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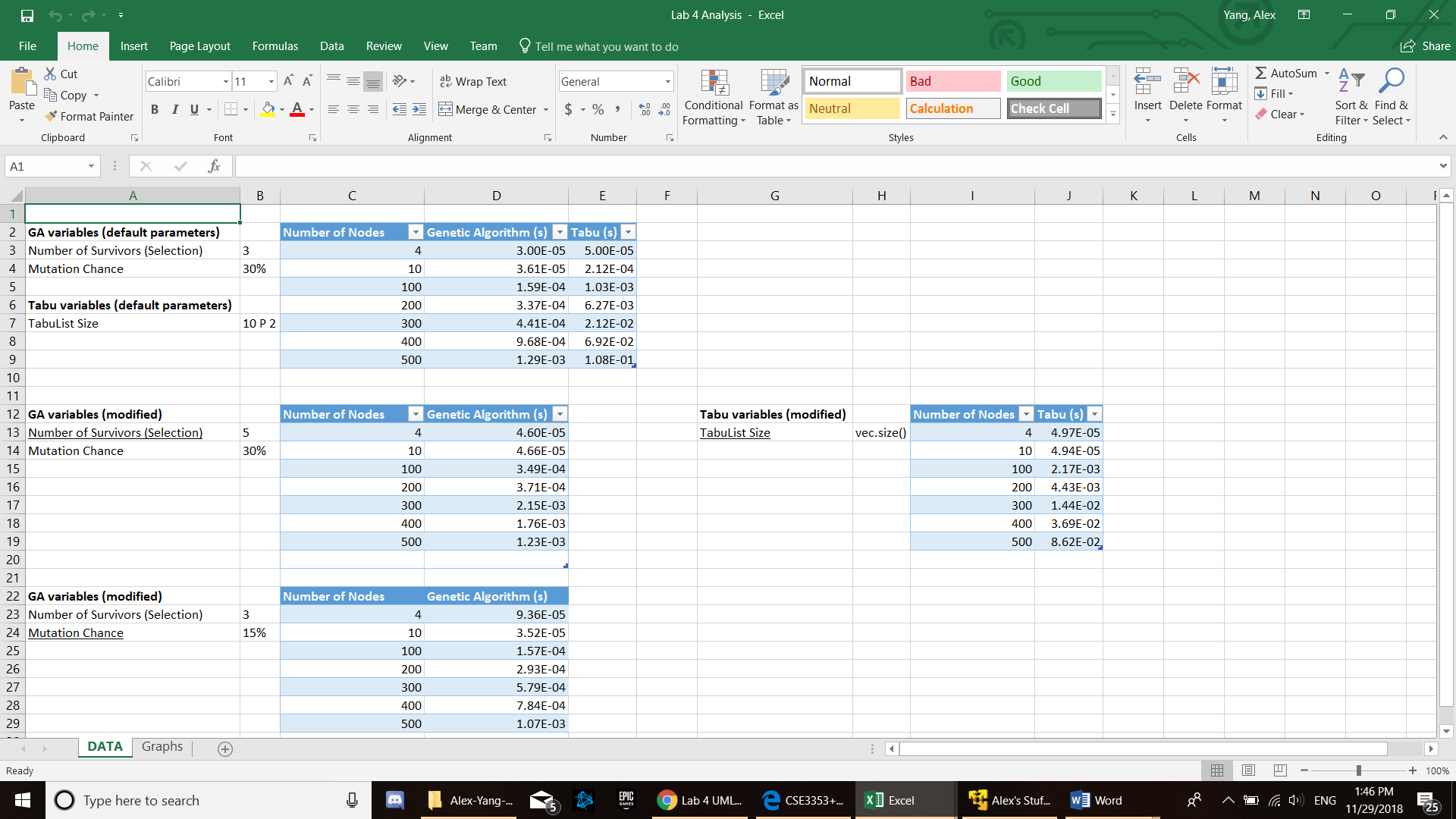
Professor Clark

