

No solutions for the following problems will be provided but you can discuss them on Piazza.

**1** Given an array of  $n$  unsorted integers  $A$  and  $k$  ranks  $i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_k$  describe an algorithm that outputs the elements in  $A$  with these given  $k$  ranks. Your algorithm should run in  $O(n \log k)$  time. One can easily do this via sorting in  $O(n \log n)$  time. There is also an  $O(nk)$  time algorithm (how?).

**2** Problems in Jeff's notes on dynamic programming. In particular, Probs 1, 2, 3, 5, 6.

**3** Problems in Dasgupta et al book Chapter 6. In particular Probs 1, 2

**4** Problems in Kleinberg-Tardos book Chapter 6. Problems 1, 2, 7.

**5** Let  $w \in \Sigma^*$  be a string. We say that  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_h$  where each  $u_i \in \Sigma^*$  is a valid split of  $w$  iff  $w = u_1 u_2 \dots u_h$  (the concatenation of  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_h$ ). Given a valid split  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_h$  of  $w$  we define its  $\ell_3$  measure as  $\sum_{i=1}^h |u_i|^3$ .

Given a language  $L \subseteq \Sigma^*$  a string  $w \in L^*$  iff there is a valid split  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_h$  of  $w$  such that each  $u_i \in L$ ; we call such a split an  $L$ -valid split of  $w$ . Assume you have access to a subroutine  $\text{IsStringInL}(x)$  which outputs whether the input string  $x$  is in  $L$  or not. To evaluate the running time of your solution you can assume that each call to  $\text{IsStringInL}()$  takes constant time.

Describe an efficient algorithm that given a string  $w$  and access to a language  $L$  via  $\text{IsStringInL}(x)$  outputs an  $L$ -valid split of  $w$  with minimum  $\ell_3$  measure if one exists.

**6** Recall that a *palindrome* is any string that is exactly the same as its reversal, like  $I$ , or  $DEED$ , or  $RACECAR$ , or  $AMANAPLANACATACANALPANAMA$ .

Any string can be decomposed into a sequence of palindrome substrings. For example, the string  $BUBBASEESABANANA$  ("Bubba sees a banana.") can be broken into palindromes in the following ways (among many others):

$BUB \bullet BASEESAB \bullet ANANA$   
 $B \bullet U \bullet BB \bullet A \bullet SEES \bullet ABA \bullet NAN \bullet A$   
 $B \bullet U \bullet BB \bullet A \bullet SEES \bullet A \bullet B \bullet ANANA$   
 $B \bullet U \bullet B \bullet B \bullet A \bullet S \bullet E \bullet E \bullet S \bullet A \bullet B \bullet ANA \bullet N \bullet A$

Describe and analyze an efficient algorithm that given a string  $w$  and an integer  $k$  decides whether  $w$  can be split into palindromes each of which is of length at least  $k$ . For example, given the input string  $BUBBASEESABANANA$  and 3 your algorithm would answer yes because one can find a split  $BUB \bullet BASEESAB \bullet ANANA$ . The answer should be no if we set  $k = 4$ . Note that the answer is always yes for  $k = 1$ .

**7** The McKing chain wants to open several restaurants along Red street in Shampoo-Banana. The possible locations are at  $L_1, L_2, \dots, L_n$  where  $L_i$  is at distance  $m_i$  meters from the start of Red street. Assume that the street is a straight line and the locations are in increasing order of distance from the starting point (thus  $0 \leq m_1 < m_2 < \dots < m_n$ ). McKing has collected some data indicating that opening a restaurant at location  $L_i$  will yield a profit of  $p_i$  independent of where the other restaurants are located. However, the city of Shampoo-Banana has a zoning law which requires that any two McKing locations should be  $D$  or more meters apart. Describe an algorithm that McKing can use to figure out the maximum profit it can obtain by opening restaurants while satisfying the city's zoning law.

## Solved Problem

- 8** A *shuffle* of two strings  $X$  and  $Y$  is formed by interspersing the characters into a new string, keeping the characters of  $X$  and  $Y$  in the same order. For example, the string *BANANAANANAS* is a shuffle of the strings *BANANA* and *ANANAS* in several different ways.

*BANANAANANAS*      *BANANAANANAS*      *BANANAANANAS*

Similarly, the strings *PRODGYRNAMAMMIINCG* and *DYPRONGARMAMMICING* are both shuffles of *DYNAMIC* and *PROGRAMMING*:

*PRODGYRNAMAMMIINCG*      *DYPRONGARMAMMICING*

Given three strings  $A[1..m]$ ,  $B[1..n]$ , and  $C[1..m+n]$ , describe and analyze an algorithm to determine whether  $C$  is a shuffle of  $A$  and  $B$ .

