ECE 2400 Computer Systems Programming, Spring 2025 PA5: Handwriting Recognition Systems – Tree vs. Table Search

School of Electrical and Computer Engineering Cornell University

revision: 2025-04-25-20-48

1. Introduction

The fifth programming assignment will enable you to build off of the work you did in the previous programming assignment to continue to apply all of the concepts you have learned throughout the semester in the context of a machine learning system. You will continue to leverage what you have learned on algorithms (e.g., iteration vs. recursion), data structures (e.g., vectors), complexity analysis, C++ basics (e.g., namespaces, references, exceptions, and dynamic allocation), and object-oriented programming (e.g., classes, member functions, constructors, operator overloading, the rule of three, data encapsulation, interface vs. implementation). You will also now leverage what you have learned on generic programming (e.g., templates), tree data structures, and table data structures. You will apply this understanding to implement, test, and evaluate a handwriting recognition system that can classify handwritten numbers into ten classes, the digits from zero through nine, with high accuracy.

In this assignment, you will revisit the supervised learning models that classify handwritten digits developed in the previous programming assignment, and you will add three new models. Recall that these models have two main phases: *training* and *classification*. In the *training* phase, the model is provided with a large set of images, each with a label (e.g., '1', '7', '9') that indicates the corresponding digit. In the *classification* phase, the model is provided with new inputs that it has never seen before and predicts their label based on what it has learned in the training phase. You will use the classic MNIST database of handwritten digits (Figure 1). The goal of the assignment is to design a system that can classify images of these handwritten digits with high accuracy into one of ten classes: the numbers zero through nine.

You will start off by first implementing a generic sorting algorithm before implementing four classes: Vector<T>, Image, Tree<T, CmpFunc> or Table<T, HashFunc>. Then you will leverage these classes to reimplement the two simple classification algorithms from the previous programming assignment (one based on linear search and the other based on binary search), before implementing two new classification algorithms (one based on tree search and the other based on table search). You will also have the opportunity to combine a Python GUI front-end with your C++ handwriting recognition back-end to create a complete system which will enable users to draw numbers which can then be (hopefully correctly) classified!

After your handwriting recognition systems are functional and tested, you will evaluate the accuracy and performance trade-offs between implementations. You should include all of the optimizations you explored in the previous programming assignment. You will write a report that includes your complexity analysis, a discussion of your optimizations, and a quantitative evaluation of the performance across all implementations. While the final code and report are all due at the end of the assignment, we also require meeting an incremental milestone in this PA. Requirements specific to this PA for the incremental milestone and the final report are described at the end of this handout.



Figure 1: Four Example MNIST Images – Images include 28 × 28 grayscale pixels and a label. Each pixel has a value between 0 and 255 where 0 represents white, 255 represents black, and intermediate values represent intermediate levels of gray.

We assume that you have already cloned your pair repository. Use git pull to obtain the pa5-sys release code and to ensure you have any recent updates before working on your programming assignment.

% cd \${HOME}/ece2400/pair-xx % git pull % tree pa5-sys

For this assignment, you will work in the pa5-sys directory, which includes the following files:

```
|-- CMakeLists.txt
                                      |-- Table.h
|-- eval
                                         |-- Table.inl
                                      |-- CMakeLists.txt
                                         |-- table-random-test.h
|-- hrs-backend.cc
                                        |-- tree-directed-test.h
|-- hrs-binary-search-eval.cc
                                    | |-- Tree.h
|-- hrs-frontend.py
                                      |-- Tree.inl
  -- hrs-linear-search-eval.cc
                                    | |-- tree-random-test.h
| |-- vector-directed-test.h
   |-- hrs-tree-search-eval.cc
-- hrs-table-search-eval.cc
                                    | |-- Vector.h
|-- include
                                     | |-- Vector.inl
   |-- digits.dat
                                         |-- vector-random-test.h
|-- ece2400-stdlib.h
                                     |-- README.md
   |-- ece2400-stdlib.inl
                                      |-- scripts
|-- HRSBinarySearch.h
                                        |-- build.sh
L
                                      |-- HRSLinearSearch.h
                                      | |-- coverage.sh
   |-- HRSTableSearch.h
                                      | |-- eval.sh
L
   |-- HRSTreeSearch.h
                                      |-- format.sh
   |-- IHandwritingRecSys.h
                                      |-- memcheck.sh
   |-- Image.h
                                      |-- test.sh
L
   |-- Image.inl
                                         |-- valgrind.sh
1
                                      |-- mnist-utils.h
T
                                      l-- src
   |-- sort-directed-test.h
                                      1
                                        |-- CMakeLists.txt
|-- sort.h
| |-- ece2400-stdlib.cc
|-- sort.inl
                                      | |-- HRSLinearSearch.cc
   |-- sort-random-test.h
                                     | |-- HRSBinarySearch.cc
T
   -- table-directed-test.h
T
                                    | |-- HRSTreeSearch.cc
```

 		HRSTableSearch.cc image-adhoc.cc	-	vector-int-directed-test.cc
I		image-adhoc.cc	I	
			1	vector-int-random-test.cc
		Image.cc		vector-image-directed-test.cc
		mnist-utils.cc		vector-image-random-test.cc
1		sort-adhoc.cc		tree-directed-test.h
1		vector-adhoc.cc		tree-random-test.h
		tree-adhoc.cc		tree-int-directed-test.cc
1		table-adhoc.cc		tree-int-random-test.cc
	tes	t		tree-image-directed-test.cc
		CMakeLists.txt		tree-image-random-test.cc
		<pre>image-directed-test.cc</pre>		table-directed-test.h
		<pre>image-random-test.cc</pre>		table-random-test.h
		sort-directed-test.cc		table-int-directed-test.cc
		sort-random-test.cc		table-int-random-test.cc
		sort-int-directed-test.cc		table-image-directed-test.cc
		<pre>sort-int-random-test.cc</pre>		table-image-random-test.cc
		sort-image-directed-test.cc		hrs-linear-search-directed-test.cc
		sort-image-random-test.cc		hrs-binary-search-directed-test.cc
		vector-directed-test.cc		hrs-tree-search-directed-test.cc
		vector-random-test.cc		hrs-table-search-directed-test.cc

By the end of this programming assignment, you will have written many hundreds of lines of code, and you will be able to read and understand almost ten thousand lines of code which are included in this assignment spanning implementation, testing, and evaluation.

The programming assignment is divided into the following steps. Complete each step before moving on to the next step.

- Step 1. Implement and test generic sort<T, CmpFunc> function
- Step 2. Implement and test generic Vector<T> class
- Step 3. Implement and test Image class
- Step 4a. Implement and test generic Tree<T, CmpFunc> class if implementing Tree
- Step 4b. Implement and test generic Table<T, HashFunc> class if implementing Table
- Step 5. Implement and test HRSLinearSearch class
- Step 6. Implement and test HRSBinarySearch class
- Step 7a. Implement and test HRSTreeSearch class if implementing Tree
- Step 7b. Implement and test HRSTableSearch class if implementing Table

Take an incremental design approach! Implement *and test* each step before moving on to the next step. This means more than adhoc testing. Perform thorough directed and random testing of each step *before* beginning the next step.

