

## Homework 2: Control Structures

Please complete this homework assignment in code cells in the iPython notebook. Include comments in your code when necessary. Please rename the notebook as SIS ID\_HW02.ipynb (your student ID number) and save the notebook once you have executed it as a PDF (note, that when saving as PDF you don't want to use the option with latex because it crashes, but rather the one to save it directly as a PDF).

**The homework should be submitted on bCourses under the Assignments tab (both the .ipynb and .pdf files). Please label it by your student ID number (SIS ID)**

### Problem 1: Binomial Coefficients

[Adapted from Newman, Exercise 2.11] The binomial coefficient  $\binom{n}{k}$  is an integer equal to

$$\binom{n}{k} = \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!} = \frac{n \times (n-1) \times (n-2) \times \cdots \times (n-k+1)}{1 \times 2 \times \cdots \times k}$$

when  $k \geq 1$ , or  $\binom{n}{0} = 1$  when  $k = 0$ . (The special case  $k = 0$  can be included in the general definition by using the conventional definition  $0! \equiv 1$ .)

1. Write a function `factorial(n)` that takes an integer  $n$  and returns  $n!$  as an integer. It should yield 1 when  $n = 0$ . You may assume that the argument will also be an integer greater than or equal to 0.
2. Using the form of the binomial coefficient given above, write a function `binomial(n,k)` that calculates the binomial coefficient for given  $n$  and  $k$ . Make sure your function returns the answer in the form of an integer (not a float) and gives the correct value of 1 for the case where  $k = 0$ . (Hint: Use your `factorial` function from Part 1.)
3. Using your `binomial` function, write a function `pascals_triangle(N)` to print out the first  $N$  lines of "Pascal's triangle" (starting with the 0th line). The  $n$ th line of Pascal's triangle contains  $n + 1$  numbers, which are the coefficients  $\binom{n}{0}$ ,  $\binom{n}{1}$ , and so on up to  $\binom{n}{n}$ . Thus the first few lines are

```
1
1 1
1 2 1
1 3 3 1
1 4 6 4 1
```

This would be the result of `pascals_triangle(5)`. Print the first 10 rows of Pascal's triangle.

4. The probability that an unbiased coin, tossed  $n$  times, will come up heads  $k$  times is  $\binom{n}{k}/2^n$ . (Or instead of coins, perhaps you'd prefer to think of spins measured in a [Stern-Gerlach experiment](#).)
  - Write a function `heads_exactly(n,k)` to calculate the probability that a coin tossed  $n$  times comes up heads exactly  $k$  times.
  - Write a function `heads_atleast(n,k)` to calculate the probability that a coin tossed  $n$  times comes up heads  $k$  or more times.

- Print the probabilities (to four decimal places) that a coin tossed 100 times comes up heads exactly 70 times, and at least 70 times. You should print corresponding statements with the numbers so it is clear what they each mean.
5. Along with the printed statements from Part 4, have your code generate and display two labelled plots for `heads_exactly(n,k)` and `heads_atleast(n,k)` with  $n = 100$ . You should have values of  $k$  on the  $x$ -axis, and probabilities on the  $y$ -axis. (Note that  $k$  only takes integer values from 0 to  $n$ , inclusive. Your plots can be connected curves or have discrete markers for each point; either is fine.)

## Output

To summarize, your program should output the following things:

1. The first 10 rows of Pascal's triangle
2. The probabilities (to three decimal places) that a coin tossed 100 times comes up heads exactly 70 times, and at least 70 times, with corresponding statements so it is clear what each number signifies.
3. Two labeled plots for `heads_exactly(n,k)` and `heads_atleast(n,k)` with  $n = 100$ , representing probability distributions for 100 coin flips.

