

Bar Code Exercise

Postal Barcodes (Page 1 of 2)

For faster sorting of letters, the United States Postal Service encourages companies that send large volumes of mail to use a bar code denoting the ZIP code. The encoding scheme for a five-digit ZIP code is shown in Table 1. There are full-height frame bars on each side. The five encoded digits are followed by a correction digit, which is computed as follows: Add up all digits, and choose the correction digit to make the sum a multiple of 10. For example, the ZIP code 95014 has sum of digits 19, so the correction digit is 1 to make the sum equal to 20.

Each digit of the ZIP code, and the correction digit, is encoded according to Table 1, where 0 denotes a half bar and 1 a full bar. Note that they represent all combinations of two full and three half bars. The digit can be easily computed from the bar code. For example, 01100 is $0 \times 7 + 1 \times 4 + 1 \times 2 + 0 \times 1 + 0 \times 0 = 6$. The only exception is 0, which would yield 11 according weight formula.

Continued on next slide

+ Use at least one function + do not read digits separately

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Bar Code Exercise (cont.)

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Table 1

Write a program that asks the user for a ZIP code and prints the bar code. Use: for half bars, | for full bars. For example, 95014 becomes

[[:]:::[:]:[]::::::[[:]::[::]:

Where the first and last bar represent frame bars. The general format is:

Frame-bar Digit1 Digit2 Digit3 Digit4 Digit5 Check-digit Frame-bar