2. Implementation Specifications

The high-level goal for this programming assignment is to implement a handwriting recognition system with four classification algorithms. Start by implementing a generic sorting algorithm (sort<T,CmpFunc>) which is basically a generic version of the sorting algorithm you implemented in the previous programming assignment. The sorting algorithm should work for any type T and also takes a comparison function object. Then implement a generic Vector<T> data structure which is basically a generic version of the resizable vector you implemented in the previous programming assignment. Your Vector<T> will make use of sort<T, CmpFunc>. Image uses a Vector<int> to store pixels, and you can also now use Vector<Image> to create a vector that stores Images. You will implement a generic tree data structure (Tree<T, CmpFunc>) or a table data structure (Table<T, HashFunc>). You will then leverage these data structures to construct the four handwriting recognition systems: HRSLinearSearch, HRSBinarySearch, and HRSTreeSearch, or HRSTableSearch.

Your implementations cannot use anything from the Standard C library except for the printf function defined in stdio.h, the MIN/MAX macros defined in limits.h, the NULL macro defined in stddef.h, and the assert macro defined in assert.h. Your implementations cannot use anything from the Standard C++ library except for C++ I/O streams from iostream.

2.1. sort<T, CmpFunc> Algorithm

You will implement a generic sort algorithm that can sort an array of elements of any type T. This algorithm is similar to what you implemented in the previous programming assignment; the difference is that it should be generic across any type T, and that it takes a comparison function object (i.e., function pointer, functor, lambda) which should be used by your algorithm to compare different objects of type T. The interface for the generic sorting function is as follows:

template < typename T, typename CmpFunc >
void sort(T* a, int size, CmpFunc cmp);

Note how we use the CmpFunc template parameter to indicate the type of the comparison function cmp. More specifically, the comparison function cmp should be callable with the following function signature: bool cmp(const T& a, const T& b). The function should return true if object a is strictly less than b, and false otherwise. In this PA, there is no guarantee that comparison operators (e.g., operator<) have been defined for type T, so your sorting algorithm should use cmp(a,b) in places where you want to compare the value of a and b. For example, a < b is simply cmp(a,b), a > b is equivalent to cmp(b,a), and a == b is equivalent to !cmp(a,b) && !cmp(b,a). Your algorithm must work correctly if size is zero, which means the input array pointer a may be a nullptr.

The interface for sort<T,CmpFunc> is provided for you in src/sort.h. Write the implementation of your function inside of src/sort.inl. Note that since this is a templated data structure, all of the templated definitions must be placed in the .inl file not in a .cc file. We cannot compile the function template since we don't know the types of T nor CmpFunc yet! We can only compile a function template specialization.

2.2. Vector<T> Data Structure

Implement a generic resizable vector data structure that stores data of type T and differs from the previous programming assignment as follows: (1) it should be generic across any type T; (2) its find_closest member function is templated and takes a distance function object as an argument; and (3) its sort member function is templated and takes a comparison function object as an argument. Implement each of the following functions except for print which is already implemented:

```
Vector<T>::Vector();
Vector<T>::Vector( T* array, int size );
Vector<T>::~Vector();
Vector<T>::Vector( const Vector<T>& vec );
Vector<T>& Vector<T>::operator=( const Vector<T>& vec );
```

```
Vector<T>::size() const;
int
void
         Vector<T>::push_back( const T& value );
const T& Vector<T>::at( int idx ) const;
         Vector<T>::at( int idx );
T&
         Vector<T>::contains( const T& value ) const;
bool
template <typename DistFunc>
         Vector<T>::find_closest_linear( const T& value, DistFunc dist ) const;
т
template <typename DistFunc, typename CmpFunc>
т
         Vector<T>::find_closest_binary( const T& value, int k,
                                         DistFunc dist, CmpFunc cmp ) const;
template <typename CmpFunc>
void
         Vector<T>::sort( CmpFunc cmp );
         Vector<T>::print() const;
void
const T& Vector<T>::operator[]( int idx ) const;
         Vector<T>::operator[]( int idx );
T&
```

The specification for these functions is as follows:

• Vector<T>::Vector()

The default constructor for Vector<T>. It constructs an empty Vector<T> by initializing all member fields in Vector<T>.

• Vector<T>::Vector(T* arr, int size)

A non-default constructor that constructs a Vector<T> from an array of Ts with the given size. This constructor should perform a deep copy, i.e., copy the values inside the array rather than copying the pointer. Modifying or deleting the input array after construction should have no effect on the constructed Vector<T> object. You can assume that the input size is never greater than the actual size of the array arr. Construct an empty Vector<T> if size is 0.

```
• Vector<T>::~Vector()
```

Destructor for Vector<T>. It frees the memory allocated on the heap by Vector<T>. Note that you should use the delete and delete[] operator instead of free as in C.

• Vector<T>::Vector(const Vector<T>& vec)

Copy constructor that performs a deep copy. It should copy the values stored in vec. Subsequent actions on vec should have no effect on the constructed Vector<T>. You must carefully handle the case when copying from an empty vector!

• Vector<T>& Vector<T>::operator=(const Vector<T>& vec)

This overloads the assignment operator. Copy the values stored in vec. Note that if the current Vector<T> is not empty, you need to free the memory allocated for it first. *It is very important that you carefully handle the case of self assignment! You must also carefully handle the case when assigning from an empty vector!*

• int Vector<T>::size() const

Return the current number of elements in the vector. If the Vector<T> is empty, this function should return 0.

• void Vector<T>::push_back(const T& value)

Push a new element with the given value value onto the end of the Vector<T>. If there is not enough allocated space, dynamically allocate more memory to store both existing elements and the new element. Note that you should use the new or new[] operator instead of malloc as in C.

• const T& Vector<T>::at(int idx) const

Return the value at the given index idx of the Vector<T>. If the given index is out-of-bound, throw ece2400::OutOfRange with a useful error message. Note that this is the "read" version of at since it is declared const and returns a const reference.

```
• T& Vector<T>::at( int idx )
```

Return the value at the given index idx of the Vector<T>. If the given index is out-of-bound, throw ece2400::OutOfRange with a useful error message. Note that this is the "write" version of at since it returns a non-const reference. It enables writing items in the Vector<T>.

bool Vector<T>::contains(const T& value) const
 Search the Vector<T> for the given value and returns true if the value is found and false otherwise. If the Vector<T> is empty, then this function should just return false.

```
• template <typename DistFunc>
```

T Vector<T>:::find_closest_linear(const T& value, DistFunc dist) const

Perform a linear search of the vector for the value that is closest to the given value (value), as measured by the dist distance function object. The distance function object dist should be callable with the following function signature: int dist(const T& a, const T& b). The function should take two inputs of type T and return their distance as int. If multiple values have the same minimal distance, return the one that has the lowest index. As in the previous PA, is undefined if calculating the distance results in overflow. If the Vector<T> is empty, throw ece2400::OutOfRange with proper error message. Note that since this is a template member function in a template class, you need the following syntax to define Vector<T>::find_closest_linear:

```
template <typename T>
template <typename DistFunc>
T Vector<T>::find_closest_linear( const T& value, DistFunc dist ) const
{
    // ...
}
```

• template <typename DistFunc, typename CmpFunc>

T Vector<T>::find_closest_binary(const T& value, int k,

DistFunc dist, CmpFunc cmp) const

Perform a binary search of the vector to find an index that has a value close to the given value (value), and then perform a linear search of *K* elements centered around the index determined by the binary search. The binary search should use the given cmp comparison function object, while the linear search should use the given dist comparison function. As in the previous PA, you will search K/2 items backwards and K/2 items forwards from the item found during the binary search. You will need to carefully handle the case where there are less than K/2 items either before or after the item found during the binary search. Return the closest value from the linear search. As in the previous PA, is undefined if calculating the distance results in overflow. If the Vector<T> is empty, throw ece2400::OutOfRange with proper error message. You must check that the Vector<T> is sorted before doing the binary search, and throw ece2400::InvalidArgument with a proper error message if it is not sorted.

