

# GCPC 2020

## Presentation of solutions



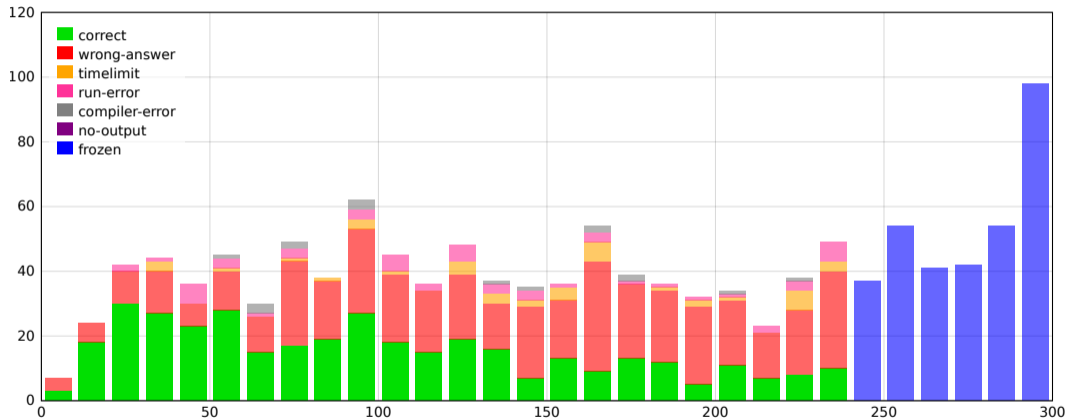
Thanks to the jury:

- Michael Baer (FAU)
- Julian Baldus (UdS)
- Gregor Behnke (Freiburg)
- Sandro Esquivel (CAU)
- Maximilian Fichtl (TUM)
- Nathan Maier (Ulm)
- Tobias Meggendorfer (TUM)
- Philipp Reger (FAU)
- Gregor Schwarz (TUM)
- Paul Wild (FAU)

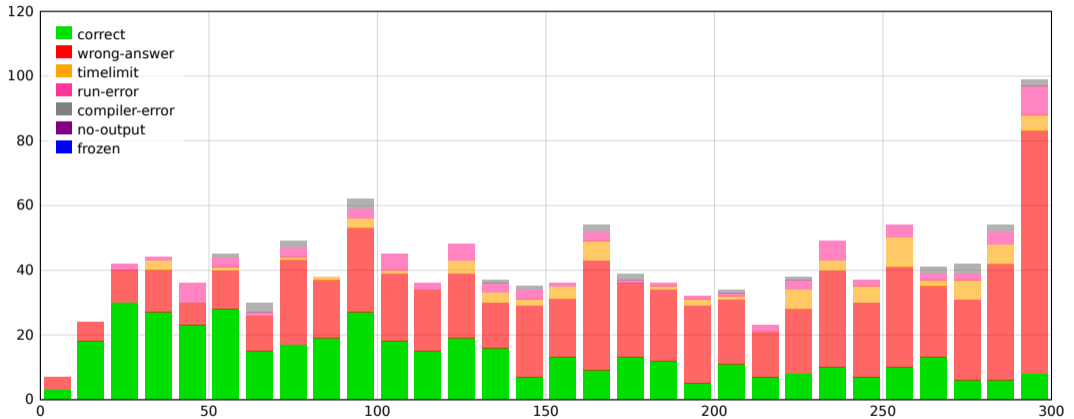
Thanks to our test readers:

- Gregor Matl (TUM)
- Marcel Wienöbst (Lübeck)

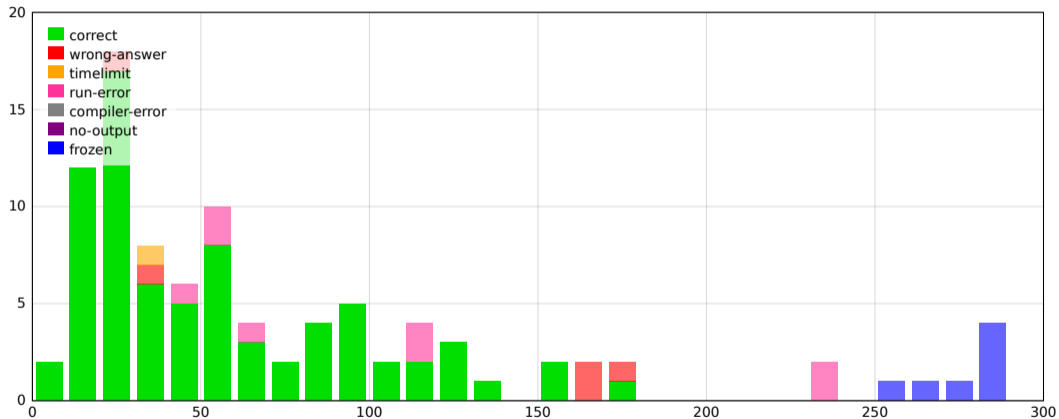
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# F – Flip Flow



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Given a list of times at which an hourglass is flipped over, how much sand remains on the upper half at the end of this process?

