Ph.D. Preliminary Written ExamComputer-Aided Design
April 12, 2013

You will be asked questions pertaining to fundamental algorithms and programming archetypes: recursion, iteration, and searching. All code is written in C. You may write your answers in any language. Don't worry about syntax; as long as your answer is conceptually correct, you'll get full points.

## 1. Recursive Functions [ 1.0 pts ]

What is the formula for computing the following sequence of numbers?

```
1 2 0 -1 5 7 -6 -5 28 20 -51 -7 155 16 -315 118 796 -385 -1623 ...
```

Write a recursive function that computes the $n$-th number in the sequence, for any $n>2$. Assume that the function evaluates to 1 for $n=1$ and to 2 for $n=2$.

## Solution

```
# include <stdio.h>
int fibonacci(int n) {
        if (n <= 2) {
            return n;
    } else {
        int m = fibonacci(n-1) - 2*fibonacci(n-2) + 3*fibonacci(n-3);
        return m;
    }
}
int main(int argc, char **argv) {
    int i;
    for (i = 1; i < atoi(argv[1]); i++) {
        printf("%d ", fibonacci(i));
    }
    printf("\n");
}
```

2. Iterative Functions [2.0 pts]

## (a) Euclid's Algorithm

Consider the problem of computing the greatest common divisor (GCD) of two integers. For instance, the GCD of 90 and 198 is 18 . The Greek mathematician Euclid described a simple and remarkably efficient procedure for this task in Books VII and X of his Elements. Write iterative code to compute the GCD of two positive integers $a$ and $b$.

## Solution

```
# include <stdio.h>
int main(int argc, char **argv) {
    int a = atoi(argv[1]);
    int b = atoi(argv[2]);
    while (a > 0 && b > 0) {
        if (a > b)
            a = a % b;
        else
            b = b % a;
    }
    if (a > 0)
        printf("%d\n", a);
    else
        printf("%d\n", b);
}
```


## (b) Collatz Procedure

The Collatz conjecture is a famous open problem in mathematics, proposed by Lothar Collatz in 1937. Consider the following iterative procedure. For any positive integer $x$,

- if $x=1$ stop;
- else if $x$ is odd, let $x=3 x+1$;
- else let $x=x / 2$.

The conjecture is that, starting with any positive integer $x$, the procedure always terminates with $x=1$. Proving this is evidently difficult. Paul Erdös said about the conjecture: "Mathematics is not yet ready for such problems". He offered a monetary reward of $\$ 500$ for its solution.

You are not asked to prove the Collatz conjecture on this exam. Rather you are asked to write iterative code that computes the Collatz procedure. The input to the system is a positive integer $x$. The output is the sequence of integers that the procedure produces until it hits one. For instance, for an input of $x=1$, the output sequence should be:

2782411246231944714271214107322161484242121364
18291274137412206103310155466233700350175526263790
3951186593178089044513366683341675022517543771132
566283850425127663831995847914387192158107932381619
485824297288364418229112734136741022051615430779232
4616230811545771732866433130065032597648824412261

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## Solution

```
# include <stdio.h>
int main(int argc, char **argv) {
    int x = atoi(argv[1]);
    printf("%d ", x);
    while (x > 1) {
        if ((x % 2) == 0)
            x = x/2;
        else
                x = 3*x + 1;
        printf("%d ", x);
    }
    printf("\n");
}
```

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3. Search a Tree [1.0 pts]

Consider the following data structure.

```
struct node {
    int x;
    struct node *left;
    struct node *right;
};
```

The tedious code for the function setup_tree is given below. You can ignore the code for that function and just follow this tree:


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(a) What does the following code print out?

```
# include <stdio.h>
# include <stdlib.h>
struct node *setup_tree(void);
void dfs(struct node *p) {
    if (p->left != NULL) {
        dfs(p->left);
    }
    printf("%d ", p->x);
    if (p->right != NULL) {
        dfs(p->right);
    }
}
int main(int argc, char **argv) {
    struct node *p = setup_tree();
    dfs(p);
    printf("\n");
}
```

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(with Solutions)

## Solution

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(b) What does the following code print out?

```
# include <stdio.h>
# include <stdlib.h>
struct node {
    int x;
    struct node *left;
    struct node *right;
};
struct list {
    struct node *item;
    struct list *next;
};
void bfs(struct node *p)
{
    struct node *q;
    struct list *l, *m, *r, *t;
    l = malloc(sizeof(struct list));
    l->item = p;
    l->next = NULL;
    r = l;
    while(l != NULL) {
        q = l->item;
        if (q->left != NULL) {
            r->next = (struct list *)malloc(sizeof(struct list));
                r->next->item = q->left;
                r->next->next = NULL;
                r = r->next;
        }
        if (q->right != NULL) {
            r->next = (struct list *)malloc(sizeof(struct list));
                r->next->item = q->right;
                r->next->next = NULL;
                r = r->next;
        }
        t = 1;
        l = l->next;
        free(t);
```

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```
                m = l;
                while(m != NULL) {
                printf("%d ", m->item->x);
                m = m->next;
                }
                printf("\n");
    }
}
struct node *setup_tree(void);
int main(int argc, char **argv) {
        struct node *p = setup_tree();
        bfs(p);
}
```


## Solution

23
345
4567
567
6789
789
891011
91011
1011
1112
12

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```
# include <stdio.h>
# include <stdlib.h>
struct node *setup_tree(void) {
    // create tree
    struct node *p=
    p->left=
    p->right=
    p->left->left=
    p->left->right=
    p->right->left=
    p->right->right=
    p->left->right->left=
    p->left->right->right=
    p->right->right->left= (struct node *)malloc(sizeof(struct node));
    p->right->right->right= (struct node *)malloc(sizeof(struct node));
    p->right->right->left->left=(struct node *)malloc(sizeof(struct node));
    p->x = 1;
    p->left->x = 2;
    p->right->x = 3;
    p->left->left->x = 4;
    p->left->left->left = NULL;
    p->left->left->right = NULL;
    p->left->right->x = 5;
    p->right->left->x = 6;
    p->right->left->left = NULL;
    p->right->left->right = NULL;
    p->right->right->x = 7;
    p->left->right->left->x = 8;
    p->left->right->left->left = NULL;
    p->left->right->left->right = NULL;
    p->left->right->right->x = 9;
    p->left->right->right->left = NULL;
    p->left->right->right->right = NULL;
    p->right->right->left->x = 10;
    p->right->right->left->right = NULL;
    p->right->right->right->x = 11;
    p->right->right->right->left = NULL;
    p->right->right->right->right = NULL;
    p->right->right->left->left->x = 12;
    p->right->right->left->left->left = NULL;
    p->right->right->left->left->right = NULL;
    return p;
}
```

