



SPL-1 Project Report 2020

Computerized Adaptive Test System

SE 305: Software Project Lab I

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A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in dark ink, which appears to be 'Zerina Begum'.

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1. Introduction

This project is about special kind of exam test system which is called computerized adaptive test system. This is one kind of computer administered test which adapts to the candidate's ability in real-time by selecting different questions from the bank in order to provide a more accurate measure of their ability level on a common scale. Basically the students will get questions according to their ability where there will be around 50% chance of giving correct answer. I create questions for students of class 9-12 and get their ability based on two algorithms (**Rasch** algorithm and **Monte Carlo** algorithm). Computer will generate questions by these algorithms where next question will arrive according to the response of previous question.

2. Background Study

Some prior study was needed, to implement this project.

2.1. Computer Adaptive Test System

I studied computer adaptive test system from Wikipedia. This is a form of computer-based test that adapts to the examinee's ability level. In other words, it is a form of computer-administered test in which the next item or set of items selected to be administered depends on the correctness of the test taker's responses to the most recent items administered. So, I had to study some algorithms to learn this test system such as **Rasch** and **Monte Carlo** algorithm.

2.2. Rasch Algorithm

There were not enough resources about this Rasch model. Fortunately, I found some on internet where **Estimation of a Rasch model** is used to estimate the parameters of the Rasch model. Various techniques are employed to estimate the parameters from matrices of response data. The most common approaches are types of **maximum likelihood** estimation, **item response theory**. That's why I have to learn statistical things and item response theory.

2.3. Monte Carlo

This is another approach to generate CAT system. I studied about this algorithm on Wikipedia where it states that it uses randomized method on samples to get a best result. It also uses probability distribution to predict student's response. That's why

I had to learn more about probability distribution. Here is used 1RT response theory to estimate the ability and probability of giving correct answer of a student.

2.4. Statistics

Statistic is most important part in this project. I had to learn main basic things of statistics such as dichotomous variables, variance, standard deviation, maximum likelihood, probability distribution etc.

3. Challenges

There are a number of challenges in implementing a big project for the first time. There are many challenges I have faced to implement this project. There are some of them –

1. Working with header files for the first time
2. Working with multiple source files
3. Statistical learning –
 - Implementing Maximum Likelihood method
 - Implementing Estimate measure
4. Finding resources as there were not enough
5. Working with files
6. Making lots of MCQ question
7. Synchronizing questions according to difficulty level
8. Partitioning question file
9. Reading and writing on files in c++
10. Generating user manual
11. Learning OOP in c++.
12. Lockdown as well as I belong to flood affected area that breaks my confidence to continue the project.

4. Objectives

1. Provide more accurate measurement.
2. Higher engagement of students.
3. Remove depression of students.
4. To make test easier and quicker to implement and report.
5. Make students familiar with this system.
6. This will help teachers to know the student's ability more accurately.

5. Project Overview

I have divided my whole project into two different parts. They are__

→Teacher

- i. Create Account
- ii. Log In
 - a) Rasch Result
 - b) Monte Carlo Result

→Student

- i. Create Account
- ii. Log In
 - a) Test by Rasch Algorithm
 - b) Test by Monte Carlo Algorithm

5.1. Creating Account

Teacher/student can create account by giving their 5 tuples (username, first name, last name, email id and password). For creating account, it can check whether username is already taken or not. If username is already taken, user can try again. After giving the required information it stores the data in a file for future checking in Log In.

```

70 void Create_Login(bool who)
71 {
72     account ac;
73     string your_username;
74     string your_firstname;
75     string your_lastname;
76     string your_email;
77     string your_password;
78     while(1)
79     {
80         bool is_valid = 1;
81         if(who==1)
82         {
83             accounts_info = Accounts_info;
84         }
85         else if(who==0)
86         {
87             accounts_info = Students_account_info;
88         }
89         cout << "\n\t\t\t\t\tEnter your username : \n";
90         cin >> your_username;
91         for(int i=0;i<accounts_info.size();i++)
92         {
93             if(your_username==accounts_info[i].account_username)
94             {
95                 is_valid = 0;
96                 cout << "\n\t\t\t\t\tThis username is already taken.Try another.\n";
97                 break;
98             }
99         }
100         if(is_valid)
101         {

