§1 SSXCC-BINARY INTRO 1

(See https://cs.stanford.edu/~knuth/programs.html for date.)

1. Intro. This program is an "XCC solver" that I'm writing as an experiment in the use of so-called sparse-set data structures instead of the dancing links structures that I've played with for thirty years. I plan to write it as if I live on a planet where the sparse-set ideas are well known, but doubly linked links are almost unheard-of.

The difference between this program and SSXCC, on which it's based, is that I use binary branching 'i = o' versus ' $i \neq o$ ' at each step, where i is an item and o is an option, while SSXCC does d-way branching on all d options that currently cover item i. The reason for binary branching is that I plan to extend this program in various ways, in order to experiment with several dynamic branching heuristics that I've seen in the literature; those heuristics were designed with binary branching in mind.

I suggest that you read SSXCC first.

After this program finds all solutions, it normally prints their total number on *stderr*, together with statistics about how many nodes were in the search tree, and how many "updates" were made. The running time in "mems" is also reported, together with the approximate number of bytes needed for data storage. (An "update" is the removal of an option from its item list, or the removal of a satisfied color constraint from its option. One "mem" essentially means a memory access to a 64-bit word. The reported totals don't include the time or space needed to parse the input or to format the output.)

```
\#define o mems ++
                        /* count one mem */
#define oo mems += 2
                            /* count two mems */
                             /* count three mems */
#define ooo mems += 3
\#define subroutine\_overhead mems += 4
\#define O "%"
                    /* used for percent signs in format strings */
#define mod %
                     /* used for percent signs denoting remainder in C */
\#define max\_stage
                           /* at most this many options in a solution */
#define max\_level 32000
                             /* at most this many levels in the search tree */
                              /* at most this many items */
#define max\_cols 100000
                                 /* at most this many nonzero elements in the matrix */
#define max\_nodes 10000000
                               /* at most this many entries on savestack */
#define savesize 10000000
#define bufsize (9*max\_cols + 3)
                                      /* a buffer big enough to hold all item names */
#define show_basics 1
                           /* vbose code for basic stats; this is the default */
#define show_choices 2
                            /* vbose code for backtrack logging */
                           /* vbose code for further commentary */
#define show_details 4
                                   /* vbose code for first time a weight appears */
#define show_record_weights 16
#define show_weight_bumps
                            32
                                   /* vbose code to show new weights */
#define show_final_weights
                           64
                                  /* vbose code to display weights at the end */
#define show_profile 128
                             /* vbose code to show the search tree profile */
#define show_full_state 256
                                /* vbose code for complete state reports */
                           /* vbose code for reporting item totals at start */
#define show\_tots 512
                                 /* vbose code for reporting options without primaries */
#define show_warnings
                        1024
                                /* vbose code for reporting maximum branching degree */
#define show_max_deg 2048
```

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```
2. Here is the overall structure:
```

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <string.h>
#include <ctype.h>
#include "gb_flip.h"
  typedef unsigned int uint;
                                         /* a convenient abbreviation */
  typedef unsigned long long ullng;
                                                 /* ditto */
  \langle \text{Type definitions 8} \rangle;
  \langle \text{Global variables 3} \rangle;
  \langle \text{Subroutines } 6 \rangle;
  main(\mathbf{int} \ argc, \mathbf{char} * argv[])
     \textbf{register int}\ c, cc, i, j, k, p, pp, q, r, s, t, cur\_choice, cur\_node, best\_itm;
     \langle \text{Process the command line 4} \rangle;
     \langle \text{Input the item names } 15 \rangle;
     \langle \text{Input the options } 17 \rangle;
     if (vbose & show_basics) \langle Report the successful completion of the input phase 24 \rangle;
     if (vbose \& show\_tots) \land Report the item totals 25 \rangle;
     imems = mems, mems = 0;
     if (baditem) (Report an uncoverable item 23)
     else {
       if (randomizing) \langle Randomize the item list 26 \rangle;
       \langle Solve the problem 29\rangle;
  done: if (vbose & show_profile) \( \text{Print the profile 49} \);
     if (vbose & show_final_weights) {
       fprintf(stderr, "Final weights: \n");
       print_weights();
     if (vbose \& show\_max\_deg) \ fprintf(stderr, "The\_maximum\_best\_itm\_size\_was_\"O"d.\n", maxdeg);
     if (vbose & show_basics) {
       fprintf(stderr, "Altogether_"O"llu_solution"O"s,_"O"llu+"O"llu_mems,", count,
             count \equiv 1 ? "" : "s", imems, mems);
       bytes = (itemlength + setlength) * sizeof(int) + last\_node * sizeof
             (node) + 2 * maxl * sizeof(int) + maxsaveptr * sizeof(twoints);
       fprintf(stderr, " " O" 1 1 u updates, " O" 1 1 u bytes, " O" 1 1 u nodes, ", updates, bytes, nodes);
       fprintf(stderr, "\cupacture" O"11d\%.\n", mems? (200 * cmems + mems)/(2 * mems) : 0);
     if (sanity_checking) fprintf(stderr, "sanity_checking_was_on!\n");
     \langle \text{Close the files 5} \rangle;
```

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**3.** You can control the amount of output, as well as certain properties of the algorithm, by specifying options on the command line:

- 'v(integer)' enables or disables various kinds of verbose output on stderr, given by binary codes such as show\_choices;
- 'm(integer)' causes every mth solution to be output (the default is m0, which merely counts them);
- 's(integer)' causes the algorithm to randomize the initial list of items (thus providing some variety, although the solutions are by no means uniformly random);
- 'd(integer)' sets *delta*, which causes periodic state reports on *stderr* after the algorithm has performed approximately *delta* mems since the previous report (default 10000000000);
- 'c (positive integer)' limits the levels on which choices are shown during verbose tracing;
- 'C' (positive integer)' limits the levels on which choices are shown in the periodic state reports (default 10);
- '1 (nonnegative integer)' gives a *lower* limit, relative to the maximum level so far achieved, to the levels on which choices are shown during verbose tracing;
- 't (positive integer)' causes the program to stop after this many solutions have been found;
- 'T(integer)' sets timeout (which causes abrupt termination if mems > timeout at the beginning of a level);
- 'w (float)' is the initial increment dw added to an item's weight (default 1.0);
- 'W (float)' is the factor by which dw changes dynamically (default 1.0);
- 'S' (filename)' to output a "shape file" that encodes the search tree.

```
\langle \text{Global variables } 3 \rangle \equiv
                          /* seed for the random words of gb\_rand */
  int random\_seed = 0;
  int randomizing; /* has 's' been specified? */
  int\ vbose = show\_basics + show\_warnings; /* level of verbosity */
                 /* solution k is output if k is a multiple of spacing */
  int show\_choices\_max = 1000000;
                                   /* above this level, show_choices is ignored */
  int show\_choices\_gap = 1000000;
                                    /* below level maxl - show_choices_gap, show_details is ignored */
                               /* above this level, state reports stop */
  int show\_levels\_max = 10;
               /* maximum level actually reached */
  int maxl:
               /* maximum stage actually reached */
  int maxs;
                     /* maximum size of savestack */
  int maxsaveptr;
                     /* input buffer */
  char buf [bufsize];
                  /* solutions found so far */
  ullng count;
                  /* options seen so far */
  ullng options;
  ullng imems, mems, tmems, cmems;
                                        /* mem counts */
                   /* update counts */
  ullng updates;
                  /* memory used by main data structures */
  ullng bytes;
                  /* total number of branch nodes initiated */
  ullng nodes;
  ullng thresh = 100000000000;
                                /* report when mems exceeds this, if delta \neq 0 */
  ullng delta = 100000000000;
                                /* report every delta or so mems */
  /* stop after finding this many solutions */
                                          /* give up after this many mems */
  float w\theta = 1.0, dw = 1.0, dw factor = 1.0; /* initial weight, increment, and growth */
  float maxwt = 1.0:
                       /* largest weight seen so far */
                       /* file for optional output of search tree shape */
  FILE *shape_file;
  char *shape_name;
                       /* its name */
                 /* the largest branching degree seen so far */
  int maxdeg;
See also sections 9, 28, and 30.
This code is used in section 2.
```

