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: 13:05–15:05, Thursday, December 19, 2013.

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 08/30/13: 1.3(2), 1.5(2), 1.10(4), 1.13(2).

Due 09/06/13: 1.14(2), 1.18(2), 1.19(3), 1.21(3).

Due 09/13/13: 2.3(2), 2.5(2), 2.8(4), 2.9(4).

Due 09/20/13: 2.11(2), 2.12(4), 2.13(4).

Due 10/04/13: 2.17(4), 2.18(4), 2.20(2), 2.26(3).

Due 10/18/13: 3.4(2), 3.7(3), 3.17(3), 3.20(2).

Due 11/01/13: 3.23(5), 3.30(5), 3.34(5).

Due 11/08/13: 4.5(2), 4.9(2), 4.17(2), 4.18[10].

Due 11/15/13: 4.22(3), 4.24(3), 4.25(5), 4.32(2), 4.47[10].

Due 12/09/13: 5.12[10], 5.13[10], 5.17(10), 5.18[5], 5.24(5), 5.25[10].