Math 155, Vese. **Homework # 1**. Due on Wednesday, January 14

[1] Reducing the Number of Gray Levels in an Image
(a) Write a computer program capable of reducing the number of gray levels in an image from 256 to 2, in integer powers of 2. The desired number of gray levels needs to be a variable input to your program.
(b) Download Fig. 2.21(a) and duplicate the results shown in Fig. 2.21 of the book.

[2] (a) Give a continuous function for implementing the contrast stretching transformation shown in Fig. 3.2(a). In addition to k, your function must include a parameter, E, for controlling the slope of the function as it transitions from low to high gray-level values. Your function should be normalized (between 0 and 1 or 0 and 255).
(b) Sketch (plot) a family of transformations function of E, for a fixed value $k = L/2$, where L is the number of gray levels in the image. Include the transformation that will output a binary image.

[3] Suppose that a digital image is subjected to histogram equalization. Show that a second pass of histogram equalization will produce exactly the same result as the first pass.

[4] (a) Write a computer program for computing the histogram of an image.
(b) Implement the histogram equalization technique discussed in the class and in Section 3.3.1 of the textbook.
(c) Download Fig. 3.8(a) and perform histogram equalization on it (the MRI of a fractured human spine).
As a minimum, your project solution should include the original image, a plot of its histogram, a plot of the histogram-equalization transformation function, the enhanced image, and a plot of its histogram. Use this information to explain why the resulting image was enhanced as it was.

[5] In some applications it is useful to model the histogram of input images as Gaussian probability density functions of the form

$$p_r(r) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} e^{-\frac{(r-m)^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$

where m and σ are the mean and standard deviation of the Gaussian PDF. The approach is to let m and σ be measures of average intensity and contrast of a given image. What is the tranformation function you would use for histogram equalization ?