

**HAND IN**  
Answers recorded  
in question paper

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QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY  
FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCE  
SCHOOL OF COMPUTING

CISC-203\*  
DISCRETE MATHEMATICS FOR COMPUTING SCIENCE

TEST 4  
November 2006

Professor Selim G. AKL

Please write your answer to each question only in the box marked **Answer**.

No questions will be answered by the instructor during the exam.

**This is a closed-book exam. No computers or calculators are allowed.**

If you are unsure of what is wanted for a particular question,

make a reasonable assumption and write this at the beginning of your answer.

PLEASE NOTE: Proctors are unable to respond to queries about the interpretation of exam questions. Do your best to answer exam questions as written.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

STUDENT NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

FOR INSTRUCTOR'S USE ONLY

Question 1: \_\_\_\_\_ / 5

Question 2: \_\_\_\_\_ / 5

Question 3: \_\_\_\_\_ / 5

Question 4: \_\_\_\_\_ / 5

TOTAL: \_\_\_\_\_ / 20

**Question 1: [5 marks]**

- (i) Find a recurrence relation for the number of bit strings of length  $n$ ,  $n \geq 0$ , that contain at least one substring of three consecutive 0s. Explain your answer.
- (ii) What are the initial conditions?
- (iii) How many bit strings of length seven contain (at least one substring of) three consecutive 0s?

**Answer:**

(i) Let  $a_n$  be the number of bit strings of length  $n$  containing at least one substring of three consecutive 0s. In order to construct one such string, we may start with 1, or 01, or 001 and continue with a string containing three consecutive 0s, or start with 000 and continue with any string. Therefore, for  $n \geq 3$ ,  $a_n = a_{n-1} + a_{n-2} + a_{n-3} + 2^{n-3}$ .

(ii)  $a_0 = a_1 = a_2 = 0$ .

(iii)  $a_7 = 47$ .

**Question 2: [5 marks]**

Find  $f(n)$  when  $n = 2^k$ , where  $k \geq 0$  and  $f(n)$  satisfies the recurrence relation  $f(n) = f(n/2) + 1$  with  $f(1) = 1$ .

**Answer:**

Initially,  $f(2^0) = 1$ . For each factor of 2 in  $n$ , the value of  $f(n)$  increases by 1. Indeed, for  $k \geq 1$ , we have

$$f(2^k) = f(2^{k-1}) + 1 = f(2^{k-2}) + 2 = f(2^{k-3}) + 3 = \dots = f(2^{k-k}) + k.$$

Therefore,  $f(2^k) = 1 + k$ .

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**Question 3: [5 marks]**

Let  $R$  be the relation

$$\{(1, 2), (1, 3), (2, 3), (2, 4), (3, 1)\},$$

and let  $S$  be the relation

$$\{(2, 1), (3, 1), (3, 2), (4, 2)\}.$$

Find  $S \circ R$ .

**Answer:**

$$S \circ R = \{(1, 1), (1, 2), (2, 1), (2, 2)\}.$$

**Question 4: [5 marks]**

Let  $R$  be the following relation on the set  $\{a, b, c, d, e\}$ :

$$\{(a, c), (b, d), (c, a), (d, b), (e, d)\}.$$

Use the 0-1 matrix representation for relations to find the transitive closure of  $R$ .

**Answer:**

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad A^{[2]} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix},$$

and

$$A^{[3]} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = A.$$

It follows that  $A^{[4]} = A^{[2]}$ , and  $A^{[5]} = A^{[3]}$ . Therefore the transitive closure of  $R$  is  $A \vee A^{[2]}$ , namely,

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$