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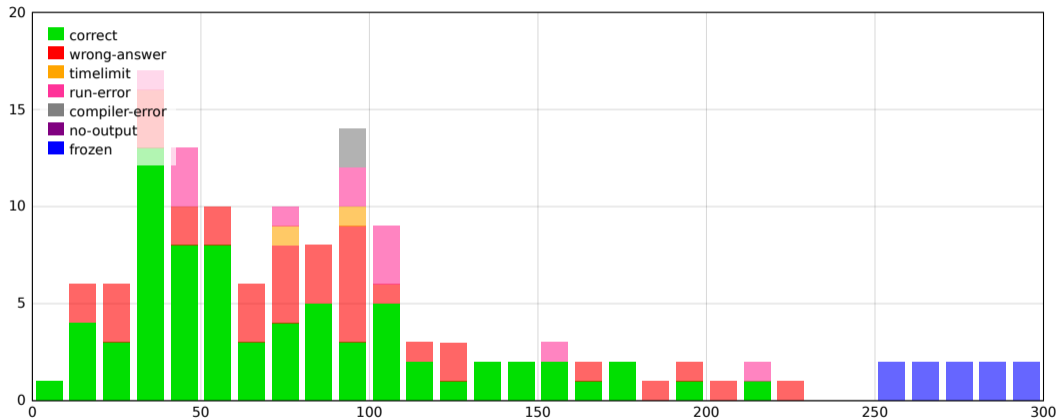
## Solution

The process finishes after at most  $10^6$  seconds, so simulate step by step:

```
int upper = 0, lower = s;
for (int k = 0; k < t; k++) {
    if (flip[k]) swap(upper, lower);
    if (upper > 0) upper--, lower++;
}
```

Can also be solved in  $\mathcal{O}(n)$ , where  $n$  is the number of flips.

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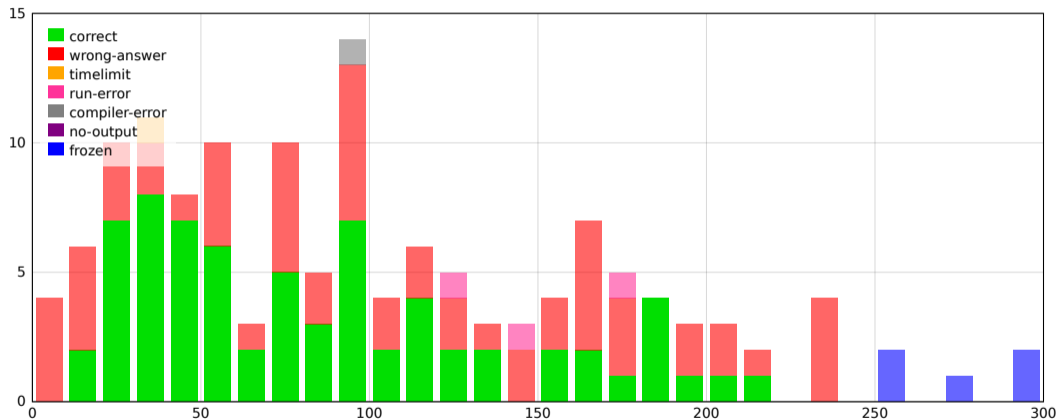
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## Solution

- If a solution exists, the footprint area of the blocks must always decrease towards the top of the tower.
- Sort the blocks by area and check for each adjacent pair if one fits inside the other.
- There is a simple formula for each of the four cases.

# M – Mixtape Management



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## Problem

Given a permutation  $p_1, \dots, p_n$ , find a sequence of positive integers  $a_1, \dots, a_n$  where  $\text{str}(a_1) < \dots < \text{str}(a_n)$  lexicographically and  $a_{p_1} < \dots < a_{p_n}$  by value.

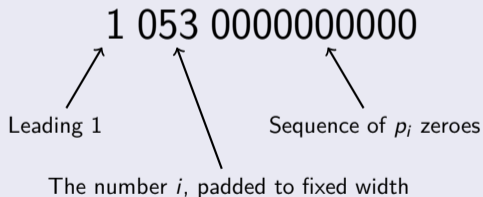
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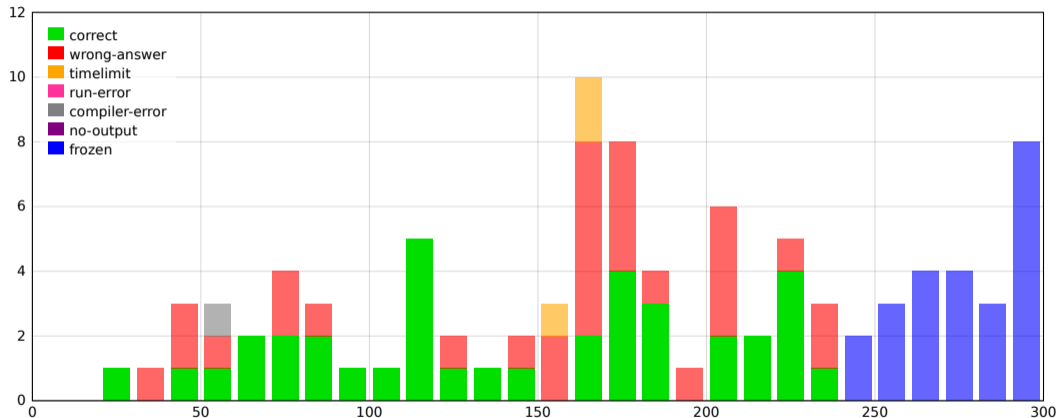
## Solution

- Compose every number from three parts:



- This guarantees that all numbers are valid and the sorting is correct in both cases.

# C – Confined Catching





## Problem

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You are playing a board game on a square grid. You have two pieces while your AI opponent has one. Catch the opponent's piece within a limited number of turns.

## Solution

Obviously, you have to move your pieces towards the AI's.

