

LAST NAME (please print)	
First name (please print)	
Student Number	

WESTERN UNIVERSITY  
DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE

**CS3331: Foundations of Computer Science – Fall 2020**  
– Final Exam –

**Saturday, Dec. 12, 2020, 2:00 - 5:00pm**  
**Location: OWL**

**Instructor: Prof. Lucian Ilie**

**Upload your solutions in OWL by 5:30pm.**

**Approved accommodation: email to cs3331@uwo.ca by 2:00pm + your approved time + 30min.**  
**In either case, failure to do so will result in your exam being discarded; no exceptions.**

This exam consists of 5 questions (6 pages, including this page), worth a total of 100 marks.  
The exam is 180 minutes long and comprises 39% of your final grade.

**For each questions, solve only part  $V_i, 0 \leq i \leq 3$ , where  $i = \text{student\_number} \bmod 4$ .**  
**Failure to answer the correct version will result in your answer being discarded.**

$V_i =$	
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(1) 20pt	
(2) 20pt	
(3) 20pt	
(4) 30pt	
(5) 10pt	
Grade	

1. (20pt) Remember to solve only your version  $V_i$ ; calculate correctly your  $i = \text{student\_number} \bmod 4$ .

Construct a deterministic Turing machine  $M$  that performs the action indicated at your  $V_i$  below.  $M$  starts with the initial configuration  $(s, \sqcup w)$  and halts with the configuration  $(h, \sqcup w)$ . Describe  $M$  using the macro language (the one that looks like this:  $R_{\sqcup, a} \xrightarrow{\sqcup} aRbL-\sqcup$ ).

$V_0 : \Sigma = \{a, b\}$ ;  $M$  replaces any occurrence of  $aba$  in the input with  $aca$ .

$V_1 : \Sigma = \{0, 1\}$ ;  $M$  adds 2 to its input, seen as a binary number.

$V_2 : \Sigma = \{a, b\}$ ;  $M$  moves the leftmost  $a$  (if any) to the end of the input, then closes the hole where  $a$  was.

$V_3 : \Sigma = \{a, b, c\}$ ;  $M$  replaces the input with the number of  $a$ 's in the input, written in unary (using 1's).

2. (20pt) Describe in clear English a Turing machine that semidecides the language  $L$  given below:

$V_0 : L = \{ \langle M \rangle \mid M \text{ rejects at least two strings} \}$

$V_1 : L = \{ \langle M \rangle \mid M \text{ accepts at least one string starting with } a \}$

$V_2 : L = \{ \langle M \rangle \mid M \text{ accepts the empty string and at least one string of odd length} \}$

$V_3 : L = \{ \langle M \rangle \mid M \text{ accepts at least two strings of different lengths} \}$

3. (20pt) Prove your answers to the questions below ((a) – 6pt, (b) – 5pt, (c) – 9pt: 3pt for each (i)-(iii)):

$V_0$  : (a) Is it possible that  $L \in D$  and  $L \cap \neg L \notin SD - D$ ?

(b) If we modify an FSM to allow infinitely many states, then we can easily accept any language, e.g., we can build a path to accept every string in the language. That means, we can accept also non-SD languages. Does this contradict Church's thesis?

(c) Can the union  $L_1 \cup L_2$ , for  $L_1 \in SD$ ,  $L_2 \in \neg SD$  be in: (i)  $D$ , (ii)  $SD - D$ , (iii)  $\neg SD$ ?

$V_1$  : (a) Is it possible that  $L$  is regular and  $\neg(L \cap \neg L) \notin SD - D$ ?

(b) Is it possible to design a new mechanism (that would have a finite description) such that the languages it accepts are precisely the non-SD languages, thus contradicting Church's thesis?

(c) Can the intersection  $L_1 \cap L_2$ , for  $L_1 \in SD$ ,  $L_2 \in \neg SD$  be in: (i)  $D$ , (ii)  $SD - D$ , (iii)  $\neg SD$ ?

$V_2$  : (a) Is it possible that  $L$  is context-free and  $L - \neg \neg L \notin SD - D$ ?

