FAQ for Word Lattice Assignment

How much is the assignment worth?

12.5% of the total assessment for COM1005.

Do I have to create my own lattices?

Yes you do: the spec says

By experimenting with a number of word lattices and language models, show that branch-and-bound search will always find the best path through a word lattice, but depth-first and breadth-first searches do not. An alternative language model is provided ..

However, the lattices need not be very complicated: you can design them to serve as a testbed for what you're trying to show.

Should I create test harnesses?

Yes. The spec says 'Testing should cover all the logically different cases, e.g. identical and different states for **sameState**.' So you need 3 instances of LatticeState.sameState to test that.

You should of course do the testing before you try any searches.

Can I use Junit testing?

Yes, but you should hand in test results.

For the last part of the assignment, how many word lattices should we create?

In general the answer is enough variation to collect the data you need to prove the point you are trying to make.

So if for instance you're going to 'explore the relationship between the complexity of the lattice and the efficiency of the search.' then you have a simple lattice, get the efficiency for it and then try adding words which don't change the solution but incur more search.

You don't need to change the LM in that experiment and you need maybe 5 lattices, the original + 4 variants, giving you 5 points on your graph.

The mark scheme tells you that this part of the assignment is worth only 15%, so not much is expected to get the marks, and it's not a disaster if you do nothing.

How do I test LatticeSearch?

4 easy marks here, nothing to test except the accessors. Doing that also tests the constructor of course.