

# COMP110 EXERCISE SHEET III: RECURSION AND INDUCTION

Version 1.0  
BSc Computing for Games  
COMP110

Ed Powley

To complete this exercise sheet:

- **complete** the following problems using **pen and paper**; and
- **hand in** your solutions in the COMP110 workshop session in week 8.

1. Prove the following identities by induction. In all cases,  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  and  $Y$  are boolean variables.

(a)  $\neg(X_1 \vee X_2 \vee \dots \vee X_n) = \neg X_1 \wedge \neg X_2 \wedge \dots \wedge \neg X_n$

(b)  $\neg(X_1 \wedge X_2 \wedge \dots \wedge X_n) = \neg X_1 \vee \neg X_2 \vee \dots \vee \neg X_n$

(c)  $(Y \wedge X_1) \vee (Y \wedge X_2) \vee \dots \vee (Y \wedge X_n) = Y \wedge (X_1 \vee X_2 \vee \dots \vee X_n)$

(d)  $(Y \vee X_1) \wedge (Y \vee X_2) \wedge \dots \wedge (Y \vee X_n) = Y \vee (X_1 \wedge X_2 \wedge \dots \wedge X_n)$

2. Prove by induction that, for all positive integers  $n$ ,

$$\sum_{i=1}^n i^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}$$

3. The Fibonacci numbers are defined recursively as follows:

$$\text{fib}(0) = 1$$

$$\text{fib}(1) = 1$$

$$\text{fib}(n) = \text{fib}(n-1) + \text{fib}(n-2) \quad \text{for } n \geq 2$$

(a) Write down the first 10 Fibonacci numbers (i.e.  $\text{fib}(0), \dots, \text{fib}(9)$ ).

(b) Consider the following Python function:

```
def fib(n):
    if n <= 1:
        return 1
    else:
        return fib(n-1) + fib(n-2)
```

Prove, by induction, that the total number of calls to `fib` required to compute `fib(n)` is  $2 \times \text{fib}(n) - 1$ .