

Two hours

**UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER  
SCHOOL OF COMPUTER SCIENCE**

Mobile Systems

Date: Tuesday 29th May 2018

Time: 14:00 - 16:00

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**Please answer all Questions.**

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This is a CLOSED book examination

The use of electronic calculators is permitted provided they  
are not programmable and do not store text

**[PTO]**

**All three questions are compulsory**

1. **This question refers to most sections of the course. Each part is worth 2 marks.**
- a) Manufacturers of smartphone batteries often quote their capacity in mAh (milli-Ampere-hours). Expressed in joules, what is the capacity of a 2000 mAh battery of voltage 3.7 volts?
  - b) What are the similarities and differences between mu-law companding as applied to telephone speech and dynamic range compression (DRC) as applied to compact disc recordings?
  - c) What is meant if a signal is described as (i) periodic or (ii) pseudo-periodic?
  - d) A mobile communication system uses a radio channel of bandwidth 5000 Hz. The reception is affected by 'additive white Gaussian noise' (AWGN) whose constant level is such that the signal-to-noise ratio is 30 dB. State the Shannon-Hartley Law, and calculate from it the maximum bit-rate that can be conveyed with arbitrarily low bit-error probability over this radio channel?
  - e) What is space-division multiple access (spatial multiplexing) and how is it currently achieved in cellular mobile communications?
  - f) What is the essential difference between ALOHA and carrier sense multiple access (CSMA) as the means of sharing a radio channel among many users? Why do both ALOHA and CSMA wait for a random time after any collision?
  - g) What are the mechanisms of (i) polling and (ii) interrupts as may be used for receiving and transmitting real-time data streams, such as sampled speech, in a mobile phone application?
  - h) How do the interactive real time requirements of voice telephony differ from the requirements of streaming media applications involving voice, music and video?
  - i) How do the power consumption and energy-efficiency of a CMOS mobile system depend on the clock frequency, if leakage is ignored and all other parameters do not change?
  - j) What is meant by the main thread in an Android application and why do we often need to use multi-threading?

2. *This question is about sound digitisation, MP3 compression and Huffman coding*

- a) What is the normal range of sound frequencies that a human is assumed to be able to hear? How does this assumption determine the sampling frequency used for audio compact discs (CDs)? (2 marks)
- b) With the aid of a block-diagram, explain how the psycho-acoustical properties of hearing are exploited by MP3 encoders to allow high quality music to be recorded (or transmitted) at bit-rates considerably lower than is used for compact disk recordings. In giving your answer explain what is meant by
- (i) A person's masking contour 'in quiet'
  - (ii) Frequency (or simultaneous) masking
  - (iii) Temporal masking (7 marks)
- c) Why is run-length coding and Huffman coding used by MP3 coders for music and JPEG coders for images? (2 marks)
- d) Symbols A, B, C, D, E, F, representing quantisation levels for non-zero DCT coefficients, have probabilities: 0.05, 0.1, 0.08, 0.07, 0.05 and 0.65 respectively. Devise a Huffman code for these symbols. (5 marks)

Estimate the percentage bit-saving that may be expected over a large number of DCT samples with the given probabilities, by using this Huffman code rather than equal length coding, (4 marks)

**3. This question is about bit-error control for Wi-Fi and cellular networks.**

- a) How are cyclic redundancy checks (CRCs) and retransmissions used for bit-error control in mobile systems? (2 marks)

If a CRC has generator polynomial  $G(x) = x^3 + x + 1$ , calculate the CRC of the short bit-stream 101011, augmented with 000 to produce:

1 0 1 0 1 1 0 0 0 (4 marks)

- b) What are the essential differences between block codes and convolutional codes for forward error correction (FEC)? (2 marks)

If a convolutional coder has two 5-bit generator functions expressed in octal as (33) and (25), what is the 'rate' of the coder and what is its 'constraint length'? Draw a diagram for the coder and calculate the first 10 bits of its interleaved output when the first 5 bits of the input are '1 0 1 0 1', and the coder starts in zero memory state. (6 marks)

- c) Explain why bit-error detection and forward error correction (FEC) are used simultaneously at the data-link layer on IEEE802.11 WLAN networks, whereas only error detection is generally used on wired networks. (4 marks)
- d) How does the use of forward error correction (FEC) in cellular mobile telephone systems increase their energy efficiency and also the effectiveness of spatial multiplexing by frequency re-use? (2 marks)

**END OF EXAMINATION**