(b) Is it possible to define a new mechanism that uses a Turing Machine but accepts exactly when the TM does not; such a mechanism would then accept languages such as  $\neg H$ , which is not in  $SD$ , thus contradicting Church's thesis?

(c) Can the difference  $L_1 - L_2$ , for  $L_1 \in SD$ ,  $L_2 \in \neg SD$  be in: (i)  $D$ , (ii)  $SD - D$ , (iii)  $\neg SD$ ?

$V_3$  : (a) Is it possible that  $L \notin SD$  and  $L \cup \neg L \in D$ ?

(b) Let's define a new class of languages, which is obtained as the closure of  $SD$  under complement. This new class would strictly include  $SD$ , as it would include, for instance,  $\neg H$ . Does this contradict Church's thesis?

(c) Can the intersection  $L_1 \cap L_2$ , for  $L_1 \in \neg SD$ ,  $L_2 \in SD$  be in: (i)  $D$ , (ii)  $SD - D$ , (iii)  $\neg SD$ ?

4. (30pt) Consider an alphabet  $\Sigma$  such that all languages below are over  $\Sigma$ .

- (i) (18pt) For each of the languages below, prove, without using Rice's theorem, whether it is in D, SD – D, or  $\neg$ SD. Explain first intuitively why you think it is in D, SD – D, or  $\neg$ SD, then prove your assertion rigorously.
- (ii) (12pt) Explain whether Rice's Theorem applies or not to each of these languages.

$V_0$  : (a)  $L_1 = \{ \langle M_1, M_2 \rangle \mid M_1 \text{ accepts at least two strings and } M_2 \text{ rejects at least one string} \}$

(b)  $L_2 = \{ \langle M \rangle \mid M \text{ accepts only the string } aba \}$

(c)  $L_3 = a^*$

$V_1$  : (a)  $L_1 = \{ \langle M_1, M_2 \rangle \mid M_1 \text{ accepts at least one string in } a^* \text{ and } M_2 \text{ rejects at least one string in } b^* \}$

(b)  $L_2 = \{ \langle M \rangle \mid |L(M)| \leq 10 \}$

(c)  $L_3 = \{ \varepsilon \}$

$V_2$  : (a)  $L_1 = \{ \langle M_1, M_2 \rangle \mid M_1 \text{ accepts } a \text{ and } L(M_2) \text{ is not empty} \}$

(b)  $L_2 = \{ \langle M \rangle \mid M \text{ accepts finitely many even-length strings} \}$

(c)  $L_3 = \emptyset$

$V_3$  : (a)  $L_1 = \{ \langle M_1, M_2 \rangle \mid M_1 \text{ accepts at least one string and } M_2 \text{ rejects at least one string} \}$

(b)  $L_2 = \{ \langle M \rangle \mid M \text{ accepts two palindromes and nothing else} \}$

(c)  $L_3 = \{ ab \}$

5. (10pt) Answer your version of the PCP question below:

- $V_0$  : PCP over one letter (that is, all strings are from  $1^*$ ) is decidable, because we work with numbers instead of strings. If PCP over one letter is decidable, and we can always encode any number of letters into a single letter (e.g.,  $a = 1, b = 11, c = 111, d = 1111$ , etc.), explain how is it possible that PCP over an arbitrary alphabet is undecidable?
- $V_1$  : Explain what is wrong with the following proof that PCP is decidable. Denote the top and bottom strings by  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$  and  $(y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n)$ , resp. Considering all possible subsets of all possible permutations of these blocks, we obtain  $2^{n!}$  possibilities. If we denote the maximum length of a string by  $m = \max_{i=1..n}(\max(|x_i|, |y_i|))$ , this means the shortest solution, if any, must be of length at most  $m2^{n!}$ . The PCP is then decided by checking all potential solutions up to this length.
- $V_2$  : Show that the following restricted version of PCP is decidable:  $\text{PCP}_r = \{((x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n), (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n)) \mid n \geq 1, x_i, y_i \in \{a, b\}^+, \max(|x_i|, |y_i|) \leq 4, \text{ for all } 1 \leq i \leq n\}$ .
- $V_3$  : Given a positive number  $n$ , construct a PCP problem over  $\{a, b\}$  whose shortest solution has  $n$  blocks. Explain why your answer is correct.