

Graduate Record Examinations (GRE)

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Co je to GRE?

výtah z popisu

- ▶ A commercially run standardized test. <http://www.ets.org/gre>
- ▶ An admission requirement for many *graduate schools* principally in the United States.
(*Graduate school* = after *Bc* to earn *Master* or *PhD.*)
- ▶ The GRE *General Test* measures verbal reasoning, quantitative reasoning, and critical thinking and analytical writing skills.
- ▶ The GRE *Subject Tests*:
 - ▶ Biology
 - ▶ Chemistry
 - ▶ Computer Science
 - ▶ Literature in English
 - ▶ Mathematics
 - ▶ Physics
 - ▶ Psychology
 - ▶ Biochemistry, Cell and Molecular Biology
- ▶ Each Subject Test is intended for students who have majored in or have extensive background in that specific area.

Proč GRE?

OI v programovém prohlášení deklaruje za základ vztah ke standardům GRE/CS:

„Kurikula programu byla navržena tak aby vycházela z **Graduate Record Examination (GRE) Computer Science:**

- » Architektury počítačů
- » Softwarové systémy a softwarové inženýrství
- » Matematické a teoretické základy informatiky

Veškerá znalost požadovaná GRE/CS je plně pokryta předměty programu a předměty oborů. Každý absolvent libovolného oboru má možnost si navolit volitelné předměty takovým způsobem, že splní veškeré požadavky na GRE/CS.“

Další přínos GRE

- ▶ zaujmout studenty
- ▶ dát vodítko, co učit
- ▶ hodnocení kvality výuky
- ▶ umožnit master v zahraničí

Vyhodnocování

- ▶ GRE CS neočekává, že každý bude umět vše.
- ▶ Bodová škála 200–900, $\mu = 702$, $\sigma = 96$.
- ▶ Hodnocení je relativizované (snaží se kompenzovat měnící se obtížnost testů).

Testovací středisko je v Praze na ČVUT.

Computer Science Test

- The test consists of approximately 70 multiple-choice questions, some of which are grouped in sets and based on such materials as diagrams, graphs, and program fragments.
- Paper-based Subject Test administrations are offered at test centers worldwide (TC 10082, Bratislava, Comenius Uni – twice a year, 04&11, TC 10509 CVUT!) – on-line/mail registration via GRE/US; fee \$150; since July 1
- The approximate distribution of questions in each edition of the test according to content categories is indicated by the following outline:

CS Test Content

- I. SOFTWARE SYSTEMS AND METHODOLOGY — 40%**
- II. COMPUTER ORGANIZATION AND ARCHITECTURE — 15%**
- III. THEORY AND MATHEMATICAL BACKGROUND — 40%**
- IV. OTHER TOPICS — 5%**

Note: Students are assumed to have a mathematical background in the areas of calculus and linear algebra as applied to computer science.

CS Test Content

I. SOFTWARE SYSTEMS AND METHODOLOGY — 40%

A. Data organization

Data types

Data structures and implementation techniques

B. Program control and structure

Iteration and recursion

Procedures, functions, methods, and exception handlers

Concurrency, communication, and synchronization

C. Programming languages and notation

Constructs for data organization and program control

Scope, binding, and parameter passing

Expression evaluation

D. Software engineering

Formal specifications and assertions

Verification techniques

Software development models, patterns, and tools

E. Systems

Compilers, interpreters, and run-time systems

Operating systems, including resource management and protection/security

Networking, Internet, and distributed systems

Databases

System analysis and development tools

CS Test Content

II. COMPUTER ORGANIZATION AND ARCHITECTURE — 15%

A. Digital logic design

Implementation of combinational and sequential circuits

Optimization and analysis

B. Processors and control units

Instruction sets

Computer arithmetic and number representation

Register and ALU organization

Data paths and control sequencing

C. Memories and their hierarchies

Performance, implementation, and management

Cache, main, and secondary storage
Virtual memory, paging, and segmentation

D. Networking and communications

Interconnect structures (e.g., buses, switches, routers)

I/O systems and protocols

Synchronization

E. High-performance architectures

Pipelining superscalar and out-of-order execution processors

Parallel and distributed architectures

CS Test Content

III. THEORY AND MATHEMATICAL BACKGROUND — 40%

A. *Algorithms and complexity*

Exact and asymptotic analysis of specific algorithms

Algorithmic design techniques (e.g. greedy, dynamic programming, divide and conquer)

Upper and lower bounds on the complexity of specific problems

Computational complexity, including NP-completeness

B. *Automata and language theory*

Models of computation (finite

automata, Turing machines)

Formal languages and grammars (regular and context free)

Decidability

C. *Discrete structures*

Mathematical logic

Elementary combinatorics and graph theory

Discrete probability, recurrence relations, and number theory

CS Test Content

IV. OTHER TOPICS — 5%

Example areas include numerical analysis, artificial intelligence, computer graphics, cryptography, security, and social issues.

Příklady otázek

29. Mergesort works by splitting a list of n numbers in half, sorting each half recursively, and merging the two halves. Which of the following data structures will allow mergesort to work in $O(n \log n)$ time?

I. A singly linked list

II. A doubly linked list

III. An array

(A) None (B) III only (C) I and II only (D) II and III only (E) I, II, and III

Příklady otázek

42. Which of the following conditions can be expressed by a Boolean formula in the Boolean variables p_1, p_2, p_3, p_4 and the connectives \wedge, \vee (without \neg) ?

I. At least three of p_1, p_2, p_3, p_4 are true.

II. Exactly three of p_1, p_2, p_3, p_4 are true.

III. An even number of p_1, p_2, p_3, p_4 are true.

(A) I only

(B) II only

(C) III only

(D) I and III

(E) II and III

GRE — nevýhody a omezení

- ▶ Komerční test (160\$)
- ▶ Nemáme vliv na obsah
- ▶ Nemáme přístup k testovacím otázkám (k dispozici jen několik vzorových testů)
- ▶ Nemáme přístup k detailním výsledkům (po otázkách)

GRE a OI

- ▶ Mapujeme současné požadavky GRE CS testu a jejich pokrytí předměty OI.
- ▶ GRE CS klade velký důraz na teoretické základy 'computer science', v OI je i praxe.
- ▶ Většina témat ($> 90\%$) je pokryta, z toho malá část ($\sim 10\%$) magisterskými předměty (studenti si je mohou zapsat).
- ▶ Předmět cvičící algoritmické myšlení formou řešení úloh pro soutěž ACM Programming Contest

Budoucí aktivity

- ▶ Předmět *Příprava na GRE* pro zcela nepokrytá témata (randomizované algoritmy, garbage collection, formální verifikace správnosti)
- ▶ Průběžná úprava osnov
- ▶ Tvorba vlastních testů *à la* GRE, pro zkoušky i pro vyhodnocování kvality výuky.
- ▶ Možnost financování testu pro nejlepší studenty.
- ▶ Soutěž s ostatními univerzitami, školami, fakultami. . .