

Question 1. (10 points)

$$\begin{aligned}
f(n) &= 3f(n/3) + 1 = 3(3f(n/3^2) + 1) + 1 = 3^2f(n/3^2) + 3 + 1 \\
&= 3^2(3f(n/3^3) + 1) + 3 + 1 = 3^3f(n/3^3) + 3^2 + 3 + 1 = \dots \\
&= 3^i f(n/3^i) + 3^{i-1} + 3^{i-2} + \dots + 3^1 + 3^0 = 3^i f(n/3^i) + (3^i - 1)/(3 - 1)
\end{aligned}$$

For $3^i = n$, this becomes

$$f(n) = nf(1) + (n - 1)/2 = (3n - 1)/2$$

Question 2. (10 points)

$$\begin{aligned}
f(n) &= 3f(n/3) + n = 3(3f(n/3^2) + n/3) + n = 3^2f(n/3^2) + n + n \\
&= 3^2(3f(n/3^3) + n/3^2) + n + n = 3^3f(n/3^3) + n + n + n = \dots = 3^i f(n/3^i) + in
\end{aligned}$$

For $3^i = n$, this becomes $f(n) = nf(1) + n \log_3 n = n + n \log_3 n$

Question 3. (10 points) The number of favorable outcomes is $N * (N - 1) * \dots * (N - n + 1)$ because, if they are distinct, the number of choices for the first is N , for the second it is $(N - 1)$, for the third it is $(N - 2)$, etc. The total number of possible outcomes (whether favorable or not) is N^n . Therefore the probability that the a_i 's are all distinct is

$$N * (N - 1) * \dots * (N - n + 1) / N^n = N! / ((N - n)! N^n) = n! C(N, n) / N^n$$

Question 4. (10 points)

1. The net gain is 100 times the following:

$$2^k - (2^{k-1} + 2^{k-2} + \dots + 2^1 + 2^0) = 2^k - (2^{k-1+1} - 1)/(2 - 1) = 1$$

which is \$100.

2. The probability that the game ends at round k is 0.5^k , in which case the gain is \$100. Hence the expected gain is:

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} 100 * 0.5^k = -100 + \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} 100 * 0.5^k = -100 + 100 * (0 - 1)/(0.5 - 1) = 100$$