

# GATE and GATE Type Question

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# 1 Cache Memory and Array Access

## Q1. 1D Array in Direct-Mapped Cache

A machine has a byte-addressable main memory of **64 KB** and uses a **direct-mapped cache** with **128 lines**, each of **16 bytes**. A one-dimensional array  $A[512]$  of bytes is stored in main memory starting from address  $0x0000$ . The cache is initially empty. The array is accessed sequentially **twice**. Assume that the cache contents **do not change** between the two accesses.

**Q1.1.** How many **data misses** will occur in total?

**Q1.2.** How many **cache lines** will be **replaced** during the second traversal of the array?

## Q2. 2D Array: Row-wise vs Column-wise Access

A byte-addressable system has a main memory of **1 MB**. The system uses a **direct-mapped cache** with **256 cache lines**, and a **block size** of **8 bytes**.

A 2D array  $A[64][8]$  of bytes is stored in **row-major** order starting at address  $0x1000$ . The cache is initially empty. All elements are accessed **exactly once** in two phases:

- First: **Row-wise access** (i.e.,  $A[0][0], A[0][1], \dots, A[1][0], \dots$ )
- Then: **Column-wise access** (i.e.,  $A[0][0], A[1][0], \dots, A[0][1], \dots$ )

**Q2.1.** How many **cache misses** occur in the **row-wise access**?

**Q2.2.** How many **cache misses** occur in the **column-wise access**?

## Q30 Conflict Misses in Direct-Mapped Cache

A system has:

- Byte-addressable memory of **256 KB**
- A **direct-mapped** cache with **64 lines**
- **Block size = 8 bytes**

A 2D byte array  $B[128][16]$  is stored starting from address  $0x0000$ . The array is accessed **row by row**, and each element is accessed exactly once.

**Q3.1.** How many **cache lines** will be used during this traversal?

**Q3.2.** How many **conflict misses** will occur due to cache line replacements?

## 2 Pipelining: GATE-style Numerical and Conceptual Questions

### Q1 [GATE 2021 Style]

Consider a pipelined processor with 5 stages: Instruction Fetch (IF), Instruction Decode (ID), Execute (EX), Memory Access (MEM), and Write Back (WB). Each stage takes 1 cycle, except for EX, which takes 1 cycle for ADD and 2 cycles for MUL. Assume that the EX stage performs register reads as well. The following sequence of 8 instructions is executed:

ADD, MUL, ADD, MUL, ADD, MUL, ADD, MUL

Each MUL depends on the preceding ADD, and each ADD (except the first) depends on the previous MUL.

Assuming in-order execution:

- Calculate the execution time with operand forwarding.
- Calculate the execution time without operand forwarding (stall cycles inserted).
- Compute the *speedup* as:

$$\text{Speedup} = \frac{\text{Time without forwarding}}{\text{Time with forwarding}}$$

Round to two decimal places.

## Q2 [GATE 2018 Style]

The instruction pipeline of a RISC processor has the following stages: Instruction Fetch (IF), Instruction Decode (ID), Operand Fetch (OF), Perform Operation (PO), and Writeback (WB). The IF, ID, OF, and WB stages take 1 cycle each. Consider a sequence of 100 instructions. In the PO stage:

- 40 instructions take 3 cycles,
- 35 instructions take 2 cycles,
- 25 instructions take 1 cycle.

Assume no hazards.

**Q:** What is the total number of cycles to complete all 100 instructions?

## Q3

In a non-interleaved 5-stage pipeline, each stage takes 1 cycle. There are 2 branches in the instruction sequence of 20 instructions. The branch penalty is 2 cycles (i.e., two flushes).

**Q:** How many cycles are needed to complete the program assuming ideal conditions otherwise?

## Q4

A 4-stage pipeline with stages: IF, ID, EX, WB, executes  $n$  instructions. The pipeline starts with empty registers. There are  $k$  RAW data hazards, each causing 1 stall.

**Q:** Give a formula to compute the total number of cycles to execute  $n$  instructions.

**Q5**

Assume a 5-stage pipelined processor with full forwarding and hazard detection. An instruction requires a stall if its source operand is produced by a load immediately before it.

Given the instruction sequence:

LOAD R1, 0(R2)

ADD R3, R1, R4

MUL R5, R3, R6

**Q:** How many stalls are required and what is the total number of cycles needed?

**Q6**

Consider a pipeline with the following execution times per stage:

IF: 1, ID: 1, EX: 2, MEM: 1, WB: 1

A sequence of 10 instructions with no dependencies is run. Assume full pipelining and no stalls.

**Q:** What is the total time taken to complete all instructions?

**Q7**

In a 6-stage pipeline, a branch instruction is resolved in the fourth stage. The branch penalty is 3 cycles. The branch frequency in a program is 20%. The program consists of 1000 instructions.

**Q:** Estimate the total number of cycles lost due to branch penalty.



**Q8.**

A 5-stage pipelined processor has Instruction Fetch (IF), Instruction Decode (ID), Operand Fetch (OF), Perform Operation (PO), and Write Operand (WO) stages. The IF, ID, OF, and WO stages take 1 clock cycle each for any instruction. The PO stage takes:

- 1 cycle for ADD, SUB
- 3 cycles for MUL
- 6 cycles for DIV

Operand forwarding is used.

What is the total number of clock cycles required to execute the following instruction sequence?

Instruction	Meaning
$I_0$ : MUL R2, R0, R1	$R_2 \leftarrow R_0 \times R_1$
$I_1$ : DIV R5, R3, R4	$R_5 \leftarrow R_3 \div R_4$
$I_2$ : ADD R2, R5, R2	$R_2 \leftarrow R_5 + R_2$
$I_3$ : SUB R5, R2, R6	$R_5 \leftarrow R_2 - R_6$

Table 1: Instruction Sequence with Meaning

- (a) 13                                      (c) 17  
 (b) 15                                      (d) 19

**Q9.**

Same processor as in Q8. What is the total number of clock cycles required to execute:

Instruction	Meaning
$I_0$ : ADD R1, R2, R3	$R_1 \leftarrow R_2 + R_3$
$I_1$ : MUL R4, R1, R5	$R_4 \leftarrow R_1 \times R_5$
$I_2$ : DIV R6, R4, R1	$R_6 \leftarrow R_4 \div R_1$
$I_3$ : SUB R7, R6, R8	$R_7 \leftarrow R_6 - R_8$

Table 2: Instruction Sequence with Semantic Meaning

- (a) 14 (c) 20  
(b) 17 (d) 23

**Q10.**

Same setup. Evaluate the pipeline execution time (in clock cycles) for the following:

Instruction	Meaning
$I_0$ : DIV R9, R1, R2	$R_9 \leftarrow R_1 \div R_2$
$I_1$ : ADD R5, R3, R4	$R_5 \leftarrow R_3 + R_4$
$I_2$ : MUL R9, R5, R6	$R_9 \leftarrow R_5 \times R_6$
$I_3$ : SUB R1, R9, R7	$R_1 \leftarrow R_9 - R_7$

Table 3: Instruction Sequence and Semantics

- (a) 16 (c) 22  
(b) 19 (d) 25

**Q11.**

Pipeline and instruction latencies same as above. Estimate clock cycles for:

Instruction	Meaning
$I_0$ : MUL R1, R2, R3	$R_1 \leftarrow R_2 \times R_3$
$I_1$ : DIV R4, R1, R5	$R_4 \leftarrow R_1 \div R_5$
$I_2$ : MUL R6, R4, R1	$R_6 \leftarrow R_4 \times R_1$

Table 4: Instruction Sequence and Semantics

- (a) 18 (c) 23  
(b) 20 (d) 25

### 3 MCST Question

#### Q1. GATE 2021

Let  $G$  be a connected undirected weighted graph. Consider the following two statements.

$S_1$ : There exists a minimum weight edge in  $G$  which is present in every minimum spanning tree of  $G$ .

$S_2$ : If every edge in  $G$  has distinct weight, then  $G$  has a unique minimum spanning tree.

Which one of the following options is correct?

- (a) Both  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  are true
- (b)  $S_1$  is true and  $S_2$  is false
- (c)  $S_1$  is false and  $S_2$  is true
- (d) Both  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  are false

#### GATE 2020 (Shortest Path)

Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a directed, weighted graph with weight function  $w : E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . For some function  $f : V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , for each edge  $(u, v) \in E$ , define  $w'(u, v)$  as:

$$w'(u, v) = w(u, v) + f(u) - f(v)$$

Which one of the options completes the following sentence so that it is **TRUE**?

*“The shortest paths in  $G$  under  $w$  are shortest paths under  $w'$  too, \_\_\_\_\_”.*

- (a) for every  $f : V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$
- (b) if and only if  $\forall u \in V$ ,  $f(u)$  is positive
- (c) if and only if  $\forall u \in V$ ,  $f(u)$  is negative
- (d) if and only if  $f(u)$  is the distance from  $s$  to  $u$  in the graph obtained by adding a new vertex  $s$  to  $G$  and edges of zero weight from  $s$  to every vertex of  $G$

**GATE 2019**

Let  $G$  be any connected, weighted, undirected graph. Consider the following statements:

- I.  $G$  has a unique minimum spanning tree, if no two edges of  $G$  have the same weight.
- II.  $G$  has a unique minimum spanning tree, if for every cut of  $G$ , there is a unique minimum-weight edge crossing the cut.

Which of the following is/are **TRUE**?

- (a) I only
- (b) II only
- (c) Both I and II
- (d) Neither I nor II

**GATE 2016**

Let  $G = (V, E)$  be an undirected simple graph in which each edge has a distinct weight, and let  $e$  be a particular edge of  $G$ . Consider the following statements:

- I. If  $e$  is the lightest edge of some cycle in  $G$ , then every MST of  $G$  includes  $e$ .
- II. If  $e$  is the heaviest edge of some cycle in  $G$ , then every MST of  $G$  excludes  $e$ .

Which of the following is/are **TRUE**?

- (a) I only
- (b) II only
- (c) Both I and II
- (d) Neither I nor II

## 4 Conceptual Questions on MCST

### Question 1: Edge in Cycle

Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a connected, undirected graph with **distinct edge weights**. Suppose  $e \in E$  is the **heaviest edge** in some cycle  $C$  in  $G$ .

Which of the following is/are always true?

1.  $e$  is **not** present in any Minimum Spanning Tree (MST) of  $G$ .
2. Removing  $e$  from  $G$  **does not** increase the weight of the MST.

**Options:**

- (a) Only 1 is true
- (b) Only 2 is true
- (c) Both 1 and 2 are true
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2 is true

### Question 2: Unique MST Conditions

Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a connected, undirected graph. Consider the following statements:

$S_1$ : If for **every cut** in  $G$ , the **minimum weight edge** crossing the cut is unique, then  $G$  has a unique MST.

$S_2$ : If all edge weights are **distinct**, then  $G$  has a unique MST.

Which of the following is correct?

- (a) Only  $S_1$  is true
- (b) Only  $S_2$  is true
- (c) Both  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  are true
- (d) Neither  $S_1$  nor  $S_2$  is true

### Question 3: Uniform Weight Increase

Let  $T$  be a Minimum Spanning Tree (MST) of a connected graph  $G = (V, E)$  with **positive weights**. Suppose the weight of **every edge** in  $G$  is increased by the same constant  $c > 0$ .

Which of the following is true?

- (a) The MST remains unchanged
- (b) The MST may change
- (c) The total weight of the MST increases, but the structure remains the same
- (d) The MST becomes a Maximum Spanning Tree

### Question 4: Edge Weight Decrease

Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a graph with positive edge weights and a known MST  $T$ . Suppose the weight of an edge  $e \notin T$  is **reduced**.

Which of the following statements is true?

- (a)  $T$  remains the MST
- (b)  $T$  is no longer the MST
- (c) A new MST may or may not include  $e$
- (d) Edge weight decrease does not affect the MST

### Question 5: Kruskal vs Prim

Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a connected undirected graph with **distinct edge weights**. Consider the MSTs generated by **Kruskal's** and **Prim's** algorithms.

Which of the following statements is always true?

- (a) Both algorithms always produce the same MST
- (b) Kruskal's and Prim's may produce different MSTs
- (c) The MST is unique, hence both will produce the same MST
- (d) Prim's always chooses the minimum edge globally, unlike Kruskal's

## 5 Prim's Algorithm

### Q1. Property of Prim's

Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a connected undirected graph with non-negative weights. Prim's algorithm is run starting from vertex  $v_0$ . Suppose there are

two edges  $(v_0, u)$  and  $(v_0, w)$  with the same weight. Assume the priority queue is implemented using a min-heap that breaks ties arbitrarily.

Which of the following can happen?

- (a) Prim's algorithm may produce different MSTs depending on tie-breaking.
- (b) The output MST is always unique.
- (c) The MST may not be connected.
- (d) Prim's may skip some minimum weight edges.

## Q2. Multiple MSTs with Same Weight

Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a connected graph with **non-negative and non-distinct** edge weights. Prim's algorithm is run starting from vertex  $v_0$ . Which of the following is correct about **Prim's algorithm**?

- (a) The MST is always unique
- (b) It may return different MSTs depending on tie-breaking
- (c) It always returns the lexicographically smallest MST
- (d) It cannot be run if weights are not distinct

## Q3. Disconnected Graph

Suppose  $G = (V, E)$  is an undirected graph with more than one connected component. Prim's algorithm is run starting from a vertex in one component. What will happen?

- (a) Prim's algorithm will find the MST of the entire graph
- (b) Prim's algorithm will terminate with an error
- (c) Prim's algorithm will compute the MST of the connected component containing the starting vertex
- (d) Prim's will hang in an infinite loop

## Q4. Start Vertex Effect

Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a connected undirected graph with some repeated edge weights. Suppose Prim's algorithm is executed from two different starting vertices  $v_1$  and  $v_2$ . Which of the following is **true**?

- (a) The output MST may differ based on starting vertex
- (b) The total cost of the MST may change
- (c) The MST is always the same regardless of the starting vertex
- (d) Prim's does not depend on the starting vertex



### Q5. Dense Graphs vs Sparse Graphs

Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a graph with  $|V| = n$  and  $|E| = m$ , where  $m = \mathcal{O}(n^2)$ . Prim's algorithm is implemented using:

- (i) Min-heap with adjacency list
- (ii) Adjacency matrix

Which of the following is **correct** about the time complexities?

- (a) (i):  $\mathcal{O}(n \log n)$ , (ii):  $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$
- (b) (i):  $\mathcal{O}(m \log n)$ , (ii):  $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$
- (c) Both:  $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$
- (d) Both:  $\mathcal{O}(m + n)$

### Q6. Early Termination in Prim's

Prim's algorithm maintains a priority queue of all vertices not yet in the MST and selects the minimum-weight edge connecting to the growing MST.

Suppose the algorithm stops as soon as  $n - 1$  edges are picked. Which of the following is a potential risk?

- (a) The resulting tree may not span all vertices
- (b) Early stopping leads to higher weight than necessary
- (c) The result is always a valid MST
- (d) The number of edges picked may exceed  $n - 1$

## 6 Kruskal's Algorithm

### Q1. Disconnected Graphs

Let  $G = (V, E)$  be an undirected graph that is not connected, and all edge weights are distinct. Kruskal's algorithm is run on  $G$ .

What does Kruskal's algorithm return?

- (a) A spanning tree of  $G$
- (b) A minimum spanning forest (one tree per connected component)
- (c) An error due to disconnection
- (d) A partial spanning tree of minimum cost

### Q2. Edge Case: Self-loops and Parallel Edges

Let  $G = (V, E)$  be an undirected graph that contains self-loops and parallel edges. Kruskal's algorithm is applied to compute the MST.

Which of the following is true?

- (a) Self-loops and parallel edges can both be part of the MST
- (b) Self-loops are ignored but the lightest among parallel edges may be selected
- (c) Kruskal's cannot be applied on graphs with parallel edges
- (d) Self-loops are only included if they have zero weight

### Q3. Sorting Stability and Equal Weights

Suppose Kruskal's algorithm is applied to a graph with multiple edges having the same weight. The sorting routine used is unstable (i.e., it may change the order of equal-weight elements).

Which of the following is correct?

- (a) The resulting MST is always the same
- (b) The structure of MST may vary, but total cost will be the same
- (c) Kruskal's algorithm requires stable sorting to work correctly
- (d) Kruskal's will skip some valid edges due to instability

**Q4. Edge Case: Disconnected Graph**

Let  $G = (V, E)$  be an undirected graph that is disconnected and all edge weights are distinct. Kruskal's algorithm is applied on  $G$ .

What is the output?

- (a) A spanning tree of the graph
- (b) A minimum spanning forest (one tree per component)
- (c) An error due to disconnection
- (d) An empty set

**Q5. Union-Find Optimization Impact**

In Kruskal's algorithm, union-find with both path compression and union by rank is used. Which of the following best describes the impact?

- (a) Time complexity becomes  $\mathcal{O}(E \log V)$
- (b) Time complexity becomes  $\mathcal{O}(E + V \log V)$
- (c) Time complexity becomes  $\mathcal{O}(E\alpha(V))$ , where  $\alpha$  is inverse Ackermann function
- (d) It doesn't affect the time complexity

**Q6. Edge Case: Edge Reversal**

Suppose all edge directions in a directed graph are reversed. Kruskal's algorithm is applied to the undirected version of both the original and reversed graphs.

Which of the following statements is correct?

- (a) The MST structure changes completely
- (b) The MST remains unchanged
- (c) The cost of the MST changes
- (d) Reversing edges affects Kruskal's only if weights are reversed

## 7 Dijkstra's Algorithm

### Q1. Negative Edge Weights

Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a directed graph where some edges have negative weights but no negative weight cycles. Dijkstra's algorithm is run from a source  $s$ .

Which of the following is true?

- (a) Dijkstra's will compute correct shortest paths
- (b) Dijkstra's will fail due to negative weights
- (c) Dijkstra's may return incorrect shortest paths
- (d) Dijkstra's works only if all weights are positive

### Q2. Effect of Negative Edge Weights

Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a directed graph where some edges have negative weights but there are no negative-weight cycles. Dijkstra's algorithm is run from source  $s$ .

Which of the following is true?

- (a) Dijkstra's algorithm will return the correct shortest paths
- (b) Dijkstra's algorithm may give incorrect results
- (c) Dijkstra's will detect the negative edge and stop
- (d) Dijkstra's can be used only for DAGs

### Q3. Unreachable Vertices

Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a directed graph with non-negative edge weights. Suppose Dijkstra's algorithm is executed from a source vertex  $s$ , and there exists a vertex  $v$  that is not reachable from  $s$ .

What is the value of  $dist[v]$  after execution?

- (a) 0
- (b)  $-1$
- (c) Infinity
- (d) The algorithm throws an error

**Q4. Dijkstra on Undirected Graph with Zero Weights**

Let  $G = (V, E)$  be an undirected graph where every edge has weight zero. Dijkstra's algorithm is executed from source  $s$ .

Which of the following is true about the distances computed?

- (a) All distances will be zero
- (b) The algorithm fails because of zero weights
- (c) Some distances may be non-zero
- (d) Dijkstra only works with strictly positive edge weights

**Q5. Priority Queue Implementation**

In a standard implementation of Dijkstra's algorithm using a min-priority queue, the relaxation step might insert multiple entries for the same vertex.

Which of the following is a correct optimization?

- (a) Use a visited set to ignore already-processed vertices
- (b) Do not use a priority queue at all
- (c) Use a stack instead of a queue
- (d) Restart Dijkstra whenever a duplicate is found

**Q6. Dijkstra vs BFS**

Let  $G$  be an undirected graph where all edge weights are equal to 1. Consider running both Dijkstra's algorithm and Breadth-First Search (BFS) from the same source  $s$ .

Which of the following is true?

- (a) Dijkstra and BFS will compute different shortest path trees
- (b) BFS will be faster but less accurate than Dijkstra
- (c) Both algorithms will compute the same shortest paths
- (d) BFS does not work on weighted graphs

## 8 Bellman-Ford Algorithm

### Q1. Negative Weight Cycles

Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a directed graph with a negative weight cycle reachable from source  $s$ . Bellman-Ford is run to compute shortest paths from  $s$ .

What will the algorithm do?

- (a) Return shortest paths ignoring the negative cycle
- (b) Enter an infinite loop
- (c) Detect the negative cycle and report it
- (d) Overwrite distances indefinitely but never terminate

### Q2. Negative Weight Cycle Detection

Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a directed graph with a negative weight cycle reachable from source  $s$ . Bellman-Ford algorithm is run from  $s$  to compute shortest paths.

Which of the following is true?

- (a) Bellman-Ford computes distances correctly for all nodes
- (b) It fails to terminate in presence of negative cycles
- (c) It detects and reports the presence of a negative cycle
- (d) It skips edges that are part of a negative cycle

### Q3. Relaxation Count

Let  $G$  have  $n$  vertices and  $m$  edges. What is the **minimum number of full edge relaxation passes** required in Bellman-Ford to guarantee correct single-source shortest paths in a graph with no negative cycles?

- (a)  $n$
- (b)  $n - 1$
- (c)  $m$
- (d) Until all distances stop changing

**Q4. Negative Weight Edges but No Cycles**

Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a directed graph with some negative edge weights, but no negative-weight cycles. Which algorithm(s) can be used to find shortest paths from a source  $s$ ?

- (a) Only Dijkstra
- (b) Only Bellman-Ford
- (c) Both Dijkstra and Bellman-Ford
- (d) Neither Dijkstra nor Bellman-Ford

**Q5. Disconnected Graph**

Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a directed graph with some unreachable vertices from the source  $s$ . What does Bellman-Ford return for such vertices?

- (a) Assigns distance zero
- (b) Assigns distance infinity
- (c) Reports an error
- (d) Assigns distance as the maximum weight path to that node

**Q6. All Edge Weights Positive**

Suppose a graph has all edge weights positive. Which of the following is true regarding Bellman-Ford?

- (a) Bellman-Ford will fail since there are no negative weights
- (b) Bellman-Ford will give incorrect output due to no negative cycles
- (c) Bellman-Ford works but is slower than Dijkstra
- (d) Bellman-Ford and Dijkstra produce different distances

## 9 Floyd-Warshall Algorithm

### Q1. Path Reconstruction with Negative Cycles

Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a directed graph that contains negative weight cycles. Floyd-Warshall is run to compute all-pairs shortest paths.

Which of the following is correct?

- (a) Floyd-Warshall reports the presence of a negative cycle
- (b) The algorithm correctly computes shortest distances for all pairs not affected by negative cycles
- (c) The distance matrix may contain incorrect values
- (d) Floyd-Warshall ignores cycles by default

### Q2. Negative Weight Cycles

Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a directed graph with a negative-weight cycle. Floyd-Warshall algorithm is used to compute all-pairs shortest paths.

Which of the following is correct?

- (a) It reports the presence of a negative cycle
- (b) It correctly computes distances for all unaffected pairs
- (c) The output may contain incorrect values due to negative cycles
- (d) It ignores negative cycles by design

### Q3. Self-loop Update

Suppose Floyd-Warshall is run on a graph  $G$  with no self-loops initially. After the algorithm completes, some diagonal entries in the distance matrix become negative.

What does this imply?

- (a) The graph has cycles of weight zero
- (b) There is a negative-weight cycle in the graph
- (c) The source node has distance zero to itself
- (d) The graph contains multiple disconnected components



### Q4. Initialization of Distance Matrix

Before running Floyd-Warshall, the distance matrix is initialized as:

$$dist[i][j] = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } i = j \\ w(i, j) & \text{if } (i, j) \in E \\ \infty & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Which of the following is true?

- (a) This initialization is incorrect for undirected graphs
- (b) It is correct and necessary for Floyd-Warshall
- (c) It will fail in presence of negative edges
- (d) Zero must be used for all edge weights

### Q5. Graph with Disconnected Components

Let  $G$  be a directed graph with multiple disconnected components. Floyd-Warshall is run on  $G$ .

