

Thanks to Kedar Bellare for scribing these assignment specs from my lecture.

1. Here is Prolog code for quicksort:

```
qsort([], []).
qsort([X|Y], Z) :- partition(X, Y, Y1, Y2),
                  qsort(Y1, Z1), qsort(Y2, Z2),
                  append(Z1, [X|Z2], Z).

append([], W, W).
append([A|B], W, [A|V]) :- append(B, W, V).

partition(_, [], [], []). (*)
partition(X, [A|B], [A|Y1], Y2) :- A < X, partition(X, B, Y1, Y2).
partition(X, [A|B], Y1, [A|Y2]) :- A >= X, partition(X, B, Y1, Y2).
```

- (a) In the line marked (*), what is ‘_’? Can we use a free variable instead of ‘_’?
- (b) Is the above program reversible, i.e., on giving an unsorted list as the first argument it binds the second argument to a sorted list, but on giving a sorted list as the second argument does it bind the first argument to all possible permutations of the elements? If not, explain why not.
- (c) Implement quicksort in a different manner which does show reversible input-output behavior.

2. Here is Prolog code to generate all permutations of a set of items:

```
remove(X, [X|Xs], Xs).
remove(X, [Y|Ys], [Y|Zs]) :- remove(X, Ys, Zs).

permute(Xs, Ys) :- mystery(Xs, Ys, Ys).

mystery([], [], []).
mystery([X|Xs], Ys1, [_|Zs]) :- mystery(Xs, Ys, Zs), remove(X, Ys1, Ys).
```

- (a) Consider only the two rules for `remove`. What happens if there are multiple occurrences of an item in a list? Are all the occurrences of the item removed at once or are the lists outputted with X removed one at a time and the others intact?
- (b) Explain clearly what `mystery` is meant to do.