

Data Structures, Algorithms, & Applications in C++

Chapter 1, Exercise 5

We may represent a subset of n elements by the one-dimensional array $x[1:n]$, where $x[j]$ is one if element j is included in the subset and $x[j]$ is zero if element j is not included in the subset.

To output the subsets recursively, we define a function `Subsets(int i)` which outputs all $x[1:n]$ with preset values for $x[1:i-1]$ and $x[i:n]$ taking on all possible 0 and 1 values. The invocation `Subsets(1)` will output all subsets.

The code is given below and in the files `rsubset.*`. The code assumes that n and x are global variables.

```
void Subsets(int i)

{ // Output all subsets of  $x[1:n]$ .

  // Only  $x[i:n]$  to be changed.

  if (i == n) { //  $x[n]$  can be 0 or 1

    // output subset without element  $n$ 

     $x[n] = 0$ ;

    for (int j = 1; j <= n; j++)

      cout <<  $x[j]$  << " ";

    cout << endl;

    // output subset with element  $n$ 

     $x[n] = 1$ ;
```

```

        for (int j = 1; j <= n; j++)

            cout << x[j] << " ";

        cout << endl;

        return;

    }

// leave element i out

x[i] = 0;

// generate all subsets with i out

Subsets(i+1);

// put element i into subset

x[i] = 1;

// generate all subsets with i included

Subsets(i+1);

}

```

The above code may be modified if we are to output element identifiers for the selected elements rather than 0/1 vectors.