

Statement

Problem A: Circular Search

In this problem, you have to interactively find the secret point by covering the plane with circles.

Large Circles

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Very large circles with very far centers act like half-planes.

Out-of-the-box trick:

Circle at $(-10^9 + c, -1)$ with radius 10^9 acts like a half-plane $x < c$.

Circle at $(-1, -10^9 + c)$ with radius 10^9 acts like a half-plane $y < c$.

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Solve by finding coordinates x and y independently.

Number of questions: $2 \cdot \lceil \log_2 10\,001 \rceil = 28$.

Statement

Problem B: Coindays Destroyed

In this problem, you have to simulate transfers between addresses and calculate destroyed potentials.

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Address is a string, record is a pair.

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Store them as a stack of pairs (*moment*, *amount*).

The whole data structure is map <address, stack <record> >.
Address is a string, record is a pair.

Transfer: we want amount c at time t .

We have record (*moment*, *amount*) on top of the stack.

We use $u = \min(\textit{amount}, c)$ coins.

We destroy $u \cdot (c - \textit{moment})$ coinseconds.

Now we want amount $c - u$ at time t .

Complexity

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The first k transfers create k records.

And use at most $2k$ records.

Implementation

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Initially, address 00000000 has an infinite amount.

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Careful with floating point!

$1 - 0.1 - 0.2 - 0.3 - 0.4$ is likely not zero.

Statement

Problem C: Edit Program

In this problem, you have to find out whether edit distance between two n -digit binary strings is n .

Case Analysis

In this problem, you have to find out whether edit distance between two n -digit binary strings is n .

Case 1: $s \neq \text{invert}(t)$

Just use n “.” and “^” steps. Example:

$s = 01100$

$t = 11010$

$p = \hat{\cdot} \hat{\cdot} \hat{\cdot}$

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Case 2: $s = 00000$, $t = 11111$ (example)

Nothing can be done.

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Case 3: $s = 00011$, $t = 11100$ (example)

Nothing can be done.

Case Analysis

In this problem, you have to find out whether edit distance between two n -digit binary strings is n .

Case 4: $s = 011110$, $t = 100001$ (example)

0 1 1 1 1 0	(x)
1 1 1 1 0	(.)
1 1 1 1 0	(^)
1 0 1 1 0	(^)
1 0 0 1 0	(^)
1 0 0 0 0	(.)
1 0 0 0 0	(1)
1 0 0 0 0 1	

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1 1 1 1 0	(^)
1 0 1 1 0	(^)
1 0 0 1 0	(^)
1 0 0 0 0	(.)
1 0 0 0 0	(1)
1 0 0 0 0 1	

We can just find any one such substring, and “^” all other digits.

Statement

Problem D: Faulty Keyboard

In this problem, given a large text offline and a small piece of it as a test, you have to find which letter disappeared around half of the time.

Letter Frequencies

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Idea 1: use frequencies of letters!

$$f(a) = 0.08167, f(b) = 0.01492, f(c) = 0.02782, \dots$$

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Hard letters: JQXZ.

Statistics: the minimum number of occurrences in 100 000 consecutive bytes of text (hardest tests) are 27 for “j” and “z”, 37 for “q”, 77 for “x”, 255 for “k”, > 500 for other letters.

Words and Non-Words

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Memoize all words from the text. For each word: try removing one letter of the alphabet in every possible way. We got a list of possible non-words.

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Good non-words are the ones which we got in a unique way.

For each of the 26 letters, store ≤ 500 random good non-words as data in the solution ($\approx 130\,000$ bytes).

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Solution:

When we see a good non-word we know, we immediately know the missing letter.

Other Ideas

In this problem, given a large text offline and a small piece of it as a test, you have to find which letter disappeared around half of the time.

Idea 3: (insert your idea here)

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Problem E: Free Roman Numerals

In this problem, you have to transform decimal numbers into free Roman numerals and back.