## C – Confined Catching

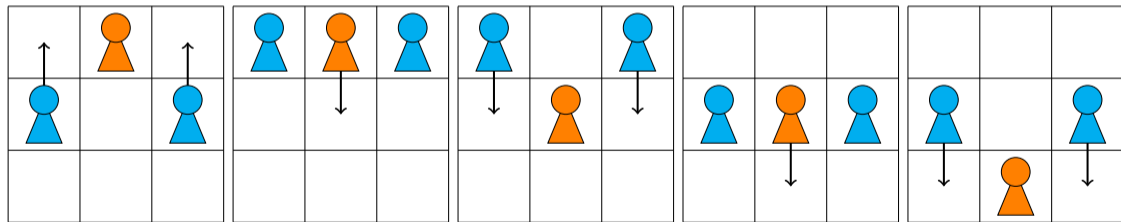
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However, just reducing the distance in all your turns may not be enough, as the AI may be able to keep fleeing forever.

## C – Confined Catching

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### Solution cont.

The crucial strategy is to have your two pieces behave slightly differently:

- For your first piece, if it could move along either axis to get closer to the opponent, move along the y axis first.
- For your second piece, prioritize the x axis.

Eventually, the AI will be forced into a corner (or even lose before that), with nowhere left to run.

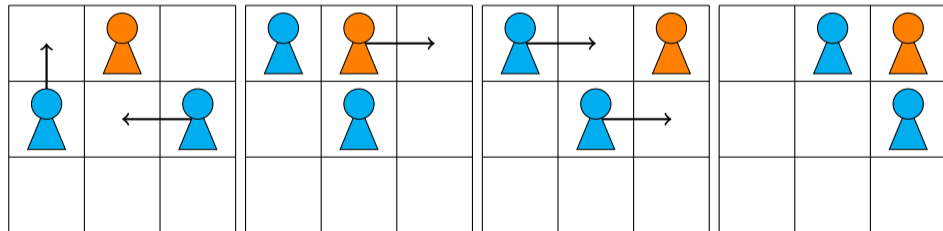
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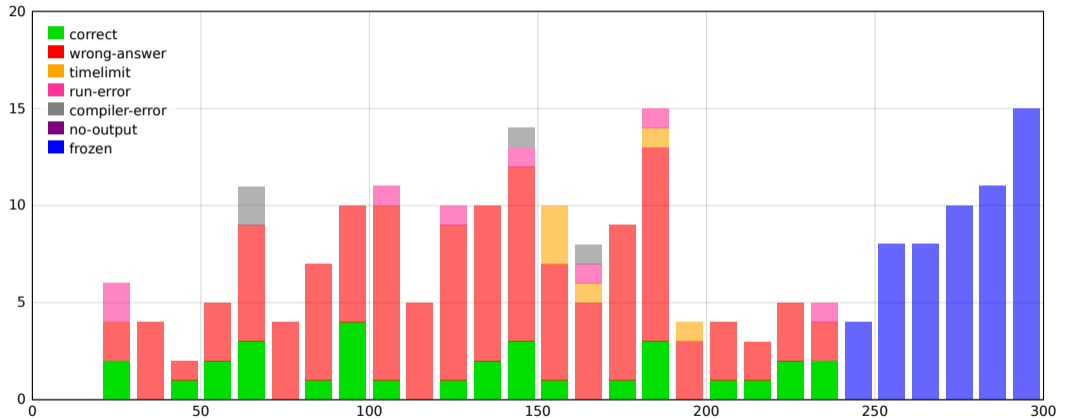
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# B – Bookshelf Building



### Problem

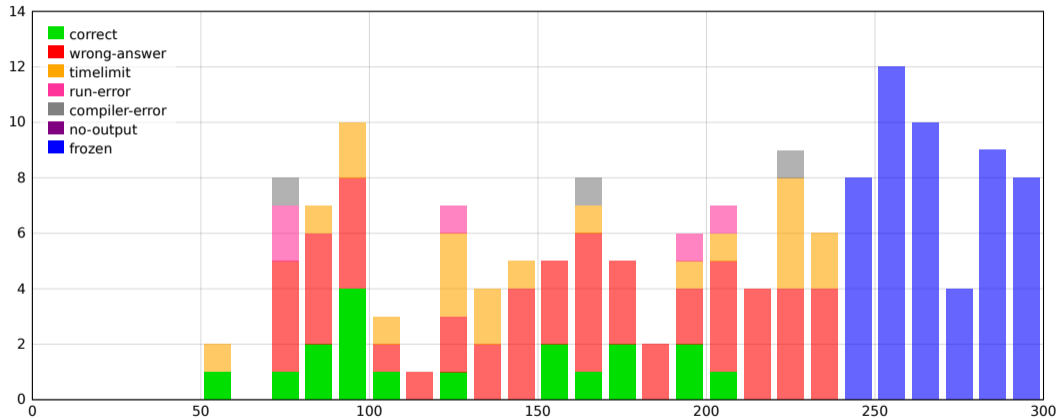
Given  $n$  books of different widths and heights, can you fit them into a rectangular bookshelf using at most one separating board?



### Solution

- Place the tallest book in the bottom left corner of the shelf.
- Install the board at the height of the tallest book.
- Greedily place all books in the lower section of the shelf that do not fit in the upper section.
- For the remaining capacity in the lower section, solve a knapsack problem – the more you fit into the lower section, the more space you have left in the upper section.
- Place all remaining books in the upper section.
- Special case: install no board if tallest book has height  $y$
- Complexity:  $\mathcal{O}(nx)$

# G – Gravity Grid



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- Time and space complexity:  $\mathcal{O}(h \cdot w)$ .

