Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur

(MA20013)
Instruction: Answer all questions. Notations used are as explained in the class.

Question 1 $[10 \times 2 = 20 \text{ marks}]$

a) Prove or disprove: The sets A and B are equipotent where

$$A = \{ x \in R \mid 0 \le x \le 1 \}, \qquad B = \{ x \in R \mid a \le x \le b \}.$$

- b) Show that strong induction is a valid method of proof by showing that it follows from the well-ordering property.
- c) Generalize the following patterns and show correctness by using induction.

$$\begin{array}{rcl}
1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4 & = & 5^2 - 1, \\
2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4 \cdot 5 & = & 11^2 - 1, \\
3 \cdot 4 \cdot 5 \cdot 6 & = & 19^2 - 1, \\
4 \cdot 5 \cdot 6 \cdot 7 & = & 29^2 - 1,
\end{array}$$

- d) Use structural induction to show that l(T), the number of leaves of a full binary tree T, is 1 more than i(T), the number of internal vertices of T.
- e) Solve the recurrence relation

$$a_n = 10a_{n-1} - 25a_{n-2} + 5^{n+1}, n > 2$$

subject to the initial values $a_0 = 5$, $a_1 = 15$.

f) From the Binet formula for Fibinacci numbers, derive the relation

$$f_{2n+2}f_{2n-1} - f_{2n}f_{2n+1} = 1, n \ge 1,$$

where f_n denotes the n-th Fibonacci number.

g) The "second order" Fibonacci sequence is defined by the rule

$$\mathcal{F}_0 = 0, \mathcal{F}_1 = 1, \mathcal{F}_{n+2} = \mathcal{F}_{n+1} + \mathcal{F}_n + f_n$$

where f_n denotes the n-th Fibonacci number. Express \mathcal{F}_n in terms of f_n and f_{n+1} .

- h) Determine the number of ways to color the squares of a 1-by-n chessboard using the colors, red, white and blue, if an even number of squares is colored red; using generating function.
- i) Let (S, \circ) be a semi group. If for $x, y \in S$, $x^2 \circ y = y = y \circ x^2$, prove that (S, \circ) is an abelian group.
- j) Find all elements of order 8 in the group $(Z_{24}, +)$

Question 2 [1 + 1 + 3 = 5 marks]

Let $H_n = 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \ldots + \frac{1}{n}$ be the *n*-th Harmonic number.

- a) Prove that $H_{2^m} \geq 1 + \frac{m}{2}$
- b) Prove that $\sum_{k=1}^{n} H_k = (n+1)H_n n$.
- c) Find the generating function for $\{\sum_{0 < k < n} \frac{1}{k(n-k)}\}$; differentiate it and express the coefficient in terms of harmonic numbers.

Question 3 [1 + 2 + 2 = 5 marks]

- a) Define Stirling number of the second kind S(n, k).
- b) Show by a combinatorial argument that S(n,k) = kS(n-1,k) + S(n-1,k-1).
- c) Prove that $S(n,k) = \frac{1}{k!} \sum_{i=0}^{k} (-1)^i \binom{k}{i} (k-i)^n$.

Question 4 [3 + 4 + 3 = 10 marks]

- a) Prove that the number of different ways to compute the product of n+1 matrices is given by: $\binom{1/2}{n+1}(-1)^n 2^{2n+1}$.
- b) State and prove the principle of inclusion and exclusion.
- c) Let f be an increasing function that satisfies the recurrence relation $f(n) = af\left(\frac{n}{b}\right) + c$ whenever n is divisible by b, where a > 1, b is an integer greater than 1 and c is a positive real number. Prove that $f(n) = O(n^{\log_b a})$.

Question 5 [2+3+3+2=10 marks]

a) The following table defines a binary composition * on the set $S = \{a, b, c\}$.

Examine if (S, *) is a group.

- b) Let (G, \circ) be an even order group. Prove that G contains an odd number of elements of order 2.
- c) Let E be the modular elliptic curve defined by $y^2 = x^3 + 2x + 1 \mod 11$.
 - (i) Find all points on E (including the point at infinity).
 - (ii) Compute $\operatorname{ord}_E((3,1))$.
- d) Construct the field $GF(3^2)$ using the primitive polynomial $x^2 + x + 2$.