CSCI3160 Design and Analysis of Algorithms (2025 Fall)

Week 1: Course Logistics

Instructor: Xiao Liang[1]

Department of Computer Science and Engineering
Chinese University of Hong Kong

[1]These slides are primarily based on materials prepared by Prof. Yufei Tao (please refer to Prof. Tao's version from 2024 Fall for the original content). Minor modifications have been made to better align with this year's teaching progress, incorporating student feedback, in-class interactions, and my own teaching style and research perspective.

Course Logistics

All you need to know about this course:

1. The CUHK Blackboard site for this course: for course announcements, and your grades for quizzes, the midterm, and the final exam.
2. The course webpage at the following link:
   - https://xiao-liang.github.io/Resources/Courses/CSCI3160-25Fall/CSCI3160-25Fall.html

   (referred to as the course page henceforth)

A Quick way to recover the above link:

- Search for "Xiao Liang CUHK" on the Internet to find the instructor's homepage. The course link can then be found under the "Teaching" tab.

Important Information

What you can find on the course page:

- TAs' information: office hour, office room, email, etc.
- Time and venue information for tutorial sessions (and lectures)
- Weekly schedule and slides, both for lectures and tutorials. Slides will be uploaded after each lecture/tutorial.
- Grading scheme (aka Assessment). More on the next page.
- Other course-related information for you to explore.

Important:

- Tutorial sessions will begin in Week 1 (on September 4th) — this early start is to compensate for the cancellation of class on November 6th, due to the 95th Congregation.

Grading Scheme (1/3)

(To ensure consistency in grading, we will adopt a similar grading scheme used in previous years when this course was taught by Prof. Tao. You may refer to Prof. Tao's version (2024 Fall) for an idea of the quiz/exam format.)

Assessment consists of three parts:

- Three Quizzes (8% each), **open-book, no electronics**: The quizzes will be conducted during lecture hours. The instructor will announce the exact date and time of each quiz at least one week in advance.
- Midterm Exam (26%), **closed-book**: tentatively on Oct. 22 (Wed), during lecture hours (of week 8).
- Final Exam (50%), **closed-book**: arranged by the University

Grading Scheme (2/3)

There are no homework assignments that you need to submit.

However, it is still important to practice sufficiently to ensure that you truly grasp and internalize the material covered in this course.

To encourage you for that, during this course, the instructor will gradually generate a list of two types of exercises:

1. **Regular exercises:** Solutions will be provided.
2. **Special exercises:** No solutions will be given. These exercises in general are easier than regular exercises.

In the midterm and final exams, about 35% of the points will come from problems taken directly from the set of the **special exercises**. The rest 65% will be new problems.

Grading Scheme (3/3)

Some remarks on the exercises:

- Both the regular and special exercises are primarily designed by Prof. Tao. (Please refer to Prof. Tao's version from 2024 Fall for the original content).
- But, please do expect that the instructor this year may make some modifications to the exercises. Please refer to the versions published on the course page, particularly when preparing for the midterm and final exams.