Homework #2: CSE503, Spring 2006

Due at 10:30 AM, Thursday, April 13, 2006

1. Jon Jacky has some short Z examples (and portions of a larger spec) at: http://staff.washington.edu/jon/z/z-examples.html For any of the three examples:

a. (15 points) Write a page of evaluation about specifying the system using
Z. In particular, consider scaling (for example, a much larger finite state machine than in the first example) and ease of extending the specification (for example, defining a new operation for the text processing example).
b. (10 points) Write a simple extension of your choice of any of the three specifications.

2. I promised to discuss the example of confusing situation created by the pair of signs at the bottom of an escalator: "Shoes must be worn" and "Dogs must be carried." Instead, you will :-).

a. (15 points) Write a page that discusses the dimensions of confusion in these signs.

b. (10 points) Write a precise (it needn't be formal, in the mathematical sense, but it can be) specification of what was intended by the creator of the signs.

3. (25 points) Write a statechart-style specification for some device you can find on campus. Choices include: the operator console in one of the EE1 classrooms, a microwave oven in the Allen Center, etc. Use an appropriate level of abstraction (as opposed to modeling the device in complete detail).