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Invisible Contributors
Task Authors at the IOI and EGOI

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Abstract. This article presents what is believed to be the first comprehensive catalogue of task authors for both the International Olympiad in Informatics (IOI) and the European Girls' Olympiad in Informatics (EGOI). The IOI catalogue identifies authors for 183 of 207 tasks across 37 editions; the EGOI catalogue covers all 40 tasks across 5 editions. An analysis of the contestant-to-author pipeline reveals that 66 of the 135 known IOI task authors (49%) were themselves IOI contestants, with this proportion increasing over time since the first such author appeared in 2001. A gender analysis reveals that, across both competitions, only nine distinct women have ever authored a task: six appear at the IOI and four at the EGOI, with Monika Steinová the sole overlap. IOI 1995 in the Netherlands holds the record for the highest female authorship share ever at either competition, at 33%. The data is offered as a resource for the community and as an invitation to fill the remaining gaps.

1. Introduction

1.1 The IOI

The International Olympiad in Informatics is widely regarded as the most prestigious algorithmic programming competition for secondary-school students in the world. Since its inaugural edition in Pravetz, Bulgaria, in 1989 (Kenderov, 2017), the IOI has grown into a truly global event, attracting delegations from over 90 countries and territories each year.[1] Its alumni include some of the brightest minds in computer science, many of whom have gone on to distinguished careers in academia and industry.

Every IOI edition is a collective effort on a grand scale. The host country assembles an organising team. National delegations train their students for months, sometimes years, under the guidance of dedicated coaches. The International Scientific Committee (ISC) curates and refines the task set. Volunteers build grading infrastructure, write editorials, and

[1]See https://stats.ioinformatics.org for historical participation data.

run the contest itself. The contestants, of course, are the stars: brilliant young minds who, over two competition days, push the boundaries of what is possible under time pressure.

1.2 The invisible creators

Yet among all these contributors, one group remains curiously invisible: the *task authors*. These are the people who invent the problems, who find the sweet spot between elegance and difficulty, who wrap a deep algorithmic idea in a compelling story, and who, more often than not, receive little public recognition for their work.

Competition scoreboards list contestants. The IOI website lists host cities and ISC chairs. But if you want to know who *created* a particular task, you will, for many years of the competition, search in vain. It is only in recent years that the IOI has begun to systematically name task authors and give them public credit, for instance in the contest booklets and on the official website. For the majority of the IOI's history, authorship went entirely unrecorded.

1.3 A personal note

The IOI has been an important part of my life for many years. I have never had the time to write a task myself, but every year I look forward to being in the room during translation night. That is the moment when the tasks are revealed for the first time to the team leaders and coaches. There is an electric energy in that room: hundreds of people opening their envelopes simultaneously, the quiet concentration as they read, and then the murmur of excitement as they discover a clever twist or an elegant formulation.

It is precisely that experience that motivated this article. Behind every translation night, behind every sharp intake of breath when a team leader reads a beautiful problem, there is someone who imagined that problem into existence. This catalogue is an attempt to find out who they are.

1.4 Scope of this article

This article sets out to give these invisible contributors the credit they deserve. Over a period of extended research, I have compiled what is believed to be the most complete listing to date of task authors for both the IOI and the EGOI.

The dataset is necessarily incomplete: for the earlier years of the IOI (roughly 1990–1997), authorship records are scarce, and for some tasks the author may never be recoverable. Nevertheless, the IOI catalogue identifies authors for 183 of 207 tasks (nearly 90% of the total) and reveals a community of at least 135 individuals from 45 countries. The EGOI catalogue, covering a younger competition, is complete: all 40 tasks across 5 editions have identified authors.

Beyond cataloguing, this article pays particular attention to two themes. First, the "full

circle" pathway from contestant to task author: by matching the author catalogue against historical contestant records, I find that 49% of known IOI task authors were themselves former contestants, a pattern that has grown markedly since 2001. Second, the gender of task authors: the IOI has long grappled with a wide gender gap among its contestants, and as we shall see, the gap extends to the people who *create* the competition as well.

A note on credit and blame: any compliments for this catalogue should go to the task authors themselves and to the many people who helped me trace them. Any complaints about errors, omissions, or misattributions should be directed to me alone.

1.5 When is an author an author?

Creating an IOI task is a deeply collaborative process. A problem proposal does not simply arrive finished and land on the contest server. From the moment an idea is submitted to the ISC, it undergoes rounds of review, refinement, and sometimes radical transformation. The statement may be rewritten, subtasks recalibrated, edge cases added, and the storyline reshaped. Eventually, a version is presented to the General Assembly, where team leaders offer further comments and suggestions. By the time a task reaches the contestants, it has passed through many hands.

And a task is much more than its problem statement. It encompasses test data, scoring schemes, sample solutions, checker programs, and editorial write-ups—each of which requires considerable effort and expertise. The people who build these components are essential contributors, even though they are rarely named.

So who counts as the "author"? In this catalogue, I follow the convention adopted by the ISC in recent years: the credited author is the person who submitted the original version of the task. This is not meant to diminish the substantial contributions of the Scientific Committees, the host organisers, or the General Assembly delegates who shape each task into its final form. It is simply the most consistent and traceable definition available.

2. The IOI Task-Author Landscape

2.1 Overall numbers

Across 37 editions, the IOI has featured 207 tasks (Verhoeff, 2009; Kalinicenko & Opmanis, 2016). The competition format took time to stabilise: the first five years saw varied setups, with 1989 featuring a single task, 1990 and 1991 two tasks each, and 1992–1993 experimenting with different arrangements. By the mid-1990s, the IOI had settled on two competition days of three tasks each. A brief experiment in 2009 and 2010 with four tasks per day was not repeated, and the standard 2×3 format has remained in place since 2011.

Throughout this article, "authorships" counts individual author–task pairs. A task with two co-authors contributes two authorships, one for each person. This means the total number of authorships may exceed the total number of tasks.

Of the 207 tasks, authorship information could be established for 183. The remaining 24 tasks, concentrated overwhelmingly in the period 1990–1997, remain unattributed. Within the attributed tasks, at least 135 distinct individuals have been identified as authors or co-authors, representing 45 countries.

2.2 Most prolific authors

Table 1 (below) lists the most prolific IOI task authors using *fractional credit*: for a task with *n* named authors, each receives 1/*n* of a task credit. A solo-authored task earns 1; a task shared between two authors earns 0.5 each; and so on. Institutional credits such as "HSC" (Host Scientific Committee) or "Local SC" are not counted as authors for the purpose of this calculation. (An alternative ranking by raw task count, without adjusting for co-authorship, appears in Appendix C.)

Gyula Horváth of Hungary leads with a perfect 7.0, having authored all seven of his tasks alone—a remarkable feat spanning IOI 1996 and IOI 2001, an era when task authorship was rarely documented. Michal Forišek of Slovakia follows with 5.0, having contributed six tasks (most solo) across five editions. The brothers Masataka and Hirotaka Yoneda from Japan each have seven tasks to their name, but since all are co-authored with each other, their weighted scores are 3.5 each.

Table 1: Most prolific IOI task authors by fractional credit. For a task with n co-authors, each receives 1/*n*.

Rank	Author	Weighted	Tasks	Country	Years
1	Gyula Horváth	7.0	7	Hungary	1996–2001
2	Michal Forišek	5.0	6	Slovakia	2010–2017
3	Tom Verhoeff	4.5	5	the Netherlands	1995–2005
4	Gordon Cormack	4.0	4	Canada	2010
	Velin Tzanov	4.0	4	Bulgaria	2008–2009
6	Hirotaka Yoneda	3.5	7	Japan	2022–2025
	Masataka Yoneda	3.5	7	Japan	2022–2025
	Richard Peng	3.5	4	Canada, China, USA	2008–2013

2.3 Returning authors

The tables above measure output: how many tasks each person contributed, and how that tally changes when co-authorship is taken into account. But a competition's long-term quality also depends on *continuity*: authors who return edition after edition, refining their craft and raising the bar each time.

Table 2 lists the eight authors who contributed tasks to more than two different IOI editions. At the top, Michal Forišek and Tom Verhoeff each span five editions over roughly a decade, followed by Monika Steinová with four. These returning authors represent an

invaluable form of institutional memory: they know what has been tried before, they understand the subtleties of difficulty calibration, and they can mentor newer authors. The fact that this list is short—just eight people in 37 editions—shows how rare and valuable such sustained commitment is.

