FIT2004
Algorithms and data structures

Unit Guide

Semester 1, 2012

The information contained in this unit guide is correct at time of publication. The University has the right to change any of the elements contained in this document at any time.

Last updated: 22 Feb 2012
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FIT2004 Algorithms and data structures - Semester 1, 2012

This unit introduces students to problem solving concepts and techniques fundamental to the science of programming. In doing this it covers problem specification, algorithmic design, analysis and implementation. Detailed topics include analysis of best, average and worst-case time and space complexity; introduction to numerical algorithms; recursion; advanced data structures such as heaps and B-trees; hashing; sorting algorithms; searching algorithms; graph algorithms; and numerical computing.

Mode of Delivery

- Clayton (Day)
- Sunway (Day)

Contact Hours

2 hrs lectures/wk, 3 hr laboratory/fortnight, 1 hr tutorial/fortnight

Workload

Students will be expected to spend a total of 12 hours per week during semester on this unit as follows:

- Lectures: 2 hours per week
- Tutorials/Lab Sessions: 4 hours **fortnightly** (1 hour tutorial, 3 hours lab)
- Reading: 4 hours per week
- Lab Preparation: 4 hours per week.

Unit Relationships

Prohibitions

CSE2304, FIT2009

Prerequisites

One of FIT1008, FIT1015 or CSE1303 and 6 points of Level 1 mathematics.

Chief Examiner

**Professor Geoff Webb**

Campus Lecturer

Clayton

Reza Haffari
Sunway

Loke Kar Seng
Academic Overview

Outcomes

At the completion of this unit students will have:

- understanding of a formal specification;
- ability to create a formal specification for an informal problem;
- knowledge and understanding of algorithmic properties such as correctness, termination and complexity;
- ability to, given a non-trivial algorithm, formally prove certain properties, such as correctness and termination;
- ability, given a non-trivial algorithm, to determine its best, average and worst-case, time and space-complexity;
- knowledge and understanding of reasonably complex data structures such as minimum spanning trees, and Directed and Undirected, Weighted and Unweighted Graphs;
- ability to design and implement new non-trivial algorithms using complex data structures;
- knowledge of and ability to use algorithmic paradigms such as divide and conquer, greedy, dynamic programming and so on;
- ability to identify these paradigms in diverse algorithms;
- knowledge and understanding of the issues involved in implementing a non-trivial algorithm efficiently.

Developed attitudes that enable them to:

- carefully design and/or analyse the algorithms they are using in order to verify important properties such as correctness, termination, and complexity;
- identify the key features of a brief informal problem description and abstract the underlying formal problem.

Developed the skills to:

- create their own data structures.
- create a new algorithm to solve a new problem.
- make a formal argument about desirable properties of the solution.
- adapt an existing algorithm and/or data-structure where that is possible and appropriate.
- implement a non-trivial algorithm efficiently.

Demonstrated the communication skills necessary to:

- make a formal argument that an algorithm and/or data-structure has a given property, such as correctness, termination or complexity.

Graduate Attributes

Monash prepares its graduates to be:

1. responsible and effective global citizens who:
   a. engage in an internationalised world
   b. exhibit cross-cultural competence
   c. demonstrate ethical values
critical and creative scholars who:

a. produce innovative solutions to problems  
b. apply research skills to a range of challenges  
c. communicate perceptively and effectively

Assessment Summary

Examination (3 hours): 70%; In-semester assessment: 30%

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Task</th>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assignment 1</td>
<td>6 %</td>
<td>Week 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignment 2</td>
<td>6 %</td>
<td>Week 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assignment 3</td>
<td>6 %</td>
<td>Week 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assignment 4</td>
<td>6 %</td>
<td>Week 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignment 5</td>
<td>6 %</td>
<td>Week 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Examination 1</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>To be advised</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Teaching Approach

Lecture and tutorials or problem classes

This teaching and learning approach provides facilitated learning, practical exploration and peer learning.

Feedback

Our feedback to You

Types of feedback you can expect to receive in this unit are:

- Informal feedback on progress in labs/tutes  
- Graded assignments without comments  
- Solutions to tutes, labs and assignments

Your feedback to Us

Monash is committed to excellence in education and regularly seeks feedback from students, employers and staff. One of the key formal ways students have to provide feedback is through SETU, Student Evaluation of Teacher and Unit. The University's student evaluation policy requires that every unit is evaluated each year. Students are strongly encouraged to complete the surveys. The feedback is anonymous and provides the Faculty with evidence of aspects that students are satisfied and areas for improvement.

For more information on Monash's educational strategy, and on student evaluations, see:
http://www.policy.monash.edu/policy-bank/academic/education/quality/student-evaluation-policy.html
Academic Overview

Previous Student Evaluations of this unit

If you wish to view how previous students rated this unit, please go to https://emuapps.monash.edu.au/unitevaluations/index.jsp

Required Resources

Please check with your lecturer before purchasing any Required Resources. Prescribed texts are available for you to borrow in the library, and prescribed software is available in student labs.

Java (latest version) installed in the labs, you can download a free copy from Sun Microsystems.

Prescribed text(s)

Prescribed texts are available for you to borrow in the library.