• template <typename CmpFunc>

```
void Vector<T>::sort( CmpFunc cmp )
```

Sort the internal array in an ascending order defined by the comparison function cmp. You must use the generic sort<T,CmpFunc> function developed in the previous step. Note that since this is a template member function in a template class, you need the following syntax in the definition of Vector<T>::sort:

```
template <typename T>
template <typename CmpFunc>
void Vector<T>::sort( CmpFunc cmp )
{
    ::sort( ... );
}
```

Notice now we need to explicitly use :: so the compiler knows we want to call the generic global sort function and not the sort member function.

• void Vector<T>::print() const

Print the content in the Vector<T>. This member function is used for debugging purposes. Note for this member function to be generic it needs to use the C++ iostream library (e.g., std::cout) instead of printf. This is because the type T may not even have a format specifier for printf. We provide you with this function.

```
• const T& Vector<T>::operator[]( int idx ) const
```

This overloads the subscript operator. It should just return the value at the given index idx of the vector without any boundary check. Note that this is different from at as at throws an exception when index is out-of-bound. Note that this is the "read" version since it is declared const and returns a const reference.

• T& Vector<T>::operator[](int idx)

This overloads the subscript operator. It should just return the value at the given index idx of the vector without any boundary check. Note that this is different from at as at throws an exception when index is out-of-bound. Note that this is the "write" version since it returns a non-const reference. It enables writing items in the Vector<T>.

The functions vary in complexity, and some may require just a few lines of code to implement. To give you an idea of how to use this class, here is a simple function that constructs a Vector<int>, pushes back three values, gets the middle value, and then destructs the Vector<int>:

```
int main( void )
{
    Vector<int> vec; // Declare a Vector<int> on the stack
    vec.push_back ( 11 ); // Push back 11
    vec.push_back ( 12 ); // Push back 12
    vec.push_back ( 13 ); // Push back 13
```

int a = vec.at (1); // int a now has 12
}

The interface for Vector<T> is provided for you in src/Vector.h. Write the implementation of your member variables inside src/Vector.h and the implementation of each function inside of src/Vector.inl. Note that since this is a templated data structure, all of the templated definitions must be placed in the .inl file not in a .cc file. We cannot compile the class template since we don't know the type T yet! We can only compile a class template specialization.

2.3. Image Data Structure

After Vector<T> is implemented and tested, you will then use it to implement the Image class. Image uses Vector<int> to store an array of integers. Each integer represents a pixel in grayscale and has an value within the range of [0, 255]. Lower numbers represent lighter shades (with 0 representing white), while higher numbers represent darker shades (with 255 representing black). Each Image object has a label associated with it. Image also has an intensity, which we define here as the sum of all pixels. You are responsible for implementing each of the following functions except for print, display, and the << operator, which have been implemented for you:

```
Image::Image();
Image::Image( const Vector<int>& vec, int ncols, int nrows );
int Image::get_ncols() const;
int Image::get_nrows() const;
int Image::get_int x, int y ) const;
void Image::set_label( char 1 );
char Image::get_label() const;
int Image::get_intensity() const;
int Image::distance( const Image& other ) const;
void Image::print() const;
void Image::display() const;
bool Image::operator==( const Image& rhs ) const;
bool Image::operator!=( const Image& rhs ) const;
const int& Image::operator[]( int idx ) const;
std::ostream& operator<<( std::ostream& os, const Image& image );</pre>
```

Here is a brief specification for each member function of the Image class:

• Image::Image()

Default constructor for Image. This function constructs an empty Image by initializing all data members and setting the label to '?'.

Image::Image(const Vector<int>& vec, int ncols, int nrows)
 Non-default constructor that constructs an Image from a Vector<T> given the number of columns (ncols) and number of rows (nrows). If the size of the vector does not match the number of columns and number of rows, throw ece2400::InvalidArgument with a useful error message.

• int Image::get_ncols() const

Return the number of columns of the current Image. Return 0 if the current Image is empty.

• int Image::get_nrows() const

Return the number of rows of the current Image. Return 0 if the current Image is empty.

• int Image::at(int x, int y) const

Return the value of the pixel at x-th column and y-th row. For example, if an Image is constructed from $\{0,1,2,3\}$ with ncols and nrows both equal to 2, then at (0,0) returns 0, at (1,0) returns 1, at (0,1) returns 2, at (1,1) returns 3. If x or y is out-of-bounds, throw ece2400::OutOfRange with proper error message.

- void Image::set_label(char label) Set the current label of the Image to the given character label.
- char Image::get_label() const Return the current label of the Image. If no set_label has been called, return '?'.
- int Image::get_intensity() const Return the intensity of the current Image. Note that intensity here is simply defined as the sum of all pixels. You can assume no overflow will occur for all arithmetic operations in this function.
- int Image::distance(const Image& other)

Return the square of the Euclidean distance between this image and image other, which is just the sum of the difference between each pixel squared. For example, if image a has four pixels $\{1,9,9,5\}$ and b has four pixels $\{0,4,2,3\}$ then distance(a,b) should return $(1-0)^2 + (9-4)^2 + (9-2)^2 + (5-3)^2 = 55$. If the dimensions of the two images do not match, throw ece2400::InvalidArgument with a useful error message. Since an Image cannot be larger than 128×128 and each pixel cannot be larger than 255, it should be possible to write this function without worrying about overflow.

• Image::print() const

Prints the label and intensity of the Image. We provide you with this function.

• Image::display() const

Prints Image using the print_pixel helper function, which prints a block to the terminal that is a shade of grey determined. by the pixel value. We provide you with this function.

• bool Image::operator==(const Image& rhs) const

Overload the equal to operator so that it compares the value of each pixel. Return true only if the each pixel in the right-hand-side image is the same as that in the current image. If the dimension of the two image does not match, simply return false. Otherwise return true.

• bool Image::operator!=(const Image& rhs) const

Overload the equal to operator so that it compares the value of each pixel. Return false only if the each pixel in the right-hand-side image is the same as that in the current image. If the dimension of the two image does not match, simply return true. Return false if both images are empty.

• const int& Image::operator[](int idx) const

This overloads the subscript operator. It should just return the pixel value at the given index idx of the image without any boundary check. Note that this is different from at as at throws an exception when index is out-of-bound. Note that this is the "read" version since it is declared const and returns a const reference.

std::ostream& operator<<(std::ostream& os, const Image& image);

Overloads the << operator as a free function (not as a member function) to be able to display an Image using std::cout. Allows you to usee the << operator to insert the imaege's intensity and label into the given os output stream. We provide you with this function.

The functions vary in complexity, and some may require just a few lines of code to implement. The interface for Image is provided for you in src/Image.h. Write the implementation of your member variables inside src/Image.h and the implementation of each function inside of src/Image.cc.

