

000 HOW MANY CODE AND TEST CASES ARE ENOUGH? 001 002 EVALUATING TEST CASES GENERATION FROM A 003 004 BINARY-MATRIX PERSPECTIVE

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ABSTRACT

013 Code evaluation and reinforcement learning rely critically on test cases. How-
014 ever, collecting golden test cases is hard and expensive, motivating the use of
015 LLMs for automatic test case generation. This, in turn, raises a pivotal chal-
016 lenge: how can we rigorously evaluate the quality of the generated test cases?
017 Existing benchmarks often evaluate the exclusion ratio on large, unstructured col-
018 lections of wrong codes, leading to high computational costs and severe score
019 inflation. Furthermore, they inadvertently reward generators that detect common,
020 trivial bugs, while failing to penalize their inability to identify rare yet critical
021 faults. In this work, we connect two fundamental questions: (1) What is the min-
022 imal set of wrong codes sufficient to represent the entire error space? and (2)
023 What is the minimal set of test cases needed to distinguish them? We introduce
024 a novel framework that formalizes benchmark construction as finding an optimal
025 diagnostic basis in a binary code-test matrix, where rows represent wrong codes
026 and columns represent test case results. The rank of this matrix plays a dual role.
027 It specifies the minimal number of independent error patterns, which determines
028 the size of wrong codes. It also provides a tight upper bound on the number of
029 test cases required for complete fault coverage. Our objective is to identify a basis
030 of size equal to the matrix rank that maximizes internal diversity, which is de-
031 fined as the average pairwise Jaccard similarity of the codes' failure signatures
032 (i.e., the matrix rows). To tackle this NP-hard problem, we propose WrongSelect,
033 an efficient approximation algorithm combining pre-filtering and random-restart
034 local search to select maximally diverse wrong codes. Applying this framework
035 to millions of competitive programming submissions, we construct TC-Bench, a
036 compact, diverse, and inflation-resistant benchmark. Extensive experiments show
037 that even the most advanced test case generation methods achieve only 60% ex-
038 clusion rates on TC-Bench, exposing a significant gap in their diagnostic power
039 and highlighting substantial room for future improvement.

040 1 INTRODUCTION

041 The capability of Large Language Models (LLMs) in solving algorithmic coding problems is a key
042 measurement of their intelligence (OpenAI et al., 2024; 2025; Jain et al., 2024). The evaluation of
043 code solutions relies heavily on test cases. Golden Test cases (GTs), created by problem authors and
044 continually refined and expanded by experts, are considered a boundary-condition set equivalent to
045 the correct solution. A solution is deemed correct only if it passes GTs. Current Code Reinforcement
046 Learning with Verifiable Rewards (RLVR) methods similarly rely on test cases to compute rewards,
047 placing substantial demands on the comprehensiveness of test cases (Le et al., 2022; Guo et al.,
048 2025; Team et al., 2025; Zeng et al., 2025a). As shown in Figure 1 (a), the GT of a graph theory
049 problem should encompass various graph sizes and structures, such as chain, tree, and star. Failure
050 to cover all scenarios will compromise the reliability and lead to the false positive problem.

051 GTs consist of a few simple public test cases intended to clarify the problem and a larger set of
052 private test cases used to assess correctness. However, these critical private test cases are scarce
053 and expensive to create. To address this challenge, existing methods either manually construct test
054 cases (Khan et al., 2023) or automatically augment test cases (ATs) using LLMs (Cao et al., 2025;

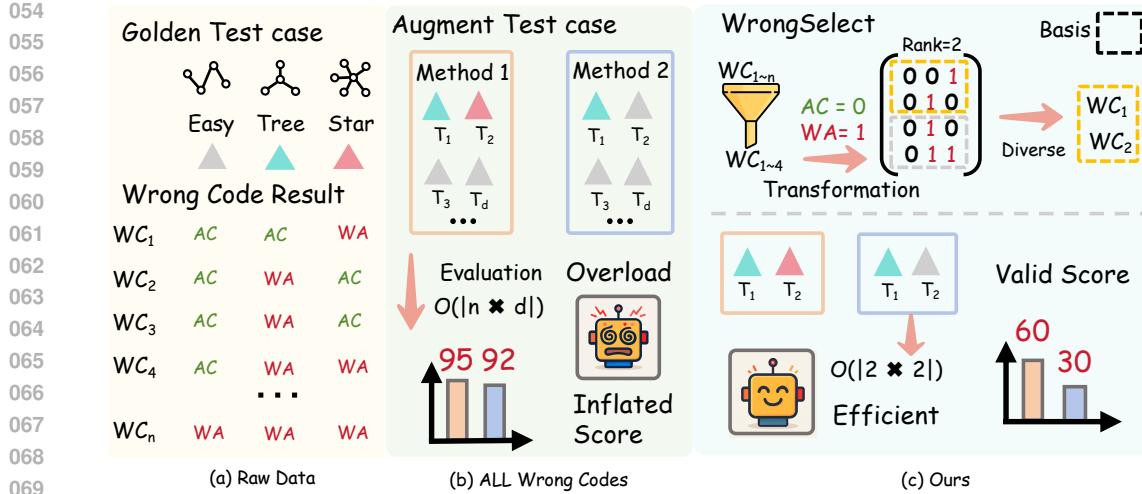


Figure 1: A comparison of two evaluation frameworks for Augment Test cases (ATs). Both frameworks start from the same raw data (a), which consists of many wrong codes (WCs) and their execution results on Golden Test cases (GTs). (b) The naive evaluation utilizes the full set of WCs and an unprincipled number of ATs, suffers from prohibitive computational costs, and leads to inflated scores. (c) In contrast, our proposed framework first processes this data with WrongSelect to select a compact yet representative diagnostic basis (TC-Bench). Evaluation using this basis is not only highly efficient but also yields more valid scores.

Ma et al., 2025b; Yang et al., 2025; Wang et al., 2025c). The emergent methods introduce the need to evaluate their quality. The evaluation includes ensuring that their ATs are valid (passing correct codes) and useful (excluding wrong codes (WCs)). Since many methods are seeded with correct codes, their ATs are naturally valid. Thus, the core challenge shifts to assessing their usefulness. The straightforward approach is to collect as many wrong codes as possible and evaluate all ATs to determine how many WCs they can exclude. However, this incurs immense computational costs and suffers from inflated scores as shown in Figure 1 (b). This cost, a product of the number of ATs and WCs, can be prohibitively high. Furthermore, one WC doesn't equal one kind of error. Indeed, the population of WCs is dominated by numerous trivial or repetitive errors, with only a few representing core, hard-to-detect faults (Figure 1 (a)). A mediocre method that only identifies common errors can thus achieve a score similar to a superior method that finds rare corner cases, as the small number of critical faults gets statistically overwhelmed. Consequently, this diminishes the benchmark's discriminative power. Conversely, some heuristic methods selecting a small subset of hard-to-filter errors yield overly sparse evaluations (Cao et al., 2025), unable to continuously reflect model capabilities.

These limitations raise fundamental questions: *What constitutes an efficient and informative collection of WCs for evaluating ATs? What principles should govern its size and member selection?* The dual relationship between test cases and code also leads to another critical question: *How many test cases are necessary to comprehensively define the solution space for a given problem?*

We propose that **an ideal WCs set should** neither be heuristically nor randomly selected, but should be **a compact and diverse set of WCs that acts as a diagnostic basis, effectively spanning all unique error patterns of the problem**. We propose to interpret the execution outcomes of WCs across GTs as a mapping from abstract reasoning errors to observable behavioral patterns. In this binary representation, the accepted (AC) is denoted as 0 and wrong answer (WA) as 1. Each WC is thus represented as a binary vector, and the entire collection forms a Code-Test binary matrix. The matrix rank quantifies the maximum number of distinct error patterns present among WCs. Moreover, it provides an upper bound on the minimal number of test cases required to distinguish these error patterns. However, a matrix can produce multiple possible bases. An optimal diagnostic basis should consist of WCs representing minimally overlapping error patterns to maximize diagnostic breadth and information efficiency. Bases containing many similar WCs with highly overlapping

108 error patterns suffer from redundancy, thus reducing discriminative power. As finding the most di-
 109 verse basis is NP-hard, we design WrongSelect, a greedy-based efficient approximation algorithm
 110 that iteratively selects WCs that maximize diversity at each step, yielding the final basis.

111 To construct our high-quality benchmark, we collect numerous problems with their GTs and user
 112 submissions from prestigious algorithm competitions like USACO, NOI, and ICPC. We rigorously
 113 filter submissions, retaining only those with complete execution results on GTs. Next, we trans-
 114 form the codes for each problem into a binary matrix and calculate its rank to characterize the error
 115 pattern complexity. Then, we employ WrongSelect to efficiently select a maximally diverse set of
 116 WCs, constructing a structured diagnostic basis (Figure 1 (c)). Last, we meticulously review, stan-
 117 dardize, and translate all problem descriptions into English to ensure consistency and quality. The
 118 resulting benchmark, named TC-Bench, contains 877 problems with a total of 9347 WCs. The final
 119 set of WCs constitutes less than 2% of the original submissions. This reduction, combined with the
 120 principled number of the necessary test cases, can lead to a near-quadratic decrease in evaluation
 121 cost, dramatically improving efficiency. To validate TC-Bench, we reproduce and evaluate 5 com-
 122 mon test-case generation methods (Jain et al., 2024; Zeng et al., 2025b; Zhang et al., 2023; He et al.,
 123 2025; Gu et al., 2024) on 13 leading LLMs (DeepSeek-AI et al., 2024; Int; Hui et al., 2024). Experi-
 124 mental results show that even the state-of-the-art method Claude4-Thinking with LCB achieve only
 125 approximately 60% performance. By eliminating redundant error patterns and surfacing critical cor-
 126 ner cases, TC-Bench ensures that a method’s ability to handle these challenges is directly reflected
 127 in its score. This directly prevents the score inflation that plagues less-curated benchmarks.

128 Our contributions can be summarized as follows:

- 129 • We propose a novel framework based on matrix rank that, for the first time, unifies two
 130 fundamental questions: the minimal number of wrong codes needed for evaluation and the
 131 minimal number of test cases needed for coverage. This framework provides a principled
 132 method for constructing a structured diagnostic basis.
- 133 • We construct and release TC-Bench, a compact and diverse benchmark built on our the-
 134 ory. By design, TC-Bench has a high signal-to-noise ratio, enabling efficient, reliable, and
 135 inflation-resistant evaluation of test case generation methods.
- 136 • Through extensive empirical experiments, we uncover significant deficiencies in current
 137 mainstream test-case generation methods and LLMs when dealing with complex error pat-
 138 terns, providing clear guidance for future research.

140 2 METHODOLOGY

141 This section details our principled approach to constructing TC-Bench. We first formalize the prob-
 142 lem as finding a maximally diverse basis within a binary Code-Test matrix (Section 2.1). Recogniz-
 143 ing this problem as NP-hard, we then propose WrongSelect, a greedy approximation algorithm for
 144 this task (Section 2.2). Finally, we detail the data processing pipeline used to apply this framework
 145 in practice to build TC-Bench (Section 2.3).

148 2.1 PROBLEM FORMULATION

149 Identifying diverse underlying errors in a vast collection of WCs would require immense manual
 150 effort from algorithm experts, which is clearly infeasible. Therefore, the key challenge is to finding
 151 a formal transformation that can equivalently represent the diversity of underlying errors.

152 Our inspiration comes from how codes are evaluated. A code is considered correct if and only if it
 153 passes GTs, which are assumed to cover all problem requirements and boundary conditions, thereby
 154 defining the solution space. For any code, we can get its result on GTs. For example, the result
 155 [“AC”, “WA”, “WA”] represents a code that passes the first case but fails the other two. Such a result
 156 sequence can be regarded as a behavioral mapping or a failure signature, translating the abstract
 157 erroneous reasoning of a code into a concrete pattern within the solution space. Collecting all such
 158 signatures across codes allows us to construct an empirical space of failure modes for a problem.

159 However, this raw space is highly redundant: it contains identical signatures, and some patterns may
 160 simply be combinations of other ones. To extract a compact and informative benchmark from this
 161 landscape, a structured analytical tool is required.

