- This problemset has *three* questions.
- For other questions, either send the solutions to gawry1+aos@gmail.com, or leave them in the envelope attached to the doors of my office (room 321).
- 1. You are given a LZW parse (so, a sequence of n blocks, each block being either a single letter, or a previously defined block concatenated with a single character). Construct a small structure allowing you to access any letter of the corresponding text efficiently. For full credit, construct a structure of size O(n) allowing answering any such query in $O(\log n)$ time, for partial credit the size of your structure can be larger, but should be $o(n^2)$.
- Prove that for any text of length n over a fixed finite alphabet Σ, its LZW parse consists of at most O(ⁿ/_{log n}) blocks (the constant hidden under the big-O depends on |Σ|, though).
- 3. A primitive square is a word of the form xx with x being primitive, which means that it is not possible to write $x = y^k$ with k > 1. For instance abaaba is a primitive square, but abababab is not. We want to get a good bound on the maximal number of subwords of a word of length n that are primitive squares. Note that if the same primitive square occurs multiple times in the word, we count it multiple times.
 - (a) Prove a simplified version of the "three squares" lemma: if there are three primitive words x, y, z such that yy is a proper prefix of xx, and zz is a proper prefix of yy, then |x| ≥ 2|z|. Hint: assume that |x| < 2|z|, draw a picture, then try to apply the periodicity lemma to deduce that z is actually not primitive.
 - (b) Prove the following "three squares" lemma: if there are three primitive words x, y, z such that yy is a proper prefix of xx, and zz is a proper prefix of yy, then |x| ≥ |y| + |z|. Hint: this is tricky and for extra credit.
 - (c) Use the above lemma (in either version) to bound the number of primitive squares that all begin at the same position. Observe that multiplying this bound by n gives you a bound on the total number of primitive squares.
- (SPOJ) 4. Given a word w[1..n] find the largest k such that w contains a substring of the form u^k, for some nonempty word u.

Hint: $\mathcal{O}(n \log n)$ is enough. Guess |u| and try to compute the largest k in $\mathcal{O}(\frac{n}{|u|})$ time. using some longest common prefix/suffix queries.