## Reminder

Remember to write informative doc strings, comment your code, and use descriptive function and variable names so others (and future you) can understand what you're doing!

```
In [93]: '''The numpy library has a lot of useful functions
and we always use matplotlib for plotting, so it's
generally a good idea to import them at the beginning.'''
import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

def factorial(n):
    """Returns the factorial of n"""

    return_value = 1

    if (n < 0):
        return_value = "Factorial of negative number not supported"
    elif (n == 0):
        return_value = 1
    else:
        for i in range(1, n + 1):
            return_value = return_value * i
            # or just do math.factorial()

    #Try using a for loop to update the return_value and calculate n!

    return return_value
```

```
In [94]: factorial(20)
```

```
Out[94]: 24329020081766400000
```

```
In [95]: def binomial(n, k):
    """Returns the binomial coefficient n choose k"""

    #Use a conditional statement to return 1 in the case k = 0

    bn = 1
```

```

if (k > n or n < 0 or k < 0):
    bn = "Factorial of negative number is not supported"
elif (k == 0):
    bn = 1
else:
    bn = int(factorial(n) / (factorial(k) * factorial(n-k)))

return bn #Use factorial(n) to calculate the binomial coefficient

```

```

In [96]: print(binomial(90, 91))
print(binomial(-9, 10))
print(binomial(90, 0))
print(binomial(4, 3))

```

```

Factorial of negative number is not supported
Factorial of negative number is not supported
1
4

```

```

In [97]: def pascals_triangle(N):
        """Prints out N rows of pascal's triangle"""

        #A "double for loop" has been set up below;
        #Python goes through the entire inner loop during each pass through the outer loop

        for row in range(0, N):
            #This is the outer loop; each pass through the loop corresponds to one row of th
            for k in range(0, row + 1):
                print(binomial(row, k), end = " ") #end specifies what to put at the end of
                #This is is the inner loop; each pass through the loop corresponds to a numb
                #Code here is part of each inner loop iteration (i.e. print a binomial coeff
            #Code here is part of the outer loop
            print()

        #This function doesn't need to return anything

```

```

In [98]: pascals_triangle(15)

```

```

1
1 1
1 2 1
1 3 3 1
1 4 6 4 1
1 5 10 10 5 1
1 6 15 20 15 6 1
1 7 21 35 35 21 7 1
1 8 28 56 70 56 28 8 1
1 9 36 84 126 126 84 36 9 1
1 10 45 120 210 252 210 120 45 10 1
1 11 55 165 330 462 462 330 165 55 11 1
1 12 66 220 495 792 924 792 495 220 66 12 1
1 13 78 286 715 1287 1716 1716 1287 715 286 78 13 1
1 14 91 364 1001 2002 3003 3432 3003 2002 1001 364 91 14 1

```

```

In [159... def heads_exactly(n,k):
        """Returns the probability of getting k heads if you flip a coin n times"""
        prob = binomial(n,k) / (2**n)

        return float("{:.5f}".format(prob))
        #return float("{:.5f}".format(prob)) #Use bin2omial(n,k) to calculate the probabilit

```

```

In [160... print("Probability of getting exactly {} heads from {} flips is {:.05f}".format(70, 100,

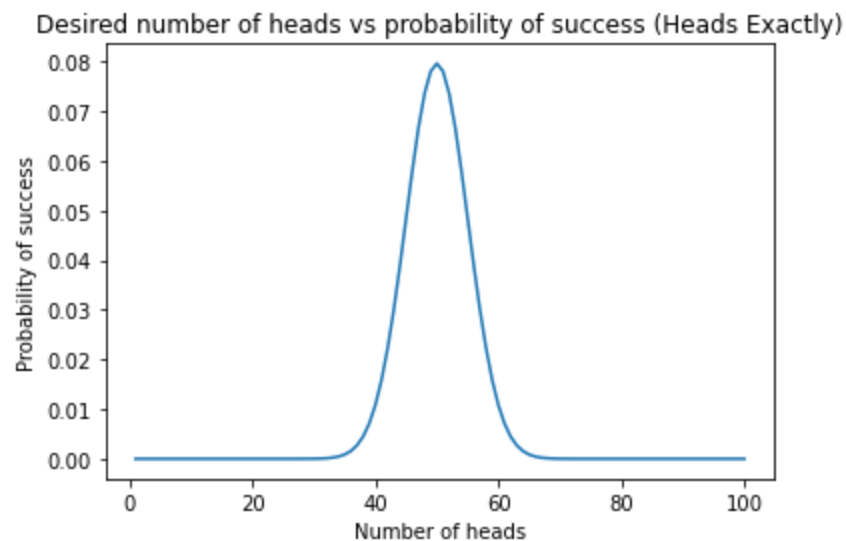
```