162 **Binary Matrix Representation** We formalize this space of failures as a binary matrix M of size
 163 $n \times d$, where n is the number of WCs and d is the number of GTs. Each entry M_{ij} is defined as:
 164

$$165 \quad M_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if the } i\text{-th WC fails on the } j\text{-th test case,} \\ 166 & 0 \quad \text{if the } i\text{-th WC passes the } j\text{-th test case.} \end{cases}$$

167 Each row vector \mathbf{r}_i of M thus represents the failure signature of the i -th WC. For instance, signature
 168 [“AC”, “WA”, “WA”] becomes the binary vector [0, 1, 1].
 169

170 **Optimization Objective** With this binary Code-Test matrix in place, our task reduces to a selec-
 171 tion problem: how to choose from the m failure signatures a representative and compact subset \mathcal{I}
 172 to serve as our benchmark. An ideal subset \mathcal{I} must satisfy the following two requirements. **Com-**
 173 **pleteness and Irredundancy**. The selected set \mathcal{I} should capture the full complexity of M without
 174 redundancy. In linear algebra, this corresponds precisely to a basis. Concretely, \mathcal{I} must be a row
 175 basis, i.e., the row vectors in \mathcal{I} are linearly independent and their number $|\mathcal{I}|$ equals the rank of M .
 176 This constraint guarantees that the number of selected WCs is neither too many nor too few, but
 177 exactly sufficient to span all distinct error modes. Notably, since the row rank equals the column
 178 rank, this same value $|\mathcal{I}|$ also provides another important insight: it constitutes a theoretical upper
 179 bound on the minimum number of test cases required to distinguish all independent error modes.
 180 **Diversity**. Multiple bases may satisfy the rank condition. Ideally, a perfect basis would consist
 181 of mutually orthogonal failure signatures, meaning each error mode is completely independent and
 182 contributes a unique dimension. However, in real-world error data, this kind of orthogonal basis
 183 rarely exists. Our practical goal is therefore to find a basis that approximates orthogonality by max-
 184 imizing the diversity among its members (i.e., minimizing their overlap). To measure the overlap
 185 between two signatures, we adopt the Jaccard similarity, which quantifies the ratio of jointly failed
 186 test cases to the total failed cases across both signatures. A lower Jaccard score indicates lower
 187 similarity. Formally:
 188

$$186 \quad J(\mathbf{r}_i, \mathbf{r}_j) = \frac{\mathbf{r}_i \cdot \mathbf{r}_j}{\|\mathbf{r}_i\|_1 + \|\mathbf{r}_j\|_1 - \mathbf{r}_i \cdot \mathbf{r}_j}$$

189 where $\mathbf{r}_i \cdot \mathbf{r}_j$ counts the jointly failed test cases (intersection) and $\|\mathbf{r}\|_1$ is the total number of failed
 190 tests for a signature (size of the set).
 191

192 Beyond pairwise similarity, we must assess the diversity of the entire basis \mathcal{I} . We therefore define
 193 our global objective as minimizing the average pairwise Jaccard similarity among all members of \mathcal{I} :
 194

$$193 \quad \min_{\mathcal{I}} F(\mathcal{I}) = \frac{1}{\binom{|\mathcal{I}|}{2}} \sum_{\mathbf{r}_i, \mathbf{r}_j \in \mathcal{I}, i < j} J(\mathbf{r}_i, \mathbf{r}_j)$$

195 In summary, our problem is formalized as follows: given a binary matrix M , find a row basis \mathcal{I}
 196 that minimizes the average pairwise Jaccard similarity $F(\mathcal{I})$. This is a combinatorial optimization
 197 problem known to be NP-hard. In the next section, we present a greedy algorithm, WrongSelect,
 198 designed to efficiently approximate this solution.
 199

200 2.2 WRONGSELECT

201 2.2.1 PRINCIPLED PRE-FILTERING

202 The quality of the final basis critically depends on the quality of the candidate pool. In practice, raw
 203 data often contains noise, such as problems lacking sufficient WCs or WCs failing on all test cases.
 204 To address this, pre-filtering is designed to systematically remove these noise at both the problem
 205 level and the code level.
 206

207 **Problem-Level Filtering via Column Analysis** In practice, we observe that some M contain
 208 columns filled entirely with “1” as shown in Figure 2. This indicates that all WCs fail in one
 209 case. The analysis on a subset shows that this phenomenon arises from three main causes: (1)
 210 GT exhibits incremental difficulty (e.g., gradually stricter constraints on time or space complexity);
 211 (2) the number of WCs for the problem is insufficient; or (3) the problem or GT is overly simple,
 212 involving only a single extreme scenario. Although the first case is reasonable, it is relatively rare,
 213 and manually distinguishing it is prohibitively costly. More importantly, all-ones columns open the
 214 door to hack scores. Therefore, to ensure the diagnostic value of each problem, we exclude all
 215 problems containing all-ones columns from our dataset. This excludes about 5% of raw problems.

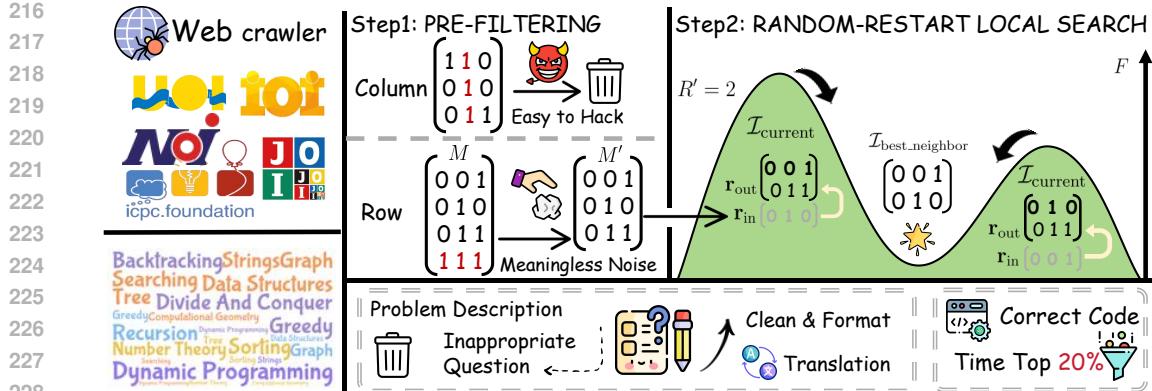


Figure 2: An overview of the TC-Bench construction pipeline. It begins with raw data collection, followed by a two-step WrongSelect working on the transformed binary matrix M . Step 1 pre-filters the problems with an all-“1” column and removes codes whose rows have too many “1”s. Step 2 samples numerous initial bases $\mathcal{I}_{\text{current}}$ from the filtered M' and iteratively minimizes the diversity score by swapping internal and external rows. The best local optimum is chosen to approximate the global optimum. Concurrently, problem descriptions are standardized and correct codes are sampled from the top 20% performers, ensuring the overall quality of TC-Bench.

Code-Level Filteringing via Row Analysis Another observation is that some WCs fail on an excessively high proportion of GTs. Such WCs typically pass only the public test cases while failing almost all private ones. They act as strong background noise: any mediocre test set can easily eliminate them, leading to inflated evaluation scores and severely diminishing the discriminative power of the benchmark. To mitigate this, we compute the failure rate of each row, which is defined as the proportion of 1’s relative to d . Accordingly, we set the filtering threshold $\tau = 80\%$. A WC exceeding τ is highly likely to fail all private test cases. Such WCs generally correspond to trivial or common error patterns, and removing them helps benchmark to diagnose more nuanced and complex failure modes. This removes 13% of raw WCs and M turns into M' .

As the final quality control step, we exclude all M' with rank less than 5 ($R' < 5$). A low rank indicates insufficient diversity in error patterns and is not suitable to be used in a benchmark. Only matrices M' that pass all these filtering stages are considered qualified candidates and proceed to the subsequent basis selection process.

2.2.2 RANDOM-RESTART LOCAL SEARCH

On the filtered matrix M' , our objective is to select a basis \mathcal{I} that achieves the lowest possible $F(\mathcal{I})$. We adopt a local search optimization strategy to approximate the optimal basis.

Starting from a complete but randomly chosen initial basis, the algorithm iteratively improves the basis by performing local modifications. Specifically, it explores the neighborhood of the current basis, defined as all new bases that can be obtained by a single swap operation (exchanging one member inside the basis with one outside). If there exists a neighbor that achieves better diversity (lower $F(\mathcal{I})$), the basis is replaced by the best neighbor, and the process repeats. This iterative improvement continues until no better neighbor exists, i.e., the current basis converges to a local optimum. To mitigate the risk of being trapped in poor local optima due to initialization, we employ a random-restart mechanism. The local search process is repeated multiple times from different random starting points, and finally, the best solution among all local optima is selected as the output.

Take “Step2” in Figure 2 as an Example. M' has a rank of $R' = 2$. Assume the initial random basis is $\mathcal{I}_{\text{current}} = [[0, 0, 1], [0, 1, 1]]$, with a diversity score of $F(\mathcal{I}_{\text{current}}) = 0.5$. The only external candidate is the vector $M' - \mathcal{I}_{\text{current}} = [0, 1, 0]$. The algorithm then explores the neighborhood of $\mathcal{I}_{\text{current}}$. It first considers swapping the internal vector $\mathbf{r}_{\text{out}} = [0, 0, 1]$ with the external vector $\mathbf{r}_{\text{in}} = [0, 1, 0]$. The resulting set, $[[0, 1, 0], [0, 1, 1]]$, is a valid basis, but its score $F = 0.5$ provides no improvement. Next, consider swapping $\mathbf{r}_{\text{out}} = [0, 1, 1]$ with $\mathbf{r}_{\text{in}} = [0, 1, 0]$. This produces a better

270 basis $\mathcal{I}_{\text{temp}} = [[0, 0, 1], [0, 1, 0]]$. Its diversity score is $F(\mathcal{I}_{\text{temp}}) = 0$. After evaluating all neighbors,
 271 since a better neighbor is found, the algorithm updates its state: $\mathcal{I}_{\text{current}} \leftarrow [[0, 0, 1], [0, 1, 0]]$. A new
 272 search iteration begins from this basis. As this basis is now perfectly diverse ($F = 0$), no further
 273 swaps can improve the score, so the algorithm has converged to a local optimum. This result is
 274 saved, and the random-restart mechanism initiates a new search from another random starting point.
 275 Algorithm 1 in Appendix A.2 illustrates the pseudo code with a detailed explanation.

276 Although the nested structure suggests high theoretical complexity, in practice the algorithm
 277 converges rapidly in both the inner and outer loops. Moreover, several parts of the procedure can be
 278 parallelized easily, making the overall runtime highly efficient.
 279

280 2.3 BENCHMARK CONSTRUCTION

282 Evaluating test cases requires not only wrong code, but also first generating them from problem
 283 descriptions and validating them against correct code. This section details the full pipeline of data
 284 collection, filtering, and cleaning used to construct our benchmark.

285 **Raw Data** The raw data comes from top-tier programming contests and high-quality training sets,
 286 including USACO, IOI, and ICPC. In total, it initially contains 3,321 problems and 2,230,009 sub-
 287 missions. We retain only problems for which the full execution results of WCs on GTs are available.
 288 After this step, we obtain 1,763 problems, containing 15,457 correct codes and 554,056 WCs.
 289

290 **Problem Description** To ensure fair and consistent problem comprehensions, we apply rigorous
 291 standardization to problem descriptions. We first remove problems that heavily rely on images,
 292 cannot be automatically evaluated (e.g., interactive problems, multi-solution tasks), or require highly
 293 constrained runtime environments. We then clean the statements by removing source tags, URLs,
 294 and HTML, as well as rewriting non-standard mathematical formulas. Finally, we employ GPT-4 to
 295 to translate non-English problems and manually proofread to ensure semantic consistency.

296 **Wrong Code** To ensure consistency of the evaluation environment and avoid noise introduced by
 297 environment-specific factors, we retain only C++ submissions labeled as WA, including 1,698 prob-
 298 lems and 282,458 WCs. Next, our principled pre-filtering leaves 1,133 problems with 33,846 WCs.
 299 For each problem, we perform random-restart local search with both outer and inner loops set to
 300 1000 iterations. Figure 9 shows that loops converge rapidly, demonstrating the efficiency of our
 301 method. Ultimately, 13,400 wrong codes constitute the maximally diverse basis for all problems.
 302 Figure 10 illustrates the distribution of WCs per problem before and after WrongSelect.

303 **Correct Code** Since correct codes are consistent with GT, their primary differences lie in runtime
 304 and memory consumption. In Section 4, we show that overly loose or overly strict sets of cor-
 305 rect codes can bias evaluation results. Therefore, for each problem, we randomly select 8 correct
 306 submissions from the top 20% after min–max normalization of runtime.

307 Through this principled pipeline, we ultimately construct TC-Bench, a high-quality diagnostic
 308 benchmark with 877 standardized problems, 9347 core WCs, and 7016 correct submissions. More
 309 details regarding the construction process are available in Appendix B.1. Furthermore, we present a
 310 case study in Appendix C to empirically validate the practical effectiveness of WrongSelect.

311 3 EXPERIMENT

312 After constructing TC-Bench, this section presents the experimental design and evaluation results of
 313 different test case generation methods.

314 3.1 EVALUATION SETUP

315 3.1.1 MODELS & METHODS

316 **Models** We evaluate SOTA LLMs via API, including GPT-4o, Claude-Sonnet-4, Claude-Sonnet-
 317 4-Thinking, DeepSeek-V3, Qwen-Coder-Plus, and Qwen3-235B-A22B. We also evaluate Qwen-2.5
 318 and Qwen-2.5-Coder families of varying sizes (7B, 14B, 32B). Due to space constraints, the results
 319 for the 7B and 14B LLMs are presented in Appendix A.3. We note that DeepSeek-R1 struggles

324 to reliably generate test cases. Therefore, its results are excluded from the main experiments but
 325 discussed in Appendix A.5. In total, we evaluate 13 LLMs.
 326

327 **Methods** Based on whether correct
 328 code is available during generation,
 329 methods can be categorized into two
 330 classes. The first class does not rely
 331 on correct code. **CRUX** (Gu et al.,
 332 2024) directly generates inputs and
 333 outputs. **PSEUDO** (Jiao et al., 2024)
 334 generates both inputs and candidate
 335 solutions, then obtains outputs by ex-
 336 ecuting the solutions and taking the
 337 majority-voted output as the result.
 338 Going further, **ALGO** (Zhang et al.,
 339 2023) prompts the LLM to produce
 340 input generators (execute to obtain
 341 inputs) and a brute-force oracle solu-
 342 tion (lower the difficulty).

343 When the correct code is available,
 344 output correctness can be guaranteed
 345 by executing the inputs on it. Live-
 346 CodeBench (**LCB**) (Jain et al., 2024)
 347 requires LLM to generate both multi-
 348 ple random and edge-case input gen-
 349 erators. It should be noted that we
 350 select one representative implemen-
 351 tation for each category, and the other variants are in Appendix A.1.