What will the distance between unreachable vertex pairs be in the final matrix?

- (a) Zero
- (b) Infinity
- (c) -1
- (d) Depends on the number of components

### Q6. Space and Time Complexity

Which of the following correctly describes the time and space complexity of Floyd-Warshall algorithm for a graph with  $n$  vertices?

- (a) Time:  $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$ , Space:  $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$
- (b) Time:  $\mathcal{O}(n^3)$ , Space:  $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$
- (c) Time:  $\mathcal{O}(n^3)$ , Space:  $\mathcal{O}(n^3)$
- (d) Time:  $\mathcal{O}(nm)$ , Space:  $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$

## 10 Graph Algorithms on Different DS

### Q1. Prim's Algorithm: Min-Heap vs Adjacency Matrix

Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a dense connected undirected graph with  $|V| = n$  and  $|E| = \Theta(n^2)$ . Prim's algorithm is implemented using:

- (i) Binary Min-Heap with Adjacency List
- (ii) Simple Array with Adjacency Matrix

Which of the following is correct?

- (a) (i):  $\mathcal{O}(n \log n)$ , (ii):  $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$
- (b) (i):  $\mathcal{O}(m \log n)$ , (ii):  $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$
- (c) Both:  $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$
- (d) Both:  $\mathcal{O}(m + n)$

### Q2. Kruskal's Algorithm: Union-Find Variants

In Kruskal's algorithm, which Union-Find variant offers the best performance?

- (a) Basic Union and Find without optimizations
- (b) Union by Rank only
- (c) Path Compression only
- (d) Union by Rank with Path Compression

### Q3. Dijkstra's Algorithm: Min-Heap vs Fibonacci Heap

Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a sparse graph with  $n$  vertices and  $m$  edges. Dijkstra's algorithm is implemented using:

- (i) Binary Min-Heap
- (ii) Fibonacci Heap

What are their respective time complexities?

- (a) (i):  $\mathcal{O}((n + m) \log n)$ , (ii):  $\mathcal{O}(n \log n + m)$
- (b) (i):  $\mathcal{O}(n \log m)$ , (ii):  $\mathcal{O}(n + m \log n)$
- (c) Both:  $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$
- (d) Both:  $\mathcal{O}(m \log n)$

### Q4. Bellman-Ford: Queue-Based vs Standard Relaxation

Bellman-Ford can be optimized using a queue-based version (like SPFA — Shortest Path Faster Algorithm).

Which of the following statements is true?

- (a) Queue-based version always has better time complexity
- (b) Queue-based version may reduce practical runtime but worst-case is still  $\mathcal{O}(nm)$
- (c) Queue-based version fails with negative weights
- (d) Queue-based version always terminates faster

### Q5. Floyd-Warshall: 1D vs 2D Arrays

Suppose Floyd-Warshall is implemented using a 2D matrix  $D[n][n]$ . If space is a constraint, a 1D flattened array or reuse of a single row can be used.

Which of the following is correct?

- (a) Using 1D array reduces time complexity
- (b) Space complexity can be reduced using 1D if full path reconstruction is not needed
- (c) 1D and 2D arrays offer identical performance and space usage
- (d) Floyd-Warshall cannot be implemented without 2D matrices

## 11 Algorithms: Sorting (Part 1)

### Q1. Bubble Sort After Second Pass

Consider the array: [5, 1, 4, 2, 8].

What will be the array after the 2<sup>nd</sup> pass of **Bubble Sort**?

- (a) [1, 2, 4, 5, 8]
- (b) [1, 4, 2, 5, 8]
- (c) [1, 2, 4, 8, 5]
- (d) [1, 2, 4, 5, 8]

**Concept:** Bubble sort pushes the largest to the right. Each pass reduces the unsorted array by one from the end.

## Q2. Selection Sort After Third Pass

Given array: [64, 25, 12, 22, 11]

What is the array after the 3<sup>rd</sup> pass of **Selection Sort**?

- (a) [11, 12, 22, 25, 64]
- (b) [11, 12, 22, 64, 25]
- (c) [11, 12, 22, 25, 64]
- (d) [12, 11, 22, 25, 64]

**Concept:** Selection sort places the smallest element at the beginning each time.

## Q3. Insertion Sort After Second Pass

Array: [3, 1, 4, 2]

State of array after 2<sup>nd</sup> pass of **Insertion Sort**?

- (a) [1, 3, 4, 2]
- (b) [1, 3, 2, 4]
- (c) [3, 1, 2, 4]
- (d) [1, 3, 2, 4]

**Concept:** Insertion sort inserts the current element into the sorted prefix.

## Q4. Bubble Sort Third Pass - Partially Sorted

Given: [10, 7, 8, 9, 1, 5]

What is the array after 3<sup>rd</sup> pass of **Bubble Sort**?

- (a) [7, 8, 1, 5, 9, 10]
- (b) [7, 1, 5, 8, 9, 10]
- (c) [7, 1, 5, 8, 10, 9]
- (d) [1, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10]

**Q5. Insertion Sort Third Pass - Trick Question**

Input: [2, 4, 6, 3, 5, 1]

What is the array after 3<sup>rd</sup> pass of **Insertion Sort**?

- (a) [2, 3, 4, 6, 5, 1]
- (b) [2, 4, 6, 3, 5, 1]
- (c) [2, 4, 6, 5, 3, 1]
- (d) [2, 4, 6, 1, 3, 5]

**12 Algorithms: Sorting (Part 2)****Q1. Selection Sort – Final Output**

Given the array: [29, 10, 14, 37, 13], what is the array after complete Selection Sort?

- (a) [10, 13, 14, 29, 37]
- (b) [29, 14, 13, 10, 37]
- (c) [13, 10, 14, 29, 37]
- (d) [10, 13, 14, 37, 29]

**Q2. Selection Sort – After Second Pass**

Array: [64, 25, 12, 22, 11]. What is the array after 2<sup>nd</sup> pass of Selection Sort?

- (a) [11, 12, 25, 22, 64]
- (b) [11, 12, 64, 25, 22]
- (c) [11, 12, 22, 25, 64]
- (d) [11, 12, 25, 64, 22]

**Q3. Selection Sort – Number of Swaps**

How many swaps does Selection Sort perform in worst case on an array of  $n$  distinct elements?

- (a)  $O(n^2)$
- (b)  $O(n \log n)$
- (c)  $O(n)$
- (d)  $\Theta(n)$

**Q4. Merge Sort – Final Output**

Input array: [38, 27, 43, 3, 9, 82, 10]. What is the final sorted array?

- (a) [3, 9, 10, 27, 38, 43, 82]
- (b) [3, 9, 10, 27, 38, 82, 43]
- (c) [3, 10, 9, 27, 38, 43, 82]
- (d) [27, 38, 3, 9, 10, 43, 82]

**Q5. Merge Sort – Number of Merges**

How many merge operations are performed (total) on an array of 8 elements?

- (a) 3
- (b) 7
- (c) 6
- (d) 5

**Q6. Merge Sort – Stability**

Which of the following is true for Merge Sort?

- (a) It is not stable
- (b) It requires in-place merging
- (c) It is stable and divides array recursively
- (d) It uses pivot and partitioning

**Q7. Quick Sort – Final Output**

For array [10, 7, 8, 9, 1, 5] and pivot = last element, what is final sorted array?

- (a) [1, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10]
- (b) [1, 5, 7, 9, 8, 10]
- (c) [10, 9, 8, 7, 5, 1]
- (d) [1, 5, 8, 9, 7, 10]

**Q8. Quick Sort – Pivot Partition (1st Pass)**

Array: [4, 3, 5, 2, 1] with pivot = 1. What is array after 1st partition?

- (a) [1, 3, 5, 2, 4]
- (b) [1, 4, 3, 5, 2]
- (c) [1, 3, 5, 2, 4]
- (d) [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]

**Q9. Quick Sort – Best Case Time**

What is best case time complexity of Quick Sort?

- (a)  $O(n^2)$
- (b)  $O(n \log n)$
- (c)  $O(\log n)$
- (d)  $O(n)$



**Q10. Bucket Sort – Input Range Suitability**

Bucket Sort works best when input is:

- (a) Uniformly distributed over known range
- (b) Random integers with duplicates
- (c) Sorted in descending order
- (d) Contains large negative numbers

**Q11. Bucket Sort – Time Complexity (Best Case)**

Best case time complexity of Bucket Sort with uniform input distribution is:

- (a)  $O(n^2)$
- (b)  $O(n \log n)$
- (c)  $O(n)$
- (d)  $O(n \log k)$

**Q12. Bucket Sort – Stable or Not**

Is bucket sort stable?

- (a) Always stable
- (b) Never stable
- (c) Stable only if insertion sort is used in buckets
- (d) Stable only for integer data

**Q13. Radix Sort – Order Preservation**

Which of the following sorting algorithms is used in each digit pass of Radix Sort?

- (a) Merge Sort
- (b) Quick Sort
- (c) Counting Sort
- (d) Heap Sort

**Q14. Radix Sort – Stable Sort Requirement**

Why must the internal sort in Radix Sort be stable?

- (a) To handle negative numbers
- (b) To preserve order of previous digits
- (c) For space efficiency
- (d) It's not required

**Q15. Heap Sort – After First Heapify (Max Heap Build)**

Given array: [1, 3, 5, 4, 6, 13, 10, 9, 8, 15, 17]

What is the array after building the initial max-heap?

- (a) [17, 15, 13, 9, 6, 5, 10, 4, 8, 1, 3]
- (b) [17, 13, 15, 9, 6, 5, 10, 4, 8, 1, 3]
- (c) [13, 15, 17, 9, 6, 5, 10, 4, 8, 1, 3]
- (d) [15, 17, 13, 9, 6, 5, 10, 4, 8, 1, 3]

**13 Algorithms: Time Complexity Revision****Q1. Insertion Sort (Best Case)**

What is the best-case time complexity of Insertion Sort?

- (a)  $O(n^2)$
- (b)  $O(n \log n)$
- (c)  $O(n)$
- (d)  $\Theta(n^2)$

**Q2. Quick Sort – Average Case**

What is the average-case time complexity of Quick Sort?

- (a)  $O(n)$
- (b)  $O(n \log n)$
- (c)  $O(\log n)$
- (d)  $O(n^2)$

**Q3. Merge Sort (Worst Case)**

What is the worst-case time complexity of Merge Sort on an array of size  $n$ ?

- (a)  $O(n^2)$
- (b)  $O(n)$
- (c)  $O(n \log n)$
- (d)  $\Theta(n)$

**Q4. Heap Sort (Worst Case)**

Which of the following is the worst-case time complexity of Heap Sort?

- (a)  $O(n^2)$
- (b)  $O(n \log n)$
- (c)  $O(n)$
- (d)  $\Theta(n^2)$

**Q5. Binary Search – Worst Case**

What is the time complexity of Binary Search in the worst case?

- (a)  $O(n)$
- (b)  $O(\log n)$
- (c)  $O(1)$
- (d)  $O(n \log n)$

**Q6. DFS and BFS (Adjacency List)**

What is the time complexity of DFS and BFS in an adjacency list representation?

- (a)  $O(V + E)$
- (b)  $O(V^2)$
- (c)  $O(E^2)$
- (d)  $O(V \log V)$

**Q7. Dijkstra Using Min-Heap**

Time complexity of Dijkstra's algorithm using a binary min-heap is:

- (a)  $O(V^2)$
- (b)  $O((V + E) \log V)$
- (c)  $O(E \log E)$
- (d)  $O(VE)$

**Q8. Bellman-Ford Algorithm**

What is the time complexity of the Bellman-Ford algorithm?

- (a)  $O(V + E)$
- (b)  $O(VE)$
- (c)  $O(E \log V)$
- (d)  $O(V^2)$

**Q9. Floyd-Warshall Algorithm**

Time complexity of Floyd-Warshall algorithm is:

- (a)  $O(VE)$
- (b)  $O(V^2)$
- (c)  $O(V^3)$
- (d)  $O(E \log V)$

**Q10. Recurrence**  $T(n) = 2T(n/2) + n$ 

Solve:  $T(n) = 2T(n/2) + n$

- (a)  $\Theta(n)$
- (b)  $\Theta(n \log n)$
- (c)  $\Theta(\log n)$
- (d)  $\Theta(n^2)$

**Q11. Linear Search – Average Case**

Time complexity of Linear Search in average case:

- (a)  $O(1)$
- (b)  $O(n)$
- (c)  $O(\log n)$
- (d)  $O(n \log n)$

**Q12. Hash Table (Average Case Search)**

Average case time complexity for search in a hash table with chaining:

- (a)  $O(n)$
- (b)  $O(1)$
- (c)  $O(\log n)$
- (d)  $O(n \log n)$

**Q13. Counting Sort**

Time complexity of Counting Sort for  $n$  elements with keys in range 0 to  $k$ :

- (a)  $O(n \log n)$
- (b)  $O(n + k)$
- (c)  $O(n^2)$
- (d)  $O(nk)$

**Q14. Radix Sort**

Time complexity of Radix Sort for  $n$  elements with  $d$  digits and base  $k$ :

- (a)  $O(d \cdot n)$
- (b)  $O(n \log n)$
- (c)  $O(n^2)$
- (d)  $O(k^d)$

**Q15. Heapify Operation**

What is the time complexity of 'heapify()' for an element at index  $i$  in a binary heap?

- (a)  $O(\log n)$
- (b)  $O(n)$
- (c)  $O(1)$
- (d)  $O(n \log n)$

**Q16. Recurrence:**  $T(n) = T(\sqrt{n}) + 1$ 

What is the time complexity of the recurrence:  $T(n) = T(\sqrt{n}) + 1$ ?

- (a)  $O(\log n)$
- (b)  $O(\log \log n)$
- (c)  $O(n)$
- (d)  $O(\sqrt{n})$

**Concept:** Let  $n = 2^m \Rightarrow \log n = m$ , recurrence becomes  $T(2^m) = T(2^{m/2}) + 1$

**Q17. Recurrence:**  $T(n) = T(n/2) + \log n$

What is the time complexity of  $T(n) = T(n/2) + \log n$ ?

- (a)  $O(\log^2 n)$
- (b)  $O(n)$
- (c)  $O(\log n)$
- (d)  $O(n \log n)$

**Hint:** Number of levels =  $\log n$ , and each level costs  $\log n$ , so total is  $\log n \cdot \log n = \log^2 n$

**Q18. Recurrence:**  $T(n) = T(n/2) + n/\log n$

Solve the recurrence:  $T(n) = T(n/2) + \frac{n}{\log n}$

- (a)  $O(n)$
- (b)  $O(n \log n)$
- (c)  $O(n \log \log n)$
- (d)  $O(n^2)$

**Q19. Recurrence:**  $T(n) = T(n-1) + \frac{1}{n}$

What is the time complexity of  $T(n) = T(n-1) + \frac{1}{n}$ ?

- (a)  $O(\log n)$
- (b)  $O(n)$
- (c)  $O(1)$
- (d)  $O(n \log n)$

**Concept:** Harmonic series  $\rightarrow 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \dots + \frac{1}{n} = O(\log n)$

**Q20. Recurrence:**  $T(n) = T(n/3) + T(n/4) + n$

What is the time complexity of  $T(n) = T(n/3) + T(n/4) + n$ ?

- (a)  $O(n \log n)$
- (b)  $O(n)$
- (c)  $O(n^2)$
- (d)  $O(\log n)$

**Concept:** This follows the Master Theorem Generalization:  $a = 2$ ,  $b_1 = 3$ ,  $b_2 = 4$ ,  $f(n) = n$ , gives  $T(n) = \Theta(n)$

## 14 Edge-Case Brainstorming Questions

### Q1. Fractional Knapsack Edge Case

You are given 3 items with their respective weight and value:

- Item 1: weight = 30, value = 60
- Item 2: weight = 50, value = 100
- Item 3: weight = 10, value = 20

Capacity of knapsack = 60.

Greedy (by value/weight) selects Item 1 and 3. Can this selection ever be **worse** than an alternative fractional selection?

- (a) Yes, if you start with Item 2
- (b) No, greedy always gives optimal in fractional
- (c) Depends on tie-breaking
- (d) Only if weights are not divisible

—



**Q2. 0/1 Knapsack - Greedy Fails Just Barely**

You are given 3 items with their respective weight and value:

- Item 1: weight = 2, value = 40
- Item 2: weight = 3, value = 50
- Item 3: weight = 4, value = 60

Capacity = 5.

Greedy (by value/weight) selects Item 1 (20/unit), then 2 (16.6/unit). Does this give optimal?

- (a) Yes
- (b) No — optimal is Item 3
- (c) No — optimal is Items 2 only
- (d) No — optimal is Items 1 + 2

**Concept:** Greedy fails, DP gives better by 1 unit.

—

**Q3. Activity Selection Edge Conflict**

You are given activities: - A1: (1, 4) - A2: (2, 5) - A3: (4, 7) - A4: (5, 9)

Greedy selects A1 and A3. Can A2 and A4 be a valid alternative?

- (a) Yes — and gives more total duration
  - (b) No — A2 and A4 conflict
  - (c) Yes — but same number of activities
  - (d) No — greedy always optimal
-

#### Q4. Longest Increasing Subsequence (LIS) - Greedy Fails

Array: [2, 5, 3, 7, 11, 8, 10, 13, 6]

A greedy choice would extend:  $2 \rightarrow 5 \rightarrow 7 \rightarrow 11 \rightarrow 13$  But optimal LIS is:?

- (a) [2, 3, 7, 8, 10, 13]
- (b) [2, 3, 7, 11, 13]
- (c) [2, 5, 7, 8, 10]
- (d) [2, 3, 6]

**Concept:** Greedy fails to backtrack, DP or patience sorting succeeds.

#### Q5. Coin Change – Greedy Fails Just Fails

Coins: [1, 3, 4], Amount: 6

Greedy picks:  $4 \rightarrow 1 \rightarrow 1$  (3 coins)

DP picks:  $3 \rightarrow 3$  (2 coins)

Why does Greedy fail?

- (a) Greedy only works for canonical coin systems
- (b) Greedy fails if 1 is present
- (c) Greedy fails if 4 not divisible
- (d) Greedy fails only on odd numbers

#### Q6. Coin Change - Greedy Just Works

Coins: [1, 5, 10, 20, 50], Amount: 93

Greedy works here. Why?

- (a) All coins are multiples of smaller coins
- (b) Denomination is canonical
- (c) Only powers of 2 work
- (d) It always works for Indian currency

**Q7. DP or Greedy - Rod Cutting Variant**

Rod length = 8 and Prices:

- |                      |                       |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| (a) length 1 = Rs. 1 | (e) length 5 = Rs. 10 |
| (b) length 2 = Rs. 5 | (f) length 6 = Rs. 17 |
| (c) length 3 = Rs. 8 | (g) length 7 = Rs. 17 |
| (d) length 4 = Rs. 9 | (h) length 8 = Rs. 20 |

What is the max value using optimal cuts?

- (a) 20 (No cut)
- (b) 22 (2+6)
- (c) 24 (2+2+2+2)
- (d) 25 (2+3+3)

**Hint:** Greedy (highest price per unit) may not give best total.

**Q8. Weighted Interval Scheduling – Greedy Fails**

You are given jobs with (Start, End, Profit):

- |                  |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| - J1: (1, 3, 20) | - J4: (6, 7, 40)  |
| - J2: (2, 5, 50) | - J5: (5, 9, 30)  |
| - J3: (4, 6, 10) | - J6: (8, 10, 20) |

Greedy (earliest finish) picks: J1, J3, J4, J6 → Total = 90

Can a better profit be achieved?

- (a) No - Greedy is optimal
- (b) Yes - start time order gives more
- (c) Yes - max job duration helps
- (d) Yes - some tie-breaking matters

**Q9. DP vs Greedy - Scheduling with Weights**

Jobs:

- J1: (1, 3), weight = 20
- J2: (2, 5), weight = 50
- J3: (4, 6), weight = 10
- J4: (6, 8), weight = 40

Which gives max weight?

- (a)  $J1 + J3 + J4 = 70$
- (b)  $J2 + J4 = 90$
- (c)  $J1 + J2 = 70$
- (d)  $J1 + J4 = 60$

**Concept:** DP needed for weighted interval scheduling

**Q10. Subset Sum - Greedy vs DP**

Set: {3, 34, 4, 12, 5, 2}, Target = 9

Greedy selects: 34 (too large), then 5 + 4 (valid)

Does Greedy always find a solution?

- (a) Yes, for sorted inputs only
- (b) No, DP is required for exact match
- (c) Greedy works if set has no duplicates
- (d) Greedy works if max element  $\leq$  sum

## 15 C Programming: Tricky Questions

### Q1. Pointer Overlap Copy

Consider the C code:

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2 void mycopy(char *dest, char *src) {
3     while (*src)
4         *dest++ = *src++;
5 }
6 int main() {
7     char str[30] = "ABCDE";
8     mycopy(str + 1, str);
9     printf("%s\n", str);
10    return 0;
11 }
```

What is the output?

- (a) AABCDE
- (b) ABCDE
- (c) Infinite loop
- (d) BCDE

### Q2. Post-Increment and Array

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2 int main() {
3     int a[] = {10, 20, 30, 40, 50};
4     int i = 0;
5     printf("%d %d %d\n", a[i], i++, a[i]);
6     return 0;
7 }
```

What is the output?

- (a) 10 0 10
- (b) 10 0 20
- (c) 10 1 20
- (d) Undefined behavior

### Q3. Pointer to String Literal

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2 int main() {
3     char *p = "GATE2025";
4     printf("%c\n", *(p + 4));
5     return 0;
6 }
```

What is the output?

- (a) 2
- (b) T
- (c) E
- (d) 0

### Q4. Evaluation Order in Function Args

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2 void func(int x, int y) {
3     printf("%d %d\n", x, y);
4 }
5 int main() {
6     int i = 5;
7     func(i++, ++i);
8     return 0;
9 }
```

What is the output?

- (a) 5 7
- (b) 6 6
- (c) Compiler error
- (d) Undefined behavior

## Q5. Array Indexing Trick

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2 int main() {
3     char str[] = "abcde";
4     printf("%c\n", 2[str]);
5     return 0;
6 }
```

What is the output?

- (a) b
- (b) c
- (c) Compilation error
- (d) e

## 16 C Programming: Stack & Queue Tricky Questions

### Q1. Circular Queue Edge Case

Which condition correctly checks if a circular queue is full?

- (a) rear == SIZE - 1
- (b) front == -1 && rear == -1
- (c) rear + 1 == front
- (d) (rear + 1) % SIZE == front

### Q2. Stack Memory Growth

Consider the following C code:

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2 void foo(int n) {
3     if (n == 0) return;
4     int x = n;
5     foo(n - 1);
6 }
7 int main() {
8     foo(10000);
9 }
```

```
9   return 0;  
10 }
```

What is most likely to happen when this program is run?

- (a) It prints numbers from 10000 to 1.
- (b) It runs successfully and terminates normally.
- (c) It causes a stack overflow error.
- (d) It goes into an infinite loop.



### Q3. Queue Implementation Bug

What will be the output of the following program?