Table 2: IOI task authors who contributed to more than two different editions.

Rank	Author	Editions	Country	Years
1	Michal Forišek	5	Slovakia	2010–2017
	Tom Verhoeff	5	the Netherlands	1995–2005
3	Monika Steinová	4	Slovakia	2010–2017
4	Aleksandar Ilić	3	Serbia	2008–2017
	Félix Moreno Peñarrubia	3	Spain	2022–2025
	Hirotaka Yoneda	3	Japan	2022–2025
	Masataka Yoneda	3	Japan	2022–2025
	Richard Peng	3	Canada, China, USA	2008–2013

Looking more broadly at all 18 authors who contributed three or more tasks (see Appendix C), their spans range from a single edition to eleven years. Tom Verhoeff's involvement stretches over eleven years (1995–2005), followed by Aleksandar Ilić with ten (2008–2017), and Michal Forišek and Monika Steinová with eight each (2010–2017). At the other end, five authors— Gordon Cormack, Carl Hultquist, Luka Kalinovčić, Hong Wang, and Donglin Xia—contributed all their tasks in a single edition. The median span among these prolific authors is four years, suggesting that most task authors, even the most productive ones, have relatively brief windows of involvement. The few who sustain their contributions across many years are genuinely exceptional.

2.4 Geographic diversity

Shifting from individuals to countries, Table 3 shows where the most IOI tasks have originated. Japan leads with 13 attributed tasks, followed by Poland (11) and the Netherlands (10). The data reflects a broad geographic spread: 45 countries are represented in total, spanning every inhabited continent. A country's count in this table is influenced both by the strength of its competitive-programming community and by the likelihood of hosting the IOI, as host-country Scientific Committees naturally contribute more tasks.

Establishing which country an author "belongs to" is not always straightforward. In this catalogue, countries are attributed based on the author's primary affiliation at the time of authorship, as recorded in official contest sources. Several authors have ties to multiple countries—Richard Peng, for example, is listed in various sources as being from Canada, China, and the USA, reflecting a career that has spanned all three. In the per-country tallies, each of his tasks is counted once, under the country listed in the relevant year's records. The overall country count of 45, however, counts him only once to avoid inflating the total.

Table 3: Countries by number of IOI tasks authored and unique authors.

Rank	Country	Tasks	Authors
1	Japan	13	7
2	Poland	11	11
3	the Netherlands	10	7
4	Slovakia	9	4
5	Canada	8	8
	China	8	8
	South Korea	8	13
8	Finland	7	9
	Hungary	7	1
	Iran	7	8
	Portugal	7	6

The "Authors" column reveals clear differences in depth. South Korea's eight tasks come from thirteen different authors—a remarkably broad base. Poland matches its task count with author count: eleven tasks from eleven authors. At the other extreme, Hungary's seven tasks all come from a single author (Gyula Horváth), as do Slovakia's nine tasks from just four authors (primarily Michal Forišek and Monika Steinová).

2.5 The craft behind the tasks

Numbers and rankings only tell part of the story. Having recently started producing task explanation videos for the IOI (Schrijvers, 2024), I have come to appreciate just how much work goes into each task: not only the problem idea itself, but also the careful construction of test data, the calibration of time limits, and the design of the scoring scheme (Burton & Hiron, 2008; Vasiga *et al.*, 2008).

After the turmoil that inevitably accompanies a new olympiad in its first couple of years, the IOI has consistently delivered tasks of remarkable quality. Year after year, the problems produce sensible score distributions, reward both partial insight and full solutions, and challenge the very best contestants. In recent editions, the introduction of well-designed subtasks has added an educational dimension (Forišek, 2013): they guide students step by step towards the intended solution, turning a competition problem into a learning experience as well.

All of this is the work of the task authors and the Scientific Committee. The quality we have come to expect is not accidental; it is the product of craft, experience, and countless hours of invisible labour.

The complete task-by-task listing for the IOI can be found in Appendix A.

3. The EGOI: Task Authors of a Young Competition

The European Girls' Olympiad in Informatics (EGOI) was established in 2021 with the explicit goal of promoting the participation of young women in competitive informatics. In its 5 editions to date, the EGOI has featured 40 tasks, authored by 32 individuals from 20 countries.

3.1 Most prolific EGOI authors

Table 4 lists the most prolific EGOI task authors. Because of ties, the top 5 ranks include seven authors.

Nils Gustafsson of Sweden stands out with seven tasks across four editions, making him by far the most prolific contributor to the EGOI task pool. Hazem Issa of Egypt follows with three tasks.

Table 4: Top 5 most prolific EGOI task authors.

Rank	Author	Tasks	Country	Years
1	Nils Gustafsson	7	Sweden	2021–2024
2	Hazem Issa	3	Egypt	2022–2024
3	Yann Viegas	2	France	2023–2024
	Mladen Puzić	2	Serbia	2021–2023
	Jakub Tarnawski	2	Poland	2021–2023
	Petr Mitrichev	2	Switzerland	2021–2022
	Michal Švagerka	2	Czech Republic	2022

3.2 Returning authors

Table 5 lists the EGOI task authors who have contributed to more than one edition. Six of the competition's 32 authors have returned for a second or subsequent edition. Nils Gustafsson stands out with four editions, while five others have each contributed to two. For a five-year-old competition, this is a healthy rate of return and suggests that an experienced core of authors is forming around the EGOI.

Table 5: EGOI task authors who contributed to more than one edition.

Rank	Author	Editions	Country	Years
1	Nils Gustafsson	4	Sweden	2021–2024
2	Hazem Issa	2	Egypt	2022–2024
	Jakub Tarnawski	2	Poland	2021–2023
	Mladen Puzić	2	Serbia	2021–2023
	Petr Mitrichev	2	Switzerland	2021–2022
	Yann Viegas	2	France	2023–2024

3.3 Geographic diversity

Table 6 shows the leading countries by number of EGOI tasks authored. Sweden leads with 7 tasks, but this figure is somewhat misleading: all seven come from a single author, Nils Gustafsson. Serbia, by contrast, has three tasks from three different authors—a broader base despite fewer tasks overall. Despite its youth, the EGOI already draws task authors from 20 countries.

Table 6: Countries by number of EGOI tasks authored and unique authors.

Rank	Country	Tasks	Authors
1	Sweden	7	1
2	Egypt	3	1
	Poland	3	2
	Serbia	3	3
	Switzerland	3	2
6	Czech Republic	2	1
	France	2	1
	Israel	2	2
	Italy	2	2
	Singapore	2	3
	Slovakia	2	2

The complete task-by-task listing for the EGOI can be found in Appendix B.

4. From Contestant to Task Author

One of the most interesting patterns in the data is how many task authors were themselves contestants earlier in their lives. Of the 135 known IOI task authors, 66 (49%) competed at the IOI before authoring tasks. This "full circle" pathway—from solving problems to creating them—has become an increasingly important source of new tasks.

4.1 The emergence of contestant-authors

Figure 1 shows, for each IOI edition, how many tasks were authored by former contestants. For the first decade of the IOI (1989–2000), not a single task with known authorship came from a former contestant. This is unsurprising: there simply were not enough alumni yet, and no formal mechanism existed to invite them back as authors.

The first task authored by a former contestant appeared at IOI 2001: Tero Karras, who competed in 1997–2000 for Finland, contributed a task just one year after his final appearance as a contestant. From 2001 onwards, contestant-authors begin to appear regularly, and by the late 2000s they account for a substantial share of the programme.

The peak year for contestant-authored tasks is 2009, when seven of the eight tasks came from former contestants. Several other years—2007, 2008, 2011, 2012, 2017, 2019, and 2023—saw at least five or six out of six tasks from alumni. Since 2012, the proportion has stabilised at roughly 67–100%, emphasising the central role that former contestants now play in shaping the competition.