Parsing — Right to Left

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$$f(\text{XIIVL}) = L - f(\text{XIIV})$$

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$$f(\text{XIIIVL}) = \text{L} - f(\text{XIIIV})$$

$$f(\text{XIIIV}) = \text{V} - f(\text{II}) + f(\text{X})$$

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$$f(\text{XIIIVL}) = \text{L} - f(\text{XIIIV})$$

$$f(\text{XIIIV}) = \text{V} - f(\text{II}) + f(\text{X})$$

$$f(\text{II}) = \text{I} + f(\text{I})$$

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$$f(\text{II}) = \text{I} + f(\text{I})$$

$$f(\text{I}) = \text{I}$$

Subproblems — Optimality

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Add: XXXII is shortest \Rightarrow XXXI is shortest

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Add: XXXII is shortest \Rightarrow XXXI is shortest

Subtract: IIXXL is shortest \Rightarrow IIXX is shortest

Each shortest expression is constructed by adding one Roman digit to the right of some smaller Roman numeral.

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Problem F: Known Problem

In this problem, you have to interactively find the sum of 100 000 000 pseudorandom integers.

Guess the Seed

In this problem, you have to interactively find the sum of 100 000 000 pseudorandom integers.

The first x is 5. There are 2148 possibilities for s :
5, 1 000 005, 2 000 005, ..., 2 147 000 005.

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The first x is 5. There are 2148 possibilities for s :
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The second x is 327 695. Now, there are only two possibilities for s :
327 695 and 1 536 327 695.

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327 695 and 1 536 327 695.

The third x is 966 125. Only one possible s left: 1 966 125.

From now on, we can construct all the following values of x without asking anything!

How Long until Unique

In this problem, you have to interactively find the sum of 100 000 000 pseudorandom integers.

How many times do we have to ask?

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Detail: remember that s can be zero (the whole sum is zero then).

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Problem G: K-th Bishop Covering

In this problem, you have to find the lexicographically k -th minimal covering of an $n \times n$ chessboard by bishops.

General Notes

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Consider the squares in natural order.

For selected color, and part of the board already considered and finalized, find a way to count the number of remaining configurations in polynomial time.

Case 1: Easy

In this problem, you have to find the lexicographically k -th minimal covering of an $n \times n$ chessboard by bishops.

Easy case: odd board, one color.

```

0.0.0.0
 .0.X.0.
0.X.X.0
 .X.X.X.
0.X.X.0
/.0.X.0.\
/ 0.0.0.0 \
// // \ \ \
// // \ \
// // \ \

```

Example: $n = 7$.

Three bishops are enough.

The two $r - c$ corners are covered if each of the three $r - c$ diagonals (/) is covered.

The two $r + c$ corners are covered if each of the three $r + c$ diagonals (\) is covered.

Case 2: Medium

In this problem, you have to find the lexicographically k -th minimal covering of an $n \times n$ chessboard by bishops.

Medium case: even board, any color.

0.0.0.0.

.0.X.0.0

0.X.X.0.

.X.X.X.0

0.X.X.X.

/ .0.X.X.0

/ 0.0.X.0.\

/ /.0.0.0.0 \

// / \ \ \

// / \ \

// \ \

Example: $n = 8$.

Four bishops are enough.

The two $r - c$ corners are covered if each of the four $r - c$ diagonals (/) is covered.

The two $r + c$ corners are covered if each of the three $r + c$ diagonals (\) is covered.

One bishop can freely choose its $r + c$ position!

Case 3: Hard

In this problem, you have to find the lexicographically k -th minimal covering of an $n \times n$ chessboard by bishops.

```
.0.0.0.
```

```
0.0.X.0
```

```
.0.X.X.
```

```
0.X.X.0
```

```
.X.X.0.\
```

```
0.X.0.0 \
```

```
/.0.0.0.\ \
```

```
/ / \ \ \
```

```
/ / \ \ \
```

```
/ \ \
```

Example: $n = 7$.

Four bishops are enough.

The two $r - c$ corners are covered if each of the two $r - c$ diagonals (/) is covered.

The two $r + c$ corners are covered if each of the four $r + c$ diagonals (\) is covered.

Two bishops can freely choose their $r - c$ positions!

Case 3: Hard

In this problem, you have to find the lexicographically k -th minimal covering of an $n \times n$ chessboard by bishops.

```

0.0.0.0.0
 .0.X.0.0.
0.X.X.0.0
 .X.X.X.0.
0.X.X.X.0
/.0.X.X.X.
/ 0.0.X.X.0
/ /.0.0.X.0.\
/ 0.0.0.0.0 \
/ / / / \ \ \
/ / / \ \
/ / / \ \

```

Example: $n = 9$.

Five bishops are enough.

The two $r - c$ corners are covered if each of the five $r - c$ diagonals (/) is covered.