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2 #define SIZE 5
3 int queue[SIZE], front = -1, rear = -1;
4
5 void enqueue(int x) {
6     if (rear == SIZE - 1) return;
7     queue[++rear] = x;
8     if (front == -1) front = 0;
9 }
10
11 int dequeue() {
12     if (front == -1 || front > rear) return -1;
13     return queue[front++];
14 }
15
16 int main() {
17     enqueue(10); enqueue(20); dequeue();
18     dequeue(); dequeue();
19     printf("%d\n", front);
20     return 0;
21 }
```

- (a) -1
- (b) 1
- (c) 0
- (d) 3

### Q4. Stack Address Behavior

Which of the following is true about the stack in C?

- (a) Stack grows upwards in memory
- (b) Stack grows downwards in memory
- (c) Stack is allocated from heap
- (d) Stack size is infinite

## Q5. Stack Push/Pop Behavior

What will be the final output?

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2 #define SIZE 3
3 int stack[SIZE], top = -1;
4
5 void push(int val) {
6     if (top < SIZE - 1)
7         stack[++top] = val;
8 }
9 int pop() {
10     if (top >= 0)
11         return stack[top--];
12     return -1;
13 }
14 int main() {
15     push(1); push(2); push(3); push(4);
16     printf("%d ", pop());
17     printf("%d ", pop());
18     return 0;
19 }
```

(a) 3 2

(b) 4 3

(c) 2 1

(d) -1 -1

## 17 C Programming: Recursion Questions

### Q1. Simple Recursion and Return

What is the output of the following code?

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2 int fun(int n) {
3     if (n == 0) return 0;
4     return n + fun(n - 1);
5 }
6 int main() {
7     printf("%d", fun(3));
8     return 0;
9 }
```

- (a) 3
- (b) 6
- (c) 0
- (d) 1

### Q2. Post-Order Recursion Print

What will be printed?

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2 void print(int n) {
3     if (n == 0) return;
4     print(n - 1);
5     printf("%d ", n);
6 }
7 int main() {
8     print(3);
9     return 0;
10 }
```

- (a) 3 2 1
- (b) 1 2 3
- (c) 0 1 2
- (d) 3 2 1 0

### Q3. Stack Frame Behavior

Which of the following is true about recursive function calls in C?

- (a) All calls share a single stack frame
- (b) Each call gets its own stack frame
- (c) Only leaf calls get stack frames
- (d) Recursion doesn't use the stack

### Q4. Recursion with Local Static

What is the output of the program?

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2 int fun(int n) {
3     static int x = 0;
4     if (n > 0) {
5         x++;
6         fun(n - 1);
7     }
8     return x;
9 }
10 int main() {
11     printf("%d", fun(5));
12     return 0;
13 }
```

- (a) 5
- (b) 1
- (c) 0
- (d) 25

## Q5. Mutual Recursion

Consider the following code:

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2 void odd(int);
3 void even(int);
4
5 void odd(int x) {
6     if (x == 0) return;
7     printf("Odd: %d\n", x);
8     even(x - 1);
9 }
10
11 void even(int x) {
12     if (x == 0) return;
13     printf("Even: %d\n", x);
14     odd(x - 1);
15 }
16
17 int main() {
18     odd(3);
19     return 0;
20 }
```

What is the last line printed?

- (a) Odd: 3
- (b) Even: 2
- (c) Odd: 1
- (d) Even: 1

## 18 C Expression Evaluation with Custom Operator Precedence

### Q1. Custom Operator Precedence

Consider the following custom operator precedence and associativity table:

Operator	Precedence (High to Low)	Associativity
+	1 (Highest)	Left-to-Right
/	2	Left-to-Right
-	3	Right-to-Left
*	4 (Lowest)	Left-to-Right

Evaluate the expression below according to the table above (not standard C rules):

$$6 + 3 * 2 - 4 / 2 + 1 * 2 - 3$$

What is the final result?

- (a) 9 (c) 7  
(b) 8 (d) 5

### Q2. Operator Table and Mixed Associativity

You are given the following precedence table:

Operator	Precedence	Associativity
-	1 (Highest)	Right-to-Left
*	2	Left-to-Right
+	3	Left-to-Right
/	4 (Lowest)	Left-to-Right

Evaluate the expression:

$$10 - 2 * 3 + 4 / 2 - 1$$

Assume only integer arithmetic and no parenthesis.

- (a) 9 (c) 7  
(b) 8 (d) 6

## 19 C Programming: Pointer and String Manipulation (Hard MCQs)

### Q1

What will be the output of the following C code?

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2 int main() {
3     char *s = "GATE";
4     s++;
5     printf("%c", *s++);
6     printf("%c", *s);
7     return 0;
8 }
```

- (a) GA
- (b) AT
- (c) AE
- (d) AT

### Q2

What is the output of the following code?

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2 void fun(char *s) {
3     while(*s) {
4         printf("%c", *s++);
5         s++;
6     }
7 }
8 int main() {
9     char str[] = "GATECSE";
10    fun(str);
11    return 0;
12 }
```

- (a) GTEC
- (b) GAE
- (c) GAESE
- (d) GTC

### Q3

What will be the output of the following program?

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2 int main() {
3     char str[] = "abc";
4     char *p = str;
5     printf("%c", ++*p);
6     printf("%c", *p++);
7     printf("%c", *p);
8     return 0;
9 }
```

(a) abc

(b) bbc

(c) bac

(d) bcc

### Q4

Predict the output:

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2 void change(char *p) {
3     p++;
4     *p = 'Z';
5 }
6 int main() {
7     char str[] = "GATE";
8     change(str);
9     printf("%s", str);
10    return 0;
11 }
```

(a) GATE

(b) GZTE

(c) GZTE

(d) GAZE



**Q5**

What will the following code print?

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2 int main() {
3     char *s = "ABCDE";
4     printf("%c", *s++);
5     printf("%c", *(s+1));
6     return 0;
7 }
```

- (a) AB
- (b) AC
- (c) AD
- (d) AE

**Q6**

Output of the following program?

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2 int main() {
3     char *s = "GATECSE";
4     printf("%c", *(s + *(s+3) - 'A'));
5     return 0;
6 }
```

- (a) G
- (b) A
- (c) E
- (d) C

**Q7**

What will be the output?

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2 int main() {
3     char a[] = "Hello";
4     char *p = a;
5     printf("%s", p + 3);
6     return 0;
7 }
```

- (a) Hello
- (b) llo
- (c) lo
- (d) o

**Q8**

What is the output of this code?

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2 int main() {
3     char *p = "GATE";
4     printf("%c", *p);
5     p += 4;
6     printf("%c", *(p-1));
7     return 0;
8 }
```

- (a) GG
- (b) GE
- (c) EE
- (d) EG

**Q9**

What is the output of the program?

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2 void rev(char *s) {
3     if(*s) {
4         rev(s+1);
5         putchar(*s);
6     }
7 }
8 int main() {
9     rev("CSE");
10    return 0;
11 }
```

- (a) CSE
- (b) ESC
- (c) SEC
- (d) ESC

**Q10**

What is the output?

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2 int main() {
3     char s1[] = "abcde";
4     char *s2 = "abcde";
5     s1[0] = 'z';
6     // s2[0] = 'z'; // Uncommenting causes?
7     printf("%s %s", s1, s2);
8     return 0;
9 }
```

- (a) zbcde zbcde
- (b) Compilation error
- (c) zbcde abcde
- (d) abcde abcde

## 20 Tricky C Programming MCQs: Edge Cases and Pitfalls

### Q1. Assignment inside condition

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main() {
    int a = 10;
    if (a = 5)
        printf("True");
    else
        printf("False");
    return 0;
}
```

What is the output of the program?

- (a) True
- (b) False
- (c) Compilation Error
- (d) Runtime Error

### Q2. Modifying string literal (UB)

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main() {
    char s[] = "hello";
    s[5] = '!';
    printf("%s", s);
    return 0;
}
```

What is the output of the program?

- (a) hello!
- (b) hello
- (c) Undefined Behavior
- (d) Compilation Error

**Q3. Semicolon after for loop**

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main() {
    int i = 0;
    for(; i < 3; i++);
        printf("%d ", i);
    return 0;
}
```

**What is the output of the program?**

- (a) 0 1 2
- (b) 3
- (c) 0 1 2 3
- (d) Nothing

**Q4. undefined behavior on write**

```
#include <stdio.h>
void foo(char *str) {
    str[0] = 'A';
}
int main() {
    char *s = "hello";
    foo(s);
    printf("%s", s);
    return 0;
}
```

**What is the output of the program?**

- (a) Aello
- (b) hello
- (c) Compilation Error
- (d) Segmentation Fault / Undefined Behavior

**Q5.  $a[i] == i[a]$  trick**

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main() {
    int arr[3] = {1, 2, 3};
    printf("%d", 1[arr]);
    return 0;
}
```

**What is the output of the program?**

- (a) 1
- (b) 2
- (c) Compilation Error
- (d) Garbage Value

## 21 Functional Dependencies (FDs)

### Q1. Definition Understanding

Let  $R(A, B, C)$  be a relation. Which of the following best defines a functional dependency?

- (a) A constraint where  $A$  and  $B$  must be unique.
- (b) A rule where the value of one attribute determines another.
- (c) A relationship between two tables.
- (d) A key that uniquely identifies a tuple.

### Q2. Trivial Functional Dependency

Which of the following is always a **trivial functional dependency**?

- (a)  $A \rightarrow B$
- (b)  $AB \rightarrow A$
- (c)  $A \rightarrow AB$
- (d)  $A \rightarrow A$

### Q3. Inferring Dependencies

Given the FDs:  $A \rightarrow B$ ,  $B \rightarrow C$ , what can be inferred?

- (a)  $C \rightarrow A$
- (b)  $A \rightarrow C$
- (c)  $AB \rightarrow C$
- (d)  $C \rightarrow B$

### Q4. Attribute Closure

Consider relation  $R(A, B, C, D)$  and FDs:  $A \rightarrow B$ ,  $B \rightarrow C$ ,  $CD \rightarrow A$ . What is the closure of  $\{C, D\}^+$ ?

- (a)  $\{C, D, A, B\}$
- (b)  $\{C, D, A, B, C\}$
- (c)  $\{C, D, A, B, C, D\}$
- (d)  $\{C, D\}$

### Q5. Minimal Cover

Which of the following is **not** a required condition for a set of functional dependencies to be in **minimal cover**?

- (a) Right side of each FD is a single attribute
- (b) No FD can be removed without changing closure
- (c) Left side of each FD is a single attribute
- (d) No attribute can be removed from LHS without changing closure

## 22 Normalization: 1NF, 2NF, 3NF, and BCNF

### Question 1: First Normal Form (1NF)

Which of the following is a requirement for a relation to be in **First Normal Form (1NF)**?

- (a) It should have only atomic values
- (b) It must have a primary key
- (c) It must eliminate partial dependencies
- (d) It must eliminate transitive dependencies



**Question 2: Partial Dependency**

Which of the following violates **Second Normal Form (2NF)**?

- (a) Functional dependency from a candidate key to a non-prime attribute
- (b) Functional dependency from a part of candidate key to a non-prime attribute
- (c) Functional dependency between two non-prime attributes
- (d) Transitive dependency

**Question 3: Transitive Dependency**

Which of the following is an example of a **transitive dependency**?

- (a)  $A \rightarrow B$  and  $B \rightarrow C$
- (b)  $A \rightarrow B$  and  $A \rightarrow C$
- (c)  $AB \rightarrow C$
- (d)  $C \rightarrow A$  and  $C \rightarrow B$

**Question 4: Second Normal Form (2NF)**

A relation is in **2NF** if:

- (a) It is in 1NF and there is no transitive dependency
- (b) It is in 1NF and there is no partial dependency
- (c) It is in 3NF
- (d) All attributes are prime

**Question 5: Third Normal Form (3NF)**

A relation is in **3NF** if:

- (a) Every non-prime attribute is functionally dependent on every super key
- (b) No transitive dependency exists
- (c) It is in 2NF and every non-prime attribute is non-transitively dependent on every candidate key
- (d) It is in 2NF and all dependencies are trivial

**Question 6: Boyce-Codd Normal Form (BCNF)**

Which of the following is a necessary condition for a relation to be in **BCNF**?

- (a) LHS of every FD is a super key
- (b) RHS of every FD is a super key
- (c) Relation is in 2NF and 3NF
- (d) Every attribute is part of some candidate key

**Question 7: 3NF vs BCNF**

Which of the following is always true?

- (a)  $3NF \subseteq BCNF$
- (b)  $BCNF \subseteq 3NF$
- (c)  $3NF = BCNF$
- (d) A relation in 3NF is always in BCNF

**Question 8: Normalization Goal**

What is the primary objective of normalization?

- (a) Increase redundancy
- (b) Eliminate data anomalies
- (c) Improve data retrieval speed
- (d) Reduce memory size

**Question 9: Prime Attribute**

In normalization, which of the following is a **prime attribute**?

- (a) Attribute which is always NULL
- (b) Attribute not present in any key
- (c) Attribute which is part of a candidate key
- (d) Attribute that is a foreign key

**Question 10: Redundancy and Normal Forms**

Which of the following statements is **correct**?

- (a) 1NF eliminates redundancy completely
- (b) 2NF is sufficient to remove all data anomalies
- (c) 3NF ensures no transitive dependency
- (d) BCNF allows transitive dependencies

## 23 Normalization with Lossless Join and Dependency Preservation

### Question 1: Lossless Join Property

Which of the following decomposition guarantees a **lossless join**?  
 $R(A, B, C)$  with FD:

- (a)  $A \rightarrow B$  decomposed into  $R_1(A, B)$  and  $R_2(B, C)$
- (b)  $A \rightarrow B$  decomposed into  $R_1(A, B)$  and  $R_2(A, C)$
- (c)  $A \rightarrow C$  decomposed into  $R_1(B, C)$  and  $R_2(A, C)$
- (d)  $A \rightarrow C$  decomposed into  $R_1(B, C)$  and  $R_2(B, A)$

### Question 2: Dependency Preservation Check

A relation  $R(A, B, C)$  has FDs:  $A \rightarrow B$ ,  $B \rightarrow C$ . It is decomposed into  $R_1(A, B)$  and  $R_2(B, C)$ . Which of the following is **true**?

- (a) The decomposition is dependency preserving but lossy
- (b) The decomposition is lossless and dependency preserving
- (c) The decomposition is lossless but not dependency preserving
- (d) The decomposition is neither lossless nor dependency preserving

### Question 3: 3NF vs BCNF with Dependency Preservation

Which of the following is **always true** about 3NF decomposition?

- (a) It guarantees both lossless join and dependency preservation
- (b) It always gives BCNF decomposition
- (c) It guarantees lossless join only if all FDs are preserved
- (d) It is more strict than BCNF

**Question 4: Lossless Join Condition**

Consider a decomposition of  $R$  into  $R_1$  and  $R_2$ . The decomposition is said to be **lossless** if:

- (a)  $R_1 \cap R_2 \rightarrow R_1$
- (b)  $R_1 \cap R_2 \rightarrow R_2$
- (c)  $(R_1 \cap R_2) \rightarrow R_1$  or  $R_2$
- (d)  $(R_1 \cap R_2) \rightarrow R$

**Question 5: Trade-off between BCNF and Dependency Preservation**

Which of the following is **true** regarding BCNF decomposition?

- (a) BCNF always preserves dependencies but may be lossy
- (b) BCNF is guaranteed to be lossless and dependency preserving
- (c) BCNF ensures lossless join but may not preserve all dependencies
- (d) BCNF does not ensure either lossless join or dependency preservation

## 24 SQL Conceptual Questions

## Q1. Basic SELECT - 1

Consider the table Student:

RollNo	Name	Marks
101	Alice	70
102	Bob	85
103	Charlie	90
104	David	65

What will be the output of the query?

```
1 SELECT Name FROM Student WHERE Marks > 75;
```

- (a) Alice, David
  - (b) Bob, Charlie
  - (c) Charlie
  - (d) No rows

## Q2. Basic SELECT - 2

Consider the same `Student` table.

What is the output of the query?

```
1 SELECT COUNT(*) FROM Student WHERE Name LIKE '%a%';
```

- (a) 1 (c) 3  
(b) 2 (c) 4

### Q3. Aggregates - 1

Consider the table Sales:

Salesman	Region	Amount
S1	East	100
S1	East	150
S2	West	200
S2	East	100

What will the following query return?

```
1 SELECT Region, SUM(Amount)
2 FROM Sales
3 GROUP BY Region;
```

- (a) Two rows: (East, 350) and (West, 200)
- (b) One row: (East, 250)
- (c) Three rows
- (d) Error

#### Q4. Aggregates - 2

Consider the same **Sales** table. What will be the output of the query?

```
1 SELECT Salesman
2 FROM Sales
3 GROUP BY Salesman
4 HAVING SUM(Amount) > 200;
```

- (a) S1
- (b) S2
- (c) S1 and S2
- (d) None

#### Q5. CTE (WITH) - 1

Consider the table **Employee**:

EmpID	Name	Salary
1	A	10000
2	B	20000
3	C	30000
4	D	40000

What will the following query return?

```
1 WITH HighSalary AS (
2     SELECT * FROM Employee WHERE Salary > 20000
3 )
4 SELECT COUNT(*) FROM HighSalary;
```

- (a) 2
- (b) 1
- (c) 3
- (d) 0

## Q6. CTE (WITH) - 2

Consider the same **Employee** table. What does this query return?

```
1 WITH EmpCTE AS (  
2     SELECT Name, Salary FROM Employee  
3 )  
4 SELECT Name FROM EmpCTE WHERE Salary < 25000;
```

- (a) A, B
- (b) A
- (c) B, C
- (d) A, B, C

## Q7. Joins - 1

Consider the following tables:

**Course**

CID	CName
1	DBMS
2	OS

**Enrolled**

SID	CID
101	1
102	2
103	1

What will the following query return?

```
1 SELECT CName  
2 FROM Course C, Enrolled E  
3 WHERE C.CID = E.CID;
```

- (a) DBMS, OS
- (b) DBMS, OS, DBMS
- (c) OS, OS
- (d) DBMS only



## Q8. Joins - 2

Using the same **Course** and **Enrolled** tables, consider:

```

1 SELECT C.CName, COUNT(*)
2 FROM Course C LEFT JOIN Enrolled E
3 ON C.CID = E.CID
4 GROUP BY C.CName;

```

- (a) DBMS: 2, OS: 1
- (b) DBMS: 1, OS: 2
- (c) DBMS: 1, OS: 1
- (d) DBMS: 2, OS: 2

## Q9. Relational Division - 1 (Moderate)

Consider the following two tables:

**Student**

SID	Name
1	Alice
2	Bob
3	Charlie

**Enrolled**

SID	Course
1	DBMS
1	OS
2	DBMS
2	OS
3	DBMS

We want to find students who are enrolled in **\*\*all\*\*** courses that Bob is enrolled in. Which query achieves this?

```

1 SELECT S.Name
2 FROM Student S
3 WHERE NOT EXISTS (
4     SELECT C.Course
5     FROM Enrolled C
6     WHERE C.SID = 2
7     EXCEPT
8     SELECT E.Course
9     FROM Enrolled E
10    WHERE E.SID = S.SID
11 );

```

- (a) Alice only
- (b) Alice and Bob
- (c) Bob only
- (d) Charlie

### Q10. Relational Division - 2 (Hard)

Using the same tables as above, which students are enrolled in **\*\*all\*\*** the courses offered in the **Course** table?

Course
DBMS
OS

```

1 SELECT S.Name
2 FROM Student S
3 WHERE NOT EXISTS (
4     SELECT C.Course
5     FROM Course C
6     EXCEPT
7     SELECT E.Course
8     FROM Enrolled E
9     WHERE E.SID = S.SID
10 );

```

- (a) Bob only
- (b) Alice and Bob
- (c) All students
- (d) No student

### Q11. Set Operation - INTERSECT (Moderate)

Consider the table **Takes**:

SID	Course
1	DBMS
1	OS
2	DBMS
3	OS

What will the following query return?

```
1 SELECT SID FROM Takes WHERE Course = 'DBMS'
2 INTERSECT
3 SELECT SID FROM Takes WHERE Course = 'OS';
```

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 1 and 2
- (c) 1 and 3
- (d) All students

### Q12. Set Operation - EXCEPT (Hard)

Using the same Takes table, evaluate:

```
1 SELECT SID FROM Takes WHERE Course = 'DBMS'
2 EXCEPT
3 SELECT SID FROM Takes WHERE Course = 'OS';
```

- (a) 1
- (b) 2
- (c) 2 and 3
- (d) None

## 25 Tuple Relational Calculus (TRC)

### - Moderate to Hard Questions

#### Q1. Division Query using TRC (Moderate)

Let `Enrolled(SID, Course)` store student-course enrollments, and `Course(Course)` store all available courses. Write a TRC query to find all students who are enrolled in **all courses**.

- (a)  $\{t \mid \exists s (Enrolled(s) \wedge t.SID = s.SID)\}$
- (b)  $\{t \mid \forall c (Course(c) \rightarrow \exists e (Enrolled(e) \wedge e.SID = t.SID \wedge e.Course = c.Course))\}$
- (c)  $\{t \mid \forall c (Course(c) \wedge Enrolled(t.SID, c.Course))\}$
- (d)  $\{t \mid \exists c (Course(c) \wedge \neg Enrolled(t.SID, c.Course))\}$

#### Q2. Universal Quantification (Hard)

Let `Takes(SID, Course)`. Find all students who are enrolled in **\*\*every** course that student 10 is enrolled in**\*\***.

- (a)  $\{t \mid \forall x (Takes(x) \wedge x.SID = 10 \rightarrow Takes(t.SID, x.Course))\}$
- (b)  $\{t \mid \forall x (Takes(x) \wedge x.Course = t.Course \rightarrow x.SID = 10)\}$
- (c)  $\{t \mid \exists x (Takes(x) \wedge x.SID = 10 \wedge Takes(t.SID, x.Course))\}$
- (d)  $\{t \mid \exists x (Takes(x) \wedge x.SID = 10 \rightarrow \neg Takes(t.SID, x.Course))\}$

#### Q3. Negation in TRC (Moderate)

Which of the following TRC queries correctly returns students who have **\*\*not enrolled\*\*** in any course?

- (a)  $\{t \mid Student(t) \wedge \neg \exists e (Enrolled(e) \wedge e.SID = t.SID)\}$
- (b)  $\{t \mid \exists e (Enrolled(e) \wedge e.SID \neq t.SID)\}$
- (c)  $\{t \mid \forall e (Enrolled(e) \rightarrow e.SID \neq t.SID)\}$
- (d) Both (a) and (c)

### Q4. Existential-Negation Trap (Moderate)

What does the following TRC query return?

$$\{t \mid Student(t) \wedge \exists e (\neg Enrolled(e) \vee e.SID \neq t.SID)\}$$

- (a) Students not enrolled in any course
- (b) All students
- (c) Students enrolled in all courses
- (d) Students enrolled in exactly one course

### Q5. Complex Join in TRC (Hard)

Let `Employee(EID, Name, DeptID)` and

`Department(DeptID, ManagerID)`.

Find all employees who manage their own department.

- (a)  $\{t \mid Employee(t) \wedge \exists d (Department(d) \wedge t.EID = d.ManagerID)\}$
- (b)

$$\{t \mid \exists d (Department(d) \wedge t.DeptID = d.DeptID \wedge t.EID = d.ManagerID)\}$$

- (c)  $\{t \mid Department(t) \wedge t.EID = t.ManagerID\}$
- (d)  $\{t \mid \exists d (Employee(d) \wedge d.ManagerID = t.EID)\}$

### Q6. Ambiguous Variable Binding (Hard)

Which of the following TRC expressions is **\*\*incorrect\*\*** due to ambiguous or unsafe use of variables?

- (a)  $\{t \mid Enrolled(t) \wedge \exists x (Student(x) \wedge x.SID = y.SID)\}$
- (b)

$$\{t \mid \forall x (Course(x) \rightarrow \exists e (Enrolled(e) \wedge e.SID = t.SID \wedge e.Course = x.Course))\}$$

- (c)  $\{t \mid \neg \exists x (Enrolled(x) \wedge x.SID = t.SID)\}$
- (d)  $\{t \mid \exists x (Student(x) \wedge t.SID = x.SID)\}$

## 26 Transaction Scheduling: Conflict-Equivalence and Serializability

### Q1. Conflict Serializability - Cycle Detection (Moderate)

Consider the following schedule  $S_1$  involving three transactions  $T_1$ ,  $T_2$ , and  $T_3$ :

$$r_1(X); r_2(Y); w_1(Y); r_3(X); w_2(X); w_3(Y)$$

Which of the following is true?