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If an option appears more than once on the command line, the first appearance takes precedence.  $\langle \text{ Process the command line 4} \rangle \equiv$ for (j = argc - 1, k = 0; j; j - -)switch (arqv[j][0]) { case 'v': k = (sscanf(argv[j] + 1, ""O"d", &vbose) - 1); break; case 'm': k = (sscanf(argv[j] + 1, ""O"d", &spacing) - 1); break; case 's':  $k = (sscanf(argv[j] + 1, ""O"d", \&random\_seed) - 1), randomizing = 1; break;$ case 'd': k = (sscanf(argv[j] + 1, ""O"11d", &delta) - 1), thresh = delta; break;case 'c':  $k = (sscanf(argv[j] + 1, ""O"d", \&show\_choices\_max) - 1);$  break; case 'C':  $k = (sscanf(argv[j] + 1, ""O"d", \&show\_levels\_max) - 1);$  break; case '1':  $k = (sscanf(argv[j] + 1, ""O"d", \&show\_choices\_gap) - 1);$  break; case 't': k = (sscanf(argv[j] + 1, ""O"11d", & maxcount) - 1); break; case 'T': k = (sscanf(argv[j] + 1, ""O"lld", &timeout) - 1); break; **case** 'w': k = (sscanf(argv[j] + 1, ""O"f", &dw) - 1); **break**; case 'W': k = (sscanf(argv[j] + 1, ""O"f", &dwfactor) - 1); break; case 'S':  $shape\_name = argv[j] + 1$ ,  $shape\_file = fopen(shape\_name, "w")$ ; if  $(\neg shape\_file)$  $fprintf(stderr, "Sorry, \sqcup I \sqcup can't \sqcup open \sqcup file \sqcup `"O"s' \sqcup for \sqcup writing! \n", shape\_name);$ break; /\* unrecognized command-line option \*/ **default**: k = 1; **if** (k) {  $fprintf(stderr, "Usage: \_"O"s\_[v<n>]\_[m<n>]\_[s<n>]\_[d<n>] ""_[c<n>]_[C<n>]_[1<n\]$ exit(-1); **if** (randomizing) gb\_init\_rand(random\_seed); This code is used in section 2. 5.  $\langle \text{Close the files 5} \rangle \equiv$ **if** (shape\_file) fclose(shape\_file); This code is used in section 2. **6.** Here's a subroutine that I hope is never invoked (except maybe when I'm debugging).  $\langle \text{Subroutines } 6 \rangle \equiv$ **void**  $confusion(\mathbf{char} * m)$  $fprintf(stderr, ""O"s!\n", m);$ See also sections 11, 12, 13, 14, 34, 40, 46, 47, and 48. This code is used in section 2.

§7 SSXCC-BINARY DATA STRUCTURES 5

7. Data structures. Sparse-set data structures were introduced by Preston Briggs and Linda Torczon [ACM Letters on Programming Languages and Systems 2 (1993), 59–69], who realized that exercise 2.12 in Aho, Hopcroft, and Ullman's classic text The Design and Analysis of Computer Algorithms (Addison-Wesley, 1974) was much more than just a slick trick to avoid initializing an array. (Indeed, TAOCP exercise 2.2.6–24 calls it the "sparse array trick.")

The basic idea is amazingly simple, when specialized to the situations that we need to deal with: We can represent a subset S of the universe  $U = \{x_0, x_1, \ldots, x_{n-1}\}$  by maintaining two n-element arrays p and q, each of which is a permutation of  $\{0, 1, \ldots, n-1\}$ , together with an integer s in the range  $0 \le s \le n$ . In fact, p is the *inverse* of q; and s is the number of elements of S. The current value of the set S is then simply  $\{x_{p_0}, \ldots, x_{p_{s-1}}\}$ . (Notice that every s-element subset can be represented in s!(n-s)! ways.)

It's easy to test if  $x_k \in S$ , because that's true if and only if  $q_k < s$ . It's easy to insert a new element  $x_k$  into S: Swap indices so that  $p_s = k$ ,  $q_k = s$ , then increase s by 1. It's easy to delete an element  $x_k$  that belongs to S: Decrease s by 1, then swap indices so that  $p_s = k$  and  $q_k = s$ . And so on.

Briggs and Torczon were interested in applications where s begins at zero and tends to remain small. In such cases, p and q need not be permutations: The values of  $p_s$ ,  $p_{s+1}$ , ...,  $p_{n-1}$  can be garbage, and the values of  $q_k$  need be defined only when  $x_k \in S$ . (Such situations correspond to the treatment by Aho, Hopcroft, and Ullman, who started with an array full of garbage and used a sparse-set structure to remember the set of nongarbage cells.) Our applications are different: Each set begins equal to its intended universe, and gradually shrinks. In such cases, we might as well maintain inverse permutations. The basic operations go faster when we know in advance that we aren't inserting an element that's already present (nor deleting an element that isn't).

Many variations are possible. For example, p could be a permutation of  $\{x_0, x_1, \ldots, x_{n-1}\}$  instead of a permutation of  $\{0, 1, \ldots, n-1\}$ . The arrays that play the role of q in the following routines don't have indices that are consecutive; they live inside of other structures.

6 Data structures sexce-binary §8

8. This program has an array called *item*, with one entry for each item. The value of item[k] is an index x into a much larger array called set. The set of all options that involve the kth item appears in that array beginning at set[x]; and it continues for s consecutive entries, where s = size(x) is an abbreviation for set[x-1]. If item[k] = x, we maintain the relation pos(x) = k, where pos(x) is an abbreviation for set[x-2]. Thus item plays the role of array p, in a sparse-set data structure for the set of all currently active items; and pos plays the role of q.

A primary item x also has a wt field, set[x-5], initially 1. The weight is increased by dw whenever we backtrack because x cannot be covered. (Weights aren't actually used in the present program; that will come in extensions to be written later. But it will be convenient to have space ready for them in our data structures, so that those extensions will be easy to write.)

Suppose the kth item x currently appears in s options. Those options are indices into nd, which is an array of "nodes." Each node has three fields: itm, loc, and clr. If  $x \le q < x + s$ , let y = set[q]. This is essentially a pointer to a node, and we have nd[y].itm = x, nd[y].loc = q. In other words, the sequential list of s elements that begins at x = item[k] in the set array is the sparse-set representation of the currently active options that contain the kth item. The clr field nd[y].clr contains x's color for this option. The itm and clr fields remain constant, once we've initialized everything, but the loc fields will change.

The given options are stored sequentially in the nd array, with one node per item, separated by "spacer" nodes. If y is the spacer node following an option with t items, we have nd[y].itm = -t. If y is the spacer node preceding an option with t items, we have nd[y].loc = t.

This probably sounds confusing, until you can see some code. Meanwhile, let's take note of the invariant relations that hold whenever k, q, x, and y have appropriate values:

```
pos(item[k]) = k; nd[set[q]].loc = q; item[pos(x)] = x; set[nd[y].loc] = y.
```

(These are the analogs of the invariant relations p[q[k]] = q[p[k]] = k in the simple sparse-set scheme that we started with.)

The *set* array contains also the item names.

