CSCI-1200 Data Structures — Spring 2015
Lab 5 — `Vec` Implementation

This lab explores our implementation of the STL `vector` class. Please download:

http://www.cs.rpi.edu/academics/courses/spring15/csci1200/labs/05_vectors/vec.h
http://www.cs.rpi.edu/academics/courses/spring15/csci1200/labs/05_vectors/test_vec.cpp

Checkpoint 1

Write a templated non-member function named `remove_matching_elements` that takes in two arguments, a vector of type `Vec<T>` and an element of type `T`, and returns `size_type` (an unsigned integer), indicating the number of elements that matched the argument and were successfully removed from the vector. The order of the other elements should stay the same. For example, if `v`, a `Vec<int>` object contains 6 elements: `11 22 33 11 55 22` and you call `remove_matching_elements(v,11)`, that call should return 2, and `v` should now contain: `22 33 55 22`.

Add several test cases to `test_vec.cpp` to show that the function works as expected. What is the order notation of your solution in terms of n the size of the vector, and e the number of occurences of the input element in the vector?

To complete this checkpoint, show a TA your debugged solution for `remove_matching_elements` and be prepared to discuss the order notation of the function.

Checkpoint 2

Add a `print` member function to `Vec` to aid in debugging. (Note, neither `remove_matching_elements` nor `print` are not part of the STL standard for `vector`). You should print the current information stored in the variables `m_alloc`, `m_size`, and `m_data`. Use the `print` function to confirm your `remove_matching_elements` function is debugged. Also, write a test case that calls `push_back` many, many times (hint, use a for loop!) and observe how infrequently re-allocation of the `m_data` array is necessary.

To verify your code does not contain memory errors or memory leaks, use Valgrind and/or Dr. Memory on your local machine – see instructions on the course webpage: Memory Debugging. Also, submit your code to the homework server (in the practice space for lab 5), which is configured to run the memory debuggers for this exercise. To verify that you understand the output from Valgrind and/or Dr. Memory, temporarily add a simple bug into your implementation to cause a memory error or memory leak.

To complete this checkpoint, show a TA your tested & debugged program. Be prepared to discuss the Valgrind and/or Dr. Memory output (with and without memory errors and memory leaks).