2.4. Option 1: Tree<T, CmpFunc> Data Structure

Implement a generic tree data structure that stores data of type T whose ordering is established by CmpFunc. Each internal node in the binary search tree stores a value, a pointer to the left subtree, and a pointer to the right subtree. The value stored in any node should be greater or equal to any value stored in the left subtree and smaller than any value stored in the right subtree. Both subtrees should also recursively satisfy this property. You will need to define a nested struct or nested class which represents a node of the tree inside Tree<T, CmpFunc>. Your node should have the following fields: a field to store values of type T, a pointer to a node for the left subtree, and a pointer to a node for the right subtree. Note that this data structure is similar to a binary search tree, but with support for a find closest operation which does an exaustive search over a subtree of approximately *K* "similar" items. You are responsible for implementing each of the following functions:

```
Tree<T,CmpFunc>::Tree( unsinged int k, CmpFunc cmp );
Tree<T,CmpFunc>::~Tree();
Tree<T,CmpFunc>::Tree( const Tree<T,CmpFunc>& tree );
Tree<T,CmpFunc>& Tree<T,CmpFunc>::operator=( const Tree<T,CmpFunc>& tree );
int Tree<T,CmpFunc>::size() const;
void Tree<T,CmpFunc>::add( const T& value );
bool Tree<T,CmpFunc>::contains( const T& value ) const;
Vector<T> Tree<T,CmpFunc>::to_vector() const;
template <typename DistFunc>
T Tree<T,CmpFunc>::find_closest( const T& value, DistFunc dist ) const;
void Tree<T,CmpFunc>::print() const;
```

Here is a brief specification for each member function of Tree<T, CmpFunc> class:

• Tree<T,CmpFunc>::Tree(int k, CmpFunc cmp)

Non-default constructor for Tree<T, CmpFunc>. Note that k is a parameter for find_closest, which corresponds to the number of elements for exhaustive search. cmp is the comparison function that this tree data structure should use to establish ordering between values of type T. This function constructs an empty Tree<T, CmpFunc> by initializing all data members, stores the value of k, and copies the comparator so that you can call it later.

• Tree<T,CmpFunc>::~Tree()

Destructor for Tree<T, CmpFunc>. It frees the memory allocated on the heap by Tree<T, CmpFunc>. Note that you should use the delete and delete[] operator instead of free as in C. *Hint: You will likely need to use a private recursive helper function to implement this member function.*

• Tree<T,CmpFunc>::Tree(const Tree<T,CmpFunc>& tree)

Copy constructor that performs a deep copy. It should copy the values stored in tree. Subsequent actions on tree should have no side effect on the constructed Tree<T, CmpFunc>. You must carefully handle the case when copying from an empty tree! Hint: You will likely need to use a private recursive helper function to implement this member function.

• Tree<T,CmpFunc>& Tree<T,CmpFunc>::operator=(const Tree<T,CmpFunc>& tree)

This overloads the assignment operator. Copy the values stored in tree. Note that if the current Tree<T, CmpFunc> is not empty, you need to free the memory allocated for it first. It is very important that you carefully handle the case of self assignment! You must carefully handle the case when assigning from an empty tree! Hint: You will likely need to use a private recursive helper function to implement this member function.

• int Tree<T,CmpFunc>::size() const

Return the current number of elements in the tree. If the Tree<T, CmpFunc> is empty, this function should return 0. *Hint: While you could use a private recursive helper function to implement this member function, you might want to consider using a constant time implementation.*

• void Tree<T,CmpFunc>::add(const T& value)

Add a new node with the given value value to the Tree<T, CmpFunc>. The new node should be dynamically allocated on the heap. The binary search property for Tree<T, CmpFunc> should still hold after adding the new node. You will need to first traverse the tree to find the leaf node to which the new node should be added. We recommend you implement a recursive helper function to do so. If the value is already in the tree, this function should simply return and do nothing. Note that you should use the new operator instead of malloc as in C. *Hint: You will likely need to use a private recursive helper function to implement this member function.*

• bool Tree<T,CmpFunc>::contains(const T& value) const

Search the Tree<T, CmpFunc> for the given value and returns true if the value is found and false otherwise. If the Tree<T, CmpFunc> is empty, then this function should just return false. *Hint:* You will likely need to use a private recursive helper function to implement this member function.

• Vector<T> Tree<T,CmpFunc>::to_vector() const

Return a Vector<T> that contains all the items stored in the Tree<T, CmpFunc>. The Vector<T> should represent an in-order traversal of the tree (i.e., first add all values in the left subtree, then add the value of the current node, and finally add all values in the right subtree). *Hint: You will likely need to use a private recursive helper function to implement this member function. Avoid having this helper function return a Vector<T> since this can be slow. Consider having this helper function take a pointer to a Vector<T> as a parameter; simply push back on this single temporary Vector<T>.*

• template <typename DistFunc>

T Tree<T,CmpFunc>::find_closest(const T& value, DistFunc dist) const

Search the Tree<T, CmpFunc> and return the value that has (approximately) the smallest difference (as defined by the dist distance function) from the given value. The distance function takes two inputs of type T, and returns the distance between them as an int, and has a function signature of int dist(const T& a, const T& b). You should use a hybrid of binary search and exhaustive search (see Figure 2). You should perform a partial binary search to get down to a certain level in the tree and then perform an exhaustive search on the subtree. We recommend you first implement the exhaustive search by calling your recursive helper function from Tree<T, CmpFunc>::to_vector on the node you want to start your exhaustive search from, and then using Vector<T>::find_closest_linear on the vector that is returned. You will need to compute the number of levels for binary search and exhaustive search first. When doing so you can assume the tree is perfectly balanced, thus the total number of levels is log₂(N) where N



(b) Find Closest for 91 with K = 4

Figure 2: Tree<T>::find_closest **Example** – Example for balanced binary search tree with 15 integers. There are $\log_2(15) = 3$ levels. (a) With K = 2, we do a binary search through $\log_2(15) - \log_2(2) = 2$ levels, and then we do an exhaustive search through the remaining sub-tree which in this case has three nodes. (b) With K = 4, we do a binary search through $\log_2(15) - \log_2(4) = 1$ level, and then we do an exhaustive search through the remaining sub-tree which in this case has seven nodes. The binary search uses intensity, while the exhaustive search uses Euclidean distance. Larger K improves accuracy while reducing performance.

is the number of elements in the tree. The number of levels for exhaustive search is log₂(K), and the number of levels for binary search is simply the total number of levels minus the number of levels for exhaustive search. We have provided you with a ece2400::log2 function in ece2400-stdlib.h. If the Tree<T, CmpFunc> is empty, throw ece2400::OutOfRange with proper error message. You can assume no overflow will occur for all arithmetic operations in this function. *Hint: You will likely need to use one or more private recursive helper functions to implement this member function.* Note that this function is a template member function in a template class, so you need the following syntax in the function definition:

```
template <typename T, typename CmpFunc>
template <typename DistFunc>
T Tree<T,CmpFunc>::find_closest( const T& value, DistFunc dist ) const {
    // ...
}
```

You need a distance function in order to call this member function. You can create a free function, functor, or lambda to calculate the distance. Distance for integers is the difference between the two values (make sure to return a positive number). Distance for images should be the Euclidean distance between the pixel arrays, just like the Image::distance() member function in Section 2.3. For the exhaustive search, start by calling your recursive helper function from Tree<T, CmpFunc>::to_vector. Once this is completely working, consider optimizations such as using a vector of pointers to images to avoid copying images; or implementing the exhaustive search directly as you traverse the tree without creating a temporary vector at all.