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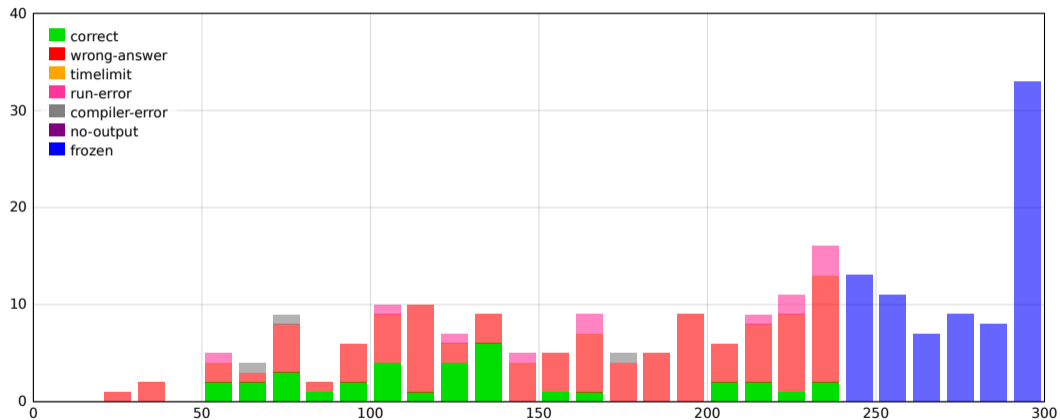
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- After each drop, it is enough to update the values in the current cell and the opposite cell of the run in each direction.
- Time and space complexity:  $\mathcal{O}(h \cdot w)$ .
- Several other solutions are possible, for instance using binary search and a two-pointer method or using a monotone queue.

# K – Knightly Knowledge





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Given are the coordinates of *monuments* and *churches*. Churches with  $\geq 2$  mon. in their row / col are *mighty*. Place one monument to maximize the number of churches that are turned mighty.

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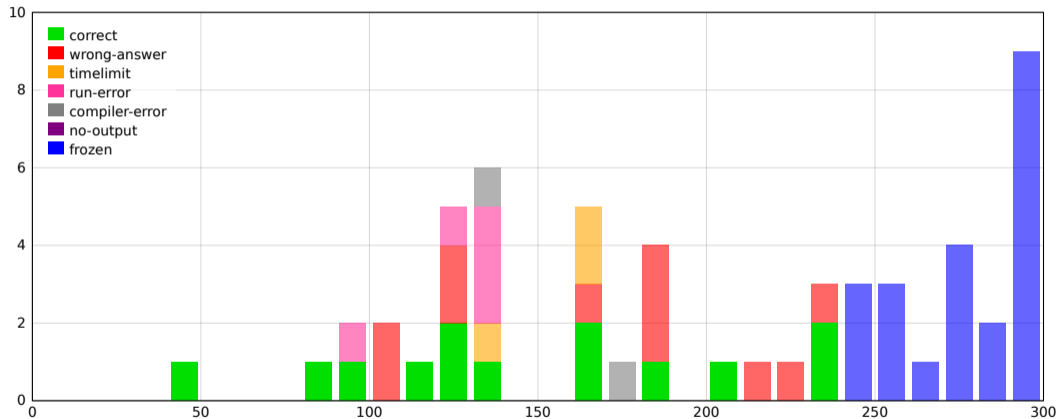
## Solution $O((m + c)^2)$

- Count monuments and ordinary churches per row / column.
- Iterate over all reasonable locations to find the best spot.
- *Reasonable*: At least on church or monument in the same row and column.
- Do *not* count a church at the intersection twice.

## Solution $O(m + c)$

- As above, but only check best row / col. They are either optimal or off by one.
- $\rightsquigarrow$  No other intersection can be better.
- Each non-optimal intersection has a church at the spot  $\rightsquigarrow$  at most  $c$ .

# D – Decorative Dominoes



### Problem

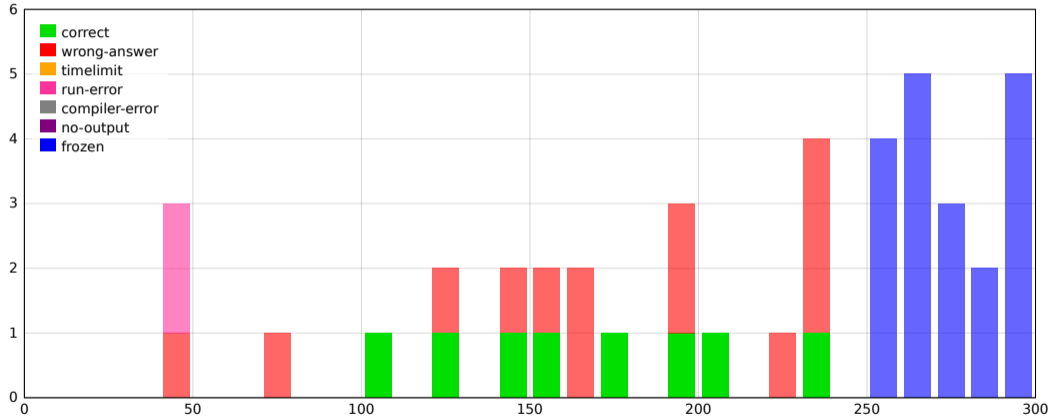
Given an arrangement of dominoes without numbers, assign numbers to both halves of each domino such that

- each domino half is adjacent to a half of another domino with the same number on it;
- all numbers appear at most twice among all dominoes.

### Solution

- Transform the problem into a graph where the nodes are the domino halves and the edges exist between adjacent halves belonging to different dominoes.
- The graph is bipartite: Imagine a large black and white checkered board over the coordinate grid. Connected nodes must have different colors.
- Find a perfect bipartite matching on this graph.
- Matched nodes are assigned the same number.
- Every valid numbering corresponds to a perfect matching.  
So whenever a solution exists, this algorithm will find one.
- Complexity:  $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$

# I – Impressive Integers



## Problem

For a given integer  $n$ , determine if there exist integers  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$  such that an equilateral triangle with side length  $c$  can be tiled with exactly  $n$  triangles with side lengths  $a$  or  $b$ .

If possible, output a valid tiling.

