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sorting_assignment.text

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```
*****
***                               COMP 15 Homework 5                               ***
*****
```

```
+-----+ +-----+
/|      /|      /|      /|
+-----+ | +-----+ |
| red   | + |green  | +
|       | /  |       | /
+-----+ +-----+
+-----+ +-----+
/|      /|      /|      /|
+-----+ | +-----+ |
|       | |       | |
|yellow| + | blue  | +
|       | /  |       | /
+-----+ +-----+
```

```

Hmm, difficult. VERY difficult. Plenty
of courage, I see. Not a bad mind, either.
There's talent, oh yes. And a thirst to
prove yourself. But where to put you?
- Sorting Hat
(J. K. Rowling)
```

```

////////////////////////////////////
//
//           All Sorts of Sorta Nice Sortin' Algorithms
//
//
////////////////////////////////////
```

In this assignment you will implement a sorting program that can use three different sorting algorithms to sort a list of an integers (but theoretically it should be able to sort a list of any type).

We'll first describe the program, and then the implementation details. Please read through the entire assignment before you start.

Program specification

Your sorter will order integers based on their values (using simple boolean comparisons like ">", and "<"). Your alphabetizer should be able to store a list of integers (read from standard input or a file), sort them in ascending order, and print them to standard output (cout) or save them to a file.

Your program will run in 2 different modes, the "interactive" mode, in which you can manually type in the integers, or in "automated" mode, in which it will read a list of integers from a file and print or save those integers to file in ascending order.

Your program will be started from the command line like this:

```
./sorter sortAlg outputMode [fileName]
```

"sortAlg" determines which sorting algorithm is used: It can be "-s1" to use the first sort, "-s2" to use the second sort, or "-s3" to use the third sort. The "outputMode" determines whether the program will print the results to standard output or save the results to a file: It can be "--print" to print the results standard output (cout), "--save" to the program saves the results to file. The optional "fileName" specifies the file containing the integers to sort (i. e., the input file). The integers in the file are separated by whitespace characters. "fileName" is listed in square brackets because it is an optional command line parameter: you do not type the square brackets. If no input fileName is specified then it will start your program in "interactive" mode.

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If the program is started in "interactive" mode you will read in the list of integers from cin. The program should read in numbers until it reaches end of file. Once it reaches end of file, the program will sort the integers using the specified algorithm, and then output the sorted list depending on the output mode specified. For example "interactive" mode could take the following input:

```

23
34 2 7
23
900 1
```

and then sort and print the following to standard output (more on output style and formatting in "Output Formatting" under "Implementation Details")

```

1
2
7
23
23
34
900
```

If the user did not specify the correct number of command line parameters (2 or 3) or specified invalid command line parameters (e.g. -s is not 1-3), print this message on cerr:

```

Usage: sorter sortAlg outputMode [fileName]
       where: sortAlg is -s1, -s2, or -s3
              and    outputMode is --print or --save
```

and terminate the program (by returning 1 from main() or by calling exit(1)).

You are not responsible for checking/validating the input. You can assume you will get a sequence of white-space separated integers and that the file ends in a new line. Furthermore, you may assume the input consists of non-negative integers of 12 digits or less.

For this assignment you will use the Standard Template Library (STL) vector implementation. A description of the essential parts of the vector interface is included later in its own section "STL Vector Interface Essentials" under "Implementation Details" below.

The Files to Implement

For this assignment, you will not be writing any classes. You will write the following three files:

- sorter.cpp: This file contains the end user (people) interface implementation with the functionality described in the program specifications above. It contains your "main", which runs your entire program.
- sortAlgs.h: This contains the function declarations (interface) for the sort functions you will have to implement, and that "sorter.cpp" can use to sort the lists of numbers.
- sortAlgs.cpp: This contains the function definitions (implementation) for the sorts you declared in "sortAlgs.h".

You will want to write test programs to test your sorting algorithms.

We'll describe the interfaces of the different functions you will declare and define in sortAlgs.h and .cpp respectively first, then give some implementation specifics, and finally submission instructions.

Below are the descriptions for the interfaces of the sort functions you have to implement.

Your sortAlgs.h file must contain the declarations for all three of your initial sorting algorithm function calls. The name of the function is up to you, however you should give them meaningful names (e.g. the initial function call for insertion sort (sort 1) could be insertionSort()). Each function takes a reference to a STL vector of ints, and returns nothing. You will need to implement one sort from each group of sorting algorithms described in the "Sorting Algorithms" section under "Implementation Details".

You may add helper function in addition to the sort function specified above, but be sure to declare them in your sortAlgs.cpp and NOT in the .h file. We encourage the use of helper functions that help you produce a more modular solution that you and we can better understand.

In addition to this sorting module you will also write/implement a main() function for your final submission (in addition to any testing mains you may write). This main() will be in sorter.cpp. It should handle the checks of the command line arguments and if all the checks pass it should read in and store the data from the specified point of origin (file or cin) and then call the specified sort function from "sortAlgs.h".

Implementation Details

STL Vector Interface Essentials

For this assignment you will have to use the STL vector template (which you used in Lab 8). No other use of the STL is allowed. Make sure that you compile your program with the flag "-std=c++11". You will use an STL vector to store the data internally as it will help with the random access speed, which is important when sorting data.

The STL vector can be used very similarly to the sequences that you have implemented and used. The functions that we believe are essential to complete this assignment are described below.

- constructor
 - o Initializes an empty vector of a specified type.
- size_t size()
 - o Returns the number of elements that the vector contains. size_t is equivalent to the type "unsigned long" on our system.
- bool empty()
 - o Returns "true" if the vector is empty (contains no elements).
- operator[int i]
 - o Allows access to the data at index i. For example we could access the data at index 5 of vector v using v[5]. This is the same way you would access data in the static and dynamically allocated arrays of data that you have used before.
- void push_back(int i)
 - o Adds i to the end of the vector.

For more on using STL templates you can refer to Prelabs 6 & 8 and Labs 6 & 8.

If you want to learn more about the STL vector interface you can find more information at:

<http://www.cplusplus.com/reference/vector/vector/>

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Output Formatting

For this assignment there will be two specified output formats depending on the mode that the Sorter runs in.

If you are printing the results to standard output (cout) then you will print the sorted list in ascending order where each number is separated followed by a new line (\n or endl) as shown below:

```
1
2
3
4
5
```

NOTE: THERE IS A NEW LINE AFTER THE LAST NUMBER.

If you are saving the results to a file then you will save them in the file the same way as indicated above. However you must name the file using the following style.

ListOrigin_SortAlg_NumElements_sorted.txt

Where "ListOrigin" is either the name of the file you read the list from, or "cin" if you read it from standard input. "SortAlg" is the sorting algorithm number that you used to sort the list of numbers (just the number, not "-sl"). "NumElements" is the number of elements you read in and then subsequently sorted. You'll find this naming convention convenient for running tests and making sure they all get the same answer!

Sorting Algorithms

You will implement 3 sorting algorithms. You have some choices of sorting algorithms. Your sort number 1 must come from group 1, your sort number 2 must come from group 2, and your sort number 3 will come from group 3:

- Group 1:
 - o Insertion Sort --- you must implement this one.
- Group 2 --- Pick one of:
 - o Merge Sort
 - o Quick Sort
 - o Quick3 Sort
 - o Shell Sort
 - o Radix Sort
- Group 3 --- Pick:
 - o Any Group 2 sorting algorithm
 - o Any sorting algorithm that
 - (1) you find interesting,
 - (2) will complete sorting a large list in a reasonable amount of time (say, a 100,000-element list in under 3 minutes).
 - (3) not Bogo Sort or Bubble Sort (due to point 2 above)
 - (4) not Heap Sort or Selection Sort because we did those for you in lab and class.
 - (5) not a modified HW4 Alphabetizer (due to point 2 above, and because you already did it).

We suggest that you do some research on various sorting algorithms and find one that you are genuinely interested in. The following link is a great place to start your research:

<http://panthema.net/2013/sound-of-sorting/>

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Other Implementation Details

DO NOT IMPLEMENT EVERYTHING AT ONCE!

The programming for this assignment may not be as much as previous assignments, but don't take it for granted. Some of the algorithms can be very tricky to get right --- managing indices can be subtle. Nonetheless, if you break it into pieces, and do it over several sittings, it's perfectly manageable. Just do it one bit at a time. You can probably do the argument processing, for example, in one sitting.

Write a function, then write code in your test file that performs one or more tests for that function. Write a function, test a function, write a function, test function, ...

Follow the same testing approach for every module you write!

```
*****
* NOTE: YOU WILL NOT BE SUBMITTING A TESTING MAIN ALONG WITH *
* YOUR SORTER IMPLEMENTATION. HOWEVER YOU ARE REQUIRED *
* TO DETAIL YOUR TESTING METHODS IN YOUR README *
*****
```

You may refer to the introduction to file input and output and the example program that reads strings from a file provided with HW 3. Study the example, but don't use that code exactly: use the information and patterns it shows you to write your own code.

If you need help, TAs will ask about your testing plan and ask to see what tests you have written. They will likely ask you to comment out the most recent (failing) tests and ask you to demonstrate your previous tests.

README

In addition to your code files you will also submit a README file. You can format your README however you like. However it should have the following sections:

- A. The title of the homework and the author's name (you)
- B. The purpose of the program
- C. Acknowledgements for any help you received
- D. The files that you provided and a short description of what each file is and its purpose
- E. How to compile and run your program
- F. An outline of the data structures and algorithms that you used. Given that this is a data structures class, you need to always discuss the the data structure that you used and justify why you used it. The algorithm overview may not be relevant depending on the assignment. For this assignment in addition to describing any algorithms that you think are interesting or complicated you are required to explain the algorithm of each sorting algorithm that you implemented. Make sure to discuss its asymptotic run time behaviour (Big O).
- G. Details and an explanation of how you tested the various parts of your classes and the program as a whole. You may reference the testing files that you submitted to aid in your explanation.

Each of the sections should be clearly delineated and begin with a section heading which describes the content of the section.

Submitting Your Work

Be sure your files have header comments, and that those header comments include your name, the assignment, the date, the purpose of the particular file, and acknowledgements for any help you received.

The command is:

```
provide comp15 hw5 sorter.cpp sortAlgs.h sortAlgs.cpp README ...
```

The ... can include any test files you want to turn in.

Grading

For this assignment grading will be done differently. Your submissions will be graded in-person at a grading appointment that you sign up for (after your final submission) with the TAs from your lab section. If you do not sign up for a grading slot over the week following your submission, your assignment will not be graded.

For your in-person grading appointment you will need to be able to discuss:

- The basic algorithm of each sort you implemented (without looking at your code).
- The big-O run time for best, average, and worse case of each sort and also what kind of data will result in the best, average and worst cases (as applicable).
- The details of your implementation of each sort with regards to its basic algorithm.
- Whether, using some empirical data (which we provide), whether your implementation is behaving as it should
- Do some basic arithmetic.