

## A Appendix

### A.1 Examples of Algorithm Synthesis and Functionality Synthesis

We give examples of algorithm synthesis and functionality synthesis in [Figure 7](#).

The upper part is an instance of algorithm synthesis, where input that describes the problem does not indicate the solution idea ‘binary search’ in any way. To solve the algorithm synthesis program, the model needs to come up with the idea related to ‘binary search’ first either implicitly or explicitly before synthesizing the code.

The lower part is an instance of functionality synthesis, where the input is basically a pseudo-code program described in natural language that can directly translate into Python code. The model does not need to come up with the idea because the solution is already clearly stated in the input.

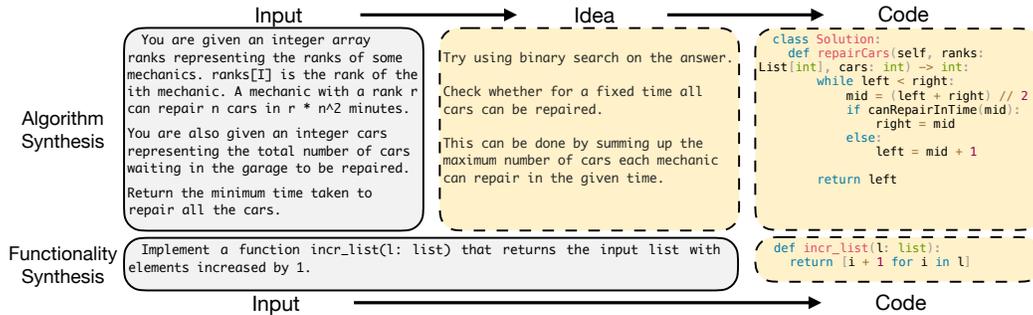


Figure 7: Examples of algorithm synthesis (top) and functionality synthesis (bottom). The parts in solid boxes are given by the problem, while the parts in dotted boxes should be inferred by the model. Functionality synthesis does not require the model to infer the idea, while algorithm synthesis does.

### A.2 Prompts in ALGO and Examples of Generated Programs

#### A.2.1 LeetCode Examples

We list the prompts we used to generate the solution candidates and the verifier components for LeetCode problems here.

[Figure 8](#) lists the prompts and examples for generating the naive solution. [Figure 9](#) lists the prompts and examples for generating solutions guided by instructions that specify the algorithm category. [Figure 10](#) lists the prompts and examples for generating reference oracle. [Figure 11](#) lists an input validator example and its prompt. [Figure 12](#) lists the prompt for the input generator that generates a single test input. [Figure 13](#) lists the prompt for the batch input generator.

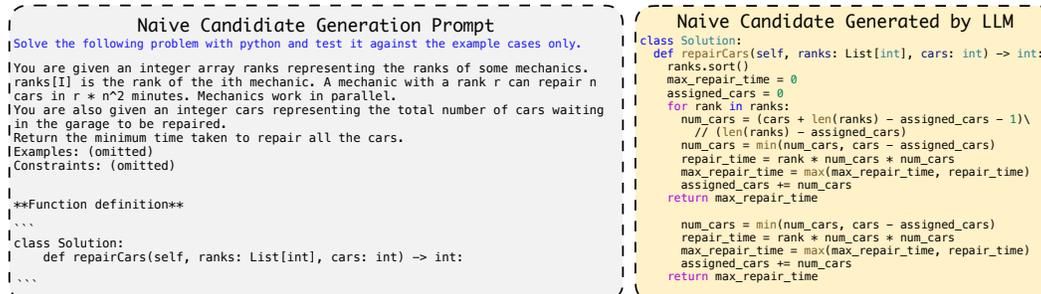


Figure 8: The naive prompt without instruction guidance and a candidate program generated with it. The instructions are in blue. It is a greedy method in linear time but is not suitable for this task. Even the naive candidate generated can pass the examples in the description, it fails both the system judge and ALGO verifier.