We count one mem for a simultaneous access to the itm and loc fields of a node. Each node actually has a "spare" fourth field, spr, inserted solely to enforce alignment to 16-byte boundaries. (Some modification of this program might perhaps have a use for spr?)

```
#define size(x) set[(x) - 1].i
                                   /* number of active options of the kth item, x */
#define pos(x) set[(x)-2].i
                                  /* where that item is found in the item array, k */
                                  /* the first four bytes of x's name */
#define lname(x) set[(x) - 4].i
#define rname(x) set[(x) - 3].i
                                   /* the last four bytes of x's name */
#define wt(x) set [(x) - 5]. /* the current floating-point "weight" of x */
#define primextra 5
                          /* this many extra entries of set for each primary item */
#define secondextra 4
                            /* and this many for each secondary item */
#define maxextra 5
                         /* maximum of primextra and secondextra */
\langle Type definitions 8 \rangle \equiv
  typedef struct node_struct {
                /* the item x corresponding to this node */
    int itm:
                /* where this node resides in x's active set */
    int loc:
                /* color associated with item x in this option, if any */
    int clr;
                /* a spare field inserted only to maintain 16-byte alignment */
    int spr;
  } node;
  typedef union {
             /* an integer (32 bits) */
    float f;
                /* a floating point value (fits in 4 bytes) */
  } tetrabyte;
See also section 10.
This code is used in section 2.
```

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```
9. \langle \text{Global variables } 3 \rangle + \equiv
  node nd[max\_nodes]; /* the master list of nodes */
  int last_node;
                   /* the first node in nd that's not yet used */
                        /* the master list of items */
  int item[max\_cols];
                             /* boundary between primary and secondary items */
  int second = max\_cols;
  int last_itm;
                   /* items seen so far during input, plus 1 */
  tetrabyte set[max\_nodes + maxextra * max\_cols]; /* active options for active items */
  int itemlength;
                     /* number of elements used in item */
                    /* number of elements used in set */
  int setlength;
                 /* current number of active items */
  int active;
  int baditem;
                   /* an item with no options, plus 1 */
  int osecond;
                   /* setting of second just after initial input */
                         /* stack of items known to have size 1 */
  int force[max\_cols];
  int forced:
                  /* the number of items on that stack */
10. We're going to store string data (an item's name) in the midst of the integer array set. So we've got
to do some type coercion using low-level C-ness.
\langle \text{Type definitions } 8 \rangle + \equiv
  typedef struct {
    int l, r;
  } twoints;
  typedef union {
    unsigned char str[8]; /* eight one-byte characters */
    twoints lr;
                    /* two four-byte integers */
  } stringbuf;
  stringbuf namebuf;
11. \langle \text{Subroutines } 6 \rangle + \equiv
  void print_item_name(int k, FILE *stream)
    namebuf.lr.l = lname(k), namebuf.lr.r = rname(k);
    fprintf(stream, " \sqcup "O".8s", namebuf.str);
```

8 DATA STRUCTURES SSXCC-BINARY §12

12. An option is identified not by name but by the names of the items it contains. Here is a routine that prints an option, given a pointer to any of its nodes. It also prints the position of the option in its item list.

```
\langle \text{Subroutines } 6 \rangle + \equiv
      void print_option(int p, FILE *stream, int showpos)
            register int k, q, x;
           x = nd[p].itm;
            if (p \ge last\_node \lor x \le 0) {
                 fprintf(stderr, "Illegal_option_"O"d!\n", p);
                 return;
            for (q = p; ; )  {
                  print\_item\_name(x, stream);
                  \textbf{if} \ (nd[q].clr) \ \textit{fprintf} (stream, ":"O"c", nd[q].clr); \\
                 q++;
                 x = nd[q].itm;
                 if (x < 0) q += x, x = nd[q].itm;
                 if (q \equiv p) break;
            k = nd[q].loc;
           if (showpos > 0) fprintf(stream, "u("O"dofu"O"d) \n", k - x + 1, size(x));
            else if (showpos \equiv 0) fprintf(stream, "\n");
      void prow(\mathbf{int} \ p)
      {
            print\_option(p, stderr, 1);
13. When I'm debugging, I might want to look at one of the current item lists.
\langle \text{Subroutines } 6 \rangle + \equiv
      void print_itm(int c)
      {
            register int p;
            if (c < primextra \lor c \ge setlength \lor pos(c) < 0 \lor pos(c) \ge itemlength \lor item[pos(c)] \ne c) {
                 fprintf(stderr, "Illegal_item_i"O"d!\n", c);
                 return;
            fprintf(stderr, "Item");
            print\_item\_name(c, stderr);
             if (c < second) \ fprintf(stderr, "`u'("O"d"of"u"O"d), ulength"u"O"d, uweight"u"O".1f: `n", ulength"u"O"d, uweightu"O".1f: `n", ulengthu"O"d, uweightu"O".1f: `n", ulengthu"O"d, ulengthu O'd, ulen
                              pos(c) + 1, active, size(c), wt(c);
            else if (pos(c) \ge active)
                  fprintf(stderr, " \sqcup (secondary \sqcup "O"d, \sqcup purified), \sqcup length \sqcup "O"d: \n", pos(c) + 1, size(c));
            else fprintf(stderr, "u(secondaryu"O"d), ulengthu"O"d: \n", pos(c) + 1, size(c));
            for (p = c; p < c + size(c); p \leftrightarrow) prow(set[p].i);
```

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14. Speaking of debugging, here's a routine to check if redundant parts of our data structure have gone awry.

```
\#define sanity_checking 0
                                     /* set this to 1 if you suspect a bug */
\langle \text{Subroutines } 6 \rangle + \equiv
  void sanity(void)
     register int k, x, i, l, r, q, qq;
     for (k = 0; k < itemlength; k++) {
       x = item[k];
       if (pos(x) \neq k) {
          fprintf(stderr, "Bad_{\sqcup}pos_{\sqcup}field_{\sqcup}of_{\sqcup}item");
          print\_item\_name(x, stderr);
          fprintf(stderr, " \cup ("O"d, "O"d)! \setminus n", k, x);
        }
     for (i = 0; i < last\_node; i++) {
       l = nd[i].itm, r = nd[i].loc;
       if (l \le 0) {
          if (nd[i+r+1].itm \neq -r) fprintf(stderr, "Bad_uspacer_uin_unodes_u"O"d,u"O"d!\n",i,i+r+1);
          qq = 0;
        } else {
          if (l > r) fprintf (stderr, "itm > loc_in_node_i" O"d! \n", i);
          else {
             if (set[r].i \neq i) {
               fprintf(stderr, "Bad_lloc_lfield_lfor_loption_l"O"d_lof_litem", r-l+1);
               print\_item\_name(l, stderr);
               fprintf(stderr, " \sqcup in \sqcup node \sqcup "O"d! \setminus n", i);
             if (pos(l) < active) {
                                                                   /* in or out? */
               if (r < l + size(l)) q = +1; else q = -1;
               if (q * qq < 0) {
                  fprintf(stderr, "Flipped_{\sqcup}status_{\sqcup}at_{\sqcup}option_{\sqcup}"O"d_{\sqcup}of_{\sqcup}item", r-l+1);
                  print\_item\_name(l, stderr);
                  fprintf(stderr, " \sqcup in \sqcup node \sqcup "O"d! \n", i);
  } }
               qq = q;
```

10 INPUTTING THE MATRIX SSXCC-BINARY §15

15. Inputting the matrix. Brute force is the rule in this part of the code, whose goal is to parse and store the input data and to check its validity.

We use only four entries of *set* per item while reading the item-name line.

