

SOLUTIONS FOR DISCRETE MATHEMATICS FOR COMPUTER SCIENCE      EXAM, PART 1  
OCTOBER 27, 2021

Provide explanation for all answers. Failing to do this would result in no points given.  
Use of electronic devices is not allowed.  
**Answers to different problems must go in separate sheets**  
Time: one hour

1. (4 pts.) Write the statements below in formal logic:

- (a) Recall that  $\mathbb{Z}_+ = \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$  is the set of nonnegative integers. Consider an open statement  $p(n)$ , where the free variable  $n$  is a nonnegative integer. The statement is:

*If  $p(0)$  is true, and for any nonnegative integer  $k$ ,  $p(k)$  is true implies  $p(k+1)$  is also true, then  $p(n)$  is true for all nonnegative integers  $n$ .*

**Sol.** The solution for part(a) is as follows:

$$p(x) : p(x) \text{ is true}$$

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(0.5pts.)  $p(0)$

(1.0pts.)  $\forall k \in \mathbb{N}, p(k) \rightarrow p(k+1)$

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(0.5pts.)  $\therefore \forall n \in \mathbb{Z}_+, p(n)$

Alternatively, the above solution can be condensed as:

$$[p(0) \wedge (\forall k \in \mathbb{N}, p(k) \rightarrow p(k+1))] \implies (\forall n \in \mathbb{Z}_+ p(n))$$

- (b) Let  $L$  be a set of subsets from a universe  $\mathcal{U}$ , i.e.,  $L \subseteq \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{U})$ . The statement is

*Each pair of elements from  $L$  is either disjoint or one is contained in the other.*

**Sol.** The solution for part (b) is as follows:

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(0.5pts.)  $p(X) : (\forall A, B \in X) A \cap B = \emptyset$

(0.5pts.)  $q(X) : (\forall A, B \in X) : (A \subseteq B) \vee (B \subseteq A)$

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(1.0pts.)  $(\forall X \subseteq L) p(X) \vee q(X)$

Alternatively, we may also say that,

$$(\forall A, B \subseteq L) (A \cap B = \emptyset) \vee (A \subseteq B) \vee (B \subseteq A).$$

2. (3 pts.) Using the rules of logic and inference, establish the validity or invalidity of the following argument:

(1)  $p \rightarrow q$

(2)  $\neg p \rightarrow r$

(3)  $r \rightarrow s$

(4)  $\neg q$

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$\therefore s$

**Sol.** The explanation is as follows:

- (5) (1+L13) :  $\neg q \rightarrow \neg p$
- (6) Premise (2) :  $\neg p \rightarrow r$
- (7) (4 + 5 + R1) :  $\neg p$
- (8) (7 + 6 + R1) :  $r$
- (9) Premise (3) :  $r \rightarrow s$
- (10) (8 + 9 + R1) :  $s$

Each step above counts **0.5 pts.**

3. (3 pts.) Let  $A = \{a, b\}$  and  $B = \{\{a, b\}, c\}$ . Determine:

- (a)  $\mathcal{P}(A)$ .
- (b)  $A \cap B$ .
- (c)  $A \times B$ .

**Sol.** Each part counts **1.0 pts.**

- (a)  $\mathcal{P}(A) = \{\emptyset, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{a, b\}\}$ .
- (b)  $A \cap B = \emptyset$ . Note that  $\{a, b\} \neq a$  and  $\{a, b\} \neq b$ .
- (c)

$$\begin{aligned} A \times B &= \{a, b\} \times \{\{a, b\}, c\} \\ &= \{(a, \{a, b\}), (a, c), (b, \{a, b\}), (b, c)\}. \end{aligned}$$