352 3.1.2 PIPELINE & METRICS

353 **Test Case Generation** For each problem in TC-Bench, ATs are first generated by the evaluated
 354 methods. For methods that do not rely on correct code, only cases accepted by all correct code are
 355 considered valid. We define PassRate as the proportion of valid cases among all generated cases.
 356 Formally, for a set of problems \mathcal{Q} : $\text{PassRate} = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{Q}|} \sum_{q_i \in \mathcal{Q}} \left(\frac{1}{|\mathcal{T}_{q_i}|} \sum_{t_j \in \mathcal{T}_{q_i}} \text{IsValid}(t_j) \right)$, where
 357 \mathcal{T}_{q_i} is ATs for problem q_i , and $\text{IsValid}(t_j)$ is 1 if test t_j is valid, and 0 otherwise.
 358

359 **Wrong Code Execution** To measure the effectiveness of the valid ATs, we define HackRate. A
 360 WC from TC-Bench is considered excluded if it fails on at least one valid AT. All failure types
 361 (e.g., WA, Time Limit Exceeded (TLE), RE (Runtime Error)) are counted as successful exclu-
 362 sion. The HackRate represents the proportion of WCs that are successfully excluded. Formally:
 363 $\text{HackRate} = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{Q}|} \sum_{q_i \in \mathcal{Q}} \left(\frac{1}{|\mathcal{W}_{q_i}|} \sum_{w \in \mathcal{W}_{q_i}} \text{IsExcluded}(w) \right)$, where \mathcal{W}_{q_i} is WCs for problem q_i ,
 364 and $\text{IsExcluded}(w)$ is 1 if WC w is eliminated, and 0 otherwise.
 365

366 3.2 RESULTS

368 Table 1 presents the results for various model and method combinations on TC-Bench.
 369

370 **TC-Bench Reveals a Significant Performance Ceiling for Current Technologies.** Even the best-
 371 performing combination, Claude-4 + HT, achieves less than 63%. This result strongly validates
 372 that WrongSelect indeed selects a diverse and challenging error basis, revealing a performance gap
 373 that would otherwise be masked in unfiltered benchmarks. This suggests that there is substantial
 374 room for improvement in handling complex and diverse errors, and TC-Bench serves as a reliable
 375 yardstick to measure this progress.

376 **A High PassRate does not Equate to a High Hackrate.** A high PassRate score can be hacked
 377 by generating a large number of easy test cases. For instance, on Qwen2.5-32B and Deepseek-V3,
 CRUX’s PassRate is significantly higher than ALGO’s, yet its Hackrate score is substantially lower.

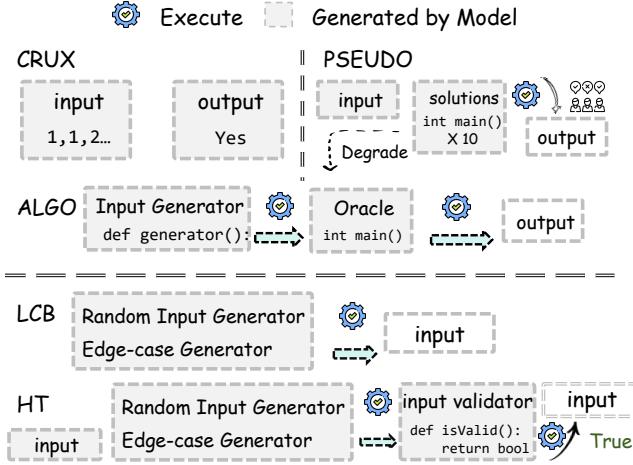


Figure 3: CRUX, PRESUDO, and ALGO construct the output, while LCB and HT depend on the correct code to generate the output.

378
 379 Table 1: Performance comparison for all evaluated model-method combinations. **PR** denotes Pass-
 380 Rate and **HR** denotes HackRate. **AC** represents the percentage of non-excluded wrong codes. **WA**,
 381 **RE**, and **TLE** are all considered exclusions and contribute to HR. **PSEUDO** of Qwen3 is anomalous
 382 due to the API frequently returning empty or low-quality responses.

383 LLM	384 Method	385 PR \uparrow	386 AC \downarrow	387 WA \uparrow	388 RE	389 TLE	390 HR \uparrow
Open Source							
391 Qwen2.5-32B	CRUX	26.71	84.57	13.51	0.89	1.03	15.43
	PSEUDO	35.04	79.52	18.59	1.02	0.78	20.38
	ALGO	20.48	78.04	20.29	1.33	0.33	21.96
	LCB	57.62	48.39	48.46	2.07	1.08	51.61
	HT	65.46	69.27	29.17	1.22	0.34	30.73
392 Qwen2.5-Coder-32B	CRUX	22.68	81.27	16.31	0.91	1.51	18.73
	PSEUDO	37.72	79.23	18.72	0.98	1.07	20.77
	ALGO	21.33	81.41	17.27	0.85	0.46	18.59
	LCB	59.65	41.90	54.90	2.21	0.98	58.10
	HT	66.53	56.24	40.98	1.98	0.80	43.76
393 Deepseek-V3	CRUX	37.90	83.01	15.54	0.85	0.60	16.99
	PSEUDO	19.58	88.32	10.97	0.37	0.34	11.68
	ALGO	28.22	70.78	27.53	1.24	0.44	29.22
	LCB	46.58	41.17	55.68	2.06	1.08	58.83
	HT	63.51	50.58	46.34	2.05	1.03	49.42
394 Qwen3-235B-A22B	CRUX	26.30	69.10	27.14	1.76	2.00	30.90
	PSEUDO	9.85	97.54	2.15	0.19	0.12	2.46
	ALGO	25.90	70.23	27.84	1.28	0.65	29.77
	LCB	70.40	54.03	41.25	2.40	2.32	45.97
	HT	55.35	69.20	28.50	1.61	0.69	30.80
401 Qwen-Coder-Plus	CRUX	29.26	67.65	28.79	1.71	1.85	32.35
	PSEUDO	40.15	67.11	29.57	1.45	1.87	32.89
	ALGO	30.43	67.04	31.15	1.31	0.50	32.96
	LCB	77.73	38.54	57.98	2.28	1.21	61.46
	HT	67.28	46.93	50.06	2.09	0.92	53.07
Closed Source							
407 GPT-4o	CRUX	42.43	70.77	26.25	1.46	1.52	29.23
	PSEUDO	50.90	73.33	24.01	1.03	1.63	26.67
	ALGO	24.43	75.51	22.87	0.97	0.65	24.49
	LCB	68.51	42.45	52.68	2.66	2.21	57.55
	HT	47.68	49.45	47.48	2.16	0.92	50.55
411 Claude4	CRUX	32.93	76.31	21.11	1.14	1.44	23.69
	PSEUDO	64.72	63.97	32.35	1.23	2.45	36.03
	ALGO	32.12	69.17	29.01	1.20	0.62	30.83
	LCB	55.49	37.92	58.29	2.63	1.15	62.08
	HT	71.56	37.04	58.58	2.86	1.53	62.96
415 Claude4-Thinking	CRUX	30.47	66.26	31.14	1.44	1.16	33.74
	PSEUDO	23.56	85.98	12.84	0.51	0.67	14.02
	ALGO	32.41	64.54	33.68	1.22	0.56	35.46
	LCB	75.79	37.65	59.65	1.93	0.78	62.35
	HT	71.24	39.69	57.26	2.08	0.97	60.31

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 423 **The Impact of Methodology Far Outweighs That of the Base Model.** The results consistently
 424 show that the choice of method has a much greater impact on final performance than the scale or even
 425 the source (open-source vs. closed-source) of the base model. For instance, while Qwen2.5-Coder-
 426 32B has fewer parameters than the activated parameters of Deepseek-V3, their HackRate scores
 427 with the LCB method differ by only 1%. In contrast, on Qwen2.5-Coder-32B, LCB’s HackRate is
 428 nearly 40% higher than CRUX. Furthermore, we observe that top-performing open-source models
 429 (e.g., Qwen-Coder-Plus) are competitive with leading closed-source models (e.g., the Claude4 se-
 430 ries) across various methods. We hypothesize that this is because test case generation is a specialized
 431 task that is underrepresented in existing large-scale code pre-training corpora, thus limiting the per-
 432 formance gains through model scaling or a different training corpus. Further experimental analyses,
 433 study on Test-Time Scaling, and a summary of common error patterns, are detailed in Appendix A.3.

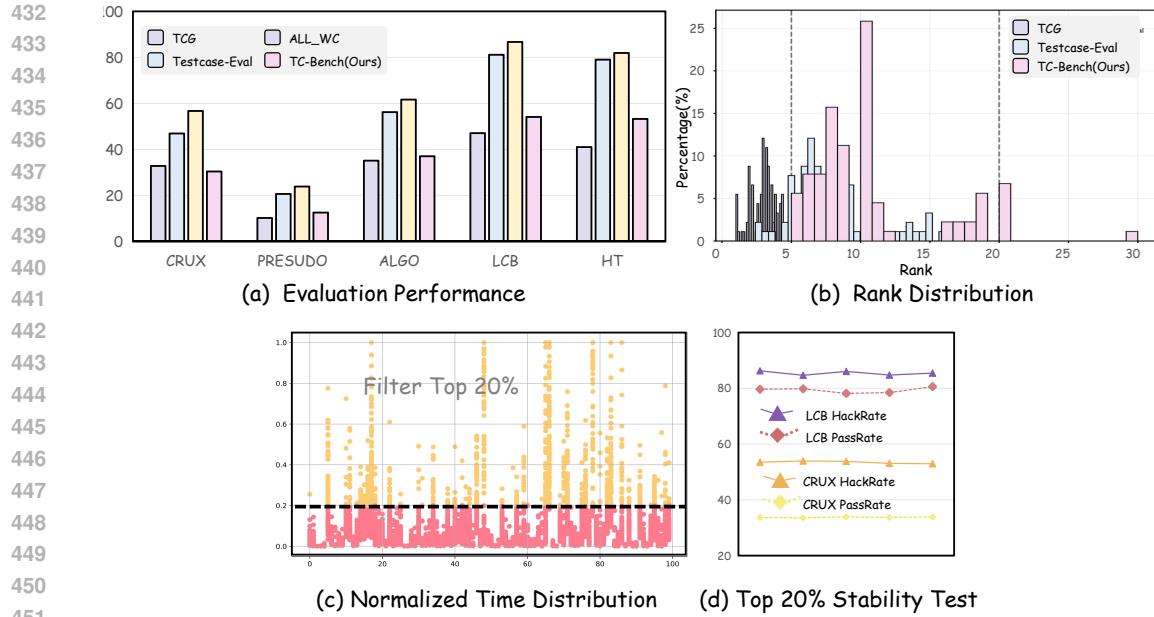


Figure 4: (a) Rank distribution of filtered WCs across methods. (b) Comparison of evaluation results against TC-BENCH (Ours). (c) Normalized execution times of correct solutions, primarily distributed below 0.2. (d) Sensitivity analysis showing stable PassRate and HackRate when filtering with random subsets of 8 correct solutions.

4 DISCUSSION

Unfiltered and Heuristic Code Sets Lead to Biased Evaluation. To validate the impact of code selection strategies, we conduct a rigorous comparison on a subset of 100 problems on Claude-4-Thinking. We compare TC-Bench against three baselines: TCGBench Ma et al. (2025b) (denoted as All_WC), which uses the full set of wrong codes; TestCase-Eval Cao et al. (2025), which randomly samples 20 codes; and TCG Yang et al. (2025), which selects 5 wrong codes from those passing at least 60% of test cases. **Unfiltered sets lead to score inflation.** As shown in Figure 4 (a), the full set leads to severe score inflation. For instance, LCB exhibits near-perfect performance ($\approx 100\%$) on All_WC, whereas its score on TC-Bench drops to just over 50%. This inflation masks the method’s incompetence on core, difficult error patterns. Crucially, TestCase-Eval exhibits scores and trends highly similar to All_WC across all methods. This indicates that naive random sampling, while potentially reducing dataset size, fails to exclude redundant error patterns and thus cannot resolve the issue of score inflation. **Heuristic Selection results in under-representation.** Conversely, TCG yields significantly lower scores. While this might seem rigorous, our rank analysis reveals it stems from insufficient coverage. In Figure 4 (b), the rank of the error space varies significantly per problem. While most are below 20, some approach 30. TCG’s rigid limit of 5 codes forces a drastic under-representation for high-complexity problems. While this lowers the performance scores of current methods, it makes future methods prone to score inflation: they would only need to cover a maximum subset of five patterns rather than the complete error space to achieve perfect scores. In summary, TC-Bench strikes the optimal balance. By selecting a basis defined by the problem’s intrinsic rank, it avoids both the inflation of coverage-based methods and the under-representation of heuristic constraint methods, serving as a stable and fair test suite.

Rank serves as the Upper Bound for the Necessary Number of Test Cases. The row rank, which represents the number of independent error patterns, equals the column rank, which represents the number of independent diagnostic dimensions. In an error space defined by rank R , there are only R linearly independent diagnostic dimensions. Any additional test case is merely a linear combination of these basis dimensions and does not provide new information for distinguishing

existing error patterns. Therefore, R test cases are sufficient to distinguish all error patterns, serving as a compact upper bound. Consider a concrete example matrix with $R = 3$:

	t_1	t_2	t_3	t_4
w_1	1	0	1	0
w_2	0	1	1	0
w_3	0	1	1	0
w_4	0	0	0	1

Here, columns t_1 and t_2 are linearly independent, but t_3 is a linear combination ($t_3 = t_1 + t_2$). Any wrong code failing on t_1 or t_2 implies a predictable behavior on t_3 . Thus, t_3 offers no new diagnostic dimension. The set $\{t_1, t_2, t_4\}$ is sufficient to distinguish all unique error patterns. This framework addresses a critical flaw in previous evaluations where the number of test cases was arbitrary. Consequently, problems with small diagnostic dimensions were often “over-tested,” inflating scores, while complex problems were “under-tested.” Using Rank as the budget ensures fairness: it allows simple problems to reveal performance gaps while ensuring complex problems are tested with sufficient depth.