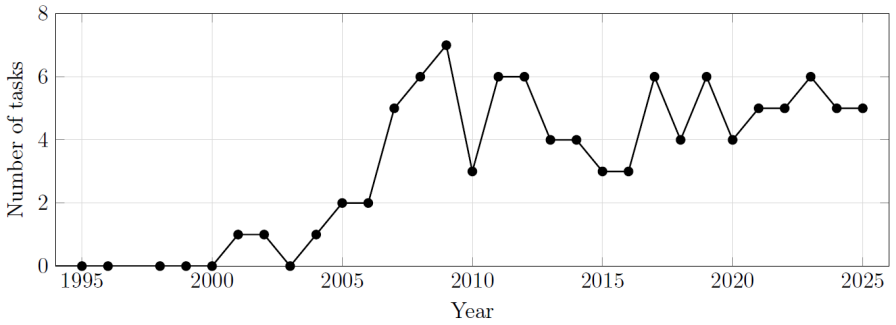

Figure 1: Number of IOI tasks authored by former IOI contestants, 1989–2025. Years with entirely unknown authorship (1990–1994, 1997) are omitted. Each edition has six tasks (eight in 2009– 2010), so remaining tasks in each year were authored by non-contestants.

4.2 The EGOI picture

The EGOI, being only five years old, shows a different but positive pattern. Figure 2 displays the breakdown for EGOI 2021–2025.

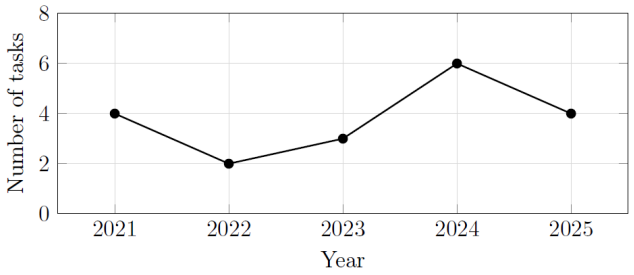

Figure 2: Number of EGOI tasks authored by former contestants (IOI or EGOI), 2021–2025. Each edition has eight tasks.

From its very first edition, the EGOI has benefited from experienced IOI alumni: in 2021, four out of eight tasks came from former contestants. By 2024, this had jumped to six out of eight tasks (75%), dropping slightly to four out of eight in 2025. This cross-pollination is currently one-directional—IOI alumni bringing experience to the EGOI—but the growing pool of EGOI alumni is beginning to return as authors within their own competition. It will be interesting to see whether future EGOI contestants eventually contribute tasks to the IOI as well.

4.3 The gap from contestant to author

How long does it typically take for a contestant to return as an author? Appendices E and F list all 66 IOI contestant-authors and 17 EGOI contestant-authors with the gap (δ) between their final contest appearance and their first authored task.

Figure 3 shows the distribution of gaps for the 66 IOI contestant-authors. The most common gap is three years ($\delta = 3$), with eleven authors, followed by one year ($\delta = 1$), with eight authors. The distribution is right-skewed: while most authors return within a decade, a few take much longer.

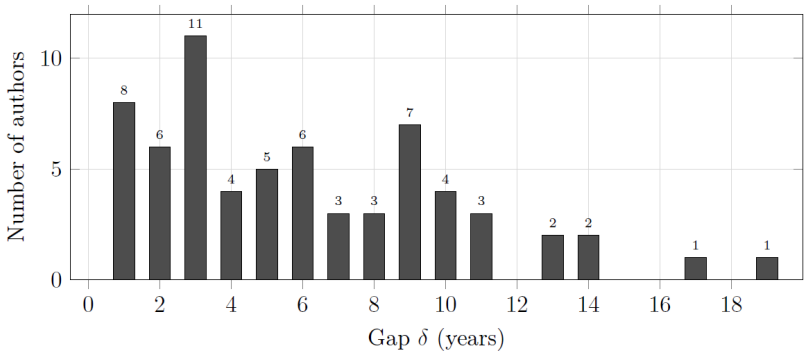

Figure 3: Distribution of gaps (δ) between final IOI contest appearance and first task authorship, for the 66 former contestants who became IOI task authors. Mean: 6.1 years; median: 5.0 years.

Eight authors achieved $\delta = 1$: Tero Karras, Martin Fixman, Hazem Issa, Riku Kawasaki, Angus Ritossa, Lim Rui Yuan, Tadija Šebez, and Normunds Vilciņš. Several of these can be linked to their country's hosting duties (see Appendix G): Tero Karras and Riku Kawasaki authored tasks the same year their countries hosted (Finland 2001, Japan 2018); Hazem Issa authored tasks in 2022, two years before Egypt hosted in 2024; and Lim Rui Yuan authored in 2022, shortly after Singapore hosted in 2020–2021.

At the other extreme, several authors returned after more than 13 years: Cesar Cepeda of Mexico and Richard Královič of Slovakia ($\delta = 13$), Danylo Mysak of Ukraine and Agustín Santiago Gutiérrez of Argentina ($\delta = 14$), Eryk Kopczyński of Poland ($\delta = 17$), and Jittat Fakcharoenphol of Thailand ($\delta = 19$). Interestingly, even the longest gap was a hosting connection: Jittat competed in 1992 and returned to author a task in 2011—the year Thailand hosted the IOI. Similarly, Cesar Cepeda authored two tasks in 2006, the year Mexico hosted.

The mean gap of 6.1 years and median of 5.0 years suggest that the typical pathway involves completing undergraduate and perhaps graduate studies before returning. This aligns with my personal observation at IOI that many leaders and contestant-authors are PhD students, postdocs, or early-career academics when they create their first IOI tasks.

For the EGOI, the gaps are naturally shorter given the competition's youth. Two authors—Siyong Huang and Richard Qi—achieved $\delta = 0$, authoring EGOI tasks in the same year as their final IOI appearance (2021).

4.4 Implications for the community

The data in this section tells a story of community continuity. The IOI has, over three decades, developed a pipeline that turns contestants into contributors. This reflects deliberate efforts by host countries and the ISC to reach out to alumni, mentor new authors, and create opportunities for former contestants to give back.

Former contestants understand the IOI deeply: they know what it feels like to sit in the competition hall, they have internalised the difficulty curve, and they can anticipate how contestants will approach a problem. This institutional knowledge plays an important role in creating tasks that are challenging but fair, novel but accessible.

At the same time, the data shows that the IOI has not become a closed shop. In most recent editions, one or two tasks come from authors who never competed at the IOI. These outsiders—university professors, industry researchers, teachers from national programmes—bring fresh perspectives. They may draw on different algorithmic traditions, propose unconventional problem types, or simply see the competition with eyes uncoloured by personal experience. This diversity of authorship helps prevent the IOI from becoming formulaic.

The challenge for the future is to sustain and strengthen both channels. For the alumni pipeline, this means active outreach: inviting recent medallists to shadow Scientific Committees, running task-writing workshops at training camps, and celebrating the contributions of contestantauthors. For the external pipeline, it means maintaining open calls for tasks, building relationships with the broader algorithms community, and ensuring that the IOI remains intellectually connected to the cutting edge of computer science.

The EGOI, still in its infancy, is already showing similar patterns. As its alumni pool grows, we can expect more former EGOI contestants to return as authors. The cross-pollination with IOI alumni—visible in the 16 IOI contestants who have authored EGOI tasks—provides a bridge that accelerates this process while maintaining the EGOI's distinct character.

5. Gender and Task Authorship

The gender gap in competitive informatics is well documented (Maggiolo, 2015; Yamaguchi & Ito, 2024; Buronzo & Gambirasio, 2025). At the IOI, female contestants have historically accounted for a small single-digit percentage of the field. The creation of the EGOI was in part a response to this disparity. But the gap extends beyond the contestants to the very people who create the competition: the task authors.

Research has shown that gender-diverse teams produce more novel and higher-impact scientific output (Yang *et al.*, 2022). A systematic review of gender differences in mathematics and science olympiads (Steegh *et al.*, 2019), which does not cover the IOI, catalogues many variables that influence participation and achievement, but the gender composition of problem-setting committees is not among them. Given the IOI's stark gender imbalance, both among contestants and, as this catalogue reveals, among task authors, tracking the gender of task authors is a necessary first step towards understanding whether and how this imbalance shapes the competition itself.

5.1 A note on methodology

The gender data in this article uses a binary male/female classification. This is a limitation of the available data, not a statement about the nature of gender. I recognise that gender is not binary and do not intend to exclude or erase anyone whose identity is not captured by these categories.

