

**King Fahd University of Petroleum & Minerals**  
**College of Computer Sciences & Engineering**  
**Department of Information and Computer Science**

**ICS 253: Discrete Structures I**  
**Final Exam – 141**

**120 Minutes**

Calculators, mobile phones and other electronic devices are not permitted.

Question	Max	Earned	CLO*	Question	Max	Earned	CLO*
1	5		1	12	5		3
2	5		1	13	5		3
3	5		1	14	5		3
4	4		2	15	5		3
5	4		2	16	4		3
6	4		2	17	4		3
7	5		2	18	4		3
8	5		3	19	4		3
9	5		3	20	6		3
10	5		3	21	6		3
11	5		3	<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>		<b>1, 2, 3</b>

\* CLO Course Learning Outcomes

**Monday, January 5, 2015**

*Sample Solution*

**Question 1: [5 Points] Logic and Proofs**

Select the Boolean expression that is equal to the expression  $[\sim(\sim p \wedge q) \wedge \sim(\sim p \wedge \sim q)] \vee (p \wedge r)$  from the following. Circle the correct answer.

- (a)  $p \wedge r$                       (b)  $p \vee q$                       (c)  $r$                        (d)  $p$

**Question 2: [5 Points] Logic and Proofs**

Circle the correct answer. Select one statement of the following statements that is equivalent to the statement

“If  $n$  is divisible by 30, then  $n$  is divisible by 2, by 3 and by 5.”

- (a) If  $n$  is not divisible by 30 then  $n$  is divisible by 2 or divisible by 3 or divisible by 5.  
 (b) If  $n$  is not divisible by 30 then  $n$  is not divisible by 2 or not divisible by 3 or not divisible by 5.  
 (c) If  $n$  is divisible by 2 and divisible by 3 and divisible by 5 then  $n$  is divisible by 30.  
 (d) If  $n$  is not divisible by 2 or not divisible by 3 or not divisible by 5 then  $n$  is not divisible by 30.

**Question 3: [5 Points] Logic and Proofs**

What is the contrapositive statement of the statement,

“You win the game if you know the rules, and you are not overconfident.”

**Solution:** If you lose the game then you don't know the rules or you are overconfident.

**Question 4: [4 Points] Sets and Sets Operations**

Circle the most proper answer. The power set  $P((A \times B) \cup (B \times A))$  has the same number of elements as the power set  $P((A \times B) \cup (A \times B))$  if and only if

- (a)  $A = B$     (b)  $A = \emptyset$  or  $B = \emptyset$   
 (c)  $A = \emptyset$  or  $B = \emptyset$  or  $A = B$                       (d)  $B = \emptyset$  or  $A = B$

**Question 5: [4 Points] Functions**

Define  $f(n) = \frac{n}{2} + \frac{1-(-1)^n}{4}$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Thus,  $\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $\mathbb{Z}$  the set of all integer. Determine if  $f$  is a function. If it is not a function show why. If it is a function determine if it is onto and/or one-to-one.

**Solution:**  $f$  is a function and is onto but not one-to-one.

**Question 6: [4 Points] Sequences and Summations**

Describe the sequences 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 1, 2, 2, 2, 3, 3, 3 by an explicit formula.

**Solution:**  $g_n = \lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor$ , ( $n \geq 0$ )

**Question 7: [5 Points] Induction and Recursion**

We are going to prove by induction that for all integers  $k \geq 1$ ,  $\sqrt{k} \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{1}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + \dots + \frac{1}{\sqrt{k}}$ . Clearly this is true for  $k = 1$ , as  $\sqrt{1} \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{1}}$ . Assume the Induction Hypothesis (IH) that

$$\sqrt{n} \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{1}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + \dots + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}$$

Complete the remaining parts of the proof.

**Solution:**

We need to show that  $\sqrt{n+1} \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{1}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + \dots + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n+1}}$  is also true.

