## ASSIGNMENT 1 — INDUCTIVE REASONING

COMP 3010 — ORGANIZATION OF PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES

## 1. Induction

Exercise 1 (Multiple Choice). Consider the total function

$$f(x) = 4x + 5$$

Which of the following inductive definitions are equivalent to the above f?

(a) 
$$f(x+1) = f(x) + 5$$

(b) 
$$f(x+1) = f(x) + 4$$

(c) 
$$f(0) = 5$$
  $f(x+1) = f(x) + 4$ 

(d) 
$$f(0) = 4$$
  $f(x+1) = f(x) + 5$ 

**Exercise 2.**  $\mathbb{N}$  stands for the set of all natural numbers, and  $\mathbb{N}^*$  stands for the set of *all* finite lists of natural numbers of any length. For example,  $\mathbb{N}^*$  contains each of the lists  $[9,9,9], [10,9,8,7,\ldots,3,2,1]$  and [5,16,8,4,2,1].  $\mathbb{N}^*$  is defined inductively as the smallest set such that:

- $\mathbb{N}^*$  contains the empty list [], and
- given any natural number  $x_0$  from  $\mathbb{N}$  and any list  $[x_1, \ldots, x_n]$  already in  $\mathbb{N}^*$ , the set  $\mathbb{N}^*$  also contains the list  $[x_0, x_1, \ldots, x_n]$ .

Give an inductive definition for the function f, which takes a finite list of numbers xs such that f(xs) is three times the sum of the list. Your definition of f should follow the inductive pattern

$$f([]) = \dots$$
  
$$f([x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n]) = \dots f([x_1, \dots, x_n]) \dots$$

so that it gives the same result as:

$$f([x_0, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n]) = 3 \times (x_0 + x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n)$$

on any argument. In the case of the empty list [], the sum of [] is 0.

Hint: you might find the fact that

$$3 \times (x_0 + x_1 + \dots + x_n) = (3 \times x_0) + (3 \times x_1) + \dots + (3 \times x_n)$$

is useful for writing your inductive definition of f.

**Exercise 3** (Multiple Choice). Let X be inductively defined as the smallest set of finite number lists (taken from  $\mathbb{N}^*$ ) satisfying the following closure properties:

- X contains the empty list [].
- Given any natural number n from  $\mathbb{N}$ , the set X contains the one-element list [n].

Date: Fall 2025.

• Given any natural number y from  $\mathbb{N}$  and any list  $[x_1, \ldots, x_n]$  already in X, the set X also contains the list  $[y, x_1, \ldots, x_n, y]$ .

Which of the following lists is NOT in X?

- (a) [1, 2, 3, 2, 1]
- (b) [1, 2, 1, 2, 1]
- (c) [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]
- (d) [1, 1, 1, 1, 1]

## 2. Syntax and Grammars

**Exercise 4** (Multiple Choice). Consider the grammar G (note that  $\varepsilon$  stands for the empty string):

$$\begin{split} S &::= \mathbf{a} S \mid T \\ T &::= \mathbf{b} T \mid U \\ U &::= \mathbf{c} U \mid \varepsilon \end{split}$$

- (1) Which of the following strings is generated by the grammar G?
  - (a) acb
  - (b) acc
  - (c) cba
  - (d) baa
- (2) Which of the following is a derivation of bbc in the grammar G?
  - (a)  $S \to bT \to bbT \to bbU \to bbcU \to bbc$
  - (b)  $S \to T \to bT \to bTbT \to bbT \to bbU \to bbcU \to bbc$
  - (c)  $S \to T \to U \to bU \to bbU \to bbU \to bbc$
  - (d)  $S \to T \to bT \to bbT \to bbU \to bbcU \to bbc$

**Exercise 5** (Short Answer). In your own words, describe what language this grammar generates (remember,  $\varepsilon$  stands for the empty string):

$$S ::= \mathbf{a} S \mathbf{a} \mid T$$
 
$$T ::= \mathbf{b} T \mid \varepsilon$$

## 3. Syntax Trees

**Exercise 6.** Consider the following grammar for *concrete* syntax of arithmetic expressions:

$$E ::= E+T \mid E-T \mid T$$

$$T ::= T \times F \mid T/F \mid F$$

$$F ::= 1 \mid 2 \mid 3 \mid 4 \mid (E)$$

$$1 \times 2 - (3/4)$$

- (1) Write a parsing derivation starting from E (looking like  $E \to E T \to \dots$ )
- (2) Draw a parse tree (remember that the parentheses in the string should be included somewhere as a node for parentheses in the tree!)

**Exercise 7.** Consider the following grammar for *abstract* syntax of arithmetic expressions:

$$E := E + E \mid E - E \mid E \times E \mid E / E \mid 1 \mid 2 \mid 3 \mid 4$$

with the usual associativity and precedence for the arithmetic operators (all operators are left-associative,  $\times$  and / have a higher precedence than + and -).

- (1) Draw an abstract syntax tree for each of the following strings:
  - (a) 1 + (3/4)
  - (b)  $1 \times (2+3)$
  - (c)  $(1 \times 2) (3/4)$
- (2) (Multiple Choice & Short Answer) Which of the following pairs of strings with different parentheses represent the same abstract syntax tree according to the above precedence and associativity? Draw that abstract syntax tree.
  - (a)  $2 \times 4 3$  versus  $2 \times (4 3)$
  - (b) 1+2+3+4 versus 1+(2+(3+4))
  - (c)  $2 + 3 \times 4/2$  versus  $2 + ((3 \times 4)/2)$