

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

CO3311 ZB

BSc Examination

**COMPUTING AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS, CREATIVE COMPUTING and
COMBINED DEGREE SCHEME**

Neural Networks

Thursday 18 May 2017: 10.00 – 12.15

Duration: 2 hours 15 minutes

There are SIX questions on this paper. Candidates should answer **FOUR** questions. All questions carry equal marks and full marks can be obtained for complete answers to **FOUR** questions. The marks for each part of a question are indicated at the end of the part in [.] brackets.

Only your first **FOUR** answers, in the order that they appear in your answer book, will be marked.

There are 100 marks available on this paper.

A handheld calculator may be used when answering questions on this paper but it must not be pre-programmed or able to display graphics, text or algebraic equations. The make and type of machine must be stated clearly on the front cover of the answer book.

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Question 1

- a) Define the terms: **net**, **step unit**, **clamped**, **energy** and **bipolar activation** in the context of artificial neural networks.

[5]

- b) Explain how **perceptrons** can be used to implement simple logic circuits. Illustrate your answer by designing **AND**, **NAND**, **NOR** and **NOT** gates, giving explanations of how each of these work.

[4x4]

- c) What are the uses and the limitations of networks of **threshold units**?

[4]

Question 2

- a) The subject of neural networks is sometimes described as 'biologically inspired'. Compare and contrast how this might be applied in the case of **perceptrons** versus **Boltzman machines**.

[5]

- b) Compare and contrast the **Widrow-Hoff rule** for learning with **Hebb's rule**.

[5]

- c) State three motivations for studying AI and thus artificial neural networks (ANNs). Giving your reasons, which do you judge is the most important motivation?

[6]

- d) Describe the extent to which ANNs contribute to each of the motivations given in your answer to c) above.

[9]

Question 3

- a) Define the terms **overfitting** and **network paralysis**. [4]
- b) For each of these explain in detail the strategies that may be used to overcome the problem. [6]
- c) A number of practical problems, other than **overfitting** and **network paralysis**, occur in ANN applications. List **FIVE** of these, and for each give the strategies (if any) that may be used to overcome the issue. [15]

Question 4

- a) Explain the roles of the **Kohonen** and of the **Grossberg** layers in a typical **Kohonen-Grossberg** network. [4]
- b) With the aid of a suitable example, explain the purpose of **normalization** in the training of a **Kohonen-Grossberg** network. [5]
- c) Explain the process of training such a network. Include in your answer all formulae and an explanation of each term that they contain. [6]
- d) Explain why a unit or example with coordinates $(0, 0, 0)$ might give trouble for a typical **Kohonen-Grossberg** network and what might be done to remedy this problem. [2]
- e) A simple 3 unit network has units:
(-0.0690, -0.1534, 0.3261, 0.6516)
(0.1205, 0.8031, -0.0510, -0.6783)
(0.8061, 0.3883, 0.2969, -0.4431)

Work through the calculations for training the network with the example:

(-0.8823, -0.1008, 0.0972, 0.3544)

[8]

Question 5

- a) Describe the **architecture** of a typical **Hopfield** network.

[5]

- b) What is a 'stable state' in the context of **Hopfield** networks?

[2]

- c) Explain the term **energy** as it is used in **Hopfield** nets.

[2]

- d) The weight matrix of a **Hopfield** network is given in table Q5. Calculate the **state transition table** for this network.

| weights | bias | 1 | 2 | 3 |
|---------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| bias | 0.00 | 0.75 | 0.41 | -0.18 |
| 1 | 0.75 | 0.00 | -0.51 | -0.15 |
| 2 | 0.41 | -0.51 | 0.00 | 0.95 |
| 3 | -0.18 | -0.15 | 0.19 | 0.00 |

Table Q5

[12]

- e) Draw the **state transition diagram** for the table that you produced in part d) above.

[4]

Question 6

- a) Giving reasons, list **FIVE** features which are most essential in a tool for implementing artificial neural networks.

[10]

- b) For any **TWO** named tools of your choice, describe how each performs when the five features listed in a) above are evaluated.

[15]

END OF PAPER