

Recitation Session, Sept 27 2017

**Please do not write on this sheet of paper
And do not use laptops during the session**

We will work on tail recursion in this session.

Exercise 1: Factorial

Recall the factorial function that you saw in class

```
def factorial(n: Int): Int = if (n <= 0) 1 else n * factorial(n - 1)
```

Define a tail recursive version of it

```
def factorial(n: Int): Int = fact(n, 1)
@tailrec
def fact(n: Int, acc: Int): Int = ???
```

What would be the advantage of making fact an inner function to factorial?

Exercise 2: Sum of elements on a list

Define a function that takes a list of integers and sums them. You can use the functions head, tail, and isEmpty on lists, as you have seen for your homework.

```
def sumList(ls: List[Int]): Int = ???
```

Convert your definition into a tail-recursive one.

Exercise 3: Fast exponentiation

Fast exponentiation is a technique to optimize the exponentiation of numbers:

$$b^{2n} = (b^2)^n = (b^n)^2$$

$$b^{2n+1} = b * b^{2n}$$

Define a function that implements this fast exponentiation. Can you define a tail recursive version as well?

```
def fastExp(base: Int, exp: Int): Int = ???
```

Exercise 4: Tail recursive Fibonacci

Define a function that computes the nth Fibonacci number. Can you define a tail recursive version as well? The Fibonacci recurrence is given as follows:

$$\text{fib}(n) = 1 \mid n = 0, 1$$

$$\text{fib}(n) = \text{fib}(n - 1) + \text{fib}(n - 2) \mid \text{otherwise}$$

```
def fibonacci(n: Int): Int = ???
```