

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

StudentNo: \_\_\_\_\_

**The University of Newcastle**  
**School of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science**

**COMP3260/COMP6360 Data Security**  
**Supplementary Midterm Test 1**

26 March 2021

Test duration: 55 min

100 marks

In order to score marks, you must show all the workings!

STUDENT NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

STUDENT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PROGRAM ENROLLED: \_\_\_\_\_

<i>Question 1</i>	<i>Question 2</i>	<i>Question 3</i>	<i>Question 4</i>	<i>TOTAL</i>

$$\lg 3 \approx 1.58$$

$$\lg 5 \approx 2.32$$

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1. **(20 marks)** Let  $X$  be a secret message revealing the recipient of a scholarship. Suppose there were one female applicant, Anne, one non-binary applicant, Robin, and three male applicants, Bob, Doug and John. All applicants have the same chance of receiving scholarship; thus  $p(\text{Anne}) = p(\text{Robin}) = p(\text{Bob}) = p(\text{Doug}) = p(\text{John}) = \frac{1}{5}$ . Let  $Y$  denote the message revealing the gender of the recipient.
- (7 marks)** What is the entropy  $H(X)$  of the original messages?
  - (10 marks)** What is the equivocation  $H_Y(X)$  of scholarship recipient given the gender of the recipient?
  - (3 marks)** By how many bits does knowing the gender reduce the uncertainty about the scholarship recipient?

Show all the workings.

### Solution

- (a) We use the first letter of each person's name (to make the equations smaller). The entropy of the original message is:

$$\begin{aligned} H(X) &= p(A) \lg\left(\frac{1}{p(A)}\right) + p(R) \lg\left(\frac{1}{p(R)}\right) + p(B) \lg\left(\frac{1}{p(B)}\right) + p(D) \lg\left(\frac{1}{p(D)}\right) + p(J) \lg\left(\frac{1}{p(J)}\right) \\ &= \frac{1}{5} \lg 5 + \frac{1}{5} \lg 5 + \frac{1}{5} \lg 5 + \frac{1}{5} \lg 5 + \frac{1}{5} \lg 5 \\ &= 5 \times \frac{1}{5} \lg 5 = \lg 5 \approx 2.32 \end{aligned}$$

- (b) There are three messages that  $Y$  could be: male ( $M$ ), nonbinary ( $N$ ), and female ( $F$ ). We know that:

$$p(F) = \frac{1}{5}, \quad p(N) = \frac{1}{5}, \quad \text{and} \quad p(M) = \frac{3}{5}$$

We also know that

$$p_F(\text{Anne}) = 1, p_N(\text{Robin}) = 1, p_M(\text{Bob}) = p_M(\text{Doug}) = p_M(\text{John}) = \frac{1}{3}$$

and all other conditional probabilities are 0.

We calculate:

$$\begin{aligned} H_Y(X) &= p(F) \sum_X p_F(X) \lg\left(\frac{1}{p_F(X)}\right) + p(N) \sum_X p_N(X) \lg\left(\frac{1}{p_N(X)}\right) + p(M) \sum_X p_M(X) \lg\left(\frac{1}{p_M(X)}\right) \\ &= p(F) p_F(A) \lg\left(\frac{1}{p_F(A)}\right) + p(N) p_N(R) \lg\left(\frac{1}{p_N(R)}\right) \\ &\quad + p(M) \left( p_M(B) \lg\left(\frac{1}{p_M(B)}\right) + p_M(D) \lg\left(\frac{1}{p_M(D)}\right) + p_M(J) \lg\left(\frac{1}{p_M(J)}\right) \right) \\ &= \left( \frac{1}{5} \times 1 \times \lg(1) \right) + \left( \frac{1}{5} \times 1 \times \lg(1) \right) + \frac{3}{5} \left( \frac{1}{3} \lg 3 + \frac{1}{3} \lg 3 + \frac{1}{3} \lg 3 \right) \\ &= 0 + 0 + \frac{3}{5} \lg 3 = \frac{3}{5} \lg 3 \approx 0.6 \times 1.58 = 0.948 \end{aligned}$$

- (c) Knowing the gender reduces the uncertainty by  $H(X) - H_Y(X) \approx 2.32 - 0.948 = 1.372$  bits.

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2. (28 marks) True or false? Justify your answer in a sentence or two.

