

CSE 431/531: Algorithm Analysis and Design (Spring 2020)

Introduction and Syllabus

Lecturer: Shi Li

*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: Algorithm Analysis and Design

- Course Webpage (contains schedule, policies, homeworks and slides):

<http://www.cse.buffalo.edu/~shil/courses/CSE531/>

- Please sign up course on Piazza via link on course webpage
- announcements, polls, asking/answering questions

CSE 431/531: Algorithm Analysis and Design

- Time and location:
 - MoWeFr, 9:00-9:50am
 - Knox 110.
- Instructor:
 - Shi Li, shil@buffalo.edu, Davis 328
 - Office hours: TBD via poll

You **should** already have/know:

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- Mathematical Background
 - Reasoning, inductions, probabilities

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- Mathematical Background
 - Reasoning, inductions, probabilities
- Basic data Structures
 - Stacks, queues, linked lists
- Some Programming Experience
 - C, C++, Java or Python

You Will Learn

- Classic algorithms for classic problems
 - Sorting, shortest paths, minimum spanning tree, ...

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 - Running time (efficiency)
 - Space requirement (occasionally)

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- Meta techniques to design algorithms
 - Greedy algorithms
 - Divide and conquer
 - Dynamic programming
 - ...

You Will Learn

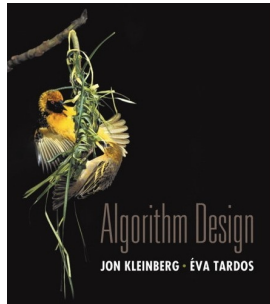
- Classic algorithms for classic problems
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 - Greedy algorithms
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 - Dynamic programming
 - ...
- NP-completeness

Tentative Schedule (42 Lectures)

See the course webpage.

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 and example problems for recitations will be posted on the course webpage before class

Grading

- 40% for homeworks
 - 6 points \times 5 theory homeworks
 - 10 points for programming homework
- 60% for mid-term + final exams, score for two exams is

$$\max\{M \times 20\% + F \times 40\%, M \times 30\% + F \times 30\%\}$$
$$M, F \in [0, 100]$$

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

For Programming Problems

- 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

- You have 1 “late credit”, using it allows you to submit an assignment solution for three days
- With no special reasons, no other late submissions will be accepted

- Mid-Term and Final Exam will be closed-book
- Per Departmental Policy on Academia Integrity Violations, penalty for AI violation is:
 - “F” for the course
 - lose financial support as TA/RA
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Questions?

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What is an Algorithm?

- Donald Knuth: An algorithm is a finite, definite effective procedure, with some input and some output.

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- Donald Knuth: An algorithm is a finite, definite effective procedure, with some input and some output.
- 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

Input: two integers $a, b > 0$

Output: the greatest common divisor of a and b

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- Input: 210, 270
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- Algorithm: Euclidean algorithm

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- Algorithm: Euclidean algorithm
- $\text{gcd}(270, 210) = \text{gcd}(210, 270 \bmod 210) = \text{gcd}(210, 60)$

Examples

Greatest Common Divisor

Input: two integers $a, b > 0$

Output: the greatest common divisor of a and b

Example:

- Input: 210, 270
- Output: 30

- Algorithm: Euclidean algorithm
- $\text{gcd}(270, 210) = \text{gcd}(210, 270 \bmod 210) = \text{gcd}(210, 60)$
- $(270, 210) \rightarrow (210, 60) \rightarrow (60, 30) \rightarrow (30, 0)$

Examples

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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Example:

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Example:

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

Examples

Shortest Path

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

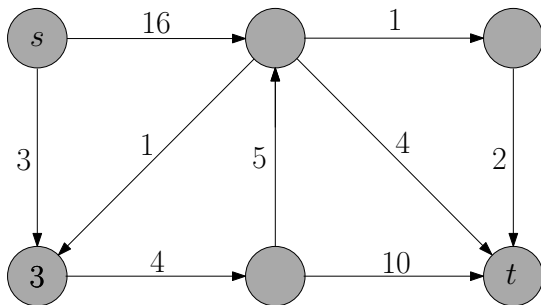
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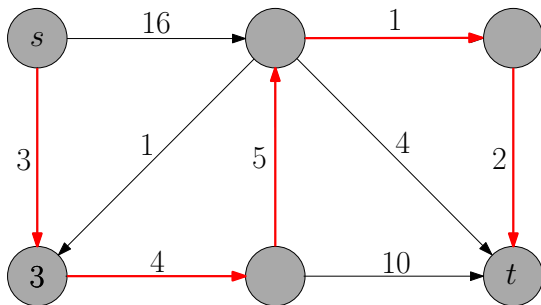


