

Assignment: 1

Due: Tuesday, January 13, 2015 9:00 pm

Language level: Beginning Student

Files to submit: `functions.rkt`, `conversion.rkt`, `grades.rkt`,
`ith-smallest.rkt`

Warmup exercises: HtDP 2.4.1, 2.4.2, 2.4.3, and 2.4.4

Practise exercises: HtDP 3.3.2, 3.3.3, and 3.3.4

Assignment Policies

- No assignments will be accepted beyond the submission date.
- For this and all subsequent assignments, the work you submit must be entirely your own.
- Do not look up either full or partial solutions on the Internet or in printed sources.
- Make sure to follow the Style Guide and submission instructions available on the course Web page when preparing your submissions. Please read the course Web page for information on assignment policies and how to submit your work.
- **For this assignment only**, you do not need to include the design recipe in your solutions. A well-written function definition is sufficient.

Grading

- **This assignment (or any later one) will not be graded and no marks will be recorded until you have first received full marks in Assignment 0.**
- Completing A0 after the A1 deadline will result in a mark of 0 on Assignment 1.
- Your solutions for assignments will be graded on both correctness and on readability.

Correctness

- **Be sure to check your basic test results after each submission!** They will be emailed to your student account within a few minutes of your assignment submission.
- If you do not get full marks on the basic test, then your assignment will not be markable by our automated tools, and you will receive a low mark (probably 0) for the correctness portion of the assignment.
- On the other hand, getting full marks on the basic test does **not** guarantee full correctness marks. It only means that you spelled the name of the function correctly and passed some extremely trivial tests.
- **Thoroughly testing your programs is part of what we expect of you on each assignment.**

Readability

- You should use constants where appropriate.
- All identifiers should have meaningful names, unless specifically stated otherwise such as in question 1.

Here are the assignment questions you need to submit.

1. **Translate** the following function definitions into Racket, using the names given. Place your solutions in the file `functions.rkt`.

Note that when you are asked to **translate** a function, it should be a direct translation. Use the parameter names given in the question. When asked to translate $(a + b)$ the translation is $(+ a b)$, not $(+ b a)$. When translating x^2 , either $(sqr x)$ or $(* x x)$ is acceptable. When translating x^3 , either $(expt x 3)$ or $(* x x x)$ is acceptable.

- (a) The volume of a sphere of radius r :

$$\text{sphere-volume}(r) = \frac{4 \times \pi \times r^3}{3}$$

For π , use the built-in Racket constant `pi`.

- (b) An example from algebra (harmonic mean of three positive numbers x , y , and z):

$$HM(x, y, z) = \frac{3}{\frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{y} + \frac{1}{z}}$$

- (c) An example from physics (height of an object thrown straight up with velocity v after time t):

$$\text{height}(v, t) = v \times t - \frac{g \times t^2}{2}$$

where g is the constant 9.8 (acceleration due to gravity)

2. The constant 9.8 (used above) represents the acceleration due to gravity in units of metres per second squared (m/s^2). This is a metric unit; in the United States, so-called “imperial” units are usually used instead of metric. There, the constant g would likely have the value of 32, in units of feet per second squared (ft/s^2). As you can see, it is very important to know what units you’re working with when writing programs that deal with real-world measurements. In fact, NASA’s Mars Climate Orbiter crashed into Mars in 1999 because some of the programmers were assuming metric units while others were assuming imperial units!¹

In this question, you will write functions to convert between metric and imperial measurement units. Place your solutions in the file `conversion.rkt`. You should use meaningful constant names. Do not perform any “rounding”. You do not have to worry about “divide by zero” errors.

¹ftp://ftp.hq.nasa.gov/pub/pao/reports/1999/MCO_report.pdf

- (a) The unit of speed most often used in physics is meters per second (m/s). A common imperial unit of speed is miles per hour (mph). Write a function *mph*->*m/s* which consumes a speed in the units of miles per hour (*mph*) and produces the same speed in units of meters per second (m/s). Remember that in your function name, the arrow is typed as -> (hyphen and greater-than sign).

Treat one mile as being exactly 1609.34 meters. You must use this exact value – do not use different conversion values from the Internet or books.

- (b) In the United states, it is common to measure the fuel efficiency of a vehicle in miles-per-gallon (mpg). In Canada, it is more common to measure fuel efficiency in litres-per-100km. Write a function *mpg*->*lp100km* which consumes a fuel efficiency in miles-per-gallon and produces the same efficiency in units of litres-per-100km.

As in part (a), one mile is exactly 1609.34 meters, or 1.60934 km. You must use the fact that one gallon is exactly 3.78541 litres.

- (c) Write the function *lp100km*->*mpg* that performs the reverse conversion.

3. The end of the Winter term has come, and you decide to use Racket to calculate your final grade in CS 135. For this question, you do not need to worry about the course requirements of passing the exam and assignment components of the course separately. You may assume that all input marks are percentages between 0 and 100, inclusive.

Place your solutions in the file `grades.rkt`.

- (a) Write a function *cs135-exam-grade* that consumes two numbers (in the following order):

- midterm grade,
- the final exam grade

This function should produce the weighted exam average in the course (as a percentage in the range 0 to 100, but not necessarily an integer). You should review the mark allocation described on the course website.