Probability of getting exactly 70 heads from 100 flips is 0.00002

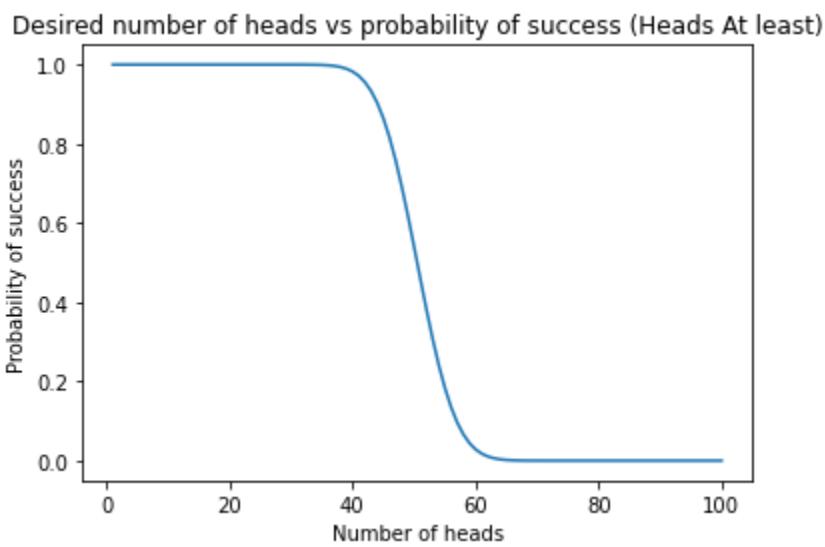
```
In [163... def heads_atleast(n,k):  
    """Returns the probability of getting at least k heads if you flip a coin n times"""  
    total_prob = 0  
  
    #Use a for loop and heads_exactly(n,k) to update total_prob  
  
    for i in range(k, n):  
        total_prob += heads_exactly(n, i)  
  
    return float("{:.5f}".format(total_prob))
```

```
In [165... print("Probability of getting at least {} heads from {} flips is {:.5f}".format(70, 100  
Probability of getting at least 70 heads from 100 flips is 0.00003
```

```
In [166... ## Now use your defined functions to produce the desired outputs  
##For the plots, the np.arange() function is useful for creating a numpy array of integer  
  
k_values = np.arange(1,101)#integers from 1 to 100 (lower bound is inclusive; upper bound is exclusive)  
  
exactly = []  
at_least = []  
  
for value in k_values:  
    exactly.append(heads_exactly(100, value))  
    at_least.append(heads_atleast(100, value))  
  
plt.plot(k_values, exactly)  
plt.title("Desired number of heads vs probability of success (Heads Exactly)")  
plt.xlabel("Number of heads")  
plt.ylabel("Probability of success")  
  
plt.show()  
  
plt.plot(k_values, at_least)  
plt.title("Desired number of heads vs probability of success (Heads At least)")  
plt.xlabel("Number of heads")  
plt.ylabel("Probability of success")
```



```
Out[166]: Text(0, 0.5, 'Probability of success')
```