- a. Every integer in the range  $[1, 26]$  has a multiplicative inverse modulo 27.
- b. Equation  $5x \bmod 15 = 1$  has more than one solution.
- c. Computing in  $GF(2^n)$  is more time efficient than computing in  $GF(p)$ , as subtraction and addition are both bitwise exclusive OR.
- d. There is no efficient algorithm for computing multiplicative inverses.
- e. 100 and 101 are multiplicative inverses in  $GF(2^3)$  with irreducible polynomial  $p(x) = x^3 + x + 1$ .
- f. If a language  $L$  has 30 letters in its alphabet, absolute rate of  $L$  is 4.9.
- g. In unconditionally secure ciphers, intercepting ciphertext does not reveal any information about the plaintext or the key

### Solution

- (a) **False.** Multiples of 3 do not have multiplicative inverses modulo 27.
- (b) **False.** There are no solutions to  $5x \bmod 15 = 1$ :  $\gcd(5, 15) = 5$  but that GCD does not divide 1.  
Alternatively, observe that the values of  $5x$  modulo 15 are 0, 5, and 10.
- (c) **True.** Adding and subtracting in  $GF(p)$  requires tracking carries and reduction mod  $p$ , which is not needed for the bitwise OR operation of  $GF(2^n)$ .
- (d) **False.** Euler's Theorem, the Chinese remainder Theorem, and the Euclidean Algorithm can all be used to find multiplicative inverses efficiently. (See question 3).
- (e) **False.**  $100 \times 101 = 10100$ , and after we divide by 1011 we get  $10100 - 10110 = 010$  which is not equal to 001.
- (f) **True.** The absolute rate of such a language is  $\lg 30 \approx 4.9$ .
- (g) **False.** It is perfectly secure ciphers that reveal no information about plaintext or key. Unconditionally secure ciphers provide insufficient information to uniquely determine the corresponding plaintext, but this is different to offering *no* information.

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3. (32 marks) Find a solution to the equation  $7x \bmod 24 = 1$  in the following three ways:

a) (11 marks) *Euler's Theorem* (by fast exponentiation):  $a^{\phi(n)} \bmod n = 1$ , where  $\gcd(a, n) = 1$

**Solution:**

$$7x \bmod 24 = 1$$

$$7^{\phi(24)} \bmod 24 = 1$$

$$7 \times 7^{\phi(24)-1} \bmod 24 = 1$$

$$x = 7^{\phi(24)-1} \bmod 24 = 1$$

$$24 = 2^3 \times 3$$

$$\phi(2^3 \times 3) = 2^{3-1} \times (2-1) \times 3^{1-1} \times (3-1) = 8$$

$$\begin{aligned} x &= 7^{\phi(24)-1} \bmod 24 \\ &= 7^7 \bmod 24 \\ &= 7 \times 7^6 \bmod 24 \\ &= 7 \times 49^3 \bmod 24 \\ &= 7 \times 1^3 \bmod 24 \\ &= 7 \bmod 24 \\ &= 7 \end{aligned}$$

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**b) (11 marks) Chinese Remainder Theorem:** Let  $d_1, \dots, d_t$  be pairwise relatively prime, and let  $n = d_1 \times \dots \times d_t$ . Then the system of equations  $x \bmod d_i = x_i$  ( $i = 1, \dots, t$ ) has a common solution  $x$  in the range  $[0, n-1]$ . The common solution is

$$x = \sum_{i=1}^t \frac{n}{d_i} y_i x_i \bmod n$$

where  $y_i$  is a solution of  $(n/d_i) y_i \bmod d_i = 1$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, t$ .

**Solution:**

$$24 = 2^3 \times 3 = 3 \times 8$$

$$7x_1 \bmod 3 = 1 \rightarrow x_1 \bmod 3 = 1 \rightarrow x_1 = 1$$

$$7x_2 \bmod 8 = 1 \rightarrow x_2 \bmod 8 = 7 \rightarrow x_2 = 7$$

$$d_1 = 3, \quad x_1 = 1$$

$$d_2 = 8, \quad x_2 = 7$$

$$\frac{3 \times 8}{3} y_1 \bmod 3 = 1$$

$$8 y_1 \bmod 3 = 1$$

$$(8 \bmod 3 \times y_1 \bmod 3) \bmod 3 = 1$$

$$2 \times y_1 \bmod 3 = 1$$

$$y_1 = 2$$

$$\frac{3 \times 8}{8} y_2 \bmod 8 = 1$$

$$3 y_2 \bmod 8 = 1$$

$$y_2 = 3$$

$$\begin{aligned} x &= \left( \frac{3 \times 8}{3} \times 2 \times 1 + \frac{3 \times 8}{8} \times 3 \times 7 \right) \bmod 24 \\ &= (16 + 63) \bmod 24 = (16 + 15) \bmod 24 = 31 \bmod 24 = 7 \end{aligned}$$

