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15-121 Fall 2018 Quiz 7

Up to 20 minutes. No calculators, no notes, no books, no computers. Show your work!
There are questions on *both sides* of this paper.

1. Short Answer

(a) (2 points) What does it mean for a sort to be stable?

(b) (2 points) Describe what specifically about the selection sort algorithm makes it stable. (In other words, why is selection sort stable?)

(c) (4 points) Assume I am building a simple calculator that has the following behavior. When I see an integer, I push its value onto a stack. When I see an operator (+, -, *, /), I pop the stack once, and store the result in a variable called `op2`. I then pop the stack a second time, and store the result in a variable called `op1`; I then perform the arithmetic operation specified by that operator (`op1 operator op2`) and push the result of that operation back onto the stack.

For example, if I entered `7 2 -`, `peek()` would return 5 since 7 would be pushed onto the stack, then 2, and then the `-` would cause 2 to be popped and stored in `op2`, 7 to be popped and stored in `op1`, and the result of `7-2`, which is 5, would be pushed onto the stack.

Tell me what value is returned by `peek()` after the following sequence of values is processed. Write your final answer in the box, but show you work in the empty space next to the box.

`16 4 / 5 * 5 -`

2. Free Response

Consider a linked list similar to that of Homework 5. Assume the following things are true about the list implementation:

- The list has both a `head` and a `tail` pointer.
- The `ListNode` has a `next` pointer and a `data` pointer. The `data` pointer is a `DataType` that implements `Comparable<DataType>`. (This means that the `DataType` has a `compareTo` method.)
- The methods `add(DataType value)` and `remove(DataType value)` are already implemented properly.
- The following method is also included:

```
public void sortList() {
    MyList<DataType> newList = new MyList<DataType>();

    DataType tmp = this.findMin();
    while (tmp != null) {
        this.remove(tmp);
        newList.add(tmp);
        tmp = this.findMin();
    }

    this.head = newList.head;
    this.last = newList.last;
}
```

- (a) (10 points) Write the private helper function `findMin()` that returns the minimum value in the linked list or returns `null` if no such value exists.

- (b) (2 points) Assuming your answer to part (a) works, what is the big-oh efficiency of `sortList()`?