## Problem 2: Semi-Empirical Mass Formula

[Adapted from Newman, Exercise 2.10] In nuclear physics, the semi-empirical mass formula is a formula for calculating the approximate nuclear binding energy  $B$  of an atomic nucleus with atomic number  $Z$  and mass number  $A$ :

$$B = a_V A - a_S A^{2/3} - a_C \frac{Z^2}{A^{1/3}} - a_S \frac{(A - 2Z)^2}{A} + \delta \frac{a_P}{A^{1/2}},$$

where, in units of millions of electron volts (MeV), the constants are  $a_V = 14.64$ ,  $a_S = 14.08$ ,  $a_C = 0.64$ ,  $a_S = 21.07$ ,  $a_P = 11.54$ , and

$$\delta = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } A \text{ is odd,} \\ +1 & \text{if } A \text{ and } Z \text{ are both even,} \\ -1 & \text{if } A \text{ is even and } Z \text{ is odd.} \end{cases}$$

The values above are taken from D. Benzaid *et al.*, NUCL SCI TECH **31**, 9 (2020);

<https://doi.org/10.1007/s41365-019-0718-8>

1. Write a function `binding_energy(A, Z)` that takes as its input the values of  $A$  and  $Z$ , and returns the binding energy for the corresponding atom. Check your function by computing the binding energy of an atom with  $A = 58$  and  $Z = 28$ . (Hint: The correct answer is around 490 MeV.)
2. Write a function `binding_energy_per_nucleon(A, Z)` which returns not the total binding energy  $B$ , but the binding energy per nucleon, which is  $B/A$ .
3. Write a function `max_binding_energy_per_nucleon(Z)` which takes as input just a single value of the atomic number  $Z$  and then goes through all values of  $A$  from  $A = Z$  to  $A = 3Z$ , to find the one that has the largest binding energy per nucleon. This is the most stable nucleus with the given atomic number. Have your function return the value of  $A$  for this most stable nucleus and the value of the binding energy per nucleon.
4. Finally, use the functions you've written to write a program which runs through all values of  $Z$  from 1 to 100 and prints out the most stable value of  $A$  for each one. At what value of  $Z$  does the maximum binding energy per nucleon occur? (The true answer, in real life, is  $Z = 28$ , which is nickel. You should find that the semi-empirical mass formula gets the answer roughly right, but not exactly.)

## Output

Your final output should look like

```
Z = 1 : most stable A is 2
Z = 2 : most stable A is 4
.
.
.
Z = 10 : most stable A is 20
Z = 11 : most stable A is 23
.
.
.
Z = 100 : most stable A is 210
The most stable Z is ____
with binding energy per nucleon ____
```

With the ...'s and \_\_'s replaced with your results. The binding energy per nucleon in the last line should have three decimal places.

For maximum readability, you should include the extra whitespace around the  $Z =$  numbers so everything lines up, as shown. (To remember the `print` formatting syntax to do this, see Table 1.1 in the Ayars text.)

## Reminder

Remember to write informative doc strings, comment your code, and use descriptive function and variable names so others (and future you) can understand what you're doing!

