

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Student No. \_\_\_\_\_

*No aids allowed. Answer all questions on test paper. Use backs of sheets for scratch work. Show all your work; there will be no credit for answers without a justification.*

Total Marks 100: four questions, each worth 25.

1. Use induction to prove that for  $n \geq 1$ ,

$$1^3 + 2^3 + 3^3 + \cdots + n^3 = (1 + 2 + 3 + \cdots + n)^2.$$

**SOLUTION:** Basis case:  $n = 1$ , then  $1^3 = 1^2$ . For the induction step:

$$\begin{aligned} & (1 + 2 + 3 + \cdots + n + (n + 1))^2 \\ &= (1 + 2 + 3 + \cdots + n)^2 + 2(1 + 2 + 3 + \cdots + n)(n + 1) + (n + 1)^2 \\ &= (1^3 + 2^3 + 3^3 + \cdots + n^3) + 2(1 + 2 + 3 + \cdots + n)(n + 1) + (n + 1)^2 \quad \text{ind hyp} \\ &= (1^3 + 2^3 + 3^3 + \cdots + n^3) + 2 \frac{n(n + 1)}{2} (n + 1) + (n + 1)^2 \\ &= (1^3 + 2^3 + 3^3 + \cdots + n^3) + n(n + 1)^2 + (n + 1)^2 \\ &= (1^3 + 2^3 + 3^3 + \cdots + n^3) + (n + 1)^3 \end{aligned}$$

2. Use the invariance principle to show that if in a group of people each person has at most 3 enemies, then they can be distributed into two groups so that each person has at most one enemy in their group.

**SOLUTION:** To solve this problem we must provide both an algorithm and an invariant for it. The algorithm works as follows: initially divide the people into any two groups.

Let  $H$  be the total sum of enemies that each person has in his own group. Now repeat the following loop: while there is an  $m$  which has at least two enemies in his own group, move  $m$  to the other group (where  $m$  must have at most one enemy). Thus, when  $m$  switches houses,  $H$  decreases. Here the invariant is “ $H$  decreases monotonically.”

Now we know that a sequence of positive integers cannot decrease for ever, so when  $H$  reaches its absolute minimum, we obtain the required distribution.

3. Write an algorithm which when given a positive integer  $n$  (i.e.,  $n \in \mathbb{N} - \{0\}$ ), outputs “yes” if  $n = 2^k$  (i.e.,  $n$  is a power of 2), and “no” otherwise.

**SOLUTION:**

1.  $x \leftarrow n$
2. while ( $x > 1$ )
3.     if ( $2|x$ ) then
4.          $x \leftarrow x/2$
5.     else
6.         stop and return “no”
7. return “yes”

4. Prove that the algorithm you gave in question 3 is correct; give an appropriate pre-condition, post-condition, and loop invariant.

Remember, *correctness* = *partial correctness* + *termination*.

**SOLUTION:**

pre-condition:  $n \geq 1$

post-condition: return “yes”  $\iff$   $n$  is a power of 2.

loop invariant:  $x$  is a power of 2 iff  $n$  is a power of 2.

We show the loop invariant by induction on the number of iterations of the main loop. Basis case: zero iterations, and since  $x \leftarrow n$ ,  $x = n$ , so obviously  $x$  is a power of 2 iff  $n$  is a power of 2.

For the induction step, note that if we ever get to update  $x$ , we have  $x' = x/2$ , and clearly  $x'$  is a power of 2 iff  $x$  is.

Note that the algorithm always terminates (let  $x_0 = n$ , and  $x_{i+1} = x_i/2$ , and apply the LNP as usual). We can now prove correctness: if the algorithm returns “yes”, then after the last iteration of the loop  $x = 1 = 2^0$ , and by the loop invariant  $n$  is a power of 2. If, on the other hand,  $n$  is a power of 2, then so is every  $x$ , so eventually  $x = 1$ , and so the algorithm returns “yes”.