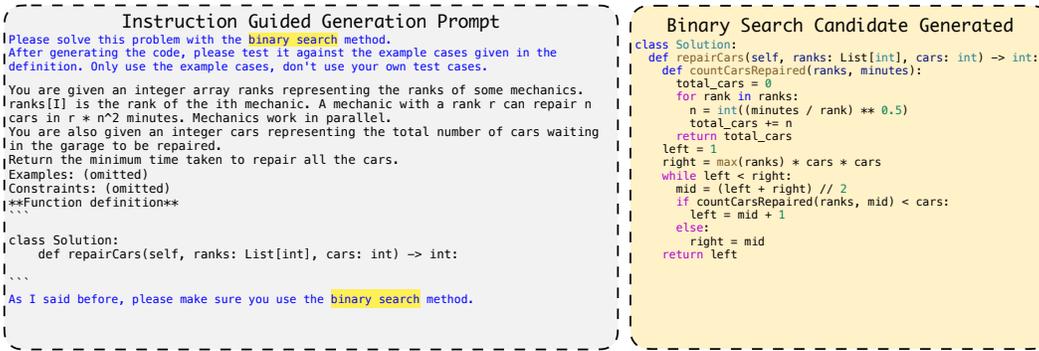


Figure 9: The prompt with instructions about the specific algorithm category (binary search). Binary search is the ideal algorithm used by human programmers for this task, with which the coder can generate both correct and efficient solutions. In general, right algorithm category can efficiently improve the quality of generated program.

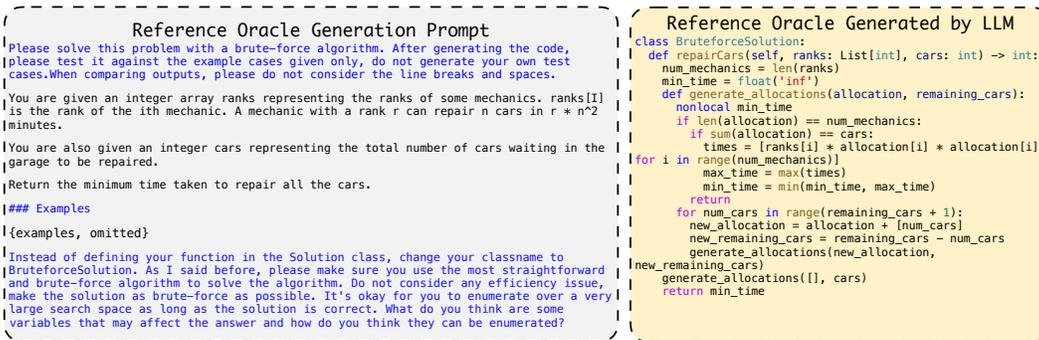


Figure 10: The prompt we used for oracle generation and one oracle generated with it. The instructions are in blue. The language model is instructed to generate the most straightforward solution by enumerating over a very large search space of all combinations of relevant variables. The generated oracle enumerates all the possible ordered partitions of work allocations to find out the optimal one.

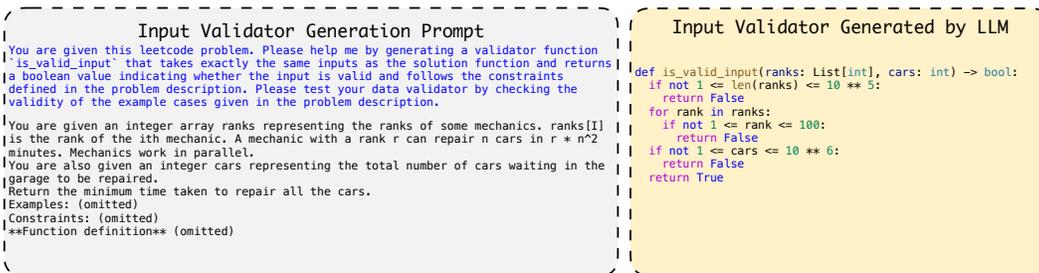


Figure 11: The prompt is utilized to generate an input validator to verify the validity of the generated test input, ensuring it aligns with the constraints specified in the description. In practice, this validation task is a functionality synthesis task, which can be easily solved by LLM.