```

Figure: Create Account code

5.2. Log In

If teacher or student already has an account, teacher/student can log in. Here it can check whether username and password is correct or not.

```


bool login(bool who)
{
    while(1)
    {
        if(who==1)
        {
            accounts_info = Accounts_info;
        }
        else if(who==0)
        {
            accounts_info = Students_account_info;
        }
        cout << "\n\t\t\t\t\tYou need to enter username and password\n\t\t\t\t\tUsername and Password: ";
        cin >> userNameAttempt;
        cin >> passwordAttempt;
        int fl=0;
        for(int i=0;i<accounts_info.size();i++)
        {
            if(userNameAttempt==accounts_info[i].account_username && passwordAttempt == accounts_info[i].account_password)
            {
                fl=1;
                break;
            }
        }
        if(fl)
        {
            cout << "\n\t\t\t\t\tLogged In SUCCESSFULLY!\n";
            return 1;
        }
    }
}

```

Figure: Log In code

5.3. Question Partitioning

I had to make lots of questions and synchronize them according to their difficulty level. I made a file where questions are attached with solutions and synchronize them to read the file easily.



```
void ReadRasch()
{
    FILE *fp;
    char ch;
    string str, question;
    fp = fopen("rasch.txt", "r" );
    if (fp==NULL)
    {
        cout << "File isn't open#";
    }
    while((ch = fgetc(fp)) != EOF)
    {
        question = question + ch;
    }
    int ELine=0, i=0;
    stringstream X(question);
    while(getline(X, str, '#'))
    {
        if(ELine==(10*9))
        {
            i++;
            ELine=0;
        }
        Rasch[i][ELine++] = str;
    }
    fclose(fp);
}
```

Figure: Partitioning question file

5.4. Randomizing questions and multiple choices

Here questions and multiple options are randomized. It will make students aware of study as plagiarism is going to be tough. There is another feature that is skipping the questions at most 3 times.

