

## Examination, CE884 Constraint Satisfaction for Decision Making, 2012-2013

### Question 3 (Constraint propagation):

Following is a constraint satisfaction problem:

Variables:  $w, x, y, z$

Domains: each variable can take a value 0 or 1

Constraints:  $w = x, x = y, y = z, z \neq w$

- (a) Explain what the reduced problem will be if you maintain arc consistency in this problem. [10%]
  - (b) Explain what the reduced problem will be if you maintain path consistency in this problem. There is no need to go through the detailed steps in the reduction. [13%]
  - (c) What is  $k$ -consistency? [5%]
  - (d) Suppose a constraint satisfaction problem has  $n+1$  variables. Assume that after maintaining strong  $n$ -consistency in a constraint satisfaction problem, no domain has been wiped out. Does that guarantee that the problem has a solution? [7%]
-