

# Lab 5 - Autocomplete

3/14/2025

## 100 Points Possible

Attempt 1



In Progress

**NEXT UP: Submit Assignment**

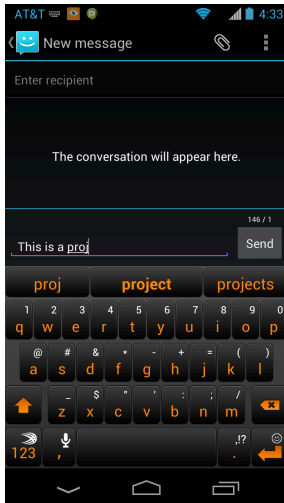
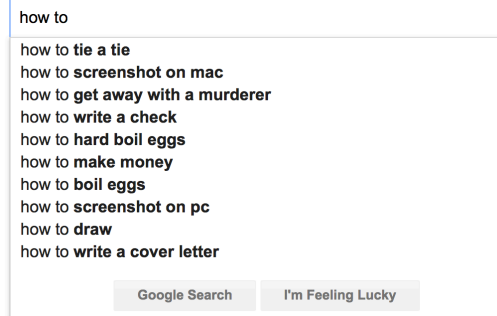
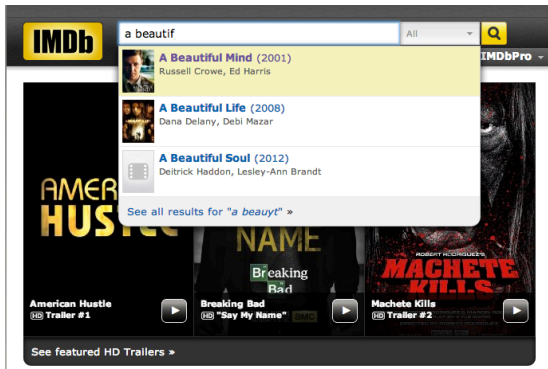
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**1 Attempt Allowed****▼ Details**

You may find the Autocomplete project zip, containing files referenced below [here](https://canvas.umd.edu/courses/17249/files/1760955/download?wrap=1) [↓](https://canvas.umd.edu/courses/17249/files/1760955/download?wrap=1)  
([https://canvas.umd.edu/courses/17249/files/1760955/download?download\\_frd=1](https://canvas.umd.edu/courses/17249/files/1760955/download?download_frd=1)) .

Write a program to implement *autocomplete* for a given set of  $N$  terms, where a term is a query string and an associated nonnegative weight. That is, given a prefix, find all queries that start with the given prefix, in descending order of weight.


Autocomplete is pervasive in modern applications. As the user types, the program predicts the complete *query* (typically a word or phrase) that the user intends to type. Autocomplete is most effective when there are a limited number of likely queries. For example, the [Internet Movie Database](http://www.imdb.com/) [\(http://www.imdb.com/\)](http://www.imdb.com/) uses it to display the names of movies as the user types; search engines use it to display suggestions as the user enters web search queries; cell phones use it to speed up text input.



In these examples, the application predicts how likely it is that the user is typing each query and presents to the user a list of the top-matching queries, in descending order of weight. These weights are determined by historical data, such as box office revenue for movies, frequencies of search queries from other Google users, or the typing history of a cell phone user. For the purposes of this assignment, you will have access to a set of all possible queries and associated weights (and these queries and weights will not change).

The performance of autocomplete functionality is critical in many systems. For example, consider a search engine that runs an autocomplete application on a server farm. According to one study, the application has only about 50ms to return a list of suggestions for it to be useful to the user. Moreover, in principle, it must perform this computation *for every keystroke typed into the search bar and for every user!*

In this assignment, you will implement autocomplete by (1) sorting the terms by query string; (using one of the sorts introduced in lecture), (2) *binary searching* to find all query strings that start with a given prefix; and (3) *sorting* the matching terms by weight.

