^i c^i \mid i \in \mathbb{N}, i > 0\}$  over the alphabet  $A = \{a, b, c\}$ .

- (a) Give five examples of strings in  $L$ , each of different length, and give a general formula for the length of all strings in  $L$  in terms of  $i$ . (40 marks)
- (b) Give the definition of the set  $A^*$ , where  $*$  is the Kleene star, and determine and explain clearly the set of strings that are in  $A^*$  but not in  $L$ . (40 marks)
- (c) State whether the empty string is in the intersection of  $L$  and  $A^*$ , and explain your reasoning. (20 marks)

### Question 3

Consider the following state table for a Turing machine, where  $\square$  is the blank symbol and the usual conventions apply.

State	Input	Write	Move	Next
$q_0$	$\square$	1	R	$q_a$
$q_0$	0	0	R	$q_1$
$q_0$	1	1	R	$q_0$
$q_1$	$\square$	0	R	$q_f$
$q_1$	0	0	R	$q_0$
$q_1$	1	1	R	$q_1$

- (a) Determine the final state and the output on the tape, where the initial input on the tape is 0010010010. Remember to clearly show your workings. (40 marks)
- (b) Give the state table for a Turing machine that accepts inputs over the alphabet  $\{0, 1\}$  and ends in the accept state if and only if the number of 1's in the input is a multiple of 4. You may assume 0 is a multiple of 4. (40 marks)
- (c) Explain the difference between deterministic and non-deterministic Turing machines, with regard to state tables. (20 marks)

### Question 4

Consider the well-known subset sum (SUBSETSUM) and Boolean satisfiability problems (SAT).

- (a) Explain what a decision problem is, giving examples of both the decision and non-decision forms of the subset sum problem. (40 marks)
- (b) Explain what it means for the subset sum problem to be NP-complete. (40 marks)
- (c) Explain why a polynomial-time solution to SUBSETSUM would immediately lead to a polynomial-time solution of SAT. (20 marks)