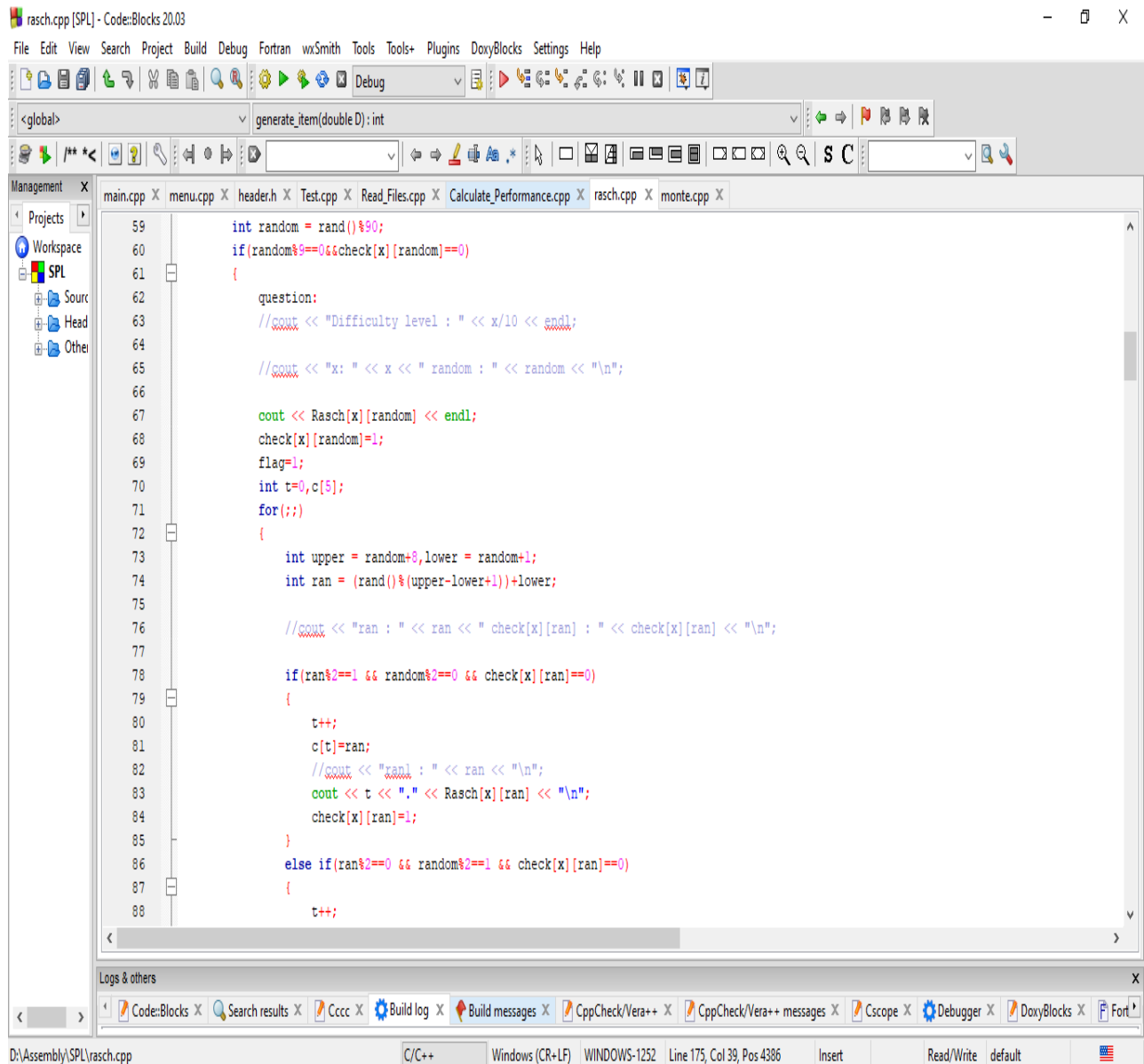


Figure: Randomizing questions and multiple choices code

5.5. Implementing Rasch Algorithm

In this algorithm, if student's response is correct, he/she will get a higher level question, otherwise he/she will get lower level question. For example, suppose initial question's difficulty is D and number of question is L . If student's response is correct, new difficulty will be $D = D + (D/L)$, otherwise, $D = D - (D/L)$. According to the responses, it will measure probability, estimate ability, variance and standard error.


```

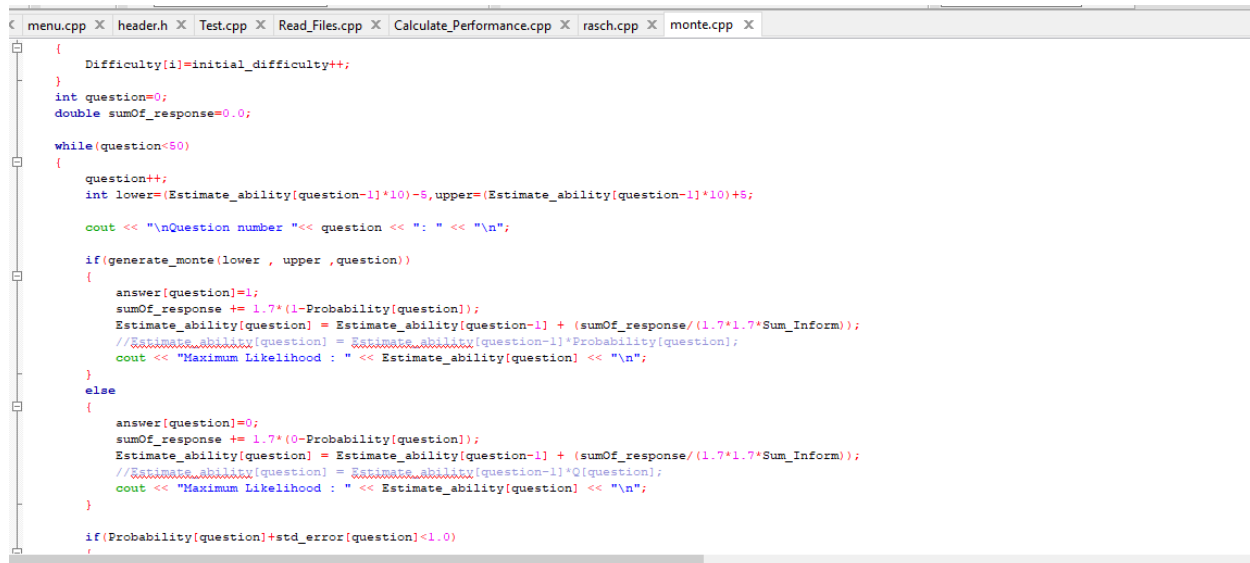
main.cpp X menu.cpp X header.h X Test.cpp X Read_Files.cpp X Calculate_Performance.cpp X rasch.cpp X monte.cpp X
232     int W = L - R;
233     iter++;
234
235     difficult_level[iter]=D;
236     L++;
237     H=H+D;
238
239     int response=generate_item(D);
240     if(!response)
241     {
242         D=D-(2.0/L);
243         cout << "D : " << D << "\n";
244     }
245     else
246     {
247         R++;
248         D=D+(2.0/L);
249         cout << "D : " << D << "\n";
250     }
251     if(Stop_rule(L))
252     {
253         cout << "stop\n";
254         double W = L-R;
255         if(W==0)
256         {
257             B= (H*1.0)/L + log((R-0.5)/(W+0.5));
258             S= sqrt(L/(R-.5)*(W+0.5));
259         }
260         else if(R==0)
261         {
262             B= H/L + log((R+0.5)/(W-0.5));
263             S= sqrt(L/(R+.5)*(W-0.5));
264         }
265         else
266         {
267             B = H/L + log(R/W);
268             S = sqrt(L/(R*W));
269         }
270         cout << "B : " << B << " S: " << S << "\n";
271         if( B < (T+S) && B > (T-S) )
272         {
273             goto Loop;
274         }

```

Figure: Rasch code

