(See https://cs.stanford.edu/~knuth/programs.html for date.)

1. Intro. I'm trying to calculate a few million Ulam numbers. This sequence

$$(U_1, U_2, \ldots) = (1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 11, 13, 16, 18, 26, \ldots)$$

is defined by setting $U_1 = 1$, $U_2 = 2$, and thereafter letting U_{n+1} be the smallest number greater than U_n that can be written $U_j + U_k$ for exactly one pair (j, k) with $1 \le j < k \le n$. (Such a number must exist; otherwise the pair $(j, k) = (n-1, n)$ would qualify and lead to a contradiction.)

This program uses a sieve method inspired by M. C. Wunderlich [*BIT* **11** (1971), 217–224]. The basic idea is to form infinite binary sequences $u = u_0u_1u_2\ldots$ and $v = v_0v_1v_2\ldots$ where $u_k = [k$ is an Ulam number$]$ and $v_k = [k$ has more than one representation as a sum of distinct Ulam numbers$]$. To build this sequence we start with $u = 0110\ldots$ and $v = 000\ldots$; then we do the bitwise calculation $w_k \ldots w_{2k-1} \leftarrow w_k \ldots w_{2k-1} \circ u_0 \ldots u_{k-1}$ for $k = U_2, U_3, \ldots,$ where $w_k = (u_k, v_k)$ and

$$(u, v) \circ u' = ((u \oplus u') \wedge \bar{v}, (u \wedge u') \vee v).$$

The method works because, when $k = U_n$, the current settings of u and v satisfy the following invariant relations for $2 < j < 2k$:

$$u_j = [j \text{ is a sum of distinct Ulam numbers} < k \text{ in exactly one way}];$$
$$v_j = [j \text{ is a sum of distinct Ulam numbers} < k \text{ in more than one way}].$$

In other words this program is basically an exercise in doing the requisite shifting and masking when the bits of u and v are packed as unsigned integers.

Besides computing U_n, I also report the value of U_n/n whenever n is a multiple of m. This ratio is reported to be about 13.5 when $n \le 10^6$ [see Wolfram's *NKS*, page 908].

And I keep some rudimentary statistics about gaps, based on ideas of Jud McCranie.

```
#define gsize 1000
#define m 10000
#define nsize (1 << 14)
#define nmax (32 * nsize)   /* we will find all Ulam numbers less than nmax */
#include <stdio.h>
  unsigned int ubit[nsize + 1], vbit[nsize + 1];
  char decode[64];   /* table for computing the ruler function */
  int count[gsize], example[gsize];
  main()
  {
    register unsigned int j, jj, k, kk, kq, kr, del, c, n, u, prevu, gap;
    ⟨Set up the decode table 5⟩;
    gap = 1;
    ubit[0] = #6, kr = n = prevu = 2, kq = 0, kk = 4;   /* U_1 = 1, U_2 = 2 */
    while (1) {
      ⟨Update w_k ... w_{2k-1} from u_0 ... u_{k-1} 2⟩;
      ⟨Advance k to U_{n+1} and advance n 4⟩;
      k = kr + (kq << 5);
      del = k - prevu;
      count[del]++, example[del] = k;
      if (del > gap) {
        if (del >= gsize) {
          fprintf(stderr, "Unexpectedly␣large␣gap␣(%d)!␣Recompile␣me...\n", del);
          return -666;
```

```
      }
      gap = del;
      printf("New gap %d: U_%d=%d, U_%d=%d\n", gap, n − 1, prevu, n, k);
      fflush(stdout);
    }
    prevu = k;
    if ((n % m) ≡ 0) {
      printf("U_%d=%d is about %.5g*%d\n", n, k, ((double) k)/n, n);
      fflush(stdout);
    }
  }
done: ⟨Print gap stats 6⟩;
  printf("There are %d Ulam numbers less than %d.\n", n, nmax);
}
```

2. As we compute, we'll implicitly have $k = 32kq + kr$, where $0 \le kr < 32$; also $kk = 1 \ll kr$. Bit k of u is $(ubit[kq] \gg kr)$ & 1, etc.

⟨Update $w_k \ldots w_{2k-1}$ from $u_0 \ldots u_{k-1}$ 2⟩ ≡

```
  for (j = c = 0, jj = j + kq; j < kq; j++, jj++) {
    if (jj ≥ nsize) goto update_done;
    del = (ubit[j] ≪ kr) + c;      /* c is a "carry" */
    c = (ubit[j] ≫ (31 − kr)) ≫ 1;
    ⟨Set (ubit[jj], vbit[jj]) to (ubit[jj], vbit[jj]) ∘ del 3⟩;
  }
  if (jj ≥ nsize) goto update_done;
  u = ubit[kq] & (kk − 1);
  del = (u ≪ kr) + c, c = (u ≫ (31 − kr)) ≫ 1;
  ⟨Set (ubit[jj], vbit[jj]) to (ubit[jj], vbit[jj]) ∘ del 3⟩;
  if (c ≠ 0) {
    jj++, del = c;
    ⟨Set (ubit[jj], vbit[jj]) to (ubit[jj], vbit[jj]) ∘ del 3⟩;
  }
update_done:
```

This code is used in section 1.

3. ⟨Set (ubit[jj], vbit[jj]) to (ubit[jj], vbit[jj]) ∘ del 3⟩ ≡

```
  u = (ubit[jj] ⊕ del) & ∼vbit[jj];
  vbit[jj] |= ubit[jj] & del;
  ubit[jj] = u;
```

This code is used in section 2.

4. ⟨Advance k to U_{n+1} and advance n 4⟩ ≡

```
  u = ubit[kq] & −(kk + kk);      /* erase bits ≤ k */
  while (¬u) {
    if (++kq ≥ nsize) goto done;
    u = ubit[kq];
  }
  kk = u & −u;      /* now we must calculate kr = lg kk */
  kr = decode[(mhmartin ∗ kk) ≫ 27];
  n++;
```

This code is used in section 1.

5. **#define** *mhmartin* #07dcd629

⟨ Set up the *decode* table 5 ⟩ ≡

```
for (k = 0, j = 1; j; k++, j <<= 1) decode[(mhmartin * j) >> 27] = k;
```

This code is used in section 1.

6. ⟨ Print gap stats 6 ⟩ ≡

```
for (j = 1; j <= gap; j++)
  if (count[j]) printf("gap %d occurred %d time%s, last was %d\n", j, count[j],
        count[j] == 1 ? "" : "s", example[j]);
```

This code is used in section 1.

7. Index.

ULAM