

**CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LOS ANGELES  
PROGFEST 2012**

**Problem 6  
Cracking the Code**

**Problem:** A plain text message  $p$  of length  $n$  is to be transmitted over a secure channel. The sender chooses an integer  $m \geq 2n$ , and integers  $s, t, i$ , and  $j$ , where  $0 \leq s, t, i, j < m$  and  $i < j$ . The scheme works as follows:  $m$  is the length of the transmitted ciphertext string,  $c$ . Initially,  $c$  contains  $m$  empty slots. The first letter of  $p$  is placed in position  $s$  of  $c$ . The  $k$ th letter,  $k \geq 2$ , is placed by skipping over  $i$  empty slots in  $c$  after the  $(k-1)$ st letter, wrapping around to the beginning of  $c$  if necessary. Slots already containing letters are not counted as empty. For instance, if the message is PRAGUE, if  $s = 1, i = 6$ , and  $m = 15$ , then the letters are placed in  $c$  as follows:

A	P		U					R	G				E	
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14

Starting with the first empty slot in or after position  $t$  in string  $c$ , the plain text message is entered again, but this time skipping  $j$  empty slots between letters. For instance, if  $t = 0$  and  $j = 8$ , the second copy of  $p$  is entered as follows (beginning in position 2, the first empty slot starting from  $t = 0$ ):

A	P	P	U	R		A	U	R	G	E		G	E	
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14

Finally, any remaining unfilled slots in  $c$  are filled in with randomly chosen letters:

A	P	P	U	R	A	A	U	R	G	E		G	E	W	E
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	

Supposedly, the duplication of the message, combined with the use of random letters, will confuse decryption schemes based upon letter frequencies and that, without knowledge of  $s$  and  $i$ , no one can figure out what the original message is. Your job is to try to prove this idea wrong. Given a number of ciphertext strings (and no additional information), you will determine the longest possible message that could have been encoded using the above.

**Input:** A number of ciphertext strings, one per line. Each string will consist only of upper case alphabetic letters, with no leading or trailing blanks; each will have length between 2 and 40. Input for the last test case is followed by a line consisting of the letter X.

**Output:** For each input ciphertext string, print the longest string that could be encrypted in the ciphertext. If more than one string has the longest

Sample Input	Sample Output
APPURAAURGEGEWE	Code 1: PRAGUE
ABABABAB	Code 2: Codeword not unique
THEACMPROGRAMMINGCONTEST	Code 3: Codeword not unique
X	