



East Central NA 2019 – 2020 Regional Programming Contest

Final Report

The East Central NA region held its 2019 – 2020 regional contest on October 26, 2020. The contest was successful although it did have two issues of note, which are detailed below. The following report summarizes the contest.

115 teams from 43 colleges and universities across the region competed at the contest. The contest was held simultaneously at four sites:

- University of Cincinnati (Cincinnati, OH) – 26 teams from 11 schools
- Grand Valley State University (Allendale, MI) – 22 teams from 8 schools
- University of Windsor (Windsor, ON) – 24 teams from 8 schools
- Youngstown State University (Youngstown, OH) – 43 teams from 16 schools

Some observations regarding the contest:

- The software environment was modeled after the specifications given for the 2019 World Finals. Only minor modifications were made to account for hardware differences and matching the C++ standard to what Kattis uses.
- We used Kattis again as the contest control system.
- The contest started promptly at 10am and ended at 3pm.
- The contest consisted of 11 problems with 89 teams solving at least one problem.
- The maximum number of problems solved by one team was 11.

Issues

There were two issues of note during the contest.

Three clarification requests between 01:55:00 and 02:40:00 alerted the judges to a problem with the judging data for problem B (Bio Trip). Four test cases turned out to have multiple roads between junctions; the input was insufficient to determine the proper connection between roads in those cases. The problematic test cases were removed and all submissions up to that point were rejudged. No failed submissions were due to the bad test cases and no standings changed.

After the problem set was distributed for printing, it was discovered that two problems did not specify the number of decimal places for input values. The online versions were corrected and teams were alerted prior to the start of the contest that a clarification would be sent at the start of the contest. A clarification was sent at the start of the contest alerting teams to the differences in the problem statements.