

**York University**  
**Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science**  
**Lassonde School of Engineering**

**MATH 1028Z. MID TERM —SOLUTIONS, March 3, 2025; 13:30-14:30**

**Professor George Tournakis**

**Question 1. (4 MARKS)**

Suppose we know NOTHING about stages, but know two FACTS instead:

FACT 1. For any set  $A$ ,  $\{A\}$  is also a set.

FACT 2. Let  $B \neq \emptyset$  be a *set*.

THEN

There is a  $C \in B$ , such that **NO**  $D \in B$  is also in  $C$ .



From these two (**FACT 1** and **FACT 2**) PROVE that for any set  $A$ ,  $A \in A$  is false.



*Hint.* By FACT 1,  $\{A\}$  is a set. Use “FACT 2” where  $B = \{A\}$ . Now,  $B \neq \emptyset$ , ETC., ETC.

**Proof.** Pick ANY set  $A$ .

Following the *Hint*.

So, we want to prove for the arbitrary  $A$ , that  $A \notin A$ .

Let us take  $B = \{A\}$ , a SET by FACT 1.

As  $A \in B$  trivially,  $B \neq \emptyset$ . Thus by FACT 2 there is a  $C$  in  $B$

that “ $C$ ” can only be  $C = A$

(2)

such that

**NO**  $D \in B$  is also in  $C$

Now, the only “ $D$  in  $B$ ” is  $A$ , so  $A \notin C$ . By (2),  $C = A$ , so we got  $A \notin A$ .

□

**Question 2.** (a) (2 MARKS) Give the MATHEMATICAL definition of  $\bigcup F$  where  $F$  is a set family of sets.

**Answer.** The definition of  $\bigcup F$  (class/NOTEs/Text) is the definition of membership in  $\bigcup F$ :

$$x \in \bigcup F \text{ iff } \overbrace{(\exists A)}^{\text{for some } A} (A \in F \wedge x \in A) \quad (1)$$

□

(b) (4 MARKS) Calculate  $\bigcup \emptyset$ .

**Caution.** Be sure to follow the definition of  $\bigcup F$ .

**Answer.** To calculate  $\bigcup \emptyset$  we just apply (1) from subquestion 2a.

$$x \in \bigcup \emptyset \text{ iff } \overbrace{(\exists A)}^{\text{for some } A} \underbrace{\left( \overbrace{A \in \emptyset}^{\text{f}} \wedge x \in A \right)}_{\substack{\text{f by } \wedge \\ \text{f}}} \quad (2)$$

Thus,  $x \in \bigcup \emptyset$  is false for any  $x$  and therefore  $(\bigcup \emptyset) = \emptyset$ .

□

**Question 3.** (4 MARKS) Prove that the relation  $\mathbb{P}$  is a set iff  $\mathbb{P}^{-1}$  is a set.

**Caution.** Be mathematically precise!

*Hint.* There are two directions in “iff”.

**Proof.**

(a) *Assume*  $\mathbb{P}$  is a set and prove  $\mathbb{P}^{-1}$  is a set.

By Assumption and *thm* from class/NOTES/text, we know that  $\text{dom}(\mathbb{P})$  and  $\text{ran}(\mathbb{P})$  are sets.

But (class/NOTES/text) we also know that  $\text{dom}(\mathbb{P}^{-1}) = \text{ran}(\mathbb{P})$  and  $\text{ran}(\mathbb{P}^{-1}) = \text{dom}(\mathbb{P})$ .

Thus  $\mathbb{P}^{-1} \subseteq \text{dom}(\mathbb{P}^{-1}) \times \text{ran}(\mathbb{P}^{-1}) = \text{ran}(\mathbb{P}) \times \text{dom}(\mathbb{P})$  and we are done by the subclass theorem.

(b) *Assume*  $\mathbb{P}^{-1}$  is a set and prove  $\mathbb{P}$  is a set. We prove this by *using* rather than *aping* the proof of 3a.

Indeed this case is true because  $(\mathbb{P}^{-1})^{-1} = \mathbb{P}$ . Here is why:

$$x (\mathbb{P}^{-1})^{-1} y \stackrel{Def}{\iff} y \mathbb{P}^{-1} x \stackrel{Def}{\iff} x \mathbb{P} y$$

using the conjunctival equivalence “ $\iff$ ”.

□

**Question 4.** (5 MARKS) Let  $P$  and  $R$  be (set) relations.

*Prove* that  $(P \circ R)^{-1} = R^{-1} \circ P^{-1}$ .

**Caution.** An “=” between sets requires two directions to prove, or a *conjunctive* chain of correct equivalences.

**Proof.**  $x(P \circ R)^{-1}y \Leftrightarrow y(P \circ R)x \Leftrightarrow yP \overset{\text{some}}{\downarrow} z Rx \Leftrightarrow xR^{-1} \overset{\text{same } z}{\downarrow} z P^{-1}y \Leftrightarrow xR^{-1} \circ P^{-1}y. \quad \square$