In [125...

```
import numpy as np

def binding_energy(A, Z):
    """Returns the nuclear binding energy in MeV of an atomic nucleus with atomic number
    aV = 14.64
    aS1 = 14.08
    aC = 0.64
    aS2 = 21.07
    aP = 11.54

    #Use conditional statements (if, elif, else) to declare the variable delta with the
    delta = 0

    if (A % 2 == 1):
        delta = 0
    elif (A % 2 == 0 and Z % 2 == 0):
        delta = 1
    elif (A % 2 == 0 and Z % 2 == 1):
        delta = -1

    term1 = aV * A
    term2 = aS1 * (A ** (2/3))
    term3 = aC * ((Z*Z)/(A**(1/3)))
    term4 = aS2 * (((A - (2*Z))**2)/A)
    term5 = delta * (aP/(A**(1/2)))

    b = term1 - term2 - term3 - term4 + term5
```

```
    return b #Use the above formula for B, the binding energy
```

```
#Now check your function by calculating the requested binding energy
```

```
In [126... binding_energy(58, 28)
```

```
Out[126]: 508.58749039317803
```

```
In [127... def binding_energy_per_nucleon(A, Z):  
    """Returns the nuclear binding energy per nucleon in MeV of an atomic nucleus with a  
    per_nucleon = binding_energy(A, Z) / A  
    return per_nucleon #Use binding_energy(A, Z) and the number of nucleons
```

```
In [128... binding_energy_per_nucleon(58, 28)
```

```
Out[128]: 8.768749834365138
```

```
In [129... def max_binding_energy_per_nucleon(Z):  
    """For atomic nucleus with atomic number Z, returns that mass number A that yields t  
    per nucleon, as well as that resultant maximum binding energy per nucleon in MeV"  
  
    #We can make our default return value A = Z and the corresponding binding energy  
    max_A = Z  
    max_binding_energy_per_nucleon = binding_energy_per_nucleon(Z, Z)  
  
    #Use a for loop to go from A = Z to A = 3*Z, and update the return variables if a ne  
    #A conditional statement within the loop is useful for comparing max_binding_energy_  
  
    for i in range(Z, (3*Z)+1):  
        if (binding_energy_per_nucleon(i, Z) > max_binding_energy_per_nucleon):  
            max_binding_energy_per_nucleon = binding_energy_per_nucleon(i, Z)  
            max_A = i  
  
    return max_A, max_binding_energy_per_nucleon #check
```

```
In [130... max_binding_energy_per_nucleon(5)
```

```
Out[130]: (11, 7.480847749567457)
```

```
In [131... #Now use a for loop and the function max_binding_energy_per_nucleon(Z) to print the fina  
  
stableZ = 0  
max_energy = 0  
  
for i in range(1, 101):  
    print("Z = {0:} : most stable A is {1:}".format(i, max_binding_energy_per_nuc  
    if (max_binding_energy_per_nucleon(i)[1] > max_energy):  
        max_energy = max_binding_energy_per_nucleon(i)[1]  
        stableZ = i  
  
print("The most stable Z is {0:} with binding energy per nucleon {1:.4}".format(stableZ,
```

```
Z = 1 : most stable A is 3  
Z = 2 : most stable A is 4  
Z = 3 : most stable A is 7  
Z = 4 : most stable A is 8  
Z = 5 : most stable A is 11  
Z = 6 : most stable A is 12  
Z = 7 : most stable A is 15  
Z = 8 : most stable A is 18  
Z = 9 : most stable A is 19  
Z = 10 : most stable A is 22  
Z = 11 : most stable A is 23
```

Z = 12	: most stable A is	26
Z = 13	: most stable A is	29
Z = 14	: most stable A is	30
Z = 15	: most stable A is	33
Z = 16	: most stable A is	34
Z = 17	: most stable A is	37
Z = 18	: most stable A is	40
Z = 19	: most stable A is	41
Z = 20	: most stable A is	44
Z = 21	: most stable A is	47
Z = 22	: most stable A is	48
Z = 23	: most stable A is	51
Z = 24	: most stable A is	54
Z = 25	: most stable A is	55
Z = 26	: most stable A is	58
Z = 27	: most stable A is	61
Z = 28	: most stable A is	62
Z = 29	: most stable A is	65
Z = 30	: most stable A is	68
Z = 31	: most stable A is	69
Z = 32	: most stable A is	72
Z = 33	: most stable A is	75
Z = 34	: most stable A is	76
Z = 35	: most stable A is	79
Z = 36	: most stable A is	82
Z = 37	: most stable A is	83
Z = 38	: most stable A is	86
Z = 39	: most stable A is	89
Z = 40	: most stable A is	90
Z = 41	: most stable A is	93
Z = 42	: most stable A is	96
Z = 43	: most stable A is	97
Z = 44	: most stable A is	100
Z = 45	: most stable A is	103
Z = 46	: most stable A is	106
Z = 47	: most stable A is	107
Z = 48	: most stable A is	110
Z = 49	: most stable A is	113
Z = 50	: most stable A is	114
Z = 51	: most stable A is	117
Z = 52	: most stable A is	120
Z = 53	: most stable A is	123
Z = 54	: most stable A is	124
Z = 55	: most stable A is	127
Z = 56	: most stable A is	130
Z = 57	: most stable A is	133
Z = 58	: most stable A is	134
Z = 59	: most stable A is	137
Z = 60	: most stable A is	140
Z = 61	: most stable A is	143
Z = 62	: most stable A is	144
Z = 63	: most stable A is	147
Z = 64	: most stable A is	150
Z = 65	: most stable A is	153
Z = 66	: most stable A is	156
Z = 67	: most stable A is	157
Z = 68	: most stable A is	160
Z = 69	: most stable A is	163
Z = 70	: most stable A is	166
Z = 71	: most stable A is	167
Z = 72	: most stable A is	170
Z = 73	: most stable A is	173
Z = 74	: most stable A is	176
Z = 75	: most stable A is	179
Z = 76	: most stable A is	180
Z = 77	: most stable A is	183



