

## Problem Set #0

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Due: Wed., Sep. 4, 2019 (10:00am)

Some reminders about logistics.

- **Submission Policy:** See the course webpage for how to submit your pset via gradescope.
- **Collaboration Policy:** For *this* problem set, each student must work independently and submit their *own* solutions. For the *other* problem sets, this rule will not apply. See the course webpage for more details.
- **Late Policy:** Late psets are not accepted. Instead, we will drop several of your lowest pset problem scores; see the course webpage for more details.

All problems are of equal value.

1. Solve the following recurrences in the sense of giving an asymptotically tight bound of the form  $\Theta(f(n))$  where  $f(n)$  is a standard and well-known function. No proof necessary for the first five parts; simply state the bound.
  - (a)  $A(n) = n^{1/4}A(n^{3/4}) + n$ ,  $A(n) = 1$  for  $1 \leq n \leq 16$ .
  - (b)  $B(n) = B(n/4) + \sqrt{n}$ ,  $B(1) = 1$ .
  - (c)  $C(n) = 5C(n-1) + 1$ ,  $C(1) = 0$ .
  - (d)  $D(n) = 3D(n/3) + 4D(n/4) + n^3$ ,  $D(n) = 1$  for  $n \leq 4$ .
  - (e)  $E(n) = 2E(\sqrt{n}) + \log n$ ,  $E(n) = 1$  for  $n < 4$ .
  - (f) *Prove* by induction that the  $T(n)$  defined by the recurrence

$$T(n) = n + \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} (T(i) + T(n-i-1))$$

with  $T(n) = 1$  for  $n \leq 2$  satisfies the bound  $T(n) = O(n \log n)$ .

2. Problem 18 from Jeff Erickson's algorithms book. See page 215 in <http://jeffe.cs.illinois.edu/teaching/algorithms/book/05-graphs.pdf>.
3. Consider the standard balls and bins process. A collection of  $m$  identical balls are thrown into  $n$  bins: each ball is thrown independently into a bin chosen uniformly at random.
  - (a) What is the (precise) probability that a particular bin  $i$  contains exactly  $k$  balls at the end of the experiment?
  - (b) Suppose  $m = n$ . Let  $Y$  be the number of bins that are empty. What is the expectation of  $Y$ ?
  - (c) What is the variance of  $Y$ ?

Explain your calculations when you derive the bounds.