

# Previous Lab Questions

ISS TAs

## 1 Part I: NumPy Programming

---

### 1. The Threshold Replacer

#### Problem Statement:

You are given a 1D NumPy array representing sensor data. Some readings are considered “noise” if they fall strictly below a certain threshold  $T$ . Your task is to filter this noise by replacing all values strictly less than  $T$  with the **mean** of the original array.

#### Input Format:

- First line: A list of space-separated integers representing the array elements.
- Second line: An integer  $T$  (the threshold).

#### Output Format:

- Print the modified array rounded to 2 decimal places.

#### Constraints:

- Do not use explicit loops (must use NumPy masking/vectorization).

Sample Input

```
10 2 30 4 50
15
```

Sample Output

```
[19.2, 19.2, 30.0, 19.2, 50.0]
```

### 2. Matrix Standardization & Outlier Pruning

#### Problem Statement:

Given a 2D matrix (rows are samples, columns are features), perform the following steps:

1. **Standardize column-wise:** Subtract the column mean from each element and divide by the column standard deviation.
2. **Prune Outliers:** After standardization, replace any value  $> 1.0$  or  $< -1.0$  with 0.

#### Input Format:

- First line: Integers  $N$  and  $M$  (dimensions of the matrix).
- Next  $N$  lines:  $M$  space-separated floats.

**Output Format:**

- Print the final processed matrix rounded to 2 decimal places.

**Technical Constraints:**

- Ensure `axis=0` is used for mean/std calculations.
- Assume standard deviation is never 0 for test cases.

## Sample Input

```
3 3
1 2 9
6 4 3
9 7 8
```

## Sample Output

```
[[0.0, 0.0, 0.89], [0.2, -0.16, 0.0], [0.0, 0.0, 0.51]]
```

### 3. Weighted Student Ranking (Vectorized)

#### Problem Statement:

You are building a ranking system for a class with  $N$  students and  $M$  subjects.

1. **Weighted Average:** For each student  $i$ , compute the weighted average:

$$\text{weighted\_avg}_i = \sum_{j=0}^{M-1} \text{scores}[i][j] \times \text{weights}[j]$$

2. **Qualification Check:** A student is **qualified** only if they scored at least **35** in *every* subject.
3. **Ranking:** Rank qualified students by their weighted average (descending). If averages are tied, order by original index (ascending).
4. **Top K:** Return the indices of the top  $K$  qualified students.

#### Input Format:

- Line 1: Three integers  $N, M, K$ .
- Line 2:  $M$  floats representing weights.
- Next  $N$  lines: Student scores.

#### Output Format:

- A single line containing space-separated indices of the top  $K$  qualified students.
- If no students qualify, print an empty line.

#### Sample Input

```
2 2 2
0.5 0.5
40 90
30 100
```

#### Sample Output

```
0
```

*Explanation: Student 1 has a score of 30, which is < 35, so they are disqualified.*

## 2 Part II: Bash Scripting

### 1. Permission Octal Calculator

**Task:** Write a script that reads a 3-character string representing file permissions (e.g., `rwx`) and calculates the corresponding octal digit based on the bit values ( $r = 4, w = 2, x = 1$ ).

**Example:** Input `r-x` →  $4 + 0 + 1 = 5$ .

**Input/Output:**

- **Input:** A single line with exactly 3 characters (**r**, **w**, **x**, or **-**).
- **Output:** A single integer (0-7).

Sample Input / Output

```
Input: rw-
Output: 6
```

## 2. Log Scanner

**Task:** Read log data from STDIN. Search for the text "CRITICAL" (case-insensitive).

- If found, output: **Danger Found**
- If NOT found, output: **All systems nominal**

*Note: Do not output the actual log lines.*

Sample Input

```
[INFO] Boot
[WARN] CPU High
[CRITICAL] DB Fail
```

Sample Output

```
Danger Found
```

### 3. Log Splitter & Reporter

**Task:** Read a Session ID from the first line of input. Read the rest of the stream as logs.

1. **File Creation:** Create two files based on the Session ID:

- <Session\_ID>\_system.log (For INFO logs).
- <Session\_ID>\_summary.txt (For the report).

2. **Processing:**

- Lines containing "ERROR" → Redirect to **STDERR**.
- Lines containing "INFO" → Append to ...\_system.log.
- Ignore other lines (DEBUG, WARN).

3. **Reporting:** Count occurrences of the code "SHAW" (case-insensitive) inside the new system log file. Populate the summary file exactly as:

```
REPORT
Shaw Events: <Count>
End of Report
```

4. Print Archive Synced to **STDOUT**.

## 3 Part III: Python Algorithms

### 1. The Mountain Trail

#### Problem Statement:

Rearrange a list of elevation measurements into a "Mountain" pattern:

1. Split the list into two halves. If  $n$  is odd, the first half gets the extra element.
2. **Ascent:** The first half must be sorted in non-decreasing order.
3. **Descent:** The second half must be sorted in non-increasing order.

**Input Format:** A single line of space-separated integers. ( $2 \leq n \leq 10^5$ ).

**Output Format:** The rearranged sequence on a single line.

Sample Input

```
5 2 8 1 9
```

Sample Output

```
2 5 8 9 1
```

## 2. Lexicographical Permutations

**Problem Statement:**

Given a string  $S$  of unique characters, generate every possible rearrangement (permutation). Output them in lexicographically sorted (alphabetical) order.

**Input Format:** A single string  $S$  ( $1 \leq \text{len}(S) \leq 8$ ).

**Output Format:** Space-separated strings on a single line.

Sample Input

```
zen
```

Sample Output

```
enz ezn nez nze zen zne
```

### 3. Two Sum (Optimized)

**Problem Statement:**

Given an array of integers `nums` and an integer `target`, return the indices of the two numbers such that they add up to `target`.

- You may assume exactly one solution exists.
- You may not use the same element twice.
- Return indices in ascending order.
- **Constraint:** Time complexity must be less than  $O(n^2)$ .

**Input Format:**

- First line:  $t$  (number of test cases).
- For each test case:
  - Line 1:  $n$  (size of array).
  - Line 2:  $n$  space-separated integers.
  - Line 3: The target sum.

Sample Input

```
1
4
2 7 11 15
9
```

Sample Output

```
0 1
```