CSE 3353

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Lab 4 Report

Raw Data:



Graphs:

Analysis

Both my Genetic Algorithm and Tabu Search only ran a set number of times so that when the number of nodes was increased, there was not a huge difference in the total runtime. As you can see in my graphs, I could find a Hamiltonian circuit for 500 nodes in under a second. Of course the downside is that neither of my algorithms would find the most efficient circuit, however they came close. Eventually my Tabu Search gets less and less efficient in comparison to my genetic algorithm. I think this is due to the fact that my tabu search uses has many more operations such as clear() and was overall less optimized as my genetic algorithm.

Compared to the Brute Force and Dynamic Programming algorithms from lab 3, the GA and Tabu Algorithms were much more efficient as the number of nodes increased. This can easily be seen with how the Lab 4 Algorithms can easily handle 500 nodes while Brute Force and Dynamic stopped before 20. This is due to the fact that while Brute Force and Dynamic Programming algorithms try to find the absolute best path, the GA and Tabu Algorithms settle for approximations and “good enough” paths which allow them to run much faster.

Design Decisions

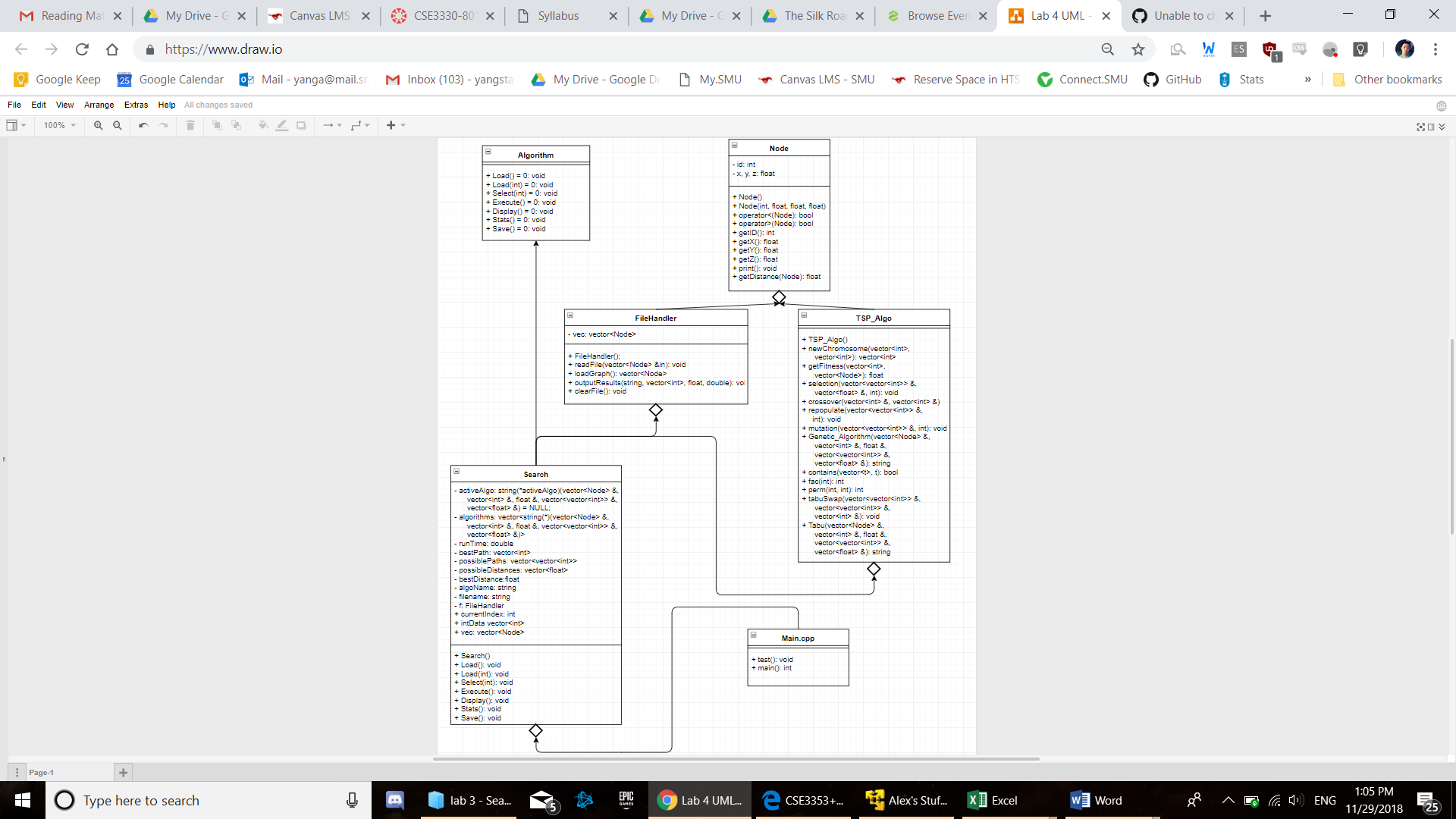
I used the strategy design pattern as my design pattern. Strategy seemed the most appealing to me because I can just write new algorithms in my SearchAlgo class and be able to easily add them to my Search class’s vector of algorithms. Because I’m using the strategy design pattern, I can also run every algorithm the same way as seen in my test function in my main.cpp. I can test multiple different sized graphs and see the results. All I need to do is call the load, select, and execute functions no matter which algorithm and it will run them. If I need to add a new algorithm, I can just write a new one in my TSP\_Algo class as a function.

