ADS2 Exam Feedback

This year's exam was based on the same structure of the last years with 5 questions, with several subquestions each, on the main topics of the course. Content focussed more on worked examples instead of bookwork, to adapt better to the online setting. Results were comparable to previous years with a mean grade of 45.29 over 60. A detailed commentary of each exam question is given below.

Q1. (Mean 16.49 over 20)

This question was generally answered correctly. Points were lost in c with an incorrect recursion trace and f where the complexity of the iterative algorithm was often omitted.

Q2. (Mean 3.16 over 6)

Most students got b right. There were more errors in a. A sample solution would be:

True. To prove $29 \leq c \log_2 n$ for $n \geq n0$, pick $c = 10$ and $n\_0 = 2^3 = 8$.

Q3. (Mean 9.27 over 12)

Done very well, many answers did not mention the complexity of the algorithms and the fact that the underlying sorting algorithm for radix sort needs to be stable.

Q4. (Mean 4.9 over 6)

In b, the order of nodes in the linked list was sometimes wrong, as we insert new nodes at the head of the list.

d, for a wrong node ordering in the chains (again we insert at the head of the list).

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