1 Introduction

The final month of the course will be spent working in small groups on a final project. After next Tuesday, both Tuesdays and Thursdays will be spent in the lab.

2 Requirements

You may work in groups of up to 4 people; you are strongly discouraged from working alone. The scope of this project is too big for one person.

You will come up with a project that sufficiently interests you, and will have approximately a month to work on it.

Start thinking about what lab projects this semester have interested you the most; one option is to write a significantly more sophisticated version of one of these. For example:

- You could do an econometric simulation involving buyers and sellers.
- You could write a graphical version of a Blackjack game using the Shoes graphical toolkit (this would require working primarily on a Mac or Windows system, as our Linux machines won’t run Shoes, even though it’s available for some versions of Linux).
- Also using Shoes, you could write a graphical Tamagotchi, with buttons corresponding to actions and a display of the state of your pet.
- You could solve a fun algorithmic problem such as the Towers of Hanoi, or a sorting algorithm, with a textual representation of the towers and discs or the things being sorted.
• You could take the *Simian Similarity* assignment further in a way you find interesting:

  – try to overcome the limitation that we were looking only at *proteins* which correspond to *genes*. What about introns?

  – Look at several different species and come up with some overall measure of pairwise similarity, and come up with a representation of a *phylogenetic tree*

This project will be due at the end of the semester; I will hand out a formal handout on Thursday.