*Solution:* We define a boolean function  $Shuf(i, j)$ , which is TRUE if and only if the prefix  $C[1..i+j]$  is a shuffle of the prefixes  $A[1..i]$  and  $B[1..j]$ . This function satisfies the following recurrence:

$$Shuf(i, j) = \begin{cases} \text{TRUE} & \text{if } i = j = 0 \\ Shuf(0, j-1) \wedge (B[j] = C[j]) & \text{if } i = 0 \text{ and } j > 0 \\ Shuf(i-1, 0) \wedge (A[i] = C[i]) & \text{if } i > 0 \text{ and } j = 0 \\ (Shuf(i-1, j) \wedge (A[i] = C[i+j])) \\ \vee (Shuf(i, j-1) \wedge (B[j] = C[i+j])) & \text{if } i > 0 \text{ and } j > 0 \end{cases}$$

We need to compute  $Shuf(m, n)$ .

We can memoize all function values into a two-dimensional array  $Shuf[0..m][0..n]$ . Each array entry  $Shuf[i, j]$  depends only on the entries immediately below and immediately to the right:  $Shuf[i-1, j]$  and  $Shuf[i, j-1]$ . Thus, we can fill the array in standard row-major order. The original recurrence gives us the following pseudocode:

```
Shuffle?( $A[1..m]$ ,  $B[1..n]$ ,  $C[1..m+n]$ ):  
   $Shuf[0, 0] \leftarrow \text{TRUE}$   
  for  $j \leftarrow 1$  to  $n$   
     $Shuf[0, j] \leftarrow Shuf[0, j-1] \wedge (B[j] = C[j])$   
  for  $i \leftarrow 1$  to  $m$   
     $Shuf[i, 0] \leftarrow Shuf[i-1, 0] \wedge (A[i] = C[i])$   
    for  $j \leftarrow 1$  to  $n$   
       $Shuf[i, j] \leftarrow \text{FALSE}$   
      if  $A[i] = C[i+j]$   
         $Shuf[i, j] \leftarrow Shuf[i, j] \vee Shuf[i-1, j]$   
      if  $B[j] = C[i+j]$   
         $Shuf[i, j] \leftarrow Shuf[i, j] \vee Shuf[i, j-1]$   
  return  $Shuf[m, n]$ 
```

The algorithm runs in  $O(mn)$  time.

*Rubric:* Max 10 points: Standard dynamic programming rubric. No proofs required. Max 7 points for a slower polynomial-time algorithm; scale partial credit accordingly.

*Rubric:* Standard dynamic programming rubric For problems worth 10 points:

- 6 points for a correct recurrence, described either using mathematical notation or as pseudocode for a recursive algorithm.
  - + 1 point for a clear **English** description of the function you are trying to evaluate. (Otherwise, we don't even know what you are *trying* to do.) **Automatic zero if the English description is missing.**
  - + 1 point for stating how to call your function to get the final answer.
  - + 1 point for base case(s).  $-1/2$  for one *minor* bug, like a typo or an off-by-one error.
  - + 3 points for recursive case(s).  $-1$  for each *minor* bug, like a typo or an off-by-one error. **No credit for the rest of the problem if the recursive case(s) are incorrect.**
- 4 points for details of the dynamic programming algorithm
  - + 1 point for describing the memoization data structure
  - + 2 points for describing a correct evaluation order; a clear picture is usually sufficient. If you use nested loops, be sure to specify the nesting order.
  - + 1 point for time analysis
- It is *not* necessary to state a space bound.
- For problems that ask for an algorithm that computes an optimal *structure*—such as a subset, partition, subsequence, or tree—an algorithm that computes only the *value* or *cost* of the optimal structure is sufficient for full credit, unless the problem says otherwise.
- Official solutions usually include pseudocode for the final iterative dynamic programming algorithm, ***but iterative pseudocode is not required for full credit.*** If your solution includes iterative pseudocode, you do not need to separately describe the recurrence, memoization structure, or evaluation order. (But you still need to describe the underlying recursive function in English.)
- Official solutions will provide target time bounds. Algorithms that are faster than this target are worth more points; slower algorithms are worth fewer points, typically by 2 or 3 points (out of 10) for each factor of  $n$ . Partial credit is scaled to the new maximum score, and all points above 10 are recorded as extra credit.

We rarely include these target time bounds in the actual questions, because when we have included them, significantly more students turned in algorithms that meet the target time bound but did not work (earning 0/10) instead of correct algorithms that are slower than the target time bound (earning 8/10).