FHS COMPUTER SCIENCE/
FHS MATHEMATICS & COMPUTER SCIENCE
PART C EXAMINATIONS
TAKE-HOME ASSIGNMENTS
HILARY TERM 2014

NOTICE TO CANDIDATES

Full particulars of the examinations are given in the Examination Regulations 2013, and the Examination Conventions for 2013/14 can be found at

http://www.cs.ox.ac.uk/teaching/examinations/

Each of the courses will be examined by a take-home assignment. The assignment for each course may be collected from Wendy Adams in Room 112 of the Department of Computer Science after 12 noon on the date shown.

Monday 10ᵗʰ March 2014
Theory of Data and Knowledge Bases

Friday 14ᵗʰ March 2014
Advanced Machine Learning
Advanced Security
Computational Linguistics
Software Verification
Visual Analytics

The completed assignments are due by 12 noon on Monday, 28ᵗʰ April, 2014. Each assignment should be put in a separate envelope, clearly marked with your candidate number (but not your name) and the name of the course, and addressed to the Chairman of Examiners, FHS Computer Science, Part C. The envelopes must be handed in to the Examination Schools, High St, by noon. Assignments that are late by even a few minutes will not be accepted by the Schools staff. Assignments cannot be handed in at the Department of Computer Science, or anywhere else other than at the Examination Schools.

Each assignment will contain a number of questions on the course, some more difficult than others. Some questions will be similar in style to questions on tutorial sheets, although perhaps a bit longer and a few will be more challenging. Each assignment is designed to take you about three days' work. You may, however, need an extra day for background reading.

Although some work on the assignments may be carried out while you are resident in Oxford, it is more normal to finish them over the vacation period. If you wish to complete assignments away from Oxford you should make sure that you have access

to adequate computing facilities to do so. You may wish to ensure that you have network access through the VPN to the Computer Science course material webpages.

Your answer to an assignment should not normally exceed 20 pages (10 pages would be more typical). Write on one side of the paper only, and use standard A4 paper. Write legibly and allow time to polish answers. Illegible and poorly laid out answers will be penalised more severely than in a more conventional invigilated written exam. Typewritten or word-processed answers are acceptable, even encouraged—provided the mathematical notation is clear. But do not waste your precious time in typesetting your answers in Word or LaTeX, unless you are accomplished at this; clear, handwritten solutions are perfectly acceptable.

When submitting your assignment you will have to complete a declaration form attesting that it is your own work, except where you have included explicitly acknowledged quotations from other texts. Failure to acknowledge your sources explicitly and clearly, is plagiarism, which is treated as a very serious disciplinary offence. When matters of plagiarism are reported to the Proctors, the investigations can be protracted and serious for the candidate(s) concerned. Penalties imposed can result in the assignment(s) being disregarded, or worse, and this could ultimately mean failure of the degree course. For further guidance, consult the University web site regarding plagiarism http://www.ox.ac.uk/students/academic/goodpractice/

Of course you will not receive any credit for simply copying information verbatim (with due acknowledgement) because that displays very little understanding. The assessors will be more impressed if you synthesise information from a number of sources (properly cited, of course) and combine it with your own ideas.

You are not allowed to discuss the assignment with your tutor, fellow students, or anyone else. If you suspect there is an actual error or other problem in one of the questions, or you require clarification, you should contact Wendy Adams (wendy.adams@cs.ox.ac.uk) who will consult the examiners on your behalf if necessary. You must not contact your tutor, the lecturer or the examiners. Please note that any such queries must be made by 12 noon, 26th March 2014, any queries received after this date will not be considered. Make sure to inform the examiners (through your college and the Proctors) of any extraneous factors (e.g. illness) that may affect you.

T. Lukasiewicz
Chairman of Examiners
Final Honour Schools of Computer Science, Part C and Mathematics and Computer Science, Part C

February 2014