## A.2.2 Codecontests Examples

We list the prompts we used to generate the solution candidates and the verifier components for Codecontests problems here. [Figure 14](#) lists the prompts and examples for generating the reference oracle using an exhaustive search. [Figure 15](#) lists the prompt for generating the batch input generator.

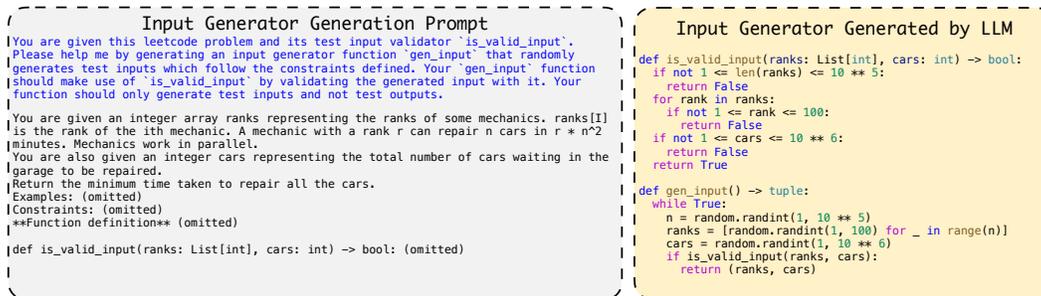


Figure 12: The prompt is used to generate a data generator, to generate extra test cases when combined with the reference oracle. In practice, this generator generation task is a functionality synthesis task, which can be easily solved by LLM.

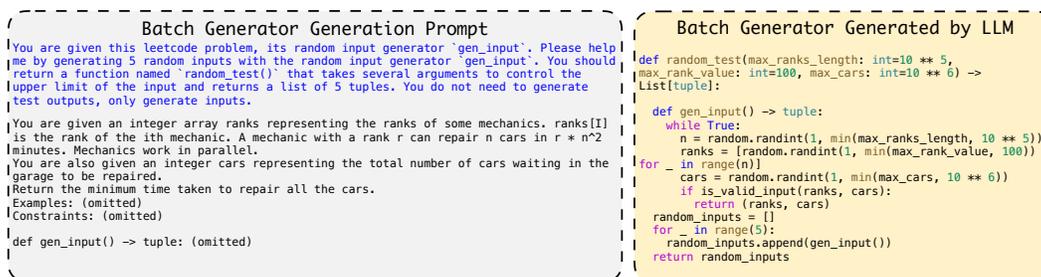


Figure 13: The prompt is used to generate a batch generator that employs the already generated gen\_input to generate several input cases by calling it multiple times.

Since the test set problems in Codecontests are all from <https://codeforces.com/>, they originally require standard input/output. However, we follow the setting in Codecontests by concatenating the entire standard input as a single string and asking the model to generate reference oracles that map a string to a string.

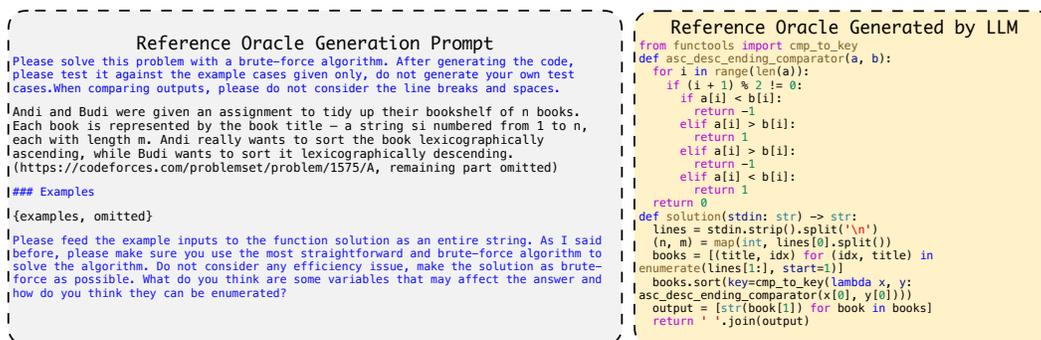


Figure 14: The prompt we used for oracle generation and one oracle generated with it. The instructions are in blue. The language model is instructed to generate the most straightforward solution by enumerating over a very large search space of all combinations of relevant variables.

