

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
ID: \_\_\_\_\_

**ECS 20: Discrete Mathematics**  
**Finals**  
**December 16, 2014**

*Notes:*

- 1) Finals are open book, open notes.
- 2) You have two hours, no more: It will be strictly enforced.
- 3) You can answer directly on these sheets (preferred), or on loose paper.
- 4) Please write your name at the top right of each page you turn in!
- 5) There are 3 parts with a total possible number of points of 110, and one extra credit problem (10 points).

**Part I: proofs (4 questions; each 10 points; total 40 points)**

- 1) Let  $a$  and  $b$  be two real numbers with  $a \geq 0$   $b \geq 0$ . Use a proof by contradiction to show that  $\frac{a+b}{2} \geq \sqrt{ab}$ .

- 2) Let  $x$  and  $y$  be two integers. Show that if  $x^2+y^2$  is even, then  $x+y$  is even.

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- 3) Let  $A = \{1,2,3\}$  and  $R = \{(2,3),(2,1)\}$  be two sets. Note that in the definition of  $R$ , order matters: for example,  $(2,3) \in R$  but  $(3,2) \notin R$ . Prove that if  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$  are three elements of  $A$  such that  $(a,b) \in R$  and  $(b,c) \in R$ , then  $(a,c) \in R$ .

- 4) Prove or disprove that if  $n$  is odd, then  $n^2+4$  is a prime number.

**Part II. Proof by induction (4 questions; each 10 points; total 40 points)**

- 1) Show by induction that  $\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{2^i} = 1 - \frac{1}{2^n}$  for all integer  $n \geq 1$

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2) Let  $\{a_n\}$  be a sequence with first terms  $a_1=2$ ,  $a_2=8$ , and recursive definition:

$a_n = 2a_{n-1} + 3a_{n-2} + 4$ . Show that  $a_n = 3^n - 1$  for all integer  $n \geq 1$  using strong induction.

3) Let  $x$  be a positive real number ( $x > 0$ ). Show that  $(1 + x)^n > 1 + nx$  for all integer number  $n > 1$ .

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- 4) Let  $f_n$  be the  $n$ -th Fibonacci number (note: Fibonacci numbers satisfy  $f_0=0, f_1=1$  and  $f_n + f_{n+1} = f_{n+2}$ ).

Prove by induction that for all  $n \geq 1$ ,  $f_{n-1}f_{n+1} = f_n^2 + (-1)^n$ .

**Part III. Set theory - Functions (3 problems; each 10 points; total 30 points)**

- 1) Let  $f, g$ , and  $h$  be three functions from  $\mathbb{R}^+$  to  $\mathbb{R}^+$  (positive real numbers). Using the definition of big-O, show that if  $f$  is  $O(g(x))$  and  $g$  is  $O(h(x))$ , then  $f$  is  $O(h(x))$ .

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- 2) Let  $A$  and  $B$  be two sets in a universe  $U$ . Show that  $|\overline{A \cap B}| = |U| - |A| - |B| + |A \cap B|$  (where  $|A|$  is the cardinality of  $A$ , i.e. number of elements in  $A$ ).

- 3) Show that if  $n$  is an odd integer, then  $\left\lceil \frac{n^2}{4} \right\rceil = \frac{n^2 + 3}{4}$

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**Part IV. Extra credit (10 points)**

Use the method of proof by **strong** induction to show that any amount of postage of 12 cents or more can be formed using just 4-cent and 5-cent stamps. *For example, 29 can be represented with five 5-cent stamps, and one 4-cent stamp. 17 can be represented with three 4-cent stamps, and one 5-cent stamp.*

Provide a second proof, using the method of proof by induction only (i.e. not strong induction).