```
\#define panic(m)
           { fprintf(stderr, ""O"s!\n"O"d: "O".99s\n", m, p, buf); exit(-666); }
\langle \text{Input the item names } 15 \rangle \equiv
  while (1) {
     if (\neg fgets(buf, bufsize, stdin)) break;
     if (o, buf[p = strlen(buf) - 1] \neq `\n') panic("Input_line_way_too_long");
     for (p = 0; o, isspace(buf[p]); p++);
     if (buf[p] \equiv ' \mid ' \vee \neg buf[p]) continue;
                                                        /* bypass comment or blank line */
     last_{-}itm = 1;
     break;
  if (\neg last\_itm) panic("No_{\sqcup}items");
  for (; o, buf[p];) {
     o, namebuf.lr.l = namebuf.lr.r = 0;
     for (j = 0; j < 8 \land (o, \neg isspace(buf[p + j])); j \leftrightarrow)
        \mathbf{if}\ (\mathit{buf}\,[p+j] \equiv \verb"":" \lor \mathit{buf}\,[p+j] \equiv \verb""|")\ \mathit{panic}(\verb"Illegal" \mathsf{character} \sqcup \mathsf{in} \sqcup \mathsf{item} \sqcup \mathsf{name}");
        o, namebuf.str[j] = buf[p + j];
     if (j \equiv 8 \land \neg isspace(buf[p+j])) \ panic("Item_name_too_long");
     oo, lname(last\_itm \ll 2) = namebuf.lr.l, rname(last\_itm \ll 2) = namebuf.lr.r;
     \langle Check for duplicate item name \frac{16}{}\rangle;
     last_itm ++;
     if (last\_itm > max\_cols) panic("Too\_many\_items");
     for (p += j + 1; o, isspace(buf[p]); p++);
     if (buf[p] \equiv ') }
        if (second \neq max\_cols) panic("Item\_name\_line\_contains\_l_⊥twice");
        second = last\_itm;
        for (p++; o, isspace(buf[p]); p++);
     }
  }
This code is used in section 2.
16. \langle Check for duplicate item name \frac{16}{3} \rangle
  for (k = last_itm - 1; k; k--) {
     if (o, lname(k \ll 2) \neq namebuf.lr.l) continue;
     if (rname(k \ll 2) \equiv namebuf.lr.r) break;
  if (k) panic("Duplicate_litem_name");
This code is used in section 15.
```

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17. I'm putting the option number into the spr field of the spacer that follows it, as a possible debugging aid. But the program doesn't currently use that information.

```
\langle \text{Input the options } 17 \rangle \equiv
      while (1) {
             if (\neg fgets(buf, bufsize, stdin)) break;
             if (o, buf[p = strlen(buf) - 1] \neq '\n') panic("Option|line|too|long");
             for (p = 0; o, isspace(buf[p]); p \leftrightarrow);
             if (buf[p] \equiv ' \mid ' \vee \neg buf[p]) continue;
                                                                                                                                    /* bypass comment or blank line */
             i = last\_node; /* remember the spacer at the left of this option */
             for (pp = 0; buf[p];) {
                    o, namebuf.lr.l = namebuf.lr.r = 0;
                    \textbf{for} \ (j=0; \ j<8 \land (o, \neg is space(\textit{buf} [p+j])) \land \textit{buf} [p+j] \neq \texttt{':'}; \ j++) \ o, name \textit{buf}. str[j] = \textit{buf} [p+j]; \\ \textbf{for} \ (j=0; \ j<8 \land (o, \neg is space(\textit{buf} [p+j])) \land \textit{buf} [p+j] \neq \texttt{':'}; \ j++) \\ \textbf{for} \ (j=0; \ j<8 \land (o, \neg is space(\textit{buf} [p+j])) \land \textit{buf} [p+j] \neq \texttt{':'}; \ j++) \\ \textbf{for} \ (j=0; \ j<8 \land (o, \neg is space(\textit{buf} [p+j])) \land \textit{buf} [p+j] \neq \texttt{':'}; \ j++) \\ \textbf{for} \ (j=0; \ j<8 \land (o, \neg is space(\textit{buf} [p+j])) \land \textit{buf} [p+j] \neq \texttt{':'}; \ j++) \\ \textbf{for} \ (j=0; \ j<8 \land (o, \neg is space(\textit{buf} [p+j])) \land \textit{buf} [p+j] \neq \texttt{':'}; \ j++) \\ \textbf{for} \ (j=0; \ j<8 \land (o, \neg is space(\textit{buf} [p+j])) \land \textit{buf} [p+j] \neq \texttt{':'}; \ j++) \\ \textbf{for} \ (j=0; \ j<8 \land (o, \neg is space(\textit{buf} [p+j])) \land \textit{buf} [p+j] \neq \texttt{':'}; \ j++) \\ \textbf{for} \ (j=0; \ j<8 \land (o, \neg is space(\textit{buf} [p+j])) \land \textit{buf} [p+j] \neq \texttt{':'}; \ j++) \\ \textbf{for} \ (j=0; \ j<8 \land (o, \neg is space(\textit{buf} [p+j])) \land \textit{buf} [p+j] \neq \texttt{':'}; \ j++) \\ \textbf{for} \ (j=0; \ j<8 \land (o, \neg is space(\textit{buf} [p+j])) \land \textit{buf} [p+j] \neq \texttt{':'}; \ j++) \\ \textbf{for} \ (j=0; \ j<8 \land (o, \neg is space(\textit{buf} [p+j])) \land \texttt{fuf} [p+j] \neq \texttt{':'}; \ j++) \\ \textbf{for} \ (j=0; \ j<8 \land (o, \neg is space(\textit{buf} [p+j])) \land \texttt{fuf} [p+j] \neq \texttt{':'}; \ j++) \\ \textbf{for} \ (j=0; \ j<8 \land (o, \neg is space(\textit{buf} [p+j])) \land \texttt{fuf} [p+j] \neq \texttt{':'}; \ j++) \\ \textbf{fuf} \ (j=0; \ j<8 \land (o, \neg is space(\textit{buf} [p+j])) \land \texttt{fuf} \ (j=0; \ j<8 \land (o, \neg is space(\textit{buf} [p+j])) \land \texttt{fuf} \ (j=0; \ j<8 \land (o, \neg is space(\textit{buf} [p+j])) \land \texttt{fuf} \ (j=0; \ j<8 \land (o, \neg is space(\textit{buf} [p+j])) \land \texttt{fuf} \ (j=0; \ j<8 \land (o, \neg is space(\textit{buf} [p+j])) \land \texttt{fuf} \ (j=0; \ j<8 \land (o, \neg is space(\textit{buf} [p+j])) \land \texttt{fuf} \ (j=0; \ j<8 \land (o, \neg is space(\textit{buf} [p+j])) \land \texttt{fuf} \ (j=0; \ j<8 \land (o, \neg is space(\textit{buf} [p+j])) \land \texttt{fuf} \ (j=0; \ j<8 \land (o, \neg is space(\textit{buf} [p+j])) \land \texttt{fuf} \ (j=0; \ j<8 \land (o, \neg is space(\textit{buf} [p+j])) \land \texttt{fuf} \ (j=0; \ j<8 \land (o, \neg is space(\textit{buf} [p+j])) \land \texttt{fuf} \ (j=0; \ j<8 \land (o, \neg is space(\textit{buf} [p+j])) \land \texttt{fuf} \ (j=0; \ j<8 \land (o, \neg is space(\textit{buf} [p+j])) \land \texttt{fuf} \ (j=0; \ j<8 \land (o, \neg is space(\textit{buf} [p+j])) \land \texttt{fuf} \ (j=0; 
                    \textbf{if } (\neg j) \ panic("\texttt{Empty}\_\texttt{item}\_\texttt{name"});\\
                    if (j \equiv 8 \land \neg isspace(buf[p+j]) \land buf[p+j] \neq ":") panic("Item_name_too_long");
                    \langle Create a node for the item named in buf[p] 18\rangle;
                    if (buf[p+j] \neq ":") o, nd[last\_node].clr = 0;
                    else if (k \ge second) {
                          if ((o, isspace(buf[p+j+1])) \lor (o, \neg isspace(buf[p+j+2])))
                                 panic("Color_must_be_a_single_character");
                          o, nd[last\_node].clr = (unsigned char) buf[p + j + 1];
                          p += 2;
                    } else panic("Primary_item_must_be_uncolored");
                   for (p += j + 1; o, isspace(buf[p]); p++);
             if (\neg pp) {
                   if (vbose & show_warnings) fprintf(stderr, "Option_ignored_(no_primary_items):_"O"s", buf);
                    while (last\_node > i) {
                           \langle \text{Remove } last\_node \text{ from its item list } 19 \rangle;
                           last\_node ---;
                    }
             } else {
                   o, nd[i].loc = last\_node - i; /* complete the previous spacer */
                    last\_node ++; /* create the next spacer */
                    if (last\_node \equiv max\_nodes) \ panic("Too_lmany_nodes");
                    options ++;
                   o, nd[last\_node].itm = i + 1 - last\_node;
                    nd[last_node].spr = options; /* option number, for debugging only */
             }
       \langle \text{ Initialize } item \ 20 \rangle;
        \langle \text{ Expand } set \text{ 21} \rangle;
       \langle \text{Adjust } nd \ 22 \rangle;
This code is used in section 2.
```

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18. We temporarily use pos to recognize duplicate items in an option.  $\langle$  Create a node for the item named in buf[p] 18  $\rangle \equiv$ for  $(k = (last\_itm - 1) \ll 2; k; k = 4)$  { if  $(o, lname(k) \neq namebuf.lr.l)$  continue; if  $(rname(k) \equiv namebuf.lr.r)$  break; **if**  $(\neg k)$   $panic("Unknown_{\bot}item_{\bot}name");$ if (o, pos(k) > i)  $panic("Duplicate_item_iname_in_ithis_option");$  $last\_node ++;$ if  $(last\_node \equiv max\_nodes) \ panic("Too_many_nodes");$ /\* how many previous options have used this item? \*/ o, t = size(k); $o, nd[last\_node].itm = k \gg 2, nd[last\_node].loc = t;$ if  $((k \gg 2) < second)$  pp = 1;  $o, size(k) = t + 1, pos(k) = last\_node;$ This code is used in section 17. 19.  $\langle \text{Remove } last\_node \text{ from its item list } 19 \rangle \equiv$  $o, k = nd[last\_node].itm \ll 2;$ oo, size(k) --, pos(k) = i - 1;This code is used in section 17. **20.**  $\langle \text{ Initialize } item \ 20 \rangle \equiv$  $active = itemlength = last\_itm - 1;$ for (k = 0, j = primextra; k < itemlength; k++)oo, item  $[k] = j, j += (k + 2 < second? primextra : secondextra) + size((k + 1) \ll 2);$ setlength = j - 4; /\* a decent upper bound \*/ **if**  $(second \equiv max\_cols)$  osecond = active, second = j;else osecond = second - 1; This code is used in section 17. 21. Going from high to low, we now move the item names and sizes to their final positions (leaving room for the pointers into nb).  $\langle \text{ Expand } set \text{ 21} \rangle \equiv$ **for** (; k; k--) { o, j = item[k-1];**if**  $(k \equiv second)$  second = j; /\* second is now an index into set \*/ $oo, size(j) = size(k \ll 2);$ **if**  $(size(j) \equiv 0 \land k \leq osecond)$  baditem = k; o, pos(j) = k - 1; $oo, rname(j) = rname(k \ll 2), lname(j) = lname(k \ll 2);$ 

This code is used in section 17.

}

**if**  $(k \leq osecond)$   $o, wt(j) = w\theta;$ 

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This code is used in section 2.

