Quiz 2 Information

Quiz 2 is a take-home examination that tests all the material covered from the beginning of the term through April 22, including lectures, recitations, all of the reading assigned during this period, and all problem sets. The exam emphasizes the design of algorithms, as opposed to simply the mastery of basic material. To do well on the exam, you must be both knowledgeable and clever.

The quiz should take you about 10–12 hours, but you will have 4 days to do it. Do not spend more than 15 hours on the exam. The more efficient your (correct) algorithm is, the better your grade will be. Also, the more concise and simple your solution is, the better your grade will be. Bonus points will be awarded for especially clever and elegant answers. You may find the exam hard, but it will be fun.

Mandatory attendance: You must attend class on Monday, April 25 to obtain your copy of the exam and receive oral instructions on taking the exam. Students not attending class that day will be marked absent on the exam.

Due date: The exam must be returned between 9:00 A.M. and 11:00 A.M. on Friday, April 29, in the stata lobby outside 32-123. No exams will be accepted after 11:00 A.M., so do not be late. If you wish to return your exam earlier, then you should make specific arrangements with your TA in advance.

Policy: The quiz is open book, but collaboration of any kind whatsoever is prohibited. Specifically, you may not communicate with any person about any aspect of the exam until after the hand-in deadline, even if you have already handed in your exam. You may use your notes from the course and the textbook, but you may not use any other sources. Specifically, you may not use notes or problem solutions from earlier times that this course or related courses were taught. You may however collaborate to prepare for the quiz BEFORE it is handed out.

Class schedule: There will be no lecture on Wednesday, April 27. You are encouraged to use this time to work on the quiz. There are no recitations on Friday, April 29, but don’t forget to hand in your quiz on Friday morning.

Bugs, etc.: Any bug reports will be sent out over the 6.046 class email list and posted on the class website. A test message will be sent on Friday, April 22, to make sure that everyone is on the list. If you do not receive that message, then you are not on the list. In this case, please let the staff (6046-staff@theory.csail.mit.edu) know your email address immediately.