PGT Exam Performance Feedback
2016/2017 Semester 1

COMP60411  Modelling data on the Web

Comments  Please see the attached report.

Uli Sattler
Bijan Parsia
COMP60411 exam performance feedback

We have run an item analyse, which is summarised here:

![Item Analysis Table]

The average performance is 61.9%. Among the 19 questions of medium difficulty (difficulty of 30%-80%) are 5 of a difficulty below 40%, i.e., there are 6 questions that are hard to modestly hard. The 4 essay questions are all among the medium ones. We have inspected the 5 questions with poor discrimination, and they are all MCQs; 3 of them are very easy questions, and 2 are medium hard but of areas that students may have under-estimated (related to XPath, and PSVI).

**Essay 24:** (avery 3.79/6 marks) many satisfactory/good answers, but few were able to describe the processes of serialising and parsing in a completely correct way: many claimed that parsing always creates a DOM tree, and many failed to even hint at how the input XML document relates to the internal representation created.

**Essay 25:** (average 3.43/5 marks) this question asked for a sketch of a RelaxNG grammar, where ‘sketch’ means that we ignored all sorts of syntactical problems and only concentrated on the grammar being a suitable description of the XML document ‘in spirit’. Most students did really well here. The most common error is the omission of element content descriptions for ‘medicine’ and ‘disease’ (only attributes were mentioned, and almost always
correct).

**Essay 26:** (average 2.68/5 marks) this question asked for a discussion of (dis)advantages of grammar-based schema languages. Some students didn’t know which of the schema languages discussed in the course unit was grammar-based, but that was only few. The most common mistake was to mistake some of RelaxNG’s features for features of **all** grammar-based schema languages - even those that are simply due to RelaxNG’s design choices like the double syntax.

**Essay 26:** (average 2.59/5 marks) this question was the most difficult of the essay questions; it asked for how different schema’s could be used in a specific scenario to follow Postel’s law. Some students clearly didn’t remember that law, and thus couldn’t really answer the question. Others lacked the ability to sketch out a good usage of the schemas for the scenario.