• “Challenge problems” are designed to have little (but some) impact on your grade whether you do them or not.

• Challenge problems provide an opportunity to work on something interesting and optional.

• Challenge problems will typically allow you to get 2–5% of additional credit on an assignment, yet they will typically be much more difficult than this credit amount suggests.

• You should not attempt a challenge problem until you have finished the rest of an assignment. The graders may ignore challenge problems on homeworks that are not at least “almost perfect” otherwise.

• Challenge problems may be less carefully specified and less carefully calibrated for how difficult/time-consuming they are.