# I – Impressive Integers

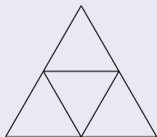
## Solution

- By trying out small numbers one can find that it is impossible for  $n = 2, 3, 5$ .
- For all other  $n > 0$  a valid tiling can be found as follows:

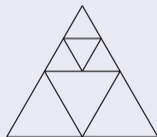
$$n = 1 \quad a = b = c$$

$n > 2$  is even Use pattern 1a with  $n - 1$  triangles in the bottom row.

$n > 5$  is odd Use pattern 1b with  $n - 4$  triangles in the bottom row.



(a) Even pattern.

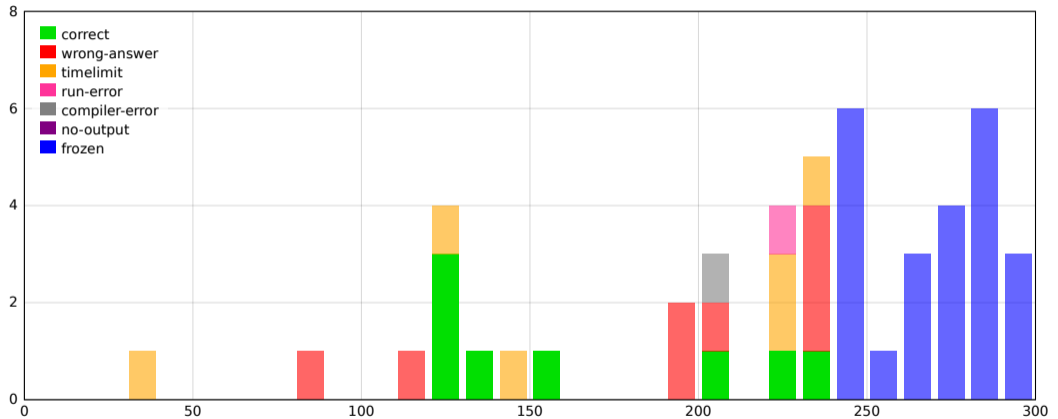


(b) Odd pattern.

- Complexity:  $\mathcal{O}(n)$



# L – Lexicographical Lecturing



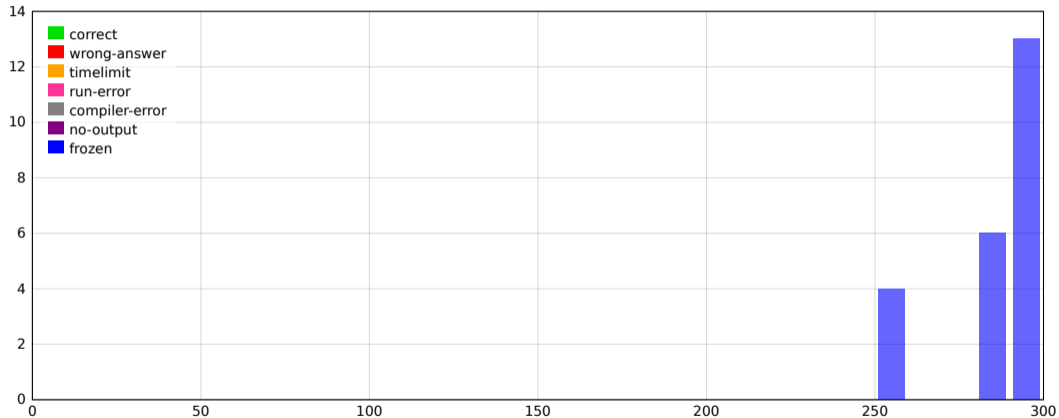
## Problem

Find indices  $i < j$  describing minimal-length substrings, such that the order with respect to the substring is equal to the original order.

## Solution

- If any two subsequent strings  $s_k, s_{k+1}$  are ordered correctly w.r.t. interval  $(i, j)$ , then all strings can be ordered correctly w.r.t.  $(i, j)$ .
- Consider all subsequent strings  $s_k, s_{k+1}$  one after another.
- For each index  $i$ , let  $\alpha_{ki}$  be the smallest index such that  $s_k$  and  $s_{k+1}$  are sorted correctly w.r.t. interval  $(i, \alpha_{ki})$ .  
If no such index exists, set  $\alpha_{ki} = \infty$ .
- Determining all  $\alpha_{ki}$  for two subsequent strings can be done in  $\mathcal{O}(\ell)$  using dynamic programming.
- For each index  $i$ , determine the maximum  $\alpha_{ki}$  over all  $k$ .
- Output the shortest interval among all  $(i, \max_k \{\alpha_{ki}\})$ .
- Complexity:  $\mathcal{O}(n\ell)$

# J – Jeopardised Journey



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### Problem

Given points (glades) and circles (hills). You can go from point  $A$  to  $B$  iff the direct line between them does not intersect a circle or any other point.

Opponent selects (unknown) one point to block. Determine for a starting point, which other points can be reached no matter which point is blocked by the opponent.

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## Solution

Two part problem:

- Geometry: Determine for which points  $A$  and  $B$  there is no circle/other point between them and build a graph.
- Graph: Find all nodes of the graph with two fully disjoint paths to node 0.

### Solution: Geometry

1000 points and 1000 circles  $\Rightarrow$  We can't test all pairs of points (would be  $\mathcal{O}(n^3)$ ).

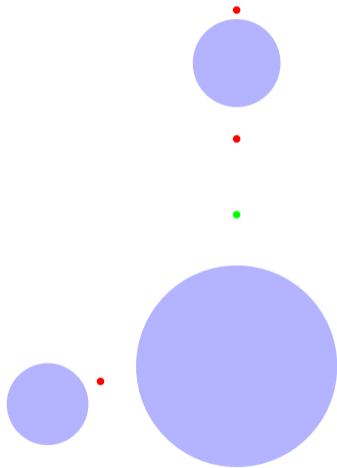
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**Angular Sorting** per point.

