

CSE 431/531B: Algorithm Analysis and Design (Fall 2023)  
Introduction and Syllabus

Lecturer: Kelin Luo

*Department of Computer Science and Engineering  
University at Buffalo*

# Outline

- 1 Syllabus
- 2 Introduction
  - What is an Algorithm?
  - Example: Insertion Sort
  - Analysis of Insertion Sort
- 3 Asymptotic Notations
- 4 Common Running times

# CSE 431/531 B: Algorithm Analysis and Design

- Course Webpage (contains schedule, policies, and slides):  
<https://cse.buffalo.edu/~kelinluo/teaching/cse431B:531B-fall23/index.html>
- Please sign up course on Piazza via link  
<https://piazza.com/buffalo/fall2023/cse431531b> on course webpage
  - homeworks, solutions, announcements, polls, asking/answering questions

Acknowledgement: The course design and information primarily draw inspiration from Prof. Shi Li's Algorithm Analysis and Design course in Fall 2022.

- Time & Location : Mon-Wed-Fri, 2:00pm - 2:50pm, Norton 190
- Instructor: Kelin Luo, kelinluo@buffalo.edu
- TAs:
  - Yifan Yang, yyang99@buffalo.edu
  - Sayem Khan, skhan61@buffalo.edu
  - Yuxin Liu, yuxinliu@buffalo.edu
- Office hour

You **should** already have/know:

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- **Mathematical Background**
  - basic reasoning skills, inductive proofs

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- Some Programming Experience
  - e.g. Python, C, C++ or Java



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- NP-completeness

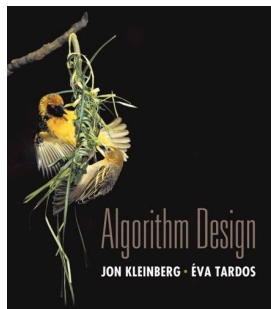
# Tentative Schedule

- 50 Minutes/Lecture  $\times$  41 Lectures

Introduction	3 lectures
Graph Basics	4 lectures
Greedy Algorithms	6 lectures
Divide and Conquer	6 lectures
Dynamic Programming	8 lectures
Graph Algorithms	7 lectures
NP-Completeness	4 lectures
Final Review	3 lectures

Textbook (Highly Recommended):

- Algorithm Design, 1st Edition, by *Jon Kleinberg* and *Eva Tardos*



Other Reference Books

- Introduction to Algorithms, Third Edition, *Thomas Cormen*, *Charles Leiserson*, *Ronald Rivest*, *Clifford Stein*

# Reading Before Classes

- Highly recommended: read the correspondent sections from the textbook (or reference book) before classes
  - Sections for each lecture can be found on the course webpage.
- Slides are posted on course webpage. They may get updated after the classes.
- In last lecture of a major topic (Greedy Algorithms, Divide and Conquer, Dynamic Programming, Graph Algorithms), I will discuss exercise problems, which will be posted on the course webpage before class.

# Grading

- 5% for participation
  - In-class discussions or quizzes will be given randomly. (We choose the best 5 scores out of 8-10 quizzes.)
- 40% for theory homeworks
  - 8 points  $\times$  5 theory homeworks (We choose the best 5 scores out of 6 homeworks.) (Recommendation: typed submissions, e.g. latex.)
- 20% for programming projects
  - 10 points  $\times$  2 programming assignments
- 35% for final exam (closed-book, closed-note)



# For Homeworks, You Are Allowed to

- Use course materials (textbook, reference books, lecture notes, etc)
- Post questions on Piazza
- Ask me or TAs for hints
- Collaborate with classmates
  - Think about each problem for enough time before discussions
  - **Must write down solutions on your own, in your own words**
  - Write down names of students you collaborated with

# For Homeworks, You Are **Not** Allowed to

- Use external resources
  - Can't Google or ask questions online for solutions
  - Can't read posted solutions from other algorithm course webpages
- Copy solutions from other students
- Use of Artificial Intelligence Technologies like OpenAI's ChatGPT, Google Bard, and AI models within search interfaces like Google or Bing, etc.