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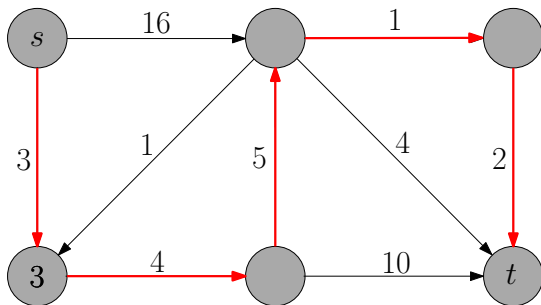


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- Algorithm: Dijkstra's algorithm

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 $b > 0$
- 2 $(a, b) \leftarrow (b, a \bmod b)$
- 3 return a

C++ program:

- int Euclidean(int a, int b){
- int c;
- while (b > 0){
- c = b;
- b = a % b;
- a = c;
- }
- return a;
- }

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 - 4 it is fun!

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- Input: 53, 12, 35, 21, 59, 15
- Output: 12, 15, 21, 35, 53, 59

Insertion-Sort

- At the end of j -th iteration, the first j numbers are sorted.

iteration 1: 53, 12, 35, 21, 59, 15

iteration 2: 12, 53, 35, 21, 59, 15

iteration 3: 12, 35, 53, 21, 59, 15

iteration 4: 12, 21, 35, 53, 59, 15

iteration 5: 12, 21, 35, 53, 59, 15

iteration 6: 12, 15, 21, 35, 53, 59

Example:

- Input: 53, 12, 35, 21, 59, 15
- Output: 12, 15, 21, 35, 53, 59

insertion-sort(A, n)

- 1 for $j \leftarrow 2$ to n
- 2 $key \leftarrow A[j]$
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Analysis of Insertion Sort

- Correctness
- Running time

Correctness of Insertion Sort

- Invariant: after iteration j of outer loop, $A[1..j]$ is the sorted array for the original $A[1..j]$.

after $j = 1$: 53, 12, 35, 21, 59, 15

after $j = 2$: 12, 53, 35, 21, 59, 15

after $j = 3$: 12, 35, 53, 21, 59, 15

after $j = 4$: 12, 21, 35, 53, 59, 15

after $j = 5$: 12, 21, 35, 53, 59, 15

after $j = 6$: 12, 15, 21, 35, 53, 59

Analyzing Running Time of Insertion Sort

- Q1: what is the size of input?

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- possible definition of size :
 - Sorting problem: # integers,
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 - Shortest path in a graph: # edges in graph

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 - For the insertion sort algorithm: if input array is already sorted in ascending order, then algorithm runs much faster than when it is sorted in descending order.

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- Q2: Which input?
 - For the insertion sort algorithm: if input array is already sorted in ascending order, then algorithm runs much faster than when it is sorted in descending order.
- A2: Worst-case analysis:
 - Running time for size n = worst running time over all possible arrays of length n

Analyzing Running Time of Insertion Sort

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- Q4: Programming language?

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- A: **They do not matter!**

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Important idea: asymptotic analysis

- Focus on growth of running-time as a function, not any particular value.

Asymptotic Analysis: O -notation

Informal way to define O -notation:

- Ignoring lower order terms
- Ignoring leading constant

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- $3n^3 + 2n^2 - 18n + 1028 \Rightarrow 3n^3 \Rightarrow n^3$
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- $3n^3 + 2n^2 - 18n + 1028 \Rightarrow 3n^3 \Rightarrow n^3$
- $3n^3 + 2n^2 - 18n + 1028 = O(n^3)$
- $n^2/100 - 3n^2 + 10 \Rightarrow n^2/100 \Rightarrow n^2$

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- programming language
- how we measure the running time: seconds or # instructions?