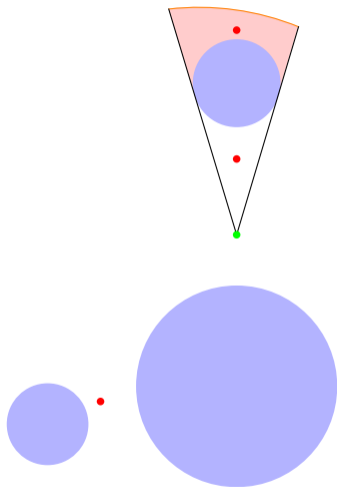


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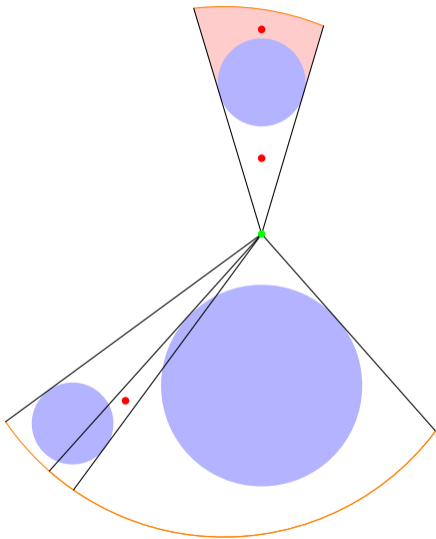
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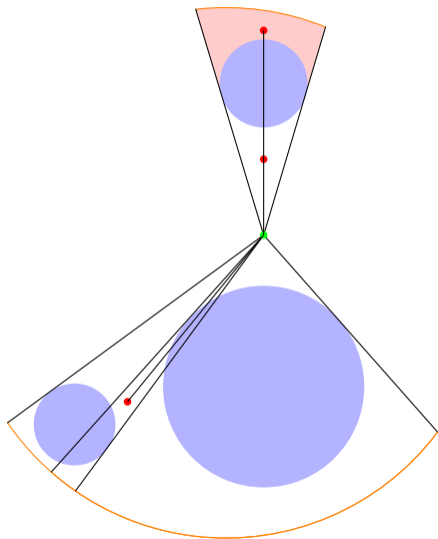
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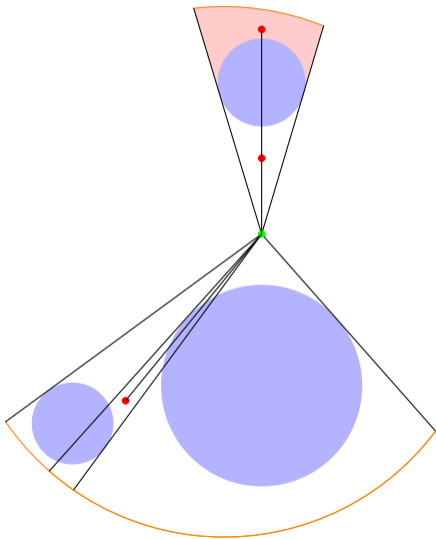
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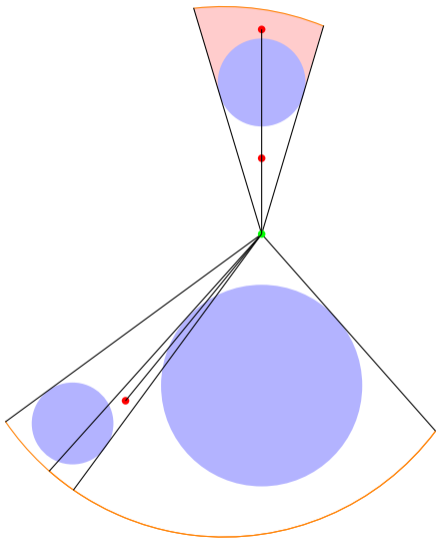
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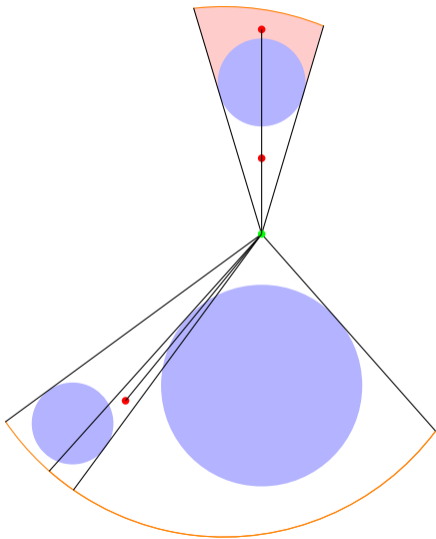
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- Sort these  $\leq 2999$  events (start and end per circle and points)

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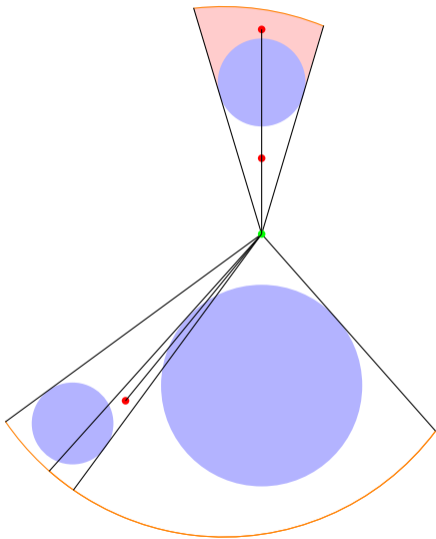
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    - Start circle: add to  $S$