Gender attribution was inferred from names and publicly available information. The purpose of this analysis is purely descriptive: to identify broad structural patterns in who has authored competition tasks, not to definitively classify any individual. I apologise in advance for any errors and welcome corrections.

5.2 The IOI record

Table 7 (below) shows the gender breakdown of IOI task authorships by era. The picture is stark. Across the entire history of the competition, only 9 (4.1%) of the 221 authorships with known gender are by women.

These nine authorships come from six individuals:

- **Monika Steinová** (Slovakia): four tasks between 2010 and 2017, by far the most prolific female IOI task author. She authored *Maze* (2010, with Michal Forišek), *Game*, *Boxes with Souvenirs*, and *Nowruz* (2017, with Michal Forišek and the HSC).
- **Cecile Crutzen** (the Netherlands): author of *Printing* at IOI 1995.
- **Conny Veugen** (the Netherlands): author of *Letter Game* at IOI 1995.
- **Margarida Mamede** (Portugal): author of *Polygon* at IOI 1998.
- **Anna Niewiarowska** (Poland): co-author of *Mountain* at IOI 2005 (with Jakub Pawlewicz).
- **Helia Ziaei** (Iran): co-author of *Werewolf* at IOI 2018 (with Mohammad Roghani).

No woman has authored or co-authored an IOI task since 2018. The 2019–2025 period, spanning seven editions and 42 tasks, is entirely male-authored. It is therefore noteworthy that IOI 1995 in the Netherlands had two women among its six task authors—Cecile Crutzen and Conny Veugen—giving that edition a 33% female authorship share, the highest in the history of either competition.

Table 7: Gender breakdown of IOI task authorships by era. "Unknown" indicates authorships for which no gender data is available, typically because the author is unidentified. The "% Female" column is calculated over known-gender authorships only.

Period	Tasks	Authorships	Male	Female	Unknown	% Female
1989–1994	17	17	1	0	16	0.0%
1995–1999	30	30	21	3	6	12.5%
2000–2004	30	43	41	0	2	0.0%
2005–2009	32	40	39	1	0	2.5%
2010–2014	32	36	34	2	0	5.6%
2015–2019	30	34	31	3	0	8.8%
2020–2024	30	36	36	0	0	0.0%
2025	6	9	9	0	0	0.0%
Total	207	245	212	9	24	4.1%

The 24 authorships with unknown gender—concentrated in the period 1990–1997—introduce uncertainty into the overall figure. If the unidentified authors include additional women, the true female share would be higher than 4.1%; conversely, if all are male, the figure would be lower. Without further archival evidence, the direction of this bias cannot be determined.

5.3 The EGOI: encouraging signs

The EGOI was created to champion female participation in informatics, and one might hope to see that mission reflected in its task-authorship pool. Table 8 (below) shows the year-by-year gender breakdown. The numbers are small, but the trend points to positive change.

The inaugural EGOI in 2021 featured one female-authored task: *Shopping Fever* by Monika Steinová, establishing her unique role as a bridge between the IOI and the emerging EGOI. The 2022 and 2023 editions, however, had no female task authors at all. In 2024, Jasmin Studer (Switzerland) authored *Bouquet*, bringing the female count back to one.

The 2025 edition marks a notable step forward. Two of the ten author slots are held by women: Anja Dožić (Serbia, *Gift Boxes*) and Eliška Macáková (Slovakia, IMO), bringing the female share to 20% for that edition. While the absolute numbers remain small and a single edition is too little to call a trend, it is the highest female representation in EGOI task authorship to date.

Given the small sample sizes involved, these figures should be interpreted cautiously and not as evidence of causation. The coincidence of the EGOI's existence and a rise in female authorship is encouraging, but many other factors may be at play.

Table 8: Gender breakdown of EGOI task authorships by year. Counts reflect individual author slots.

Year	Tasks	Male	Female	Authorships	% Female
2021	8	9	1	10	10.0%
2022	8	8	0	8	0.0%
2023	8	9	0	9	0.0%
2024	8	7	1	8	12.5%
2025	8	8	2	10	20.0%
Total	40	41	4	45	8.9%

5.4 Female task authors to celebrate

Across both competitions, nine women have authored or co-authored a total of thirteen tasks. Several deserve particular recognition:

- **Monika Steinová** (Slovakia): five tasks (four IOI, one EGOI), by far the most prolific female task author at either competition. Her work spans from 2010 to 2021, and she remains the only woman to have authored tasks at both the IOI and EGOI.
- **Cecile Crutzen** and **Conny Veugen** (the Netherlands): one task each at IOI 1995.
- **Jasmin Studer** (Switzerland), **Anja Dožić** (Serbia), and **Eliška Macáková** (Slovakia): the three women who authored EGOI tasks in 2024–2025. All three are former contestants who have "come full circle": Studer competed at IOI 2023 and EGOI 2021–2023; Dožić competed at EGOI 2021–2024; Macáková competed at both IOI 2021–2024 and EGOI 2021– 2024. Their pathway from contestant to author, achieved within just one to two years of their final competition, is an encouraging sign for the future.

The complete list of all thirteen female-authored tasks appears in Appendix D.

The EGOI's 8.9% overall female authorship is an improvement over the IOI's 4.1%, and the jump to 20% in 2025 suggests that the EGOI, by expanding the pool of female contestants, is developing its own contestant-to-author pipeline. It would be valuable for future organising committees to sustain and ideally accelerate this trend, for instance by actively soliciting task proposals from women in the competitive-informatics community.

6. The Broader Landscape of Task Creation

This section provides brief context on the wider ecosystem of competitive informatics. The IOI and EGOI are the focus of this article, but they are far from the only consumers of high-quality algorithmic tasks. Understanding this broader landscape helps explain where IOI task authors develop their craft.

6.1 Regional and national competitions

Between the national olympiads and the IOI lies a layer of regional competitions: the Baltic Olympiad in Informatics (BOI, since 1995), the Central European Olympiad in Informatics (CEOI, since 1994), the Balkan Olympiad in Informatics, the Asia-Pacific Informatics Olympiad (APIO, since 2007), the European Junior Olympiad in Informatics (EJOI, since 2017), and the Western European Olympiad in Informatics (WEOI, since 2023).[2] Each requires original problems that cannot be reused at the IOI.

At the national level, some countries have opened their selection contests to international participation.[3] The USA Computing Olympiad (USACO) alone produces 48–64 new problems per year across its four divisions.

6.2 University and online competitions

At the university level, the International Collegiate Programming Contest (ICPC) dwarfs many other competitions in scale: in recent years, over 60,000 team members from some 3,450 universities in 111 countries have participated annually.[4]

Online platforms have created another vast demand for original problems.[5] Codeforces hosts weekly contests for a large global community; Advent of Code draws a massive following each December.

7. Gaps, Errors, and an Invitation

This catalogue is the product of personal research and should not be considered authoritative. Despite my best efforts, 24 IOI tasks remain without an identified author, and some attributions may be incomplete or incorrect.

7.1 Where the gaps are

The gaps in the catalogue are concentrated in the following periods:

- **1990–1994**: No authorship information could be found for any task. For 1992, the countries of origin are known but authors remain unidentified.
- **1997**: No authorship information could be found for any task.
- **2000, 2003, 2004**: A small number of tasks remain unattributed.

For some tasks in 2003, only "Local SC" (the local Scientific Committee) is credited, without naming individuals. Similarly, the "HSC" (Host Scientific Committee) appears as a co-credit at IOI 2017.

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[2]See: BOI (https://boi.cses.fi), CEOI (https://ceoi.sk), Balkan OI (https://boi-official.com), APIO (https://apio.olympiad.org), EJOI (https://ejoi.org), WEOI (https://weoi.org).
[3]See: USACO (https://usaco.org), Italian OII (https://oii.olinfo.it), Indonesian TOKI (https://toki.id).
[4]See https://icpc.foundation.
[5]See: Codeforces (https://codeforces.com), AtCoder (https://atcoder.jp), CodeChef (https://codechef.com), Advent of Code (https://adventofcode.com).

