CS310 - Advanced Data Structures and Algorithms

Intro to PA1

February 19, 2019
Checklist for Programming Assignments

1. Open an account with the course.
2. Check out my late days policy: applies to PAs only. I allow five late days in total. You can distribute them among PAs as you like. Declaring late days allows you to submit your PA later without being marked down, as long as the total number of late days is \( \leq 5 \). Taking late days without notice, or exceeding 5 late days will cost you points.
3. Basic Unix Knowledge: Make sure you know how to: Copy files to the Unix system, check permissions, compile and run on linux, and that you are familiar with the directory structure in Unix, know what packages are and how to work with them.
4. If not – please refer to the Unix guide on the course webpage, the FAQ on the CS webpage and in general, GIYF.
5. Download and familiarize yourself with the alg4 library.
Quick Intro to PAs

- Even if you used an IDE, try to compile and run your code on the unix system. It may work on your IDE but fail on Unix for a variety of reasons.
- Most common issues: Libraries missing or incorrectly linked, files not placed where they should, Windows is case insensitive which Unix is case sensitive.
- Remember that the PA is graded by a script which will fail if you don’t follow the instructions to a tee (including case sensitivity).
- You should submit the PA by 11:59PM of the submission date. The script will consider it a late submission if the files show a later modification date.
- Hence: Try to upload everything in advance (the network may fail etc.).
- DO NOT leave everything to the last minute. You’ll never make it.
A package in Java is a piece of code that performs a certain functionality.

Something like a module or a namespace.

Packages are a good way to organize the code and are very useful in large projects.

Examples: java.lang, java.io etc. (the package names are lang and io, respectively).

Source files of the same package should be in a separate directory with the same name as the package.

Failure to do so results in a compilation error.
All source files must start with a package statement. For example: package cs310;

For outside classes, the package name becomes part of the class name.

For example – when you run BestModel you should refer to it as cs310.BestModel.

Packages can be defined inside packages. The directory structures and names are hierarchical.

While at it, make sure you understand the Unix directory structure and the notion of absolute/relative path.
• K&W code and library: http://algs4.cs.princeton.edu/code/

• Installation and running instructions are at the bottom of the page. Read carefully!

• The code is available online and is well commented. Make sure you understand what the code does before using it.

• Make sure you understand the compilation and running instructions I provided. The flags are essential for compiling and linking the library code.

• Make sure you understand the instructions in the homework, including the mathematical background.

• Read the FAQ portion carefully as well.

• A link to test data is provided. Please use several examples to make sure your code works.