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Faculty of Science & Technology
Department of Computer Science & Technology
IIT/CST Degree Programme
Year IV Semester I
End Semester Examination – February/March 2012



IIT421-2/CST421-2 Software Localisation

Instructions

Answer four questions out of five. Each question carries equal mark.

No. of questions: Five (05)

No. of pages: Two (02)

Time: Two hours (2 hr)

Total marks allocated: 40%

Index No:

1. Which of the following objects should and which should not be translated:

- Dialog boxes
- User names, group names, and passwords
- System or host names
- Application menus
- Names of terminals (/dev/tty*), printers and special devices
- Shell variables and environment variable names
- Error messages
- Alerts
- Pop ups
- UNIX commands and command line options (e.g., ls -l is still ls -l in all locales)
- Commands such as /usr/bin/dos2unix and /usr/ccs/bin/gprof
- Keyboard mnemonics and keyboard accelerators

2. Which of the following pieces of code is internationalised and which is not (explain why):

(a) if err = 400 then errtext = "server" else errtext = "connection" end if
<p> The <%=errtext%> is currently unavailable </p>

(b) if err = 400 then <p> The server is currently unavailable </p>
else <p> The connection is currently unavailable </p>

3. You are designing Sysadminspeak – a controlled language that facilitates communication between sysadmins whose native tongues differ. You need to develop vocabulary and rules for it.
 - (a) Provide 10 rules of this language.
 - (b) Write 10 example words/phrases in Sysadminspeak.
4. What are the drawbacks of the Levenshtein distance?
5. Translation is not merely substituting words in one language with words in another language. Rather, translation is taking a text in one language (the source language) and producing an equivalent text in another language (the target language). What does “equivalent” mean here? Specify and explain as many criteria of equivalence as you can.