

**Section B:** Four 0s and three 1s are arranged around a circle in some (unknown) order. You replace each consecutive pair of bits with a 0 if they are equal and with a 1 if they are different, obtaining another configuration of bits. After some number of repetitions can you end up with one 0 and six 1s?

Justify your answer with a proof. Specify your proof method.

**Solution:** Yes. We prove it by giving an example: There exists a configuration of four zeros and three ones that gives one zero and six ones in one step, namely the configuration 0101010 (say in clockwise direction).

**Section C:** Prove that  $(\sqrt{2} + 1)^2$  is irrational. Specify your proof method.

**Solution:** We prove it by contradiction. Suppose  $(\sqrt{2} + 1)^2 = n/d$  for some integers  $n$  and  $d \neq 0$ . Expanding the left hand side we get  $2 + 2\sqrt{2} + 1 = n^2/d^2$ , from where  $\sqrt{2} = (n^2 - 3d^2)/(2d^2)$ . This is a ratio of two integers and therefore rational, a contradiction.