

This homework is due on **February 25, 9am ET**.

Submit solutions to coding questions (Problem 2 and Problem 3) in Stepik, submit solutions to all other questions in Canvas.

Please sign up at Stepik using the following link:  
<https://stepik.org/invitation/cb117783509ddb56fb97db7998974526791fa236/>

You can resubmit your code until it passes all tests, there is no limit on the number of attempts. You submit your solutions in any of the following programming languages ASM32, ASM64, C, C#, C++, Closure, Dart, Go, Haskell, Java, Javascript, Julia, Kotlin, NASM, Octav, PascalABC.NET, Perl 5, PHP, Python 3, R, Ruby, Rust, Scala, Shell, Swift, however starter files will be provided only for Python, Java and C++.

You are welcome to work with others, however you must explicitly list all collaborators and materials that you used. You must write up your own solution and your own code to every problem. See Georgetown University Honor System. When in doubt, ask the instructor what is allowed.

**Problem 1** (King and Prisoner). A clever prisoner was wrongly accused by the King and was given a death penalty. As a rule, the prisoner was given a last chance in which prisoner places  $n$  white and  $n$  black balls in two boxes with the only constraint that no box is empty. After this, the king picks one of the boxes (with probability  $1/2$  each), and picks a random ball from that box (each ball is picked with equal probability). If the ball happens to be black, then the prisoner is freed. Distribute the balls between the two boxes to maximize prisoner's chances. Prove that your solution is optimal.

**Problem 2** (Two Missing). Given an array that contains  $n - 1$  *distinct* numbers from  $\{0, 1, \dots, n - 1, n\}$ , find the two missing numbers.

**Input:** The first line contains an integer  $n \geq 1$ , the next  $n - 1$  lines contain  $n - 1$  distinct integers from the range  $\{0, 1, \dots, n - 1, n\}$ .

**Output:** If  $i$  and  $j$  are the two missing integers, then output  $\min(i, j)$  and  $\max(i, j)$  separated by a space.

**Example 1:**

**Input:**

```
5
4
0
1
3
```

The input contains all integers from  $\{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$  except for 2 and 5.

**Output:**

```
2 5
```

**Problem 3** (Majority Element). Given an array of length  $n$  that is *guaranteed* to have a majority element (an element appearing  $> n/2$  times in the array), find the majority element.

**Input:** The first line contains an integer  $n \geq 1$ , and the next  $n$  lines contain  $n$  integers  $a_1, \dots, a_n$ .

**Output:** If  $m$  appears more than  $n/2$  in the input array  $a_1, \dots, a_n$ , then output  $m$ . It is guaranteed that such  $m$  exists.

**Example 1:**

**Input:**

```
7
1
2
3
2
2
2
1
```

In this example  $n = 7$ . Since 2 appears  $4 > 3.5 = n/2$  times in the input, 2 is the majority element.

**Output:**

```
2
```

**Problem 4** (Boxes game). Design an algorithm for the following problem. Let  $N$  and  $S$  be integers, and  $N$  be a multiple of  $S$ . There are  $N$  closed boxes, each containing a bit (that is, number from  $\{0, 1\}$ ).

- In the preprocessing phase, the algorithm is allowed to check all boxes, and write down  $S$  bits in a notepad.
- In the query phase, for any integer  $i \in \{1, \dots, N\}$ , you are allowed to read all bits written in the notepad, and open at most  $(N/S - 1)$  boxes *not including* the box number  $i$ . After this, you should always correctly compute the bit in the box number  $i$ .

**a.** Design an algorithm for the case where  $N = 2$  and  $S = 1$ . Here, given two bits  $x_1$  and  $x_2$ , we want to preprocess them and compute one bit  $y$ , such that

- Given  $x_1$  and  $y$ , we can compute  $x_2$ ;
- Given  $x_2$  and  $y$ , we can compute  $x_1$ .

**b.** Design an algorithm for the case where  $S = 1$  but  $N$  is arbitrarily large. Here, given  $N$  bits  $x_1, \dots, x_N$ , we want to preprocess them and compute one bit  $y$ , such that

- For every  $i \in \{1, \dots, N\}$ , given  $y$  and the input bits  $x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_N$ , we can compute  $x_i$ .

**c.** Design an algorithm that works for all values of  $N$  and  $S$  (assuming that  $S$  divides  $N$ ). Prove that your algorithm works correctly.