

# Backend Developer Coding Exercise

## Overview

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The purpose of this exercise is to test your knowledge and ease of use with Scala. We appreciate that you have a life outside of this process, but hope this exercise is a little fun for you, too. If this exercise takes more than a few days, please let us know. Thank you for your time and effort you are putting forward to interview with us!

## Deliverables

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- ✓ Please share a Github code repository with rockerrecruit when you feel you have a good solution.
- ✓ Code to implement a version of the below instructions.
- ✓ A README containing instructions so that we know how to build and run your code.

## Instructions

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The exercise is to write a command line driven text search engine, with usage being:

```
sbt
> runMain test.SimpleSearch directoryContainingTextFiles
```

This should read all the text files in the given directory, building an *in memory* representation of the files and their contents, and then give a command prompt at which interactive searches can be performed.

- An example session might look like:

```
$ runMain test.SimpleSearch /foo/bar
14 files read in directory /foo/bar
search> to be or not to be
file1.txt : 100% file2.txt : 90%
search> cats
no matches found
search> :quit
```

The search should take the words given on the prompt and return a list of the top 10 (maximum) matching filenames in rank order, giving the rank score against each match.

**Note:** We would like to see a working console application, please focus your attention on the search algorithm and the basic console functionality (you can assume that the input strings are the same).

## Ranking

- The rank must be 100% if a file contains all the words
- It must be 0% if it contains none of the words
- It should be between 0 and 100 if it contains only some of the words but the exact ranking formula is up to you to choose and implement

## Things to consider in your implementation (please read carefully)

- We are expecting 'production like' code, i.e. fully tested and well structured code, but not necessarily feature complete
- You should be spending 3-4 hours on the task, so basic functionality is better than a complex scoring algorithm and no console application.
- External libraries are forbidden, other than test/mocking frameworks
- Ranking score design — start with something basic, then iterate as time allows
- The in memory representation — searches should be relatively efficient
- What constitutes a word?
- What constitutes two words being equal (and matching)?

## Resources

- If you need text files for testing, you can find an archive here:  
<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1FWkAQsezG6SRKhgeYTnwC2XutAbf590U?usp=sharing>
- **Example starting point, this may not be as testable as you would want.**

```
import java.io.File

import scala.util.Try

object Main extends App {
  Program
    .readFile(args)
    .fold(
      println,
      file => Program.iterate(Program.index(file))
    )
}

object Program {
  import scala.io.StdIn.readLine

  case class Index() // TODO: Implement this

  sealed trait ReadFileError

  case object MissingPathArg extends ReadFileError
  case class NotDirectory(error: String) extends ReadFileError
  case class FileNotFound(t: Throwable) extends ReadFileError

  def readFile(args: Array[String]): Either[ReadFileError, File] = {
    for {
      path <- args.headOption.toRight(MissingPathArg)
      file <- Try(new java.io.File(path))
    } fold(
      throwable => Left(FileNotFound(throwable)),
      file =>
        if (file.isDirectory) Right(file)
        else Left(NotDirectory(s"Path [$path] is not a directory"))
    )
  } yield file
}
```

```
}

// TODO: Index all files in the directory
def index(file: File): Index = ???

def iterate(indexedFiles: Index): Unit = {
  print(s"search> ")
  val searchString = readLine()
  // TODO: Make it print the ranking of each file and its corresponding score
  iterate(indexedFiles)
}
}
```