Recommended text(s)


Examination material or equipment

Closed book. No calculators.
# Unit Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Assessment</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>No formal assessment or activities are undertaken in week 0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Overview and Revision of Required Concepts</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Algorithm Analysis</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Trees I</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Trees II</td>
<td>Assignment 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Trees III</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Disjoint Sets</td>
<td>Assignment 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Graphs and Graph Search</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Path Problems</td>
<td>Assignment 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Flow Problems and Minimum Spanning Trees</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Algorithm Design I</td>
<td>Assignment 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Algorithm Design II</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Selected Topics</td>
<td>Assignment 5</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>No formal assessment is undertaken SWOT VAC</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Examination period</td>
<td>LINK to Assessment Policy:</td>
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<tr>
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<td>assessment-in-coursework-policy.html</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Unit Schedule details will be maintained and communicated to you via your MUSO (Blackboard or Moodle) learning system.*
Assessment Requirements

Assessment Policy

Faculty Policy - Unit Assessment Hurdles

Assessment Tasks

Participation

• Assessment task 1

  Title: Assignment 1
  Description: Practical problems arising from the material covered in lectures and tutorials.
  Weighting: 6 %
  Criteria for assessment:
  ♦ Demonstrate code where applicable
  ♦ explain your solutions
  Due date: Week 4

• Assessment task 2

  Title: Assignment 2
  Description: Practical problems arising from the material covered in lectures and tutorials.
  Weighting: 6 %
  Criteria for assessment:
  ♦ Demonstrate code where applicable
  ♦ explain your solutions
  Due date: Week 6

• Assessment task 3

  Title: Assignment 3
  Description: Practical problems arising from the material covered in lectures and tutorials.
  Weighting: 6 %
  Criteria for assessment:
Assessment Requirements

- Demonstrate code where applicable
- Explain your solutions

Due date:
Week 8

• Assessment task 4

Title:
Assignment 4

Description:
Practical problems arising from the material covered in lectures and tutorials.

Weighting:
6%

Criteria for assessment:
- Demonstrate code where applicable
- Explain your solutions

Due date:
Week 10

• Assessment task 5

Title:
Assignment 5

Description:
Practical problems arising from the material covered in lectures and tutorials.

Weighting:
6%

Criteria for assessment:
- Demonstrate code where applicable
- Explain your solutions

Due date:
Week 12

Examinations

• Examination 1

Weighting:
70%

Length:
3 hours

Type (open/closed book):
Closed book

Electronic devices allowed in the exam:
None
Assignment submission

It is a University requirement (http://www.policy.monash.edu/policy-bank/academic/education/conduct/plagiarism-procedures.html) for students to submit an assignment coversheet for each assessment item. Faculty Assignment coversheets can be found at http://www.infotech.monash.edu.au/resources/student/forms/. Please check with your Lecturer on the submission method for your assignment coversheet (e.g. attach a file to the online assignment submission, hand-in a hard copy, or use an online quiz).

Online submission

If Electronic Submission has been approved for your unit, please submit your work via the VLE site for this unit, which you can access via links in the my.monash portal.

Extensions and penalties

Submission must be made by the due date otherwise penalties will be enforced.


Returning assignments

Students can expect assignments to be returned within two weeks of the submission date or after receipt, whichever is later.
Other Information

Policies

Monash has educational policies, procedures and guidelines, which are designed to ensure that staff and students are aware of the University’s academic standards, and to provide advice on how they might uphold them. You can find Monash’s Education Policies at: http://policy.monash.edu.au/policy-bank/academic/education/index.html

Key educational policies include:

- Plagiarism (http://www.policy.monash.edu/policy-bank/academic/education/conduct/plagiarism-policy.html)
- Special Consideration (http://www.policy.monash.edu/policy-bank/academic/education/assessment/special-consideration-policy.html)
- Grading Scale (http://www.policy.monash.edu/policy-bank/academic/education/assessment/grading-scale-policy.html)
- Discipline: Student Policy (http://www.policy.monash.edu/policy-bank/academic/education/conduct/student-discipline-policy.html)
- Academic Calendar and Semesters (http://www.monash.edu.au/students/key-dates/)
- Orientation and Transition (http://www.infotech.monash.edu.au/resources/student/orientation/); and
- Codes of Practice for Teaching and Learning (http://www.policy.monash.edu/policy-bank/academic/education/conduct/suppdocs/code-of-practice-teaching-and-learning.html)

Student services

The University provides many different kinds of support services for you. Contact your tutor if you need advice and see the range of services available at www.monash.edu.au/students. For Sunway see http://www.monash.edu.my/Student-services, and for South Africa see http://www.monash.ac.za/current/.

The Monash University Library provides a range of services and resources that enable you to save time and be more effective in your learning and research. Go to http://www.lib.monash.edu.au or the library tab in my.monash portal for more information. At Sunway, visit the Library and Learning Commons at http://www.lib.monash.edu.my/. At South Africa visit http://www.lib.monash.ac.za/.

Academic support services may be available for students who have a disability or medical condition. Registration with the Disability Liaison Unit is required. Further information is available as follows:

- Website: http://monash.edu/equity-diversity/disability/index.html;
- Email: dlu@monash.edu
- Drop In: Equity and Diversity Centre, Level 1 Gallery Building (Building 55), Monash University, Clayton Campus, or Student Community Services Department, Level 2, Building 2, Monash University, Sunway Campus
- Telephone: 03 9905 5704, or contact the Student Advisor, Student Community Services at 03 55146018 at Sunway
Reading list

PRESCRIBED TEXT

Mark Allen Weiss:
Data Structures and Algorithm Analysis in Java. 3rd ed
Pearson.

ADDITIONAL READING

Michael Goodrich and Roberto Tamassia.
Data Structures and Algorithms in Java, 3rd ed
John Wiley.

Thomas H. Cormen, Charles E. Leiserson, Ronald L. Rivest, Clifford Stein. Introduction to Algorithms,

http://www.cs.williams.edu/~bailey/JavaStructures/Welcome.html