7.2 Evolving authorship norms

The concept of individual task authorship has itself evolved over the IOI's history. In the early years, tasks were often treated as the collective output of the host Scientific Committee rather than as the work of named individuals. The very notion of crediting a specific person as "the author" may not have been part of the culture at the time.

This means that the gaps in the early data are not simply an archival failure. They partly reflect a historical context in which authorship was not considered worth recording. As the IOI matured and its task-selection process became more formalised, individual authorship became the norm, and with it came better record-keeping.

7.3 Sources and methodology

I should be transparent about how this data was collected. This catalogue was not compiled with the rigour of a formal academic study. My sources include official IOI and EGOI websites, task packages, contest booklets, and various community resources. For every year, I also tried to reach out directly to the organisers where I know them, or indirectly through mutual contacts where I do not.

Several former task authors and organisers generously responded to my emails and helped fill in gaps. The data is, in other words, the product of a good-faith effort rather than a systematic archival investigation. I have done my best to be accurate, but I am certain that errors remain.

For the former-contestants analysis in Section 4, task author names were matched against the IOI contestant database maintained at https://stats.ioinformatics.org. Name variations—including accented characters, alternate romanisations, and different name orderings—were resolved manually. This matching is necessarily imperfect: some contestant-authors may have been missed if their names appear differently in the two datasets, and the true count of 66 should be considered a lower bound.

7.4 A living dataset

I intend to keep this catalogue updated as new editions of the IOI and EGOI take place, and I would love your help in making it more complete. If you were involved in the early years of the IOI and remember who wrote a particular task, or if you spot an error in the data, please drop me a line. The same goes for former ISC members, host-country organisers, and anyone else with first-hand knowledge of how tasks came to be. Even a single name or a half-remembered detail could help fill one of the remaining gaps.

7.5 A historical note

Kenderov (Kenderov, 2017) states that national informatics competitions in Bulgaria have existed since 1981. However, according to Azalov (Azalov, 1989), the first competitions for high school students in informatics took place in 1982. Azalov was a researcher at the Institute of Mathematics, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences; his account was written in the year of the first IOI.

7.6 Behind the scenes

For many years as a team leader, I had little appreciation for what happens behind the scenes at the IOI. It was only through my involvement in organising and presenting the IOI Live Stream that I began to see first-hand how much invisible work goes into each edition. More recently, producing task explanation videos (Schrijvers, 2024) has deepened that appreciation further: dissecting a task after the contest reveals just how carefully each problem has been crafted. The task authors and Scientific Committees do not merely select problems—they assemble a balanced set spanning multiple difficulty levels, often with genuine educational value, where well-designed subtasks guide contestants step by step towards deep algorithmic insights. The quality we have come to take for granted is the product of extraordinary, largely unseen effort.

The EGOI's rapid rise owes much to people not in this catalogue. Stefanie Zbinden of Switzerland founded the competition, inspired by EGMO. Charlotte Knierim, also of Switzerland, has been part of the organisational backbone: event coordinator in 2021, Scientific Committee member since 2023, involved in every edition. Her quiet, sustained work—coordinating tasks, managing the pipeline, liaising with authors—is exactly what allows a young competition to thrive.

Having been an organiser since the first EGOI, spending time on the International Committee, having hosted the 2024 edition in the Netherlands, and chairing the GA in 2025, I have seen firsthand how much work is done by unseen volunteers like Zbinden and Knierim. The EGOI, like the IOI, is the product not only of its task authors but of a broader community of people who make the competition possible.

7.7 Acknowledgements

I am grateful to the many people, old and young, who helped me collect the data in this catalogue, who gave feedback, and who helped this document become what it is.

8. Conclusion

Over nearly four decades, the IOI has challenged the world's most talented young programmers with tasks of exceptional quality. Since 2021, the EGOI has been doing the same for young women across Europe and beyond. This article has sought to identify and recognise the people behind those tasks.

The catalogue identifies a community of 135 individuals at the IOI and 32 at the EGOI, representing 45 and 20 countries respectively. Among them, 66 were themselves former IOI contestants—49% of the known authors—a "full circle" pathway that has grown steadily since the first such author appeared in 2001. This contestant-to-author pipeline represents a vital form of community continuity, though the data also shows that the IOI has remained open to fresh perspectives from authors who never competed.

The catalogue also reveals a persistent gender imbalance: only nine women have ever authored a task at either competition. The EGOI's 2025 edition, with two female task authors, is a small but welcome sign of progress, and the record of 33% female authorship at IOI 1995 shows that such representation has been achieved before.

The data is offered as a living document: a starting point rather than a final word. I hope that it will prompt further research, trigger memories, and help ensure that the people who created these problems are no longer invisible.

I would like to end by saying thank you to the invisible contributors of the IOI and the EGOI. You have given so much to our community. Every task you crafted became a formative experience for thousands of young people around the world—a puzzle that kept them up at night, a breakthrough that made them fall in love with computer science. Most of you never heard the applause. I hope this catalogue is at least a small step towards changing that.

A Complete Catalogue of IOI Task Authors

Table 9 presents the full IOI catalogue in reverse chronological order. Where the author is unknown, the entry is marked in italics. Co-authored tasks list all known contributors.

Note that the competition format took time to stabilise: 1989 featured a single task, 1990 and 1991 had two tasks each, and 1992–1993 experimented with different arrangements before the standard six-task format (two days of three tasks) became established in the mid-1990s.

For the period 1990–1994, no authorship information survives in publicly accessible records. The years 1989, 1995–1996, and 1998–1999 are now fully attributed, 1997 remains entirely unknown, and from 2000 onward the record becomes progressively more complete. For some tasks in 2003, only "Local SC" (the local Scientific Committee) is credited without naming individuals.

Table 9: Complete catalogue of IOI task authors, 1989–2025.

Year	Day	Task	Author(s)	Country
2025	1	Souvenirs	Félix Moreno Peñarrubia	Spain
	1	Triple Peaks	Kamil Dębowski	Poland
	1	World Map	Masataka Yoneda, Hirotaka Yoneda	Japan
	2	Festival	Masataka Yoneda, Hirotaka Yoneda	Japan
	2	Migrations	Masataka Yoneda, Hirotaka Yoneda	Japan
	2	Obstacles for a Llama	Sunghyeon Jo	South Korea
2024	1	Nile	Pikatan Arya Bramajati	Indonesia
	1	Message	Arthur Nascimento	Brazil
	1	Tree	Pikatan Arya Bramajati	Indonesia
	2	Hieroglyphs	Félix Moreno Peñarrubia	Spain
	2	Mosaic	Prabowo Djonatan	Indonesia
	2	Sphinx	Joshua Lau	Australia
2023	1	Closing Time	Hirotaka Yoneda, Masataka Yoneda	Japan
	1	Longest Trip	Hazem Issa	Egypt
	1	Soccer	Hirotaka Yoneda, Masataka Yoneda	Japan
	2	Beech Tree	Alireza Keshavarz, Amir Mohammad Shahrezaei	Iran
	2	Overtaking	Bernard Teo	Singapore
	2	Robot Contest	Hirotaka Yoneda, Masataka Yoneda	Japan
2022	1	Catfish Farm	Lim Rui Yuan	Singapore
	1	Prisoner Challenge	Masataka Yoneda, Hirotaka Yoneda	Japan
	1	Radio Towers	Kevin Luiz Ponte Pucci	Portugal
	2	Digital Circuit	Prabowo Djonatan	Indonesia
	2	Rarest Insects	Hazem Issa	Egypt
	2	Thousands Islands	Félix Moreno Peñarrubia	Spain