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- to execute $a \leftarrow b + c$:
 - program 1 requires 10 instructions, or 10^{-8} seconds
 - program 2 requires 2 instructions, or 10^{-9} seconds

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- how we measure the running time: seconds or # instructions?
- to execute $a \leftarrow b + c$:
 - program 1 requires 10 instructions, or 10^{-8} seconds
 - program 2 requires 2 instructions, or 10^{-9} seconds
 - they only change by a constant in the running time, which will be hidden by the $O(\cdot)$ notation

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- Algorithm 2 runs in time $O(n)$

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- Algorithm 2 runs in time $O(n)$
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- Algorithm 2 will eventually beat algorithm 1 as n increases.
- For Algorithm 1: if we increase n by a factor of 2, running time increases by a factor of 4
- For Algorithm 2: if we increase n by a factor of 2, running time increases by a factor of 2

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- Worst-case running time for iteration j of the outer loop?

Asymptotic Analysis of Insertion Sort

insertion-sort(A, n)

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 $= O(\frac{n(n+1)}{2} - 1) = O(n^2)$

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- Can we do better than insertion sort asymptotically?
- Yes: merge sort, quicksort and heap sort take $O(n \log n)$ time

- Remember to sign up for Piazza.

Questions?

Outline

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

Asymptotically Positive Functions

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- Why not (everywhere-)positive functions? Answer: for the sake of convenience.

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O -Notation For a function $g(n)$,

$$O(g(n)) = \{ \text{function } f : \exists c > 0, n_0 > 0 \text{ such that} \\ f(n) \leq cg(n), \forall n \geq n_0 \}.$$

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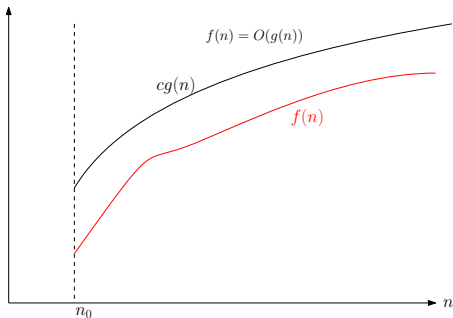
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Proof.

Let $c = 4$ and $n_0 = 50$, for every $n > n_0 = 50$, we have,

$$\begin{aligned} 3n^2 + 2n - c(n^2 - 10n) &= 3n^2 + 2n - 4(n^2 - 10n) \\ &= -n^2 + 40n \leq 0. \end{aligned}$$

$$3n^2 + 2n \leq c(n^2 - 10n)$$



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- Analogy: Mike is a student. ~~A student is Mike.~~

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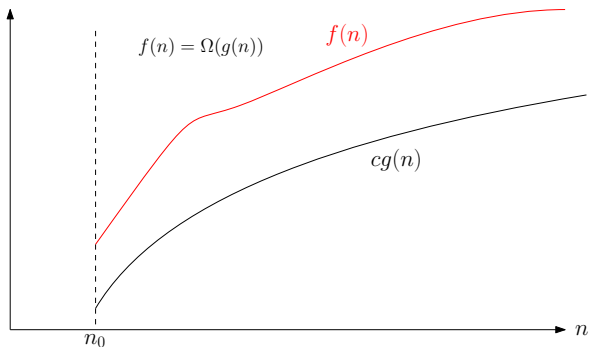
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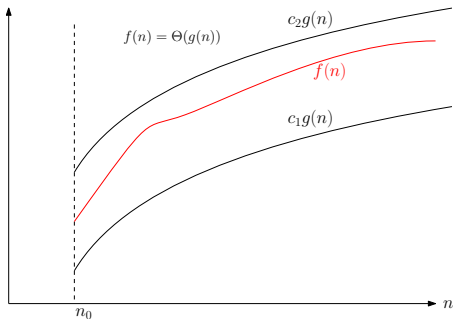
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$$f(n) = n^2$$

$$g(n) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } n \text{ is odd} \\ n^3 & \text{if } n \text{ is even} \end{cases}$$

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- $3n^2 - 10n - 5 = O(n^2)$ is the most natural since n^2 is the simplest term we can have inside $O(\cdot)$.

Notice that O denotes asymptotic upper bound

- $n^2 + 2n = O(n^3)$ is correct.
- The following sentence is correct: the running time of the insertion sort algorithm is $O(n^4)$.
- We say: the running time of the insertion sort algorithm is $O(n^2)$ and **the bound is tight**.

Notice that O denotes asymptotic upper bound

- $n^2 + 2n = O(n^3)$ is correct.
- The following sentence is correct: the running time of the insertion sort algorithm is $O(n^4)$.
- We say: the running time of the insertion sort algorithm is $O(n^2)$ and **the bound is tight**.
- We do not use Ω and Θ very often when we talk about running times.