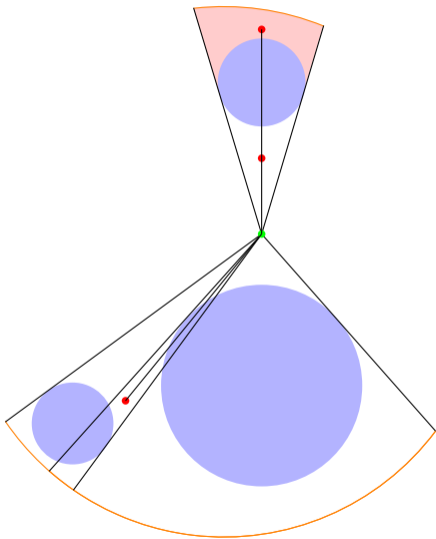
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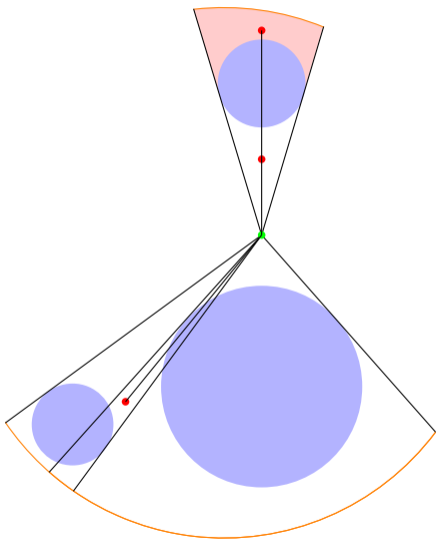


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- Runtime:  $\mathcal{O}(n \log n)$

## Solution: Geometry Pitfalls

Implementation has a lot of pitfalls

- Multiple events with same angle: end circle – points in increasing distance – begin circle
- For multiple points with same angle: add edge only to the first one.
- Circles that intersect with the  $(+, 0)$  axis have  $\alpha_{begin} > \alpha_{end}$ .  
⇒ split into two along angle 0.

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Try every blocked vertex. Do DFS from node 0.

Count how often each vertex is reached. If it is reached in  $|V| - 2$  DFSs (it is blocked once) then it is safe.

Graph contains  $n^2$  edges, so this would have runtime  $n^3$  (too slow).

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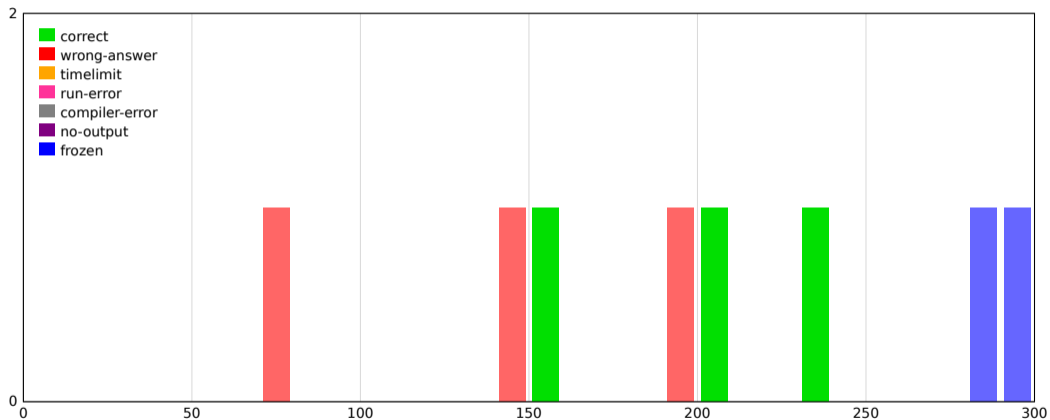
Graph contains  $n^2$  edges, so this would have runtime  $n^3$  (too slow).

**Better solution:** Articulation nodes (can be determined in linear time using DFS).

A node is safe if it is reachable from 0 without traversing an articulation node.

$2 \times \text{DFS} \Rightarrow \mathcal{O}(n^2)$

# E – Exhausting Errands





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### Problem

Given  $n$  pairs of integers  $(a_1, b_1), \dots, (a_n, b_n)$ , find the length of the shortest 1D route visiting all positions  $a_i, b_i$  subject to the constraint that  $a_i$  is visited before  $b_i$ . The route can start at any  $a_i$  and finish at any  $b_j$ .

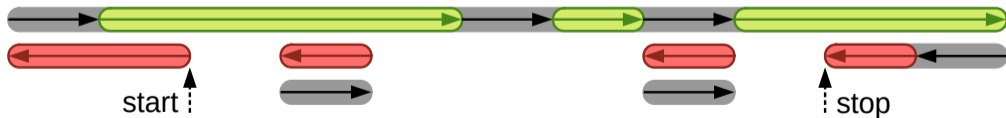
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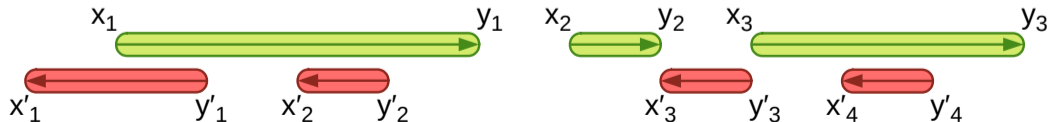
Idea: Complete all “forward” errands during one left-to-right run, complete “backward” errands either before, after or during this run.