**Part 1: autocomplete term.** Write an immutable data type `Term.java` that represents an autocomplete term: a query string and an associated integer weight. You must implement the following API, which supports comparing terms by three different orders: **lexicographic order**  ([http://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/lang/String.html#compareTo\(java.lang.String\)](http://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/lang/String.html#compareTo(java.lang.String))) by query string (the natural order); in descending order by weight (an alternate order); and lexicographic order by query string but using only the first  $r$  characters (a family of alternate orderings). The last order may seem a bit odd, but you will use it in *Part 3* to find all query strings that start with a given prefix (of length  $r$ ). `Term.java`, found in the project zip file, contains a stub for this API:

```
public class Term implements Comparable {
    // Initializes a term with the given query string and weight.
```

```

public Term(String query, long weight)

// Compares the two terms in descending order by weight.
public static Comparator byReverseWeightOrder()

// Compares the two terms in lexicographic order but using only the first r characters of each query.
public static Comparator byPrefixOrder(int r)

// Compares the two terms in lexicographic order by query.
public int compareTo(Term that)

// Returns a string representation of this term in the following format:
// the weight, followed by a tab, followed by the query.
public String toString()

// unit testing (you should have some Unit Testing here to confirm that your methods work)
public static void main(String[] args)
}

```

*Performance requirements.* The string comparison functions should take time proportional to the number of characters needed to resolve the comparison.

A little more guidance: the API includes two static functions (`byReverseWeightOrder` and `byPrefixOrder`) that return a `Comparator`. That just means they return an object that implements the interface `Comparator` ... which just means that object has a “compare” function. For example:

```

public static Comparator byReverseWeightOrder() {
    return new Comparator() {
        public int compare(Term v, Term w) {
            //some condition
            return -1;
            //some condition
            return 1;
            //some condition
            return 0;
        }
    };
}

```

**Part 2: binary search.** When binary searching a sorted array that contains more than one key equal to the search key, the client may want to know the index of either the *first* or the *last* such key. Accordingly, implement the following API:

```

public class BinarySearchDeluxe { // Returns the index of the first key in a[] that equals the search key, or -1 if
no such key. public static int firstIndex0f(Key[] a, Key key, Comparator comparator) // Returns the index of
the last key in a[] that equals the search key, or -1 if no such key. public static int lastIndex0f(Key[] a, Key key,
Comparator comparator) // unit testing (you should have some Unit Testing here to confirm that your methods
work) public static void main(String[] args) }

```

*Performance requirements.* The `firstIndex0f()` and `lastIndex0f()` methods should make at most  $1 + \lceil \log_2 N \rceil$  compares in the worst case, where  $N$  is the length of the array. In this context, a *compare* is one call to `comparator.compare()`.

*Hint:* your binary search functions accept a `comparator`; use this to divide your search space, e.g.:

```

public static int firstIndex0f(Key[] a, Key key, Comparator comparator) {
    ...
    while ( ... ) {
        ...
        if (comparator.compare( . , .) >= 0 ) // do something
    }
}

```

```

        } else // do something
        }
        ...
    }

```

*Hint 2:* When a client uses `BinarySearchDeluxe`, it will have a `Term[]` array (terms), and a single search `Term` (searchme) with known length `len`, and will call the static functions you've written:

```
first = BinarySearchDeluxe.firstIndexOf(terms, searchme, Term.byPrefixOrder(len));
```

**Part 3: autocomplete.** In this part, you will implement a data type that provides autocomplete functionality for a given set of string and weights, using `Term` and `BinarySearchDeluxe`. To do so, *sort* the terms in lexicographic order; use *binary search* to find the all query strings that start with a given prefix; and *sort* the matching terms in descending order by weight. Organize your program by creating an immutable data type `Autocomplete` with the following API:

```

public class Autocomplete { // Initializes the data structure from the given array of terms. public
Autocomplete(Term[] terms) // Returns all terms that start with the given prefix, in descending order of weight.
public Term[] allMatches(String prefix) //return an empty array if no matches // Returns the number of terms
that start with the given prefix. public int numberOfMatches(String prefix) }