```
22.
     \langle \text{Adjust } nd \ 22 \rangle \equiv
  for (k = 1; k < last\_node; k++) {
     if (o, nd[k].itm < 0) continue;
                                            /* skip over a spacer */
     o, j = item[nd[k].itm - 1];
                           /* no mem charged because we just read nd[k].itm */
     i = j + nd[k].loc;
     o, nd[k].itm = j, nd[k].loc = i;
     o, set[i].i = k;
This code is used in section 17.
23. \langle Report an uncoverable item 23\rangle \equiv
     if (vbose & show_choices) {
       fprintf(stderr, "Item");
       print\_item\_name(item[baditem - 1], stderr);
       fprintf(stderr, "\_has\_no\_options!\n");
  }
This code is used in section 2.
24. The "number of entries" includes spacers (because DLX2 includes spacers in its reports). If you want
to know the sum of the option lengths, just subtract the number of options.
\langle Report the successful completion of the input phase 24\rangle \equiv
  fprintf(stderr, "("O"lld_options,_\"O"d+"O"d_\items,_\"O"d_\entries_\successfully_\read)\n",
       options, osecond, itemlength - osecond, last\_node);
This code is used in section 2.
      The item lengths after input are shown (on request). But there's little use trying to show them after
25.
the process is done, since they are restored somewhat blindly. (Failures of the linked-list implementation in
DLX2 could sometimes be detected by showing the final lengths; but that reasoning no longer applies.)
\langle \text{ Report the item totals } 25 \rangle \equiv
     fprintf(stderr, "Item_{\sqcup}totals:");
     for (k = 0; k < itemlength; k++)
       if (k \equiv second) fprintf (stderr, " | ");
       fprintf(stderr, " \sqcup "O"d", size(item[k]));
     fprintf(stderr, "\n");
This code is used in section 2.
26. \langle Randomize the item list \frac{26}{}\rangle \equiv
  for (k = active; k > 1;)
     mems += 4, j = gb\_unif\_rand(k);
     oo, oo, t = item[j], item[j] = item[k], item[k] = t;
     oo, pos(t) = k, pos(item[j]) = j;
```

**27. Binary branching versus** d**-way branching.** Nodes of the search tree in the previous program SSXCC, on which this one is based, are characterized by the name of a primary item i that hasn't yet been covered. If that item currently appears in d options  $\{o_1, \ldots, o_d\}$ , node i has d children, one for each choice of the option that will cover i.

The present program, however, makes 2-way branches, and its nodes are labeled with both an item i and an option o. The left child of node (i, o) represents the subproblem in which i is covered by o, as before. But the right child represents the subproblem for which option o is removed but item i is still uncovered (unless d = 1, in which case there's no right child). Thus our search tree is now rather like the binary tree that represents a general tree. (See *The Art of Computer Programming*, Section 2.3.2.)

There usually is no good reason to do binary branching when we choose i so as to minimize d. On the right branch, i will have d-1 remaining options; and no item i' will have fewer than d-1.

But this program is intended to provide the basis for *other* programs, which extend the branching heuristic by taking dynamic characteristics of the solution process into account. While exploring the left branch in such extensions, we might discover that a certain item i' is difficult to cover; hence we might prefer to branch on an option o' that covers i', after rejecting o for item i.

**28.** We shall say that we're in stage s when we've taken s left branches. We'll also say, as usual, that we're at level l when we've taken l branches altogether.

Suppose, for instance, that we're at level 5, having rejected  $o_1$  for  $i_1$ , accepted  $o_2$  for  $i_2$ , accepted  $o_3$  for  $i_3$ , rejected  $o_4$  for  $i_4$ , and rejected  $o_5$  for  $i_5$ . Then we will have stage = 2, and  $choice[k] = o_k$  for  $0 \le k < 5$ ; here each  $o_k$  is a node whose itm field is  $i_k$ . Also

