

CSCI 120 Introduction to Computation
Homework 2
Due 02/12/09

Saad Mneimneh
Visiting Professor
Hunter College of CUNY

PART 1: Old fashion calculators...

- (a) Draw the configuration of an Abacus showing the number 60314159.
- (b) Use two Gunter Lines to show the result of multiplying 2×3 , and three Gunter Lines to show the result of multiplying 4×5 . You can cut a Gunter Line from the lecture notes.

PART 2: A tribute to Babbage

Consider the following polynomial $p(x) = 3x^3 - 2x^2 + x$. Tabulate $p(x)$ for $x = 0, 1, 2, \dots, 100$ using Microsoft Excel. Show the first difference, the second difference, and the third difference as would the Difference Engine of Babbage compute.

PART 3: Other old devices

What is the oldest piece of technology that you own/have seen as a child at home?