### A.3 The List of Problems from LeetCode

We list the problems we collected from LeetCode as benchmarks to test ALGO in [Table 3](#), among them are 10 easy problems, 18 medium problems, and 7 hard problems.

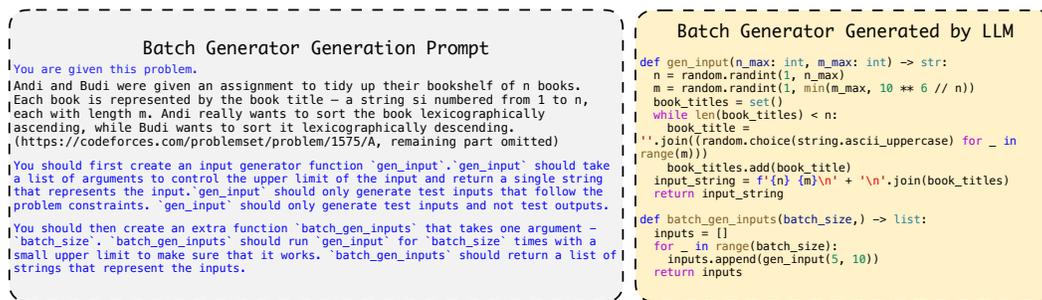


Figure 15: The prompt is used to first generate a function `gen_input` and then generate a batch generator that employs the already generated `gen_input` to generate several input cases by calling it multiple times.

Table 3: The Leetcode problems we use. We only pick problems that were released concurrently or after GPT-4 to avoid contamination.

Problem ID	Problem Name	Level
2582	pass-the-pillow	easy
2583	kth-largest-sum-in-a-binary-tree	medium
2584	split-the-array-to-make-coprime-products	hard
2585	number-of-ways-to-earn-points	hard
2586	count-the-number-of-vowel-strings-in-range	easy
2587	rearrange-array-to-maximize-prefix-score	medium
2588	count-the-number-of-beautiful-subarrays	medium
2589	minimum-time-to-complete-all-tasks	hard
2591	distribute-money-to-maximum-children	easy
2592	maximize-greatness-of-an-array	medium
2593	find-score-of-an-array-after-marking-all-elements	medium
2594	minimum-time-to-repair-cars	medium
2595	number-of-even-and-odd-bits	easy
2596	check-knight-tour-configuration	medium
2597	the-number-of-beautiful-subsets	medium
2598	smallest-missing-non-negative-integer-after-operations	medium
2600	k-items-with-the-maximum-sum	easy
2601	prime-subtraction-operation	medium
2602	minimum-operations-to-make-all-array-elements-equal	medium
2603	collect-coins-in-a-tree	hard
2609	find-the-longest-balanced-substring-of-a-binary-string	easy
2610	convert-an-array-into-a-2d-array-with-conditions	medium
2611	mice-and-cheese	medium
2612	minimum-reverse-operations	hard
2614	prime-in-diagonal	easy
2615	sum-of-distances	medium
2616	minimize-the-maximum-difference-of-pairs	medium
2617	minimum-number-of-visited-cells-in-a-grid	hard
2639	find-the-width-of-columns-of-a-grid	easy
2640	find-the-score-of-all-prefixes-of-an-array	medium
2641	cousins-in-binary-tree-ii	medium
2643	row-with-maximum-ones	easy
2644	find-the-maximum-divisibility-score	easy
2645	minimum-additions-to-make-valid-string	medium
2646	minimize-the-total-price-of-the-trips	hard