Algorithms for Programming Contests - Week -1

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(People whose participation is not yet public)
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1. Juli 2020
General Concept

- Theoretical background about several concepts and algorithms.
- Implementing algorithms is a useful skill, for CS research, other research, software development... sometimes for hobbies.
- Contest-format algorithm implementation practical course.
The Problem Sets

- Available on the course homepage, accessible with password only (you can also see the current tasks in the contest system — zip file of sample inputs only available on the course page).
- Usually, five problems per week:
  - two easy (4 Points each),
  - two medium (6 Points each),
  - one hard (8 Points).
- Each week’s problems are (mostly) about the topics, algorithms and concepts from that week’s lecture.
- There will be hints in the lectures.

Have a Problem with a Problem?

Should difficulties arise: Ask questions! Write a clarification request! (Coming to our offices might be allowed if Bavaria and TUM relax rules)
Your final grade will be determined by how many points you earned, as well as an oral part at the end of the semester. The oral part will account for no more than 40% of the grade.

The (tentative) key for grading the problems is the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>≥ 90%</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>≥ 85%</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>≥ 80%</td>
<td>1.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>≥ 75%</td>
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<tr>
<td>≥ 70%</td>
<td>2.3</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>3.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>≥ 50%</td>
<td>3.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>≥ 40%</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Topics (preliminary list)

1. Introduction
2. Data Structures (UF, Binary Search, Graphs)
3. Graphs, Minimum Spanning Trees, DFS, BFS
4. Shortest Paths
5. Maximum Flows
6. Brute Force / Backtracking
7. Greedy
8. Dynamic Programming
9. Geometry
10. Number Theory
11. Trees
12. Contest
13. Conclusion
Official DOMjudge System

- In use for programming contests such as the GCPC or the ICPC.
- On the web:

**TUMjudge**

https://judge.in.tum.de/conpra/
Registration

• Registration necessary.

Welcome to TUMjudge!
If you already have an account please choose a contest to participate.

Registration
Please fill in the following form to create an account for you. If you are a student at TUM your login should be the login you use in the computer labs. For instance, use "test" if you have the mail address test@in.tum.de. The password to login is the same as in the computer labs.

Affiliation

TU Münchon

Category

Students
Problem structure

A problem consists of several parts:

- name, abbreviation, difficulty,
- problem author,
- problem statement,
- input format specification,
- output format specification,
- constraints,
- sample input and output.
Submitting programs

Submitting program is done on the TUMjudge web interface entirely.

- No files to be sent via e-mail etc.
- Only source code files are uploaded, no .class files or similar.

Submit

- Choose files to be uploaded by Drag-and-Drop or in the menu “Choose Files”,
- Choose problem,
- Choose language (unless already chosen automatically),
- “submit”,
- F5, F5, F5, F5, . . . (the page actually reloads automatically)
The TUMjudge
• compiles,
• executes,
• tests
the submission against several test cases. As long as the TUMjudge is working on a submission, the submission’s status is “PENDING”. The submission is treated instantaneously and the TUMjudge (usually) announces its verdict within a few moments.
Judging

The following verdicts can occur:

**CORRECT**
The submission successfully solved all the test cases.

**COMPILER-ERROR**
The submission could not be compiled. The exact error message can be seen on the submission’s detail page.

**NO-OUTPUT**
The submission does not produce any output. Be sure to output to “standard out”.
Judging

**TIMELIMIT**

The submission runs longer than the maximal allowed time and was terminated.
Possible reasons:

- The submission runs in an endless loop.
- The submission is not efficient enough.

**RUN-ERROR**

An error occurred during the submission’s execution.
Possible reasons:

- Division by 0.
- Incorrectly addressing memory locations, e.g. ArrayIndexOutOfBoundsException.
- Using more memory than the allowed memory limit.
Judging

WRONG-ANSWER

The submission's output is incorrect.
Possible reasons:

• The answer is just wrong.
• The answer does not conform to the output format specification given on the problem set.
• The answer is not exact enough (e.g. with floating point answers with a desired precision).

TOO-LATE

The program was submitted after the submission deadline. It is stored in the system, but no longer processed.
Different background colors indicate different outcomes:

- **Problem solved.**
- **Problem solved first.**
- **Incorrect submission(s).**
- **Submission in pending status.**
- **No submissions.**

