

## Homework Assignment 1

Handed Out: Jan 15

Due: Jan 29

Please typeset your answers. Handwritten answers are extremely difficult for TAs to comprehend.

1. (20 pts) Prove the following identities.
  - (a)  $\sum_{i=1}^n (2i - 1) = n^2$ .
  - (b)  $\sum_{i=1}^n i^3 = (\sum_{i=1}^n i)^2$ .
2. (20 pts) Given an array  $A$  of  $n$  positive numbers, describe an  $O(n)$  time algorithm for each of the following problems. A *correct solution should have three parts: a clear and concise description of the algorithm; a proof of correctness; and time complexity analysis*. Find the indices  $i$  and  $j$ , with  $j \geq i$ , such that
  - (a)  $A[j] + A[i]$  has the maximum value,
  - (b)  $A[j] - A[i]$  has the maximum value,
  - (c)  $A[j] \times A[i]$  has the maximum value,
  - (d)  $A[j]/A[i]$  has the maximum value.
3. (20 pts) What is the expected number of empty locations in a hash table of size  $m$  when  $n$  keys are hashed into it? Derive an exact formula.
4. (40 pts) If we hash a set  $S$  of  $n$  keys into a table of size  $n$  with a universal hash function  $h$ , what is the *expected maximum number* of keys that collide? In other words, what is the maximum number of keys that are expected to hash to the same location? We break down this computation into a sequence of easier steps, as follows.  
 Let  $A_j$  be the event that at least one slot in the hash table has  $\geq j$  keys. We compute the largest  $j$  for which  $\text{Prob}[A_j] \leq 1/2$ ; that  $j$  is our answer. Calculating  $A_j$  directly is not straightforward, so we proceed as follows. *In all cases, explain your reasoning.*
  - (a) Let  $A_j^1$  be the event that the table slot 1 gets  $\geq j$  keys under  $h$ . Supposing you know  $\text{Prob}[A_j^1]$ , give an upper bound on  $\text{Prob}[A_j]$ .
  - (b) Let  $B$  be the event that a *fixed subset*  $C \subset S$  of size  $|C| = j$  hashes into slot 1. That is, each key of  $C$  maps to slot 1 under  $h$ . Calculate the probability  $\text{Prob}[B]$ .
  - (c) Use  $\text{Prob}[B]$  to get an upper bound on the probability  $\text{Prob}[A_j^1]$ .
  - (d) Compute the largest value of  $j$  for which  $\text{Prob}[A_j^1] \leq \frac{1}{2^n}$ . Explain how in combination with (a), this  $j$  is the expected maximum number of collisions.