

# Computer Science Foundation Exam

August 13, 2010

## Section II A

### DISCRETE STRUCTURES

**NO books, notes, or calculators may be used,  
and you must work entirely on your own.**

**Name: SOLUTION**

**PID: \_\_\_\_\_**

**In this section of the exam, there are three (3) problems.  
You must do ALL of them.  
They count for 40% of the Discrete Structures exam grade.  
Show the steps of your work carefully.**

**Problems will be graded based on the completeness of the solution steps  
and not graded based on the answer alone.**

**Credit cannot be given when your results are  
unreadable.**

Question #	Max Pts	Category	Passing	Score
1	15	PRF (Induction)	10	
2	15	PRF (Sets)	10	
3	10	PRF (Logic)	6	
ALL	40	---	26	

1) (15 pts) PRF (Induction)

Prove for all positive integers  $n$ ,  $\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^n = \begin{bmatrix} 3^n & 3^n - 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

**Base case:  $n=1$**  LHS =  $\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^1 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ , RHS =  $\begin{bmatrix} 3^1 & 3^1 - 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

The two sides are equal so the base case holds. (2 pts)

**Inductive hypothesis: Assume for an arbitrary positive integer  $n = k$  that**

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^k = \begin{bmatrix} 3^k & 3^k - 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}. \text{ (2 pts)}$$

**Inductive step: Prove for  $n = k+1$  that**  $\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^{k+1} = \begin{bmatrix} 3^{k+1} & 3^{k+1} - 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ . (2 pts)

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^{k+1} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^k \quad \text{(2 pts)}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 3^k & 3^k - 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{(2 pts)}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 3(3^k) + 2(0) & 3(3^k - 1) + 2(1) \\ 0(3^k) + 1(0) & 0(3^k - 1) + 1(1) \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{(2 pts)}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 3^{k+1} & 3^{k+1} - 3 + 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{(2 pts)}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 3^{k+1} & 3^{k+1} - 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \text{ as desired.} \quad \text{(1 pt)}$$

This proves that the given assertion is true for all positive integers  $n$ .

2) (15 pts) PRF (Sets)

Disprove the following three assertions about arbitrary chosen sets  $A$ ,  $B$  and  $C$  with the use of a counterexample for each one. (You can use different counterexamples for all three parts.)

(a) If  $A \subseteq B \cup C$ , then either  $A \subseteq B$  or  $A \subseteq C$ .

(b) If  $(B - A) \subseteq (C - A)$ , then  $B \subseteq C$ .

(c) If  $(A \cup B) \subseteq (A \cap C)$ , then  $B = \emptyset$ .

**(a) Let  $A = \{1, 2\}$ ,  $B = \{1\}$  and  $C = \{2\}$ . In this situation,  $B \cup C = \{1, 2\}$ , so it is true that  $A \subseteq B \cup C$ . However,  $A$  is not a subset of either  $B$  or  $C$  in this example, since  $A$  contains one element (2) that  $B$  doesn't and one element (1) that  $C$  doesn't.**

**(b) The same counterexample set up for part (a) works here. To see this, note that  $B - A = C - A = \emptyset$ . Thus, it is true that  $(B - A) \subseteq (C - A)$ . But, it is certainly NOT the case that  $B$  is a subset of  $C$ , since  $B$  contains 1, which isn't an element of  $C$ .**

**(c) Let  $A = B = C = \{1\}$ . With these assignments, we have  $(A \cup B) = (A \cap C) = \{1\}$ , which makes  $(A \cup B) \subseteq (A \cap C)$  true, but  $B$  is NOT the empty set.**

**Grading: 2 pts for specifying each set in question. 3 pts for explaining why the example is a counter-example to the assertion.**

## 3) (10 pts) (PRF) Logic

Simplify the following logical expression as much as possible using the laws of logic only. Show each step and state which rule is being used. (Note: You may combine both associative and commutative in a single step, so long as you do so properly.)

$$p \vee [p \wedge [\neg(\neg r \vee \neg q) \vee (\neg r \wedge q)]]$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 p \vee [p \wedge [\neg(\neg r \vee \neg q) \vee (\neg r \wedge q)]] &\leftrightarrow p \vee [p \wedge [(\neg \neg r \wedge \neg \neg q) \vee (\neg r \wedge q)]] && \text{DeMorgan's} \\
 &\leftrightarrow p \vee [p \wedge [(r \wedge q) \vee (\neg r \wedge q)]] && \text{Double Negation} \\
 &\leftrightarrow p \vee [p \wedge [(r \vee \neg r) \wedge q]] && \text{Distributive} \\
 &\leftrightarrow p \vee [p \wedge [T \wedge q]] && \text{Inverse Law} \\
 &\leftrightarrow p \vee [p \wedge q] && \text{Identity Law} \\
 &\leftrightarrow p && \text{Absorption Law}
 \end{aligned}$$

**Grading: 1 pt off for each mistake (for either a rule name or step itself), cap at 10.**