### Scoreboard Algorithms for Programming Contests SS2015 - Week 10

#### Final standings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RANK</th>
<th>TEAM</th>
<th>SCORE</th>
<th>A (1/120)</th>
<th>B (1/120)</th>
<th>C (1/120)</th>
<th>D (1/120)</th>
<th>E (1/120)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Jens Werner</td>
<td>3408</td>
<td>1/68</td>
<td>1/111</td>
<td>1/126</td>
<td>3/362</td>
<td>3/421</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Thomas Tang</td>
<td>5000</td>
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<td>5/0</td>
<td>1/0</td>
<td>1/114</td>
<td>1/101</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Markus Hasenbichler</td>
<td>7251</td>
<td>1/0</td>
<td>1/0</td>
<td>1/0</td>
<td>5/1242</td>
<td>1/126</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Karl Kraus</td>
<td>3401</td>
<td>1/0</td>
<td>5/880</td>
<td>1/6</td>
<td>1/32</td>
<td>1/47</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Michael Schreier</td>
<td>13440</td>
<td>1/0</td>
<td>1/0</td>
<td>13/55</td>
<td>9/1106</td>
<td>1/27</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Philip Secher</td>
<td>19229</td>
<td>1/206</td>
<td>1/245</td>
<td>1/269</td>
<td>7/9997</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Christian Bulten</td>
<td>20627</td>
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<td>5/565</td>
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<td>Hamidreza Rizoli</td>
<td>25240</td>
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<td>25/5682</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Rob Cookhart</td>
<td>28218</td>
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<td>Anjum Pervez</td>
<td>29270</td>
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<td>2/985</td>
<td>1/905</td>
<td>5/6285</td>
<td>1/666</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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[Image of the scoreboard page is shown]
Order (tie-breakers):

1. number of solved problems,

2. score:
   - per problem: (number of incorrect submissions) \( \times \) (penalty time) + (time for the first correct submission),
   - penalty time = 600, i.e., 10 hours,
   - e.g. \( 3/1820 \) indicates: the problem was solved with 3 submissions, with a total penalty time of 1820.

You can submit any number of times to solve a problem!

Each week’s score itself (apart from the number of problem solved) does not change the grading at the end of the semester, it only affects the position in the scoreboard of that week.
Anybody who does not want to be seen in the public scoreboard, must choose the invisibility option during the registration (in “Category”).
Clarifications

• Messages to the system administrators, i.e., the teaching assistants and/or tutors.
• Sent via the “request clarification” form on the overview page.
• Used for questions about the problems or about the system in general.
• Please choose a subject accordingly: either “general” or the specific problem.
• Depending on the actual question, the answer is only visible to the persons who sent the question, or it is published to all users of the system.
• The answer (along with the question) can be seen on the right side on the overview page.
• Can ask what is wrong with your solution, then get full points after fixing the problems.
Clarifications

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final standings

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<th>D score</th>
<th>E score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Stefan Toman</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1/0</td>
<td>1/0</td>
<td>1/0</td>
<td>1/662</td>
<td>1/0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Clarifications

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>time</th>
<th>from to</th>
<th>subject</th>
<th>text</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09.07.2015</td>
<td>Jury</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>Dear students, here is the link to Karls website for drawing the fractals. ...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02.07.2015</td>
<td>Jury</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>Dear students, please remember that we are looking forward to get your great ...</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Clarity Requests

No clarification requests.
Sometimes you want to discuss with other students instead of sending clarification requests. Please discuss problem statements, corner cases, algorithms and approaches. The code should be your own.

You are welcome to use the forum instance with a subsection dedicated to the course.
You are welcome to discuss and post test cases if you want to.
(But please do not post and do not ask for code snippets)
Understanding Problems

• Read the problem statement very carefully.
• Also the constraints, think about special cases:
  • E.g. if there are negative values or 0 allowed, then there is probably a test case for that.
  • E.g. special characters or a space when dealing with strings.
  • ...

Solving Problems

- Code efficiently.
  - Think about which data types to use.
  - Sometimes arrays might not have to be two- or three-dimensional.
  - Sometimes objects add runtime overhead without making code clearer.
  - Implement algorithms given in the lecture with their amortized running times.
- Look carefully at the input and output specifications and let your program be conform to those!
- Remove all debug messages before submitting.
- Write comments!
Hints for Solving Problems

Code from the Internet

- You are allowed to download and include a library, but you need to cite the correct source.
- Do this by putting a comment in your code stating the url or similar.
- Including other people’s published code without a reference, or using other students’ code, is a rule violation.
- However, we advise you to code on your own as it improves the understanding about the algorithms involved. You probably need this in subsequent problems anyway.
Half Points

If the judge does not accept your solution but you are sure you solved it correctly, use the “request clarification” option. In your request include:

- the name of the problem (by selecting it in the subject field),
- a verbose description of your approach to solve the problem,
- the time you submitted the solution we should judge.

We will check your submission and award you half the points if there is only a minor flaw in your code.

We might use submissions from half-point requests (anonymised) as realistic examples of subtle problems in the lectures and debugging demo sessions.

(Doesn’t always work out)
Languages

- C++, Java — supported since forever
- Python3 — PyPy3, apparently sufficient for all problems Might require more careful implementation than C++/Java
- Julia — seems to work, and experimental
Registration

We want to select the students who will complete the course... Please show you can do simple problems algorithms... we will talk about them

Equal annoyance for local and exchange students:
    SPOJ as a neutral platform
No need to give real name to SPOJ

Procedure on course web page:
https://www7.in.tum.de/um/courses/praktika/conpra/WS20/