5.6. Implementing Monte Carlo Algorithm

In this algorithm, computer will choose difficulty level randomly from a range. For example, if initial difficulty level is 0, it will generate question of difficulty from -5 to +5 randomly. More formally, according to the response it will find estimate ability, after that it will generate question of difficulty from range [estimate ability -5, estimate ability + 5]. It uses probability, variance and information to measure estimate ability of the student.



```

menu.cpp X header.h X Test.cpp X Read_Files.cpp X Calculate_Performance.cpp X rasch.cpp X monte.cpp X
{
    Difficulty[i]=initial_difficulty++;
}
int question=0;
double sumOf_response=0.0;

while(question<50)
{
    question++;
    int lower=(Estimate_ability[question-1]*10)-5, upper=(Estimate_ability[question-1]*10)+5;

    cout << "\nQuestion number " << question << " : " << "\n";

    if(generate_monte(lower , upper , question))
    {
        answer[question]=1;
        sumOf_response += 1.7*(1-Probability[question]);
        Estimate_ability[question] = Estimate_ability[question-1] + (sumOf_response/(1.7*1.7*Sum_Inform));
        //Estimate_ability[question] = Estimate_ability[question-1]*Probability[question];
        cout << "Maximum Likelihood : " << Estimate_ability[question] << "\n";
    }
    else
    {
        answer[question]=0;
        sumOf_response += 1.7*(0-Probability[question]);
        Estimate_ability[question] = Estimate_ability[question-1] + (sumOf_response/(1.7*1.7*Sum_Inform));
        //Estimate_ability[question] = Estimate_ability[question-1]*Q[question];
        cout << "Maximum Likelihood : " << Estimate_ability[question] << "\n";
    }

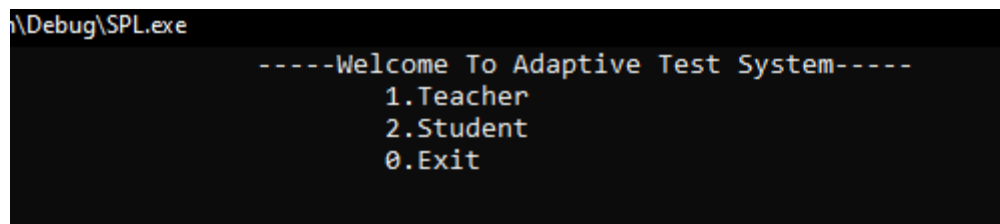
    if(Probability[question]+std_error[question]<1.0)
    {