• void Tree<T,CmpFunc>::print() const

Print the content in the Tree<T, CmpFunc>. This member function is used for your own debugging purpose. You can implement this function in any way you like. You do not need to test this function. However, note that to make this member function generic you will need to use the C++ iostream library (e.g., std::cout) instead of printf. We have provided a commented-out version of our implementation of this function, which prints the tree with the root node on the left. You can leverage this implementation by replacing our references to the private member fields of the tree with the names of your private member fields.

2.5. Option 2: Table<T, HashFunc> Data Structure

You will implement a generic table data structure that stores data of type T. Internally, it stores data in a vector of vectors (i.e., Vector<Vector<T>). Each Vector<T> corresponds to a bin that stores "similar" items. The hash function (type HashFunc) associated with the table data structure maps an object of type T to an integer in the range of 0 to INT_MAX. We can then map ranges of these integers to bins. Note that this data structure is similar to a hash table, but in a traditional hash table we only want a few items mapped to each bin (i.e., we *do not want* collisions). In this table data structure, we want *K* "similar" items to be mapped to a bin (i.e., we *do want* collisions of "similar" items). Then the table can support a find closest operation over a bin of *K* "similar" items. You are responsible for implementing each of the following functions:

Table<T,HashFunc>::Table(int k, HashFunc hash);

```
int Table<T,HashFunc>::size() const;
void Table<T,HashFunc>::add( const T& value );
bool Table<T,HashFunc>::contains( const T& value ) const;
Vector<T> Table<T,HashFunc>::to_vector() const;
```

template <typename DistFunc>
T Table<T,HashFunc>::find_closest(const T& value, DistFunc dist) const;

```
void Table<T,HashFunc>::print() const;
```

You do not need to implement the copy constructor, assignment operator, or the destructor because you will use your Vector<T> which already has those implemented. Here is a brief specification for each member function of Table<T, HashFunc> class:

• Table<T,HashFunc>::Table<T,HashFunc>(int k, HashFunc hash)

Non-default constructor for Table<T, HashFunc>. This function constructs an empty Table<T, HashFunc> by initializing all data members and copies the hash function. The hash function hash should take a value of type T and hash it to an integer of type int in the range of 0 to INT_MAX. k corresponds to the load factor of the Table<T, HashFunc>. The load factor determines when you should increase the number of bins in your table. You should start with a single bin, and then every time the total number of elements in the table divided by the number of bins is greater than k, you should double the number of bins and rehash the table. For uniformly distributed data, k will roughly

correspond to the number of elements in each bin. Throw an ece2400::InvalidArgument if k is less than or equal to 0.

• int Table<T,HashFunc>::size() const

Return the current number of elements in the table. If the Table<T,HashFunc> is empty, this function should return 0.

• void Table<T,HashFunc>::add(const T& value)

Add the given value value to the Table<T,HashFunc>. You should first compute which bin the new value should be added based on using the hash function to map the given value to a positive integer, and then mapping ranges of integers to bins. After determing the bin for the new value, call Vector<T>::push_back on the appropriate Vector<T> to add the value to the table. Then, check the load factor of your table. If necessary, create a new Vector<Vector<T>> with twice as many bins as the current one and rehash the values in the current Vector<Vector<T>> into the new one.

• bool Table<T,HashFunc>::contains(const T& value) const

Search the Table<T,HashFunc> for the given value and returns true if the value is found and false otherwise. If the Table<T,HashFunc> is empty, then this function should just return false. You should first use the hash function to determine which bin will contain the given value, and then simply call contains on the corresponding Vector<T>.

- Vector<T> Table<T,HashFunc>::to_vector() const Return a Vector<T> that contains all the items stored in the Table<T,HashFunc>. The Vector<T> should add all items from the first bin before adding the items from the second bin.
- template <typename DistFunc>
 - T Table<T,HashFunc>::find_closest(const T& value, DistFunc dist) const

Search the Table<T, HashFunc> and returns the value that has (approximately) the smallest difference from the given value. You should first calculate which bin will contain the given value, and then simply call find_closest on the corresponding Vector<T>. If the corresponding Vector<T> is empty, then you should return a default-constructed object of type T. If the Table<T, HashFunc> is empty, throw ece2400::OutOfRange with proper error message.

• void Table<T,HashFunc>::print() const

Print the content in the Table<T, HashFunc>. This member function is used for your own debugging purpose. You can implement this function in any way you like. You do not need to test this function. However, note that to make this member function generic you will need to use the C++ iostream library (e.g., std::cout) instead of printf. Consider printing the table such that it illustrates how the table is organized (i.e., print each bin a new line). We have provided you with a commented-out version of our implementation of this function that you can use to implement your own. You will need to replace the references to our private member fields with the names of your private member fields.

2.6. HRSLinearSearch Handwriting Recognition System

The first handwriting recognition system you will implement is HRSLinearSearch, which uses a brute force linear search algorithm. This system is almost identical to what you implemented in the previous programming assignment; the only difference is you should use Vector<T> instead of VectorImage. You are responsible for implementing each of the following functions:

```
HRSLinearSearch::HRSLinearSearch();
```



Figure 3: VectorImage::find_closest_binary **Example** – Example for 32 images and K = 8. Assumes vector images has already been sorted based on intensity. Binary search is based on intensity and quickly finds images with similar intensity as the test image. Linear search of 8 images is based on Euclidan distance and finds the closest match.

void HRSLinearSearch::train(const Vector<Image>& vec); Image HRSLinearSearch::classify(const Image& Image);

Here is a brief specification for each member function of HRSLinearSearch:

• HRSLinearSearch::HRSLinearSearch()

Default constructor for HRSLinearSearch. Initialize your member variables if necessary.

• void HRSLinearSearch::train(const Vector<Image>& vec)

Train the HRS. For HRSLinearSearch, simply store a copy of the vector that contains the training images (vec). If you have implemented the assignment operator correctly, this should just be a one-line function.

• Image HRSLinearSearch::classify(const Image& img)

Classify the given image. This function should search through the entire training set and return the image that has the smallest euclidean distance from the given image. You should just call Vector<Image>::find_closest_linear with a function object that calculates the Euclidean distance between images.

2.7. HRSBinarySearch Handwriting Recognition System

The second handwriting recognition system you will implement is HRSBinarySearch, which uses a mix of binary and linear search. The overall approach is to first sort the training images by their intensity. Then during classification we can use binary search to quickly find training images with similar intensity, and then do a linear search of *K* images using Euclidean distance (see Figure 3). You are responsible for implementing each of the following functions:

```
HRSBinarySearch::HRSBinarySearch( int k = 1000 );
void HRSBinarySearch::train( const Vector<Image>& vec );
Image HRSBinarySearch::classify( const Image& Image );
```

Here is a brief specification for each member function of HRSBinarySearch:

• HRSBinarySearch::HRSBinarySearch(int k)

Default constructor for HRSBinarySearch. Initialize your member variables if necessary.