Z = 78	: most stable A is	186
Z = 79	: most stable A is	189
Z = 80	: most stable A is	192
Z = 81	: most stable A is	193
Z = 82	: most stable A is	196
Z = 83	: most stable A is	199
Z = 84	: most stable A is	202
Z = 85	: most stable A is	205
Z = 86	: most stable A is	208
Z = 87	: most stable A is	209
Z = 88	: most stable A is	212
Z = 89	: most stable A is	215
Z = 90	: most stable A is	218
Z = 91	: most stable A is	221
Z = 92	: most stable A is	224
Z = 93	: most stable A is	225
Z = 94	: most stable A is	228
Z = 95	: most stable A is	231
Z = 96	: most stable A is	234
Z = 97	: most stable A is	237
Z = 98	: most stable A is	240
Z = 99	: most stable A is	243
Z = 100	: most stable A is	244

The most stable Z is 22 with binding energy per nucleon 8.878

## Problem 3: Particle in a Box

[Adapted from Ayars, Problem 3-1] The energy levels for a quantum particle in a three-dimensional rectangular box of dimensions  $\{L_1, L_2, \text{ and } L_3\}$  are given by

$$E_{n_1, n_2, n_3} = \frac{\hbar^2 \pi^2}{2m} \left[ \frac{n_1^2}{L_1^2} + \frac{n_2^2}{L_2^2} + \frac{n_3^2}{L_3^2} \right]$$

where the  $n$ 's are integers greater than or equal to one. Your goal is to write a program that will calculate, and list in order of increasing energy, the values of the  $n$ 's for the 10 lowest *different* energy levels, given a box for which  $L_2 = 2L_1$  and  $L_3 = 4L_1$ .

Your program should include two user-defined functions that you may find helpful in accomplishing your goal:

1. A function `energy(n1, n2, n3)` that takes integer values  $n_1$ ,  $n_2$ , and  $n_3$ , and computes the corresponding energy level in units of  $\hbar^2 \pi^2 / 2m L_1^2$ .
2. A function `lowest_unique_K(K, List)` which takes a positive integer  $K$  and a list of real numbers `List`, and returns an ordered (ascending) list of the lowest  $K$  unique numbers in the list `List`. For instance, `lowest_unique_K(3, [-0.5, 3, 3, 2, 6, 7, 7])` would return `[-0.5, 2, 3]`. The function should not modify the original list `List`.
  - As with most programming puzzles, there are several ways to write this function. Depending on how you do it, you may or may not find it helpful to Google how to "sort" lists, or how to "del" or "pop" items out of lists.

You may also wish to make other user-defined functions depending on how you go about solving the problem. In fact, if you find some clever way to solve the problem that doesn't use `lowest_unique_K`, that is fine too! (You still need to write `lowest_unique_K`, though.) But whatever you do, be sure to comment your code clearly!

## Output

Your final output should look like this (though with different numbers, and not necessarily the same number of lines):

```
energy, n1, n2, n3
(0.4375, 1, 1, 1)
(0.625, 1, 2, 1)
(0.8125, 2, 1, 1)
(0.9375, 1, 3, 1)
(1.0, 2, 2, 1)
(1.1875, 1, 1, 2)
(1.3125, 2, 3, 1)
(1.375, 1, 2, 2)
(1.375, 1, 4, 1)
(1.4375, 3, 1, 1)
(1.5625, 2, 1, 2)
```

Notice how there are only 10 unique energies listed, but more than 10 lines. Each line could also have brackets instead of parentheses if you prefer, like this: `[0.4375, 1, 1, 1]`.

