

Introduction to the Theory of Computation  
Homework #1  
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1 Write formal descriptions of the following sets:

- (a)  $\{x \in \mathcal{N} \mid x = 1 \wedge \text{mod}(x, 10) = 0\}$
- (b)  $\{x \in \mathcal{N} \mid x > 5\}$
- (c)  $\{x \in \mathcal{N} \mid x < 5\}$
- (d) The set containing the string aba
- (e)  $\{x \notin \Sigma^*\}$
- (f)  $\{\emptyset\}$

2 Suppose S is a set with n elements:

- (a)  $|S| = n$ , The number of relations on S  $= 2^{n^2}$
- (b)  $|S| = n$ , The number of reflexive relations on S  $= 2^{n^2-n}$
- (c)  $|S| = n$ , The number of symmetric relations on S  $= 2^{\frac{n(n+1)}{2}}$
- (d)  $|S| = n$ , The number of reflexive and symmetric relations on S  $= 3^{\frac{n(n-1)}{2}}$

3 Find the error in the proof:

- The proof mentions the sets H1 and H2 which are not necessarily groups of multiple hours. Therefore the claims made in the induction step are not necessarily valid.

4 Give a simple non-recursive definition in each case:

- (a) Append all  $y \in \Sigma$  onto the end of any  $x \in L$
- (b) Generate all strings with one 'a', and zero or more 'b's.

5 Give recursive definitions of each of the following sets.

- (a) The set N of all natural numbers.

- $1 \in \mathcal{N}$
- $(x+1) \in \mathcal{N}$  if  $(x+1) > 0$

(b) The set  $S$  of all natural numbers divisible by 7.

- $7 \in S$
- $(x+1) \in S$  if  $\text{mod}(x, 7) > 0$

(c) The set  $A$  of all strings in  $\{a, b\}^*$  containing the substring 'aa'.

- $'aa' \in A$
- $x\sigma, \sigma x \in A$  if  $x \in \{a, b\}^*$  and  $\sigma \in A$

6 Recursive definition for the number of characters in a string

- $n_b(\epsilon) = 0$
- $n_b('b') = 1$
- $n_b('a') = 0$
- $n_b(x) = n_b(\sigma) + n_b(c)$  if  $c \in \Sigma^*$

7 Proof:

- Observe that  $|\epsilon| = 0$
- Assume a definition for length  $|x\sigma| = 1 + |x|$  if  $x \in \Sigma^*$  and  $\sigma \in \Sigma$

$$|xy| = |x| + |y|$$

$$|(\sigma z)y| = |\sigma z| + |y|$$

$$|\sigma(zy)| = |\sigma z| + |y|$$

$$1 + |zy| = |\sigma z| + |y|$$

$$1 + |zy| = 1 + |z| + |y|$$

$$|zy| = |z| + |y|$$

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