• void HRSBinarySearch::train(const Vector<Image>& vec)

Train the HRS. For HRSBinarySearch, you need to store a copy of the vector that contains the training images (vec), and then sort the training images based on intensity. You should just call Vector<T>::sort with a function object that compares the intensity of two images.

• Image HRSBinarySearch::classify(const Image& img)

Classify the given image (img). This function should use a binary and linear search. You should just call Vector<T>::find_closest_binary with a function object that calculates the Euclidean distance between images.

2.8. Option 1: HRSTreeSearch Handwriting Recognition System

The binary search system requires sorting the entire array during training. We can potentially improve the performance of sorting by incrementally sorting the training dataset as we add each training image using a binary search tree. Given this intuition, the third handwriting recognition system you will implement is HRSTreeSearch, which should use the Tree<Image, ImgCmpFunc> data structure implemented earlier in the programming assignment.

You are responsible for implementing each of the following functions:

```
HRSTreeSearch::HRSTreeSearch( int k = 1000 );
void HRSTreeSearch::train( const Vector<Image>& vec );
Image HRSTreeSearch::classify( const Image& Image );
```

Here is a brief specification for each member function of HRSTreeSearch:

• HRSTreeSearch::HRSTreeSearch(int k)

Default constructor for HRSTreeSearch. Initialize the internal Tree<Image, ImgCmpFunc> data structure using the given k and a function that compares the intensity of images. We recommend declaring a functor as a private nested class inside HRSTreeSearch.

- void HRSTreeSearch::train(const Vector<Image>& vec) Train the HRS. For HRSTreeSearch, simply iterate through all training images (vec) and add each one to the internal Tree<Image, ImgCmpFunc> data structure.
- Image HRSTreeSearch::classify(const Image& img) Classify the given image. This function should simply call Tree<Image, ImgCmpFunc>::find_closest to return the image that has (approximately) smallest euclidean distance from the given image. You will need to pass in a function that calculates the Euclidean distance between images to Tree<Image, ImgCmpFunc>::find_closest.

Declaring a Tree type private data member in HRSTreeSearch requires the type of the image comparison function. We recommend using a functor declared as a private nested class inside HRSTreeSearch and declaring the data member like this:

Tree<Image,FunctorType> m_training_set;

2.9. Option 2: HRSTableSearch Handwriting Recognition System

Both the binary search and tree search systems rely on searching a smaller subset of the entire training dataset to improve performance. We can also use a hash table to group similar images together, and then do a linear search through a smaller subset of similar images to improve performance. Given this intuition, the fourth handwriting recognition system you will implement is HRSTableSearch, which

should use the Table<Image, ImgHashFunc> data structure implemented earlier in the programming assignment. You are responsible for implementing each of the following functions:

```
HRSTableSearch::HRSTableSearch( int k = 1000 );
void HRSTableSearch::train( const Vector<Image>& vec );
Image HRSTableSearch::classify( const Image& Image );
```

Here is a brief specification for each member function of HRSTableSearch:

• HRSTableSearch::HRSTableSearch(int k)

Default constructor for HRSTableSearch. Initialize the internal Table<Image, ImgHashFunc> data structure using the given k and a function that generates hash values for images. We recommend declaring a functor as a private nested class inside HRSTableSearch. The hash function you should implement is:

((intensity - 5,000)%20,000) * 100,000

This function distributes the images in our MNIST dataset into an approximately uniform distribution with values between 0 and INT_MAX. For more details on the hash function, see the end of this section.

• void HRSTableSearch::train(const Vector<Image>& vec)

Train the HRS. For HRSTableSearch, simply iterate through all training images (vec) and add each one to the internal Table<Image,ImgHashFunc> data structure.

• Image HRSTableSearch::classify(const Image& img)

Classify the given image. This function should simply call Table<Image, ImgHashFunc>::find_closest to return the image that has (approximately) smallest euclidean distance from the given image. You will need to pass in a function that calculates the Euclidean distance between images to Table<Image,ImgHashFunc>::find_closest.

Declaring a Table type private data member in HRSTableSearch requires the type of the image hash function. We recommend using a functor declared as a private nested class inside HRSTableSearch and declaring the data member like this:

```
Table<Image,FunctorType> m_training_set;
```

Hash Function – Hash function design is an important part of developing an application using a table data structure. Different applications require different behaviors out of their hash functions. In our application, we want the bins in our table to store many images of similar intensity so that we can search through all of them for the closest match to the image we are trying to classify. We would also like to have the bins have an approximately equal number of items in them. This will make execution time consistent no matter what bin we are searching and ensure each classification looks at about the same number of images to find the closest match. Because we know something about the kind of data we will be storing in our table ahead of time, we can design a hash function to fit these criteria. The intensities of the images in the MNIST dataset are distributed like this:

6400 - 8000 # 8000 - 9600 #### 9600 - 11200 ####################################	4800	-	6400	
9600 11200 ####################################	6400	-	8000	#
11200 12800 ####################################	8000	-	9600	####
12800 14400 ####################################	9600	-	11200	##########
14400 16000 ####################################	11200	-	12800	#######################################
16000 17600 ####################################	12800	-	14400	#######################################
1760019200#################################	14400	-	16000	#######################################
19200 - 20800 ####################################	16000	-	17600	#######################################
20800 - 22400 ####################################	17600	-	19200	#######################################
22400 - 24000 ####################################	19200	-	20800	***********
24000 - 25600 ####################################	20800	-	22400	*****
25600 - 27200 ####################################	22400	-	24000	*****
27200 28800 ####################################	24000	-	25600	*****
28800 - 30400 ####################################	25600	-	27200	*****
30400 - 32000 ####################################	27200	-	28800	*******
32000 - 33600 ####################################	28800	-	30400	******
33600 - 35200 ####################################	30400	-	32000	#######################################
35200 - 36800 ####################################	32000	-	33600	#######################################
36800 - 38400 ####################################	33600	-	35200	#######################################
38400 - 40000 ####################################	35200	-	36800	#######################################
40000 - 41600 ####################################	36800	-	38400	#######################################
41600 - 43200 ####################################	38400	-	40000	#######################################
43200 - 44800 ###### 44800 - 46400 ##### 46400 - 48000 ##### 48000 - 49600 ### 49600 - 51200 ## 51200 - 52800 # 52800 - 54400 #	40000	-	41600	#######################################
44800 - 46400 ##### 46400 - 48000 ### 48000 - 49600 ## 49600 - 51200 ## 51200 - 52800 # 52800 - 54400 #	41600	-	43200	########
46400 - 48000 ## 48000 - 49600 ## 49600 - 51200 ## 51200 - 52800 # 52800 - 54400 #	43200	-	44800	######
48000 - 49600 ## 49600 - 51200 ## 51200 - 52800 # 52800 - 54400 #	44800	-	46400	#####
49600 - 51200 ## 51200 - 52800 # 52800 - 54400 #	46400	-	48000	###
51200 - 52800 # 52800 - 54400 #	48000	-	49600	##
52800 - 54400 #	49600	-	51200	##
	51200	-	52800	#
54400 - 56000	52800	-	54400	#
	54400	-	56000	

The minimum hash value is 5,086 and the maximum hash value is 79,483. These are not pictured on the histogram above because each symbol represents 100 intensity values in that range.