Exercise

For each pair of functions f, g in the following table, indicate whether f is O, Ω or Θ of g .

f	g	O	Ω	Θ
$n^3 - 100n$	$5n^2 + 3n$			
$3n - 50$	$n^2 - 7n$			
$n^2 - 100n$	$5n^2 + 30n$			
$\log_2 n$	$\log_{10} n$			
$\log^{10} n$	$n^{0.1}$			
2^n	$2^{n/2}$			
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We often use $\log n$ for $\log_2 n$. But for $O(\log n)$, the base is not important.

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Asymptotic Notations	O	Ω	Θ	o	ω
Comparison Relations	\leq	\geq	$=$	$<$	$>$

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Questions?

Outline

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

$O(n)$ (Linear) Running Time

Computing the sum of n numbers

$\text{sum}(A, n)$

- 1 $S \leftarrow 0$
- 2 for $i \leftarrow 1$ to n
- 3 $S \leftarrow S + A[i]$
- 4 return S

$O(n)$ (Linear) Running Time

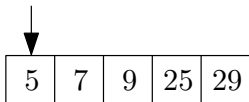
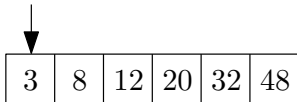
- Merge two sorted arrays

3	8	12	20	32	48
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5	7	9	25	29
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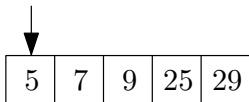
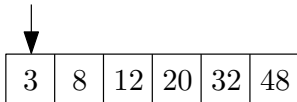
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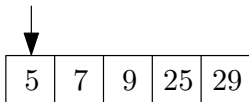
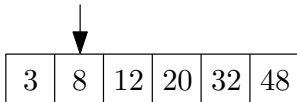
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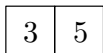
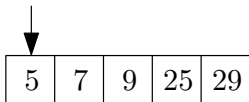
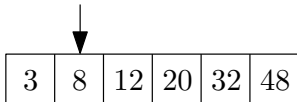
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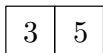
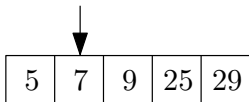
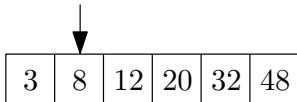
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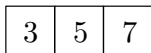
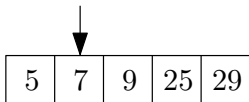
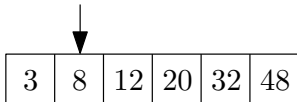
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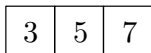
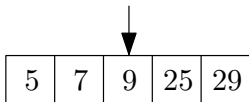
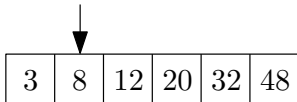
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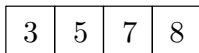
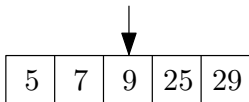
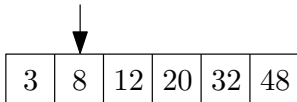
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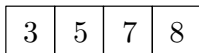
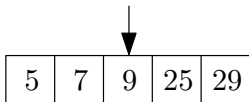
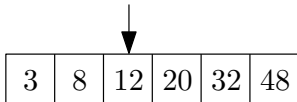
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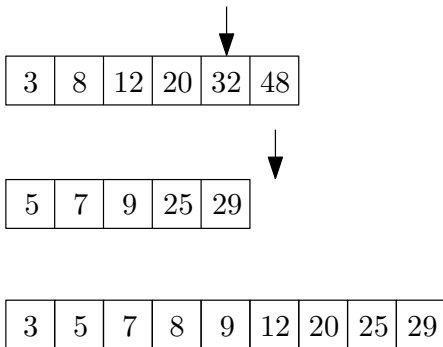
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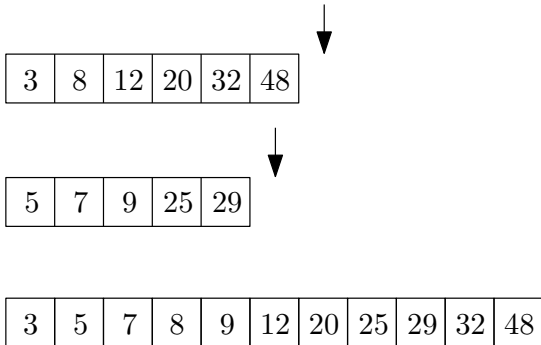
$O(n)$ (Linear) Running Time