```

Figure: Monte Carlo code

6. User Manual

A user can create an account either a teacher account or a student account. Teacher will have access to show the result and students are the participants of this test system.



```

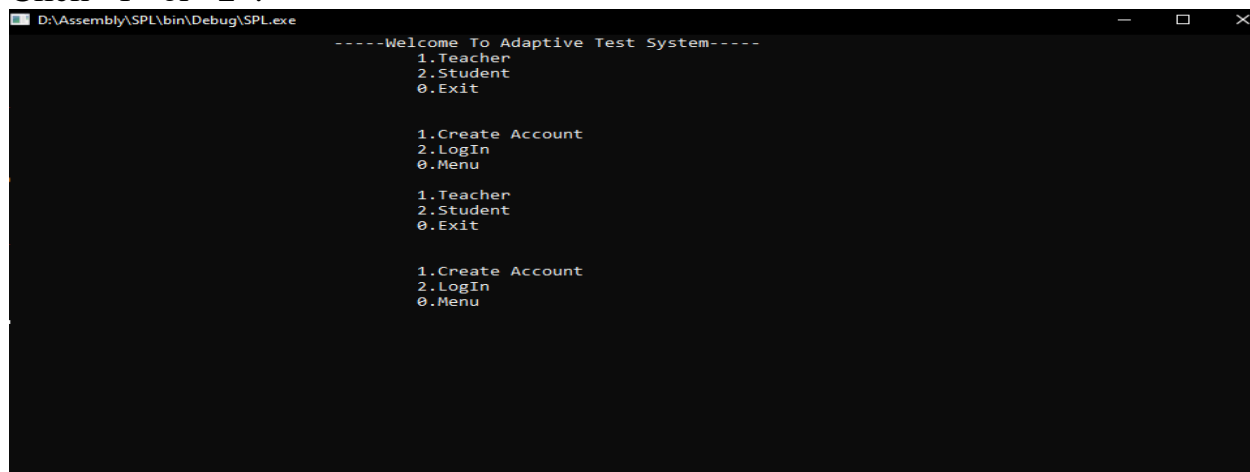
D:\Debug\SPL.exe

-----Welcome To Adaptive Test System-----
1.Teacher
2.Student
0.Exit

```

Figure: User manual 1st screen

Click “1” or “2”:



```

D:\Assembly\SPL\bin\Debug\SPL.exe

-----Welcome To Adaptive Test System-----
1.Teacher
2.Student
0.Exit

1.Create Account
2.LogIn
0.Menu

1.Teacher
2.Student
0.Exit

1.Create Account
2.LogIn
0.Menu

```

Figure: Teachers and students LogInManager

For creating an account one have to provide:

- User name
- First name
- Last name
- Email ID
- Password

For log in one have to provide:

- User name
- Password

After creating an account, one can login from his account. After that, one can able to do the next steps. Students work is to give exam and teachers work is to collect the results of all students.

```

223
224 D:\Assembly\SPL\bin\Debug\SPL.exe
225 -----Welcome To Adaptive Test System-----
226         1.Teacher
227         2.Student
228         0.Exit
229 2
230
231         1.Create Account
232         2.LogIn
233         0.Menu
234 2
235
236         You need to enter username and password
237         Username and Password: khairul
238 khairul82
239
240         Logged In SUCCESSFULLY!
241
242         Enter your name: Khairul
243
244         Enter student id(e.g.BSSE1118): bsse1118
245
246         1.Exit
247         2.Test By Rasch Algorithm
248         3.Test By Monte Carlo Algo
249         0.Menu
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For Starting the test:

Student can give the exam using two algorithms (**Rasch and Monte Carlo**). After that, they will get questions.

```

D:\Assembly\SPL\bin\Debug\SPL.exe
Logged In SUCCESSFULLY!
Enter your name: Muktar
Enter student id(e.g.BSSE1118): bsse1116
1.Exit
2.Test By Rasch Algorithm
3.Test By Monte Carlo Algo
0.Menu

If You Want To Skip Question Write 'SKIP'.You can not skip more than 3 times.
....
| 1 |
....

54 km/h equals to which of the following?

1.15 m/s
2.12 m/s
3.25 m/s
4.20 m/s

Good! Your Answer is Correct
Difficulty, D : 2
....
| 2 |
....

How many elements are recognised by IUPAC?

```

Figure: Rasch Testing

```

D:\Assembly\SPL\bin\Debug\SPL.exe
Enter student id(e.g.BSSE1118): bsse1116
1.Exit
2.Test By Rasch Algorithm
3.Test By Monte Carlo Algo
0.Menu

If You Want To Skip Question Write 'SKIP'.You can not skip more than 3 times.
Question number 1:
How many elements are recognised by IUPAC?

1.98
2.118
3.114
4.112

Difficulty : 0.4
Probability : 44.2752%
Q : 55.7248%
Standard Error : 2.01324

***Your answer is incorrect***

Maximum Likelihood : -0.955608
Question number 2:
WHO IS THE CAPTAIN OF BANGLADESH ODI CRICKET TEAM?