Our hash function tries to change this bell-shaped distribution with values between 5,000 and 80,000 and a peak at about 25,000 into an approximately uniform distribution with values between 0 and INT_MAX. The first thing our function does is to subtract 5,000 from the intensity. This will slide the bell curve towards 0, so that its values range from 0 to 75,000 with a peak around 20,000. Next, we use the remainder operator with a numerator of 20,000. This slides the upper half of the bell down to 0, and confines all values to the range 0 to 20,000. We now have a roughly normal distribution of values between 0 and 20,000, so to stretch it out and take full advantage of the range from 0 to INT_MAX we multiply by 100,000. The histogram of the hashes of all the values in the MNIST dataset using our hash function looks like this:

0	-	85899345	#######################################
85899345	-	171798690	#######################################
171798690	-	257698035	#######################################
257698035	-	343597380	#######################################
343597380	-	429496725	#######################################
429496725	-	515396070	#######################################
515396070	-	601295415	#######################################
601295415	-	687194760	#######################################
687194760	-	773094105	#######################################
773094105	-	858993450	#######################################
858993450	-	944892795	#######################################
944892795	-	1030792140	#######################################
1030792140	-	1116691485	#######################################
1116691485	-	1202590830	#######################################
1202590830	-	1288490175	####################################
1288490175	-	1374389520	#######################################
1374389520	-	1460288865	#######################################
1460288865	-	1546188210	####################################
1546188210	-	1632087555	####################################
1632087555	-	1717986900	#######################################
1717986900	-	1803886245	#######################################
1803886245	-	1889785590	####################################
1889785590	-	1975684935	#######################################
1975684935	-	2061584280	#########

You should feel free to experiment with your own hash function as a potential optimization to improve accuracy. If you do, make sure to be careful to avoid overflow and generating negative hash values!

3. Testing Strategy

You are responsible for developing an effective testing strategy to ensure all implementations are correct. Writing tests is one of the most important and challenging aspects of software programming. Software engineers often spend far more time implementing tests than they do implementing the actual program.

Note that while there are limitations on what you can use from the Standard C/C++ library in your *implementations* there are no limitations on what you can use from the Standard C/C++ library in your *testing strategy*. You should feel free to use the Standard C/C++ library in your golden reference models and/or for random testing.

3.1. Ad-hoc Testing

To help students start testing, we provide one ad-hoc test program per implementation in src/sort-adhoc.cc, src/vector-adhoc.cc, src/tree-adhoc.cc, and src/table-adhoc.cc. Students are encouraged to start compiling and running these ad-hoc test programs directly in the src/directory without using any build-automation tool (e.g., CMake and Make).

You can build and run the given ad-hoc test program for sort like this:

```
% cd ${HOME}/ece2400/pair-xx/pa5-sys
% scripts/build.sh
% cd build/src
```

% ./sort-adhoc

3.2. Systematic Unit Testing

While ad-hoc test programs help you quickly see results of your implementations, often too simple to cover most scenarios. We need a systematic and automatic unit testing strategy to hopefully test all possible scenarios efficiently.

In this course, we are using CMake/CTest as a build and test automation tool. For each implementation, we provide a directed test program that should include several test cases to target different categories and a random test program that should test that your implementation works for random inputs. **Unlike in the first three programming assignments, a great deal of tests have already been provided for you!** You can freely leverage the available tests to verify the functionality of your handwriting recognition systems. Remember however that your goal with respect to testing strategy is to convince yourself and the staff that your code is functional. If in order to convince yourself that your code is functional you realize further tests are needed (maybe just by copying and adjusting existing tests), then you should definitely write a few more.

We **strongly** encourage students to take an incremental design approach. **Do not implement all of these functions before running your first test!** Instead, we recommend students implement and test each of the following substeps.

- Step 1. Implement and test sort<T, CmpFunc>
- Step 2. Implement and test Vector<T>
 - Step 2a. Implement and test the default constructor, destructor, push_back, size, at
 - Step 2b. Implement and test the non-default constructor
 - Step 2c. Implement and test contains
 - Step 2e. Implement and test sort
 - Step 2d. Implement and test find_closest_linear
 - Step 2f. Implement and test find_closest_binary
 - Step 2g. Implement and test operator []
 - Step 2h. Implement and test the copy constructor
 - Step 2i. Implement and test the assignment operator
- Step 3. Implement and test Image
 - Step 3a. Implement and test the default/non-default constructor, get_ncols, get_ncols, at
 - Step 3b. Implement and test operator []
 - Step 3c. Implement and test set_label, get_label
 - Step 3d. Implement and test get_intensity
 - Step 3e. Implement and test operator==, operator!=
- Step 4a. Implement and test Tree<T, CmpFunc>
 - Step 4aa. Implement and test the default constructor, destructor, add, size, contains
 - Step 4ab. Implement and test to_vector
 - Step 4ac. Implement and test find_closest
 - Step 4ad. Implement and test the copy constructor
 - Step 4ae. Implement and test the assignment operator
- Step 4b. Implement and test Table<T, HashFunc>
 - Step 4ba. Implement and test the default constructor, destructor, add, size, contains
 - Step 4bb. Implement and test to_vector
 - Step 4bc. Implement and test find_closest

- Step 5. Implement and test HRSLinearSearch
- Step 6. Implement and test HRSBinarySearch
- Step 7a. Implement and test HRSTreeSearch
- Step 7b. Implement and test HRSTableSearch

Each substep should correspond to a directed test case. Note that for some of these steps we provide both *generic* and *specialized* tests. For example, if you look in sort-directed-test.h you will see generic tests which are templated on the type T and the comparison function CmpFunc. This enables us to reuse the exact same test functions to test sorting an array of ints and to test sorting an array of Images. You will want build and run the specialized test programs (i.e., sort-int-directed-tests and sort-image-directed-tests).

As in the previous programming assignment, we provide you a testing framework you should use for your directed and random testing. See the provided test programs in the test subdirectory for how to use this framework. The ECE 2400 standard library in ece2400-stdlib.h contains the following macros you should use to check the correctness of your implementations:

• ECE2400_CHECK_FAIL()

- check program does not reach this point
 check expr_ is always true
- ECE2400_CHECK_TRUE(expr_)ECE2400_CHECK_FALSE(expr_)
- check expr_ is always false
- ECE2400_CHECK_INT_EQ(expr0_, expr1_) check expr0_ equals expr1_

You can build and run all unit tests for all implementations like this:

```
% cd ${HOME}/ece2400/pair-xx/pa5-sys
% scripts/test.sh
Build Successful
Running tests...
<blah blah blah>
Tests failed
```

(Your tests will all fail initially.)

If you are failing a test program, then you can "zoom in" and run all of the unit tests for a single test program (e.g., directed tests for sort_int) like this:

```
% cd ${HOME}/ece2400/pair-xx/pa5-sys/build/test
% ./sort-int-directed-test
```

You can then "zoom in" to a specific test case by passing in the index of that test case like this:

```
% cd ${HOME}/ece2400/pair-xx/pa5-sys/build/test
% ./sort-int-directed-test 1
```

```
test_case_one_element
<blah blah blah>
```

Your implementation of find_closest for both Tree<T,CmpFunc> and Table<T,HashFunc> may be slightly different than the staff implementation. These differences may not significantly impact the overall accuracy of your handwriting recognition systems, but might cause you to fail one or two of

the test assertions in the directed testing. In this case, it is acceptable for you to carefully update the directed testing to better match your specific implementation. You might also consider adding some random testing for find_closest for both Tree<T,CmpFunc> and Table<T,HashFunc>.