The two $r + c$ corners are covered if each of the three $r + c$ diagonals (\) is covered.

Two bishops can freely choose their $r - c$ positions!

Case 3: Hard

In this problem, you have to find the lexicographically k -th minimal covering of an $n \times n$ chessboard by bishops.

```

- . - . - . - . -
. - . - . - . -
- . + . - . - . -
. 0 . S . C . S .
0 . C . S . C . S
/ . S . C . S . C .
/ / S . S . C . S . 0
/ / / . S . S . C . 0 \
+ / / S . S . S . 0 . 0 \
/ / / / \ \ \ \ \
- / / / \ \ \ -
/ / / \ \ \
- - - - - +

```

Example: $n = 9$, $free = 2$

C are common squares which contribute to both their diagonals.

S are special squares which contribute only to the essential (five) diagonals.

We select a position for a free bishop in S, or a position for a common bishop in C.

Case 3: Hard

In this problem, you have to find the lexicographically k -th minimal covering of an $n \times n$ chessboard by bishops.

-. - . - . - . -	$f(\text{pos}) =$	
. - . - . - . -	$3 \cdot 4 \cdot 2 \cdot 1 +$	(SSCC)
- . + . - . - . -	$3 \cdot 2 \cdot 5 \cdot 1 +$	(SCSC)
. 0 . S . C . S .	$3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1 \cdot 5 +$	(SCCS)
0 . C . S . C . S	$1 \cdot 5 \cdot 5 \cdot 1 +$	(CSSC)
/ . S . C . S . C .	$1 \cdot 5 \cdot 1 \cdot 5 +$	(CSCS)
/ S . S . C . S . 0	$1 \cdot 1 \cdot 6 \cdot 5 =$	(CCSS)
/ / . S . S . C . 0 \	$24 + 30 + 30 + 25 + 25 + 30 =$	164.
+ / S . S . S . 0 . 0 \		
/ / / / \ \ \ \ \		
- / / / \ \ \ -		
/ / / \ \ \		
- - - - +		

Case 3: Hard

In this problem, you have to find the lexicographically k -th minimal covering of an $n \times n$ chessboard by bishops.

```
-.--.--
```

```
.--.--.
```

```
-.+.--.
```

```
-.+.C.S.
```

```
0.0.S.C.S
```

```
/0.C.S.C.
```

```
/ 0.S.C.S.0
```

```
//.S.S.C.0.\
```

```
+ / S.S.S.0.0 \
```

```
/// / \ \ \
```

```
+ / / / \ \ -
```

```
/// \ \
```

```
- - - - +
```

Another example: $n = 9$, $free = 1$

Case 3: Hard

In this problem, you have to find the lexicographically k -th minimal covering of an $n \times n$ chessboard by bishops.

-. - . - . - . -	$f(\text{pos}) =$
. - . - . - . -	$4 \cdot 2 \cdot 1 +$ (SCC)
- . + . - . - . -	$2 \cdot 5 \cdot 1 +$ (CSC)
. - . + . C . S .	$2 \cdot 1 \cdot 5 =$ (CCS)
0 . 0 . S . C . S	$8 + 10 + 10 = 28.$
/ . 0 . C . S . C .	
/ 0 . S . C . S . 0	
/ / . S . S . C . 0 . \	
+ / S . S . S . 0 . 0 \	
/ / / / \ \ \ \ \ \	
+ / / / \ \ \ -	
/ / / \ \ \	
- - - - +	

Case 3: Hard

In this problem, you have to find the lexicographically k -th minimal covering of an $n \times n$ chessboard by bishops.

```

-.-.-.-.-
.-.-.-.-.
-+.-----
.-+.-.+
-.0.0.0.0
/.0.C.0.C.
/ 0.0.0.0.0
/ /.0.0.C.0.\
+ / 0.0.0.0.0 \
// // / \ \ \
+ // // \ \ -
// // \ \
- + - - +

```

Yet another example: $n = 9$, $free = 0$

Case 3: Hard

In this problem, you have to find the lexicographically k -th minimal covering of an $n \times n$ chessboard by bishops.