Note: DrRacket will not show a % sign after numbers. This is fine, and you should not add any % signs.

- (b) Write a function *cs135-final-grade* that consumes three numbers (in the following order):

- class participation grade,
- weighted assignment grade, and
- the weighted exam grade.

This function should produce the final grade in the course (as a percentage in the range 0 to 100, but not necessarily an integer).

- (c) Write a function *final-cs135-exam-grade-needed* that consumes a number representing the midterm grade. This function produces the minimum mark needed on the final exam to obtain a 50% weighted exam average (as a percentage in the range 0 to 100, but not necessarily an integer).

This concludes the list of questions for which you need to submit solution. There is an optional bonus question below. Don't forget to always check your email for the basic test results after making a submission.

4. **5% Bonus:** Write a function *ith-smallest* that consumes four numbers *i*, *a*, *b*, and *c* in that order. *i* will be either 1, 2, or 3, and *a*, *b*, and *c* can each be any number. *ith-smallest* should produce the *i*-th smallest number among *a*, *b*, and *c*. For example, (*ith-smallest* 1 9 4 5) should produce 4 and (*ith-smallest* 2 7 8 1) should produce 7.

To receive any marks for this question, you must use only **define** and **mathematical** functions, which are the functions listed in section 1.5 of this page:

<http://docs.racket-lang.org/htdp-langs/beginner.html>.

For example, you can use the built-in functions *min* and *max*. You may NOT use **cond**, **if**, lists, recursion, Booleans, or other things we'll get to later in the course anywhere in your solution.

Place your solution in the file `ith-smallest.rkt`. Note that bonus questions are typically “all or nothing”. Incorrect or very poorly designed solutions may not be awarded any marks.

Challenges and Enhancements

The teaching languages provide a restricted set of functions and special forms. There are times in these challenges when it would be nice to use built-in functions not provided by the teaching languages. We may be able to provide a teachpack with such functions. Or you can set the language level to “Pretty Big”, which provides all of standard Racket, plus the special teaching language definitions, plus a large number of extensions designed for very advanced work. What you lose in doing this are the features of the teaching languages that support beginners, namely easier-to-understand error messages and features such as the Stepper.

This **enhancement** will discuss exact and inexact numbers.

DrRacket will try its best to work exclusively with *exact* numbers. These are *rational* numbers; i.e. those that can be written as a fraction a/b with *a* and *b* integers. If a DrRacket function produces an exact number as an answer, then you know the answer is exactly right. (Hence the name.)

DrRacket has a number of different ways to express exact numbers. 152 is an exact number, of course, because it is an integer. Terminating decimals like 1.60934 from question 2 above are exact numbers. (How could you determine a rational form a/b of this number?) You can also type a fraction directly into DrRacket; 152/17 is an exact number. Scientific notation is another way to enter exact numbers; 2.43e7 means $2.43 \times 10^7 = 24300000$ and is also an exact number.

It is important to note that adding, subtracting, multiplying, or dividing two exact numbers always gives an exact number as an answer. (Unless you're dividing by 0, of course; what happens then?) Many students, when doing problems like question 2, think that once they divide by a number like

1.60934, they no longer have an exact answer, perhaps because their calculators don't treat it as exact.

But try it in DrRacket: (`/ 2 1.60934`). DrRacket seems to output a number with lots of decimal places, and then a “...” to indicate that it goes on. But right-click on the number, and a menu will allow you to change how this (exact) number is displayed. Try out the different options, and you'll see that the answer is actually the exact number 100000/80467.

You should use exact numbers whenever possible. However, sometimes an answer cannot be expressed as an exact number, and then *inexact numbers* must be used. This often happens when a computation involves square roots, trigonometry, or logarithms. The results of those functions are often not rational numbers at all, and so exact numbers cannot be used to represent them. An inexact number is indicated by a `#i` before the number. So `#i10.0` is an inexact number that says that the correct answer is probably somewhere around 10.0.

Try (`sqr (sqrt 15)`). You would expect the answer to just be 15, but it's not. Why? (`sqrt 15`) isn't rational, so it has to be represented as an inexact number, and the answer is only approximately correct. When you square that approximate answer, you get a value that's only approximately 15, but not exactly.

You might say, “but it's close enough, right?” Not always. Try this:

```
(define (addsub x)
  (- (+ 1 x) x))
```

This function computes $(1 + x) - x$, so you would expect it to always produce 1, right? Try it on some exact numbers:

```
(addsub 1)
(addsub 12/7)
(addsub 253.7e50)
```

With exact numbers, you always get 1, as expected. What about with inexact numbers?

(`addsub (sqrt 15)`) => `#i1.0`, which is fine. (`addsub (sqrt 2)`) => `#i0.9999999999999998`, which is close to 1; that's more or less what we expect from inexact numbers. But (`addsub (exp 40)`) => `#i0.0`. That answer is very different from 1! Can you find inputs which give different answers from these?

If you go on to take further CS courses like CS 251 or CS 371, you'll learn all about why inexact numbers can be tricky to use correctly. That's why in this course, we'll stick with exact numbers wherever possible.