

Student #3

February 20, 2019

Reflection

Individual Contest 1:

A big issue on this contest was that I wasn't sure on how to read standard input and wasn't sure what that meant. I spent about an hour trying to figure that. It was also important to read through every question and check the scoreboard to make sure I was hitting the easy questions first.

Hexagon Perplexagon was tough. I didn't really understand how to even try every permutation of the code. I need to brush up on brute forcing permutations in code.

Individual Contest 2:

On this problem set my biggest issue was reading through the questions and not really understanding what it was trying to say. For Balloons it took me very long to understand how they got the output they did in the test output. Even when I did it by hand it just didn't make sense for the longest. The only way to get better at this is to read and figure out a lot more questions to get better at figuring out the patterns between them.

I did not have enough time to do Violin because I was focusing on all the other questions.

Individual Contest 3:

Monkey vines made absolutely no sense to me when I first read it. after reading it a lot after the contest ended I started to understand and tried to figure out some complex solution only to realize that there was a super simple solution that just calculated the depth of the tree and raised 2 to that power.

Ordering paper took me really long because since I wasn't doing integer division I wasn't getting the right answers. It makes sense to do integer division because you can't have half a paper if you have any amount over a page then you need the ceiling of that.

Tree Sales took a lot of thinking but was honestly not too bad when you figured it out.

Individual Contest 4:

8 puzzle was the only challenging problem in this problem set when looking back at it.

The only thing to take away from this is breadth first search is great for anything that has states to it that can be reversed easily and to start from the answer and save results to keep run times low.

Triathlon timing gave me issues because of float comparison.

Individual Contest 5:

My issue with this was that I didn't not study any of the algorithms that we went over in class nor did I print them out. Printing out algorithms would have helped a lot in this contest because it was tough for me to remember how to build all the graph algorithms.

Individual Contest 6:

Routes was super annoying because of run time. I ended up finding the solution but didn't have enough time at the end to implement it fast enough correctly. But this was the easiest contest due to me having the algorithms printed out.