

# Problem Set 0

## Setting up for the Course

AM121/ES121 — Fall 2016

Due 5:00 PM, Tuesday, September 6, 2016

### 1 Setting up for AM121/ES121

Welcome! The tasks in this assignment will set you up for the course. You will not be graded for this assignment and there's nothing to turn in. **There is also a sectioning form to complete by Thursday, September 8.** We will start with Piazza, which is one of the most important resources in this course for keeping you informed and on track.

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#### Setup Task 1

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**Start using Piazza.**

1. Go to the AM121/ES121 class page on Piazza and post your first question or note. Write up something very short— share with the class an interesting Optimization article, or ask the course staff and other students some relevant question such as “Why did you decide to take AM121/ES121?”. Now, label your post with the relevant “tag”. Drag the “pset0” tag onto your question or note. Look at the other tags to see if there is another that also describes your post. For example if your question is about office hours, tag your post with “office\_hrs”. If you posted an interesting Optimization article, tag your post with “interesting”. You should always tag your posts.

The course staff will respond to your question or note next time one of us checks Piazza. Other students may also respond, unless you make your post “private” i.e. share it only with instructors.

2. Now you will make a comment on someone else's post in Piazza. Look through other students' posts, either by clicking on a post in the left sidebar, or by clicking a tag such as “pset0” at the top of the page to find a post that has used this tag. This is another chance to experiment! “Like” someone's post by clicking “Good question” (if it really is). Start a followup discussion and reply with your answer. Test out some  $\LaTeX$  code by using the math environment symbols; for example, the code  $\$$(\sum_{i=1}^5 x_i) + y$  will produce  $(\sum_{i=1}^5 x_i) + y$  as output.

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#### End Task 1

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Please also take note of the anonymous feedback form on the course website. Feel free to use this to provide any comments or suggestions to the course staff at any time.

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#### Setup Task 2

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**Setup AMPL on your computer.** Follow the Piazza posts to set up AMPL and the corresponding optimization solvers on your computer. You will need to use AMPL for assignment 1. It is convenient but not necessary to get AMPL to run from any directory of your computer.

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#### End Task 2

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**Setup Task 3**

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**Complete the online sectioning form.** An online sectioning form will be available on Piazza by Tuesday, September 6. Please ensure you submit it by Thursday, September 8! Section assignments will be published soon after that.

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**End Task 3**

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## Turning in your assignment

All of the problem sets in AM121/ES121 will have a “Final task” that summarizes what you should submit to the course staff. Follow the directions below to submit your first assignment. **(In this case, there’s nothing to turn in!)**

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**Final Task 4**

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You must finish tasks 1 and 2 by 5:00 PM, Tuesday, September 6, 2016 and task 3 by Thursday, September 8 2016.

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**End Task 4**

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