- (a)  $S_1$  is conflict-serializable and equivalent to  $T_1 \rightarrow T_2 \rightarrow T_3$
- (b)  $S_1$  is not conflict-serializable
- (c)  $S_1$  is conflict-serializable and equivalent to  $T_2 \rightarrow T_1 \rightarrow T_3$
- (d)  $S_1$  is conflict-serializable and equivalent to  $T_3 \rightarrow T_2 \rightarrow T_1$

### Q2. Precedence Graph Trick (Hard)

Consider the following schedule  $S_2$ :

$$r_1(A); r_2(B); w_2(A); r_3(B); w_1(B); w_3(A)$$

Which of the following is true about  $S_2$ ?

- (a)  $S_2$  has a cycle in the precedence graph; not serializable
- (b)  $S_2$  is view-serializable but not conflict-serializable
- (c)  $S_2$  is conflict-serializable and equivalent to  $T_2 \rightarrow T_1 \rightarrow T_3$
- (d)  $S_2$  is conflict-serializable and equivalent to  $T_1 \rightarrow T_2 \rightarrow T_3$

### Q3. Conflict-Equivalence Reasoning (Moderate)

Which of the following pairs of schedules are conflict-equivalent?

- (a)  $S_3 : r_1(X); w_2(X); w_1(Y); r_2(Y)$  and  $S_4 : w_2(X); r_1(X); w_1(Y); r_2(Y)$
- (b)  $S_3 : r_1(X); w_2(X); w_1(Y); r_2(Y)$  and  $S_4 : w_2(X); w_1(Y); r_2(Y); r_1(X)$
- (c)  $S_3 : r_1(X); w_2(X); w_1(Y); r_2(Y)$  and  $S_4 : w_2(X); w_1(Y); r_1(X); r_2(Y)$
- (d) None of the above

**Q4. Conflict-Serializability of Long Schedule (Hard)**

Given the following schedule  $S_5$ :

$$r_1(A); w_2(B); r_3(A); w_1(B); r_2(A); w_3(B);$$

Which of the following is the correct serialization order?

- (a) Not conflict-serializable due to cycle
- (b)  $T_1 \rightarrow T_3 \rightarrow T_2$
- (c)  $T_3 \rightarrow T_1 \rightarrow T_2$
- (d)  $T_2 \rightarrow T_1 \rightarrow T_3$

**27 B and B+ Tree Indexing (DBMS)****Q1**

A B-Tree of order  $d$  contains  $n$  keys. What is the minimum number of nodes (excluding leaves) that the B-Tree can have?

**Q2**

In a B+ Tree of order 4, each internal node (except root) must have at least how many children?

**Q3**

Consider a B+ Tree used for indexing records in a file. Which of the following is true?

- (a) Search always ends at internal node
- (b) All keys are stored only in the internal nodes
- (c) Data is stored only at the leaf level
- (d) It requires more space than a B-Tree

**Q4**

Suppose a B+ Tree of order 5 is storing 10000 records. If each node (except leaves) has maximum children and fan-out remains the same throughout the tree, what is the height of the tree?

**Q5**

A B-Tree has a branching factor of 6 and contains 30000 keys. What is the maximum number of nodes that this B-Tree can have?

**Q6**

A B+ Tree index is built on a file with  $2^{20}$  records. Each leaf node of the tree can store 256 key-pointer pairs. What is the minimum height of the B+ Tree (including root and leaf levels)?

**Q7**

What is the main difference between B and B+ Trees that makes B+ Trees better suited for range queries?

**Q8**

In a B+ Tree, how many block accesses are required to locate a record if the tree has height  $h$  (including root and leaf), assuming binary search is used at each node?

**Q9**

Which of the following scenarios can cause a B-Tree node split during insertion?

- (a) When inserting at an internal node
- (b) When inserting at a leaf node only
- (c) When a node becomes full
- (d) Only if all sibling nodes are also full



**Q10**

Which of the following operations is more efficient in a B+ Tree than a B-Tree?

- (a) Point Queries
- (b) Insertion
- (c) Deletion
- (d) Range Search queries

**28 B+ Tree: Moderate to Hard****Q1 [MCQ]**

Consider a B<sup>+</sup> tree with a block size of 512 bytes, key size of 8 bytes, and pointer size of 4 bytes. What is the maximum number of keys that can be stored in an internal node?

- (a) 32
- (b) 42
- (c) 63
- (d) 64

**Q2 [MSQ]**

Which of the following are true about B<sup>+</sup> trees?

- (a) All data records are stored only in leaf nodes
- (b) Leaf nodes of B<sup>+</sup> trees are linked
- (c) Internal nodes store both data and pointers
- (d) A B<sup>+</sup> tree of order  $m$  has a maximum of  $m$  children for internal nodes

**Q3 [NAT]**

A  $B^+$  tree index is built on a field with 10,000 unique keys. The tree has a fanout of 100. What is the minimum height of the tree (root to leaf)?

**Answer:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Q4 [MCQ]**

What is the minimum number of keys in a  $B^+$  tree of order  $m$  and height  $h$  (root at level 1)?

- (a)  $m^h - 1$
- (b)  $2^h - 1$
- (c)  $2m^{h-1} - 1$
- (d)  $m^{h-1}$

**Q5 [MSQ]**

Which of the following operations may require merging or redistribution in a  $B^+$  tree?

- (a) Insertion
- (b) Deletion
- (c) Searching
- (d) Updating a key

**Q6 [MCQ]**

In a  $B^+$  tree used for indexing, which of the following is false?

- (a) Searching always starts from the root
- (b) All leaf nodes are at the same depth
- (c) Data is present in both internal and leaf nodes
- (d) Leaf nodes are linked in a sequential manner

**Q7 [NAT]**

In a  $B^+$  tree, the leaf nodes can store up to 100 data entries. If there are 1,000,000 records in a table, the minimum number of leaf nodes required is:

**Answer:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Q8 [MCQ]**

If a  $B^+$  tree has a fanout  $f$  and contains  $N$  keys, what is the worst-case time complexity to find a key?

- (a)  $\mathcal{O}(\log_2 N)$
- (b)  $\mathcal{O}(\log_f N)$
- (c)  $\mathcal{O}(f)$
- (d)  $\mathcal{O}(1)$

**Q9 [MSQ]**

Which of the following advantages do  $B^+$  trees have over B-trees?

- (a) Range queries are faster
- (b) Leaf nodes form a linked list
- (c) Supports binary search directly on internal nodes
- (d) All records can be found in internal nodes

**Q10 [NAT]**

A  $B^+$  tree is used for indexing 500,000 records. The fanout of the tree is 50, and each leaf node holds 100 records. What is the minimum height of the tree?

**Answer:** \_\_\_\_\_

## 29 B and B<sup>+</sup> Trees: Balance Property Questions

### Q1 [MCQ]

Which of the following is **true** about the balance property of a B or B<sup>+</sup> tree?

- (a) Only the root and leaves need to be at the same level
- (b) All internal nodes must be full for the tree to be balanced
- (c) All leaf nodes must be at the same depth
- (d) Balance is not a property of B and B<sup>+</sup> trees

### Q2 [MSQ]

Under which of the following conditions is a B<sup>+</sup> tree guaranteed to remain balanced?

- (a) After every insertion, keys are redistributed or split
- (b) After every deletion, underflow is handled by merging or redistributing
- (c) The height of subtrees may differ at most by 1
- (d) All paths from root to any leaf must be of same length

### Q3 [MCQ]

In a B-tree of order  $m$ , which of the following is necessary to ensure that the tree remains balanced after several insertions and deletions?

- (a) Leaf nodes must be sorted
- (b) Every non-leaf node except the root must have at least  $\lceil \frac{m}{2} \rceil$  children
- (c) Every internal node must have exactly  $m$  children
- (d) All internal nodes must be leaves

**Q4 [MCQ]**

A  $B^+$  tree is built by inserting  $N$  unique keys into an initially empty tree. Which statement is true?

- (a) It may become unbalanced due to skewed insertions
- (b) Its internal structure ensures it is always balanced
- (c) Balance is manually enforced by rebalancing operations periodically
- (d) Balance is only possible when  $N$  is a power of the tree's order

**Q5 [MSQ]**

Which of the following operations can affect the balance of a B or  $B^+$  tree?

- (a) Insertion at a leaf node
- (b) Deletion from an internal node
- (c) Search operation
- (d) Range query between leaf nodes

## 30 TOC: FA and Regular Languages

### Q1.

Let  $L$  be the language over  $\{a, b\}$  consisting of all strings that contain an even number of  $a$ s and an odd number of  $b$ s. Which of the following is true?

- (a)  $L$  is not regular
- (b)  $L$  is regular and can be accepted by a 4-state DFA
- (c)  $L$  can be accepted by an NFA with 2 states
- (d)  $L$  requires infinite memory

### Q2.

Which of the following languages is **not** regular?

- (a)  $\{a^m b^n \mid m, n \geq 0 \text{ and } m = n\}$
- (b)  $\{w \in \{a, b\}^* \mid w \text{ contains the substring } aba\}$
- (c)  $\{w \in \{a, b\}^* \mid w \text{ has even length}\}$
- (d)  $\{w \mid w \text{ is empty or starts and ends with same symbol}\}$

### Q3.

Which of the following is a **true** statement regarding regular languages?

- (a) Every finite language is regular
- (b) Regular languages are not closed under reverse
- (c) Union of a regular and context-free language is always regular
- (d) Intersection of two regular languages may not be regular

**Q4.**

How many states are required in the minimum DFA for the language  $L = \{w \in \{0, 1\}^* \mid w \text{ ends with } 01\}$ ?

- (a) 2
- (b) 3
- (c) 4
- (d) 5

**Q5.**

Which of the following statements is **false** about the pumping lemma for regular languages?

- (a) If a language is regular, then it satisfies the pumping lemma
- (b) If a language satisfies the pumping lemma, it must be regular
- (c) Pumping lemma can be used to prove that a language is not regular
- (d) All regular languages satisfy the conditions of the pumping lemma

**Q6.**

Consider the regular expression  $r = (a + b)^*abb$ . Which of the following strings is in  $L(r)$ ?

- (a) abba
- (b) aababb
- (c) abb
- (d) babba

**Q7.**

Let  $A$  be a DFA with 4 states. What is the maximum number of equivalence classes possible after applying the Myhill-Nerode theorem?

- (a) 4
- (b) 16
- (c) 5
- (d) Cannot be determined

**Q8.**

Let  $L = \{a^n b^m \mid n, m \geq 0 \text{ and } n \bmod 2 = m \bmod 3\}$ . Which of the following is true?

- (a)  $L$  is not regular
- (b)  $L$  is regular
- (c)  $L$  is context-free but not regular
- (d)  $L$  is recursive

**Q9.**

Which of the following sets of strings does the regular expression  $(a + b)^* a (a + b) (a + b)$  generate?

- (a) Strings with at least 3 a's
- (b) Strings that have 'a' at the third last position
- (c) Strings that end with 'a'
- (d) All strings that contain the substring 'aaa'



**Q10.**

Which of the following closure properties do regular languages satisfy?

- (a) Complement
- (b) Intersection
- (c) Concatenation
- (d) All of the above

**Q11.**

Let  $L = \{w \in \{0,1\}^* \mid \text{the number of 0's is divisible by 3}\}$ . What is the minimum number of states required in a DFA that accepts  $L$ ?

- (a) 2
- (b) 3
- (c) 4
- (d) 5

**Q12.**

Which of the following languages is **not** accepted by any finite automaton?

- (a)  $\{a^n b^n \mid n \geq 0\}$
- (b)  $\{a^* b^*\}$
- (c)  $\{w \in \{a, b\}^* \mid \text{number of a's is even}\}$
- (d)  $\{w \in \{0, 1\}^* \mid w \text{ contains } 010 \text{ as substring}\}$

**Q13.**

Which of the following is true about DFA and NFA?

- (a) NFA is more powerful than DFA
- (b) Every DFA can be converted to an equivalent NFA with at most the same number of states
- (c) NFA can accept non-regular languages
- (d) DFA and NFA accept different classes of languages

**Q14.**

Let  $L = \{w \in \{a, b\}^* \mid w \text{ has equal number of a's and b's}\}$ . Then:

- (a)  $L$  is regular
- (b)  $L$  is not regular
- (c)  $L$  is regular if length of  $w$  is bounded
- (d)  $L$  is finite

**Q15.**

Which regular language has a DFA with exactly one final state that is also the initial state?

- (a)  $\{a^n b^n \mid n \geq 0\}$
- (b)  $\{\epsilon\}$
- (c)  $\Sigma^*$
- (d)  $\emptyset$

## 31 TOC: PDA, CFL, DCFL

### Q1.

Which of the following languages is accepted by a deterministic PDA (DPDA) but not by a finite automaton?

- (a)  $\{a^n b^n \mid n \geq 0\}$
- (b)  $\{a^n b^n c^n \mid n \geq 0\}$
- (c)  $\{ww^R \mid w \in \{a, b\}^*\}$
- (d)  $\{a^n b^m \mid n \neq m\}$

### Q2.

Which of the following languages is not context-free?

- (a)  $\{a^n b^n \mid n \geq 0\}$
- (b)  $\{a^n b^n c^m \mid m, n \geq 0\}$
- (c)  $\{a^n b^n c^n \mid n \geq 0\}$
- (d)  $\{a^i b^j \mid i \neq j\}$

### Q3.

Which of the following statements is true?

- (a) Every context-free language is accepted by a DPDA
- (b) Every DCFL is a regular language
- (c) DCFLs are closed under intersection with regular languages
- (d) CFLs are closed under complement

**Q4.**

Let  $L = \{w \in \{a, b\}^* \mid \text{number of a's equals number of b's}\}$ . Then:

- (a)  $L$  is regular
- (b)  $L$  is deterministic context-free
- (c)  $L$  is context-free but not deterministic context-free
- (d)  $L$  is not context-free

**Q5.**

Which of the following languages can **not** be accepted by a PDA?

- (a)  $\{w \in \{a, b\}^* \mid w \text{ is a palindrome}\}$
- (b)  $\{a^i b^j c^k \mid i = j \text{ or } j = k\}$
- (c)  $\{a^n b^n c^n \mid n \geq 1\}$
- (d)  $\{a^n b^m \mid n \neq m\}$

**Q6.**

Which of the following operations are CFLs not closed under?

- (a) Union
- (b) Concatenation
- (c) Intersection
- (d) Kleene star

**Q7.**

Which of the following languages is **deterministic context-free**?

- (a)  $\{w \in \{a, b\}^* \mid w = w^R\}$
- (b)  $\{a^n b^n \mid n \geq 0\}$
- (c)  $\{a^n b^n c^n \mid n \geq 0\}$
- (d)  $\{w \mid \#_a(w) = \#_b(w) = \#_c(w)\}$

**Q8.**

Which of the following is **not true** about deterministic CFLs?

- (a) Every DCFL is closed under complement
- (b) DCFLs are closed under union
- (c) DCFLs are closed under intersection with regular languages
- (d) Not all CFLs are DCFLs

**Q9.**

Let  $L = \{a^n b^n c^m \mid n, m \geq 0\} \cup \{a^n b^m c^m \mid n, m \geq 0\}$ . Which of the following is true?

- (a)  $L$  is context-free
- (b)  $L$  is not context-free
- (c)  $L$  is DCFL
- (d)  $L$  is regular

**Q10.**

Which of the following statements is false?

- (a) Every regular language is DCFL
- (b) Some DCFLs are not regular
- (c) Some CFLs are not DCFLs
- (d) CFLs are closed under intersection

**32 TOC: Turing Machines****Q1.**

Which of the following languages is accepted by a Turing Machine but not by any PDA?

- (a)  $\{a^n b^n \mid n \geq 0\}$
- (b)  $\{a^n b^n c^n \mid n \geq 0\}$
- (c)  $\{w \in \{a, b\}^* \mid w \text{ is a palindrome}\}$
- (d)  $\{a^n \mid n \text{ is prime}\}$

**Q2.**

Which of the following is true for Turing machines?

- (a) Every Turing-recognizable language is decidable
- (b) Turing machines can decide the halting problem
- (c) A Turing Machine can have infinite tape
- (d) A DFA can simulate a Turing Machine

**Q3.**

Which of the following languages is not recursively enumerable?

- (a) Halting problem
- (b)  $\{\langle M \rangle \mid M \text{ halts on } \epsilon\}$
- (c)  $\{\langle M \rangle \mid M \text{ accepts } \epsilon\}$
- (d)  $\{w \in \{0, 1\}^* \mid w = w^R\}$

**Q4.**

Let  $L$  be a language accepted by a Turing Machine that always halts. Which of the following is true?

- (a)  $L$  is recursively enumerable
- (b)  $L$  is recursive
- (c)  $L$  is context-free
- (d)  $L$  must be finite

**Q5.**

Which of the following statements is **not true**?

- (a) Every regular language is recursive
- (b) Every context-free language is recursive
- (c) Every recursive language is context-free
- (d) Every recursive language is recursively enumerable

## 33 Computer Networks: IPv4 Addressing

### Q1. Class of IP Address

Which of the following IP addresses belongs to Class C?

- (a) 14.23.16.19
- (b) 128.96.39.10
- (c) 192.168.1.5
- (d) 224.0.0.1

### Q2. Network and Broadcast Address

A host has IP address 192.168.10.25/27. What are the network and broadcast addresses?

- (a) Network: 192.168.10.0, Broadcast: 192.168.10.63
- (b) Network: 192.168.10.32, Broadcast: 192.168.10.63
- (c) Network: 192.168.10.0, Broadcast: 192.168.10.31
- (d) Network: 192.168.10.25, Broadcast: 192.168.10.255

### Q3. Valid Host Address

Which of the following is a valid host IP address in the network 10.0.0.0/8?

- (a) 10.0.0.0
- (b) 10.255.255.255
- (c) 10.1.2.3
- (d) 255.255.255.0



**Q4. CIDR Address Block**

Which of the following CIDR blocks can accommodate at least 1000 hosts?

- (a) /24
- (b) /22
- (c) /25
- (d) /23

**Q5. Subnet Mask Interpretation**

What is the dotted decimal representation of subnet mask for a /21 network?

- (a) 255.255.255.0
- (b) 255.255.248.0
- (c) 255.255.240.0
- (d) 255.255.252.0

**Q6. Number of Subnets**

A network administrator has a Class B network and uses a subnet mask of 255.255.255.0. How many subnets are possible?

- (a) 64
- (b) 256
- (c) 1024
- (d) 512

**Q7. Number of Hosts in Subnet**

How many usable host addresses are available in a /26 subnet?

- (a) 62
- (b) 64
- (c) 126
- (d) 128

**Q8. IP Address Belonging to Same Subnet**

Which of the following IP addresses are in the same subnet if the subnet mask is 255.255.255.224?

- (a) 192.168.1.33 and 192.168.1.62
- (b) 192.168.1.65 and 192.168.1.94
- (c) 192.168.1.100 and 192.168.1.129
- (d) 192.168.1.90 and 192.168.1.122

**Q9. IP Address Range Calculation**

What is the range of valid host addresses in the subnet 172.16.48.0/20?

- (a) 172.16.48.1 – 172.16.63.254
- (b) 172.16.48.0 – 172.16.63.255
- (c) 172.16.48.1 – 172.16.48.255
- (d) 172.16.48.1 – 172.16.62.254

### Q10. Subnet Calculation for Efficient Allocation

You are given a block 192.168.0.0/24. You need to create 4 subnets, each with at least 50 hosts. Which subnet mask will you use?

- (a) /25
- (b) /26
- (c) /27
- (d) /28

## 34 Computer Networks: CIDR and Subnet Allocation

### Q1. (GATE 2012)

An Internet Service Provider (ISP) has the following chunk of CIDR-based IP addresses available with it: 245.248.128.0/20. The ISP wants to give half of this chunk of addresses to Organization A, and a quarter to Organization B, while retaining the remaining with itself. Which of the following is a valid allocation of addresses to A and B?

- (a) 245.248.136.0/21 and 245.248.128.0/22
- (b) 245.248.128.0/21 and 245.248.128.0/22
- (c) 245.248.132.0/22 and 245.248.132.0/21
- (d) 245.248.136.0/24 and 245.248.132.0/21

### Q2. CIDR Block Division

An ISP owns the CIDR block 200.10.0.0/20. It wants to allocate:

- One subnet to Org A with 2048 addresses,
- One subnet to Org B with 1024 addresses,
- And keep the remaining.

Which of the following represents a valid allocation?

- (a) 200.10.0.0/21 to A and 200.10.8.0/22 to B
- (b) 200.10.8.0/21 to A and 200.10.0.0/22 to B
- (c) 200.10.0.0/22 to A and 200.10.4.0/22 to B
- (d) 200.10.0.0/21 to A and 200.10.0.0/23 to B

### Q3. Allocating Subnets from CIDR Block

You are assigned the CIDR block 172.20.0.0/22. You need to divide this block into 4 equal-sized subnets. What will be the subnet mask and a valid range for one of the subnets?

- (a) Mask: /24, Range: 172.20.0.0 – 172.20.0.255
- (b) Mask: /24, Range: 172.20.1.0 – 172.20.1.255
- (c) Mask: /23, Range: 172.20.2.0 – 172.20.3.255
- (d) Mask: /23, Range: 172.20.0.0 – 172.20.1.255

### Q4. Overlapping CIDR Blocks

Given the two CIDR blocks: 192.168.0.0/22 and 192.168.2.0/23, which of the following statements is true?

- (a) The blocks are non-overlapping and disjoint
- (b) The second block is fully contained within the first
- (c) The two blocks partially overlap
- (d) The two blocks are exactly the same

## 35 Computer Networks: IPv4 Datagram and Fragmentation

### Q1. Number of Fragments

A host wants to send a 3000-byte IP datagram over a network with MTU of 1000 bytes. The IP header size is 20 bytes. What is the total number of fragments generated?

- (a) 2
- (b) 3
- (c) 4
- (d) 5

**Explanation:** Each fragment can carry  $1000 - 20 = 980$  bytes of payload. To send 3000 bytes, we need  $\lceil 3000/980 \rceil = 4$  fragments.

### Q2. Fragment Offset

In the same scenario as Q1, what will be the value of the fragmentation offset in the last fragment?

- (a) 240
- (b) 370
- (c) 296
- (d) 280

**Explanation:** Offset is in 8-byte units. First 980 = offset 0, second =  $980 \rightarrow 122.5 \rightarrow 122 \times 8 = 976$ , third =  $1960 \rightarrow$  offset 245, fourth =  $2940 \rightarrow$  offset =  $2940/8 = 367.5 \rightarrow 368$ .

Last offset = **(c) 296** is incorrect, correct is 368. (So revise to have matching offset logic.)

### Q3. Fragmented Header Fields

Which of the following fields is **not** copied into the fragments during IPv4 fragmentation?

- (a) Identification
- (b) Flags
- (c) Header checksum
- (d) Time to Live (TTL)

**Explanation:** TTL is updated at every hop and not copied exactly. Identification, flags, and checksum are duplicated.

### Q4. Fragment Condition

Which condition **must** hold true for all fragments **except** the last during fragmentation?

- (a) The data length must be a multiple of 8
- (b) The total length must be exactly equal to MTU
- (c) The offset must be 0
- (d) The More Fragments (MF) flag must be 0

**Explanation:** Offset must be in 8-byte units. Only the last fragment may have a size not multiple of 8.

### Q5. Payload Size of 2nd Fragment

A datagram of size 5000 bytes is fragmented across a network with MTU = 1500 bytes. What is the **payload size** in bytes of the second fragment?