Correct Code Selection Influence Results. Unlike WCs, which have failure signatures, correct codes all behave identically on GT, differing only in runtime and memory usage. This makes their selection more subtle. Using only a single correct solution as a validator is insufficient. Certain invalid input may still have an output under a specific code. Our initial exploration shows that as the number of correct codes increases (as shown in Figure 8, more ATs are filtered, leading to higher HackRates). However, not all filtering is beneficial. Many complex but valid ATs are wrongly discarded due to timeouts by slow correct codes. Worse, such low-performance correct codes show inconsistency across environments (different OJ platforms). Performance profiling reveals a highly skewed distribution: most correct codes cluster in the top 20% after applying min–max normalization to runtimes (Figure 4 (c)). These high-performance codes are stable across platforms. Consequently, we adopt a biased random sampling strategy: for each problem, we retain only correct codes within the top 20% normalized runtime and randomly sample 8 from this set. Repeated experiments confirm that this strategy yields highly stable evaluation outcomes (Figure 4 (d)).

AT Uncover Latent Bugs Beyond GT. An interesting phenomenon emerged during evaluation: some wrong codes labeled as Wrong Answer under GTs produce Runtime Error or Time Limit Error when executed on ATs. To verify whether this is due to server overload, we conduct a controlled experiment. We sample 350 WCs that exhibited RE/TLE and combined them with about 2.6k random WCs. Running these on a 128-core machine, we gradually reduce concurrency from 128 to 88 tasks. The RE/TLE frequency remains nearly constant regardless of system load. This strongly suggests that advanced methods are indeed capable of producing stricter and more challenging ATs than official GTs, revealing hidden bugs related to performance and robustness.

5 CONCLUSION

Existing evaluation practices suffer from inflated scores and unclear principles regarding how many codes and test cases are necessary. We addressed this gap by formalizing benchmark construction as a binary-matrix rank problem, which jointly determines the minimal code basis and the upper bound on test cases. To approximate its NP-hard solution, we introduced WrongSelect and applied it to large-scale competitive programming data, resulting in TC-Bench, a compact and diverse diagnostic benchmark. Experiments show that TC-Bench reveals substantial gaps in current methods and provides a faithful foundation for advancing research on test case generation.

540 **ETHICAL STATEMENT**
541542 The data for the proposed methods is drawn solely from publicly accessible project resources on
543 reputable websites, ensuring that no sensitive information is included. Moreover, all datasets and
544 baseline models used in our experiments are also available to the public. We have taken care to
545 acknowledge the original authors by properly citing their work.
546547 **REPRODUCIBILITY STATEMENT**
548549 All code referenced in our paper is available at <https://anonymous.4open.science/r/TestcaseBenchmark-715C/> and <https://anonymous.4open.science/r/TestcaseBench-2A75/>. The data processing workflow
550 is described in detail in Section 2 and Appendix B.1.
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918 A APPENDIX
919920 A.1 RELATED WORK
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922 **Test Case Generation** As private ground-truth test cases are scarce, researchers have turned to
923 LLMs for automatic test case generation.(Cook et al., 2025; Chen et al., 2025; Shi et al., 2025; Seed
924 et al., 2025; Fatemi et al., 2025; Ahmed et al., 2024; Yu et al., 2025b; Zhoubian et al., 2025; Lei
925 et al., 2024) Early work had models directly produce complete test cases, i.e., input-output pairs.(Gu
926 et al., 2024; Chen et al., 2023; Zeng et al., 2025b; Xu et al., 2025b; Payoungkhamdee et al., 2025),
927 However, because such outputs are often unreliable, Jiao et al. (2024); Li et al. (2023) let the model
928 generate both an input and a candidate solution, then execute the solution to derive the output. Other
929 methods introduced input generators to replace raw inputs (Jain et al., 2024; Cao et al., 2025; Xia
930 et al., 2025), or validators to enforce format and range constraints before execution (He et al., 2025;
931 Fu et al., 2025a). Some methods enhance the model’s ability to generate test cases through training,
932 such as via SFT (Supervised Fine-Tuning), RL(Reinforcement Learning)and other techniques. (Li
933 et al., 2025; Bai et al., 2025; Zhang et al., 2024; Wang et al., 2025a) Most recently, multi-round
934 generation and execution feedback has led test case generation to agent workflows (Wang et al.,
935 2025c; Da et al., 2025; Ye et al., 2025; Zhang et al., 2025a; Huang et al., 2024).

936 **Test Case Evaluation** Evaluation originally followed traditional software testing, emphasizing
937 coverage and distinguishing between buggy and fixed code. (Xu et al., 2025a; Yu et al., 2025c)
938 SWT-Bench (Mündler et al., 2025) and TestGenEval (Jain et al., 2025) transform from SWE-
939 Bench (Jimenez et al., 2024), providing buggy implementations and their corresponding fixes. Oth-
940 others extend beyond single languages or update to recent codebases. For algorithmic problems, TestE-
941 val collected 210 problems but still relied on coverage metrics. More recent works shifted toward
942 end-to-end evaluation with large collections of correct and wrong submissions, measuring how often
943 generated test cases exclude incorrect code. (Ma et al., 2025a; Yang et al., 2025; Wang et al., 2025b)
944 However, these approaches either rely on ad-hoc manual selection or expand code sets without se-
945 lection or analysis. TC-Bench is the first to study how many codes and test cases are sufficient, and
946 provides a principled, efficient evaluation framework.

947 **Code-Test Matrix** CodeT Chen et al. (2023) and B4 Chen et al. (2024) share the concept of using
948 execution results on test cases (the Code-Test Matrix) as behavioral signatures. CodeT assumes
949 correct code behaviors are consistent while incorrect results are diverse, utilizing signatures for
950 clustering to select a consensus set. B4 calculates the probability of observing the matrix to select the
951 most likely correct cluster. However, these methods aim for solution selection where the correctness
952 of code and tests is unknown, utilizing the matrix primarily for signature matching or probabilistic
953 modeling. In their context, the algebraic rank and basis are not the primary interpretative tools. In
954 contrast, TC-Bench operates on ground truth with guaranteed correct tests and wrong codes. We
955 view the matrix as a complete Error Space and apply linear algebra operations to calculate the Rank
956 and Basis, representing this error space most efficiently.

972 A.2 WRONGSELECT
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Algorithm 1 WrongSelect

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 977 1: Input: Raw matrix  $\mathbf{M}$ , filter threshold  $\tau$ , restart count  $E$ , local search step  $K$ 
 978 2: Output: The optimal basis  $\mathcal{I}^*$ 
 979 3:
 980 4:  $\mathbf{M}' \leftarrow \text{Filter}(\mathbf{M}, \tau)$  ▷ Phase 1: Principled Pre-filtering
 981 5:  $R' \leftarrow \text{rank}(\mathbf{M}')$ 
 982 6:  $\mathcal{I}^* \leftarrow \emptyset$ 
 983 7:  $F_{\min} \leftarrow \infty$ 
 984 8: ▷ Phase 2: Random-Restart Local Search
 985 9: for  $i = 1$  to  $E$  do
 986 10:    $\mathcal{I}_{\text{current}} \leftarrow \text{RandomBasis}(\mathbf{M}', R')$  ▷ Generate a random initial basis
 987 11:    $F_{\text{current}} \leftarrow F(\mathcal{I}_{\text{current}})$ 
 988 12:   for  $j = 1$  to  $K$  do
 989 13:      $\mathcal{I}_{\text{best\_neighbor}} \leftarrow \mathcal{I}_{\text{current}}$ 
 990 14:      $F_{\text{best\_neighbor}} \leftarrow F_{\text{current}}$ 
 991 15:     for each  $\mathbf{r}_{\text{in}} \in \mathbf{M}' \setminus \mathcal{I}_{\text{current}}$  and each  $\mathbf{r}_{\text{out}} \in \mathcal{I}_{\text{current}}$  do
 992 16:        $\mathcal{I}_{\text{temp}} \leftarrow (\mathcal{I}_{\text{current}} \setminus \{\mathbf{r}_{\text{out}}\}) \cup \{\mathbf{r}_{\text{in}}\}$  ▷ Traverse each neighbor
 993 17:       if  $\text{rank}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{temp}}) = R'$  then
 994 18:         if  $F(\mathcal{I}_{\text{temp}}) < F_{\text{best\_neighbor}}$  then
 995 19:            $\mathcal{I}_{\text{best\_neighbor}} \leftarrow \mathcal{I}_{\text{temp}}$ 
 996 20:            $F_{\text{best\_neighbor}} \leftarrow F(\mathcal{I}_{\text{temp}})$ 
 997 21:         end if
 998 22:       end if
 999 23:     end for
1000 24:     if  $F_{\text{best\_neighbor}} < F_{\text{current}}$  then ▷ Move to the best neighbor
1001 25:        $\mathcal{I}_{\text{current}} \leftarrow \mathcal{I}_{\text{best\_neighbor}}$ 
1002 26:        $F_{\text{current}} \leftarrow F_{\text{best\_neighbor}}$ 
1003 27:     else
1004 28:       break ▷ Local optimum reached, exit inner loop
1005 29:     end if
1006 30:   end for
1007 31:   if  $F_{\text{current}} < F_{\min}$  then
1008 32:      $F_{\min} \leftarrow F_{\text{current}}$ 
1009 33:      $\mathcal{I}^* \leftarrow \mathcal{I}_{\text{current}}$ 
1010 34:   end if
1011 35: end for
1012 36:
1013 37: return  $\mathcal{I}^*$ 

```

1014 Phase 2 in Algorithm 1 illustrates the pseudo code. The algorithm consists of two nested loops:
 1015 the outer loop explores multiple random starting points to ensure global search breadth, while the
 1016 inner loop refines each starting point to a local optimum, ensuring local search depth. Given the
 1017 pre-filtered matrix \mathbf{M}' , each outer iteration begins by generating a random initial basis $\mathcal{I}_{\text{current}}$.
 1018 The inner loop then iteratively improves this basis. In each iteration, the algorithm systematically
 1019 explores the neighborhood of the current basis: a neighbor basis is obtained by swapping one mem-
 1020 ber inside the basis with one outside, while maintaining the same rank. We compute the average
 1021 Jaccard similarity $F(\mathcal{I}_{\text{temp}})$ for each neighbor. If the best neighbor $\mathcal{I}_{\text{best_neighbor}}$ is superior to the
 1022 current solution, $\mathcal{I}_{\text{current}}$ is updated accordingly, and the process continues. Otherwise, when no
 1023 better neighbor exists, the algorithm concludes that a local optimum has been reached and the inner
 1024 loop terminates. After each outer iteration, the current basis is compared with the best basis found
 1025 so far, and the best is updated if necessary. The outer loop repeats this procedure from multiple ran-
 1026 dom initializations, and finally, the best basis across all runs is returned as the approximate global
 1027 optimum.

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Table 2: Model Performance Comparison

LLM	Method	PR \uparrow	AC \downarrow	WA \uparrow	RE	TLE	HR \uparrow
Qwen2.5-7B	Crux	26.86	81.44	16.14	0.89	1.53	18.56
	PSEUDO	9.52	98.86	1.06	0.05	0.04	1.14
	ALGO	12.37	89.61	9.25	0.67	0.46	10.39
	LCB	42.38	52.46	43.69	2.29	1.56	47.54
	HT	58.51	68.78	28.66	1.53	1.03	31.22
Qwen2.5-14B	Crux	29.12	81.22	16.36	1.00	1.42	18.78
	PSEUDO	14.97	93.92	5.30	0.32	0.46	6.08
	ALGO	19.82	86.91	11.82	0.71	0.56	13.09
	LCB	49.71	49.65	46.63	2.17	1.55	50.35
	HT	70.79	64.23	33.83	1.29	0.64	35.77
Qwen2.5-Coder-7B	Crux	33.13	80.53	17.15	1.15	1.18	19.47
	PSEUDO	16.49	88.65	10.31	0.55	0.50	11.35
	ALGO	14.27	92.80	6.62	0.40	0.17	7.20
	LCB	41.94	57.83	39.02	1.92	1.23	42.17
	HT	71.02	78.08	20.47	0.97	0.48	21.92
Qwen2.5-Coder-14B	Crux	26.18	81.27	16.44	1.05	1.24	18.73
	PSEUDO	10.32	95.46	4.16	0.28	0.10	4.54
	ALGO	27.92	95.45	4.20	0.22	0.13	4.55
	LCB	51.87	46.05	49.95	2.34	1.66	53.95
	HT	73.07	68.45	29.75	1.21	0.58	31.55

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A.3 MAIN RESULTS

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The Usage of Correct Code is a Performance Watershed. Across nearly all models, methods that rely on correct code (LCB, HT) significantly outperform those that do not (CRUX, PSEUDO, ALGO) on HackRate. Although methods like PSEUDO and ALGO attempt to ensure correctness by having the LLM generate its own solution (or even a simpler brute-force one), the success of this process is constrained by the LLMs’ own problem-solving capabilities. When the model generates an incorrect solution, it not only fails to generate complex test cases, but even simple ones are filtered out due to incorrect outputs. All this leads to a low PassRate, which in turn severely impacts the Hackrate. Their performance is sometimes even worse than the simplest CRUX method.

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Performance Gains Primarily Come From WA. Through a fine-grained analysis of exclusion reasons, we find that the primary performance gain from advanced methods with specific edge case generators, such as LCB and HT, comes from a significantly improved WA exclusion rate. For error types like RE and TLE, scores do not show a significant gap compared to simpler methods like CRUX. This suggests that the core advantage of current SOTA methods lies in generating ingenious test cases that probe for algorithmic logic flaws. Crafting test cases that effectively trigger robustness failures may be a different, and perhaps a more difficult challenge.

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Implementation Details Significantly Impact Final Performance. Although the five methods are conceptually progressive, specific implementation details, such as prompts and pipelines, can cause substantial performance variations. The concepts of ALGO and PSEUDO are similar, but ALGO simplifies the task by asking the model to generate a simpler brute-force solution. However, PSEUDO often outperforms ALGO because it generates 10 solutions and uses a majority vote, whereas ALGO generates only one. Similarly, although HT adds an input validator over LCB, it underperforms on most models. We attribute this to implementation choices, such as allowing the edge case generator to return empty and providing simpler few-shot examples, which may lead the model to “get lazy” and produce less complex test cases.

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A.4 TEST TIME SCALING

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To investigate the quantitative impact of increasing the number of test cases, we conduct a scaling experiment. For each problem, we used its rank R' as the base number of test cases (1x) and proportionally scaled this number up to 5x, observing the trend in HackRate.

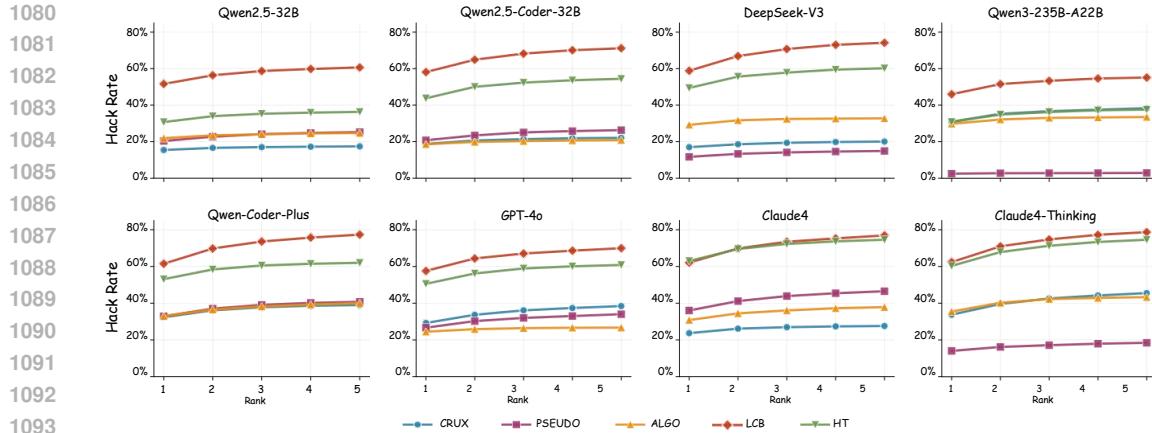


Figure 5: Results of test case scaling for each model and method. The x-axis represents the number of test cases, scaled as multiples of the problem’s rank from 1x to 5x.

The addition of test cases exhibits significant diminishing returns. As shown in Figure 5, the gain from scaling from 1x to 2x is the most significant across all combinations. As the number increases from 3x to 5x, the performance curves generally begin to flatten, or even saturate. This suggests that blindly and massively increasing the number of test cases is an inefficient strategy. After covering the regular error patterns, additional test cases are likely just re-validating known failures rather than uncovering new, deeper defects.

The relative performance ranking among methods remains highly stable across all scales. Crucially, this experiment validates the effectiveness of setting the base number of test case as the problem’s rank R' . While increasing the number of test cases does improve HackRate, the performance curves for each method almost never intersect. For instance, for Deepseek-V3 and GPT-4o, the five methods are well-separated. This stability demonstrates that TC-Bench, is already an efficient and reliable benchmark for differentiating the performance of various test case generation methods. It successfully captures the core discriminative power of different methods without incurring the high computational cost of scaling.

The core conclusions from our main experiments demonstrate good scale-invariance. Finally, this scaling experiment further reinforces the core findings from our main experiments. For example, the performance gap between methods that rely on correct code (LCB, HT) and those that do not remains significant at all test case scales. Similarly, the impact of methodology continues to outweigh that of the base model.

A.5 COMMON FAILURE

To better understand the causes behind low scores, we conducted a qualitative analysis of failed generations and identified three major systematic shortcomings.

Task Confusion and Instruction-Following Failures When prompted to generate test cases, many LLMs instead output complete solutions to the problem. This issue is particularly common when both test cases and solutions are requested together. We hypothesize that this stems from the infrequency of test-case generation tasks in training data and weakened instruction-following ability after long-cot training (Fu et al., 2025b). DeepSeek-R1 exhibited this issue most severely. As shown in Figure 6, within CRUX and PSEUDO, 74% and 60% of its outputs, respectively, are direct solution code rather than valid test cases. Among the remaining outputs, many are unusable due to formatting errors, such as embedding executable code inside JSON. Because the extractable test cases are too few, R1 is excluded from the main experiments. This finding highlights that successful test-case generation requires not only strong reasoning ability, but also precise task comprehension and robust formatting control.

