CS111 - Recitation 1

Exercise 1: Weighing Coins

a. Assume that you have 8 coins, and you know that 7 are 'okay' but one is 'bad'. You know that the bad coin has a different weight than the good coins, but you don't know whether it is heavier or lighter.

Construct an algorithm to find out which is the bad coin using just 3 weighings on a balance scale. (Hint: Find a way to determine that half of the coins are 'okay' with just 1 weighing.) Write your algorithm in the form of a flowchart.

- b. Now do the same thing assuming that you have 9 coins, one of which is bad. (Still use just 3 weightings to find the bad coin.)
- c. And now for a real challenge, do the same thing assuming that you have 13 coins.

Exercise 2: Truth Tables

Create the truth table for the following expressions:

- a. A OR (NOT B)
- b. NOT (A AND B)
- c. (NOT A) OR (NOT B)
- d. (NOT(A AND B)) OR (C AND B)

Do you notice something about b and c?

Exercise 3: Binary Conversion

What is the decimal value of each of the following binary representation?

- a. 1111
- b. 1101
- c. 1111 1111
- d. 1100 1010
- e. 0000 1000
- f. 0111 0011