3.3. Memory Leaks

Students are responsible for making sure that their program contains no memory leaks or other issues with dynamic allocation. We have included a make target called memcheck which runs all of the test programs with Valgrind. Valgrind will force the test to fail if it detects any kind of memory leak or other issues with dynamic allocation.

Check memory leaks and other dynamic memory allocation issues like this:

```
% cd ${HOME}/ece2400/pair-xx/pa5-sys
```

% scripts/memcheck.sh

You can just check one test program (e.g. vector-int-directed-test) like this:

```
% cd ${HOME}/ece2400/pair-xx/pa5-sys
```

% scripts/valgrind.sh build/test/sort-int-directed-test

valgrind.sh calls Valgrind with correct command line options so you don't need to remember them.

3.4. Code Coverage

After your implementations pass all unit tests, you can evaluate how effective your test suite is by measuring its code coverage. The code coverage will tell you how much of your source code your test suite executed during your unit testing. The higher the code coverage is, the less likely some bugs have not been detected. You can run the code coverage like this:

```
% cd ${HOME}/ece2400/pair-xx/pa5-sys
```

```
% scripts/coverage.sh
```

The script will clean up any previous coverage data, create a fresh build-coverage directory, compile the project with code coverage flags, run the tests, and generate coverage reports. The coverage reports for your sorting implementations can be found at build-coverage/*.cc.gcov. Unexecuted lines are marked #####. Lines marked with * contain some unexecuted basic blocks.

Code coverage is just one more piece of evidence you can use to make a compelling case for the correct functionality of your implementations. It is not required that students achieve 100% code coverage. It is far more important that students use code coverage as a way to guide their test-driven design than to obsess over specific code coverage numbers.

4. Evaluation

Once you have verified the functionality of your handwriting recognition systems, you can evaluate their performance and accuracy with breakdowns for both the training phase and the classification phase. You can build the evaluation programs like this:

```
% cd ${HOME}/ece2400/pair-xx/pa5-sys
```

```
% ./scripts/eval.sh
```

Take a peek inside eval.sh to see what it does! Notice that it calls for a "release" build (as opposed to a "debug" build which is slower) and then calls two evaluation programs: hrs-linear-search-eval and hrs-binary-search-eval. You can specify the size of the number of training images N, the number of classification images M, and the size of the final linear search when using binary search K on the command line for each evaluation program:

```
% cd ${HOME}/ece2400/pair-xx/pa5-sys/build/eval
% ./hrs-linear-search-eval N M
% ./hrs-binary-search-eval N M K
```

See the complete usage text by forcing an error message:

```
% ./hrs-linear-search-eval -help
or
% ./hrs-binary-search-eval -help
```

Finally, note that using a smaller number of training images and/or classification images is only for profiling and interactive performance optimization. All accuracy results must use the full 60K training dataset and 10K classification dataset.

You should leverage your insights from the previous programming assignment to apply similar optimizations that you feel are worthwhile to these handwriting recognition systems. You may need to do some performance profiling to figure out where the bottleneck is and what to optimize. You can use perf to create a flame graph for each implementation. You should only use perf if the execution time is about five minutes or less. If you use perf when the execution time is longer it will create a huge trace file which will fill up your home directory! You can create the flame graph for the HRSLinearSearch with the following command:

```
% cd ${HOME}/ece2400/pair-xx/pa5-sys/build/eval
% perf record --call-graph dwarf ./hrs-linear-search-eval
% perf script report stackcollapse | flamegraph.pl > graph-linear.svg
```

While you are encouraged to use flame graphs to guide your optimization, you do not need to include them in your report unless you think it would be useful in your quantitative evaluation section. Unlike the previous programming assignment, you do not need to record incremental performance after every optimization. You should focus on analyzing the final optimized performance results in your report. You should optimize the linear and binary search systems so that they can achieve the performance targets used in the previous programming assignment.

5. Putting It All Together

Recall that complete systems often include a frontend written in a productivity-level language (e.g., Python) and a backend written in an efficiency-level language (e.g., C/C++). We have provided you a Python GUI frontend which allows you to classify real handwritten digits using one of the five available backends (HRSLinearSearch, HRSBinarySearch, HRSTreeSearch or HRSTableSearch. To use this Python GUI frontend, first make sure that you have built the hrs-backend target in the build system (preferably an evaluation build since it will be faster!):

```
% cd ${HOME}/ece2400/pair-xx/pa5-sys
```

```
% scripts/eval.sh
```

Copy the compiled backend program to the evaluation directory:

```
% cd ${HOME}/ece2400/pair-xx/pa5-sys
```

% cp build-eval/hrs-backend eval/hrs-backend

Then launch the GUI frontend (hrs-frontend.py) using Python:

- % cd \${HOME}/ece2400/pair-xx/pa5-sys/eval
- % python hrs-frontend.py

The frontend only works if you use a remote access option that supports Linux applications with a GUI. If you are using VS Code and you want to experiment with the GUI, then you will need to use either X2Go, MobaXterm, or Mac Terminal with XQuartz.

6. Milestone and Report

This section includes critical information about the incremental milestone, final code submission, and the final report specific to this PA.

6.1. Incremental Milestone

While the final code and report are all due at the end of the assignment, we also require you to complete an incremental milestone, push and submit your code to GitHub on the date specified by the instructor. More specifically to meet the incremental milestone of this PA, you are expected to:

- Complete the implementation of sort<T, CmpFunc>
- Complete the implementation of Vector<T>
- Complete the implementation of Image
- Pass all given directed and random tests for these implementations
- Consider adding a few of your own directed tests

6.2. Final Code Submission

Your code quality score will be based on the way you format the text in your source files, proper use of comments, deletion of instructor comments, and uploading the correct files to GitHub (only source files should be uploaded, no generated build files). To assist you in formatting your code correctly, we have created a make target that will autoformat the code for you. You can use it like this:

```
% cd ${HOME}/ece2400/pair-xx/pa5-sys
% ./scripts/format.sh
% git diff
# ... check all changes ...
% git commit -a -m "autoformat"
```

Note that the autoformat target will only work if you have already committed all of your work. This way you can easily use git diff to view the changes made by the autoformatting and commit those changes when you are happy with them. Since we provide students an automated way to format their code correctly, students have no excuse for not following the course coding conventions!

Note that students must remove unnecessary comments that are provided by instructors in the code distributed to students. Students must not commit executable binaries or any other unnecessary files. The autoformat target will not take care of these issues for you.

To submit your code you simply upload it to GitHub. Your code will be assessed both in terms of functionality and code quality. Your functionality score will be determined by running your code against a series of tests developed by the instructors to test its correctness.

6.3. Final Report

The final report must be uploaded to Canvas. The date you upload your report will indicate how many slip days you are using for the assignment. Your entire report must be **no more than seven pages**. You will have to use this Overleaf template to generate your pdf:

https://tinyurl.com/2400-sp25-pa5temp

Acknowledgments

This programming assignment was created by Christopher Batten, Christopher Torng, Tuan Ta, Yanghui Ou, Peitian Pan, and Nick Cebry as part of the ECE 2400 Computer Systems Programming course at Cornell University. We also thank the curators of the MNIST database of handwritten digits.