COMP 491 Assignment 4: Code Submission and Review

[changes in red were made on 10/26/10]

This assignment consists of two parts: (A) submit a substantial amount of polished code to ~~the course SVN server~~ Moodle; and (B) present a small amount of the submitted code to the class during an in-class code review.

Part A: Code Submission (25 points)

Submit all of the code written for your project so far to ~~the course SVN server. (Details on how to submit to the SVN server will be provided on the course web page.)~~ Moodle. Submit only source code. Submit only files written or edited by you. Submit your code as a single zip file. The code will be graded on (i) the total amount of code written; and (ii) the quality of comments and other elementary features of the code. Some more details on the grading are as follows:

- The total amount of code should represent a substantial amount of programming effort, equivalent to at least a few days of full-time work. The actual amount of code corresponding to this will vary hugely, depending on the type of project. However, a typical project would consist of at least several hundred lines of code after a few days' work. If your project falls short of this rough estimate, be prepared to explain to the instructor why the submitted code represents a substantial programming effort.
- Only a small random sample of the code will be inspected, and it will not be checked for correctness. It will only be checked for appropriate, high-quality comments and other basic features such as good layout, indenting, and tasteful choice of variable and method names.
- Be very careful to identify code written by others. If your project includes large amounts of imported or automatically-generated code, indicate clearly which portions have been written by you.

Part B: Code Review (75 points)

Select a piece of challenging code you have written as part of your project. The selected code should be short enough that it can be explained in about 10 minutes, but it must also contain some interesting or difficult features that represent a programming challenge. One good guideline for this would be: were you forced to spend a non-trivial amount of time debugging or testing the code? If so, it would be a good choice for the code review.

In class, you will deliver a 5-10 minute presentation explaining your selected code. The presentation should consist mostly of showing the code itself on the projector while you explain it, but if necessary you can also use slides or web pages as visual aids. After the presentation, there will be 5-10 minutes of questions.

The grade for this part of the assignment will be based on the quality of the code you present, the clarity of the explanation during the presentation, and the correctness and helpfulness of your answers to

questions. The grade will also take into account the difficulty of the coding challenge presented: discussing a simple piece of code will result in a lower grade.