```

1134
1135     ````json
1136     {
1137         "test_case_0": "7\n1 1 2 1 4 6\n5\n3 4 6\n1
1138         5 7\n1 2 4\n1 2 6\n1 3 5",
1139     ...
1140
1141     ( a ) Standard CRUX Response
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"test_case_9": "300000\n" +
"join(str(max(1, i-10)) for i in range(1,
300000)) + "\n300000\n" + "\n".join(f"1 {i}
{i+2}" for i in range(2, 300002))"

```

```

arr =[0] *n_val
arr_str = " ".join(map(str, arr))
op_lines = []
for j in range(n_val):
    op_lines.append(f"1 {n_val} {j}")
test_cases["test_case_5"] =
=f"\n{n_val}\n{arr_str}\n" + "\n".join(op_lines)

```

(b) Generate Testcase-Code



To solve this problem, we need to determine the number of players observed by each observer placed at different nodes in a tree. Each player starts at their respective starting node and moves along the shortest path to their destination node at a speed of one edge per second. An observer at node (j) observes players who arrive exactly at (W_j) seconds. The solution involves efficiently counting the players who pass through each node (j) at exactly (W_j) seconds.

Solution Code

```

```python
import sys
sys.setrecursionlimit(500000)

```

```

def main():
 data = sys.stdin.read().split()
 if not data:
 return


```

Not TestCase but Solution Code

( c ) Direct Solution Code



Figure 6: The figure shows the errors that occur in the direct generation of Testcases by models like R1, using the CRUX and PRESUDO algorithms. Subfigure (a) shows the normal output, subfigure (b) demonstrates the insertion of generated code or direct responses in the form of Testcase code within a string, and subfigure (c) shows the model not following the Testcase generation instructions and instead directly providing the solution.

**Lack of Resource-Aware Generation** Many problems require test cases at large boundary conditions. As shown in Figure 7 a, we observe that numerous methods attempt to construct overly large inputs (e.g., huge graph structures), leading to out-of-memory crashes or timeouts during execution. This reveals a deeper limitation: while LLMs are proficient in generating algorithmic logic, they lack awareness of physical execution constraints such as memory and runtime. A robust test-case generation pipeline must therefore incorporate mechanisms like input partitioning or streaming to adapt to limited system resources.

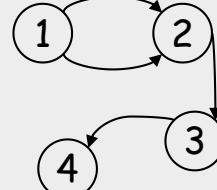
```

m_values =[1, 10, 100, 1000, 50000]
max_courses_values =[1, 5, 10, 100, 1000]
max_credits_values =[1, 2, 3]
max_effort_values =[1, 50, 100, 200]

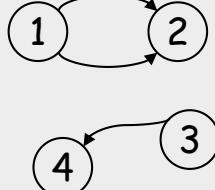
for m in m_values:
 for max_courses in max_courses_values:
 for max_credits in max_credits_values:
 for max_effort in max_effort_values:
 construct_inputs()

```

( a ) Example of Memory Explosion



( b ) Valid Testcase

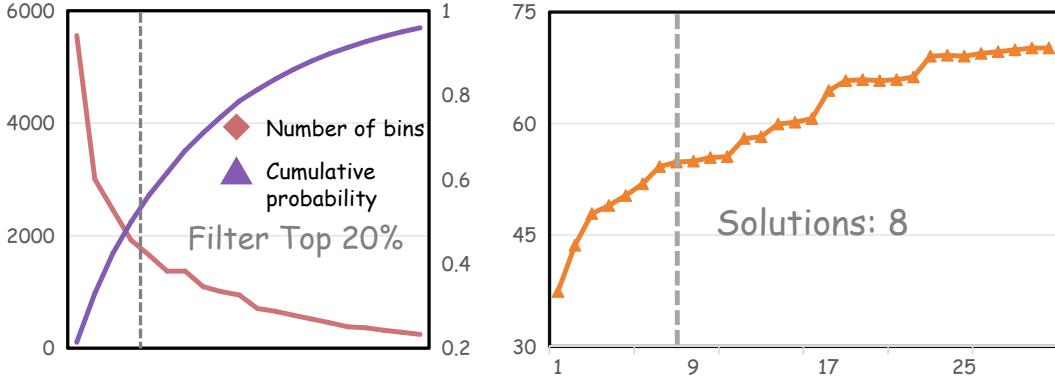


( c ) Invalid Generated by LLM

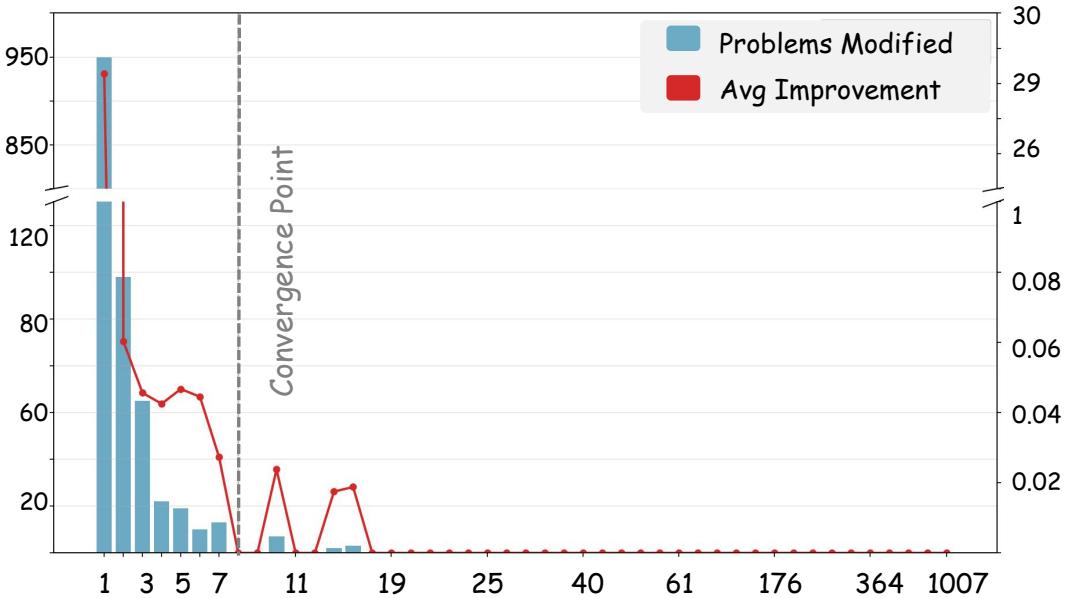
Figure 7: Subfigure a shows that the memory explosion is caused by the model constructing an excessively large number of functions during case generation. Subfigure b, c presents a failed case where the model fails to construct a connected graph as required. The task specifies that all node 1 instances must be able to reach node n, but the constructed graph does not satisfy this connectivity condition.

1188  
 1189 **Failure to Construct Required Complex Data Structures** Some problems in our benchmark  
 1190 admit only test cases with highly constrained structures. As shown in Figure 7 b, c, in one problem,  
 1191 every valid input must be a specific type of connected graph. However, none of the tested methods  
 1192 successfully produced even a single valid input. As a result, these problems ended up with zero  
 1193 usable test cases. This underscores that generating high-difficulty test cases can be as challeng-  
 1194 ing as solving an algorithmic problem, requiring a deep understanding of both data structures and  
 1195 algorithms.

1196 **A.6 RESULTS OF SUPPLEMENTARY EXPERIMENTS**



1211  
 1212 Figure 8: The left subplot shows the interval count statistics and cumulative probability curve of the  
 1213 time-normalized correct answers. In the right subplot, the Hackrate continuously increases as the  
 1214 number of correct answers increases.



1236 Figure 9: The heuristic algorithm we designed converges at the eighth turn.  
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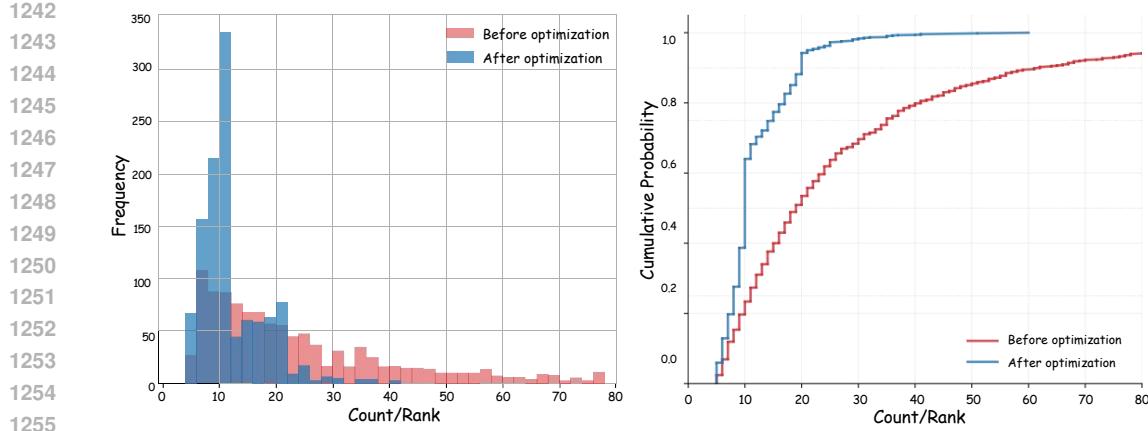


Figure 10: Distribution of the number of WCs per problem before and after the WrongSelect. The histogram (left) compares the initial count of WCs against the rank (i.e., the final count of WCs). The cumulative distribution function (CDF) on the right further illustrates this shift. The results demonstrate a dramatic reduction in the number of required codes, highlighting the compactness and efficiency of our resulting benchmark.

