1998 Paper 1 Question 1

Foundations of Computer Science

Code the function least(n,xs), which returns the least n elements of the list xs of real numbers. The result does not have to be sorted. You may assume $n \leq \text{length}(xs)$.

[Hint: Function least is a simple modification of quicksort. A solution that works by sorting the entire list will receive little credit. You may take the function length as given.]

[10 marks]