To describe the structure of my program, my main class includes from Search which inherits from the virtual base class Algorithm. Search runs all the Strategy pattern commands (load, select, execute, etc.). Search includes TSP\_Algo which contains the brute force and DP algorithms in the form of static functions. Search has a vector of function pointers (algorithms) which it adds to from TSP\_Algo in my Search classes constructor. My graph is represented as a vector of nodes called vec contained in my Search class. Each node contains the X, Y, and Z coordinates of each point in the graph.

I also implemented a fileHandler object that incorporates both the file loader and output system into a single interface. The Load() and Save() functions in my Search class now call the fileHandler object and it takes care of reading and writing to files. In addition, if I were to re-use this program for a different type of algorithm with different text files, I could just change how the object reads in the input without touching any other parts of my code (so I know problem will be isolated to that class alone).

In addition, I had variables that control the number of neighbors that survive each generation in my genetic algorithm, variables that control mutation chance, and variables that control the max tabuList size so that I could see how changing those variables would affect the total runtime of each algorithm.

UML Diagram



Variations of GA and Tabu

The main variables I altered in my GA algorithm were the number of neighbors that survive each generation, and the mutation chance of each neighbor every generation. As you can see from the tables in my raw data, when I increase the number of neighbors that survive every generation, the algorithm becomes less efficient and has a slightly higher total runtime when I used 5 survivors instead of 3. In addition, when I decrease my mutation chance from 30% to 15%, my algorithm became slightly more efficient. This is due to the fact that a lower mutation chance makes it the algorithm call the mutation function fewer times, resulting in a faster runtime, at the expense of a potentially less accurate algorithm.

The variable I altered in my tabuList was the size of my tabuList. I originally have my tabu list’s max size set to the permutation of the number of nodes and 2:

(number of nodes)! / (number of nodes – 2)!

This made it so that the tabuList’s max size is equal to the amount of unique positions that can be swapped in the tabuList. When I decrease my tabuList’s max size to just the number of nodes itself (n), my tabu search becomes more efficient. This is because my tabuList fills up faster which means my tabu algorithm performs less swaps. This would result in a faster runtime at the expense of a potentially less accurate algorithm.