

**Problems Solved:**

21	22	23	24	25
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**Name:****Matrikel-Nr.:**

**Problem 21.** Let  $f$  be a primitive recursive function defined by the recursive equations

$$f(0, y) = 2, \quad f(x + 1, y) = f(x, y)^y$$

1. Compute  $f(3, 3)$ .
2. Show that  $f$  is indeed a primitive recursive function by defining it explicitly from the base functions, the (primitive recursive) function  $\varepsilon(x, y) = x^y$ , composition, and the primitive recursion scheme.

**Problem 22.**

1. Show by using *only* the Definition of a *loop program* (Def. 23 in the lecture notes, Section 3.2.2) that the function

$$s(x_1, x_2) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x_1 < x_2, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

is loop computable. I.e. give an explicit loop program for  $s$ .

Note that it is not allowed to use an abbreviation like

$$x_i := x_j - x_k;$$

2. Write a loop program that computes the function  $d : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  where  $d(x_1, x_2)$  is  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $k \cdot (x_2 + 1) = x_1 + 1$  if such a  $k$  exists. The result is  $d(x_1, x_2) = 0$ , if a  $k$  with the above property does not exist. For simplicity in the program for  $d$ , you are allowed to use a construction like the following (with the obvious semantics) where  $P$  is an arbitrary loop program.

**IF**  $x_i < x_j$  **THEN**  $P$  **END**;

**Problem 23.** Let  $S : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$  be defined by

$$S(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x \text{ is the square of some natural number,} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

1. Write a logical formula for the statement “ $x$  is the square of some natural number” used in the definition of  $S$ .
2. Show that  $S$  is primitive recursive by giving a primitive recursive definition of  $S$ .
3. Show that  $S$  is loop computable by giving a loop program that computes  $S$ .

*Hint:* It is OK to assume that the equality check and multiplication are primitive recursive as well as loop computable. The equality check  $e$  is given by  $e(x, y) = 1$  if  $x = y$  and  $e(x, y) = 0$  otherwise. Any predicate  $P$  can be encoded as a function  $f$ . We define  $f(x) := 1$  if  $P(x)$  is true and  $f(x) := 0$  if  $P(x)$  is false.

**Problem 24.** Let  $P$  be the following program for counting how many of the first  $n$  odd numbers starting with 3 are prime.

```
s := 0
i := 3
LOOP n DO
  p = isprime(i)
  IF p = 1 THEN s := s+1
  END;
  i := i+2
END;
```

Convert  $P$  into primitive recursive function, provided  $isprim$  is a given loop program (you may assume that a corresponding primitive recursive function  $isprim$  is given as well).

**Problem 25.** Let  $p$ ,  $s$ , and  $f$  be defined as:

$$p(x) := \mu y. s(x, y) = 1$$

$$s(x, 0) := x$$

$$s(x, y + 1) := f(s(x, y))$$

$$f(n) = \begin{cases} 3n + 1 & \text{if } n \text{ is odd,} \\ \frac{n}{2} & \text{if } n \text{ is even.} \end{cases}$$

1. Provide an explicit computation of  $p(3)$ .
2. Construct a while program that computes  $p$ .
3. Based on what you read (e.g. in Wikipedia) about the Collatz-Problem (or Collatz conjecture), do you think that  $p$  is primitive recursive or not? Justify your answer.