Year	Day	Task	Author(s)	Country
2021	1	Candies	Nguyen Vu Hoang Vuong	Vietnam
	1	Keys	Tadija Šebez	Serbia
	1	Parks	Pavle Martinović	Serbia
	2	DNA	Agustín Santiago Gutiérrez	Argentina
	2	Dungeons	Ta-Jui Ho (Darryl)	Taiwan
	2	Registers	Maxim Akhmedov	Russia
2020	1	Plants	Sunghyeon Jo	South Korea
	1	Supertrees	Ranald Lam Yun Shao, Ling Yan Hao	Singapore
	1	Tickets	Xiao Mao	China
	2	Biscuits	Mikhail Tikhomirov	Russia
	2	Mushrooms	Angus Ritossa	Australia
	2	Stations	Mikhail Tikhomirov	Russia
2019	1	Arranging Shoes	Danylo Mysak	Ukraine
	1	Split the Attractions	Alireza Farhadi, Saeed Seddighin	Iran
	1	Rectangles	Peyman Jabbarzade	Iran
	2	Broken Line	Tomasz Idziaszek, Jakub Łącki	Poland
	2	Vision Program	Danylo Mysak	Ukraine
	2	Sky Walking	Riku Kawasaki	Japan
2018	1	Combo	Ammar Fathin Sabili	Indonesia
	1	Seats	Mikhail Pyaderkin	Russia
	1	Werewolf	Mohammad Roghani, Helia Ziaei	Iran
	2	Mechanical Doll	Tomasz Idziaszek	Poland
	2	Highway Tolls	Shogo Murai	Japan
	2	Meetings	Riku Kawasaki	Japan
2017	1	Nowruz	Monika Steinová, Michal Forišek, HSC	Slovakia
	1	Wiring	Aleksandar Ilić	Serbia
	1	Toy Train	Saeed Seddighin	Iran
	2	The Big Prize	Hamed Valizadeh	Iran
	2	Simurgh	Saeed Seddighin	Iran
	2	Ancient Books	Daniel Graf	Switzerland
2016	1	Detecting Molecules	Shi-Chun Tsai	Taiwan
	1	Roller Coaster Railroad	Kento Nikaido	Japan
	1	Shortcut	Gleb Evstropov	Russia
	2	Paint by Numbers	Michal Forišek	Slovakia
	2	Unscrambling a Messy Bug	Shi-Chun Tsai	Taiwan
	2	Aliens	Chethiya Abeysinghe	Sri Lanka

Year	Day	Task	Author(s)	Country
2015	1	Boxes with Souvenirs	Monika Steinová	Slovakia
	1	Scales	Eryk Kopczyński	Poland
	1	Teams	Adam Karczmarz	Poland
	2	Horses	Mansur Kutybayev	Kazakhstan
	2	Sorting	Weidong Hu	China
	2	Towns	Bang Ye Wu	Taiwan
2014	1	Rail	Vytautas Gruslys	Lithuania
	1	Wall	Bartosz Tarnawski	Poland
	1	Game	Jonathan Mosheiff, Nir Lavee	Israel
	2	Gondola	Michal Forišek	Slovakia
	2	Friend	Sun-Yuan Hsieh	Taiwan
	2	Holiday	Jakub Łącki	Poland
2013	1	Dreaming	Kazuhiro Hosaka	Japan
	1	Art Class	John Dethridge	Australia
	1	Wombats	Richard Peng	USA
	2	Cave	Amaury Pouly, Arthur Charguéraud	France
	2	Robots	Vytautas Gruslys	Lithuania
	2	Game	Monika Steinová	Slovakia
2012	1	Pebbling Odometer	Michal Forišek	Slovakia
	1	Parachute Rings	Michal Forišek	Slovakia
	1	Crayfish Scrivener	Bruce Merry	South Africa
	2	Ideal City	Aleksandar Ilić, Andreja Ilić	Serbia
	2	Last Supper	Richard Královič	Slovakia
	2	Jousting Tournament	Luke Harrison	Australia
2011	1	Tropical Garden	Normunds Vilciņš	Latvia
	1	Race	Martin Fixman	Argentina
	1	Ricehub	Christian Kauth	Luxembourg
	2	Crocodile	Mihai Pătraşcu	Romania
	2	Elephants	Mihai Pătraşcu	Romania
	2	Parrots	Jittat Fakcharoenphol	Thailand
2010	1	Cluedo	Gordon Cormack	Canada
	1	Hotter Colder	Gordon Cormack	Canada
	1	Quality of Living	Christopher Chen	Australia
	1	Language	Gordon Cormack	Canada
	2	Memory	Gordon Cormack	Canada
	2	Traffic	Jorge Bernadas	Venezuela
	2	Maze	Monika Steinová, Michal Forišek	Slovakia
	2	Save it	Mihai Pătraşcu	Romania

Year	Day	Task	Author(s)	Country
2009	1	Archery	Velin Tzanov	Bulgaria
	1	Hiring	Velin Tzanov	Bulgaria
	1	Poi	Carl Hultquist	South Africa
	1	Raisins	Emil Kelevedjiev	Bulgaria
	2	Garage	Carl Hultquist	South Africa
	2	Mecho	Carl Hultquist	South Africa
	2	Regions	Long Fan, Richard Peng	China
	2	Salesman	Velin Tzanov	Bulgaria
2008	1	Type Printer	Richard Peng	Canada
	1	Islands	Mohamed Taha	Egypt
	1	Fish	Velin Tzanov	Bulgaria
	2	Linear Garden	Aleksandar Ilić	Serbia
	2	Pyramid Base	Richard Peng	Canada
	2	Teleporters	Masaki Watanabe	Japan
2007	1	Aliens	Pavel Pankov	Kyrgyzstan
	1	Flood	Luka Kalinovčić	Croatia
	1	Sails	Ivan Sikiric	Croatia
	2	Miners	Lovro Pužar	Croatia
	2	Pairs	Luka Kalinovčić	Croatia
	2	Trainings	Luka Kalinovčić	Croatia
2006	1	Forbidden Subgraph	Francisco Zaragoza	Mexico
	1	Pyramid	Hugo Ryckeboer	Argentina
	1	Deciphering the Mayan Writing	Cesar Cepeda	Mexico
	2	A Black Box Game	Cesar Cepeda, Hugo Ryckeboer	Mexico
	2	The Valley of Mexico	Francisco Zaragoza, Feliú Sagols, Criel Merino	Mexico
	2	Joining Points	Criel Merino	Mexico
2005	1	Garden	Mathias Hiron, Szymon Acedański	France
	1	Mean Sequence	Tom Verhoeff, Szymon Acedański	the Netherlands
	1	Mountain	Jakub Pawlewicz, Anna Niewiarowska	Poland
	2	Birthday	Jakub Pawlewicz	Poland
	2	Rectangle Game	Jakub Radoszewski, Marcin Kubica	Poland
	2	Rivers	Łukasz Kowalik	Poland
2004	1	Artemis	Bruce Merry	South Africa
	1	Hermes	Elias Koutsoupias	Greece
	1	Polygon	Yannis Emiris	Greece
	2	Empodia	Yannis Emiris	Greece
	2	Farmer	unknown	unknown
	2	Phidias	Vasilis Zisimopoulos	Greece

Year	Day	Task	Author(s)	Country
2003	1	Trail Maintenance	Local SC	unknown
	1	Comparing Code	Local SC	unknown
	1	Reverse	Tom Verhoeff	the Netherlands
	2	Guess Which Cow	Local SC	unknown
	2	Amazing Robots	unknown	unknown
	2	Seeing the Boundary	Local SC	unknown
2002	1	The Troublesome Frog	Soo-Hwan Kim, Greg Galperin	South Korea, USA
	1	Utopia Divided	Sergejs Mel,n, iks, Jung-Hum Park, Chong-Dae Park, Kee-Moon Song, Ian Munro	Latvia, South Korea, Canada
	1	XOR	Hwan-Gue Cho, Chong-Dae Park, Jyrki Nummenmaa	South Korea, Finland
	2	Batch Scheduling	Hee-Chul Kim, Jyrki Nummenmaa	South Korea, Finland
	2	Bus Terminals	Chan-Su Shin, Djura Paunić	South Korea, Serbia
	2	Two Rods	Hwan-Gue Cho, Ian Munro	South Korea, Canada
2001	1	Mobile Phones	Timo Tossavainen, Jyrki Nummenmaa	Finland
	1	Ioiwari Game	Gyula Horváth	Hungary
	1	Twofive	Sergejs Mel,n, iks, Tero Karras	Latvia, Finland
	2	Score	Timo Poranen, Jyrki Nummenmaa	Finland
	2	Double Crypt	Tom Verhoeff	the Netherlands
	2	Depot	Jyrki Nummenmaa, Erkki Mäkinen	Finland
2000	1	Palindrome	Erkki Mäkinen[6]	Finland
	1	Car Parking	Lin Xiao	China
	1	Median Strength	Tom Verhoeff	the Netherlands
	2	Walls	Hong Wang, Donglin Xia	China
	2	Post Office	Hong Wang, Donglin Xia	China
	2	Building with Blocks	Hong Wang, Donglin Xia	China
1999	1	Little Shop of Flowers	Halit Oğuztüzün	Türkiye
	1	Hidden Codes	Faruk Polat	Türkiye
	1	Underground City	Göktürk Üçoluk	Türkiye
	2	Traffic Lights	İsmail Hakkı Toroslu	Türkiye
	2	Flatten	İsmail Hakkı Toroslu	Türkiye
	2	A Strip of Land	İsmail Hakkı Toroslu	Türkiye