#### A.7 THE USE OF LARGE LANGUAGE MODELS (LLMs)

This article utilizes large language models (LLM) solely for writing refinement and graphic enhancement, with no other applications or purposes involved.

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## B APPENDIX B

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## B.1 BENCHMARK CONSTRUCTION

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This section will detail the process involved in constructing the dataset, including the repairing of Wrong Codes, operations related to the clarity of problem statements, and statistical data.

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## B.1.1 WRONG CODE

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**Code Cleaning** After processing the wrong codes in Section 2.3, for all retained wrong codes, we used public test cases for testing. For all execution results such as CE, TLE, MLE, EXE, as well as codes that resulted in WA but with empty outputs, manual fixes and reviews were performed. As shown in Figure 11, (a) illustrates a piece of unusable file operation code, in which the script does not include the definitions of Fin and Fout. For this type of code, we removed the corresponding file operations. The error in (b) arises because the unistd.h library already defines a function named *link\_array*, which conflicts with the array *link\_array* defined in the code. (c) presents an example of incomplete code that requires manual supplementation. To ensure consistency between the original and the corrected code, after making modifications we tested the code using private test cases, with the requirement that the test results remain consistent with the crawled results.

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```
il void FILEIO(){
 #ifdef intLSY
 Fin("in.in");
 #endif
}
il void FILEIO(string pname){
 #ifndef intLSY
 Fin((pname+".in").c_str());
 Fout((pname+".out").c_str());
 #endif
}
il void FILEIO_OICONTEST(string pname){
 Fin((pname+".in").c_str());
 #ifndef intLSY
 Fout((pname+".out").c_str());
 #endif
}
```

1316

Undeclared function: *Fin*, *Fout*

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(a) Unavailable file operation

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Figure 11: (a), (b), and (c) respectively present three examples that we encountered when repairing Wrong Code.

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# include&lt;unistd.h&gt;

int ch[maxn&lt;&lt;1][26], link\_array[maxn&lt;&lt;1]

extern intlink\_array(intoldfd, const char \*oldpath,  
intnewfd, const char \*newpath, intflags);

(b) Standard library name conflict

```
int main()
{
 n=qread(),m=qread();
 for(int i =1; i <=n; i++)
 {
 int cnt;
 cnt=qread();
```

Manually complete the code

(c) Incomplete code

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## B.1.2 PROBLEM DESCRIPTION

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Regarding the problem statement processing in Section 2.3, this subsection provides detailed examples and explanations for problems that heavily rely on images and Special Judge problems.

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For problem statements that rely on image-based understanding, such as Stars (see image in reference Figure 12), the problem includes an image that is necessary for understanding in order to generate test cases or solve the problem. We manually reviewed this type of problem statement, filtered out the problems where images affected the understanding of the question, and deleted them. In this step, we deleted a total of 71 problems.

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## Star

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There are some stars in the sky, each with a different position, and each star has a coordinate. If a star has  $k$  stars in its lower-left (including directly left and directly below), we say that this star is of level  $k$ .

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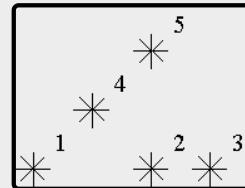
1369

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1371

For example, in the image below, star 5 is of level 3 (because stars 1, 2, and 4 are in its lower-left), and stars 2 and 4 are of level 1. In the example image, there is 1 star of level 0, 2 stars of level 1, 1 star of level 2, and 1 star of level 3.

Given the positions of the stars, output the count of stars at each level.



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Figure 12: This is an example of a problem that can only be solved with image understanding.

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The problems with Special Judges involve multiple outputs, answer ranges, and interactive problems. In total, we removed 42 Special Judge problems. Ball Moving Game is an example with multiple solutions, as shown clearly in Figure 13, which illustrates the existence of multiple answers. Problems like Idea also explain that as long as the answer satisfies a certain range, it is acceptable.

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## Ball Moving Game:

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Little C is stuck, but he believes you can solve it. Please provide an operational plan to achieve Little C's goal. There may be multiple valid solutions, and you only need to provide one. The problem guarantees that there is always at least one valid solution.

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## Idea:

For each output file, if more than 95% of the lines have an answer with an error of no more than 25% compared to the correct answer, you will receive a score. The error is considered to be within 25% if, for a correct answer  $X$ , your answer lies within the closed interval  $[0.8X, 1.25X]$ .

Figure 13: The image presents two examples of problems with multiple solutions. In the Ball Moving Game, the same input can lead to various outputs, while in the Idea problem, the output simply needs to fall within a given range.

1404  
 1405 We also selected all interactive problems, such as the one shown in the reference, The Adventure  
 1406 of Lord I, where the problem statement clearly states "*This is an interactive problem.*" This type of  
 1407 problem requires complex interactions and support, making it unfriendly for test case generation.  
 1408

1409     The Adventure of Lord I:  
 1410

1411         **This is an interactive problem.**

1412         During the **evaluation**, the **interactive library** will call the `explore` function exactly once.

1413  
 1414         It is guaranteed that the graph used in this problem is fully determined before the  
 1415 interaction begins and will not be dynamically constructed based on the interactions with  
 1416 your program. Therefore, the interactive operations in the problem are deterministic, and  
 1417 you do not need to worry about the specific implementation of these operations in the  
 1418 interactive library.  
 1419

1420         The data guarantees that the time required for the interactive library to run will not exceed  
 1421 1 second under the given call limits. The memory used by the interactive library is fixed  
 1422 and does not exceed 128MB.  
 1423

1424  
 1425  
 1426  
 1427         Figure 14: The image illustrates an example of an interactive problem, which necessitates specific  
 1428 and intricate interaction checks during evaluation. To streamline the evaluation process, we have  
 1429 removed this part of the problem.  
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 1459     **Example of problem statement cleaning** As shown in Figure15, the following is an example of  
 1460     problem statement cleaning. For demonstration purposes, we have created a sample problem to  
 1461     illustrate the main cleaning tasks. In this process, irrelevant background information is removed,  
 1462     image links and other URLs are discarded, and the phrasing is made smoother. The data range is  
 1463     kept to the most general case. These tasks typically do not follow a universal pattern and require  
 1464     manual inspection. After cleaning the problem statement, we used GPT-4o for translation. In this  
 1465     step, we organized each data entry and deleted 15 problems that were difficult to handle. Then  
 1466     each translation was semantically proofread and certain inappropriate expressions were adjusted for  
 1467     accuracy. The final processed problem statement can be found in next page

1467

1468

1469     Tour de Byteotia



## 1 Markdown Format

1470     Background:

### # Tour de Byteotia

1471     In the depths of a distant universe, there exists a kingdom surrounded by stars and  
 1472     brilliance—"The Kingdom of Stars." This kingdom is home to countless magical scholars  
 1473     who explore mysterious stellar trajectories and intertwined fates. One day, the scholars  
 1474     discovered an ancient prophecy foretelling that a broken constellation would bring about  
 1475     the end of the world. Only by gathering five lost stellar gems can this disaster be prevented.  
 1476     And you, the chosen hero, bear the heavy responsibility of changing fate.

1477     Problem Description:

### 2 Remove Irrelevant Message

1478     Given an undirected graph with  $n$  vertices and  $m$  edges, determine the minimum number of  
 1479     edges to remove so that vertices numbered less than or equal to  $k$  do not appear on any  
 1480     simple cycle.

1481     Input Format:

1482     The first line contains three integers  $n$ ,  $m$ , and  $k$ , representing  $n$  nodes,  $m$  edges, and  $k$  as  
 1483     described in the problem statement.

1484     Output Format:

1485     The first line contains one integer representing the minimum number of edges to be  
 1486     removed;

1487     The following lines each output two positive integers  $a, b$ , representing the removal of the  
 1488     edge between  $a$  and  $b$ . Output the vertex with the smaller number first, then the vertex  
 1489     with the larger number.

1490     Sample:

### 3 ADD Sample

1491     Input:

1492     Output:

### 4 Remove Fig, URL, HTML

1493     

1495     Constraints and Hints:

### 5 General Description

1496     For 40% of the data,  $n \leq 1000, m \leq 5000$ .

1497     For all data,  $1 \leq n \leq 1,000,000, 0 \leq m \leq 2,000,000, 1 \leq k \leq n, 1 \leq u < v \leq n$ .

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Figure 15: To facilitate demonstration, we constructed an example of problem-statement cleaning, in which the common cleaning procedures are integrated.

```

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1513 Final problem statement:
1514 # Tour de Byteotia
1515
1516 ## Problem Description
1517
1518 Given an undirected graph with n vertices and m edges,
1519 \hookrightarrow determine the minimum number of edges that need to be removed
1520 \hookrightarrow so that all vertices with indices less than or equal to k
1521 \hookrightarrow are not part of any simple cycle.
1522
1523 ## Input Format
1524
1525 The first line contains three integers n , m , and k ,
1526 \hookrightarrow representing the number of vertices, the number of edges, and
1527 \hookrightarrow the significance of k as described in the problem
1528 \hookrightarrow statement.
1529
1530 The next m lines each contain two integers u and v ,
1531 \hookrightarrow indicating a bidirectional edge between u and v . There is
1532 \hookrightarrow at most one edge between any pair of vertices.
1533
1534 ## Output Format
1535
1536 The first line contains an integer k , representing the minimum
1537 \hookrightarrow number of edges to be removed.
1538
1539 The next k lines each contain two positive integers a and b ,
1540 \hookrightarrow indicating the removal of an edge between a and b . Output
1541 \hookrightarrow the vertex with the smaller index first, followed by the
1542 \hookrightarrow vertex with the larger index.
1543
1544 ## Examples
1545
1546 #### Input:
1547 11 13 5
1548 1 2
1549 1 3
1550 1 5
1551 3 5
1552 2 8
1553 2 8
1554 4 11
1555 7 11
1556 6 10
1557 6 9
1558 2 3
1559 8 9
1560 5 9
1561 9 10
1562
1563 #### Output:
1564 3
1565 2 3
1566 5 9
1567 3 5
1568
1569 ## Data Range and Hints
1570 For all data, $1 \leq n \leq 1,000,000$, $0 \leq m \leq 2,000,000$, $1 \leq k \leq n$, $1 \leq u < v \leq n$.
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```

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## C CASE STUDY

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To demonstrate the practical effectiveness of our method, we conduct a case study on “Sliding Window”, a classic problem requiring the Monotonic Queue algorithm. The problem involves an integer array of length  $N(\leq 10^6)$  and a window of size  $K(\leq 10^6)$ . The window slides from the leftmost to the rightmost of the array, moving one position at a time. The goal is to determine the maximum and minimum values within the window at each step. The output requires two lines: the sequence of minimums followed by the sequence of maximums.

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The optimal solution employs a Monotonic Queue to achieve a time complexity of  $O(N)$ . Specifically, to calculate the maximums, we maintain a monotonically decreasing queue that stores array indices. As we iterate through each element in the array, we first pop the elements at the back of the queue if their corresponding values are less than or equal to the current element. This is because these smaller and older elements can never serve as the maximum for future windows. Next, the current index is pushed to the back. Then, the front of the queue is popped if its index is out of the current window scope. Finally, the value corresponding to the index at the front of the queue represents the maximum of the current window. The minimums are calculated analogously by maintaining a monotonically increasing queue. The standard solution is shown below.

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1584

## Standard Solution

```
#include<bits/stdc++.h>
using namespace std;
int n , a[1000005] , k ;
deque<int>q ;
int main() {
 cin >> n >> k ;
 for (int i = 1 ; i <= n ; i++) {
 cin >> a[i] ;
 }
 for (int i = 1 ; i <= n ; i++) {
 while(!q.empty() && a[i] < a[q.back()]) {
 q.pop_back() ;
 }
 q.push_back(i) ;
 if(q.front() < i - k + 1) {
 q.pop_front() ;
 }
 if(i >= k) cout << a[q.front()] << " " ;
 }
 cout << endl ;
 q.clear() ;
 for (int i = 1 ; i <= n ; i++) {
 while(!q.empty() && a[i] > a[q.back()]) {
 q.pop_back() ;
 }
 q.push_back(i) ;
 if(q.front() < i - k + 1) {
 q.pop_front() ;
 }
 if(i >= k) cout << a[q.front()] << " " ;
 }
}
```

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Initially, this problem involves 96 Wrong Codes (WCs). After applying WrongSelect, only 8 basic WCs are retained. Their failure signatures are presented below:

## C.1 BASIC WRONG CODES

We meticulously analyze the retained Basic WCs and characterize their underlying error patterns.

1635 Basic WC1 fails due to insufficient memory allocation for the queue array, where the size is set to  
1636 510,000 instead of the required 1,000,010.

