

# COL226 Assignment 1

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## Terminology

1. List representation: The list representation of a string representing a base 10 number consists of all its digits represented in the form of an SML list. For instance "3456" will be represented as [3,4,5,6]. The algorithm of generating this from a list is trivial.
2. Processed list: Let the base 10 representation of a number be  $a_0a_1\dots a_k$ . Then, if  $k$  is even, the processed list representation looks like  $[[a_0], [a_1a_2]\dots[a_{k-1}a_k]]$ . If  $k$  is odd, then we have  $[[a_0a_1], [a_2a_3]\dots[a_{k-1}a_k]]$ .

## Pseudocode

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**Algorithm 1** Find maximum digit

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```
1: function findDigit(number, digit, dividend)
2:    $x \leftarrow (\text{number} * 10 + \text{digit}) * \text{digit}$ 
3:   if  $x \leq \text{dividend}$  then
4:     return (digit, x)
5:   else
6:     return findDigit(number, digit - 1, dividend)
7:   end if
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**Algorithm 2** Performing long division

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```
1: function findRoot(immediate_dividend, square_root, further_dividend)
2:    $x \leftarrow \text{findDigit}(2 * \text{square\_root}, 9, \text{immediate\_dividend})$ 
3:    $y \leftarrow \text{immediate\_dividend} - x.\text{second}$ 
4:   if further_dividend.empty() then
5:     return (square_root*10 + x.first, y)
6:   else
7:     return findRoot(100 * y + further_dividend[0], square_root*10 + x.first, further_dividend[1:])
8:   end if
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**Algorithm 3** Initiating long division

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1: function isqrtld(string)
2:    $x \leftarrow \text{processedList}(\text{listRepresentation}(\text{string}))$ 
3:   return findRoot(x[0], 0, x[1:])
```

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## Proof

**Base Case:** A number has 0 digits, in which case the algorithm returns (0,0), or the number has 1 digit  $n$ , in which the algorithm returns  $(x,r)$  where  $x$  is the maximum digit such that  $x^2 < n$ , and  $r = n - x^2$ . We can see that  $x$  is indeed the integer square root of  $n$ , as by the maximality of  $x$  we have  $x^2 < n < (x+1)^2$

**Induction Hypothesis:** Let us assume that for all  $k < n$ , this algorithm returns the correct value of (sqrt, remainder).

**Inductive Step:** We proceed by strong induction. We shall now induct on the number of digits of  $n$ . Let that be  $x$ . Clearly,  $x \geq 2$ , else this reduces to a base case. Let  $n = a_1a_2\dots a_x$ . Now consider the number  $m = a_1a_2\dots a_{x-2}$ .

Evidently  $m < n$ , and in fact  $n = 100m + a_{x-1}a_x$ . Let  $\text{isqrtld}(m) = (p, q)$ .

**Claim 1:** There exists numbers  $r$  and  $h$  such that  $r = 10p + h$ , where  $0 \leq h \leq 9$  and  $\text{isqrtld}(n) = (r, n - r^2)$

**Proof:** By the definition of  $\text{isqrtld}$ , we have  $m = p^2 + q$ . Clearly, we have  $p^2 \leq m < (p+1)^2$ , so  $p^2 \leq m \leq (p+1)^2 - 1$ . Also, since  $n = 100m + a_{x-1}a_x$ , so  $100p^2 \leq 100m \leq n < 100m + 100 \leq 100(p+1)^2$ , so  $(10p)^2 \leq n < (10p+10)^2$ . So,  $10p \leq r < 10p+10$ , and  $10p \leq r \leq 10p+9$ , proving our claim.

**Claim 2:** Finding the maximum digit  $d$  such that  $(20p+d)d \leq 100q + a_{x-1}a_x$  gives us the square root  $r = 10p+d$

**Proof:** The maximality of  $d$  ensures that  $(20p+d)d \leq n < (20p+d+1)(d+1)$ . For the sake of contradiction, let us assume  $r = 10p + h$ , where  $h \neq d$ . Then, we have  $(10p+h)^2 \leq n < (10p+h+1)^2$ , and so  $(20p+h)h \leq n - 100p^2 < (20p+h+1)(h+1)$  and since  $p^2 = m - q$ , we have  $(20p+h)h \leq (n - 100m) + 100q = a_{x-1}a_x + 100q < (20p+h+1)(h+1)$ . But  $100q + a_{x-1}a_x$  is the new dividend for our computation, and  $h$  is the maximum such digit such that  $(20p+d)d \leq 100q + a_{x-1}a_x$ . Consequently,  $h = d$ , and by contradiction, we're done.

**Main Claim:** The output of the long division is  $(r, n - r^2)$

**Proof:** `findDigit`, by definition, computes the maximum digit  $h$  such that  $(20\text{square\_root}+h)h \leq \text{immediate\_dividend}$ . Consider the computation after the algorithm has finished computing the answer for the first  $x-2$  digits of  $n$ . It then calls `findRoot(100 * q + a_{x-1}a_x, p, [])`. Then, the immediate dividend for the last step is  $100 * q + a_{x-1}a_x$ , and `square\_root` =  $p$ . So, `findDigit` computes the required  $d$ , and we get the square root  $r = 10p + d$ , and the remainder, denoted by  $t$ , is  $100q + a_{x-1}a_x - (20p+d)d$ . But note that  $t + r^2 = 100q + a_{x-1}a_x + 100p^2 = 100m + a_{x-1}a_x = n$ . Thus,  $t = n - r^2$ . Moreover, since there's no further dividend (evidenced by the empty list), the computation is completed, and we're done.

This completes our proof of correctness of the algorithm.