CS4124 Theory of Computation

Instructor: L. T. Watson, 2000 Torgersen, 231-7540, ltw@cs.vt.edu Office Hours: 10:00-11:00 MWF in 122 McBryde, and by appointment in 2000 Torgersen.

Prerequisites: Math 3134 or Math 3034.

Text: J. E. Savage, Models of Computation, Addison-Wesley, Reading, MA, 1998; XanEdu, Ann Arbor, Michigan, 2003 (http://www.modelsofcomputation.org).

**Topics Covered**: Logic circuits, Boolean function normal forms, prefix computations, arithmetic, circuit complexity, finite-state machines, random-access machines, Turing machines, simulation, pushdown automata, regular and context-free languages, models of computability, reducibility and unsolvability, recursive function theory, parallel computation, space-time tradeoffs.

**Grading**: FINAL GRADE will be the average of two in-class exams ( $\approx 50\%$ ), a final examination ( $\approx 25\%$ ), and homework and class participation ( $\approx 25\%$ ). All questions regarding grades must be raised within three days of the date the assignment is returned.

Final Exam: 14:05–16:05, Wednesday, December 19, 2012.

## **References:**

Clark and Cowell, Programs, Machines, and Computation, McGraw Hill, 1976.

D. I. A. Cohen, Introduction to Computer Theory, 2nd Ed., Wiley, 1997.

- Davis, Sigal, and Weyuker, Computability, Complexity, and Languages, 2nd Ed., Academic Press, 1994.
- Denning, Dennis, Qualitz, Machines, Languages, and Computation, Prentice-Hall, 1978.

Gill, Introduction to the Theory of Finite State Machines, McGraw-Hill, 1962.

Goddard, Introducing the Theory of Computation, Jones and Bartlett, 2008.

Hopcroft, Ullman, Introduction to Automata Theory, Languages, and Computation, Addison-Wesley, 1979.

Kain, Automata Theory, Machines, and Languages, McGraw-Hill, 1972.

Kfoury, Moll, Arbib, A Programming Approach to Computability, Springer-Verlag, 1982.

Manna, Mathematical Theory of Computation, McGraw-Hill, 1974.

McNaughton, Elementary Computability, Formal Languages, and Automata, Prentice Hall, 1982.

Minsky, Computation: Finite and Infinite Machines, Prentice-Hall, 1967.

B. M. Moret, The Theory of Computation, Addison-Wesley, 1998.

Rogers, Theory of Recursive Functions and Effective Computability, McGraw-Hill, 1967.

R. G. Taylor, Models and Computation and Formal Languages, Oxford, 1998.

## **Homework Assignments**

All problems are from the text unless otherwise indicated. Point values are in parentheses or brackets, where brackets indicate extra credit problems.

**Due 08/31/12**: 1.3(2), 1.5(2), 1.10(4), 1.13(2).

**Due 09/07/12**: 1.14(2), 1.18(2), 1.19(3), 1.21(3).

**Due 09/14/12**: 2.3(2), 2.5(2), 2.8(4), 2.9(4).

**Due 09/21/12**: 2.11(2), 2.12(4), 2.13(4).

**Due 10/05/12**: 2.17(4), 2.18(4), 2.20(2), 2.26(3).

**Due 10/19/12**: 3.4(2), 3.7(3), 3.17(3), 3.20(2).

**Due 11/02/12**: 3.23(5), 3.30(5), 3.34(5).

**Due 11/09/12**: 4.5(2), 4.9(2), 4.17(2), 4.18[10].

**Due 11/16/12**: 4.22(3), 4.24(3), 4.25(5), 4.32(2), 4.47[10].

**Due 12/10/12**: 5.12[10], 5.13[10], 5.17(10), 5.18[5], 5.24(5), 5.25[10].