

## Question 1: Relational Model ..... [245 points]

- (a) [20 points] **Toolchain:**  
Provide brief definitions of these tools/services.
- Compiler
  - Build System
  - Continuous Integration
  - Memory Error Detector
- (b) [10 points] **External Sort:**  
Distinguish between external and internal sort algorithms. How can the former algorithm leverage the latter?
- (c) [10 points] **External Sort:**  
If there are  $n$  values to be sorted and only  $m$  values fit in memory. How many runs are created initially in an external sort algorithm?
- (d) [10 points] **Iterative 2-way Merge:**  
Consider the task of sorting  $k$  runs using an external sort algorithm. How many iterations are needed to sort these runs using an iterative 2-way merge algorithm? Give an asymptotic bound along with a justification.
- (e) [10 points] **Iterative 2-way Merge:**  
What is the total time to run an iterative 2-way merge algorithm. Give an asymptotic bound in terms of  $n$  and  $k$  along with a justification.
- (f) [10 points] **k-way Merge:**  
What is the total time to run a  $k$ -way merge algorithm: (1) without a heap and (2) with a heap. Give asymptotic bounds in terms of  $n$  and  $k$  along with a justification.
- (g) [10 points] **k-way Merge:**  
Consider a heap with  $k$  elements. What is the time taken to find the maximum element?
- (h) [10 points] **k-way Merge:**  
If  $k$  values do not fit in memory (only contains  $m$  slots and  $m < k$ ), how would you sort the data?
- (i) [15 points] **Flat Files vs Relational DBMSs:**  
List three limitations of using flat files as opposed to a relational DBMS.
- (j) [10 points] **Data Integrity:**  
Provide a brief definition for data integrity. Give an example of ensuring data integrity in a database application.
- (k) [10 points] **Relational DBMSs:**  
Explain the tight coupling of logical and physical layers in early, non-relational DBMSs. How does a relational DBMS circumvent this limitation?
- (l) [10 points] **Non-Relational Data Models:**  
Give an example of a non-relational data model.

- (m) **[10 points] Relation:**  
Define a relation. Is it ordered or unordered? Can it contain duplicates?
- (n) **[10 points] Primary vs Foreign Key:**  
Distinguish between primary and foreign keys with an example application.
- (o) **[10 points] Many-to-Many Relationship:**  
How do you capture a many-to-many relationship with the relational model? Give an example.
- (p) **[10 points] Relational Algebra:**  
Define relational algebra. Is it procedural or non-procedural?
- (q) **[10 points] Relational Operator:**  
Define a relational operator. What are its inputs and output? Give three examples of relational operators.
- (r) **[10 points] Predicate:**  
Distinguish between conjunction and disjunction of two predicates. Which combination is likely to return more tuples?
- (s) **[20 points] Set vs Bag Semantics:**  
Distinguish between set and bag semantics. Which one is used in practice? Why?
- (t) **[10 points] Product vs Join Operators:**  
Distinguish between product and join operators. Which operator is used more often in practice?
- (u) **[10 points] Product vs Join Operators:**  
Consider two tables with  $m$  and  $n$  tuples respectively. Is it possible to evaluate the join operator faster than the product operator? Give asymptotic bounds along with a justification.
- (v) **[10 points] Set-Oriented Processing:**  
Distinguish between tuple- vs set-oriented processing. Which one is faster? Why?