```
\begin{array}{l} stagelevel[0] = 0,\\ stagelevel[1] = 0,\\ stagelevel[2] = 1,\\ stagelevel[3] = 2,\\ stagelevel[4] = 2,\\ stagelevel[5] = 2; \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{l} levelstage[0] = 1,\\ levelstage[1] = 2,\\ levelstage[2] = 5. \end{array}
```

The option choice[k] has been accepted if and only if level stage[stage level[k]] = k.  $\langle$  Global variables  $_3 \rangle +\equiv$ 

```
int stage;  /* number of choices in current partial solution */
int level;  /* current depth in the search tree (which is binary) */
int choice[max_level];  /* the option and item chosen on each level */
int deg[max_level];  /* the number of options the item had at that time */
int levelstage[max_stage];  /* the most recent level at each stage */
int stagelevel[max_level];  /* the stage that corresponds to each level */
ullng profile[max_stage];  /* number of search tree nodes on each stage */
```

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29. The dancing. Our strategy for generating all exact covers will be to repeatedly choose an item that appears to be hardest to cover, namely an item whose set is currently smallest, among all items that still need to be covered. And we explore all possibilities via depth-first search.

The neat part of this algorithm is the way the sets are maintained. Depth-first search means last-in-firstout maintenance of data structures; and the sparse-set representations make it particularly easy to undo what we've done at deeper levels.

The basic operation is "including an option." That means (i) removing from the current subproblem all of the other options with which it conflicts, and (ii) considering all of its primary items to be covered, by making them inactive.

```
\langle Solve the problem 29 \rangle \equiv
     level = stage = 0;
  forward: nodes ++;
     if (vbose & show_profile) profile[stage]++;
     if (sanity_checking) sanity();
     \langle Maybe do a forced move 39 \rangle;
     \langle Do special things if enough mems have accumulated 31\rangle;
      \langle \text{Set } best\_itm \text{ to the best item for branching and } t \text{ to its size } 41 \rangle;
     if (forced) {
        o, best\_itm = force[--forced];
        \langle \text{ Do a forced move and goto } advance | 45 \rangle;
     if (t \equiv inf\_size) \( \text{Visit a solution and goto } backup \( 42 \);
     (Save the currently active items and their sizes 43);
  advance: oo, choice[level] = cur\_choice = set[best\_itm].i;
     o, deg[level] = t;
     if (\neg include\_option(cur\_choice)) goto tryagain:
     \langle \text{Increase stage 32} \rangle; \langle \text{Increase level 33} \rangle;
     goto forward:
  tryagain: if (t \equiv 1) goto prebackup;
     if (vbose & show_choices) fprintf(stderr, "Backtracking_in_stage_"O"d\n", stage);
     goto purgeit;
  prebackup: o, saveptr = saved[stage];
  backup: if (--stage < 0) goto done;
     if (vbose \& show\_choices) fprintf(stderr, "Backtracking_to_stage_"O"d\n", stage);
     o, level = level stage[stage];
  purgeit: if (o, deg[level] \equiv 1) goto prebackup;
     (Restore the currently active items and their sizes 44);
     o, cur\_choice = choice[level];
     \langle \text{ Remove the option } cur\_choice 37 \rangle;
     \langle \text{Increase } level \; 33 \rangle;
     goto forward;
This code is used in section 2.
```

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**30.** We save the sizes of active items on savestack, whose entries have two fields l and r, for an item and its size. This stack makes it easy to undo all deletions, by simply restoring the former sizes.

```
\langle \text{Global variables } 3 \rangle + \equiv
                  /* number of choices in current partial solution */
  int level;
  int choice[max_level];
                                 /* the node chosen on each level */
                                    /* size of savestack on each level */
  int saved[max\_level + 1];
  twoints savestack[savesize];
  int saveptr;
                     /* current size of savestack */
                        /* item whose set of options has just become empty */
  int tough_itm;
31. \langle \text{Do special things if enough } mems \text{ have accumulated } 31 \rangle \equiv
  if (delta \land (mems \ge thresh)) {
     thresh += delta;
     if (vbose & show_full_state) print_state();
     else print_progress();
  if (mems \ge timeout) {
     fprintf(stderr, "TIMEOUT! \n"); goto done;
This code is used in section 29.
32. \langle \text{Increase stage } 32 \rangle \equiv
  if (++stage > maxs) {
     if (stage \ge max\_stage) {
       fprintf(stderr, "Too_{\square}many_{\square}stages! \n");
       exit(-40);
     maxs = stage;
This code is used in section 29.
33. \langle \text{Increase level 33} \rangle \equiv
  if (++level > maxl) {
     if (level \ge max\_level) {
       fprintf(stderr, "Too many levels! \n");
       exit(-4);
     }
     maxl = level;
  oo, stagelevel[level] = stage, levelstage[stage] = level;
This code is used in section 29.
```

 $\S34$  SSXCC-BINARY THE DANCING 17

**34.** The *include\_option* routine extends the current partial solution, by using option *opt* to cover one or more of the presently uncovered primary items. It returns 0, however, if that would make some other primary item uncoverable. (In the latter case, *tough\_itm* is set to the item that was problematic.)

```
\langle \text{Subroutines } 6 \rangle + \equiv
  int include_option(int opt)
    register int c, optp, nn, nnp, ss, ii, iii, p, pp, s;
    subroutine_overhead;
    if (vbose & show_choices) {
       fprintf(stderr, "S"O"d:", stage);
       print\_option(opt, stderr, 1);
    for (; o, nd[opt-1].itm > 0; opt--); /* move to the beginning of the option */
    for (; o, (ii = nd[opt].itm) > 0; opt ++) {
       pp = nd[opt].loc;
                           /* where opt appears in ii's set */
                          /* where ii appears in item */
       o, p = pos(ii);
       if (p < active) (Deactivate item ii, or return 0 35);
    return 1;
  }
```

**35.** We don't need to remove options from the set of ii, because ii will soon be inactive. But of course we do need to remove the options that conflict with opt from the sets of their items.

```
 \left \langle \text{ Deactivate item } ii, \text{ or return } 0 \text{ } 35 \right \rangle \equiv \left \{ \\ o, ss = size(ii); \\ \text{ if } (ii < second) \text{ } c = 0; \\ \text{ else } o, c = nd[opt].clr; \\ \text{ for } (s = ii + ss - 1; \text{ } s \geq ii; \text{ } s - ) \\ \text{ if } (s \neq pp) \text{ } \left \{ \\ o, optp = set[s].i; \\ \text{ if } (c \equiv 0 \lor (o, nd[optp].clr \neq c)) \text{ } \left \langle \text{ Remove } optp \text{ from its other sets, or return } 0 \text{ } 36 \right \rangle; \\ \left \} \\ o, iii = item[--active]; \\ oo, item[active] = ii, item[p] = iii; \\ oo, pos(ii) = active, pos(iii) = p; \\ \right \}
```

This code is used in section 34.

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**36.** At this point *optp* points to a node of an option that we want to remove from the current subproblem. We swap it out of the sets of all its items except for nd[optp].itm itself, and except for the sets of inactive secondary items. (The latter have been purified, and we shouldn't mess with their sets.)

