American Computer Science League

2020-2021 • Contest 1: Solutions • Junior Division

1. Computer Number Systems

1. 36 (C)

The binary representation of the decimal numbers from 22 to 32 is as follows:

2. Computer Number Systems

2. 101100000₂ (A)

Converting each to binary makes 101100000₂ the largest:

$$101100000_2 = 101100000_2$$

 $535_8 = 101011101_2$
 $15F_{16} = 101011111_2$

3. Recursive Functions

3. 28 (B)

Evaluate each starting at 1:

$$f(1) = 1$$

$$f(2) = f(1) + 2 = 3$$

$$f(3) = f(2) + 3 = 6$$

$$f(4) = f(3) + 4 = 10$$

$$f(5) = f(4) + 5 = 15$$

$$f(6) = f(5) + 6 = 21$$

$$f(7) = f(6) + 7 = 28$$

Note: the sequence generated is 1, 3, 6, 10, 15, 21, 28, ... These are called triangular numbers - each nth term is the sum of the first n integers. The formula for that sum is $\frac{n(n+1)}{2}$. For n=7, it is $\frac{7*8}{2}=28$.

4. Recursive Functions

4. 5 (D)

Evaluate the function by working forwards, then backwards.

$$f(20) = f\left(\frac{20}{2}\right) + 1 = f(10) + 1 = 4 + 1 = 5$$

$$f(10) = f\left(\frac{10}{2}\right) + = f(5) + 1 = 3 + 1 = 4$$

$$f(5) = f(5+3) - 1 = f(8) - 1 = 4 - 1 = 3$$

$$f(8) = f\left(\frac{8}{2}\right) + 1 = f(4) + 1 = 3 + 1 = 4$$

$$f(4) = f\left(\frac{4}{2}\right) + 1 = f(2) + 1 = 2 + 1 = 3$$

$$f(2) = f\left(\frac{2}{2}\right) + 1 = f(1) + 1 = 1 + 1 = 2$$

$$f(1) = \frac{1+1}{2} = \frac{2}{2} = 1$$

5. What Does This Program Do?

5. 8 (A)

The following table can be used to trace the program:

a	b	c
24	2	3
24	6	3
6	6	3
6	8	3
6	8	2

So
$$a + b / c^2 = 6 + 8 / 2^2 = 6 + 8 / 4 = 6 + 2 = 8$$