### Basic WC1 (0000000110)

```
1639 #include<cstdio>
1640 #include<cstring>
1641 using namespace std;
1642 struct node {
1643 int x,p;
1644 }
1645 list1[510000],list2[510000];// Should expand 510000 to 1010000
1646 int a[510000],n,m;
1647 int main() {
1648 scanf("%d%d",&n,&m);
1649 for (int i=1;i<=n;i++) scanf("%d",&a[i]);
1650 int head=1,tail=1;
1651 list1[1].x=a[1];
1652 list1[1].p=1;
1653 for (int i=2;i<=n;i++) {
1654 while(head<=tail&&i-list1[head].p>=m) head++;
1655 while(head<=tail&&list1[tail].x>=a[i]) tail--;
1656 list1[++tail].x=a[i],list1[tail].p=i;
1657 if(i>=m)printf("%d ",list1[head].x);
1658 }
1659 printf("\n");
1660 head=1,tail=1;
1661 list2[1].x=a[1];
1662 list2[1].p=1;
1663 for (int i=2;i<=n;i++) {
1664 while(head<=tail&&i-list2[head].p>=m) head++;
1665 while(head<=tail&&list2[tail].x<=a[i]) tail--;
1666 list2[++tail].x=a[i],list2[tail].p=i;
1667 if(i>=m)printf("%d ",list2[head].x);
1668 }
1669 }
```

1674 Basic WC2 exhibits an incorrect order of operations where the answer is retrieved before updating  
 1675 the tail with the current element, causing the current element to be ignored in every window.  
 1676

1677 **Basic WC2 (1111001111)**

```

1678
1679 #include<bits/stdc++.h>
1680 #define ll long long
1681 #define inf 2139062143
1682 #define MAXN 1001000
1683 using namespace std;
1684 inline int read() {
1685 int x=0, f=1;
1686 char ch=getchar();
1687 while(!isdigit(ch)) {
1688 if(ch=='-') f=-1;
1689 ch=getchar();
1690 }
1691 while(isdigit(ch)) {
1692 x=x*10+ch-'0', ch=getchar();
1693 }
1694 return x*f;
1695 }
1696 int n, m, q[MAXN][2], hd[2], tl[2], a[MAXN], ans[MAXN][2];
1697 int main() {
1698 n=read(), m=read();
1699 hd[0]=hd[1]=1;
1700 for (int i=1; i<=n; i++) {
1701 a[i]=read();
1702 while(hd[0]<=tl[0] && q[hd[0]][0]<=i-m) hd[0]++;
1703 // Swap the order of yellow and red.
1704 ans[i][0]=a[q[hd[0]][0]];
1705 while(hd[0]<=tl[0] && a[q[tl[0]][0]]>=a[i]) tl[0]--;
1706 q[++tl[0]]=i;
1707 while(hd[1]<=tl[1] && q[hd[1]][1]<=i-m) hd[1]++;
1708 // Swap the order of yellow and red.
1709 ans[i][1]=a[q[hd[1]][1]];
1710 while(hd[1]<=tl[1] && a[q[tl[1]][1]]<=a[i]) tl[1]--;
1711 q[++tl[1]]=i;
1712 }
1713 for (int i=m; i<n; i++) printf("%d ", ans[i][0]);
1714 printf("%d\n", ans[n][0]);
1715 for (int i=m; i<n; i++) printf("%d ", ans[i][1]);
1716 printf("%d", ans[n][1]);
1717 }
1718
1719
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```

1728  
 1729      Distinct from the queue error in Basic WC1, Basic WC3 allocates insufficient memory for the input  
 1730      array using a size of  $10^5$  rather than the required  $10^6$ .

1731      **Basic WC3 (0000001000)**  
 1732  
 1733      **#include<bits/stdc++.h>**  
 1734      **using namespace std;**  
 1735      **int n,k;**  
 1736      **int tail,front;**  
 1737      **struct node {**  
 1738          **int pos,val;**  
 1739      **}**  
 1740      **q[100000010];**  
 1741      **int a[100010]; // 100010 -> 1000010**  
 1742      **int main() {**  
 1743          **scanf("%d%d",&n,&k);**  
 1744          **for (int i=1;i<=n;i++) {**  
 1745              **scanf("%d",&a[i]);**  
 1746          **}**  
 1747          **front=1;**  
 1748          **tail=1;**  
 1749          **q[1].val=a[1];**  
 1750          **q[1].pos=1;**  
 1751          **for (int i=2;i<=n;i++) {**  
 1752              **while (tail>=front && q[tail].val>=a[i]) tail--;**  
 1753              **q[++tail].val=a[i];**  
 1754              **q[tail].pos=i;**  
 1755              **while (q[tail].pos-q[front].pos+1>k) front++;**  
 1756              **if (i>=k) cout<<q[front].val<< " ";**  
 1757          **}**  
 1758          **cout<<endl;**  
 1759          **front=1;**  
 1760          **tail=1;**  
 1761          **q[1].val=a[1];**  
 1762          **q[1].pos=1;**  
 1763          **for (int i=2;i<=n;i++) {**  
 1764              **while (tail>=front && q[tail].val<=a[i]) tail--;**  
 1765              **q[++tail].val=a[i];**  
 1766              **q[tail].pos=i;**  
 1767              **while (q[tail].pos-q[front].pos+1>k) front++;**  
 1768              **if (i>=k) cout<<q[front].val<< " ";**  
 1769          **}**  
 1770          **}**

1771  
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 1781

1782 Basic WC4 contains a subtle logic error in queue maintenance by performing an unnecessary and  
 1783 erroneous comparison with the head element while updating the tail. This additional operation pre-  
 1784 vents current elements from entering the queue, causing the queue to potentially become empty  
 1785 during the sliding process. In this state, accessing `q1.top()` triggers undefined behavior, retriev-  
 1786 ing residual garbage data from the underlying memory address.

1787

1788

**Basic WC4 (0001001011)**

```

1789 #include <bits/stdc++.h>
1790 using namespace std;
1791 struct node {
1792 int x,bh;
1793 friend bool operator < (node x,node y) {return x.x>y.x; }
1794 } a[1000001];
1795 struct node1 {
1796 int x,bh;
1797 friend bool operator < (node1 x,node1 y) {return x.x<y.x; }
1798 } a2[1000001];
1799 priority_queue<node> q1;
1800 priority_queue<node1> q2;
1801 int n,k;
1802 inline int read() {...}
1803 inline void write(int x) {...}
1804 int main() {
1805 int i;
1806 n=read();
1807 k=read();
1808 int tail=2;
1809 int head=k+1;
1810 for (i=1;i<=n;i++) a[i].x=a2[i].x=read(),a[i].bh=a2[i].bh=
1811 ↪ i;
1812 for (i=1;i<=k;i++) q1.push(a[i]),q2.push(a2[i]);
1813 write(q1.top().x);
1814 printf(" ");
1815 for (;head<=n;tail++,head++) {
1816 while(q1.top().bh<tail && !q1.empty()) q1.pop();
1817 // remove
1818 if(q1.top().x>=a[head].x) q1.push(a[head]);
1819 write(q1.top().x);
1820 printf(" ");
1821 }
1822 printf("\n");
1823 tail=2;
1824 head=k+1;
1825 write(q2.top().x);
1826 printf(" ");
1827 for (;head<=n;tail++,head++) {
1828 while(q2.top().bh<tail && !q2.empty()) q2.pop();
1829 // remove
1830 if(q2.top().x<=a[head].x) q2.push(a2[head]);
1831 write(q2.top().x);
1832 printf(" ");
1833 }
1834 }
```

1835

1836 Basic WC5 represents a scope error where the head and tail pointers of the queue are incorrectly  
 1837 re-initialized inside the loop.  
 1838

```

1839 Basic WC5 (0001000010)
1840
1841 #include <stdio.h>
1842 #include <stdlib.h>
1843 #define Z 1000001
1844 int main() {
1845 int i,le=0,ri=1;
1846 int m,n;
1847 int *da=(int*)malloc(sizeof(int)*Z);
1848 int *max=(int*)malloc(sizeof(int)*Z);
1849 int *min=(int*)malloc(sizeof(int)*Z);
1850 int *id=(int*)malloc(sizeof(int)*Z);
1851 scanf("%d",&m);
1852 scanf("%d",&n);
1853 for (i=1;i<=m;i++) {
1854 scanf("%d",&da[i]);
1855 }
1856 for (i=1;i<=m;i++) {
1857 while(le<=ri&&da[i]<min[ri]) {
1858 ri--;
1859 }
1860 ri++;
1861 min[ri]=da[i];
1862 id[ri]=i;
1863 if(id[le]+n<=i) {
1864 le++;
1865 }
1866 if(i>=n) {
1867 printf("%d ",min[le]);
1868 }
1869 }
1870 printf("\n");
1871 for (i=1;i<=m;i++) {
1872 le=0; // Move outside the loop
1873 ri=1;
1874 while(le<=ri&&da[i]>max[ri]) {
1875 ri--;
1876 }
1877 ri++;
1878 max[ri]=da[i];
1879 id[ri]=i;
1880 if(id[le]+n<=i) {
1881 le++;
1882 }
1883 if(i>=n) {
1884 printf("%d ",max[le]);
1885 }
1886 }
1887 return 0;
1888 }
1889

```

1890 Basic WC6 attempts a Sparse Table (ST) optimization but fails due to an implementation error where  
 1891 the allocated table size is too small for the problem constraints.  
 1892

1893 **Basic WC6 (0000010101)**

1894

```
#include<bits/stdc++.h>
using namespace std;
const int N = 1e6;
int st[N][18], a[N], p[N]; // 18 -> 20
int maxx[N], minn[N];
int n, k, le, ri;
void init() {
 for (int j = 1; j < 18; j++)
 for (int i = 1; i <=n&& i + (1 << j) - 1 <=n; ++i)
 st[i][j] = max(st[i][j - 1], st[i + (1 << j - 1)][j - 1]);
}
void init1() {
 for (int j = 1; j < 18; j++)
 for (int i = 1; i <=n&& i + (1 << j) - 1 <=n; ++i)
 st[i][j] = min(st[i][j - 1], st[i + (1 << j - 1)][j - 1]);
}
int rmq(int l, int r) {
 int d = r - l + 1;
 return max(st[l][p[d]], st[r - (1 << p[d]) + 1][p[d]]);
}
int rmql(int l, int r) {
 int d = r - l + 1;
 return min(st[l][p[d]], st[r - (1 << p[d]) + 1][p[d]]);
}
int main() {
 scanf("%d%d", &n, &k);
 for (int i = 1; i <=n; i++) {
 scanf("%d", &a[i]);
 st[i][0] = a[i];
 }
 init1();
 for (int i = 1; i <=n; i++) {
 p[i] = p[i-1];
 if(i == 1 << p[i] + 1)
 ++p[i];
 }
 for (int i = 1; i <=n - k + 1; i++)
 minn[i] = rmql(i, i + k - 1);
 for (int i = 1; i <=n - k + 1; i++)
 cout<<minn[i]<<" ";
 printf("\n");
}
```

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1943

1944 Basic WC7 attempts to fix the boundary error seen in Basic WC6 by incrementing the Sparse Table  
 1945 size by 1, yet it remains insufficient for the maximum constraint.  
 1946

1947 **Basic WC7 (0000000100)**

```

1948 #include<bits/stdc++.h>
1949 using namespace std;
1950 const int N = 1e6;
1951 int st[N][19], a[N], p[N]; // 19 -> 20
1952 int maxx[N], minn[N];
1953 int n, k, le, ri;
1954 void init() {
1955 for (int j = 1; j < 19; j++)
1956 for (int i = 1; i <= n && i + (1 << j) - 1 <= n; ++i)
1957 st[i][j] = max(st[i][j - 1], st[i + (1 << j - 1)][j - 1]);
1958 }
1959 void init1() {
1960 for (int j = 1; j < 19; j++)
1961 for (int i = 1; i <= n && i + (1 << j) - 1 <= n; ++i)
1962 st[i][j] = min(st[i][j - 1], st[i + (1 << j - 1)][j - 1]);
1963 }
1964 int rmq(int l, int r) {
1965 int d = r - l + 1;
1966 return max(st[l][p[d]], st[r - (1 << p[d]) + 1][p[d]]);
1967 }
1968 int rmq1(int l, int r) {
1969 int d = r - l + 1;
1970 return min(st[l][p[d]], st[r - (1 << p[d]) + 1][p[d]]);
1971 }
1972 int main() {
1973 scanf("%d%d", &n, &k);
1974 for (int i = 1; i <= n; i++) {
1975 scanf("%d", &a[i]);
1976 st[i][0] = a[i];
1977 }
1978 init1();
1979 for (int i = 1; i <= n; i++) {
1980 p[i] = p[i - 1];
1981 if (i == 1 << p[i] + 1)
1982 ++p[i];
1983 }
1984 for (int i = 1; i <= n - k + 1; i++)
1985 minn[i] = rmq1(i, i + k - 1);
1986 for (int i = 1; i <= n - k + 1; i++)
1987 cout << minn[i] << " ";
1988 printf("\n");
1989 init();
1990 for (int i = 1; i <= n; i++) {
1991 st[i][0] = a[i];
1992 for (int i = 1; i <= n - k + 1; i++)
1993 maxx[i] = rmq(i, i + k - 1);
1994 for (int i = 1; i <= n - k + 1; i++)
1995 cout << maxx[i] << " ";
1996 }
1997 }
```

1998 Basic WC8 incorrectly updates the head pointer instead of the tail pointer during the first element’s  
 1999 insertion. Additionally, it omits the insertion of the first element when initializing the second queue.  
 2000

2001

2002 **Basic WC8 (1100000000)**