```
\langle \text{Remove } optp \text{ from its other sets, or return } 0 \text{ 36} \rangle \equiv
    register int nn, ii, p, ss, nnp;
    for (nn = optp; o, nd[nn - 1].itm > 0; nn --);
                                                               /* move to beginning of the option */
    for (; o, (ii = nd[nn].itm) > 0; nn ++)
       if (nn \neq optp) {
         p = nd[nn].loc;
         if (p \ge second \land (o, pos(ii) \ge active)) continue;
                                                                    /* ii already purified */
         o, ss = size(ii) - 1;
         if (ss \le 1 \land p < second) {
            if (ss \equiv 0) {
              if ((vbose \& show\_details) \land level < show\_choices\_max \land level \ge maxl - show\_choices\_gap) {
                 fprintf(stderr, "\_can't\_cover");
                 print\_item\_name(ii, stderr);
                 fprintf(stderr, "\n");
               tough\_itm = ii;
              forced = 0;
              return 0;
                               /* abort the deletion, lest ii be wiped out */
            else o, force[forced ++] = ii;
         o, nnp = set[ii + ss].i;
         o, size(ii) = ss;
          oo, set[ii + ss].i = nn, set[p].i = nnp;
          oo, nd[nn].loc = ii + ss, nd[nnp].loc = p;
          updates ++:
       }
  }
```

This code is used in section 35.

This code is used in section 29.

**37.** At this point every active primary item has at least two options in its set. Therefore, when we delete *cur\_choice* from the sets of each of its active items, every set will still be nonempty.

```
 \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \textbf{Remove the option } \textit{cur\_choice } & \textbf{37} \right\rangle \equiv \\ \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \textbf{register int } \textit{ii}, ss, p, nnp; \\ \textbf{for } (\ ; \ o, nd[\textit{cur\_choice} - 1].\textit{itm} > 0; \ \textit{cur\_choice} - -) \ ; \\ \textbf{for } (\ ; \ o, (\textit{ii} = nd[\textit{cur\_choice}].\textit{itm}) > 0; \ \textit{cur\_choice} + +) \ \left\{ \begin{array}{l} p = nd[\textit{cur\_choice}].\textit{loc}; \\ \textbf{if } (p \geq \textit{second} \land (o, pos(\textit{ii}) \geq \textit{active})) \ \textbf{continue}; \\ o, ss = \textit{size}(\textit{ii}) - 1; \\ oo, nnp = \textit{set}[\textit{ii} + ss].\textit{i}, \textit{size}(\textit{ii}) = \textit{ss}; \\ oo, \textit{set}[\textit{ii} + ss].\textit{i} = \textit{cur\_choice}, \textit{set}[\textit{p}].\textit{i} = \textit{nnp}; \\ oo, nd[\textit{cur\_choice}].\textit{loc} = \textit{ii} + \textit{ss}, nd[\textit{nnp}].\textit{loc} = \textit{p}; \\ \textit{updates} + +; \\ \right\} \\ \right\}
```

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**38.** If a weight becomes dangerously large, we rescale all the weights.

(That will happen only when dwfactor isn't 1.0. Adding a constant eventually "converges": For example, if the constant is 1, we have convergence to  $2^{17}$  after  $2^{17} - 1 = 16777215$  steps. If the constant dw is .250001, convergence to 8.38861e+06 occurs after 25165819 steps!)

(Note: I threw in the parameters dw and dwfactor only to do experiments. My preliminary experiments didn't turn up any noteworthy results. But I didn't have time to do a careful study; hence there might be some settings that work unexpectedly well. The code for rescaling might be flaky, since it hasn't been tested very thoroughly at all.)

```
#define dangerous 1 \cdot 10^{32}<sub>F</sub>
#define wmin 1 \cdot 10^{-30}<sub>F</sub>
\langle \text{Increase the weight of } tough\_itm \ 38 \rangle \equiv
  cmems += 2, oo, wt(tough_itm) += dw;
  if (vbose \& show\_record\_weights \land wt(tough\_itm) > maxwt) {
     maxwt = wt(tough\_itm);
     fprintf(stderr, ""O"8.1f_{\sqcup}", maxwt);
     print_item_name(tough_itm, stderr);
     fprintf(stderr, " \sqcup "O" lld \n", nodes);
  if (vbose & show_weight_bumps) {
     print_item_name(tough_itm, stderr);
     fprintf(stderr, "\_wt\_"O".1f\n", wt(tough\_itm));
  dw *= dw factor;
  if (wt(tough\_itm) \ge dangerous) {
     register int k:
     register float t;
     tmems = mems;
     for (k = 0; k < itemlength; k++)
       if (o, item[k] < second) {
          o, t = wt(item[k]) * 1 \cdot 10^{-20}<sub>F</sub>;
          o, wt(item[k]) = (t < wmin ? wmin : t);
     dw *= 1 \cdot 10^{-20}<sub>F</sub>;
     if (dw < wmin) dw = wmin;
     w\theta *= 1 \cdot 10^{-20}<sub>F</sub>;
     if (w0 < wmin) w0 = wmin;
     cmems += mems - tmems;
  }
39. \langle Maybe do a forced move 39\rangle \equiv
  while (forced) {
     o, best\_itm = force[--forced];
     if (o, pos(best\_itm) < active) {
        \langle \text{ Do a forced move and goto } advance | 45 \rangle;
This code is used in section 29.
```

20 The dancing ssxcc-binary  $\S40$ 

```
 \begin{array}{ll} \textbf{40.} & \langle \, \text{Subroutines 6} \, \rangle \, + \equiv \\ \textbf{void } print\_weights(\textbf{void}) \\ \{ & \textbf{register int } k; \\ \textbf{for } (k=0; \ k < itemlength; \ k++) \\ & \textbf{if } (item[k] < second \land wt(item[k]) \neq w\theta) \ \{ \\ & print\_item\_name(item[k], stderr); \\ & fprintf(stderr, "\_wt\_"O".1f \n", wt(item[k])); \\ & \} \\ \} \end{array}
```

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41. The "best item" is considered to be an active primary item that minimizes the number of remaining choices. If there are several candidates, we choose the leftmost.

(This program explores the search space in a different order from DLX2, because the ordering of items in the active list is no longer fixed. Thus ties are broken in a different way.)

We assume that t is set to  $inf\_size$  if and only if all primary items have been covered. We also assume that t is set to 1 if and only if some uncovered primary item has size 1. (Every uncovered primary item must have size at least 1, because we've been careful to avoid any choices that could cause a size to become 0.)

Notice that a secondary item is active if and only if it has not been purified (that is, if and only if it hasn't yet appeared in a chosen option).

Important: The code below will usually be changed, via a change file, so that the best item is chosen by using another heuristic. Whatever heuristic is used, it must deliver a primary item whose option size s is 1, if such an item exists. In other words, it must somehow recognize a forced move, unless there are no forced moves

