

General Feedback for CS3470 Assessed Coursework 4

How and when feedback was provided

Marked submissions were returned to students via the departmental office. General feedback comments was put on the course website on 6th January 2019.

General feedback

It was clear that some students did not put the same time in to this assignment as for the first two assignments, and this was reflected in the marks. The overall average was 58.8% and three students obtained over 90%. Several students constructed the annotated parse tree for question 1 correctly but then did not write out the x.place attributes and their values. Several students lost a lot of marks because they did not attempt question 2.

Question 1. This question was done quite well but many students wrote out just the derivation tree, not the annotated parse tree.

Question 2. Most students who attempted this question did reasonably well. The symbol table was correctly specified. Some students did not check that an identifier was in the symbol table before asking for its value, this will cause the parser to crash if an undeclared identifier is used.

Question 3. In general this question was done well, although most students forgot to assign the final value to the second, unused, loop value variable. Some students did not handle the use of the two loop variables correctly, the point is to reduce the overhead associated with testing and updating the values. Some students reordered the index ranges in a way which meant different mid-range points were used than those that appeared as the start or end index of an original range.

Question 4. In general the DAG construction was well done. However, several students lost marks because they did not identify the common subexpressions from the DAG. Several students did not realised that separate nodes are needed if the two children are in different orders, so $t:=x+y$ and $s:=y+x$ need different nodes if x and y are different.

Results