```

*Performance requirements.*

- The constructor should make a number of compares that is proportional to  $N \log N$  in the worst case, where  $N$  is the number of terms. (This is the number of compares required to put the terms in lexicographically sorted order)
- The `allMatches()` method should make a number of compares that is proportional to  $\log N + M \log M$  in the worst case, where  $M$  is the number of matching terms. ( $\log N$  is the number of compares required for a binary search;  $M \log M$  is the number of compares required to sort the  $M$  matching entries by weight)
- The `numberOfMatches()` method should make a number of compares that is proportional to  $\log N$  in the worst case. (It's calling `firstIndexOf` and `lastIndexOf` to get the range, and each is a binary search)
- In this context, a *compare* is one call to any of the `compare()` or `compareTo()` methods defined in `Term`. Any sort must be linearithmic.
- You **may** use `Arrays.sort()` for this assignment. If you wish to use one of the sorts introduced in lecture (e.g. `Insertion.sort()` or `MergeX.sort()`), you may do so. Note that the merge sort implementation is in `MergeX.sort`; for some reason, `Merge.sort` doesn't accept `Comparators`. You may not call any library functions other than those in `java.lang`, `java.util`, `stdlib.jar`, and `algs4.jar`.

**Input format.** We provide a couple sample input files for testing. Each file consists of an integer  $N$  (the number of terms) followed by  $N$  pairs of query strings and nonnegative weights. There is one pair per line, with the weight and string separated by a tab. A weight can be any integer between 0 and  $2^{63} - 1$ . A query string can be an arbitrary sequence of Unicode characters, including spaces (but not newlines).

- The file **wiktionary.txt** (<https://canvas.umt.edu/courses/17249/files/1760939/download?wrap=1>)  ([https://canvas.umt.edu/courses/17249/files/1760939/download?download\\_frd=1](https://canvas.umt.edu/courses/17249/files/1760939/download?download_frd=1)) contains the 10,000 most common words in Project Gutenberg, with weights proportional to their frequencies.

- The file **cities.txt** (<https://canvas.umd.edu/courses/17249/files/1760946/download?wrap=1>) ↓  
([https://canvas.umd.edu/courses/17249/files/1760946/download?download\\_frd=1](https://canvas.umd.edu/courses/17249/files/1760946/download?download_frd=1)) contains over 90,000 cities, with weights equal to their populations.

% more wiktory.txt	% more cities.txt
10000	93827
5627187200 the	14608512 Shanghai, China
3395006400 of	13076300 Buenos Aires, Argentina
2994418400 and	12691836 Mumbai, India
2595609600 to	12294193 Mexico City, Distrito Federal, Mexico
1742063600 in	11624219 Karachi, Pakistan
1176479700 i	11174257 Istanbul, Turkey
1107331800 that	10927986 Delhi, India
1007824500 was	10444527 Manila, Philippines
879975500 his	10381222 Moscow, Russia
...	...
392323 calves	2 Al Khāniq, Yemen

We have included a sample client (in the form of a unit test at the bottom of Autocomplete.java). It takes the name of an input file and an integer  $k$  as command-line arguments. It reads the data from the file; then it repeatedly reads autocomplete queries from standard input, and prints out the top  $k$  matching terms in descending order of weight. This uses your *Term* and *Autocomplete* to perform its work. Use it to verify your code (beyond unit tests).

```
public static void main(String[] args) {
    // read in the terms from a file
    String filename = args[0];
    In in = new In(filename);
    int N = in.readInt();
    Term[] terms = new Term[N];
    for (int i = 0; i < N; i++) {
        long weight = in.readLong();           // read the next weight
        in.readChar();                         // scan past the tab
        String query = in.readLine();          // read the next query
        terms[i] = new Term(query, weight);    // construct the term
    }

    // read in queries from standard input and print out the top k matching terms
    int k = Integer.parseInt(args[1]);
    Autocomplete autocomplete = new Autocomplete(terms);
    while (StdIn.hasNextLine()) {
        String prefix = StdIn.readLine();
        Term[] results = autocomplete.allMatches(prefix);
        for (int i = 0; i < Math.min(k, results.length); i++)
            StdOut.println(results[i]);
    }
}
```