- (a) 1460
- (b) 1480
- (c) 1440

(d) 1500

**Explanation:** Each fragment can carry 1480 bytes of data (1500 - 20).  
So 2nd fragment = 1480 bytes.

## Q6. Fragment Offset Units

In IP fragmentation, what is the unit of the Fragment Offset field?

- (a) Bytes
- (b) 4 bytes
- (c) 8 bytes
- (d) 16 bytes

**Explanation:** Fragment offset is in units of 8 bytes to reduce bits needed.

## Q7. Fragment Reassembly Order

A host receives three IP fragments with the same Identification number and MF flag values as follows:

- Fragment 1: Offset = 0, MF = 1
- Fragment 2: Offset = 185, MF = 1
- Fragment 3: Offset = 370, MF = 0

Which of the following is true?

- (a) All fragments can be reassembled correctly
- (b) Fragment 2 is invalid
- (c) Fragment 3 arrived out of order
- (d) Fragment offset values are not aligned correctly

**Explanation:** Offset must be multiple of 8. 185 is not a multiple of 8  
→ invalid.

### Q8. DF Flag Behavior

A router receives an IP datagram with DF (Don't Fragment) bit set, and it is larger than the MTU. What action is taken?

- (a) Fragment it anyway
- (b) Discard and send ICMP "Fragmentation needed"
- (c) Drop silently
- (d) Send ICMP "Time exceeded"

**Explanation:** DF means do not fragment. Router must send ICMP Type 3 Code 4.

### Q9. Why Fragmentation is Avoided

Why is fragmentation **discouraged** in modern networks?

- (a) Causes higher throughput
- (b) Requires IP version 6
- (c) Reassembly happens at routers, increasing their load
- (d) Increases overhead and complicates reassembly at receiver

**Explanation:** Reassembly at host adds delay and complexity. IPv6 avoids router fragmentation.

### Q10. Truth About Fragmentation

Which of the following statements is **TRUE** about IPv4 fragmentation?

- (a) Reassembly is done by routers
- (b) Fragment offset is used by the receiver to reorder fragments
- (c) Fragments always arrive in order
- (d) All fragments must be of equal size

**Explanation:** Reassembly is done at receiver. Offset helps reorder.



## 36 Computer Network: IP Forwarding and Routing

## Q1. Longest Prefix Match and Packet Count

The forwarding table of an IP router is given below:

Prefix	Next Hop Router
200.10.0.0/16	R1
200.10.0.0/17	R2
200.10.0.0/18	R3
200.10.64.0/18	R4

The router receives 20 packets each for the following IP addresses: 200.10.5.1, 200.10.66.1, 200.10.130.1, 200.10.70.1, 200.11.0.1.

How many packets are forwarded via router R4?

**Concept:** Longest prefix match determines forwarding route.

- (a) 20                      (c) 60  
(b) 40                      (d) 80

## Q2. Subnet Mask Match with Default Route

The routing table of a router is given:

Destination	Subnet Mask	Interface
192.168.10.0	255.255.255.0	Eth0
192.168.0.0	255.255.0.0	Eth1
0.0.0.0	0.0.0.0	Eth2

To which interfaces will the following be forwarded: 192.168.10.45, 192.168.20.10?

**Concept:** Apply longest matching subnet mask.

- (a) Eth0 and Eth1
- (b) Eth0 and Eth2
- (c) Eth1 and Eth1
- (d) Eth0 and Eth0

### Q3. Prefix Matching Order

Given this table:

Prefix	Next Hop
10.0.0.0/8	R1
10.1.0.0/16	R2
10.1.2.0/24	R3
10.1.2.128/25	R4

What is the next hop for destination IP 10.1.2.200?

**Concept:** Choose the most specific prefix.

- (a) R1
- (b) R2
- (c) R3
- (d) R4

### Q4. Multiple Match Resolution

Forwarding table:

Prefix	Next Hop
172.16.0.0/16	R1
172.16.64.0/18	R2
172.16.64.0/19	R3
172.16.96.0/19	R4

What is the next hop for the following destination IPs? 172.16.65.1, 172.16.97.2, 172.16.120.8, 172.16.10.9

**Concept:** Longest prefix match across overlapping prefixes.

- (a) R2, R4, R1, R1
- (b) R3, R4, R4, R1
- (c) R3, R4, R3, R1
- (d) R2, R3, R3, R4

### Q5. Gate 2012 CIDR Allocation

ISP owns 245.248.128.0/20. Half goes to Org A, one-quarter to Org B, rest stays.

Which allocation is valid?

**Concept:** Divide CIDR space based on prefix lengths.

- (a) 245.248.136.0/21 and 245.248.128.0/22
- (b) 245.248.128.0/21 and 245.248.128.0/22
- (c) 245.248.132.0/22 and 245.248.132.0/21
- (d) 245.248.136.0/24 and 245.248.132.0/21

### Q6. Default Route Usage

A packet destined to 172.20.20.1 is received. Forwarding table:

172.16.0.0/12	R1
172.20.0.0/16	R2
0.0.0.0/0	R3

**Concept:** Specific vs default route.

- (a) R1
- (b) R2
- (c) R3
- (d) None

### Q7. No Matching Prefix

Table:

192.168.1.0/24	R1
192.168.2.0/24	R2

Destination = 10.0.0.5. What happens?

**Concept:** No match + no default route.

- (a) Packet dropped

- (b) Sent to R1
- (c) Sent to R2
- (d) Causes loop

### Q8. Overlapping Subnets

Table:

100.64.0.0/10	R1
100.64.0.0/11	R2

Destination IP = 100.64.128.1

**Concept:** Choose route with longer prefix match.

- (a) R1
- (b) R2
- (c) Equal priority
- (d) Dropped

### Q9. Matching with Varying Subnet Masks

Routing table:

192.168.0.0/18	R1
192.168.64.0/18	R2

Destination = 192.168.64.100

**Concept:** Check bit match carefully.

- (a) R1
- (b) R2
- (c) Either
- (d) None

**Q10. Minimum Size for Specific Allocation**

How many /26 subnets can be created from 192.168.0.0/24?

**Concept:** Subnetting calculations.

- (a) 4
- (b) 8
- (c) 16
- (d) 32

**Q11. Prefix Range Calculation**

What is the range of IPs in 172.31.192.0/18?

**Concept:** CIDR block to IP range.

- (a) 172.31.192.0 - 172.31.255.255
- (b) 172.31.192.0 - 172.31.223.255
- (c) 172.31.192.0 - 172.31.195.255
- (d) 172.31.192.0 - 172.31.207.255

**Q12. Routing Table with Trap**

Table:

192.0.2.0/24	R1
192.0.2.128/25	R2

Destination = 192.0.2.130

**Concept:** Confusing overlapping prefixes.

- (a) R1
- (b) R2
- (c) Both
- (d) None

## 37 Computer Network: Error Detection and Correction

### Q1. Hamming Code

A 7-bit Hamming code is used to encode 4 data bits. If the codeword received is 1011011, which bit position (if any) has the error?

### Q2. CRC bits

A CRC generator uses the polynomial  $x^3 + x + 1$ . What will be the CRC bits for the message 11000?

### Q3. Parity

Which of the following bit errors can be detected by a parity bit? (a) All odd number of bit errors (b) All even number of bit errors (c) Only single-bit errors (d) Burst errors

### Q4. Bit stuffing

Bit stuffing is used in a data link protocol. Given the bitstream: 01111110111110, what is the result after applying bit stuffing?

### Q5. Hamming Distance

A 5-bit codeword has a minimum Hamming distance  $p = 3$ . What is the maximum number of bit errors  $q$  that can be corrected?

### Q6. Even Parity

Assume an 8-bit data word. Using even parity, the parity bits are placed at positions 1, 2, 4, and 8. What is the codeword for data 10110010?

### Q7. Hamming Code

A 12-bit Hamming code contains 8 data bits and 4 check bits. If the check bits are  $c_1 = 1, c_2 = 0, c_4 = 1, c_8 = 1$ , what is the syndrome value?

**Q8. CRG Generator Property**

In CRC, which of the following generator polynomials can detect all single-bit and all double-bit errors? (a)  $x+1$  (b)  $x^2+x+1$  (c)  $x^3+1$  (d)  $x^3+x+1$

**Q9. Hamming distance**

What is the Hamming distance between the codewords 1101101 and 1110110?

**Q10. Error Detection using CRC**

Which of the following statements is true regarding error detection using CRC? (a) It can correct burst errors (b) It cannot detect single-bit errors (c) It can detect burst errors up to the length of the generator polynomial (d) It uses Hamming codes

**Q11. CRC Generator**

A sender uses CRC with generator polynomial  $x^4 + x + 1$ . The message is 10010011. What is the transmitted message including CRC?

**Q12. Hamming Code**

Given a 12-bit Hamming code with data bits  $d_8$  to  $d_1$  as 1 0 1 1 0 1 0 1 and parity bits  $c_1 = 1$ ,  $c_2 = 0$ ,  $c_4 = 1$ ,  $c_8 = x$ , determine the value of  $x$  for even parity.

**Q13. Odd Bit Error**

Which of the following generator polynomials guarantees detection of all odd number of bit errors? (a)  $x+1$  (b)  $x^2+1$  (c)  $x^2+x+1$  (d)  $x^3+x+1$

**Q14. Hamming Distance**

What is the minimum Hamming distance required to correct up to 3-bit errors?

**Q15. CRC**

If the generator polynomial is  $x^3 + 1$  and the data is 1001, what is the CRC remainder?

**Q16. Hamming codeword**

Given a Hamming codeword 1100101, and assuming even parity, determine whether an error exists and if yes, at what position.

**Q17. Hamming Code**

A 12-bit codeword using even-parity Hamming code is received as 110110101101. Identify the bit position in error.

**Q18**

Which of the following statements is FALSE? (a) Hamming code can detect and correct single-bit errors (b) CRC is used for error correction (c) Bit stuffing is used to avoid flag sequences (d) Parity can only detect even number of bit errors

**Q19**

Which of the following errors can a 4-bit CRC polynomial detect for messages of up to 15 bits? (a) All 3-bit errors (b) All 2-bit burst errors (c) All 4-bit burst errors (d) All errors with odd number of bits

**Q20**

In a 7-bit Hamming code, which bit positions are reserved for parity? (a) 1, 2, 4 (b) 1, 2, 3 (c) 2, 4, 6 (d) 1, 3, 5



## 38 Computer Networks: IP Header and Modification Rules

### Q1. IP Header Fields Modified by Routers

Which of the following fields in the IP header are modified by a router?

- (a) Source IP and TTL
- (b) Destination IP and Header Checksum
- (c) TTL and Header Checksum
- (d) Source IP and Destination IP

**Concept:** Only TTL and checksum are updated per hop.

### Q2. Change in IP Header at Each Hop

Which of the following is **always** modified at every router hop in an IPv4 network?

- (a) Source IP
- (b) Destination IP
- (c) Header Length
- (d) Time to Live (TTL)

### Q3. IP vs TCP/UDP Headers

Which of the following statements is correct?

- (a) The TCP header is modified by routers to adjust window size.
- (b) The UDP header includes sequence numbers.
- (c) The IP header contains source and destination IPs; routers modify MAC addresses instead.
- (d) Routers always modify both IP and TCP headers.

### Q4. Encapsulation and Headers

Which headers are added to a packet during encapsulation from Transport to Link layer?

- (a) Only TCP/UDP header
- (b) TCP/UDP + IP header
- (c) TCP/UDP + IP + MAC headers
- (d) Only IP and MAC headers

**Concept:** Each layer adds its own header.

### Q5. Fragmentation Impact on Header

Which field in the IPv4 header is used to handle packet fragmentation?

- (a) Identification
- (b) Time to Live
- (c) Total Length
- (d) Protocol

**Concept:** The 'Identification', 'Fragment Offset', and 'More Fragments (MF)' bits are used.

## 39 Computer Networks: Maximum Segment Size (MSS)

### Q1. MSS and MTU Relationship

Assume MTU = 1500 bytes, IP header = 20 bytes, and TCP header = 20 bytes. What is the MSS (Maximum Segment Size)?

- (a) 1500 bytes
- (b) 1480 bytes
- (c) 1460 bytes
- (d) 1440 bytes

**Concept:**  $MSS = MTU - \text{IP header} - \text{TCP header} = 1500 - 20 - 20 = 1460$

### Q2. Effect of Lower MSS Advertised by Receiver

During TCP handshake, a host advertises MSS = 512 bytes. The MTU of the link is 1500 bytes. Which of the following is true?

- (a) The sender will still send 1460-byte segments.
- (b) The sender will limit each segment to 512 bytes.
- (c) The sender will fragment each 1500-byte segment.
- (d) TCP ignores MSS; only MTU is relevant.

**Concept:** MSS advertised by the receiver limits the sender's segment size.

### Q3. MSS and Fragmentation

Assume a link with MTU = 1000 bytes. A TCP segment has 960 bytes of data, with 20-byte IP and 20-byte TCP headers. Will IP fragmentation occur?

- (a) Yes, because total size = 1000

- (b) Yes, because total size =  $1000 + 20 = 1020$
- (c) No, because  $960 \nmid 1000$
- (d) No, because IP supports any size segment

**Concept:** Total = 20 (IP) + 20 (TCP) + 960 = 1000  $\rightarrow$  No fragmentation.

#### Q4. MSS on Different Paths

A sender is connected to two receivers over different paths: - Path A: MTU = 1400 bytes - Path B: MTU = 1200 bytes

What is the maximum TCP payload sent to **\*\*each receiver\*\***, assuming standard IP and TCP headers?

- (a) A: 1360, B: 1240
- (b) A: 1380, B: 1280
- (c) A: 1360, B: 1160
- (d) A: 1400, B: 1200

**Concept:**  $MSS = MTU - 20 \text{ (IP)} - 20 \text{ (TCP)}$

#### Q5. MSS vs Window Size

Which of the following statements is true regarding MSS and TCP Window size?

- (a) MSS controls the number of bytes sent per connection
- (b) Window size limits segment size directly
- (c) MSS limits max payload per segment; window size controls how many unacknowledged segments can be sent
- (d) MSS and window size are always equal

## 40 Probability: Conditional Probability and Bayes' Theorem

1. A card is drawn from a well-shuffled standard deck. What is the probability that it is a king given that it is a face card?
  - (a)  $\frac{1}{3}$
  - (b)  $\frac{1}{13}$
  - (c)  $\frac{1}{4}$
  - (d)  $\frac{3}{13}$
2. An urn contains 3 red and 5 blue balls. A ball is drawn at random. What is the probability that it is red, given that it is not blue?
  - (a)  $\frac{3}{5}$
  - (b)  $\frac{1}{2}$
  - (c) 1
  - (d)  $\frac{3}{8}$
3. If  $P(A) = 0.6$ ,  $P(B) = 0.5$ , and  $P(A \cap B) = 0.3$ , find  $P(A | B)$ .
  - (a) 0.2
  - (b) 0.5
  - (c) 0.6
  - (d) 0.3
4. Two fair dice are thrown. What is the probability that the sum is 8 given that the first die shows a 3?
  - (a)  $\frac{1}{6}$
  - (b)  $\frac{1}{36}$
  - (c)  $\frac{1}{5}$
  - (d)  $\frac{1}{3}$

5. A bag contains 4 white and 6 black balls. Two balls are drawn one after the other without replacement. What is the probability that the second ball is white given that the first is black?

- (a)  $\frac{4}{9}$
- (b)  $\frac{2}{5}$
- (c)  $\frac{4}{10}$
- (d)  $\frac{4}{9}$

6. If a student is known to forget homework 10% of the time, and gets a zero when they forget. If they got a zero, what is the probability they forgot (assume 5

- (a)  $\frac{1}{3}$
- (b)  $\frac{2}{3}$
- (c) 0.67
- (d) 0.5

7. Let  $P(A) = 0.4$ ,  $P(B) = 0.6$ , and  $P(B|A) = 0.5$ . Find  $P(A \cap B)$ .

- (a) 0.2
- (b) 0.5
- (c) 0.24
- (d) 0.12

8. A person speaks truth 75% of the time. They report a 6 on a die. What is the probability that it was actually 6?

- (a)  $\frac{3}{7}$
- (b)  $\frac{2}{9}$
- (c)  $\frac{6}{13}$
- (d)  $\frac{5}{12}$

9. If  $P(A|B) = 0.8$  and  $P(B) = 0.5$ , find  $P(A \cap B)$ .
- (a) 0.3
  - (b) 0.4
  - (c) 0.2
  - (d) 0.5
10. In a class, 40% students are girls. 70% of the girls and 50% of the boys passed. What is the probability that a randomly selected student is a girl given that they passed?
- (a)  $\frac{28}{53}$
  - (b)  $\frac{7}{17}$
  - (c)  $\frac{14}{23}$
  - (d)  $\frac{21}{41}$
11. A test for a disease is 95% accurate. If 0.5% of people have the disease, what is the chance that a person who tested positive actually has the disease?
- (a) Around 9%
  - (b) Around 50%
  - (c) Around 95%
  - (d) Around 0.5
12. If  $P(A) = 0.3$ ,  $P(B) = 0.6$ ,  $P(A|B) = 0.5$ , find  $P(B|A)$ .
- (a) 0.9
  - (b) 1.0
  - (c) 0.6
  - (d) 0.5

13. A ball is drawn from a box with 2 red, 3 blue, and 5 green balls. Given it's not green, what is the probability it is blue?
- (a)  $\frac{1}{2}$
  - (b)  $\frac{3}{5}$
  - (c)  $\frac{3}{10}$
  - (d)  $\frac{3}{8}$
14. If events A and B are independent and  $P(A) = 0.6$ ,  $P(B) = 0.7$ , find  $P(A|B)$ .
- (a) 0.7
  - (b) 0.6
  - (c) 0.42
  - (d) 1.0
15. If  $P(B|A) = 0.7$ ,  $P(A) = 0.2$ , and  $P(B) = 0.5$ , find  $P(A|B)$ .
- (a) 0.28
  - (b) 0.5
  - (c) 0.9
  - (d) 0.7
16. If  $P(A \cup B) = 0.7$ ,  $P(A) = 0.4$ ,  $P(B) = 0.5$ , find  $P(A \cap B)$ .
- (a) 0.1
  - (b) 0.2
  - (c) 0.3
  - (d) 0.7
17. Let event A be “person wears glasses” and B be “person reads books”. If  $P(A) = 0.3$ ,  $P(B) = 0.5$ , and  $P(A|B) = 0.6$ , find  $P(B|A)$ .
- (a) 0.9
  - (b) 1.0
  - (c) 0.4
  - (d) 0.6



18. An email is spam with probability 0.2. A word “offer” appears in 70% of spam and 10% of non-spam. What is the probability an email is spam given it contains “offer”?
- (a)  $\frac{14}{31}$
  - (b)  $\frac{7}{10}$
  - (c)  $\frac{2}{5}$
  - (d)  $\frac{1}{2}$
19. If  $P(A) = 0.6$ ,  $P(B) = 0.5$ , and A and B are mutually exclusive, find  $P(A|B)$ .
- (a) 0.6
  - (b) 0.0
  - (c) 0.5
  - (d) 1.0
20. An unbiased coin is tossed. If head, a die is rolled. If tail, two dice are rolled. What is the probability of getting a sum of 2?
- (a)  $\frac{1}{12}$
  - (b)  $\frac{1}{24}$
  - (c)  $\frac{1}{36}$
  - (d)  $\frac{1}{18}$

## 41 Discrete Distributions and Conditional Expectation

1. Let  $X$  be a Bernoulli random variable with  $P(X = 1) = 0.7$ . Find  $E[X]$ .
- (a) 0.3
  - (b) 0.7
  - (c) 1.0
  - (d) 0.49

2. A Binomial variable  $X \sim \text{Bin}(n = 5, p = 0.6)$ . Find  $P(X = 2)$ .
- (a) 0.3456
  - (b) 0.2304
  - (c) 0.4096
  - (d) 0.345
3. A fair coin is tossed 4 times. What is the expected number of heads?
- (a) 1
  - (b) 2
  - (c) 4
  - (d) 0.5
4.  $X \sim \text{Geom}(p = 0.25)$ . Find  $E[X]$ .
- (a) 1
  - (b) 2
  - (c) 4
  - (d) 3
5. A machine produces defective items with probability  $p = 0.05$ . If 100 items are produced, what is the expected number of defectives?
- (a) 1
  - (b) 5
  - (c) 10
  - (d) 2
6. For  $X \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda = 3)$ , compute  $P(X = 2)$ .
- (a)  $\frac{9e^{-3}}{2}$
  - (b)  $3e^{-2}$
  - (c)  $\frac{6e^{-3}}{2}$
  - (d)  $\frac{6e^{-3}}{1}$

7. A Poisson random variable has mean 4. What is its variance?
- (a) 2
  - (b) 4
  - (c) 1
  - (d) 8
8. If  $X \sim \text{Bin}(n = 10, p = 0.2)$ , find  $\text{Var}(X)$ .
- (a) 1.6
  - (b) 2.0
  - (c) 4.0
  - (d) 3.2
9. Let  $X \sim \text{Bin}(n = 5, p)$ . For what value of  $p$  is  $\text{Var}(X)$  maximized?
- (a)  $p = 0.5$
  - (b)  $p = 1.0$
  - (c)  $p = 0.25$
  - (d)  $p = 0.75$
10. In a Poisson process, what is  $P(X \geq 1)$  if  $\lambda = 2$ ?
- (a)  $1 - e^{-2}$
  - (b)  $e^{-2}$
  - (c)  $1 - 2e^{-2}$
  - (d) 1
11. Two dice are rolled. Let  $X = \text{sum}$ ,  $Y = \text{max}$ . What is  $E[Y \mid X = 7]$ ?
- (a) 4.5
  - (b) 5
  - (c) 4.83
  - (d) 6

12. Joint PMF of  $X, Y$  is given as  $P(X = 0, Y = 0) = 0.1$ ,  $P(0, 1) = 0.2$ ,  $P(1, 0) = 0.3$ ,  $P(1, 1) = 0.4$ . Find  $P(X = 1)$ .
- (a) 0.7
  - (b) 0.4
  - (c) 0.3
  - (d) 0.5
13. Using above joint PMF, find  $E[Y \mid X = 1]$
- (a) 0.4
  - (b) 0.5
  - (c) 0.6
  - (d) 0.8
14. Let  $X = 1$  if coin is Head, 0 otherwise.  $Y = 2X + 1$ . Find  $\text{Cov}(X, Y)$
- (a) 0.25
  - (b) 0.5
  - (c) 0
  - (d) 1
15. If  $X, Y$  are independent with  $\text{Var}(X) = 3$ ,  $\text{Var}(Y) = 2$ , what is  $\text{Cov}(X, Y)$ ?
- (a) 0
  - (b) 1
  - (c) 5
  - (d) 6
16. For same data, what is  $\text{Var}(X + Y)$ ?
- (a) 3
  - (b) 5
  - (c) 6
  - (d) 1

17. If  $\text{Cov}(X, Y) = 0$ , and  $\rho(X, Y) = 0$ , then:
- (a)  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent
  - (b)  $X$  and  $Y$  are uncorrelated
  - (c)  $X = Y$
  - (d) None of these
18. A fair die is rolled. Let  $X$  be the outcome. Compute  $E[X]$ .
- (a) 3.0
  - (b) 3.5
  - (c) 4.0
  - (d) 3
19. Let  $X$  be  $\text{Poisson}(\lambda = 2)$ . Find  $P(X = 0 \mid X \text{ even})$
- (a)  $\frac{e^{-2}}{\cosh(2)}$
  - (b)  $e^{-2}$
  - (c)  $2e^{-2}$
  - (d)  $\frac{e^{-2}}{2}$
20. For independent  $X, Y$  with  $E[X] = 2, E[Y] = 3$ , compute  $E[XY]$
- (a) 5
  - (b) 6
  - (c) 3
  - (d) 1

## 42 Expected Value: GATE-Style Questions

### Q1: Quiz Show Strategy (Based on GATE 2021)

A contestant is presented with two questions. If he answers the first question correctly, he is allowed to attempt the second one. Otherwise, he is disqualified. If he attempts question  $i$  first, he will only be allowed to attempt the other question if he answers  $i$  correctly. Let the probabilities that he knows the answers be  $P_1 = 0.8$  and  $P_2 = 0.5$ . The rewards for answering questions correctly are  $V_1 = 1000$  and  $V_2 = 2000$  respectively.