Year	Day	Task	Author(s)	Country
1998	1	Contact	Luís Caires	Portugal
	1	Starry Night	Artur Miguel Dias	Portugal
	1	Party Lamps	Nuno Mamede	Portugal
	2	Picture	Manuel Próspero dos Santos	Portugal
	2	Camelot	Luís Caires	Portugal
	2	Polygon	Margarida Mamede	Portugal
1997	1	Mars Explorer	unknown	unknown
	1	Game of Hex	unknown	unknown
	1	Toxic iShongololo	unknown	unknown
	2	Map Labelling	unknown	unknown
	2	Character Recognition	unknown	unknown
	2	Stacking Containers	unknown	unknown
1996	1	A Game	Gyula Horváth	Hungary
	1	Job Processing	Gyula Horváth	Hungary
	1	Network of Schools	Gyula Horváth	Hungary
	2	Sorting a Three-Valued Sequence	Gyula Horváth	Hungary
	2	Longest Prefix	Gyula Horváth	Hungary
	2	Magic Squares	Gyula Horváth	Hungary
1995	1	Packing Rectangles	Peter Kluit	the Netherlands
	1	Shopping Offers	Jacco Gnodde	the Netherlands
	1	Printing	Cecile Crutzen	the Netherlands
	2	Letter Game	Conny Veugen	the Netherlands
	2	Street Race	Pim van den Broek	the Netherlands
	2	Wires and Switches	Tom Verhoeff	the Netherlands
1994	1	The Triangle	unknown	unknown
	1	The Castle	unknown	unknown
	1	The Primes	unknown	unknown
	2	The Clocks	unknown	unknown
	2	The Buses	unknown	unknown
	2	The Circle	unknown	unknown
1993	1	Necklace	unknown	unknown
	1	Company	unknown	unknown
	1	Rectangles	unknown	unknown
	2	Canadian Airlines	unknown	unknown

[6]Following multiple exchanges with committee members from China, Hungary, the Netherlands, and Finland, we believe that Erkki Mäkinen was probably the author; however, this is not 100% certain.

Year	Day	Task	Author(s)	Country
1992	1	Islands in the Sea	unknown	United Kingdom
	2	Climbing a Mountain	unknown	China
1991	1	Square	unknown	unknown
	2	S-Terms	unknown	unknown
1990	1	Schedule	unknown	unknown
	2	Robots	unknown	unknown
1989	1	Boxes	Wenhu Wu[7]	China

[7]Based on available records, Wenhu Wu of China is believed to be the probable author of this task.

B Complete Catalogue of EGOI Task Authors

Table 10 presents the full EGOI catalogue. Complete authorship records exist for every task.

Table 10: Complete catalogue of EGOI task authors, 2021–2025.

Year	Day	Task	Author(s)	Country
2025	1	Gift Boxes	Anja Dožić	Serbia
	1	Dark Ride	Ivan Gaspardy	New Zealand
	1	Monster Go	Darío Martínez Ramírez, Manuel Torres Cid	Spain
	1	Wind Turbines	Chur Zhe Yaw, Shi Wei Tia	Singapore
	2	String Problem	Yoav Linhart	Israel
	2	Currents	Brian Lee Jun Siang	Singapore
	2	IMO	Eliška Macáková	Slovakia
	2	Laser Strike	Luca Versari	Italy
2024	1	Infinite Race	Nils Gustafsson	Sweden
	1	Bouquet	Jasmin Studer	Switzerland
	1	Team Coding	Yann Viegas	France
	1	Garden Decorations	Massimo Cairo	Italy
	2	Circle Passing	Hazem Issa	Egypt
	2	Bikeparking	Nils Gustafsson	Sweden
	2	Light Bulbs	Viktor Kozhuharov	Bulgaria
	2	Make them Meet	Hazem Issa	Egypt
2023	1	Inflation	Isaac Chan	Hong Kong
	1	Padel Prize Pursuit	Pavle Martinović, Mladen Puzić	Serbia
	1	Find the Box	Nils Gustafsson	Sweden
	1	Bikes vs Cars	Nils Gustafsson	Sweden
	2	Carnival General	Nils Gustafsson	Sweden
	2	Candy	Yann Viegas	France
	2	Sopsug	Jakub Tarnawski	Poland
	2	Guessing Game	Edward Xiao	Canada
2022	1	SubsetMex	Hazem Issa	Egypt
	1	Lego Wall	Michal Švagerka	Czech Republic
	1	Social Engineering	Nils Gustafsson	Sweden
	1	Tourists	Stanisław Czech	Poland
	2	Data Centers	Cheng Zhong	China
	2	Superpiece	Michal Švagerka	Czech Republic
	2	Toy Design	Petr Mitrichev	Switzerland
	2	Chika Wants to Cheat	Vlad Gavrila	Romania

Year	Day	Task	Author(s)	Country
2021	1	Number of Zeros	Jakub Tarnawski	Poland
	1	Luna likes Love	Mladen Puzić	Serbia
	1	Twin Cookies	Ofer Wald	Israel
	1	Lanterns	Benjamin Qi, Richard Qi, Siyong Huang	USA
	2	Shopping Fever	Monika Steinová	Slovakia
	2	Railways	Antti Röyskö	Finland
	2	Angry Cows	Nils Gustafsson	Sweden
	2	Double Move	Petr Mitrichev	Switzerland

C Top Authors by Raw Task Count

Table 11 ranks authors by the number of tasks they authored or co-authored, without adjusting for co-authorship. Compare with Table 1 (on page 4) in the main text.

Table 11: Most prolific task authors by raw task count.

Rank	Author	Tasks	Country	Years	Span
1	Hirotaka Yoneda	7	Japan	2022–2025	4
	Masataka Yoneda	7	Japan	2022–2025	4
	Gyula Horváth	7	Hungary	1996–2001	6
4	Michal Forišek	6	Slovakia	2010–2017	8
5	Tom Verhoeff	5	the Netherlands	1995–2005	11
	Jyrki Nummenmaa	5	Finland	2001–2002	2
7	Monika Steinová	4	Slovakia	2010–2017	8
	Richard Peng	4	Canada, China, USA	2008–2013	6
	Gordon Cormack	4	Canada	2010	1
	Velin Tzanov	4	Bulgaria	2008–2009	2
11	Félix Moreno Peñarrubia	3	Spain	2022–2025	4
	Saeed Seddighin	3	Iran	2017–2019	3
	Aleksandar Ilić	3	Serbia	2008–2017	10
	Mihai Pătraşcu	3	Romania	2010–2011	2
	Carl Hultquist	3	South Africa	2009	1
	Luka Kalinovčić	3	Croatia	2007	1
	Hong Wang	3	China	2000	1
	Donglin Xia	3	China	2000	1

D Complete List of Female-Authored Tasks

Table 12 lists every task at either the IOI or EGOI that involved at least one female author.

Table 12: All IOI and EGOI tasks with at least one female author.

Comp.	Year	Task	Author(s)	Country
IOI	2018	Werewolf	Mohammad Roghani, Helia Ziaei	Iran
IOI	2017	Nowruz	Monika Steinová, Michal Forišek, HSC	Slovakia
IOI	2015	Boxes with Souvenirs	Monika Steinová	Slovakia
IOI	2013	Game	Monika Steinová	Slovakia
IOI	2010	Maze	Monika Steinová, Michal Forišek	Slovakia
IOI	2005	Mountain	Jakub Pawlewicz, Anna Niewiarowska	Poland
IOI	1998	Polygon	Margarida Mamede	Portugal
IOI	1995	Printing	Cecile Crutzen	the Netherlands
IOI	1995	Letter Game	Conny Veugen	the Netherlands
EGOI	2025	Gift Boxes	Anja Dožić	Serbia
EGOI	2025	IMO	Eliška Macáková	Slovakia
EGOI	2024	Bouquet	Jasmin Studer	Switzerland
EGOI	2021	Shopping Fever	Monika Steinová	Slovakia

E IOI Task Authors Who Were Former Contestants

Of the 135 known IOI task authors, 66 were themselves IOI contestants at some point. Table 13 lists these individuals, sorted alphabetically by surname. The δ column shows the number of years between their final contest appearance and their first authored task.