1.Liton Das

```

Figure: Monte testing

Skipping questions:

Students are able to skip questions at most 3 times as their need.

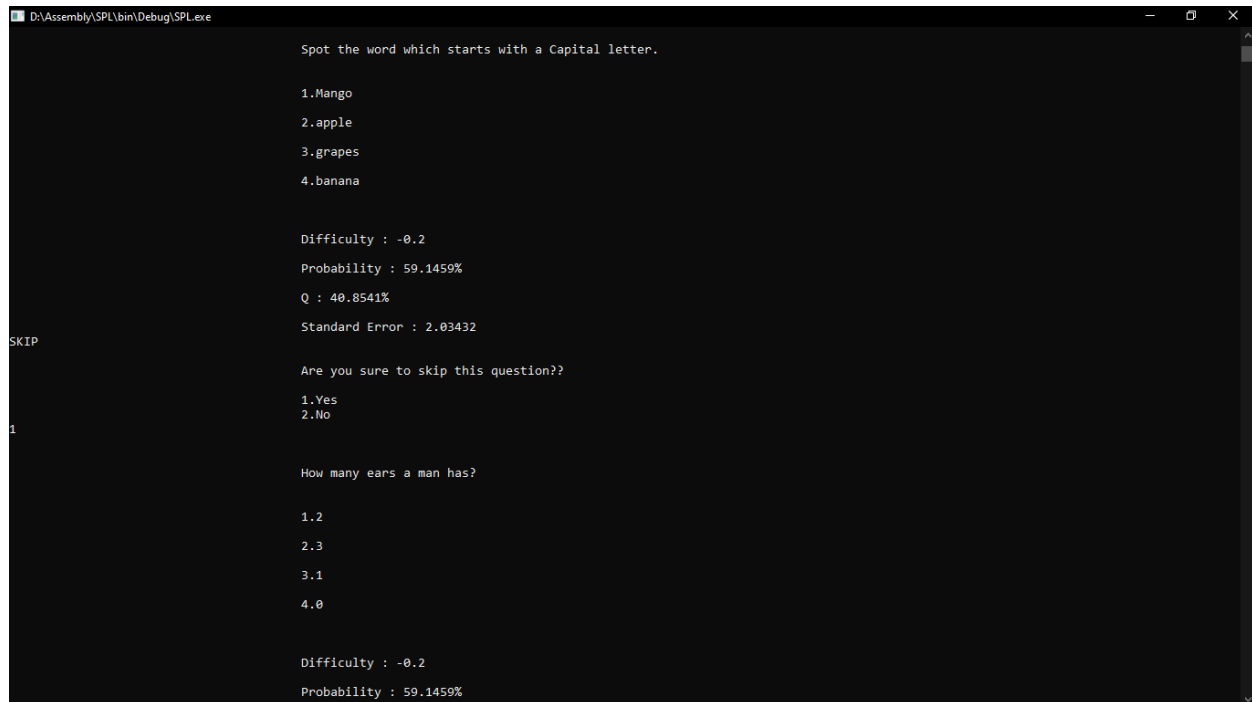


Figure: Skip Questions

Showing results:

Teachers have access to show the results. There are two kinds of result. They are **Rasch** and **Monte Carlo**.

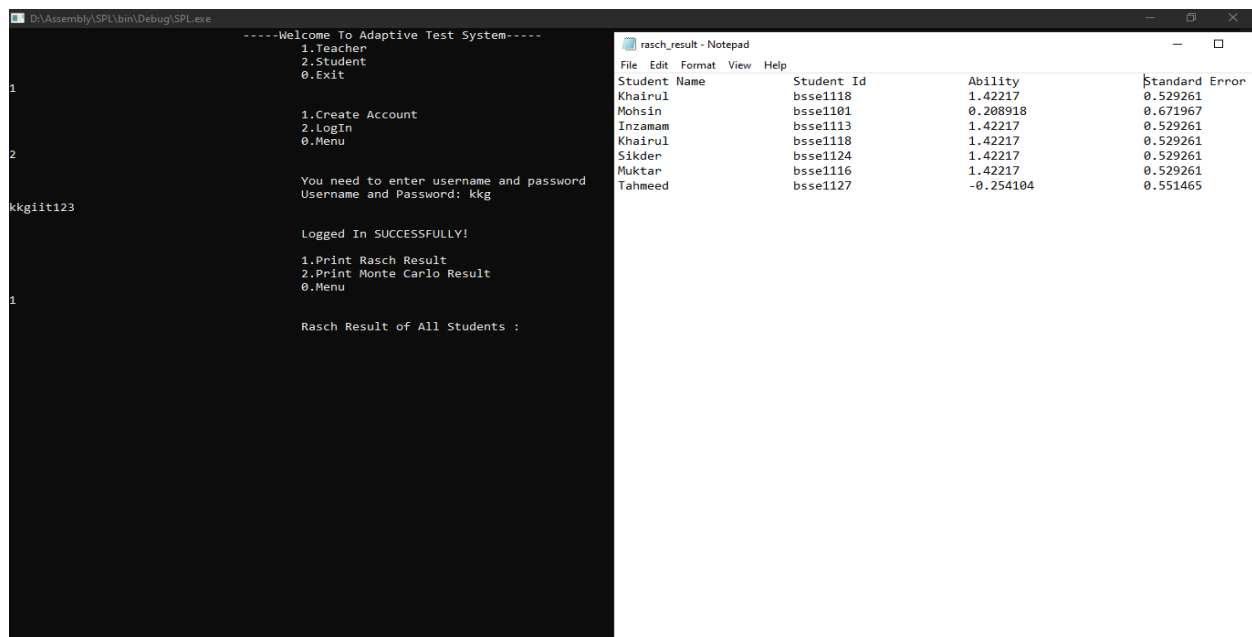


Figure: Rasch result

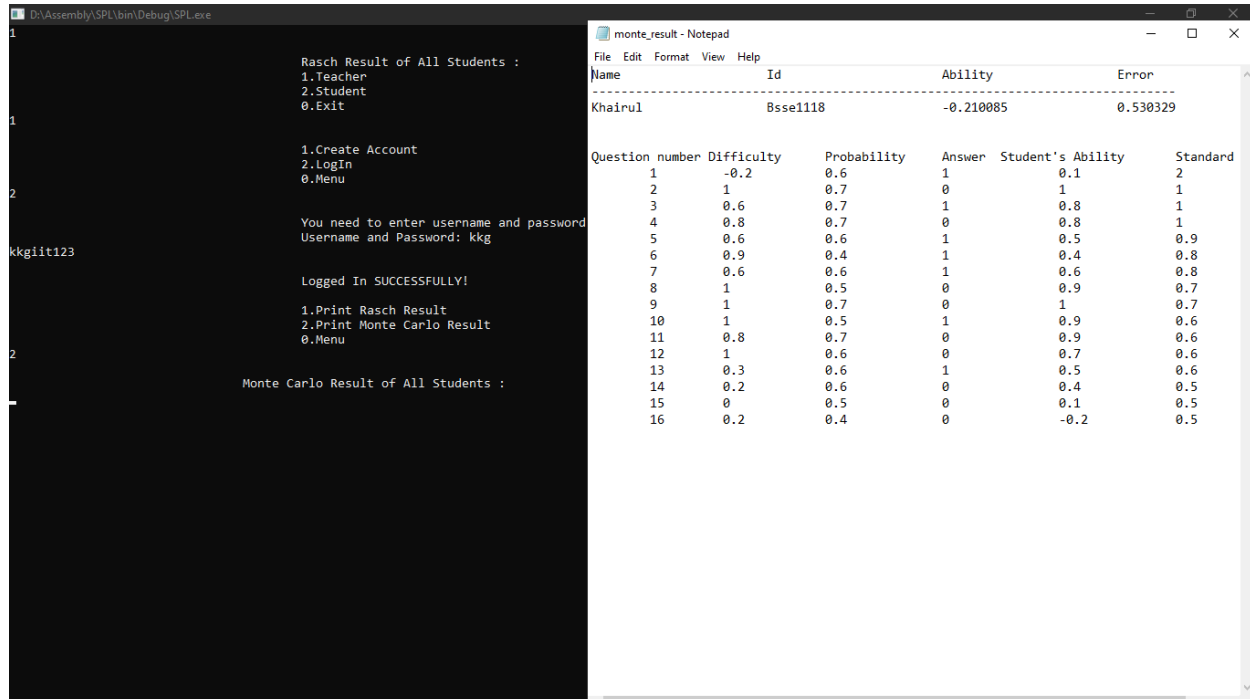


Figure: Monte Carlo result

7. Conclusion

By implementing this project, I could learn many topics such as reading and writing in files, creating class and object in c++, randomizing, statistical learning, **Rasch** algorithm, **Monte Carlo** algorithm. It was tough to maintain large amount of codes. It provides confidence to me for working in future projects. This project was quiet challenging and I gained a lot of experience from it. I want to thank my supervisor and other respectable teachers for guiding me a lot during this project.

8. Scope

I have implemented both **Rasch** and **Monte Carlo** algorithm. I made lots of questions and leveled them according to difficulty.

I want to develop this project using machine learning algorithm (Classifier algorithm) to estimate response of the students more accurately in future. In future, I want to add Bangla question facility to this project. For the betterment of this project, I want to create a web application that should be accessed by students of all over the world.

9. Github link:

→ <https://github.com/meKhairul/SPL---1>

10. References

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