

**UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL  
DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE**

**Examination for the Degrees of  
BSc, BEng, BA, Meng and MSc**

---

**MAY/JUNE 1999      2 Hours**

---

**COMS 30106**

**ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE  
3/4a & MSc**

This paper contains *FOUR* questions.  
The best *THREE* answers will be used for assessment.

**From the Computer Science Past Paper Archive**

## Q1 Logic and incomplete information

Given is the following set of clauses  $P$ :

```
knows(T,S):-student_of(S,T).
knows(X,Y):-friend_of(Y,X).
knows(X,Y):-friend_of(Z,X),knows(Z,Y).
student_of(paul,peter).
friend_of(peter,jan).
```

- a) Draw the SLD-tree for the query  $?-knows(X,paul)$ , and list the answers in the order they are found by Prolog.

[4 marks]

- b) Find, by means of resolution-refutation, somebody who knows both Peter and Paul.

[4 marks]

- c) Determine  $CWA(C)$ , restricted to the predicate `knows`.

[4 marks]

- d) Determine  $Comp(P)$ .

[4 marks]

- e) Give three abductive explanations of the observation `knows(jan,maria)`.

[4 marks]

## Q2 Search

Given is the following problem. There are two jugs of 7 and 5 litres, initially empty, and an unlimited supply of water. There are three ways to change the amount of water in a jug:

1. a jug can be filled completely;
2. a jug can be emptied completely;
3. water can be poured from one jug into the other, until one jug is empty or the other is full.

- a) Sketch part of the search space, starting from the initial situation (0,0) (two empty jugs) and at least containing the situation (0,2) (i.e. large jug is empty, small jug contains 2 litres of water).

[4 marks]

cont.

- b) Suppose you are searching for a way to reach a certain situation, such as (0,4). Discuss **briefly** for each of the following search strategies to what extent it is suitable for solving the given problem:

1. depth-first;
2. breadth-first;
3. depth-bounded search;
4. iterative deepening;
5. best-first.

[6 marks]

- c) A certain search algorithm finds the following solution for reaching (0,4) first:

(0,0) — (0,5) — (5,0) — (5,5) — (7,3) — (0,3) — (3,0) — (3,5) — (7,1)  
 — (0,1) — (1,0) — (1,5) — (6,0) — (6,5) — (7,4) — (0,4)

Which search strategy can be applied here? Justify your answer.

[6 marks]

- d) The following Prolog clauses represent part of the search space.

```
arc(s(X,Y),s(7,Y)):-X<7.
arc(s(X,Y),s(X,5)):-Y<5.
arc(s(U,V),s(0,Y)):-U>0,Y is U+V,Y=<5.
arc(s(U,V),s(X,0)):-V>0,X is U+V,X=<7.
```

Give the remaining 4 clauses.

[4 marks]

### Q3 Natural language

Given is the following Definite Clause Grammar:

```
s          --> n1(N),vp(N).
vp(N)     --> iv(N),c.
vp(N)     --> tv(N),np.
c         --> [like],np.
np        --> art,n2.

n1(singular) --> [fruit].
n1(plural)  --> [fruit,flies].
iv(singular) --> [flies].
tv(plural)  --> [like].
art         --> [a].
n2         --> [banana].
```

- a) Draw the search space belonging to a top-down parse of the sentence 'fruit flies like a banana'.

[6 marks]

cont.

b) Draw both parse trees for this sentence.

[4 marks]

c) Consider the following heuristic:  $h(s)$  = the number of non-terminals in partially parsed sentence  $s$ .

Which parse tree is found first if best-first search with depth-count  $g(s)$  is applied, i.e. an A algorithm? Motivate your answer.

[4 marks]

d) Is this heuristic optimistic and/or monotonic for an arbitrary DCG? Justify your answer.

[6 marks]

#### Q4. Inductive reasoning

Given are the following three clauses:

$$\begin{aligned} p([P|Q]) &: \neg p(Q). \\ p([U,V|W]) &: \neg p([V|W]). \\ p([X,Y|Z]) &: \neg p(Z). \end{aligned}$$

a) Determine all pairs of clauses  $C_1, C_2$  such that  $C_1$  is more general than  $C_2$  under  $\theta$ -subsumption.

[4 marks]

b) Determine all pairs of clauses  $C_1, C_2$  such that  $C_1$  is more general than  $C_2$  under logical consequence.

[4 marks]

c) Determine the  $\theta$ -LGG of the following two clauses:

$$\begin{aligned} r(c, [a,b,c], [a,b]) &: \neg r(c, [b,c], [b]). \\ r(2, [1,2], [1]) &: \neg r(2, [2], [1]). \end{aligned}$$

[4 marks]

d) Give two specialisations of the clause  $e(X, [Y|Z])$ .

[4 marks]

b) Describe briefly the difference between bottom-up and top-down induction.

[4 marks]