

CS 230 : Discrete Computational Structures

**Fall Semester, 2023**

ASSIGNMENT #8

**Due Date:** Thursday, November 2

**Suggested Reading:** Rosen Sections 5.3; Lehman et al. Chapter 7

For the problems below, explain your answers and show your reasoning.

1. [12 Pts] Let  $S$  defined recursively by (1)  $4 \in S$  and (2) if  $s \in S$  and  $t \in S$ , then  $st \in S$ . Let  $A = \{4^i \mid i \in \mathbf{Z}^+\}$ . Prove that

- (a) [6 Pts]  $A \subseteq S$  by mathematical induction.

$$P(n) = 4^n \in S$$

**Basis:**

$$P(1) = 4^1 = 4 \Rightarrow 4 \in S, \text{ so } P(1)$$

**Induction Step:**

Inductive Hypothesis: Assume  $P(k)$ :  $4^k \in S$

Prove:  $P(k+1)$ :  $4^{k+1} \in S$

Since  $x = 4^1 \in S$  (By Basis Step) and  $y = 4^k \in S$  (By **IH**)

By rule, if  $x, y \in S$ , then  $xy \in S$ .

$$4^{k+1} = 4^k \cdot 4^1 = xy, \text{ so } 4^{k+1} \in S.$$

Therefore  $P(k+1)$ .

- (b) [6 Pts]  $S \subseteq A$  by structural induction.

**Basis:**

By Inductive Definition of  $S$ ,  $4 \in S$ .

Since  $4^1 = 4$  and  $1 \in \mathbf{Z}^+$ ,  $4 \in A$ .

**Induction Step**

Consider  $x, y \in S$ . Assume  $x, y \in A$ .  $\leftarrow$  Inductive Hypothesis

Since  $x, y \in S$ ,  $xy \in S$  (via Inductive Definition of  $S$ )

Prove:  $xy \in A$

Since  $x, y \in S$ ,  $x = 4^a$  and  $y = 4^b$ ,  $a, b \in \mathbf{Z}^+$  because  $S$  contains multiples of 4.

$$\text{Therefore, } xy = 4^a \cdot 4^b = 4^{a+b}$$

Since  $xy = 4^{a+b}$  and  $a+b \in \mathbf{Z}^+$ ,  $xy \in A$  by definition of  $A$ .

Therefore,  $xy \in A$ .

2. [5 Pts] Give an inductive definition of the set of palindromes over the alphabet  $\{a, b, c\}$ . You do not need to prove that your construction is correct. *Note:*  $a, b, c, aa, cc, aba$  are all palindromes.

Let  $S$  be the set of palindromes.

Our set starts with all single characters, as any character by itself is a palindrome, and the empty set,  $\epsilon$ .

**Basis:** Strings  $a, b, c$ , and  $\epsilon \in S$

**Induction Step:** If string  $x \in S$ ,  
 Then:  $axa \in S$   
 $bx b \in S$   
 $cxc \in S$

3. [5 Pts] Define the set  $S = \{2^k 3^m \mid k, m \in \mathbb{Z}^+\}$  inductively. You do not need to prove that your construction is correct.

**Basis:**  $6 \in S$  ( $2^1 \cdot 3^1 = 6$ )

**Induction Step:** If  $x \in S$   
 Then:  $2x \in S$   
 $3x \in S$

4. [8 Pts] Given the inductive definition of full binary trees (FBTs), define  $n(T)$ , the number of vertices in tree  $T$ , and  $\ell(T)$ , the number of leaves in tree  $T$ , inductively. Then, use structural induction to prove that for all FBTs  $T$ ,  $n(T) = 2\ell(T) - 1$ .

$n(T)$  : If the tree is one node, there is one vertex, so  $n(T) = 1$ .

Otherwise, there are  $1 + n(T_L) + n(T_R)$ , one plus the number of vertices in the sub-trees.

$\ell(T)$  : If the tree is one node, there is one leaf, so  $\ell(T) = 1$ .

If there is more than one node,  $\ell(T) = 1 + \ell(T_L) + \ell(T_R)$ .

5. [15 Pts] Let  $L = \{(a, b) \mid a, b \in \mathbb{Z}, (a - b) \bmod 4 = 0\}$ . We want to program a robot that can get to each point  $(x, y) \in L$  starting at  $(0, 0)$ .

- (a) [5 Pts] Give an inductive definition of  $L$ . This will describe the steps you want the robot to take to get to points in  $L$  starting at  $(0, 0)$ . Let  $L'$  be the set obtained by your inductive definition.

$L'$ :

**Basis:**  $(0, 0)$ ,  $0 - 0 = 0$ ,  $0/4 = 0$ , so  $(0, 0) \in L'$

**Inductive Step:** Given  $(a, b) \in L'$ ,

$(a + 4, b) \in L'$

$(a, b + 4) \in L'$

$(a + 1, b + 3) \in L'$

$(a + 3, b + 1) \in L'$

$(a + 2, b + 2) \in L'$

- (b) [5 Pts] Prove inductively that  $L' \subseteq L$ , i.e., every point that the robot can get to is in  $L$ .

$P(a, b) = (a - b) = 4m$ , (aka  $(a - b)$  is divisible by 4)  $\Rightarrow (a, b)$  is a reachable point

**Basis:**

$P(0, 0) = 0 - 0 = 0$ ,  $0/4 = 0$ , so  $P(0, 0)$ .

**Induction Step:**

Assume  $P(a, b)$  is a reachable square.

Prove:  $(a - b) = 4m$

$(a + 4, b)$ :  $a + 4 - b = a - b + 4 = 4m + 4 = 4(m + 1)$ , so  $(a + 4, b) \in L'$

$(a, b + 4)$ :  $a - b + 4 = 4m + 4 = 4(m + 1)$ , so  $(a, b + 4) \in L'$

$(a + 1, b + 3)$ :  $a + 1 - b + 3 = a - b + 4 = 4m + 4 = 4(m + 1)$ , so  $(a + 1, b + 3) \in L'$

$(a + 3, b + 1)$ :  $a + 3 - b + 1 = a - b + 4 = 4m + 4 = 4(m + 1)$ , so  $(a + 3, b + 1) \in L'$

$(a + 2, b + 2)$ :  $a + 2 - b + 2 = a - b + 4 = 4m + 4 = 4(m + 1)$ , so  $(a + 2, b + 2) \in L'$

- (c) [5 Pts] **Extra Credit** Prove that  $L \subseteq L'$ , i.e., the robot can get to every point in  $L$ . To prove this, you need to give the path the robot would take to get to every point in  $L$  from  $(0, 0)$ , following the steps defined by your inductive rules.

For more practice, you are encouraged to work on other problems in Rosen Sections 5.3 and in LLM Chapter 7.