

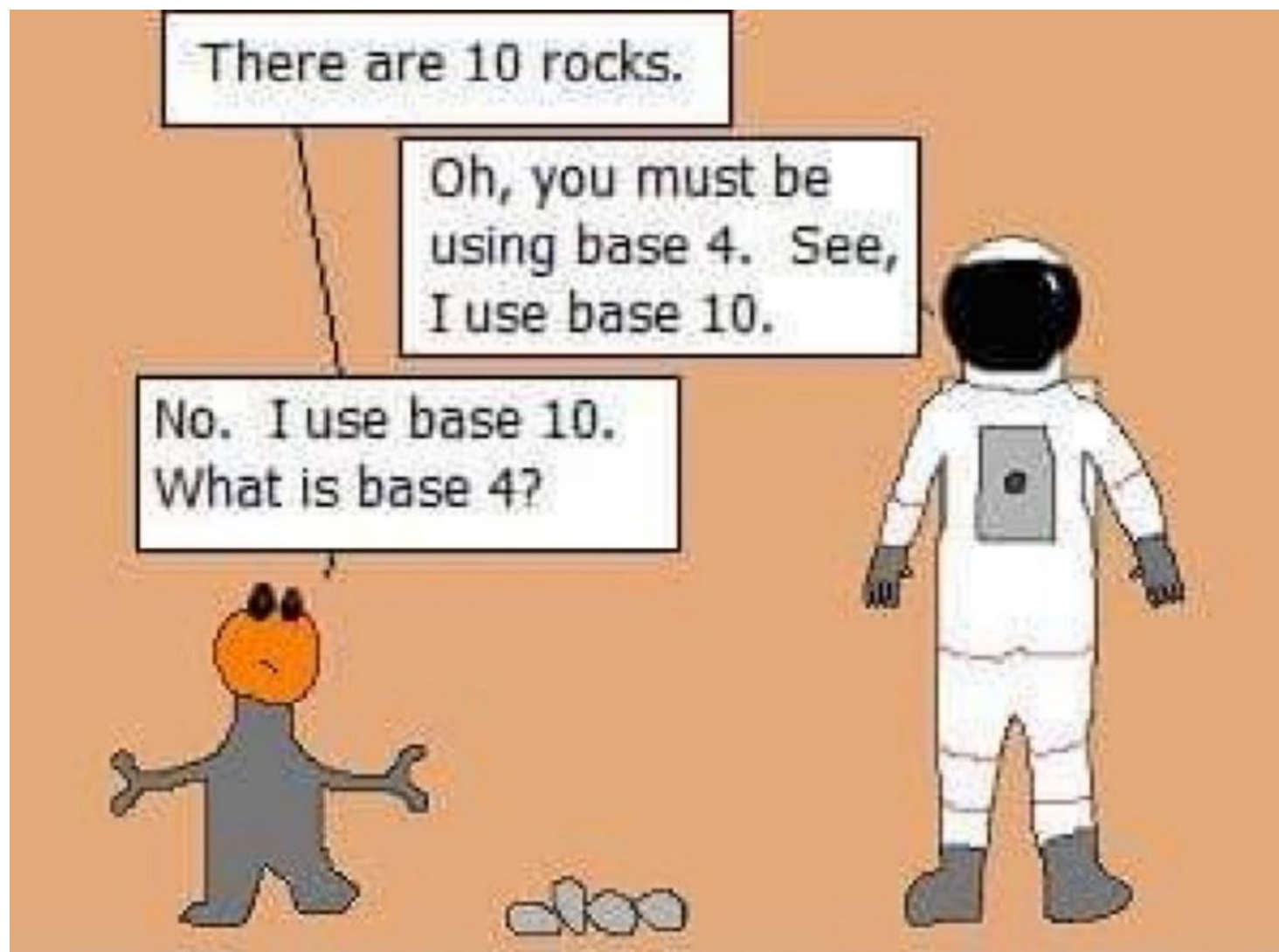
EECS 498 System Design of a Search Engine

Winter 2026

Lab 1: Speed dating

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Every base is base 10.

agenda

1. Administrivia
2. What we'll do in the labs
3. Finish up yesterday's lecture.
4. Speed dating

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administrivia

The autograder tests of the performance of MostPositiveSubsequence and of a sample output from BestSequence were accidentally set private. They are now public.

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what we'll do here

Think of this as grown-up study hall.

The purpose is for a team meeting.

Everyone on a team has to be in the same section.

No one is supposed to have any schedule conflicts.

So, everyone is supposed to be able to meet for 2 hours.

You'll also get help and periodic checkins with the staff.

Most of W25, I just played music while the teams worked.

Occasionally, we'll have actual content, e.g., overflow from lectures or tutorial material explaining an assignment.

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speed dating

You need to find teammates and do it quickly.

The difference between on a strong team versus a weak team is the difference between an A and a B.

So, it matters who you pick for your team.

Today, we do speed-dating.

1. Break up in small groups of 3 or 4 for a short 5-to-10-minute discussion.
2. Collect some results.
3. Form new groups with people you haven't met yet and repeat.

What would you like to know about someone to know if they're a good match?

We need a cartoon mascot for a class tee shirt. What animal should it be?

Are there ways you might use AI ethically and productively in a class like this?

How could you decide whether a link is worth crawling or a page is worth indexing?

When you look at search result, how do you decide whether it's a good match?

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If you distribute your engine across a lot of machines, should it have a master?

What do you think will be the hardest part of building the engine?