The Science of Computing I

Program: Search Comparison Table

Your task in this programming assignment is to write a Python program that generates the sequential search/binary search comparison table in the lesson on *Searching and Sorting*. Here's the table for reference:

Number of items	Sequential search	Binary search	Performance
0	0	0	0
1,000	500	10	50
2,000	1,000	11	91
3,000	1,500	12	125
4,000	2,000	12	167
5,000	2,500	13	192
6,000	3,000	13	231
7,000	3,500	13	269
8,000	4,000	13	308
9,000	4,500	14	321
10,000	5,000	14	357

The first column will be specified (via user input) and the remaining columns will be calculated. Specifically, the user will specify a minimum and maximum list size (number of items in the table) and an interval (how much to increase the list size for the next row in the table). Here's output of a sample run (user input is shown in bold red):

Minimum number of list items (>=0)? 0
Maximum number of list items $(>= \min (0))$? 10000
The interval between each row of the table (>= 1)? 1000

n	Seq	Bin	Perf
0	0	0	 0
1000	500	10	50
2000	1000	11	91
3000	1500	12	125
4000	2000	12	167
5000	2500	13	192
6000	3000	13	231
7000	3500	13	269
8000	4000	13	308
9000	4500	14	321
10000	5000	14	357

Here's another sample run to further show how the user input dictates the overall structure of the table (again, user input is shown in **bold** red):

```
Minimum number of list items (>=0)? 455
Maximum number of list items (>= min (455))? 999
The interval between each row of the table (>= 1)? 25
     Seq Bin Perf
      227 9
455
                    2.5
480
      240 9
                    27
    252 9
265 10
505
                   28
530
                   27
      277 10
290 10
302 10
555
                    28
580
                    29
     302
                    30
605
630
     315
            10
                    32
655
      327
            10
                    33
            10
10
680
      340
                    34
705
      352
                    35
730
      365
             10
                    37
755
      377
            10
                    38
            10
780
      390
                    39
805
     402
             10
                    40
830
      415
            10
                    42
855
     427
            10
                    43
            10
                   44
880
     440
905
     452
             10
                    45
     465 10
477 10
930
                    47
    477
                  48
955
980
     490 10
                   49
```

Also, your program should properly deal with invalid user input; for example:

```
Minimum number of list items (>=0)? -1
 *ERROR: Minimum must be >= 0!
Minimum number of list items (>=0)? 100
Maximum number of list items (>= min (100))? 25
 *ERROR: Maximum must be >= minimum (100)!
Maximum number of list items (>= min (100))? 1000
The interval between each row of the table (>= 1)? 0
 *ERROR: Interval must be >= 1!
The interval between each row of the table (>= 1)? 250
n Seq Bin Perf
_____
            7
      50
100
                     7
350 175 9 19
600 300 10 30
850 425 10 43
```

To help clarify, here are some specifics and/or constraints:

- (1) Displaying the entire table must be done in its own function;
- (2) Calculating the average number of comparisons of a sequential search must be done in its own function (see the template for more details);
- (3) Calculating the maximum number of comparisons of a binary search must be done in its own function (see the template for more details);
- (4) Obtaining user input can be done in the main part of the program (or in a separate function);
- (5) Range (or boundary) checking of user input must be done;
- (6) You must use the provided source code template; and
- (7) You must submit your source code as a single .py file.