# For Programming Projects

- Use Python3
- Need to implement the algorithms by yourself
- Can not copy codes from others or the Internet
- We use Moss (<https://theory.stanford.edu/~aiken/moss/>) to detect similarity of programs

# Late Policy

- No late submissions will be accepted.
- 11:59PM EST. Please submit it before the deadline.

## Academic Integrity (AI) Policy for the Course

- minor violation:
  - 0 score for the involved homework/prog. assignment, and
  - 1-letter grade down
- 2 minor violations = 1 major violation
  - failure for the course
  - case will be reported to the department and university
  - further sanctions may include a dishonesty mark on transcript or expulsion from university

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- Last Day to Drop/Add a Course: September 05
- Resign Date: November 10

Questions, please go to Piazza!

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- Computational problem: specifies the input/output relationship.
- An algorithm **solves** a computational problem if it produces the correct output for any given input.

# Examples

## Greatest Common Divisor

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- $(270, 210) \rightarrow (210, 60) \rightarrow (60, 30) \rightarrow (30, 0)$



## Sorting

**Input:** sequence of  $n$  numbers  $(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)$

**Output:** a permutation  $(a'_1, a'_2, \dots, a'_n)$  of the input sequence such that  $a'_1 \leq a'_2 \leq \dots \leq a'_n$

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- Output: 12, 15, 21, 35, 53, 59
- Algorithms: insertion sort, merge sort, quicksort, ...

# Examples

## Shortest Path

**Input:** directed graph  $G = (V, E)$ ,  $s, t \in V$

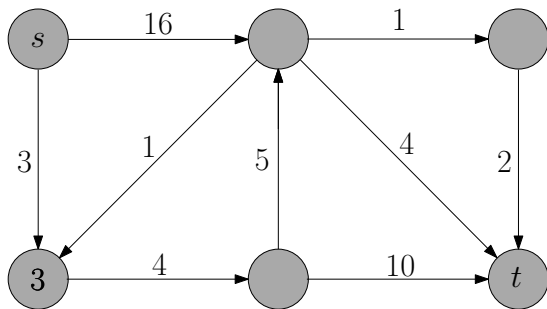
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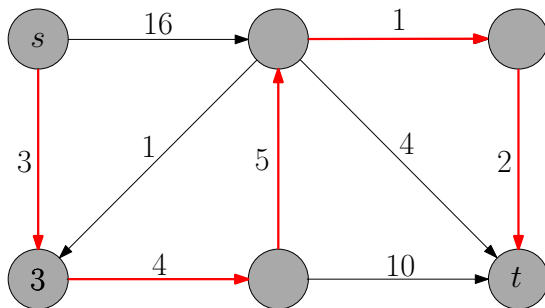


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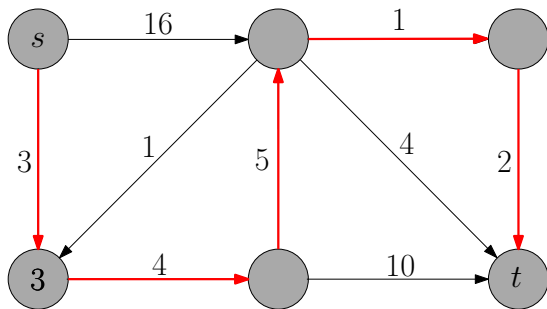


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- Algorithm: Dijkstra's algorithm

# Algorithm = Computer Program?

- Algorithm: “abstract”, can be specified using computer program, English, pseudo-codes or flow charts.
- Computer program: “concrete”, implementation of algorithm, using a particular programming language



# Pseudo-Code

Pseudo-Code:

**Euclidean**( $a, b$ )

- 1: **while**  $b > 0$  **do**
- 2:      $(a, b) \leftarrow (b, a \bmod b)$
- 3: **return**  $a$

Python program:

- `def euclidean(a: int, b: int):`
- `c = 0`
- `while b > 0:`
- `c = b`
- `b = a % b`
- `a = c`
- `return a`

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  - 4 it is fun!