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**c) (10 marks) Extended Euclid's algorithm:**

Input: a, n

Output: None

```
inv(a,n) {  
    g[0] = n; g[1] = a  
    u[0] = 1; u[1] = 0  
    v[0] = 0; v[1] = 1  
    i = 1  
    while (g[i] ≠ 0) // "g[i] = u[i]n + v[i]a"  
    {  
        y = g[i-1] / g[i] //integer division  
        g[i+1] = g[i-1] - y × g[i]  
        u[i+1] = u[i-1] - y × u[i]  
        v[i+1] = v[i-1] - y × v[i]  
        i = i + 1  
    }  
    if v[i-1] ≥ 0 then return v[i-1] else return v[i-1] + n  
}
```

For this part, it is sufficient to fill in the table below tracing the algorithm and circle the solution:

i	y	g[i]	u[i]	v[i]
0		24	1	0
1		7	0	1
2	3	3	1	-3
3	2	1	-2	7
4	3	0	7	-24

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4. (20 marks) Let  $a=111$ . If  $GF(2^3)$  with irreducible polynomial  $p(x)=x^3+x^2+1$ , use Euler's theorem to find  $a^{-1}$  and then verify that  $a \times a^{-1} \bmod p(x)=1$ .

### Solution

We know that  $a^{\phi(p(x))} \bmod p(x) = 1$  which we can write as

$$a \times a^{\phi(p(x))-1} \bmod p(x) = 1$$

and so  $a^{\phi(p(x))-1}$  must be the inverse of  $a$ . We know<sup>†</sup> that  $\phi(p(x)) = 7$  and so the inverse must be  $a^6$ .

To calculate  $a^6$  with fast exponentiation we have

$$a^{-1} = a^6 \bmod p(x) = (a^2)^3 \bmod p(x) = a^2 \times (a^2)^2 \bmod p(x)$$

So we first calculate  $a^2$ , then from that calculate  $a^4$ , and from those we can calculate  $a^6$ .

$a^2$  :

$$\begin{array}{r} 111 \times \\ 111 \\ \hline 111 \\ 111 \\ 111 \\ \hline 10101 \end{array}$$

We must divide by  $p(x)$  and find the remainder

$$\begin{array}{r} 10101 - \\ 1101 \\ \hline 1111 - \\ 1101 \\ \hline 010 \end{array}$$

So  $a^2 = 010$ .

$a^4$  :

$$\begin{array}{r} 010 \times \\ 010 \\ \hline 000 \\ 010 \\ 000 \\ \hline 00100 \end{array}$$

We do not need to divide by  $p(x)$  in this case, because the product only has 3 significant bits

So  $a^4 = 100$

$a^6$  :

$$\begin{array}{r} 010 \times \\ 100 \\ \hline 000 \\ 000 \\ 010 \\ \hline 1000 \end{array}$$

We must divide by  $p(x)$  and find the remainder

$$\begin{array}{r} 1000 - \\ 1101 \\ \hline 101 \end{array}$$

So the inverse is 101.

We check that  $a \times a^{-1} \bmod p(x)$  is indeed equal to 1 like it should be.

$$\begin{array}{r} 111 \times \\ 101 \\ \hline 111 \\ 000 \\ 111 \\ \hline 11011 \end{array}$$

We must divide by  $p(x)$  and find the remainder

$$\begin{array}{r} 11011 - \\ 1101 \\ \hline 001 \end{array}$$

The multiplication results in 001 like it should, so we have confirmed that 101 is the inverse of 111 (in  $GF(2^3)$  with irreducible polynomial  $p(x) = x^3 + x^2 + 1$ ).

<sup>†</sup>Know because  $p(x) = x^3 + x^2 + 1$  is an irreducible polynomial, and so every non-zero polynomial with degree less than 3 is relatively prime to it. There are 7 polynomials.

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