## Reminder

Remember to write informative doc strings, comment your code, and use descriptive function and variable names so others (and future you) can understand what you're doing!

## Just for fun

If you'd like, write a function `print_table(list_of_lists)` that takes a list of lists (or a list of tuples) and prints them in a nicely aligned table. Feel free to Google to get ideas on how to do this. Try to get your function to produce something like

```
energy  n1 n2 n3
0.4375  1  1  1
0.625   1  2  1
0.8125  2  1  1
0.9375  1  3  1
1.0     2  2  1
1.1875  1  1  2
1.3125  2  3  1
1.375   1  2  2
1.375   1  4  1
1.4375  3  1  1
1.5625  2  1  2
```

```
In [87]: def energy(n1, n2, n3):
        """Returns the n-dependent coefficient of the particle-in-a-3D-box energy level for
        The box's lengths along dimensions 1, 2, and 3 go as L, 2*L, 4*L"""

        term1 = n1**2
        term2 = ((n2**2)/4)
        term3 = ((n3**2)/16)

        energy = term1 + term2 + term3

        return energy #Use the formula given above
```

```
In [88]: energy(5, 5, 5)
```

```
Out[88]: 32.8125
```

```
In [89]: import copy
```

```
def lowest_unique_K(K, List):  
    """Takes a positive integer K and a list of real numbers List, and returns an ordered  
    lowest_unique_K_list = [] #This is a list of zeros (K of them)  
    #Or you may want to start with lowest_unique_K_list = [], an empty list  
  
    copied_list = []  
  
    for item in List:  
        if item not in copied_list:  
            copied_list.append(item) # removes duplicates  
  
    copied_list.sort() # sorts in ascending order  
  
    for i in range(0, K):  
        lowest_unique_K_list.append(copied_list[i]) #getting the first K numbers of list  
  
    #There's a lot of different ways to approach writing this function  
    #Try breaking it up into smaller steps and figure out what you'd like to do before w  
    #If you have trouble turning logical steps into actual code, feel free to ask for he  
  
    return lowest_unique_K_list
```

```
In [90]: lowest_unique_K(3, [-0.5, -0.5, 3, 3, 2, 6, 7, 7])
```

```
Out[90]: [-0.5, 2, 3]
```

```
In [91]: #Now create a list of energies for different values of n1, n2, n3 (taking each from 1 to 11)  
#Remember to keep track of the corresponding n1, n2, n3 values for each energy, since we  
#Then use lowest_unique_K(10, List) on this list of energies to find the first 10  
#Finally, print these 10 energies and their corresponding n1, n2, n3 values  
#You may find a dictionary helpful for keeping track of the association between energy v
```

```
values = {}  
  
for f in range(1, 11):  
    for s in range(1, 11):  
        for t in range(1, 11):  
            values[energy(f, s, t)] = [f, s, t]  
  
energies = lowest_unique_K(10, values)  
  
energyDict = {}  
  
for energy in energies:  
    energyDict[energy] = [values[energy][0], values[energy][1], values[energy][2]]  
  
print ("{:<10} {:<10} {:<10} {:<10}".format('Energy', 'N1', 'N2', 'N3'))  
  
for key, value in energyDict.items():  
    n1, n2, n3 = value  
    print ("{:<10} {:<10} {:<10} {:<10}".format(key, n1, n2, n3))
```

Energy	N1	N2	N3
1.3125	1	1	1
1.5	1	1	2

1.8125	1	1	3
2.0625	1	2	1
2.25	1	2	2
2.5625	1	2	3
2.8125	1	1	5
3.0	1	2	4
3.3125	1	3	1
3.5	1	3	2