**Which question should he attempt first to maximize expected reward?**

- (a) Question 1
- (b) Question 2
- (c) Either order gives same expected value
- (d) Not enough data to decide

### Q2: Quiz Show Variation

Let  $P_1 = 0.6$ ,  $P_2 = 0.9$ ,  $V_1 = 3000$ ,  $V_2 = 1000$ .

**Which question should he answer first for maximum expected value?**

- (a) Question 1
- (b) Question 2
- (c) Either order gives same expected value
- (d) Cannot determine

### Q3: Quiz Show - NAT

Let  $P_1 = 0.5$ ,  $P_2 = 0.6$ ,  $V_1 = 1000$ ,  $V_2 = 2000$ .

**What is the maximum expected value (in \$) the contestant can receive?** (Enter integer)

**Q4: Quiz Show with Equal Rewards**

Let  $P_1 = 0.9$ ,  $P_2 = 0.5$ , and both questions carry reward of  $V = 2000$ .

**Which question should be attempted first?**

- (a) Question 1
- (b) Question 2
- (c) Order does not matter
- (d) Attempt both simultaneously

**Q5: Coin Toss Game**

A biased coin with probability  $p = 0.6$  of Heads is tossed 3 times. You earn \$10 for each Head and lose \$5 for each Tail.

**What is the expected net earning?**

- (a) \$5.4
- (b) \$6.0
- (c) \$7.2
- (d) \$8.1

**Q6: Dice Gamble**

A player rolls a fair six-sided die. If it shows 1 or 2, he earns \$10. If it shows 3, 4, or 5, he earns \$5. If it shows 6, he loses \$20.

**What is the expected earning from one roll?** (NAT – round to nearest integer)

**Q7: Card Drawing Game**

You draw one card from a well-shuffled standard deck (52 cards). You get:  
- \$20 if the card is an Ace, - \$10 if it's a face card (J, Q, K), - \$5 if it's a number card (2–10).

**What is the expected reward?** (NAT – up to 2 decimal places)

**Q8: Decision Tree EV**

You are offered a game where you flip a coin: - If Heads, you roll a fair 6-sided die and earn  $\text{\$die\_value} \times 10$ . - If Tails, you get nothing.

**What is the expected value of this game?** (NAT – integer answer)

**43 Variance: GATE-Level Conceptual and Numerical Questions****Q1: Conceptual (MCQ)**

Let  $X$  be a discrete random variable taking values in  $\{1, 2, 3, 4\}$  with uniform probability.

What is  $\text{Var}(X)$ ?

- (a)  $\frac{5}{4}$
- (b)  $\frac{3.5^2}{2}$
- (c)  $\frac{5}{3}$
- (d)  $\frac{5}{2}$

**Q2: Calculation (NAT)**

Let a random variable  $X$  take values  $\{-1, 0, 1\}$  with probabilities  $P(X = -1) = 0.25$ ,  $P(X = 0) = 0.5$ ,  $P(X = 1) = 0.25$ .

Compute  $\text{Var}(X) = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

**Q3: Distribution Transformation (MCQ)**

Let  $X$  be a random variable with  $\mathbb{E}[X] = 3$  and  $\text{Var}(X) = 4$ . Define  $Y = 2X + 5$ .

What is  $\text{Var}(Y)$ ?

- (a) 4
- (b) 8



(c) 16

(d) 64

#### Q4: Variance of Indicator Variable (MCQ)

Let  $X$  be a Bernoulli random variable such that  $P(X = 1) = p$  and  $P(X = 0) = 1 - p$ . What is  $\text{Var}(X)$ ?

(a)  $p$

(b)  $1 - p$

(c)  $p(1 - p)$

(d)  $p^2$

#### Q5: Composite Distribution (NAT)

Let  $X$  be a discrete random variable taking values 1, 2, 3 with probabilities proportional to their square:

$$P(X = x) = \frac{x^2}{\sum_{k=1}^3 k^2}$$

Compute  $\text{Var}(X)$ .

## 44 Binomial Distribution

### Q1

Let  $X$  be a binomial random variable with parameters  $n = 10$  and  $p = 0.3$ . What is the probability that  $X$  is even?

(a) 0.3828    (b) 0.5168    (c) 0.6578    (d) 0.8234

### Q2

You toss a biased coin  $n = 8$  times. Probability of getting a head is  $p = 0.6$ . What is the expected number of times you get exactly 3 heads?

(a) 0.2458    (b) 0.2936    (c) 0.3125    (d) 0.3362

**Q3**

A random variable  $X$  follows Binomial distribution with unknown  $n$ , but with  $p = 0.5$ . If  $E[X] = 6$  and  $\text{Var}(X) = 3$ , then the value of  $n$  is \_\_\_\_.

**Q4**

Let  $X$  be a binomial random variable with parameters  $n = 6$  and  $p = 1/4$ . Then  $\mathbb{P}(X = 0 \cup X = 6)$  is equal to:

- (a) 0.1780    (b) 0.2373    (c) 0.3342    (d) 0.3184

**Q5**

Consider a random variable  $X \sim \text{Binomial}(10, p)$ . Suppose it is known that  $\mathbb{P}(X = 3)$  is maximum. Which of the following values can  $p$  take? Select all that apply:

- MSQ:** (a)  $p = 0.25$     (b)  $p = 0.30$     (c)  $p = 0.33$     (d)  $p = 0.40$

**Q6**

Let  $X \sim \text{Binomial}(n, p)$  and  $Y = n - X$ . Which of the following statements is/are always true?

**MSQ:**

- (a)  $Y$  is also binomially distributed with parameters  $(n, 1 - p)$   
(b)  $\mathbb{E}[Y] = n(1 - p)$   
(c)  $\text{Var}(X) = \text{Var}(Y)$   
(d)  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent

**Q7**

Suppose you conduct  $n$  independent Bernoulli trials with success probability  $p$  and record the number of successes  $X$ . If  $p$  is doubled and  $n$  is halved (assume  $np$  remains constant), then:

- (a) Mean of  $X$  remains the same but variance decreases  
(b) Mean of  $X$  increases but variance remains the same  
(c) Both mean and variance remain the same  
(d) Mean remains the same, but variance increases

## 45 Poisson Distribution

### Q1

If the number of phone calls arriving at a call center follows a Poisson distribution with mean 5 per minute, what is the probability that exactly 7 calls arrive in a given minute?

### Q2

The number of errors in a page of a printed book follows a Poisson distribution with mean 0.3. What is the probability that a randomly chosen page has **no** errors?

### Q3

Let  $X \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda)$ . Which of the following statements is/are true?

**MSQ:**

- (a)  $\mathbb{E}[X] = \lambda$
- (b)  $\text{Var}(X) = \lambda^2$
- (c)  $P(X = 0) = e^{-\lambda}$
- (d)  $P(X = k) = \frac{\lambda^k e^{-\lambda}}{k!}, \forall k \in \mathbb{N}_0$

### Q4

The arrival of customers at a ticket counter follows a Poisson process with an average of 4 customers per 10 minutes. What is the probability that **at least one** customer arrives in a 5-minute interval?

### Q5

Let  $X_1 \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda_1)$  and  $X_2 \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda_2)$  be independent. Then  $X = X_1 + X_2$  follows a Poisson distribution. What is the parameter  $\lambda$  of  $X$ ?

**Q6**

Suppose the number of customer arrivals at a store follows a Poisson process. Which of the following is **not** a property of the Poisson process?

**MSQ:**

- (a) Arrivals occur one at a time.
- (b) The process has independent increments.
- (c) The probability of an arrival in a very small interval is proportional to the length of the interval.
- (d) The time between successive arrivals follows a uniform distribution.

**Q7**

Let  $X$  be a Poisson random variable with parameter  $\lambda$ . Consider the following statements:

**MSQ:**

- (a) The moment generating function (MGF) of  $X$  exists and is finite for all real numbers.
- (b) The Poisson distribution is a limiting case of the Binomial distribution.
- (c) The sum of two independent Poisson random variables is not a Poisson random variable.
- (d) The probability that  $X$  takes an even value is the same as the probability it takes an odd value when  $\lambda = \ln(2)$ .

**Q8**

The number of calls arriving at a call center in one minute follows a Poisson distribution with mean  $\lambda = 4$ . What is the probability that the number of calls in two consecutive minutes differs by more than 3?

- (a)  $> 0.5$
- (b)  $< 0.5$
- (c) Equal to 0.5
- (d) Cannot be determined without more information

**Q9**

Let the number of printing errors per 100 pages in a book follow a Poisson distribution with a mean of 2. What is the probability that a randomly selected 200-page segment contains **at most 2** errors?

- (a)  $e^{-4}(1 + 4 + 8)$
- (b)  $e^{-2}(1 + 2 + 2^2)$
- (c)  $e^{-4}(1 + 4 + 8 + \frac{16}{6})$
- (d)  $1 - e^{-2}$

**Q10**

A radioactive source emits  $\alpha$ -particles at an average rate of 3 per second. What is the probability that in a 10-second interval, at least one second will have more than 5 emissions?

- (a) Greater than 0.9
- (b) Less than 0.5
- (c) Equal to 1
- (d) Cannot be determined exactly

**Q11**

A post office receives an average of 10 customers per hour. If the post office is open for 8 hours a day, what is the probability that there are **exactly 5 hours** in the day during which the number of customers exceeds 12?

- (a) Poisson with  $\lambda = 8$  used with binomial
- (b) Binomial with  $n = 8$ ,  $p = P(X > 12)$
- (c) Cannot be modeled
- (d) Binomial with  $n = 12$ ,  $p = P(X < 10)$

## 46 Geometric Random Variable: Moderate to Hard GATE Questions

**Q1**

Let  $X$  be a geometric random variable with success probability  $p = 0.2$ . Compute  $\mathbb{P}(X > 4)$ .

- (a) 0.4096
- (b) 0.32768
- (c)  $0.8^4$
- (d) Both (b) and (c)

**Q2**

If  $X$  is a geometric random variable with parameter  $p$ , then what is the expected number of trials until the first success?

- (a)  $\frac{1}{1-p}$
- (b)  $\frac{1}{p}$
- (c)  $\frac{1-p}{p}$
- (d)  $\frac{p}{1-p}$

**Q3**

Let  $X$  be a geometric random variable with  $p = 0.4$ . Compute  $\mathbb{P}(X = 3)$ .

- (a) 0.144
- (b) 0.096
- (c) 0.36
- (d) 0.064

**Q4**

If  $X$  is a geometric random variable with mean 5, what is the value of  $p$ ?

- (a) 0.2
- (b) 0.8
- (c) 5
- (d)  $1 - 0.2$

**Q5**

Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be independent geometric random variables with parameters  $p = 0.5$  and  $q = 0.25$  respectively. Find  $\mathbb{P}(X < Y)$ .

- (a)  $\frac{p}{p+q-pq}$
- (b)  $\frac{p}{p+q}$

- (c)  $\frac{q}{p+q}$   
(d)  $\frac{1}{2}$

**Q6**

In a memoryless process, the probability of success on the  $n$ -th trial, given that the first  $n - 1$  trials were failures, is the same as the probability of success on the first trial. This property is uniquely satisfied by:

- (a) Binomial Distribution  
(b) Geometric Distribution  
(c) Poisson Distribution  
(d) Normal Distribution

**Q7**

Which of the following is true for the geometric distribution with success probability  $p$ ?

- (a) It has finite variance only for  $p > 0.5$   
(b) It can take values from 0 to  $\infty$   
(c) It is memoryless and discrete  
(d) Its PMF is symmetric about the mean

## 47 Expected Value of Sums of Random Variables

**Q1**

Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be two independent random variables with  $\mathbb{E}[X] = 4$  and  $\mathbb{E}[Y] = 6$ . Compute  $\mathbb{E}[2X + 3Y]$ .

- (a) 26  
(b) 24  
(c) 30  
(d) 18

**Q2**

Suppose  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_{10}$  are i.i.d. random variables each with  $\mathbb{E}[X_i] = \mu = 5$ . What is  $\mathbb{E}[X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_{10}]$ ?

- (a) 50
- (b) 25
- (c) 10
- (d) 5

**Q3**

Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be two dependent random variables with  $\mathbb{E}[X] = 2$ ,  $\mathbb{E}[Y] = 3$ , and  $\mathbb{E}[XY] = 10$ . What is  $\mathbb{E}[X + Y]$ ?

- (a) 10
- (b) 6
- (c) 5
- (d) Cannot be determined

**Q4**

Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$  be independent and identically distributed (i.i.d) random variables with  $\mathbb{E}[X_i] = \mu$  and  $\text{Var}(X_i) = \sigma^2$ . What is the expected value of their average  $\bar{X}_n = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$ ?

- (a)  $n\mu$
- (b)  $\frac{\mu}{n}$
- (c)  $\mu$
- (d) Cannot be determined

**Q5**

Let  $X$  be a discrete random variable taking values  $\{1, 2, 3\}$  with probabilities  $\mathbb{P}(X = 1) = \frac{1}{6}$ ,  $\mathbb{P}(X = 2) = \frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\mathbb{P}(X = 3) = \frac{1}{3}$ . Let  $Y = 2X + 1$ . Compute  $\mathbb{E}[Y]$ .

- (a) 5
- (b) 6
- (c) 7
- (d) 8

**Q6**

Which of the following is always true for any two random variables  $X$  and  $Y$ ?



- (a)  $\mathbb{E}[X + Y] = \mathbb{E}[X] + \mathbb{E}[Y]$
- (b)  $\mathbb{E}[XY] = \mathbb{E}[X] \cdot \mathbb{E}[Y]$
- (c)  $\mathbb{E}[X - Y] = \mathbb{E}[X] - \mathbb{E}[Y]$
- (d) Both (a) and (c)

## Q7

Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$  be i.i.d. random variables. Which of the following statements is **false**?

- (a)  $\mathbb{E}[\sum_{i=1}^n X_i] = n \cdot \mathbb{E}[X_1]$
- (b)  $\mathbb{E}\left[\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i\right] = \mathbb{E}[X_1]$
- (c)  $\mathbb{E}[X_i + X_j] = \mathbb{E}[X_i] + \mathbb{E}[X_j]$
- (d)  $\mathbb{E}[X_i^2 + X_j^2] = (\mathbb{E}[X_i])^2 + (\mathbb{E}[X_j])^2$

## 48 Cumulative Distribution Function (CDF): Conceptual Questions

### Q1

Let  $F_X(x)$  be the cumulative distribution function of a random variable  $X$ . Which of the following is **not necessarily true** for all real-valued random variables?

- (a)  $F_X$  is a non-decreasing function.
- (b)  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} F_X(x) = 1$
- (c)  $F_X(x)$  is continuous for all  $x$
- (d)  $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} F_X(x) = 0$

### Q2

If  $F_X(x)$  is the cumulative distribution function of a discrete random variable  $X$ , then  $F_X(x)$  is:

- (a) A step function that is right-continuous
- (b) A step function that is left-continuous
- (c) A continuous and differentiable function
- (d) Always strictly increasing

**Q3**

Suppose  $X$  is a random variable and  $F_X(x)$  is its CDF. Which of the following expressions correctly represents the probability that  $X$  lies in the interval  $(a, b]$ ?

- (a)  $F_X(b) - F_X(a)$
- (b)  $F_X(b) - F_X(a-)$
- (c)  $F_X(b) - F_X(a+)$
- (d)  $F_X(b+) - F_X(a+)$

**Q4**

Which of the following statements about the CDF of any real-valued random variable is **false**?

- (a)  $F_X(x)$  is bounded between 0 and 1
- (b)  $F_X(x)$  is differentiable everywhere
- (c)  $F_X(x)$  is right-continuous
- (d)  $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} F_X(x) = 0$  and  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} F_X(x) = 1$

**Q5**

Let  $F_X(x)$  be the CDF of a random variable  $X$ . Then  $\mathbb{P}(X = a)$  equals:

- (a)  $F_X(a) - F_X(a-)$
- (b)  $F_X(a+)$
- (c)  $F_X(a)$
- (d)  $F_X(a-) - F_X(a+)$

## 49 Introduction to Continuous Random Variables

### Q1

Let  $X$  be a continuous random variable with probability density function (PDF) given by

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 2x & 0 \leq x \leq 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Compute  $\mathbb{P}(0.25 \leq X \leq 0.75)$ .

### Q2

If  $X$  is a continuous random variable with PDF  $f(x)$ , which of the following is **always true**?

- (a)  $f(x) \geq 0$  for all  $x$
- (b)  $f(x)$  is always continuous
- (c)  $f(x) \leq 1$  for all  $x$
- (d)  $f(x)$  has a finite number of local maxima

### Q3

Let  $X$  be a continuous random variable with PDF:

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} k(1 - x^2), & -1 \leq x \leq 1 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Find the value of  $k$  such that  $f(x)$  is a valid PDF.

### Q4

Let  $X$  be a continuous random variable uniformly distributed over  $[a, b]$ . Then the cumulative distribution function (CDF)  $F_X(x)$  is:

- (a)  $\frac{x - a}{b - a}$  for  $x \in [a, b]$
- (b)  $1 - \frac{x - a}{b - a}$  for  $x \in [a, b]$
- (c) Constant for all  $x$
- (d)  $\frac{b - x}{b - a}$  for  $x \in [a, b]$

**Q5**

Let  $X$  be a continuous random variable with PDF  $f(x)$  defined as

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 3x^2, & 0 \leq x \leq 1 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Compute  $\mathbb{E}[X]$ .

**Q6**

Which of the following statements is **false** for a continuous random variable  $X$ ?

- (a)  $\mathbb{P}(a < X \leq b) = \int_a^b f(x) dx$
- (b)  $\mathbb{P}(X = c) = 0$  for any real  $c$
- (c)  $\mathbb{P}(a \leq X \leq b) = \mathbb{P}(a < X < b)$
- (d) The area under the PDF curve can be greater than 1

**Q7**

A continuous random variable  $X$  has the PDF:

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \lambda e^{-\lambda x}, & x \geq 0 \\ 0, & x < 0 \end{cases}$$

This distribution is known as:

- (a) Normal distribution
- (b) Poisson distribution
- (c) Exponential distribution
- (d) Uniform distribution

## 50 Expectation and Variance of Continuous Random Variables

**Q1**

Let  $X$  be a continuous random variable with PDF:

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 3x^2 & 0 \leq x \leq 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Compute  $\mathbb{E}[X]$  and  $\text{Var}(X)$ .

**Q2**

Let  $X$  be a continuous random variable uniformly distributed over  $[2, 4]$ . Compute  $\mathbb{E}[X^2]$  and  $\text{Var}(X)$ .

**Q3**

The exponential distribution with parameter  $\lambda > 0$  has the PDF

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \lambda e^{-\lambda x} & x \geq 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Compute  $\mathbb{E}[X]$  and  $\text{Var}(X)$ .

**Q4**

Let  $X$  be a continuous random variable with PDF:

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2}x, & 0 \leq x \leq 2 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Find  $\mathbb{E}[X]$  and  $\text{Var}(X)$ .

**Q5**

If  $X$  is a continuous random variable with mean  $\mu$  and variance  $\sigma^2$ , what is the variance of  $Y = 3X + 5$ ?

**Q6 (Conceptual)**

Which of the following is **true** for a continuous random variable  $X$ ?

- (a)  $\mathbb{E}[a] = a$  for any constant  $a$
- (b)  $\mathbb{E}[aX + b] = a\mathbb{E}[X] + b$
- (c)  $\text{Var}(aX + b) = a^2\text{Var}(X)$
- (d) All of the above

**Q7 (Conceptual)**

Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be independent continuous random variables with variances  $\sigma_X^2$  and  $\sigma_Y^2$ . What is the variance of  $X + Y$ ?

- (a)  $\sigma_X^2 + \sigma_Y^2$
- (b)  $\sigma_X^2 - \sigma_Y^2$

- (c)  $|\sigma_X^2 - \sigma_Y^2|$   
(d) Depends on the distribution

## 51 Uniform Random Variable: GATE-Style Questions

### Q1 (MCQ)

Let  $X \sim \mathcal{U}(2, 6)$ . What is the probability that  $X \leq 3$ ?

- (a)  $\frac{1}{4}$  (b)  $\frac{1}{2}$  (c)  $\frac{1}{6}$  (d)  $\frac{2}{3}$

### Q2 (NAT)

Let  $X$  be uniformly distributed over  $[1, 5]$ . Find the expected value  $\mathbb{E}[X]$ .

### Q3 (MCQ)

Let  $X$  be a discrete uniform random variable over the set  $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$ . What is  $\mathbb{E}[X]$ ?

- (a) 3.5 (b) 3 (c) 4 (d) 2.5

### Q4 (MSQ)

Let  $X \sim \mathcal{U}(0, 10)$ . Which of the following are true?

- (a)  $\mathbb{E}[X] = 5$  (b)  $\text{Var}(X) = \frac{25}{3}$  (c)  $\mathbb{P}(X > 8) = 0.2$  (d) PDF is constant for  $x \in [0, 10]$

### Q5 (MCQ)

Let  $X$  be a continuous uniform random variable on  $[a, b]$ . Which of the following is the correct formula for  $\text{Var}(X)$ ?

- (a)  $\frac{(b-a)^2}{4}$  (b)  $\frac{(b-a)^2}{12}$  (c)  $\frac{(b+a)^2}{12}$  (d)  $\frac{(b+a)^2}{4}$

### Q6 (NAT)

Let  $X$  be a continuous random variable with uniform distribution over  $[3, 9]$ . Compute  $\text{Var}(X)$ .

**Q7 (Conceptual MCQ)**

Which of the following statements is always true for a continuous uniform distribution  $\mathcal{U}(a, b)$ ?

- (a) The PDF is symmetric about  $\frac{a+b}{2}$
- (b) The mode equals the mean
- (c) The CDF is linear in  $[a, b]$
- (d)  $\text{Var}(X)$  depends only on the range  $(b - a)$

**Q8 (Conceptual MSQ)**

Which of the following statements are true for a discrete uniform distribution on the set  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ ?

- (a) All values have the same probability
- (b)  $\text{Var}(X) = \frac{n^2-1}{12}$
- (c)  $\mathbb{E}[X] = \frac{n+1}{2}$
- (d)  $\text{PDF}(x) = \frac{1}{n}$  for all  $x$

**Q9 (NAT)**

Let  $X$  be a discrete uniform random variable on  $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$ . Find  $\text{Var}(X)$ .

**Q10 (MCQ)**

Let  $X \sim \mathcal{U}(-1, 1)$ . What is the probability that  $|X| < \frac{1}{2}$ ?

- (a) 0.25 (b) 0.5 (c) 1 (d) 0.75

**52 Normal Random Variable****Q1 (MCQ)**

Let  $X \sim \mathcal{N}(5, 4)$  (i.e., mean = 5, variance = 4). What is the probability that  $X$  lies within one standard deviation of the mean?

- (a) 0.68 (b) 0.95 (c) 0.997 (d) 0.34

**Q2 (NAT)**

If  $X \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$  and  $P(X \leq z) = 0.8413$ , then the value of  $z$  is \_\_\_\_\_ (round to 2 decimal places).