```
#define inf_size #7fffffff
\langle Set best_itm to the best item for branching and t to its size 41\rangle
     t = inf\_size, tmems = mems;
    if ((vbose \& show\_details) \land level < show\_choices\_max \land level > maxl - show\_choices\_qap)
       fprintf(stderr, "Level," O"d: ", level);
    for (k = 0; k < active; k++)
       if (o, item[k] < second) {
         o, s = size(item[k]);
         if ((vbose \& show\_details) \land level < show\_choices\_max \land level \ge maxl - show\_choices\_qap) {
            print\_item\_name(item[k], stderr);
            fprintf(stderr, "("O"d)", s);
         if (s \le 1) {
            if (s \equiv 0) fprintf(stderr, "I'm_confused.\n");
                                                                    /* include_option missed this */
            else o, force[forced ++] = item[k];
          } else if (s \le t) {
            if (s < t) best_itm = item[k], t = s;
            else if (item[k] < best_itm) best_itm = item[k];
                                                                     /* suggested by P. Weigel */
    if ((vbose \& show\_details) \land level < show\_choices\_max \land level > maxl - show\_choices\_qap) {
       if (forced) fprintf(stderr, "_ifound_i"O"d_iforced\n", forced);
       else if (t \equiv inf\_size) fprintf (stderr, "\_solution\n");
       else {
         fprintf(stderr, "\_branching\_on");
         print_item_name(best_itm, stderr);
         fprintf(stderr, "("O"d)\n", t);
     if (t > maxdeg \land t < inf\_size \land \neg forced) maxdeg = t;
     if (shape_file) {
       if (t \equiv inf\_size) fprintf(shape\_file, "sol\n");
       else {
         fprintf(shape\_file, ""O"d", t);
         print_item_name(best_itm, shape_file);
         fprintf(shape\_file, "\n");
       fflush(shape_file);
```

22 THE DANCING ξ41 SSXCC-BINARY cmems += mems - tmems;} This code is used in section 29. **42.** Visit a solution and **goto** backup  $42 \ge 1$ count ++;**if**  $(spacing \land (count \bmod spacing \equiv 0))$  {  $printf(""O"lld:\n", count);$ for (k = 0; k < stage; k++) print\_option(choice[levelstage[k]], stdout, 0); fflush(stdout);**if**  $(count \ge maxcount)$  **goto** done; **goto** backup; This code is used in section 29. 43. (Save the currently active items and their sizes 43)  $\equiv$ o, saved[stage] = saveptr;**if** (saveptr + active > maxsaveptr) { if  $(saveptr + active \ge savesize)$  {  $fprintf(stderr, "Stack\_overflow\_(savesize="O"d)! \n", savesize);$ exit(-5); maxsaveptr = saveptr + active;for (p = 0; p < active; p++)ooo, savestack[saveptr + p].l = item[p], savestack[saveptr + p].r = size(item[p]);saveptr += active;This code is used in section 29. 44.  $\langle$  Restore the currently active items and their sizes  $_{44}\rangle \equiv$ o, active = saveptr - saved[stage];saveptr = saved[stage];for (p = 0; p < active; p++) oo, size(savestack[saveptr + p].l) = savestack[saveptr + p].r;This code is used in section 29. 45. A forced move occurs when best\_itm has only one remaining option. In this case we can streamline the computation, because there's no need to save the current active sizes. (They won't be looked at.)  $\langle \text{ Do a forced move and goto } advance | 45 \rangle \equiv$ { if ((vbose & show\_choices) ∧ level < show\_choices\_max) fprintf(stderr, "(forcing)\n"); o, saved[stage] = saveptr;/\* nothing placed on savestack \*/ t = 1;

**goto** advance;

This code is used in sections 29 and 39.

 $\S46$  SSXCC-BINARY THE DANCING 23

```
\langle \text{Subroutines } 6 \rangle + \equiv
46.
  void print_savestack(int start, int stop)
    register k;
    for (k = start; k < stop; k++) {
      print\_item\_name(savestack[k].l, stderr);
      fprintf(stderr, "("O"d), "O"d\n", savestack[k].l, savestack[k].r);
  }
47. \langle \text{Subroutines } 6 \rangle + \equiv
  void print_state(void)
    register int l, s;
    fprintf(stderr, "Current_state_(level_"O"d, stage_"O"d) : \n", level, stage);
    for (l = 0; l < level; l++) {
      if (level stage [stage level [l]] \neq l) fprintf(stderr, "~");
      print\_option(choice[l], stderr, -1);
      fprintf(stderr, " (of ("O"d) \n", deg[l]);
      if (l \ge show\_levels\_max) {
        fprintf(stderr, " \sqcup ... \ ");
        break;
      }
    mems, maxl);
```

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48. During a long run, it's helpful to have some way to measure progress. The following routine prints a string that indicates roughly where we are in the search tree. The string consists of node degrees, preceded by '~' if the node wasn't the current node in its stage (that is, if the node represents an option that has already been fully explored — "we've been there done that").

Following that string, a fractional estimate of total progress is computed, based on the naïve assumption that the search tree has a uniform branching structure. If the tree consists of a single node, this estimate is .5. Otherwise, if the first choice is the kth choice in stage 0 and has degree d, the estimate is (k-1)/(d+k-1) plus 1/(d+k-1) times the recursively evaluated estimate for the kth subtree. (This estimate might obviously be very misleading, in some cases, but at least it tends to grow monotonically.)

Fine point: If we've just backtracked within stage stage, the string of node degrees with end with a '~' entry, and we haven't yet made any choice in the current stage. The test ' $l \equiv level - 1$ ' below uses the fact that levelstage[stage] = level to adjust the fractional estimate appropriately for the partial progress in the current stage.

```
\langle \text{Subroutines } 6 \rangle + \equiv
  void print_progress(void)
     register int l, ll, k, d, c, p, ds = 0;
     register double f, fd;
     fprintf(stderr, "__after__"O"lld__mems:__"O"lld__sols, ", mems, count);
     for (f = 0.0, fd = 1.0, l = 0; l < level; l++) {
       if (l < show\_levels\_max)
          fprintf(stderr, ""O"s"O"d", levelstage[stagelevel[l]] \equiv l?"": "~", deg[l]);
       if (level stage [stage level [l]] \equiv l \lor l \equiv level - 1) { /* see remark above */
          for (k = 1, d = deg[l], ll = l - 1; ll \ge 0 \land stagelevel[ll] \equiv stagelevel[l]; k++, d++, ll--);
          fd *= d, f += (k-1)/fd; /* choice l is treated like k of d */
       if (l \ge show\_levels\_max \land \neg ds) ds = 1, fprintf(stderr, "...");
     \textit{fprintf} \, (stderr, \verb"""O".5f\n", f+0.5/fd);
49.
      \langle \text{ Print the profile 49} \rangle \equiv
     fprintf(stderr, "Profile:\n");
     for (k = 0; k \le maxs; k++) fprintf (stderr, ""O"3d: \square"O"11d\n", k, profile[k]);
This code is used in section 2.
```

 $\S50$  SSXCC-BINARY INDEX 25

## 50. Index.

```
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                                                                          item: 8, 9, 13, 14, 20, 21, 22, 23, 25, 26, 34,
      41, 43, 44.
                                                                                35, 38, 40, 41, 43.
advance: 29, 45.
                                                                          itemlength: 2, \underline{9}, 13, 14, 20, 24, 25, 38, 40.
argc: \underline{2}, \underline{4}.
                                                                          itm: 8, 12, 14, 17, 18, 19, 22, 28, 34, 36, 37.
                                                                          j: \underline{2}.
argv: \underline{2}, \underline{4}.
backup: \underline{29}, 42.
                                                                          k: 2, 11, 12, 14, 38, 40, 46, 48.
baditem\colon \ 2,\ \underline{9},\ 21,\ 23.
                                                                          l: 10, 14, 47, 48.
best\_itm: \underline{2}, 29, 39, 41, 45.
                                                                          last_itm: \ \underline{9}, \ 15, \ 16, \ 18, \ 20.
buf: 3, 15, 17.
                                                                          last_node: 2, 9, 12, 14, 17, 18, 19, 22, 24.
bufsize: \underline{1}, 3, 15, 17.
                                                                          level: <u>28, 29, 30, 33, 36, 41, 45, 47, 48.</u>
bytes: 2, \underline{3}.
                                                                          levelstage: 28, 29, 33, 42, 47, 48.
c: <u>2</u>, <u>13</u>, <u>34</u>, <u>48</u>.
                                                                          ll: 48.
cc: 2.
                                                                          lname: 8, 11, 15, 16, 18, 21.
choice: 28, 29, 30, 42, 47.
                                                                          loc: 8, 12, 14, 17, 18, 22, 34, 36, 37.
clr: 8, 12, 17, 35.
                                                                          lr: <u>10,</u> 11, 15, 16, 17, 18.
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cur\_choice: \underline{2}, \underline{29}, \underline{37}.
                                                                          max\_level: \underline{1}, 28, 30, 33.
cur\_node: 2.
                                                                          max\_nodes: 1, 9, 17, 18.
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                                                                          maxextra: 8, 9.
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                                                                          maxwt: 3, 38.
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                                                                          namebuf: \underline{10}, 11, 15, 16, 17, 18.
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imems: 2, \underline{3}.
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