```

2003 #include<bits/stdc++.h>
2004 using namespace std;
2005 const int N=1e6+3;
2006 int n,k;
2007 int a[N];
2008 int h=0,t=-1;
2009 int q[N];
2010 int main() {
2011 cin>>n>>k;
2012 for (int i=1;i<=n;i++) {
2013 cin>>a[i];
2014 }
2015 q[++h]=1; // q[++t]=1
2016 for (int i=2;i<=n;i++) {
2017 while(i-k+1>q[h]&&h<=t) h++;
2018 while(h<=t&&a[i]<=a[q[t]]) --t;
2019 q[++t]=i;
2020 if(i>=k) cout<<a[q[h]]<<" ";
2021 }
2022 cout<<endl;
2023 h=0,t=-1;
2024 // add q[++t]=1
2025 for (int i=2;i<=n;i++) {
2026 while(i-k+1>q[h]&&h<=t) h++;
2027 while(h<=t&&a[i]>=a[q[t]]) --t;
2028 q[++t]=i;
2029 if(i>=k) cout<<a[q[h]]<<" ";
2030 }
2031 return 0;
2032 }
2033

```

2034 The eight Basic WCs effectively map to the specific requirements of data structures and algorithms  
 2035 inherent to this problem. These error patterns include resource allocation for different variables, as  
 2036 well as the position, order, and conditions for queue initialization and maintenance.

2037 On one hand, Basic WCs cover boundary constraints across different variables and granularities. For  
 2038 instance, Basic WC3 represents a resource error in the *input array* while Basic WC1, Basic WC6,  
 2039 and Basic WC7 target the queue. Specifically, the internal hierarchy among Basic WC1, Basic  
 2040 WC6, and Basic WC7 introduces a tiered validation mechanism. A less advanced test case gener-  
 2041 ator, which could produce medium-scale inputs but struggles with maximum constraints, can still  
 2042 identify Basic WC1 and receive partial credit. This effectively avoids the “all-or-nothing” scoring  
 2043 trap, ensuring that the benchmark gives non-zero scores to generators that possess intermediate ca-  
 2044 pabilities. Conversely, only top-tier generators that hit the absolute maximum boundary can exclude  
 2045 all these Basic WCs to achieve a perfect score.

2046 On the other hand, the basis preserves logic specificities. Basic WC5 incorrectly re-initializes queue  
 2047 pointers inside the loop, causing the state of the sliding window to be lost at every iteration. To  
 2048 expose this, the test case generator must produce inputs where the window’s extremum is deter-  
 2049 mined by a historical element rather than the current one, verifying the persistence of the queue.  
 2050 Basic WC8 exhibits dual failures, specifically on the first element’s insertion and the second queue’s  
 2051 initialization. This forces the generator to produce edge cases where the first element is the strict  
 maximum or minimum for the initial windows. By retaining these basic error patterns, TC-Bench

2052 ensures that the evaluation reflects a model’s ability to cover the entire spectrum of the solution  
 2053 space.  
 2054

2055 **C.2 EXCLUDED WRONG CODES**  
 2056

2057 Following the analysis of the Basic WCs, we proceed to examine the Excluded WCs to verify  
 2058 whether their error patterns are effectively encapsulated by the basis. We select Excluded WC1  
 2059 as a representative example, whose failure signature is reconstructed by the combination of Basic  
 2060 WC8 and Basic WC4. Excluded WC1 exhibits a classic Off-by-one boundary error. During the  
 2061 sliding process, the code fails to timely pop the element exiting the window, causing the queue to  
 2062 retain invalid, expired data throughout both the initialization and maintenance phases. Crucially, this  
 2063 composite behavior is spanned by the basis. Basic WC8 precisely mirrors the initialization failure,  
 2064 as it retains stale data from the first queue due to a missing head pointer update. Meanwhile, Basic  
 2065 WC4 captures the maintenance failure, where additional comparison causes the queue to become  
 2066 empty. In this state, accessing the queue retrieves residual garbage data from memory. Together,  
 2067 these underlying mechanisms fully cover the error pattern of Excluded WC1.  
 2068

Basic WC8 : 1 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
Basic WC4 : 0 0 0 1 0 0 1 0 1 1
Excluded WC1 : 1 1 0 1 0 0 1 0 1 1

2072 **Excluded WC1 (1101001011)**  
 2073

```

2074 #include<bits/stdc++.h>
2075 using namespace std;
2076 const int N=1000005;
2077 int a,b;
2078 int g[N], num[N], q[N], f1[N], f2[N];
2079 int main() {
2080 scanf("%d%d", &a, &b);
2081 for (int i=1;i<=a;i++) {
2082 scanf("%d", &g[i]);
2083 }
2084 int head=1,tail=1;
2085 for (int i=1;i<=a;i++) {
2086 while(num[head]<i-b &&head<=tail) // i-b+1
2087 head++;
2088 while(g[i]<=q[tail] &&head<=tail) tail--;
2089 num[++tail]=i;
2090 q[tail]=g[i];
2091 f1[i]=q[head];
2092 }
2093 head=1,tail=0;
2094 for (int i=1;i<=a;i++) {
2095 while(num[head]<i-b+1 &&head<=tail) head++;
2096 while(g[i]>=q[tail] &&head<=tail) tail--;
2097 num[++tail]=i;
2098 q[tail]=g[i];
2099 f2[i]=q[head];
2100 }
2101 for (int i=b;i<=a;i++) cout<<f1[i]<< " ";
2102 cout<<endl;
2103 for (int i=b;i<=a;i++) cout<<f2[i]<< " ";
2104 cout<<endl;
2105 return 0;
 }
```

Similarly, we analyze Excluded WC2, whose failure signature corresponds to the combination of Basic WC8 and Basic WC5. Excluded WC2 contains a boundary error in the monotonic queue maintenance. By using the fixed condition  $t_j=1$  instead of the dynamic  $h_j=t$ , the tail pointer can incorrectly decrement past the head pointer, violating the valid window scope and accessing invalid historical data. This error pattern is also effectively spanned by the basis. Basic WC8 captures the initialization failure, where the pointers fail to correctly establish the queue's start (updating head instead of tail), reflecting the error's mishandling of the absolute beginning. Basic WC5 captures the scope maintenance failure, where the queue's dynamic state is ignored (resetting pointers inside the loop), mirroring how Excluded WC2 ignores the dynamic head boundary and corrupts the persistent state.

### **Excluded WC2 (1101000010)**

```
2123 #include<iostream>
2124 #include<cstdio>
2125 #include<cstring>
2126 using namespace std;
2127 const int N=1e6+5;
2128 int n,k,a[N],q[N],p[N];
2129 int main() {
2130 scanf("%d%d",&n,&k);
2131 for (int i=1;i<=n;i++) scanf("%d",&a[i]);
2132 int h=1,t=0;
2133 for (int i=1;i<=n;i++) {
2134 while(q[t]>a[i]&&t>=1) t--;// t>=1 -> h<=t
2135 q[++t]=a[i],p[t]=i;
2136 while(p[h]<i-k+1&&h<=t) h++;
2137 if(i>=k) printf("%d ",q[h]);
2138 }
2139 memset(q,0,sizeof(q));
2140 memset(p,0,sizeof(p));
2141 cout<<endl;
2142 h=1,t=0;
2143 for (int i=1;i<=n;i++) {
2144 while(q[t]<a[i]&&t>=1) t--;// t>=1 -> h<=t
2145 q[++t]=a[i],p[t]=i;
2146 while(p[h]<i-k+1&&h<=t) h++;
2147 if(i>=k) printf("%d ",q[h]);
2148 }
2149 return 0;
2150 }
```

2160    C.3 REPEATED WRONG CODES  
 2161  
 2162

2163    Finally, we verified whether identical failure signatures indeed correspond to semantically equivalent  
 2164    error patterns. We selected a cluster of Repeated WCs sharing the binary signature 00010001110.

2165    We specifically examine the representative example, Repeated WC1, shown below. This code ex-  
 2166    hibits a logic flaw during the queue maintenance phase: when inserting the current integer, the code  
 2167    compares it against the queue head rather than the queue tail. In a monotonic queue, the tail ele-  
 2168    ments must be compared and popped to maintain monotonicity. Comparing against the head (which  
 2169    typically holds the window's extremum) creates an irrelevant condition. Consequently, elements  
 2170    that should have been removed remain in the queue, corrupting the window's state.

2171    We thoroughly inspected other WCs within this same signature cluster. While they exhibit syntactic  
 2172    variations in implementation, we confirm that they all share the exact same root cause: the failure to  
 2173    correctly remove invalid elements due to flawed comparison logic. This confirms that our signature-  
 2174    based grouping effectively captures semantically similar faults. Due to space constraints, only key  
 2175    segments of these Repeated WCs are presented below.

2176  
 2177

2178    **Repeated WC1 (0001001110)**

```

2179
2180 #include<bits/stdc++.h>
2181 #define maxn 1000010
2182 using namespace std;
2183 int pos[maxn], que[maxn];
2184 int n, k;
2185 int a[maxn];
2186 int fminn[maxn], fmaxx[maxn];
2187 void dpmin() {
2188 int h = 1, t = 0;
2189 for (int i = 1; i <= n; i++) {
2190 while (pos[h] < i - k + 1 && h <= t) ++ h;
2191 while (que[t] > a[i] && h <= t) -- t;
2192 que[++t] = a[i], pos[t] = i;
2193 fminn[i] = que[h];
2194 }
2195 void dpmax() {
2196 int h = 1, t = 0;
2197 for (int i = 1; i <= n; i++) {
2198 while (pos[h] < i - k + 1 && h <= t) ++ h;
2199 while (que[h] < a[i] && h <= t) -- t; // q[h] -> q[t]
2200 que[++t] = a[i], pos[t] = i;
2201 fmaxx[i] = que[h];
2202 }
2203 }
2204 int main() {
2205 scanf("%d%d", &n, &k);
2206 for (int i = 1; i <= n; i++) scanf("%d", &a[i]);
2207 dpmin();
2208 dpmax();
2209 for (int i = k; i <= n; i++) printf("%d ", fminn[i]);
2210 printf("\n");
2211 for (int i = k; i <= n; i++) printf("%d ", fmaxx[i]);
2212 printf("\n");
2213 return 0;
2214 }

```

```

2214
2215 Repeated WC 2
2216 // Boundary offset error
2217 head = 1; tail = 0;
2218 for (int i = 1; i <= n; ++i) {
2219 while (head <= tail && i-k-1) head++; // Should be: i-k+1
2220 while (head <= tail && a[q[tail]] <= a[i]) tail--;
2221 q[++tail] = i;
2222 if (i >= k) cout << a[q[head]] << " ";
2223 }
2224
2225 Repeated WC 3
2226 // Incorrectly checks queue tail (r) for expiration
2227 for (int i=k; i<=n; i++) {
2228 while (l<=r && a[maxn[r]] < a[i]) r--;
2229 r++;
2230 maxn[r]=i;
2231 while (l<=r && maxn[r] < i-k+1) l++; // Should be: maxn[1]
2232 cout << a[maxn[l]] << " ";
2233 }
2234
2235 Repeated WC 4
2236 // Incorrectly accesses value array 'a' instead of index
2237 // ↪ array 'b'
2238 for (int i=1; i<=n; i++) {
2239 if (hh<=tt && a[b[hh]] <= i-k) { // Should be: b[hh]
2240 hh++;
2241 }
2242 while (hh<=tt && a[b[tt]] <= a[i]) {
2243 tt--;
2244 }
2245
2246 Repeated WC 5
2247 // Incorrectly compares with queue front while updating tail
2248 for (int i = 1; i <= n; i++) {
2249 while (!q.empty() && a[q.front()] < a[i]) { // Should be:
2250 // ↪ q.back()
2251 q.pop_back();
2252 }
2253 q.push_back(i);
2254 if (i - q.front() >= m) {
2255 q.pop_front();
2256 }
2257 if (i >= m) cout << a[q.front()] << " ";
2258 }

```

#### C.4 DIAGNOSING REALISTIC SCENARIOS

To further verify the diagnostic value of our benchmark in a realistic setting, we conducted an evaluation using the SOTA combination: Claude-4-Thinking with the LCB. We generated 40 test cases. The results showed that the generated test suite successfully excluded 6 out of the 8 Basic WCs but failed to expose Basic WC6 and Basic WC7. They are resource allocation errors requiring queue capacities of approximately  $3 \times 10^5$  and  $1 \times 10^6$ , respectively. Triggering these specific faults requires forcing the monotonic queue to fill up to these limits. Mathematically, this demands a worst-case scenario where both the window size  $K$  and the array length  $N$  approach  $10^6$ , and crucially, the input array must follow a specific monotonic pattern (e.g., strictly increasing or decreasing) to

2268 ensure enough elements are pushed into the queue. We manually inspected all 40 generated test  
2269 cases and confirmed that while the model generated large random arrays, it failed to construct this  
2270 specific, structurally extreme boundary case. This demonstrates that TC-Bench effectively points out  
2271 a specific weakness in current SOTA generation methods. Ultimately, this confirms that TC-Bench  
2272 significantly streamlines diagnostic analysis: by narrowing the analytical scope from the entire raw  
2273 dataset to a compact set of Basic WCs, it enables researchers to pinpoint model weaknesses through  
2274 just a few representative examples rather than sifting through massive redundancy.

2275 This case study provides strong empirical evidence for the practical effectiveness of our method.  
2276 First, the retained Basic WCs are confirmed to be different error patterns. Second, the analysis  
2277 of Excluded WCs demonstrates that redundant codes are essentially composite errors. Third, the  
2278 inspection of Repeated WCs confirms that identical failure signatures reliably map to semantically  
2279 equivalent root causes, validating our signature-based grouping strategy. Fourth, the real-world  
2280 evaluation highlights the benchmark’s discriminative power. Collectively, these results affirm that  
2281 TC-Bench successfully constructs a compact, rigorous, and representative error space, capable of  
2282 delivering fine-grained and high-sensitivity evaluations for test case generation.

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