

Homework Sheet 8

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Exercise 3

```
void Permute(A[1..n])
    if (n == 1) return
    int randomIndex = rand(n) // rand() function from the lecture
    swap(A[1], A[randomIndex])
    Permute(A[2..n])
```

Correctness Proof:

We will prove by induction that the algorithm produces a uniform random permutation of the array $A[1..n]$.

Base Case: For $n = 1$, there is only one permutation possible, which is the array itself. The algorithm correctly returns $A[1..1]$.

Inductive Step: Assume that the algorithm produces a uniform random permutation for arrays of size $k - 1$. We need to show that it also works for an array of size k .

The algorithm selects a random index from 1 to k and swaps the element at that index with the first element. This means that each of the n elements has an equal probability of being placed in the first position, which is $1/k$.

After placing one element in the first position, the algorithm recursively permutes the remaining $k-1$ elements. By the inductive hypothesis, the recursive call produces a uniform random permutation of the remaining elements.

Therefore, by induction, the algorithm produces a uniform random permutation for any array of size n .

Running Time Analysis:

The algorithm makes a single swap and then makes a recursive call on an array of size $n-1$. The time complexity can be expressed as:

$$\begin{aligned} T(1) &= 1 \\ T(n) &= T(n-1) + 1 \quad \text{for } n > 1 \\ \Rightarrow T(n) &= O(n) \end{aligned}$$