

Cortica Testing Questions

Revision	Date	Modified by	Comments
1.0	March 2016	Yuval Woldman	

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Overview

The following document lists questions to be asked Cortica Employee candidates.

Important notes:

- Use coherent names in code.
- Make sure code compiles.
- For each class implement a test application which runs it.
- Deliver fully functioning application and the source code.
- Keep OOP in mind when designing the code.
- Keep performance in mind when designing the code.
- Keep boundary cases in mind when designing the code.
- Always validate user input.
- Handle exceptions.
- Use coherent notifications and readouts.
- Use any of the following programming languages: C# / C++ / Java / Python
- All applications should be repeatable (Given the same input, the application should behave exactly the same always, and produce the same output).

Task #1: Multithreaded matching

Scenario:

We have 2 directories which contain CSV files.

We need to be able to determine which CSV files in the 1st directory are similar to CSV files in the 2nd directory.

Definitions:

- Two directories, each containing CSV files.
- Each CSV files contains a sorted (Ascending) set of integer numbers (1 row only).
- A CSV file is considered “similar” to another CSV file if both files contain at least X of the same numbers.

Desired function:

We want to copy all CSV files from directory “A”, which are similar to at least 1 csv file in directory “B”, to directory “C”

Instruction:

Write a class which handles, in multi-threading, the loading, “similarity” testing and copying of files

The class should have a method which returns VOID and receives 3 strings (A,B & C, each a directory path) and an int (X, minimal amount of equal numbers).

Task #2: Rush Hour

Scenario:

In our server farm, there are certain times of day in which we get a higher number of requests. During these time-spans we want to respond by allocating more resources, to give better service. Outside these time-spans we want to remove resources, to save on energy.

We need to be able to know which times of day are such "Rush Hours"

Instruction:

Write a class which can receive time-spans that are defined as "Rush Hours", remember them, and can also answer queries about a specific time of day - whether it is considered rush hour or not.

The class provides the following interfaces:

1. void AddTimeSpan(float start_time, float end_time);
2. boolean IsRushHour(float time);

Assumptions:

- When the class is initialized, there are no rush hours at all. The user can then add time-spans of rush hours using the "AddTimeSpan" interface. The user can at any time query about a specific time using the "IsRushHour" interface.
- Assume that "IsRushHour" is called very frequently, and "AddTimeSpan" is called less frequently.
- Assume that the system will live forever, and performance should not degrade over time.
- float T is a valid time of day if ($T \geq 0.00$ and $T < 24.00$). You can not assume anything about the input. You must support any valid time.
- If the input is invalid (meaning $T < 0$ or $T \geq 24.00$), behaviour is not defined.
- IMPORTANT: The internal representation of time spans must be minimal. For example, if the same time span is added twice, there should be no change to the internal data structures.

Usage Example:

```
- Init() // System is initialized in an empty state
- IsRushHour(3.00) --> False
- IsRushHour(5.00) --> False

- AddTimeSpan(2.00, 4.00)
- IsRushHour(3.00) --> True
- IsRushHour(5.00) --> False

- AddTimeSpan(7.00, 9.00)
- IsRushHour(3.00) --> True
- IsRushHour(5.00) --> False
- IsRushHour(7.00) --> True
- IsRushHour(11.00) --> False

- AddTimeSpan(8.00, 12.00)
- IsRushHour(3.00) --> True
- IsRushHour(5.00) --> False
- IsRushHour(7.00) --> True
- IsRushHour(11.00) --> True
```

Bonus:

How would your solution be different if we changed the definition of "time" to be an integer, representing the time of day in seconds? (answer in words)