

PLEASE HAND IN

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO  
FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCE

TERM TEST #1

CSC 236H1

DURATION — 50 MINUTES

PLEASE HAND IN

LAST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

FIRST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

*Do NOT turn this page until you have received the signal to start.*  
(In the meantime, please fill out the identification section above,  
and read the instructions below.)

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This test consists of 3 questions on 7 pages (including this one). *When you receive the signal to start, please make sure that your copy of the test is complete.*

Please answer questions in the space provided. You will earn 20% for any question you leave blank or write "I cannot answer this question," on. You will earn substantial part marks for writing down the outline of a solution and indicating which steps are missing.

*Good Luck!*

**QUESTION 1.** [5 MARKS]

Use Mathematical Induction to prove that for every natural number  $n$ ,  $13^n - 1$  is a multiple of 12.

**PROOF:** For convenience I define  $P(n) : \exists z \in \mathbb{Z}, 13^n - 1 = 12z$  I use Mathematical Induction to prove  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}, P(n)$ .

**BASE CASE,  $n=0$ :** If  $n = 0$  then  $13^n - 1 = 13^0 - 1 = 0$  and  $0 = 12 \times 0, 0 \in \mathbb{Z}$ , so  $P(0)$  is verified.

**INDUCTION STEP:** Assume  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $P(n)$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} 13^{n+1} - 1 &= 13(13^n - 1) + 12 && \# \text{ rewrite} \\ &= 13(12z) + 12, \text{ some } z \in \mathbb{Z} && \# \text{ by } P(n) \\ &= 12(13z + 1) = 12z', z' \in \mathbb{Z} && \# 13, z, 1 \in \mathbb{Z} \\ &&& \# \text{ and } \mathbb{Z} \text{ is closed under } +, \times \end{aligned}$$

Since I assume  $n$  was an arbitrary natural number and  $P(n)$ , and from that derived  $P(n + 1)$ , then  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}, P(n) \Rightarrow P(n + 1)$ .

I conclude, by mathematical induction,  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}, P(n)$ .



## QUESTION 2. [5 MARKS]

Recall the definition of a binary tree (a tree where each node has, at most, two children). Define the height of a binary tree as the number of nodes in the longest path from root to a leaf — so a tree consisting of a single node has height 1. Use Complete Induction to prove that for every natural number  $n$ , any non-empty binary tree of height  $n$  has, at most,  $2^{n-1}$  leaves (leaves are nodes with zero children).

SOLUTION: For convenience, I define the predicate  $P(n)$ : “Any non-empty binary tree of height  $n$  has, at most  $2^{n-1}$  leaves.” I use complete induction to prove  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}, P(n)$ .

INDUCTION STEP: Assume  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , and that  $P(i)$  is true for all  $0 \leq i < n$ .

CASE  $n \leq 1$ : The only non-empty binary tree with height no greater than 1 consists of a childless root, and has height 1. Since the root is also the sole leaf, this tree has no more than  $2^{1-1} = 1$  leaf, so  $P(1)$  is verified (and  $P(0)$  is vacuously verified, since there are no non-empty binary trees of height 0).

CASE  $n > 1$ : A tree with height 2 or more has either 1 or two non-empty sub-trees, and these contribute all the leaves. I consider the cases separately.

SUB-CASE A, EXACTLY ONE NON-EMPTY SUB-TREE: In this case, the single sub-tree has height  $n - 1$  (the longest path, minus the root node), and by the IH it has no more than  $2^{n-1-1}$  leaves, which (in turn) is no more than  $2^{n-1}$  leaves.

SUB-CASE B, EXACTLY TWO NON-EMPTY SUB-TREES: Call the height of the left sub-tree  $n_L$ , and that of the right sub-tree  $n_R$ . Since they are non-empty,  $1 \leq n_L, n_R$ , and since the longest path in each sub-tree is shorter (by one) than the corresponding path that includes the root of the original tree, they have  $n_L, n_R \leq n - 1$ . This means that the the IH applies, and the total number of leaves contributed by the two sub-trees is

$$2^{n_L-1} + 2^{n_R-1} \leq 2^{n-1-1} + 2^{n-1-1} = 2^{n-1}$$

So  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ , if  $P(i)$  for  $0 \leq i < n$ , then  $P(n)$ .

Then, by complete induction, I conclude  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}, P(n)$ .

(Another approach would be to strengthen the claim so that it applied to all binary trees (not just non-empty ones), and the claim about non-empty binary trees would follow as a consequence).



## QUESTION 3. [5 MARKS]

Define  $\mathcal{E}$  as the SMALLEST set such that

1. Symbols  $x$ ,  $y$ , and  $z$  are elements of  $\mathcal{E}$ .
2. If expressions  $e_1$  and  $e_2$  are elements of  $\mathcal{E}$ , then so is  $(e_1 + e_2)$ .

For  $e \in \mathcal{E}$  define  $\text{vr}(e)$  as the number of occurrences of symbols from the set  $\{x, y, z\}$  in  $e$ , and  $\text{p}(e)$  as the number of occurrences of parentheses from the set  $\{(\, , \,)\}$  in  $e$ . For example,  $\text{vr}(((x + y) + z)) = 3$  and  $\text{p}(((x + y) + z)) = 4$ . Use Structural Induction to prove that for every  $e \in \mathcal{E}$ ,  $2\text{vr}(e) = \text{p}(e) + 2$ .

SOLUTION: for convenience, I define the predicate  $P(e) : "2\text{vr}(e) = \text{p}(e) + 2"$  I use structural induction to prove  $\forall e \in \mathcal{E}, P(e)$ .

BASIS,  $e \in \{x, y, z\}$ : Each of these expressions has exactly one variable and 0 parentheses, and  $2 \times 1 = 0 + 2$ , so  $P(e)$  is verified for  $e$  in the basis.

INDUCTION STEP: Assume  $e_1, e_2 \in \mathcal{E}$  and  $P(e_1), P(e_2)$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned}
 2\text{vr}((e_1 + e_2)) &= 2(\text{vr}(e_1) + \text{vr}(e_2)) && \# \text{ no variables added} \\
 &= 2\text{vr}(e_1) + 2\text{vr}(e_2) \\
 &= \text{pr}(e_1) + 2 + \text{pr}(e_2) + 2 = [\text{pr}(e_1) + \text{pr}(e_2) + 2] + 2 && \# \text{ by IH} \\
 &= \text{pr}((e_1 + e_2)) + 2 && \# 2 \text{ parentheses needed to wrap } (e_1 + e_2)
 \end{aligned}$$

So,  $\forall e_1, e_2 \in \mathcal{E}, P(e_1) \wedge P(e_2) \Rightarrow P((e_1 + e_2))$ .

By the principle of structural induction, I conclude  $\forall e \in \mathcal{E}, P(e)$ .

# 1: \_\_\_\_\_ / 5

# 2: \_\_\_\_\_ / 5

# 3: \_\_\_\_\_ / 5

TOTAL: \_\_\_\_\_ / 15