# E – Exhausting Errands

## Solution: Preparation

- Partition pairs into “forward” pairs ( $a_i \leq b_i$ ) and “backward” pairs ( $a_i > b_i$ ).
- Sort pairs within each partition ascending by start position.
- Merge all overlapping or adjoint pairs within each partition.
- Denote resulting  $m$  “forward” pairs as  $(x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_m, y_m)$  and  $m'$  “backward” pairs as  $(x'_1, y'_1), \dots, (x'_{m'}, y'_{m'})$ .
- Note that  $x_1 \leq y_1 < \dots < x_m \leq y_m$  and  $y'_1 < x'_1 < \dots < y'_{m'} < x'_{m'}$ .
- Complexity:  $\mathcal{O}(n \log(n))$  for sorting,  $\mathcal{O}(n)$  for merging



## E – Exhausting Errands

### Solution: Special Case 1

- Assume that  $m' = 0$ . Then the trivial solution is to start at  $x_1$  and finish at  $y_m$  (single “forward pass”). The resulting distance is  $y_m - x_1$ .

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### Solution: Special Case 2

- Assume that  $m' = 1$ . Then we have three options:
  - Go from  $x'_1$  to  $y'_1$  before the forward pass and proceed to  $x_1$  afterwards. The extra distance is  $x'_1 - y'_1 + |x_1 - y'_1|$ .
  - Stop at  $x'_1$  during the forward pass, go to  $y'_1$  and return to  $x'_1$  (only applicable if  $x_1 < x'_1 < y_m$ ). The extra distance is  $2(x'_1 - y'_1)$ .
  - Proceed to  $x'_1$  and  $y'_1$  after the forward pass. The extra distance is  $x'_1 - y'_1 + |x'_1 - y_m|$ .

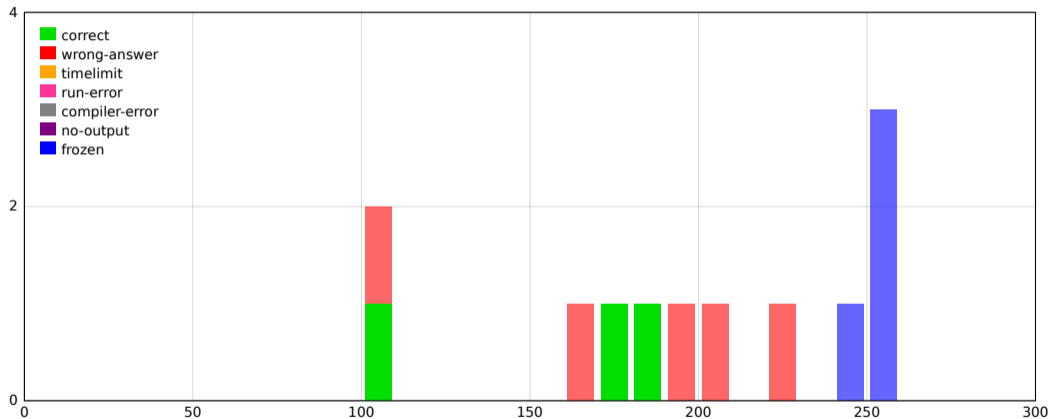
## Solution: General Case

- Assume that  $m' > 1$ . Now we can complete the first  $s$  backward errands before the forward pass, the last  $t$  after and the remaining  $m' - s - t$  backward errands during the forward pass ( $0 \leq s \leq m', 0 \leq t \leq m' - s$ ):
  - The extra distance for the first part is  $x'_s - y'_1 + |x_1 - y'_1|$ .
  - The extra distance for the inbetween part is  $\sum_{i=s+1}^{m'-t} 2(x'_i - y'_i)$ .
  - The extra distance for the last part is  $x'_{m'} - y'_{m'-t+1} + |x'_{m'} - y_m|$ .
- Check the total distance for all feasible  $s, t$  and pick the minimal solution.
- Complexity:  $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$

### Solution: Caveats

- Solve also the mirrored problem, *i. e.*, for errands  $(-a_1, -b_1), \dots, (-a_n, -b_n)$ , and pick its solution if better.
- Do not evaluate special cases  $s = 0, t < m'$  when  $x'_1 \leq x_1$  resp.  $t = 0, s < m'$  when  $x'_{m'} \geq y_m$  (*i. e.*, start points of some “inbetween” errands are outside of the forward pass).
- Use sum arrays for  $x'_i$  and  $y'_i$  to compute the extra distance for the inbetween part in  $\mathcal{O}(1)$ .

# H – Hectic Harbour





## Problem

Schedule two gantry cranes such that they finish their assigned tasks as fast as possible.

## Solution

- Define two DP arrays for cranes  $A$  and  $B$ :
  - $\text{dpA}[i][j][p]$ :  $A$  finished task  $i$ ,  $B$  finished task  $j$ .  
 $A$  is at position of task  $i$ ,  $B$  is at position  $p$ .
  - $\text{dpB}[i][j][p]$ :  $A$  finished task  $i$ ,  $B$  finished task  $j$ .  
 $A$  is at position  $p$ ,  $B$  is at position of task  $j$ .
- Distinguish three cases when updating DP arrays:
  - ①  $A$  and  $B$  both perform their next task if they need exactly the same number of steps. If not, consider case (2) or (3).
  - ②  $A$  performs next task while  $B$  moves as close as possible towards its next task.
  - ③  $B$  performs next task while  $A$  moves as close as possible towards its next task.
- Always ensure that cranes do not crash.
- Complexity:  $\mathcal{O}(a b n)$
- Sweep line solutions in  $\mathcal{O}(a b n \log(n))$  are also accepted.

- Jetzt: Auflösung des Scoreboards und Siegerehrung
- Anschließend Voice-Chat auf dem Discord-Server
- Extended Contest mit den GCPC-Aufgaben (bald) unter  
<https://domjudge.cs.fau.de/>

Danke für die Teilnahme!