- . . . - . . . -	$f(\text{pos}) =$
.	$1 \cdot 1 =$ (CC)
- . + . - . . . -	1.
. - . + . - . + .	
- . 0 . 0 . 0 . 0	
/ . 0 . C . 0 . C .	
/ 0 . 0 . 0 . 0 . 0	
/ / . 0 . 0 . C . 0 . \	
+ / 0 . 0 . 0 . 0 . 0 \	
/ / / / \ \ \ \ \	
+ / / / \ \ \ -	
/ / / \ \ \	
- + - \ \ +	

Statement

Problem H: Luck

In this problem, you have to distinguish between 16 possible distributions of throwing dice.

Find the Distributions

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Phase 1: find the 16 possible distributions.

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Way 1: simulation.

For each distribution, generate many random outcomes.

For each possible outcome, remember how many times it happened.

Find the Distributions

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Phase 1: find the 16 possible distributions.

Way 1: simulation.

For each distribution, generate many random outcomes.

For each possible outcome, remember how many times it happened.

Way 2: calculation.

Maintain the probabilities of each possible outcome.

Write functions to take the sum, minimum and maximum of two distributions.

Find the Most Likely

In this problem, you have to distinguish between 16 possible distributions of throwing dice.

Phase 2: compare to the distribution we got as input.

Find the Most Likely

In this problem, you have to distinguish between 16 possible distributions of throwing dice.

Phase 2: compare to the distribution we got as input.

Way 1: moments.

Calculate mean and variance, norm appropriately.

Find the closest point on the mean \times variance plane.

Warning: only one of them is not enough!

Two are sufficient.

Find the Most Likely

In this problem, you have to distinguish between 16 possible distributions of throwing dice.

Phase 2: compare to the distribution we got as input.

Way 2: maximum likelihood.

For each event we observe, for each of the 16 hypotheses, we know the probability this event happens under this hypothesis.

So, for each of the 16 hypotheses, calculate the total probability of all observed events: the product of individual probabilities.

The hypothesis with the greatest total probability wins.

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In this problem, you have to distinguish between 16 possible distributions of throwing dice.

Phase 2: compare to the distribution we got as input.

Way 2: maximum likelihood.

For each event we observe, for each of the 16 hypotheses, we know the probability this event happens under this hypothesis.

So, for each of the 16 hypotheses, calculate the total probability of all observed events: the product of individual probabilities.

The hypothesis with the greatest total probability wins.

In practice, we sum the logarithms of probabilities instead of multiplying probabilities themselves.

Statement

Problem I: Polyomino Packing

In this problem, you have to put the given polyominoes tightly in the given box.

Remarks

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Only a few pointers here, not a full solution outline!

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Fill the board in the natural order: row by row, each row from left to right.

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In this problem, you have to put the given polyominoes tightly in the given box.

Only a few pointers here, not a full solution outline!

Fill the board in the natural order: row by row, each row from left to right.

Try to use the larger polyominoes first, so that in the end, we will have to deal only with 3-square polyominoes.

Remarks

In this problem, you have to put the given polyominoes tightly in the given box.

Only a few pointers here, not a full solution outline!

Fill the board in the natural order: row by row, each row from left to right.

Try to use the larger polyominoes first, so that in the end, we will have to deal only with 3-square polyominoes.

Maintain good diversity of the polyominoes left.

Remarks

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It is better to put a polyomino which has more corners.

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Holes isolated from above and below are bad.

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...Experiment! You have half the tests.

Statement

Problem J: Switches

In this problem, you have to count the number of possible configurations of width k after using the given manipulators.

Invertibility

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Two manipulators a and b are equivalent to a and $a \oplus (b \text{ shifted } \pm s)$.

Greatest Common Divisor

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See also: manipulators as polynomials, binary (Stein's) GCD algorithm.

Remaining Cases

In this problem, you have to count the number of possible configurations of width k after using the given manipulators.

So, we found the GCD of all manipulators.

Example: $\text{GCD} = 101$. It has length $r = 3$.

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Example: GCD = 101. It has length $r = 3$.

Case 1: $r < k$ (example: $k = 2$). No way!

Case 2: $r = k$ (example: $k = 3$). One way.

Case 3: $r > k$ (example: $k = 6$). 2^{k-r-1} ways:

101...	(must put)
.???..	(two possibilities)
..???.	(two possibilities)
...101	(must put)

Contest Developer:

- Ivan Kazmenko

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- Andrew Stankevich

Solutions, checkers, interactors, and generators written in the D programming language (<https://dlang.org>).

Questions?