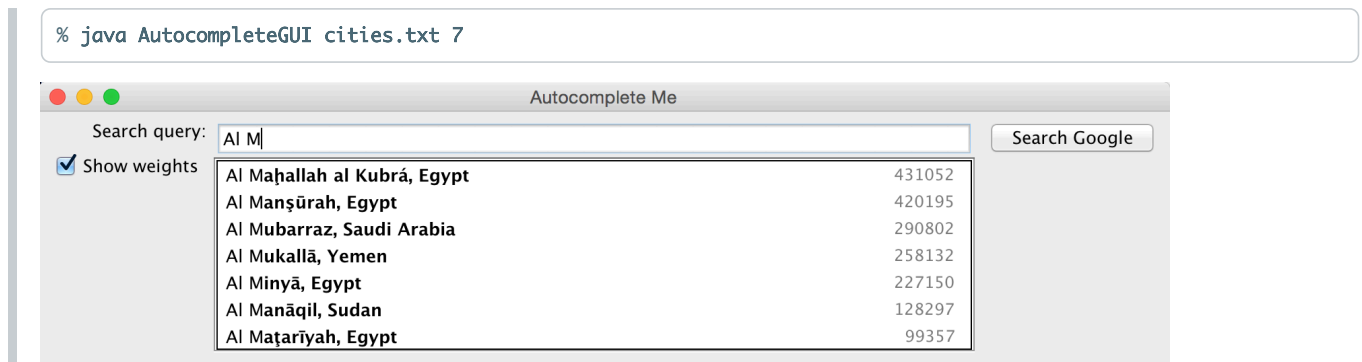
Here are a few sample executions:

```
% java Autocomplete wiktory.txt 5
auto
    619695 automobile
    424997 automatic
comp
    13315900 company
    7803980 complete
    6038490 companion
    5205030 completely
    4481770 comply
the
    5627187200 the
    334039800 they
    282026500 their
    250991700 them
    196120000 there
```

```
% java Autocomplete cities.txt 7
M
    12691836 Mumbai, India
    12294193 Mexico City, Distrito Federal, Mexico
    10444527 Manila, Philippines
    10381222 Moscow, Russia
    3730206 Melbourne, Victoria, Australia
    3268513 Montréal, Quebec, Canada
    3255944 Madrid, Spain
AL M
    431052 Al Maḥallāh al Kubrā, Egypt
    420195 Al Maṣṣarah, Egypt
    290802 Al Mubarrāz, Saudi Arabia
    258132 Al Mukallā, Yemen
    227150 Al Minyā, Egypt
    128297 Al Manāqīl, Sudan
    99357 Al Maṭariyah, Egypt
```

**Interactive GUI (optional, but fun and no extra work).** We have also included **AutocompleteGUI.java** (<https://canvas.umd.edu/courses/17249/files/1760919/download?wrap=1>) ↓

([https://canvas.umd.edu/courses/17249/files/1760919/download?download\\_frd=1](https://canvas.umd.edu/courses/17249/files/1760919/download?download_frd=1)) . The program takes the name of a file and an integer  $k$  as command-line arguments and provides a GUI for the user to enter queries. It presents the top  $k$  matching terms in real time. When the user selects a term, the GUI opens up the results from a Google search for that term in a browser.



**Deliverables.** Submit `Autocomplete.java`, `BinarySearchDeluxe.java`, and `Term.java`. Finally, submit a `readme.txt` (template included in project file) and answer the questions. To submit them:

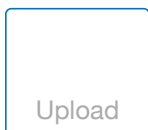
```
% mkdir Lastname_Firstname_Lab5
# note: obviously, use your name instead of the placeholders
```

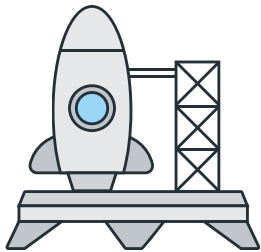
```
# copy your java files and readme file into this directory, e.g.
% cp Autocomplete.java BinarySearchDeluxe.java Term.java readme.txt Lastname_Firstname_Lab5/
```

```
# before the next command, you should be in the directory containing the Lab5 folder
% tar czf Lastname_Firstname_Lab5.tgz Lastname_Firstname_Lab5
# this should produce a file called Lastname_Firstname_Lab5.tgz
```

```
# You can verify that it contains the expected files by creating a new
# directory and unzipping it in that new directory, such as:
% mkdir temp
% cp Lastname_Firstname_Lab5.tgz temp/
% cd temp
% tar xzf Lastname_Firstname_Lab5.tgz
% ls
% ls Lastname_Firstname_Lab5
```


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