

# Homework 0

Due January 29

The following information applies to all homeworks for this course:

- Homeworks are due at 11:59 PM on the date specified. Homeworks are to be placed in the CS 16 handin bin, located by the glass doors on the second floor.
- Please staple your homeworks and put your name and login on each page.
- Please ensure that when prompted to provide pseudocode you follow proper pseudocode formatting guidelines. See the relevant links in the Information section of the website. Commenting of your pseudocode is *strongly* encouraged.
- If you use L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, use the `newalg` or `algorithmic` packages (<http://www.cs.brown.edu/system/software/latex/packages.html>) to format your pseudocode.
- When writing pseudocode, you may use any algorithms in the lecture slides or course texts for which there is pseudocode provided. If you do so, please cite the specific lecture slide or page from the book where the algorithm is described.
- Credit for problems comes in part from the simplicity of your answers; insanely long answers lose credit.
- Use pictures to illustrate your ideas.
- Write neatly. Hard-to-read homework gets no credit. If you scratch things out, rewrite and hand in a clean copy.

**Homework 0 is mandatory; you cannot pass the course without handing it in.**

This is NOT a collaborative homework.

## Problem 0.1

Read the course collaboration policy (which can be found on the course website) and answer the following questions.

- (a) Ben and Brian are working together on a homework. After they are done discussing the problem, Ben throws his notes away and goes home. On his way, he discusses their solution with Peter, who listens carefully. They then all go home and write their solutions alone.

State whether or not this is allowed, and explain why.

- (b) Ashley and Gary each do one problem of the homework. They then get together, and copy down each other's answers. At the end of the day they take the copied answers home to write up their solutions.

State whether or not this is allowed, and explain why.

- (c) Three people write their homeworks separately. They meet to discuss the homework one last time, just to make sure. Borislav discovers that his answers are wrong. He throws away his homework, and goes home to rewrite it. Christina also realizes that some of her answers are wrong. She jots down notes from the meeting, and then goes home to change her solutions, referring to her notes to jog her memory. Jihan answers were always correct answers and hands her solutions in the next day.

Did anyone break the collaboration policy, explain why or why not? If yes, state who.

- (d) Laura and Patrick are in the hallway outside the TA room, awaiting their turn on hours. As they wait they decide to start writing up their solutions to a homework. While writing, Laura asks Patrick if he used Merge-Sort in problem 2. Patrick says "yes," and they don't talk for the rest of the evening.

Did anyone cheat here? Explain why or why not. If yes, state who.

## Problem 0.2

Restate the course collaboration policy in your own words.

## Problem 0.3

There is a Google Group for this course. If you haven't already, you will soon receive an email at your [brown.edu](mailto:brown.edu) address inviting you to join the group. Once you have joined the group, post a message whose subject is your name and whose message body is whatever you like. (We recommend an empty message body; it is going to be deleted anyways.)

Note: If you are already logged into Google or already have a Google account, logging in and clicking the link in the email should be all you need to do. However, if you do not have a Google account, you will need to create one to join. The link in the email will bring you to a page with a link to create a Google account.

## Problem 0.4

Look at the date for the midterm exam; you'll see it's scheduled for 7PM until you're done (with about 11 PM being the limit), although it's intended to be

a one-hour exam. The idea is that you should not suffer from time-pressure in any way. Check and see that you do not have a conflict with this time. If you have no conflict, write "I have no conflict with the midterm exam time" as your answer to this question. If you have a conflict, write a brief explanation.