**Q3 (MSQ)**

Which of the following are properties of the standard normal distribution?

(a) Mean = 0 (b) Variance = 1 (c) Symmetric about  $x = 1$  (d) Total area under PDF = 1

**Q4 (MCQ)**

Let  $X \sim \mathcal{N}(10, 1)$ . What is the value of  $P(9 \leq X \leq 11)$  approximately?

(a) 0.68 (b) 0.95 (c) 0.997 (d) 0.50

**Q5 (Conceptual MCQ)**

Which of the following best describes the shape of a normal distribution?

(a) Bell-shaped and symmetric (b) Skewed left (c) Skewed right (d) Uniform

**Q6 (NAT)**

Let  $X \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$  with  $\mu = 100$  and  $\sigma = 15$ . What value of  $X$  corresponds to  $Z = 2$ ?

**Q7 (MSQ)**

Let  $X \sim \mathcal{N}(10, 25)$ . Which of the following transformations result in a standard normal variable  $Z$ ?

(a)  $Z = \frac{X-10}{5}$  (b)  $Z = \frac{X-10}{\sqrt{25}}$  (c)  $Z = \frac{10-X}{5}$  (d)  $Z = \frac{X}{10}$

**Q8 (Conceptual MCQ)**

If  $X \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$ , then which of the following statements is true?

(a)  $P(X = \mu) = 1$  (b)  $P(X = \mu) = 0$  (c)  $P(X < \mu) = 0$  (d)  $P(X < \mu) = 0.5$

**Q9 (MCQ)**

Let  $X \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$ . What is the value of  $P(-2 \leq X \leq 2)$ ?

(a) 0.95 (b) 0.997 (c) 0.68 (d) 0.84



**Q10 (NAT)**

The height of adult males in a population is normally distributed with a mean of 170 cm and a standard deviation of 10 cm. What is the height below which approximately 97.5% of the males lie?

**53 Exponential Random Variable****Q1 [MCQ]**

Let  $X$  be an exponential random variable with mean 5. What is  $P(X > 10)$ ?

- (a)  $e^{-2}$
- (b)  $e^{-1}$
- (c)  $1 - e^{-2}$
- (d) 0.5

**Q2 [MSQ]**

Let  $X$  be an exponential random variable with rate parameter  $\lambda = 3$ . Which of the following are true?

- (a)  $E[X] = \frac{1}{3}$
- (b)  $\text{Var}(X) = \frac{1}{9}$
- (c)  $P(X > 1) = e^{-3}$
- (d)  $P(X < 1) = 1 - e^{-3}$

**Q3 [NAT]**

Let  $X \sim \text{Exponential}$  with mean 4. Compute  $\text{Var}(X)$ .

**Answer:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Q4 [MCQ]**

Which of the following represents the memoryless property of the exponential distribution?

- (a)  $P(X > s + t) = P(X > s) \cdot P(X > t)$
- (b)  $P(X > s + t \mid X > s) = P(X > t)$
- (c)  $P(X < s + t \mid X > s) = P(X < t)$
- (d)  $P(X > t \mid X > s + t) = P(X > s)$

**Q5 [MCQ]**

Let  $X$  be exponentially distributed with  $\lambda = 2$ . What is the value of the PDF  $f_X(x)$  at  $x = 1$ ?

- (a)  $2e^{-2}$
- (b)  $e^{-2}$
- (c)  $4e^{-2}$
- (d)  $2e^{-1}$

**Q6 [MSQ]**

Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be independent exponential random variables with rate  $\lambda = 1$ . Which of the following are true?

- (a)  $P(X < Y) = \frac{1}{2}$
- (b)  $P(X = Y) = 0$
- (c)  $P(\min(X, Y) > t) = e^{-2t}$
- (d)  $\min(X, Y)$  is exponential with rate 2

**Q7 [NAT]**

Let  $X \sim \text{Exp}(\lambda)$  and  $Y = aX$ , where  $a > 0$ . Then  $Y$  is exponentially distributed with rate  $\lambda' = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

**Q8 [MCQ]**

Which of the following distributions has the memoryless property like exponential?

- (a) Normal
- (b) Poisson
- (c) Geometric
- (d) Uniform

**Q9 [MCQ]**

Let the lifetime (in hours) of a component be exponentially distributed with a mean of 50 hours. What is the probability that it lasts more than 150 hours?

- (a)  $e^{-3}$
- (b)  $e^{-1.5}$
- (c)  $1 - e^{-3}$
- (d)  $1 - e^{-1.5}$

**Q10 [MSQ - Conceptual]**

Which of the following are correct properties of exponential distribution?

- (a) Defined for  $x > 0$
- (b) CDF is  $F(x) = 1 - e^{-\lambda x}$
- (c) Always symmetric about the mean
- (d) Has memoryless property

## 54 Hazard Rate Function

### Q1 [MCQ]

Let  $X$  be a continuous random variable with PDF:

$$f_X(x) = \begin{cases} \lambda e^{-\lambda x}, & x \geq 0 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

The hazard rate function  $h(x)$  is:

- (a)  $\lambda x$
- (b)  $\frac{1}{\lambda}$
- (c)  $\lambda$
- (d)  $e^{-\lambda x}$

### Q2 [MSQ]

Which of the following statements are true regarding the hazard function  $h(x)$ ?

- (a) For an exponential distribution, the hazard rate is constant.
- (b) Increasing hazard rate implies increasing failure rate.
- (c) Hazard function is the ratio of the PDF and survival function.
- (d) The hazard function is always greater than 1 for exponential distributions.

### Q3 [MCQ]

The survival function is  $S(t) = e^{-\lambda t^2}$  for  $t \geq 0$ . The hazard rate function  $h(t)$  is:

- (a)  $2\lambda t$
- (b)  $\lambda t$
- (c)  $\lambda t^2$
- (d)  $e^{-\lambda t^2}$

**Q4 [Conceptual MCQ]**

The hazard rate function is best described as:

- (a) The probability of failure at time  $t$ .
- (b) The expected number of failures up to time  $t$ .
- (c) The instantaneous failure rate at time  $t$ , given survival up to  $t$ .
- (d) The cumulative distribution function of the failure time.

**Q5 [NAT]**

Let the lifetime of a component be exponentially distributed with mean 5 units. What is the value of the hazard rate?

**Q6 [NAT]**

The survival function of a system is given by  $S(t) = e^{-0.01t^2}$ . Compute the hazard rate at  $t = 10$ .

**Q7 [NAT]**

The PDF of a component's lifetime is given as:

$$f(t) = \frac{3t^2}{1000}, \quad 0 \leq t \leq 10$$

Calculate the hazard rate at  $t = 5$ . Use:

$$h(t) = \frac{f(t)}{S(t)}, \quad S(t) = 1 - \int_0^t f(x)dx$$

**Q8 [Conceptual MCQ]**

Which of the following distributions have increasing hazard rate functions?

- (a) Exponential distribution
- (b) Weibull distribution with shape parameter  $k > 1$
- (c) Uniform distribution
- (d) Normal distribution

## 55 Properties of Expectation: Conceptual Questions

### Q1.

Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be random variables such that  $E[X] = 5$  and  $E[Y] = 7$ . What is  $E[X + Y]$ ?

### Q2.

Let  $X$  be a random variable and  $a, b$  be constants. Which of the following is true?

- (a)  $E[aX + b] = aE[X] + b$
- (b)  $E[aX + b] = E[X] + ab$
- (c)  $E[aX + b] = a + bE[X]$
- (d)  $E[aX + b] = aE[X - b]$

### Q3.

If  $E[X] = \mu$  and  $Y = X - \mu$ , then  $E[Y]$  is:

- (a)  $\mu$
- (b) 0
- (c)  $-\mu$
- (d) 1

### Q4.

Let  $X$  be a discrete random variable taking values  $\{1, 2, 3\}$  with equal probability. What is  $E[X^2]$ ?

**Q5.**

Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be independent. Which of the following is true?

- (a)  $E[XY] = E[X] + E[Y]$
- (b)  $E[XY] = E[X]E[Y]$
- (c)  $E[XY] = \max(E[X], E[Y])$
- (d)  $E[XY] = 0$

**Q6.**

Which of the following is **not always true**?

- (a)  $E[a] = a$
- (b)  $E[aX] = aE[X]$
- (c)  $E[X + Y] = E[X] + E[Y]$
- (d)  $E[XY] = E[X] + E[Y]$  (without independence)

**Q7.**

If  $X$  is a constant random variable with value  $c$ , then  $E[X^2] = ?$

**Q8.**

If  $X$  is a fair die roll, what is  $E[3X + 4]$ ?

**Q9.**

If  $X$  and  $Y$  are random variables and  $E[X] = E[Y]$ , is it necessary that  $X = Y$ ?

**Q10.**

If  $X$  is a discrete r.v. and  $f$  is a function, then  $E[f(X)] = f(E[X])$  — is this always true?

**Q11.**

Let  $X$  be a non-negative random variable. Which of the following is necessarily true?

- (a)  $E[X] \geq 0$
- (b)  $E[X] > 0$
- (c)  $E[X] < 0$
- (d)  $E[X] = 0$

**Q12.**

If  $X$  and  $Y$  are uncorrelated, is  $E[XY] = E[X]E[Y]$  always true?

**Q13.**

Let  $X$  be such that  $P(X = 2) = 0.5$ ,  $P(X = 4) = 0.5$ . What is  $E[(X - 3)^2]$ ?

**Q14.**

If  $X$  is a random variable such that  $E[X^2] = 25$  and  $E[X] = 3$ , what is  $\text{Var}(X)$ ?

**Q15.**

Let  $X$  be a continuous r.v. uniformly distributed on  $[0, 2]$ . Find  $E[X^2]$ .

**Q16.**

If  $X$  is a Bernoulli( $p$ ) variable, then  $E[X] = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

**Q17.**

True or False:

If  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent, then  $E[f(X)g(Y)] = E[f(X)]E[g(Y)]$



**Q18.**

Let  $X$  be a random variable with  $E[X] = \mu$ . Which of the following is true?

- (a)  $E[(X - \mu)^2] = 0$
- (b)  $E[(X - \mu)^2] = \mu$
- (c)  $E[(X - \mu)^2] = \text{Var}(X)$
- (d) None of the above

**Q19.**

Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be independent and  $Z = X + Y$ . Is it always true that  $E[Z] = E[X] + E[Y]$ ?

**Q20.**

A r.v.  $X$  is symmetric about 0. What is  $E[X^3]$ ?

## 56 Linear Algebra: Rank, Eigenvalues, and Eigenvectors

1. The rank of a  $3 \times 3$  matrix  $A$  is 2. Which of the following is true?
  - (a)  $A$  is invertible
  - (b) Rows are linearly independent
  - (c) Columns are linearly dependent
  - (d) Rank nullity theorem is not applicable
2. If rank of a matrix is equal to number of columns, the matrix is:
  - (a) Invertible
  - (b) Full row rank
  - (c) Full column rank
  - (d) Both (b) and (c)
3. If  $\text{rank}(A) = r$ , then the number of non-zero eigenvalues of  $A$  is at most:
  - (a)  $r$
  - (b)  $n$
  - (c)  $n - r$
  - (d) Always zero
4. If  $A$  is a diagonal matrix, its eigenvalues are:
  - (a) All ones
  - (b) All zeros
  - (c) The diagonal entries
  - (d) Cannot be determined

5. Let  $A$  be a  $2 \times 2$  matrix with eigenvalues 2 and 3. Find the eigenvalues of  $A^5$ .
- (a) 10 and 15
  - (b) 4 and 9
  - (c) 32 and 243
  - (d) 5 and 8
6. The eigenvalues of a real symmetric matrix are always:
- (a) Real
  - (b) Complex
  - (c) Imaginary
  - (d) None of these
7. Let  $A$  be a  $3 \times 3$  matrix such that  $A^2 = I$ . Then eigenvalues of  $A$  are:
- (a) All 1
  - (b) 1 or -1
  - (c) 0 or 1
  - (d) Complex numbers
8. If  $A$  is orthogonal, then  $A^T A =$
- (a) 0
  - (b)  $A^2$
  - (c)  $I$
  - (d)  $-A$
9. Matrix  $A$  has eigenvalues  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n$ . What is the trace of  $A$ ?
- (a) Sum of squares of eigenvalues
  - (b) Product of eigenvalues
  - (c) Sum of eigenvalues
  - (d) None of these

10. A matrix  $A$  is diagonalizable if:
- (a) It has  $n$  linearly independent eigenvectors
  - (b) All eigenvalues are same
  - (c) It is a zero matrix
  - (d) Only if symmetric
11. If  $A$  is symmetric, then eigenvectors corresponding to distinct eigenvalues are:
- (a) Orthogonal
  - (b) Parallel
  - (c) Linearly dependent
  - (d) None of these
12. Let  $A$  be a matrix with eigenvalue 4 of multiplicity 2. Which of the following must be true?
- (a)  $A$  is diagonalizable
  - (b)  $A$  is not invertible
  - (c) 4 is the only eigenvalue
  - (d) 4 is not necessarily diagonalizable
13. The rank of matrix:
- $$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 4 & 6 \\ 3 & 6 & 9 \end{bmatrix}$$
- is:
- (a) 3
  - (b) 2
  - (c) 1
  - (d) 0

14. Let  $A$  be a  $3 \times 3$  matrix with eigenvalues 2, 0, 5. What is  $\det(A)$ ?
- (a) 0
  - (b) 7
  - (c) 10
  - (d) None of these
15. Eigenvalues of an upper triangular matrix are:
- (a) All 1
  - (b) Its diagonal entries
  - (c) Sum of rows
  - (d) Zero
16. If  $A$  has eigenvalue 2 with eigenvector  $\vec{v}$ , then  $A^3\vec{v} = ?$
- (a)  $8\vec{v}$
  - (b)  $6\vec{v}$
  - (c)  $3\vec{v}$
  - (d) Cannot be determined
17. Let  $A$  be a  $3 \times 3$  matrix with eigenvalues 1, 2, 3. Then eigenvalues of  $A^{-1}$  are:
- (a)  $\frac{1}{6}$
  - (b) 1, 2, 3
  - (c)  $1, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{3}$
  - (d) None
18. If  $A$  has only 1 eigenvector, it is:
- (a) Diagonalizable
  - (b) Not diagonalizable
  - (c) Symmetric
  - (d) Orthogonal

19. The matrix  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$  has:

- (a) Two distinct eigenvalues
- (b) One eigenvalue, two eigenvectors
- (c) One eigenvalue, one eigenvector
- (d) Complex eigenvalues

20. Which of the following statements is false?

- (a) All real symmetric matrices are diagonalizable
- (b) Eigenvalues of a matrix are always real
- (c) Eigenvectors can be complex
- (d) Rank of  $A$  is number of non-zero singular values

## 57 Properties of Determinants: Conceptual Questions

### Q1.

If the determinant of matrix  $A$  is zero, then which of the following must be true?

- (a)  $A$  is invertible
- (b)  $A$  has linearly independent rows
- (c)  $A$  is singular
- (d)  $A^2$  has a non-zero determinant

### Q2.

If  $\det(A) = 5$ , what is the value of  $\det(3A)$  for a  $3 \times 3$  matrix?

### Q3.

If  $A$  and  $B$  are square matrices of the same order, then  $\det(AB) =$   
\_\_\_\_\_

**Q4.**

If  $A$  is a  $n \times n$  matrix and  $\lambda$  is a scalar, then  $\det(\lambda A) = ?$

**Q5.**

True or False: If two rows of a matrix are interchanged, the determinant remains the same.

**Q6.**

Which of the following matrices has determinant zero?

- (a) A matrix with two identical rows
- (b) A diagonal matrix with one entry zero
- (c) A matrix whose rank is less than its order
- (d) All of the above

**Q7.**

If  $\det(A) = d \neq 0$ , then what is  $\det(A^{-1})$ ?

**Q8.**

If  $A$  is orthogonal, then  $\det(A) = ?$

**Q9.**

Let  $A$  be a  $3 \times 3$  matrix with  $\det(A) = 2$ . What is  $\det(\text{adj}(A))$ ?

**Q10.**

Which of the following operations does **\*\*not\*\*** change the determinant value?

- (a) Swapping two rows
- (b) Multiplying a row by a scalar
- (c) Adding a multiple of one row to another
- (d) Multiplying entire matrix by scalar

**Q11.**

Let  $A$  be a skew-symmetric matrix of odd order. Then  $\det(A)$  is:

**Q12.**

If  $A$  is a  $3 \times 3$  matrix with real entries such that  $\det(A) = 0$ , then which of the following is not necessarily true?

- (a)  $A$  is not invertible
- (b)  $A$  has a zero eigenvalue
- (c)  $A$  has full rank
- (d)  $A$  is singular

**Q13.**

True or False:  $\det(A) = \det(A^T)$  for any square matrix  $A$

**Q14.**

Let  $A$  be  $2 \times 2$  with  $\det(A) = 7$ . What is the determinant of  $A^T A$ ?

**Q15.**

Let  $A$  be a diagonal matrix with entries  $(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n)$ . What is  $\det(A)$ ?

**Q16.**

If  $A$  is a square matrix and  $\det(A) \neq 0$ , then what can we say about the solution of  $Ax = b$ ?

**Q17.**

Let  $A$  be an upper triangular matrix with non-zero diagonal entries. Then, which of the following is true?

- (a)  $\det(A) = 0$
- (b)  $\det(A)$  is sum of diagonal entries



- (c)  $\det(A)$  is product of diagonal entries
- (d)  $\det(A)$  is not defined

**Q18.**

If  $\det(A) = 3$  and  $\det(B) = 4$ , then  $\det(AB^{-1}) = ?$

**Q19.**

Let  $A$  be a matrix such that  $\det(A) = 0$ . Which of the following is not guaranteed?

- (a)  $A$  is non-invertible
- (b)  $A$  has at least one zero eigenvalue
- (c)  $\text{Rank}(A) < \text{order of } A$
- (d)  $A$  is diagonalizable

**Q20.**

If a matrix  $A$  has all its elements in a row or column zero, then  $\det(A) = ?$

## 58 Determinants: Using Properties for Evaluation

**Q1.**

Let  $A$  be a  $3 \times 3$  matrix such that  $\det(A) = 4$ . What is the value of  $\det(2A^{-1})$ ?

**Q2.**

Let  $A$  be a  $4 \times 4$  matrix with  $\det(A) = 5$ . If  $B$  is obtained from  $A$  by swapping two rows and multiplying one row by 3, then what is  $\det(B)$ ?

**Q3.**

Let  $A$  be a  $3 \times 3$  matrix such that  $\det(A) = -2$ . Let  $C = A^2 \cdot (3I)$ . Compute  $\det(C)$ .

**Q4.**

If  $A$  is a  $5 \times 5$  matrix and  $A'$  is obtained from  $A$  by adding twice the third row to the fifth row, what can be said about  $\det(A')$ ?

**Q5.**

Let  $A$  be a  $3 \times 3$  matrix such that  $\det(A) = 6$ . Compute  $\det(A^T A^{-1})$ .

**Q6.**

Let  $A$  be a  $3 \times 3$  skew-symmetric matrix. Compute  $\det(A^T A)$ .

**Q7.**

Let  $A$  be an upper triangular  $4 \times 4$  matrix with diagonal entries 1, 2, 3, 4. Compute  $\det(2A)$ .

**Q8.**

Let  $A$  be a  $4 \times 4$  matrix with  $\det(A) = 2$ . Matrix  $B$  is obtained by multiplying the second and third rows of  $A$  by  $-1$ . Find  $\det(B)$ .

**Q9.**

Let  $A$  be a  $3 \times 3$  invertible matrix with  $\det(A) = -5$ . Let  $B = A + 3I$ . Can  $\det(B)$  be computed directly from this information? Justify.

**Q10.**

Let  $A$  be a  $3 \times 3$  matrix with all row sums equal to 5. What is the value of  $\det(A)$  if we subtract the first row from the other two rows?

## 59 Matrix Inverse: Numerical and Conceptual Questions

**Q1. [MCQ]**

Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 5 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$ . What is  $A^{-1}$ ?

(a)  $\begin{bmatrix} 3 & -1 \\ -5 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$

(b)  $\begin{bmatrix} 3 & -1 \\ -5 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \frac{1}{1}$

(c)  $\begin{bmatrix} 3 & -1 \\ -5 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \frac{1}{(2)(3) - (5)(1)}$

(d)  $A$  is not invertible.

**Q2. [NAT]**

If  $A$  is a  $2 \times 2$  matrix with  $\det(A) = -4$ , and  $\text{adj}(A) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$ , then find  $A^{-1}$ .

**Q3. [MCQ]**

Which of the following matrices is not invertible?

(a)  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$

(b)  $\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$

(c) Identity matrix

(d)  $\begin{bmatrix} 4 & -1 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

**Q4. [MSQ]**

Which of the following statements are true?

(a) A matrix with zero determinant is not invertible.

(b) If  $AB = I$ , then  $A$  is the inverse of  $B$ .

(c)  $A^{-1}$  exists  $\Rightarrow A$  is non-singular.

(d) For any square matrix  $A$ ,  $A \cdot A^{-1} = A$ .

**Q5. [Conceptual MCQ]**

If  $A^{-1}$  exists, which of the following is also true?

(a)  $(A^T)^{-1} = (A^{-1})^T$

(b)  $AA^{-1} = I$

(c)  $A^{-1}A = I$

(d) All of the above

**Q6. [NAT]**

Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$ . Compute the  $(2, 1)$  entry of  $A^{-1}$ .

**Q7. [MCQ]**

Which of the following must be true for  $A^{-1}$  to exist?

- (a)  $A$  must be diagonal
- (b)  $\det(A) \neq 0$
- (c)  $A$  must be symmetric
- (d) All eigenvalues of  $A$  must be positive

**Q8. [Conceptual MSQ]**

Let  $A$  and  $B$  be invertible  $n \times n$  matrices. Which of the following are true?

- (a)  $(AB)^{-1} = B^{-1}A^{-1}$
- (b)  $(A^{-1})^{-1} = A$
- (c)  $A + B$  is always invertible
- (d)  $ABA^{-1}$  is invertible

**Q9. [MCQ]**

If  $A$  is an orthogonal matrix, then:

- (a)  $A^T = A^{-1}$
- (b)  $\det(A) = 1$
- (c)  $AA^T = I$
- (d) All of the above

**Q10. [NAT]**

Let  $A$  be such that  $A^2 = I$  and  $A \neq I$ . What is  $A^{-1}$ ?

**Q11. [MCQ]**

Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ . Then  $A^{-1} =$

- (a)  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$
- (b)  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$
- (c)  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$
- (d)  $A$  is not invertible.

**Q12. [MCQ]**

If  $A^{-1} = A^T$ , then  $A$  is:

- (a) Diagonal
- (b) Orthogonal
- (c) Skew-symmetric
- (d) None of the above

**Q13. [NAT]**

Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ . Compute  $A^{-1}$ .

**Q14. [Conceptual MCQ]**

Let  $A$  be invertible. Which of the following operations does **\*\*not\*\*** preserve invertibility?

- (a) Pre-multiplication by  $A$
- (b) Transposition
- (c) Taking adjoint
- (d) Multiplying one row by zero

**Q15. [MCQ]**

If  $A$  is a  $2 \times 2$  matrix and  $A^2 = 0$ , then  $A^{-1}$ :

- (a) Exists
- (b) Equals zero
- (c) Does not exist
- (d) Is undefined

**Q16. [Conceptual MSQ]**

Which of the following matrices are always invertible?

- (a) Identity matrix
- (b) Diagonal matrix with non-zero entries
- (c) Orthogonal matrix
- (d) Upper triangular matrix with all diagonal entries non-zero

**Q17. [NAT]**

Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ . Compute  $\det(A)$  and determine if  $A^{-1}$  exists.

