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Administrivia

- Final exam May 6 (Saturday) at 8:30am. Review sheet describing format and topics on Web.
- Homework 9 due today at 5pm.
- Solutions for homeworks and midterm in hardcopy form. All but Homework 9 to be available/distributed by today, along with graded work. Homework 9 solution will be out first thing Tuesday.

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More Administrivia

- Numeric grade is “points earned” divided by “maximum points” on the following:
 - Two exams (100 points and 200 points).
 - Quizzes (50 points — lowest score dropped).
 - Class attendance/participation — 50 points.
 - Homework — 240 points.
- Letter grades assigned “on a curve” (no attempt to fit a bell curve, but median numeric score is about a B-). Conservative (i.e., low) estimate of where you are now to be sent by e-mail today.
- Extra-credit problems to be posted on Web Monday, due the following Monday. *Can only help your grade* — adding up to 30 points to “points earned” without changing “maximum points”.

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More Administrivia

- Questions about the final, homework, grades, etc.?
- Should there be a review session sometime next week? (No.)

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Recap — Course Goals

- For CS majors, learn math needed for later courses. Something of a “grab bag” of topics, but you probably *will* see some of this material again. For non-CS majors, introduction to some math you might otherwise not encounter.
- Increase “mathematical maturity” — in part, this is the ability to think logically, especially valuable to people in CS (also other science, engineering, math), but good for others too.
- A recurring theme is to take something that might be difficult to think through from first principles and turn it into a symbol-manipulation problem.

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Topics and Why We Covered Them

- Formal logic:
 - Understanding connectives/tautologies related to simplifying boolean expressions, e.g., in programs.
 - Example of “formal system” — CS people will deal with others, e.g., formal grammars (basis for compilers, e.g.).
 - “Mathematical maturity”.

(Aside: Dr. Myers recommends that CS majors consider the symbolic logic course as one of your math electives. Students who take it seem to find it worthwhile.)

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Topics and Why We Covered Them, Continued

- Proof techniques (direct proof, contraposition, proof by contradiction, proof by induction):
 - Background for courses that involve proofs.
 - “Mathematical maturity”.
- Program correctness:
 - Another way to think about programs – even if not applied formally, E.g., “loop invariant” idea — recall problem with black/white marbles.

Topics and Why We Covered Them, Continued

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- Recursion:
 - Recursive definitions used in theory courses.
 - Recursive algorithms sometimes easier to express than iterative equivalents (e.g., anything working with trees).
- Analysis of algorithms:
 - Simplified version, but gives background for discussions in programming classes.
- Recurrence relations:
 - Useful in doing “analysis of algorithms” on recursive algorithms.

Topics and Why We Covered Them, Continued

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- Sets, counting, and probability:
 - General background. (Stuff about infinite sets is a tangent, but an interesting one?)
 - Often useful to know how many cases must be considered.
 - “Expected value” calculations useful in doing analysis of algorithms for average case (rather than worst case, as we did before).

Topics and Why We Covered Them, Continued

- Relations and functions:
 - General background.
 - Background for formal study of relational databases. (Definitions of set operations needed here too.)

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Topics and Why We Covered Them, Continued

- Graphs and trees:
 - Abstraction behind some key data structures.
 - Trees you may have used already.
 - Many uses for graphs — serialization in Java, garbage collection, shortest path through a network, etc., etc.

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Minute Essay

- None — sign in.

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