Due: Tuesday, January 29, 2018

Date: Wednesday, January 23, 2019

Submit your solution on Canvas.

Do not discuss these problems with other students. You should solve these problems on your own.

Problem 1. You are asked to design a computer program for an online advertising start up. This start up connects website owners with advertisers. When a user visits a web page, your program should retrieve a list of relevant ads from a database and decide which ads to display. Your goal is to maximize the expected revenue received from the ads.

The program is given a list of n ads; and a list of m ad slots on the web page. The slots are located at different places on the web page, and the user may see some slots and not others. For every slot i, you are given a probability a_i that the user will see that slot. For every ad j, you are given the following information:

- the revenue r_j that the web owner receives from the advertiser if the user clicks on the ad and
- the probability b_i that the user clicks on the ad if he or she sees the ad.

If ad j is displayed in slot i, the expected revenue from this ad equals $a_ib_jr_j$. The program needs to assign an ad to every available slot. Every ad may be displayed at most once.

Formally, you need to find an *injective* mapping f from the set of slots to ads (f is *injective* if $f(i') \neq f(i'')$ for distinct i' and i'') so as to maximize the following sum:

$$\sum_{i=1}^{m} a_i b_{f(i)} r_{f(i)}.$$

You can assume that $n \geq m$.

- I. Design and describe a **greedy** algorithm for this problem.
- II. Analyze its running time. To get a full credit for the problem, the running time of the algorithm must be $O(n \log n + m \log m)$.
- III. Prove that the algorithm is correct.

Problem 2. In this exercise, you need to implement the greedy algorithm from Problem 1.

• double FindBestAssignment (std::vector<double> a,std::vector<double> b, std::vector<double> r)

This function should return the maximum expected revenue for a given page i.e.,

$$\max_{f} \sum_{i=1}^{m} a_i b_{f(i)} r_{f(i)},$$

where f is an injective mapping.

Instructions for the programming assignment. Download files:

- student_code_3.h this file should contain your solution.
- problem_solver_3.cpp this is the main file in the project (don't edit this file!).
- test_framework.h this is a library responsible for reading and writing data files (don't edit this file!)
- problem_set_3.in this file contains test problems for your algorithm (don't edit this file!)

Place all files in a new folder/directory. Write your code in the function FindBestAssignment. Also, write your name in the function GetStudentName. Both functions are located in file student_code_3.h. Compile and run your code. To compile your code do the following.

- If you use GNU C++ compiler, type g++ -std=c++11 problem_solver_3.cpp -o problem_solver_3
- If you use CLang compiler, type clang++ -std=c++11 problem_solver_3.cpp -o problem_solver_3
- If you use Microsoft Visual C++ compiler, start Developer Command Prompt and type cl /EHsc problem_solver_3.cpp

Your compiler should be compatible with C++11. If you work in TLab, you need to start developer tools first: Type

• scl enable devtoolset-4 bash

Once you compile your code, start your program. Type ./problem_solver_3 on Unix or Mac and problem_solver_3.exe on Windows. Make sure that the executable is located in the same folder as file problem_set_3.in. Your program will generate solution_3.dat that contains solutions to the problem_set_3.in. If your code works correctly, you will get the following message:

- Problem set 3. Your algorithm solved all test problems correctly. Congratulations!
- Don't forget to submit your source code and file solution_3.dat via Canvas.

If your code makes a mistake, you may get a message like this:

• Problem set 3. Mistake in problem #15. Correct answer: 4. Your answer: 12.

Finally, when your code is ready, submit files student_code_3.h and solution_3.dat via Canvas. Make sure that you are submitting the latest versions.

Remark: If you want to debug your code, please, type ./problem_solver_3 15 on Unix or Mac and problem_solver_3.exe 15 on Windows. This command will call your function only on one problem — the problem #15 and thus let you debug your code on the problem where your program erred. Note that this command will not generate or update solution_3.dat. So before submitting your solution, you need to run your program without any command line arguments.