**Q18. [MCQ]**

Which matrix has **no inverse**?

- (a)  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$
- (b)  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$
- (c)  $\begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ -1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$
- (d)  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

**Q19. [Conceptual MCQ]**

For a  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$ , if one row is a linear combination of others, then:

- (a)  $\det(A) \neq 0$
- (b)  $A$  is invertible
- (c)  $A$  is not invertible
- (d) All rows are linearly independent

**Q20. [MCQ]**

Let  $A$  be an  $n \times n$  matrix such that  $A^T = A$  and  $\det(A) \neq 0$ . Which of the following is true?

- (a)  $A$  is orthogonal
- (b)  $A^{-1}$  is also symmetric
- (c)  $A$  is skew-symmetric
- (d) None of the above

## 60 Interconnected Questions on Determinant, Inverse, Rank, Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors

**Q1. [MCQ]**

If a matrix  $A$  is such that  $\det(A) = 0$  and  $A\vec{x} = \lambda\vec{x}$  has a non-zero solution, which of the following is necessarily true?

- (a)  $\lambda = 0$
- (b)  $\lambda \neq 0$
- (c)  $A$  is invertible
- (d)  $\vec{x}$  is the zero vector



**Q2. [MSQ]**

Let  $A$  be a  $3 \times 3$  matrix with eigenvalues  $\lambda_1 = 0$ ,  $\lambda_2 = 2$ ,  $\lambda_3 = 3$ . Then which of the following are true?

- (a)  $\det(A) = 0$
- (b)  $\text{Rank}(A) = 3$
- (c)  $A$  is non-invertible
- (d)  $\text{Rank}(A) < 3$

**Q3. [NAT]**

Let  $A$  be a  $4 \times 4$  matrix with eigenvalues  $1, 1, 0, 2$ . What is the rank of  $A$ ?

**Q4. [MCQ]**

If  $A$  is a  $3 \times 3$  real matrix such that  $A^T = A$  and  $\lambda = 0$  is one of its eigenvalues, then:

- (a)  $A$  is invertible
- (b)  $\text{Rank}(A) = 3$
- (c)  $\det(A) = 0$
- (d) All eigenvalues are positive

**Q5. [NAT]**

Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$ . Find  $\text{tr}(A)$  and  $\det(A)$ , then compute the sum and product of its eigenvalues.

**Q6. [MCQ]**

If a matrix  $A$  satisfies  $A^2 = I$ , and  $\text{Rank}(A) = 2$ , which of the following are true?

- (a) Eigenvalues are  $\pm 1$
- (b)  $\det(A) = 1$
- (c)  $A$  is symmetric
- (d)  $A^{-1} = A$

**Q7. [MSQ]**

Let  $A$  be a diagonalizable matrix with eigenvalues  $\{1, 1, 0\}$ . Which are true?

- (a)  $A$  is not invertible
- (b)  $\text{nullity}(A) = 1$
- (c)  $\text{Rank}(A) = 3$
- (d)  $\det(A) = 0$

**Q8. [MCQ]**

Given a  $3 \times 3$  matrix  $A$  such that  $A^3 = 0$ , which of the following must be true?

- (a)  $A$  is invertible
- (b) All eigenvalues are zero
- (c)  $\text{Rank}(A) = 3$
- (d)  $\det(A) = 1$

**Q9. [MCQ]**

Let  $A$  be a matrix such that  $A^T = -A$  and  $\vec{x}^T A \vec{x} = 0$  for all  $\vec{x}$ . Then:

- (a) All eigenvalues of  $A$  are imaginary
- (b)  $A$  is invertible
- (c)  $\text{Rank}(A)$  is even
- (d)  $\det(A) = 0$

**Q10. [NAT]**

Let  $A$  be a  $2 \times 2$  matrix with  $\text{Rank}(A) = 1$ . What is the determinant of  $A$ ?

**Q11. [MSQ]**

Let  $A$  be a  $3 \times 3$  matrix with eigenvalues  $3, 5, -2$ . Then which of the following are true?

- (a)  $\det(A) = -30$
- (b)  $A$  is invertible
- (c)  $\text{Rank}(A) = 3$
- (d) At least one eigenvector is a zero vector

**Q12. [MCQ]**

If  $A$  is orthogonal and  $\lambda$  is an eigenvalue of  $A$ , then which of the following must be true?

- (a)  $|\lambda| = 1$
- (b)  $\lambda = 0$
- (c)  $A$  is not invertible
- (d)  $\text{Rank}(A) < n$

**Q13. [NAT]**

Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -2 & -3 \end{bmatrix}$ . Compute  $\det(A)$  and the eigenvalues of  $A$ .

**Q14. [MCQ]**

If a matrix  $A$  has all eigenvalues as 1, then:

- (a)  $A = I$
- (b)  $A$  may not be  $I$
- (c)  $\det(A) = 1$
- (d)  $\text{Rank}(A) = n$

**Q15. [MSQ]**

Let  $A$  be a symmetric matrix with eigenvalues 1, 0, 0. Then:

- (a)  $\text{Rank}(A) = 1$
- (b)  $\text{nullity}(A) = 2$
- (c)  $\det(A) = 0$
- (d)  $A$  is invertible

**Q16. [MCQ]**

Let  $A$  be a  $4 \times 4$  matrix with  $\det(A) \neq 0$  and  $A^T = A^{-1}$ . Which of the following must be true?

- (a)  $A$  is symmetric
- (b)  $A$  is orthogonal
- (c)  $\text{Rank}(A) < 4$
- (d) All eigenvalues of  $A$  are zero

**Q17. [MCQ]**

Let  $A$  be an  $n \times n$  matrix with  $\text{Rank}(A) = n$ . Then:

- (a)  $A$  is invertible
- (b)  $\det(A) \neq 0$
- (c) All eigenvalues are non-zero
- (d)  $A$  is orthogonal

**Q18. [NAT]**

Let  $A$  be a  $2 \times 2$  matrix with eigenvalues 2 and 5. Find  $\det(A^{-1})$ .

**Q19. [MSQ]**

If  $A$  is invertible, which of the following are always true?

- (a)  $\det(A^{-1}) = 1/\det(A)$
- (b)  $\text{Rank}(A^{-1}) = \text{Rank}(A)$
- (c) All eigenvalues of  $A^{-1}$  are reciprocals of those of  $A$
- (d)  $\det(A^{-1}) < 0$  always

**Q20. [MCQ]**

Let  $A$  be a  $3 \times 3$  matrix and  $A^2 = A$ . Which of the following must be true?

- (a)  $\det(A) = 0$  or 1
- (b)  $A$  is invertible
- (c) All eigenvalues are either 0 or 1
- (d)  $\text{Rank}(A) = 3$

## 61 Answers to Conceptual Questions

### Cache and Array Access

- **Q1.1:** (a),    **Q1.2:** (a)
- **Q2.1:** (a),    **Q2.2:** (b)
- **Q3.1:** (a),    **Q3.2:** (b)

### Pipelining: GATE-style Numerical and Conceptual Questions

#### Answers:

**Q1. 1.33** (Time with forwarding: 21 cycles, Time without: 28 cycles. Speedup =  $28/21 = 1.33$ )

**Q2. 243 cycles** (First instruction takes 5 cycles. Remaining 99 overlap but depend on PO stage cycles:  $39 \times 2 + 35 \times 1 + 25 \times 0 = 145$  additional cycles. Total =  $5 + 99 + 145 = 243$ )

**Q3. 24 cycles** (First instruction takes 5 cycles. Then 19 more with 1 cycle overlap each:  $5 + 19 = 24$ . Add 2 branches  $\times$  2 cycle penalty = 4  $\rightarrow 24 + 4 = 28$ )

**Q4.  $n + 3 + k$  cycles** (3 initial pipeline fill cycles, n instructions, k stalls)

**Q5. 1 stall, 7 cycles** (Load-to-use hazard after LOAD requires 1 stall. Gantt: 5 stages + 2 more cycles for dependencies)

**Q6. 14 cycles** (First instruction takes 6 cycles (IF-WB). Then 9 more, each 1 cycle apart: total =  $6 + 9 = 15$ )

**Q7. 600 cycles lost** (Branch freq = 20% of 1000 = 200 branches. Penalty per branch = 3  $\rightarrow 200 \times 3 = 600$  cycles lost)

**Q8:** (C) 17, **Q9:** (B) 17, **Q10:** (C) 22, **Q11:** (C) 23

### Minimum Cost Spanning Tree (MCST)

- **2021:** (c),    **2020:** (d),    **2019:** (c),    **2016:** (b)

### Additional MCST Questions

**Answers:** Q1: (c), Q2: (c), Q3: (c), Q4: (c), Q5: (c)

**Prim's Algorithm**

**Answers:** Q1: (a), Q2: (b), Q3: (c), Q4: (a), Q5: (b), Q6: (a)

**Kruskal's Algorithm**

**Answers:** Q1: (b), Q2: (b), Q3: (b), Q4: (b), Q5: (c), Q6: (b)

**Dijkstra's Algorithm**

**Answers:** Q1: (c), Q2: (b), Q3: (c), Q4: (a), Q5: (a), Q6: (c)

**Bellman-Ford Algorithm**

**Answers:** Q1: (c), Q2: (c), Q3: (b), Q4: (b), Q5: (b), Q6: (c)

**Floyd-Warshall Algorithm**

**Answers:** Q1: (c), Q2: (c), Q3: (b), Q4: (b), Q5: (b), Q6: (b)

**Answers: Graph Algorithms with Data Structures**

**Answers:** Q1: (b), Q2: (d), Q3: (a), Q4: (b), Q5: (b)

**Answers: Sorting (Part 1)**

Q1: (b), Q2: (c), Q3: (a), Q4: (b), Q5: (b)

**Answers: Sorting (Part 2)**

Q1: (a), Q2: (a), Q3: (d), Q4: (a), Q5: (b), Q6: (c), Q7: (a), Q8: (a),  
Q9: (b), Q10: (a), Q11: (c), Q12: (c), Q13: (c), Q14: (b), Q15: (a)

**Answers: Time Complexity**

Q1: (c), Q2: (b), Q3: (c), Q4: (b), Q5: (b), Q6: (a), Q7: (b), Q8: (b),  
Q9: (c), Q10: (b), Q11: (b), Q12: (b), Q13: (b), Q14: (a), Q15: (a), Q16:  
(b), Q17: (a), Q18: (a), Q19: (a), Q20: (b)

**Answers: Edge-Case Brainstorming Questions**

Q1: (b), Q2: (d), Q3: (c), Q4: (a), Q5: (a), Q6: (b), Q7: (c), Q8: (d),  
Q9: (b), Q10: (b)

**Answers: C Programming with Pointers and Arrays**

Answers: Q1: (b), Q2: (d), Q3: (a), Q4: (d), Q5: (b)

**Answers: C Programming with Stacks and Queues**

Answers: Q1: (c), Q2: (d), Q3: (a), Q4: (d), Q5: (b)

**Answers: C Programming with Recursion**

Answers: Q1: (b), Q2: (b), Q3: (b), Q4: (a), Q5: (c)

**Answers: Operator Precedence Evaluation**

Answers: Q1: (b), Q2: (c)

**Answers: Pointer and String Manipulation in C**

Answers: Q1: (b), Q2: (a), Q3: (c), Q4: (b), Q5: (b), Q6: (c), Q7: (d),  
Q8: (b), Q9: (b), Q10: (c)

**Answers: Tricky C MCQs**

Answers: Q1: (a), Q2: (c), Q3: (b), Q4: (d), Q5: (b)

**Answers: Functional Dependencies**

Answers: Q1: (b), Q2: (d), Q3: (b), Q4: (a), Q5: (c)

**Answers: Normalization**

Answers: Q1: (a), Q2: (b), Q3: (a), Q4: (b), Q5: (c), Q6: (a), Q7: (b),  
Q8: (b), Q9: (c), Q10: (c)



**Answers: Normalization + Lossless Join + Dependency Preservation**

**Answers:** Q1: (b), Q2: (b), Q3: (a), Q4: (c), Q5: (c)

**Answers: SQL Conceptual Questions**

**Answers:** Q1: (b), Q2: (c), Q3: (a), Q4: (a), Q5: (a), Q6: (a), Q7: (b), Q8: (a), Q9: (b), Q10: (b), Q11: (a), Q12: (b)

**Answers: Tuple Relational Calculus**

**Answers:** Q1: (b), Q2: (a), Q3: (d), Q4: (b), Q5: (b), Q6: (a)

**Answers: Transaction Scheduling**

**Answers:** Q1: (b), Q2: (c), Q3: (a), Q4: (a)

**Answers: B and B+ Trees**

**Answers:** Q1: (depends on  $n$ , but generally at least  $\lceil \frac{n+1}{d} \rceil - 1$ ),  
Q2: (2), Q3: (c), Q4: (4), Q5: (approx. 30000), Q6: (3),  
Q7: B+ Trees maintain all data pointers in leaf level with linked leaves enabling fast range traversal,  
Q8: (h block accesses), Q9: (c), Q10: (d)

**Answers: B+ Tree: Moderate to Hard**

**Answers:** Q1: (c), Q2: (a), (b), (d), Q3: 3, Q4: (d), Q5: (a), (b), Q6: (c), Q7: 10000, Q8: (b), Q9: (a), (b), Q10: 3

**Answers: B and B<sup>+</sup> Tree Balance**

**Answers:** Q1: (c), Q2: (a), (b), (d), Q3: (b), Q4: (b), Q5: (a), (b)

**Answers: Finite Automata and Regular Languages**

**Answers:** Q1: (b), Q2: (a), Q3: (a), Q4: (c), Q5: (b), Q6: (c), Q7: (a), Q8: (b), Q9: (b), Q10: (d), Q11: (b), Q12: (a), Q13: (b), Q14: (b), Q15: (b)

**Answers: PDA, CFL, DCFL**

**Answers:** Q1: (a), Q2: (c), Q3: (c), Q4: (c), Q5: (c), Q6: (c), Q7: (b), Q8: (b), Q9: (a), Q10: (d)

**Answers: Turing Machines**

**Answers:** Q1: (b), Q2: (c), Q3: (a), Q4: (b), Q5: (c)

**Answers: IPv4 Addressing**

**Answers:** Q1: (c), Q2: (a), Q3: (c), Q4: (b), Q5: (b), Q6: (b), Q7: (a), Q8: (a), Q9: (a), Q10: (b)

**Answers: CIDR Allocation**

**Answers:** Q1: (a), Q2: (a), Q3: (d), Q4: (c)

**Answers: IPv4 Datagram Fragmentation**

**Answers:** Q1: (c), Q2: (c), Q3: (d), Q4: (a), Q5: (b), Q6: (c), Q7: (d), Q8: (b), Q9: (d), Q10: (b)

**Answers: IP Forwarding and Routing**

**Answers:** Q1: (b), Q2: (a), Q3: (d), Q4: (a), Q5: (a), Q6: (b), Q7: (a), Q8: (a), Q9: (b), Q10: (b), Q11: (b), Q12: (b)

**Answers: Error Detection and Correction**

Q1: (position 5), Q2: (100), Q3: (a), Q4: (011111010111110), Q5: (1), Q6: (011100010110), Q7: (1011), Q8: (d), Q9: (4), Q10: (c), Q11: (100100110110), Q12: (0), Q13: (a), Q14: (7), Q15: (101), Q16: (bit 2), Q17: (bit 6), Q18: (b), Q19: (a), Q20: (a)

**Answers: IP Header and Modification Rules**

Q1: (c), Q2: (d), Q3: (c), Q4: (c), Q5: (a)

**Answers: Maximum Segment Size (MSS)**

Q1: (c), Q2: (b), Q3: (a), Q4: (c), Q5: (c)

**Bays Theorem and Conditional Probability**

**Answers:** 1:(a), 2:(c), 3:(c), 4:(a), 5:(a), 6:(c), 7:(a), 8:(a), 9:(b), 10:(a), 11:(a), 12:(a), 13:(d), 14:(b), 15:(b), 16:(a), 17:(c), 18:(c), 19:(b), 20:(b)

**Discrete Random Variable**

**Answers:** 1:(b), 2:(a), 3:(b), 4:(c), 5:(b), 6:(a), 7:(b), 8:(a), 9:(a), 10:(a), 11:(c), 12:(a), 13:(c), 14:(b), 15:(a), 16:(c), 17:(c), 18:(b), 19:(a), 20:(b)

**Answers: Expected Value**

**Answers:**

Q1: (b), Q2: (a), Q3: 1600, Q4: (a), Q5: (c), Q6: 2, Q7: 7.31, Q8: 17.5

**Answers: Variance**

**Answers:** Q1: (a), Q2: 0.5, Q3: (c), Q4: (c), Q5: 0.6667

**Answers: Binomial Distribution**

**Answers:** Q1: (b), Q2: (c), Q3: 12, Q4: (a), Q5: (b), (c), Q6: (a), (b), (c) Q7: (a)

**Answers: Poisson Random Variable**

**Answers:** Q1:  $\frac{5^7 e^{-5}}{7!}$  Q2:  $e^{-0.3}$  Q3: (a), (c), (d) Q4:  $1 - e^{-2}$  Q5:  $\lambda = \lambda_1 + \lambda_2$  Q6: (d) Q7: (a), (b), (d) Q8: (b), Q9: (c), Q10: (a), Q11: (b)

**Answers: Geometric Random Variable**

**Answers:** Q1: (d), Q2: (b), Q3: (a), Q4: (a), Q5: (a), Q6: (b), Q7: (c)

**Answers: Expected Value of Sums**

**Answers:** Q1: (a), Q2: (a), Q3: (b), Q4: (c), Q5: (b), Q6: (d), Q7: (d)

**Answers: Cumulative Distribution Function**

**Answers:** Q1: (c), Q2: (a), Q3: (a), Q4: (b), Q5: (a)

**Answers: Continuous Random Variables**

**Answers:** Q1: 0.625, Q2: (a), Q3:  $k = \frac{3}{4}$ , Q4: (a), Q5:  $\frac{3}{4}$ , Q6: (d), Q7: (c)

**Answers: Expectation and Variance**

**Answers:** Q1:  $\mathbb{E}[X] = \frac{3}{4}$ ,  $\text{Var}(X) = \frac{3}{80}$  Q2:  $\mathbb{E}[X^2] = \frac{28}{3}$ ,  $\text{Var}(X) = \frac{1}{3}$  Q3:  $\mathbb{E}[X] = \frac{1}{\lambda}$ ,  $\text{Var}(X) = \frac{1}{\lambda^2}$  Q4:  $\mathbb{E}[X] = \frac{4}{3}$ ,  $\text{Var}(X) = \frac{4}{45}$  Q5:  $\text{Var}(Y) = 9\sigma^2$  Q6: (d) Q7: (a)

**Answers: Uniform Random Variable**

**Answers:** Q1: (a) Q2: 3 Q3: (a) Q4: (a), (c), (d) Q5: (b) Q6: 3 Q7: (a), (c), (d) Q8: (a), (b), (c), (d) Q9: 2 Q10: (d)

**Answers: Normal Random Variable**

**Answers:** Q1: (a) Q2: 1 Q3: (a), (b), (d) Q4: (a) Q5: (a) Q6: 130 Q7: (a), (b), (c) Q8: (b), (d) Q9: (a) Q10: 190

**Answers: Exponential Random Variable**

**Answers:** Q1: (a), Q2: (a)(b)(c)(d), Q3: 16, Q4: (b), Q5: (a), Q6: (a)(b)(c)(d), Q7:  $\frac{\lambda}{a}$ , Q8: (c), Q9: (a), Q10: (a)(b)(d)

**Answers: Hazard Rate Function**

**Answers:** Q1: (c), Q2: (a)(b)(c), Q3: (a), Q4: (c), Q5: 0.2, Q6: 0.2, Q7: 0.15, Q8: (b)

## Answers: Properties of Expectation

**Answers:** Q1: 12, Q2: (a), Q3: (b), Q4: 4.67, Q5: (b), Q6: (d), Q7:  $c^2$ , Q8: 24.5, Q9: No, Q10: No, Q11: (a), Q12: No, Q13: 1, Q14: 16, Q15:  $4/3$ , Q16:  $p$ , Q17: True, Q18: (c), Q19: Yes, Q20: 0

## Rank, Eigenvalues, and Eigenvectors

**Answers:** 1:(c), 2:(d), 3:(a), 4:(c), 5:(c), 6:(a), 7:(b), 8:(c), 9:(c), 10:(a), 11:(a), 12:(d), 13:(c), 14:(a), 15:(b), 16:(a), 17:(a), 18:(c), 19:(c), 20:(b)

## Answers: Properties of Determinants

**Answers:** Q1: (c), Q2:  $3^3 \cdot 5 = 135$ , Q3:  $\det(A) \det(B)$ , Q4:  $\lambda^n \det(A)$ , Q5: False, Q6: (d), Q7:  $1/d$ , Q8:  $\pm 1$ , Q9:  $2^2 = 4$ , Q10: (c), Q11: 0, Q12: (c), Q13: True, Q14:  $7^2 = 49$ , Q15:  $\prod \lambda_i$ , Q16: Unique solution exists, Q17: (c), Q18:  $3/4$ , Q19: (d), Q20: 0

## Answers: Properties-based Determinant

**Answers:**

Q1:  $\frac{1}{4} \cdot 2^3 = \frac{8}{4} = 2$ , Q2: Swapping changes sign, multiplying row by 3 scales determinant  $\Rightarrow \det(B) = -3 \cdot 5 = -15$ , Q3:  $\det(C) = \det(A^2) \cdot \det(3I) = (-2)^2 \cdot 3^3 = 4 \cdot 27 = 108$ , Q4: Elementary row addition does not change determinant, so  $\det(A') = \det(A)$ , Q5:  $\det(A^T A^{-1}) = \det(A^T) \cdot \det(A^{-1}) = \det(A) \cdot \frac{1}{\det(A)} = 1$ , Q6:  $\det(A^T A) = \det(A)^2$ ; But  $\det(A) = 0$  (since  $A$  is skew-symmetric of odd order)  $\Rightarrow \det = 0$ , Q7:  $\det(2A) = 2^4 \cdot \det(A) = 16 \cdot 24 = 384$ , Q8: Each row multiplied by  $-1$  flips sign twice:  $(-1)^2 = +1$ , so  $\det(B) = 2$ , Q9: Cannot be computed —  $\det(A + kI)$  is **not** simply derived from  $\det(A)$ , Q10: Resulting matrix has two identical rows  $\Rightarrow \det = 0$

## Answers: Matrix Inverse Questions

**Answers:** Q1: (c), Q2:  $\frac{1}{-4} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$ , Q3: (a), Q4: (a)(b)(c), Q5: (d), Q6:  $-1$ , Q7: (b), Q8: (a)(b)(d), Q9: (d), Q10:  $A$ , Q11: (a), Q12: (b), Q13:  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ , Q14: (d), Q15: (c), Q16: (a)(b)(c)(d), Q17:  $\det = 1 \Rightarrow$  Invertible, Q18: (b), Q19: (c), Q20: (b)

## Answers: Interconnected Questions on Determinant, Inverse, Rank, Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors

**Answers:** Q1: (a), Q2: (a)(c)(d), Q3: 3, Q4: (c), Q5:  $\text{tr} = 4$ ,  $\det = 3$ ,  $\text{sum}=4$ ,  $\text{product}=3$  Q6: (a)(d), Q7: (a)(b)(d), Q8: (b), Q9: (a)(c)(d), Q10: 0 Q11: (a)(b)(c), Q12: (a), Q13:  $\det = 2$ , eigenvalues  $-1, -2$ , Q14: (b), Q15: (a)(b)(c) Q16: (b), Q17: (a)(b)(c), Q18:  $1/10$ , Q19: (a)(b)(c), Q20: (a)(c)