Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Problem Set 0 Instructors: Erik Demaine, Jason Ku, and Justin Solomon

Problem Set 0

All parts are due on February 7, 2020 at 6PM. Please write your solutions in the LATEX and Python templates provided. Aim for concise solutions; convoluted and obtuse descriptions might receive low marks, even when they are correct. Compiled solution PDFs should be submitted on Gradescope, and any code should be submitted for automated checking on alg.mit.edu.

This assignment is meant to be an evaluation of your individual understanding coming into the course and should be completed without collaboration or outside help. You may ask for logistical help concerning LATEX formatting and/or code submission.

Problem 0-1. Let
$$A = \{i + {5 \choose i} \mid i \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ and } 0 \le i \le 4 \}$$
 and $B = \{3i \mid i \in \{1, 2, 4, 5\}\}.$

Evaluate:

(a)
$$A \cap B$$

(b)
$$|A \cup B|$$
 (c) $|A - B|$

(c)
$$|A - B|$$

Problem 0-2. Let X be the random variable representing the number of heads seen after flipping a fair coin three times. Let Y be the random variable representing the outcome of rolling two fair six-sided dice and multiplying their values. Please compute the following expected values.

Evaluate:

(a)
$$E[X]$$

(b)
$$\mathrm{E}[Y]$$

(c)
$$E[X + Y]$$

Problem 0-3. Let A = 600/6 and $B = 60 \mod 42$. Are these statements True or False?

Evaluate:

(a)
$$A \equiv B \pmod{2}$$

(b)
$$A \equiv B \pmod{3}$$

(c)
$$A \equiv B \pmod{4}$$

February 1, 2020

Problem 0-4. Prove by induction that $\sum_{i=1}^{n} i^3 = \left[\frac{n(n+1)}{2}\right]^2$, for any integer $n \ge 1$.

Problem 0-5. Prove by induction that every connected undirected graph G = (V, E) for which |E| = |V| - 1 is acyclic.

Problem 0-6. An increasing subarray of an integer array is any consecutive sequence of array integers whose values strictly increase. Write Python function count_long_subarrays (A) which accepts Python Tuple A = $(a_0, a_1, \dots, a_{n-1})$ of n > 0 positive integers, and returns the number of longest increasing subarrays of A, i.e., the number of increasing subarrays with length at least as large as every other increasing subarray. For example, if A = (1, 3, 4, 2, 7, 5, 6, 9, 8), your program should return 2 since the maximum length of any increasing subarray of A is three and there are two increasing subarrays with that length: specifically, subarrays (1, 3, 4) and (5, 6, 9). You can download a code template containing some test cases from the website. Submit your code online at alq.mit.edu.