CS4102 Algorithms Fall 2019







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What is an algorithm?

- In mathematics and computer science, an algorithm is a self-contained sequence of actions to be performed. Algorithms can perform calculation, data processing and automated reasoning tasks. [Wikipedia Aug 2018]
- In mathematics and computer science, an algorithm is an unambiguous specification of how to solve a class of problems. Algorithms can perform calculation, data processing and automated reasoning tasks. [Wikipedia Jan 2019]
- In mathematics and computer science, an algorithm is a set of instructions, typically to solve a class of problems or perform a computation. Algorithms are unambiguous specifications for performing calculation, data processing, automated reasoning, and other tasks. [Wikipedia Aug 2019]
- An algorithm is a step by step procedure to solve logical and mathematical problems. [Simple English Wikipedia Aug 2019]
- <u>Motivating example</u>



4.3km (2.7mi) diameter

 $\pi = 3.14159265359...$



Circumference = 2π



Perimeter > 2π > **Perimeter**



 2π > Perimeter = 6





How to analyze this approach?

- How fast do we "converge?"
- How much work is needed to do better?

Another Algorithm

- https://youtu.be/HEfHFsfGXjs
- Look up and explain the solution for extra credit!





Better π Approximation (Ramanujan)

$$\frac{1}{\pi} = \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{9801} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(4k)! (1103 + 26390k)}{(k!)^4 \ 396^{4k}}$$

 $\pi = 3.14159265358979323846264338327950288419716939937510582097494459$

k = 0 $\pi \approx 3.1415927$

8 digits per iteration!

$$k = 1$$

 $\pi \approx 3.1415926535897938$



- Create an awesome learning experience
- Instill enthusiasm for problem solving
- Give broad perspective on Computer Science
- Have fun!

Warning

I Quit!

- This will be a very difficult class
 - Hard material
 - "Holy Grail" of computer science
 - Useful in practice
 - Job Interviews
- Lots of opportunities to succeed!

Hopefully not you...



- Very difficult course. Besides the grading/homework thing though, I really loved the course and I loved Hott.
- Algorithms can be a boring subject, but Hott introduces complex problems in class which makes it fun to follow along with. I thoroughly enjoyed the homework assignments although they were VERY difficult. It was nice to collaborate with my friends. We actually had some fun doing the assignments.
- I just have so say, I both love and hate this class at the same time. I hate that this class seemed to take up my life and I saw my group members and TA's more than my friends this semester, but I LOVE the professors who taught this class. They both have a similar sense of humor and love for puzzles, have their own quirky humor to liven up class, and just make class somewhere you can't hate to be.
- You can tell that **he really cares about students** and their understanding of the material and doesn't want to torture students too much.
- Although I hated discrete math and theory of computation, this class was one of my favorites I have taken as a CS major.
- It is a great course.

While difficult, students have done well...









- Rice 210
 - Poll time! <u>www.menti.com</u> code: 34 29 54
 - By appointment

Requirements

- Discrete Math (CS 2102)
- Data Structures (CS 2150)
- Derivatives, series (Calc I)
- Tenacity
- Inquisitiveness
- Creativity

Textbook

- No textbook required
- Highly recommended:



Polya. How to Solve It.



Cormen et al. (CLRS) *Introduction to Algorithms*. Third Edition.

Grade Breakdown



10% Extra Credit

Homework

- 11 assignments total
- Mix of written and programming assignments
- Written:
 - 2/3 of all assignments
 - Must be typeset in LaTeX (tutorial is HWO)
 - Submit as a **pdf** and a **zip** folder containing tex file and any supplements
 - Submissions without both attachments (pdf, zip) will not be graded
- Programming:
 - 1/3 of all assignments
 - Must implement in **Python** or **Java**

Homework O

- Homework 0 is out!
 - Learning LaTeX
 - You MUST submit both:
 - A zip with your tex and image
 - A PDF of the final document
 - Due next Tuesday (but don't wait that long!)

Academic Integrity

- Collaboration Encouraged!
 - Groups of up to 5 per assignment
 - List your collaborators (by UVA computing ID)
- Write-ups/code written independently
 - DO NOT share written notes / pictures
 - DO NOT share documents (ex: Overleaf)
- Be able to explain any solution you submit!
- DO NOT seek published solutions online





Late Policy

$$grade = grade_{earned} e^{-\frac{1}{2\phi}days}$$

- Exponential decay, accepted until solutions posted
- Extra credit: find a radioactive isotope with half-life closest to your homework's





- Midterm
 - October 15
 - In-class / take-home hybrid
- Final
 - Registrar's official date/time (COMBINED)
 - Monday, December 9, 7-10pm



- Conducted in person with course staff
 - Time and Location: TBD
 - By appointment

Extra credit

- Given for extraordinary acts of engagement
 - Good questions/comments
 - Quality discussions
 - Analysis of current events
 - References to arts and music
 - Extra credit projects
 - Slide corrections
 - Etc. Just ask!
- Email: extra.credit.cs4102@gmail.com



- I am not a course dictator, I am a civil servant
- I'm open to any suggestion to help you learn
- Let me know!
 - In person
 - Email
 - Piazza

Attendance

- How many people are here today?
- Naïve algorithm
 - Everyone stand
 - Professor walks around counting people
 - When counted, sit down
- Run time?
 - Class of n students
 - O(n)
- Other suggestions?

Better Attendance

- 1. Everyone Stand
- 2. Initialize your "count" to 1
- Greet a neighbor who is standing: share your name, full date of birth (pause if odd one out)
- 4. If you are older: give "count" to younger and sit. Else if you are younger: add your "count" with older's
- If you are standing and have a standing neighbor, go to 3