Assignment 1: Playing with Pascal

Assigned: Monday, 29 August 2011
Due: 11:00 p.m. Monday, 5 September 2011

Summary: In this assignment, you will write (or try to write) a few simple Pascal programs.

Purposes: To give you experience reading and writing Pascal.

Expected Time: Three to six hours.

Collaboration: You may work in groups of up to size three. You may consult with anyone you’d like on this assignment, but you should clearly document that consultation.

Submitting: Submit a tarball of your solution on Pioneerweb. Further details below.

Warning: So that this exercise is a learning assignment for everyone, I may spend class time publicly critiquing your work.

Assignment

Part One: Sorting CDs

In Pascal, implement Quicksort for arrays of records of information about CDs.

For each CD, you will store the artist, the CD title, and a numeric rating (a real number) in a record structure.

You can choose whether to sort by artist, CD title, or numeric rating. (You will likely find it easiest to sort by numeric rating.)

Your program will read input from standard input. (I don’t want you to have to learn the Pascal file operations.) The first line of standard input will be an integer that represents the number of records. Each CD will then occupy three lines of space. The first line will be the artist. The second will be the CD title. The third will be the rating. So, you can use something like the following to input information on a single CD:

```pascal
readln(artist);
readln(title);
readln(rating);
```

Your output should have the same form.

You can find a sample input file in the examples folder.
You should store the CDs in an array and sort that array. You can assume that there will be no more than 1024 CDs.

**Part Two: A List of CDs**

As you know from your years of programming experience, when we don’t know the size of the input data, we are often better off using a linked list than an array.

Write a program that uses linked lists to manipulate collections of CDs.

Your program should:

- Read a list of CDs from standard input. The input will be the same form as described above.
- Determine the average rating of the CDs and print it out.
- Remove any CDs that have a rating below the average.
- Determine the average rating of the remaining CDs and print it out.
- Print out the revised list of CDs.

**Notes**

You may note that some aspects of this assignment are a bit less specified than they might be in an introductory course. For example, I have not given the parameters to your Quicksort routine. In part, the casual description is because you are in an upper-level course and I expect you to know the algorithms well enough to figure out the parameters. In part, I have made descriptions casual so that you must figure out the appropriate way to handle the problems in Pascal.

**Submitting**

Create a tarball of your files. The tarball should include your Pascal programs, any input files you use, and scripts that demonstrate that you’ve tested your program. If you use a Makefile, you should also include that Makefile.

If possible, ensure that your tarball expands to the directory HW1.user1-user2-user3.

Submit your tarball on Pioneerweb.

**Important Evaluation Criteria**

I will evaluate your assignment primarily on its correctness. In particular, I will consider whether your program achieves its desired goals.

I will also evaluate your assignment on its style. I will consider how you have decomposed the problem, the names of your procedures, your indentation and commenting, and other issues that suggest that you have not only thought about how to code the problem, but how to code it well, and in a way readable to others.