EA 2023/2024 PL exercises

Exercise 1 The coin-change problem consists of the following: Given a set of n coins $\{c_1, c_2, \ldots, c_n\}$, each of which is a positive integer, and an amount A, also a positive integer, find whether it is possible to get a change for A. Assume that $A \geq c_i$, $i = 1, \ldots, n$.

a) Consider the two following backtracking algorithms for this problem. Discuss the difference between the two approaches and write the first call.

```
Function Coin1(A, i)
                                        Function Coin2(A, i)
if A = 0 then
                                          if A = 0 then
  return true
                                            return true
if A < 0 or i > n then
                                          if A < 0 then
  return false
                                            return false
if Coin1(A - c_i, i + 1) = true then
                                          for j = i + 1, ..., n do
  return true
                                            if Coin2(A - c_i, j) = true then
if Coin1(A, i + 1) = true then
                                              return true
  return true
                                          return false
return false
```

- b) Draw the recursion call trees that describe the search process of the two algorithms above for the following input data: $c_1 = 3$, $c_2 = 5$, $c_3 = 7$ and A = 12; provide only information about the arguments of the recursion call at each node of the tree.
- c) What is the best ordering of the coins with respect to the running time of both backtracking algorithms?
- d) If you want to know the number of possible ways of making change, what needs to be modified in both algorithms?
- e) If you want to know the least number of coins to make the change, what needs to be modified in both algorithms?

Exercise 2 Read the problem *Zé Manel is setting up a computer network* in EA2024_PL in Mooshak and solve them using a backtracking approach.