From IH  $\sqrt{n} \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{1}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + \dots + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}$  we can add for both sides  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{n+1}}$

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{n} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n+1}} &\leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{1}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + \dots + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n+1}} \\ \sqrt{n} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n+1}} &= \frac{\sqrt{n}\sqrt{n+1} + 1}{\sqrt{n+1}} = \frac{\sqrt{n^2 + n} + 1}{\sqrt{n+1}} < \frac{\sqrt{n^2 + 1}}{\sqrt{n+1}} = \frac{n+1}{\sqrt{n+1}} = \sqrt{n+1} \end{aligned}$$

This completes the induction step and hence  $\sqrt{n} \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{1}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + \dots + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}$  is true for all  $n \geq 1$

**Question 8: [5 Points] Counting and the Pigeonhole Principle**

There are  $K$  people in a room, each person picks a day of the year to get a free dinner at a fancy restaurant. Find the smallest  $K$  such that there must be at least one group of six people who select the same day. Assume the year has 366 days (leap year).

**Solution:**

The worst case is each person selects different day. To have 6 persons who select the same day, you need to assume the worst case for the first 5 and add 1 to it.

So the answer is  $366 * 5 + 1 = 1831$

**Question 9: [5 Points] Permutations and Combinations**

How many strings of four decimal digits end with an even digit? (Leading 0 is allowed, e.g. 0892)

**Solution:**

We have 10 choices each for the first three digits, then 5 for the final digit, for  $(10^3)(5) = 5000$  strings.

**Question 10: [5 Points] Permutations and Combinations**

The owner of a pizzeria prepares every pizza by always combining 4 different ingredients. How many ingredients does he need, at least, if he would like to offer 30 different pizzas in the menu?

**Solution:**

Using 6 different ingredients, he can obtain  $\binom{6}{4} = 15$  different pizzas, while with 7 ingredients he gets  $\binom{7}{4} = 35$  different pizzas. Then, since  $\binom{6}{4} < 30 < \binom{7}{4}$ , he needs at least 7 ingredients.

**Question 11: [5 Points] Probability**

The random variable X on a sample space  $S = \{1, 2, 4, 10\}$  has the following distribution:

<b>X</b>	1	2	4	10
<b>P(x)</b>	0.3	0.2	0.2	?

What is  $P(X = 10)$ ?

**Solution:** 0.3**Question 12: [5 Points] Probability**

A professor randomly selects three new teaching assistants from a total of 10 applicants: 6 male and 4 female students. What is the probability that no females are hired?

**Solution:**

$$\frac{\binom{6}{3}}{\binom{10}{3}} = \frac{1}{6} = \mathbf{0.167}$$

**Question 13: [5 Points] Probability**

A car pool contains 8 Fords (4 red and 4 white) and 12 Pontiacs (2 red and 10 white). You are allocated a car at random. You see from a distance that it is red. What is the probability that you have been given a Ford?

**Solution:**

Let F and R be the event of being a Ford and a red car, respectively. We are asked for  $P(F|R)$ . There are 20 cars of which 8 are Fords, so  $P(F) = 8/20 = 0.4$ , and 6 cars are red, so  $P(R) = 6/20 = 0.3$ .

The probability of a red car, given that it is a Ford, is  $P(R|F) = 4/8 = 0.5$ .

So

$$P(F|R) = \frac{P(F) \cdot P(R|F)}{P(R)} = \frac{(0.4)(0.5)}{0.3} = 0.667$$

**Question 14: [5 Points] Probability**

What is the conditional probability that a family with two children has two boys, given they have at least one boy? Assume that each of the possibilities  $BB$ ,  $BG$ ,  $GB$ , and  $GG$  is equally likely, where  $B$  represents a boy and  $G$  represents a girl. (Note that  $BG$  represents a family with an older boy and a younger girl while  $GB$  represents a family with an older girl and a younger boy.)

**Solution:**

Let  $E$  be the event that a family with two children has two boys, and let  $F$  be the event that a family with two children has at least one boy. It follows that  $E = \{BB\}$ ,  $F = \{BB, BG, GB\}$ , and  $E \cap F = \{BB\}$ . Because the four possibilities are equally likely, it follows that  $p(F) = 3/4$  and  $p(E \cap F) = 1/4$ . We conclude that

$$p(E | F) = \frac{p(E \cap F)}{p(F)} = \frac{\frac{1}{4}}{\frac{3}{4}} = \frac{1}{3}$$

**Question 15: [5 Points] Probability**

Suppose that 100 people enter a contest and that different winners are selected at random for first, second, and third prizes. What is the probability that Ali, Salem, and Ahmad each win a prize if each has entered the contest? Show your answer using combination and division of numbers.

