# Some Words Before the First Class of Course CS711008Z/CS6012

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# 1 Course information

**Objective** The objective of the course can be described as follows:

- to master the ability to extract mathematically clean core of a problem,
- then identify an appropriate algorithm design technique based on the problem structure observations,
- and finally prove the correctness and analyse algorithm performance.

**Web site** All the course information, including slides, demos, etc, are available via http://bioinfo.ict.ac.cn/∼dbu/AlgorithmCourses/CS711008Z/CS711008Z_2015.html

**TA** We have a total of seven TAs for the course, and they can be reached at 62600817 or tagc@ict.ac.cn.

We will have a total of 5 "Question-and-Answer" time in this term. The actual schedule will be sent to you via email.

# 2 Marking policy

The final score consists of the following two parts:

1. Assignments (24 marks): We will have a total of 8 assignments and each assignment has 3 marks.
2. Final exam or research report (76 marks): The final exam has a total of 10 questions (denoted as $Q1 - Q10$).
   - $Q1 - Q8$: Each question has a mark of 8, and they are simply variants of **randomly chosen** questions from the corresponding assignments.
   - $Q9 - Q10$: Each question has a mark of 6, and they never appear in any assignments in any forms.

**Notice:**

1. Algorithm implementation on computer is highly emphasised in our course besides simply writing pseudo-code on paper.

2. You would better write answers using Latex and finally submit a pdf file. Latex suites are available through:

   - Mac system: TexShop (http://download.cnet.com/TeXShop/3000-2054_4-6112.html)
   - Windows system: CTEX (http://www.ctex.org) is a good choice.
   - Linux system: TexWorks + spell

3. "Copy+paste" is **NOT** welcome.

# 3 Recommended learning strategy

- The "1+3+7" schedule is recommended; that is, you would better spend 1 hour to quickly browse the slides before the class. The objective is to has an idea of the problems rather than algorithms to solve the problems. And after the class, you would better spend 7 hours to review the slides, to do an extension reading, to implement the algorithms, etc.

- The "group learning" strategy is widely employed in US universities, i.e., we set up a collection of 5-student groups, and each group member read a paper and present it in group meeting. Thus, all group members will harvest 5 papers in a short time.