

Additional Supplement to the Handbook for
the Undergraduate Mathematics Courses
Honour School of Mathematics
Syllabus and Synopses for Part B 2010–11
for examination in 2011

Issued December 2010

[The following replaces the section on the analysis of marks on pages 6 and 7 of the Part B Synopses.]

Analysis of marks

Part A

At the end of the Part A examination, a candidate will be awarded a University Standardised Mark (USM) for each of the four papers. The Examiners aim to ensure that all papers are fairly and equally rewarded and may take into account relative difficulty of papers when assigning USMs. The Examiners may recalibrate the raw marks to arrive at the USMs reported to candidates. In arriving at any recalibration, the examiners will principally take into account the total sum of the marks for all questions on a paper, subject to the rules above on numbers of questions answered.

The USMs awarded to a candidate for papers in Part A will be carried forward into a classification as described below.

Aggregation of marks for the award of the classification on the successful completion of Parts A and B

All successful candidates will be awarded a classification after the Part B examination. This classification will be based on the following rules (agreed

by the Mathematics Teaching Committee).

A *Strong Paper rule* is used for classification.

Strong Paper rule

A candidate will have satisfied the First Class, resp., Upper Second Class, resp., Lower Second Class strong paper rule if at least 3 papers from Parts A and B lie in that class (or better) and include at least one of them in Part B.

To give an example, a candidate will have satisfied the Upper Second Class strong paper rule if (the equivalent of) at least 3 of their whole unit paper USMs have at least Upper Second Class marks with (the equivalent of) at least one Upper Second Class whole unit at Part B level. Students may take half unit papers for Part B and for two half units (not making up a whole unit paper) to count as the equivalent of a whole unit of at least Upper Second Class, both half units must be of at least Upper Second Class.

The Part A USMs are given a weighting of 2, and the Part B USMs a weighting of 3 for a whole unit and 1.5 for a half unit.

In the following $Av USM = \text{Average weighted USM for Parts A and B together}$ (rounded symmetrically);

- First Class: $Av USM \geq 70$ and the First Class strong paper rule satisfied.
- Upper Second Class: $Av USM \geq 70$ and the First Class strong paper rule not satisfied **OR** $70 > Av USM \geq 60$ and the Upper Second class strong paper rule satisfied.
- Lower Second Class: $70 > Av USM \geq 60$ and the Upper Second Class strong paper rule not satisfied **OR** $60 > Av USM \geq 50$ and the Lower Second Class strong paper rule satisfied.
- Third Class: $50 > Av USM \geq 40$ **OR** $60 > Av USM \geq 50$ and the Lower Second Class strong paper rule not satisfied
- Pass: $40 > Av USM \geq 30$
- Fail: $Av USM < 30$