**Solution:**

Any group of 3 people is equally likely to win the 3 prizes. There are  $\binom{100}{3}$  groups of 3 people, so the probability is  $\frac{1}{\binom{100}{3}}$

**Question 16: [4 Points] Linear Recurrence Relations**

A piece of paper is 1 unit thick. By folding into half, the thickness becomes 2 units. Folding into half again, its thickness becomes 4 units, and so on. What is the thickness of the paper after it is folded 10 times?

**Solution:**

When it is folded 3 times, the thickness becomes 8 units. Similarly, when folded 4, 5, 6 times, the thickness becomes 16, 32 and 64 units respectively. You notice that each time the paper is folded, its thickness doubles, so you just multiply the thickness by 2 each time. Continuing in the same way, it is easy to get the answer, namely, when folded 10 times, the thickness will become  $2^{10}=1024$  units.

**Question 17: [4 Points] Binomial Coefficients and Identities**

What is the coefficient of  $x^{101}y^{99}$  in the expansion of  $(2x - 3y)^{200}$ ? Show your answer using combination and multiplication of numbers (no need to calculate a final answer).

**Solution:**

Using the binomial formula taking  $a=2x$ ,  $b=-3y$ ,  $n=200$  and  $k=99$  we have that  $x^{101}y^{99}$  term is  $\binom{200}{99}(2x)^{101}(-3y)^{99} = -\binom{200}{99}2^{101}3^{99}x^{101}y^{99}$

Hence the desired coefficient is  $-\binom{200}{99}2^{101}3^{99}$

**Question 18: [4 Points] Binomial Coefficients and Identities**

The row of Pascal's triangle containing the binomial coefficients  $\binom{6}{k}$ ,  $0 \leq k \leq 6$ , is:

$$1 \quad 6 \quad 15 \quad 20 \quad 15 \quad 6 \quad 1$$

Use Pascal's identity to produce the row immediately following this row in Pascal's triangle.

**Solution:**

By Pascal's identity, the first half of next row is

$$1 \quad 1+6 \quad 6+15 \quad 15+20 \quad 20+15 \quad \dots$$

With the rest determined by symmetry. Thus, the next row is

$$1 \quad 7 \quad 21 \quad 35 \quad 35 \quad 21 \quad 7 \quad 1$$

**Question 19: [4 Points] Linear Recurrence Relations**

Which of the following is a linear homogeneous recurrence relation with constant coefficients?

Circle the most proper answer.

(a)  $a_n = a_{n-1} + n$

(b)  $a_n = a_{n-5} + 5$

(c)  $a_n = a_{n-1} - 4a_{n-2} + a_{n-3}^3$

(d)  $a_n = 3a_{n-1} + 4a_{n-2} + 5a_{n-3}$

**Question 20: [6 Points] Linear Recurrence Relations**

a) [4 Points] Find a recurrence relation for the number of ways to climb  $n$  stairs if the person climbing the stairs can take one stair or two stairs at a time, and state the initial conditions.

**Solution:**

$$a_n = a_{n-1} + a_{n-2}$$

$$a_1 = 1, a_2 = 2$$

b) [2 Points] In how many ways can this person climb a flight of five stairs?

$$a_3 = 2 + 1 = 3, a_4 = 3 + 2 = 5, a_5 = 5 + 3 = 8$$

**Question 21: [6 Points] Linear Recurrence Relations**

Solve the recurrence relation  $a_n = 3a_{n-1} + 4a_{n-2}$  for  $n \geq 2$  given the initial conditions

$$a_0 = 6 \text{ and } a_1 = 8.$$

**Solution:**

$$c_1 = -3, c_2 = -4,$$

$$r^2 - 3r - 4 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow r_1 = 4 \quad r_2 = -1$$

$$\Rightarrow a_n = b_1 * 4^n + b_2 * (-1)^n$$

$$\text{with the initial condition: } a_0 = 6, a_1 = 8$$

$$\Rightarrow 6 = b_1 * 4^0 + b_2 * (-1)^0 = b_1 + b_2$$

$$8 = b_1 * 4^1 + b_2 * (-1)^1 = 4b_1 - b_2$$

$$\Rightarrow b_1 = 16/5, b_2 = 14/5$$

$$\Rightarrow a_n = 14/5 * 4^n + 16/5 * (-1)^n$$