Table 13: IOI task authors who were former IOI contestants.

Author	Country	Contestant	Author	δ
Chethiya Abeysinghe	Sri Lanka	2002–2007	2016	9
Maxim Akhmedov	Russia	2012	2021	9
Pikatan Arya Bramajati	Indonesia	2020, 2021	2024	3
Cesar Cepeda	Mexico	1993	2006	13
Arthur Charguéraud	France	2002	2013	11
Christopher Chen	Australia	2005–2007	2010	3
Gleb Evstropov	Russia	2010	2016	6
Jittat Fakcharoenphol	Thailand	1992	2011	19
Alireza Farhadi	Iran	2012	2019	7

Author	Country	Contestant	Author	δ
Martin Fixman	Argentina	2008–2010	2011	1
Long Fan	China	2005, 2006	2009	3
Michal Forišek	Slovakia	1998, 1999	2010	11
Daniel Graf	Switzerland	2009	2017	8
Agustín Santiago Gutiérrez	Argentina	2006, 2007	2021	14
Vytautas Gruslys	Lithuania	2006–2008	2013	5
Luke Harrison	Australia	2010	2012	2
Ta-Jui Ho	Taiwan	2016	2021	5
Kazuhiro Hosaka	Japan	2008, 2009	2013	4
Weidong Hu	China	2004, 2005	2015	10
Carl Hultquist	South Africa	1999, 2000	2009	9
Aleksandar Ilić	Serbia	2002, 2003, 2005	2008	3
Andreja Ilić	Serbia	2006	2012	6
Hazem Issa	Egypt	2019–2021	2022	1
Peyman Jabbarzade	Iran	2015	2019	4
Sunghyeon Jo	South Korea	2014, 2015	2020	5
Luka Kalinovčić	Croatia	2002–2004	2007	3
Adam Karczmarz	Poland	2009	2015	6
Tero Karras	Finland	1997–2000	2001	1
Christian Kauth	Luxembourg	2003, 2004	2011	7
Riku Kawasaki	Japan	2016, 2017	2018	1
Alireza Keshavarz	Iran	2021	2023	2
Eryk Kopczyński	Poland	1998	2015	17
Richard Královič	Slovakia	1997–1999	2012	13
Jakub Łącki	Poland	2004, 2005	2014	9
Joshua Lau	Australia	2012, 2013	2024	11
Xiao Mao	China	2017	2020	3
Félix Moreno Peñarrubia	Spain	2018	2022	4
Pavle Martinović	Serbia	2018	2021	3
Bruce Merry	South Africa	1996–2001	2004	3
Jonathan Mosheiff	Israel	2003–2005	2014	9
Shogo Murai	Japan	2010–2012	2018	6
Arthur Nascimento	Brazil	2014	2024	10
Danylo Mysak	Ukraine	2005	2019	14
Jakub Pawlewicz	Poland	1994–1996	2005	9
Mihai Pătraşcu	Romania	1999–2001	2010	9
Richard Peng	Canada, USA, China	2004–2006	2008	2
Amaury Pouly	France	2005	2013	8

Author	Country	Contestant	Author	δ
Kevin Luiz Ponte Pucci	Portugal	2017–2019	2022	3
Lovro Pužar	Croatia	2002, 2004	2007	3
Mikhail Pyaderkin	Russia	2010	2018	8
Angus Ritossa	Australia	2017–2019	2020	1
Ammar Fathin Sabili	Indonesia	2013	2018	5
Saeed Seddighin	Iran	2007	2017	10
Tadija Šebez	Serbia	2018–2020	2021	1
Ranald Lam Yun Shao	Singapore	2012–2014	2020	6
Bernard Teo	Singapore	2012, 2013	2023	10
Ivan Sikiric	Croatia	2001, 2002	2007	5
Kee-Moon Song	South Korea	1999	2002	3
Mohamed Taha	Egypt	2001	2008	7
Velin Tzanov	Bulgaria	2001, 2002	2008	6
Hamed Valizadeh	Iran	2012, 2013	2017	4
Normunds Vilciņš	Latvia	2009, 2010	2011	1
Masaki Watanabe	Japan	2006	2008	2
Hirotaka Yoneda	Japan	2018, 2020	2022	2
Masataka Yoneda	Japan	2018–2020	2022	2
Lim Rui Yuan	Singapore	2020, 2021	2022	1

F EGOI Task Authors Who Were Former Contestants

Seventeen EGOI task authors were former contestants at either the IOI or the EGOI (or both). Table 14 (below) lists these individuals, sorted alphabetically by surname. IOI contestant years are marked with *.

Table 14: EGOI task authors who were former contestants. IOI contestant years are marked with *.

Author	Country	Contestant	Author	δ
Massimo Cairo	Italy	2007–2010*	2024	14
Anja Dožić	Serbia	2021–2024	2025	1
Siyong Huang	USA	2021*	2021	0
Hazem Issa	Egypt	2019–2021*	2022, 2024	1
Viktor Kozhuharov	Bulgaria	2019*, 2021*	2024	3
Eliška Macáková	Slovakia	2021–2024*, 2021–2024	2025	1
Pavle Martinović	Serbia	2018*	2023	5
Petr Mitrichev	Switzerland	2000–2002*	2021, 2022	19

Author	Country	Contestant	Author	δ
Mladen Puzić	Serbia	2019*, 2020*	2021, 2023	1
Benjamin Qi	USA	2018*, 2019*	2021	2
Richard Qi	USA	2021*	2021	0
Antti Röyskö	Finland	2017*	2021	4
Jasmin Studer	Switzerland	2023*, 2021–2023	2024	1
Manuel Torres Cid	Spain	2022*	2025	3
Luca Versari	Italy	2012*	2025	13
Yann Viegas	France	2022*	2023, 2024	1
Edward Xiao	Canada	2022*	2023	1

G Host Countries

Table 15 lists the host country for each IOI and EGOI edition.

Table 15: Host countries for the IOI (1989–2025) and EGOI (2021–2025).

	IOI		IOI (cont.)		EGOI
Year	Host	Year	Host	Year	Host
1989	Bulgaria	2008	Egypt	2021	Switzerland
1990	Soviet Union	2009	Bulgaria	2022	Türkiye
1991	Greece	2010	Canada	2023	Sweden
1992	Germany	2011	Thailand	2024	the Netherlands
1993	Argentina	2012	Italy	2025	Germany
1994	Sweden	2013	Australia		
1995	the Netherlands	2014	Taiwan		
1996	Hungary	2015	Kazakhstan		
1997	South Africa	2016	Russia		
1998	Portugal	2017	Iran		
1999	Türkiye	2018	Japan		
2000	China	2019	Azerbaijan		
2001	Finland	2020	Singapore		
2002	South Korea	2021	Singapore		
2003	USA	2022	Indonesia		
2004	Greece	2023	Hungary		
2005	Poland	2024	Egypt		
2006	Mexico	2025	Bolivia		
2007	Croatia				

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About the Author

Eljakim Schrijvers, though most people just call him Kim (the "elja" is silent, apparently), is deeply involved in the IOI community. He has been part of every EGOI since its start in 2021 and was the organiser of EGOI 2024 in the Netherlands.

He also contributes behind the scenes, having served for many years as treasurer of the IOI. On the technical side, he runs contest systems for multiple Bebras and Kangourou Sans Frontières (KSF) countries, and has built the registration database used by many contests.

Kim also runs a YouTube channel where he explains algorithms in short, accessible videos, sometimes with more enthusiasm (and content) than production quality.

When he's not working on his company, organising contests, or talking about algorithms, he can occasionally be found on a golf course, though not very successfully, by his own admission. He insists he enjoys it anyway.