Data Structures and Algorithms @ Allahabad 2024 | **Assignment 4**
Due: Jan 18, 2024, 5pm

Please answer each of the following problems. Refer to the course webpage for the **collaboration policy,** as well as for **helpful advice** for how to write up your solutions. For this assignement, you need to provide two files, one with code and another with report.

Note on notation: On a few problems in this assignment, we use "big-O" notation to state the problem. For all of the problems where O appears, it is fine to to take the definition of "$O(n)$" very informally to mean "grows (at most) roughly linearly in n:" for example, $100 \cdot n$ grows roughly linearly with n, so $100 \cdot n = O(n)$. Similarly, $100 \cdot n + 100 = O(n)$. But n^2 does *not* grow roughly linearly with n, it grows much faster, so $n^2 \neq O(n)$. And $\sqrt{n}$ grows much more slowly than n, so we would still say $\sqrt{n} = O(n)$. We use similar notation for other functions, like $O(\log(n))$.

1. **Algorithm to Code.** (10 points) Consider the following algorithm that is supposed to sort an array of integers. Guess which sorting technique is this and write the code in C for the given algorithm and validate through different inputs.

```
# Sorts an array of integers.
Sort(array A):
    for i = 1 to A.length:
        minIndex = i
        for j = i + 1 to A.length:
            if A[j] < A[minIndex]:
                minIndex = j
        Swap(A[i], A[minIndex])

# Swaps two elements of the array.  You may assume this function is correct.
Swap(array A, int x, int y):
    tmp = A[x]
    A[x] = A[y]
    A[y] = tmp
```

2. **New friends.** (30 points) Each of n users spends some time on a social media site. For each $i = 1, \ldots, n$, user i enters the site at time a_i and leaves at time $b_i \geq a_i$. You are interested in the question: how many distinct pairs of users are ever on the site at the same time? (Here, the pair (i, j) is the same as the pair (j, i)).

   Example: Suppose there are 5 users with the following entering and leaving times:

User	Enter time	Leave time
1	1	4
2	2	5
3	7	8
4	9	10
5	6	10

Then, the number of distinct pairs of users who are on the site at the same time is three: these pairs are $(1, 2)$, $(4, 5)$, $(3, 5)$.

(a) (5+5 pts) Given input $(a_1, b_1), (a_2, b_2), \ldots, (a_n, b_n)$ as above, there is a straightforward algorithm that takes about[1] n^2 time to compute the number of pairs of users who are ever on the site at the same time. (a) Give this algorithm and explain why it takes time about n^2. (b) Write the code in C programming language for this algorithm.

(b) (10+10 pts) (a) Give an $O(n \log(n))$-time algorithm to do the same task and analyze its running time. (**Hint:** consider sorting relevant events by time). (b) Write the code in C programming language for this algorithm.

3. **Needlessly complicating the issue.** (30 points)

(a) (5pts) Give a linear-time (that is, an $O(n)$-time) algorithm for finding the minimum of n values (which are not necessarily sorted).

(b) (5pts) Write the C program for this linear-time algorithm.

Now consider the following recursive algorithm to find the minimum of a set of n items.

Algorithm 1: `findMinimum`

Input: List $A = [a_1, \ldots, a_n]$ of n items
Output: $\min_i\{a_1, \ldots, a_n\}$
if n=*1* **then**
  return ___________
$A_1 = A[0 : n/2 - 1]$
$A_2 = A[n/2 : n - 1]$
return min(`findMinimum`(A_1), `findMinimum`(A_2))

(d) (5pts) Fill in the blank in the pseudo-code: what should the algorithm return in the base case? Briefly argue that the algorithm is correct with your choice.

(e) (5pts) Analyze the running time of this recursive algorithm. How does it compare to your solution in part (a)?

(f) (10pts) Write the C program for this recursive algorithm.

[1]Formally, "about" here means $\Theta(n^2)$, but you can be informal about this.

4. **Recursive local-minimum-finding.** (30 points)

(a) Suppose A is an array of n integers (for simplicity assume that all integers are distinct). A *local minimum* of A is an element that is smaller than all of its neighbors. For example, in the array $A = [1, 2, 0, 3]$, the local minima are $A[1] = 1$ and $A[3] = 0$.

i. (3 points) Design a recursive algorithm to find a local minimum of A, which runs in time $O(\log(n))$.

ii. (3 points) Formally analyze the runtime of your algorithm.

iii. (4 points) Write C program for your algorithm.

(b) Let G be a square $n \times n$ grid of integers. A *local minimum* of A is an element that is smaller than all of its direct neighbors (diagonals don't count). For example, in the grid

$$G = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 6 & 3 \\ 6 & 1 & 4 \\ 3 & 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

some of the local minima are G[1][1] = 5 and G[2][2] = 1. You may once again assume that all integers are distinct.

i. (6 points) Design a recursive algorithm to find a local minimum in $O(n)$ time.

ii. (6 points) Give a formal analysis of the running time of your algorithm.

iii. (8 points) Write C program for your algorithm.