COMPUTER SCIENCE TRIPOS Part IA – 2020 – Paper 2

10 Discrete Mathematics (fms27)

(a) Draw the state transition diagram of a deterministic finite automaton (DFA) that accepts language

$$L_1 = \left\{ x \in \{0,1\}^* \mid x \text{ is divisible by 8 if interpreted} \\ \text{as an unsigned binary integer} \right\}.$$

Explain your construction.

[6 marks]

(b) State whether

 $L_2 = \left\{ x \in \{\bigoplus, \bigcirc\}^* \mid \text{ no left substring of } x \text{ has more } \bigcirc \text{s than } \bigoplus \text{s} \right\}$

(the "never in debt" language) is a regular language or not. Prove your answer. [8 marks]

(c) Consider language L_3 over the {A, B, C} alphabet, defined by the following inductive rules.

$$\frac{Ax}{AB} (0) \qquad \frac{Ax}{Axx} (1) \qquad \frac{xBBBy}{xCy} (2) \qquad \frac{xCCy}{xy} (3) \qquad \frac{xB}{xBC} (4)$$

- (i) Produce three distinct derivations for string $ABB \in L_3$. [3 marks]
- (*ii*) Argue why $AC \notin L_3$. [*Hint:* This is a difficult challenge and therefore even a good insight, rather than a full proof, might earn full marks.] [3 marks]