- Merge two sorted arrays



$O(n)$ (Linear) Running Time

- Merge two sorted arrays



$O(n)$ (Linear) Running Time

$\text{merge}(B, C, n_1, n_2)$ $\backslash \backslash$ B and C are sorted, with length n_1 and n_2

- 1 $A \leftarrow []; i \leftarrow 1; j \leftarrow 1$
- 2 while $i \leq n_1$ and $j \leq n_2$
- 3 if $(B[i] \leq C[j])$ then
- 4 append $B[i]$ to $A; i \leftarrow i + 1$
- 5 else
- 6 append $C[j]$ to $A; j \leftarrow j + 1$
- 7 if $i \leq n_1$ then append $B[i..n_1]$ to A
- 8 if $j \leq n_2$ then append $C[j..n_2]$ to A
- 9 return A

$O(n)$ (Linear) Running Time

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Running time = $O(n)$ where $n = n_1 + n_2$.

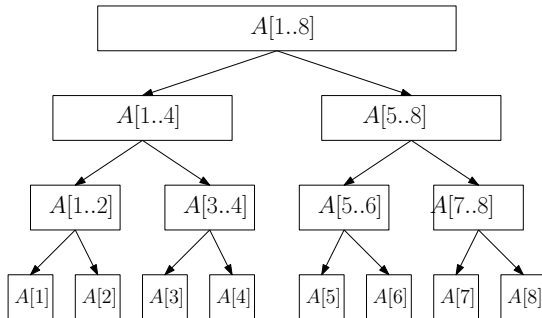
$O(n \log n)$ Running Time

merge-sort(A, n)

- 1 if $n = 1$ then
- 2 return A
- 3 else
- 4 $B \leftarrow \text{merge-sort}(A[1..\lfloor n/2 \rfloor], \lfloor n/2 \rfloor)$
- 5 $C \leftarrow \text{merge-sort}(A[\lfloor n/2 \rfloor + 1..n], n - \lfloor n/2 \rfloor)$
- 6 return merge($B, C, \lfloor n/2 \rfloor, n - \lfloor n/2 \rfloor$)

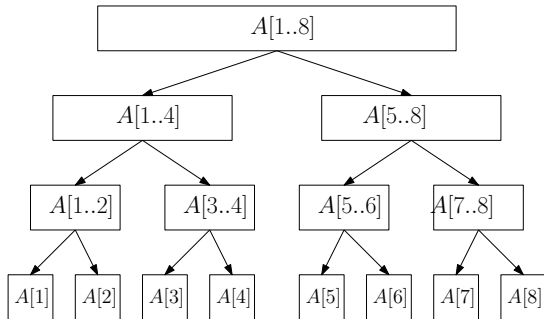
$O(n \log n)$ Running Time

- Merge-Sort



$O(n \log n)$ Running Time

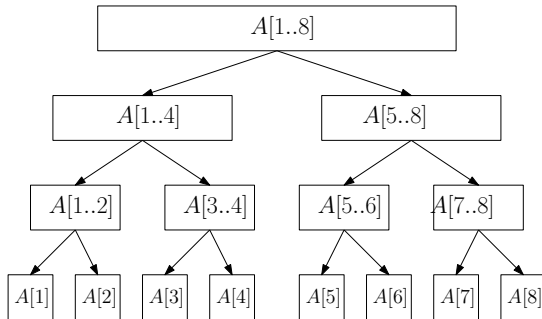
- Merge-Sort



- Each level takes running time $O(n)$

$O(n \log n)$ Running Time

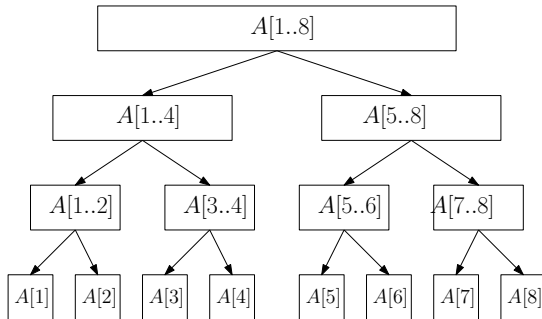
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- Each level takes running time $O(n)$
- There are $O(\log n)$ levels

$O(n \log n)$ Running Time

- Merge-Sort



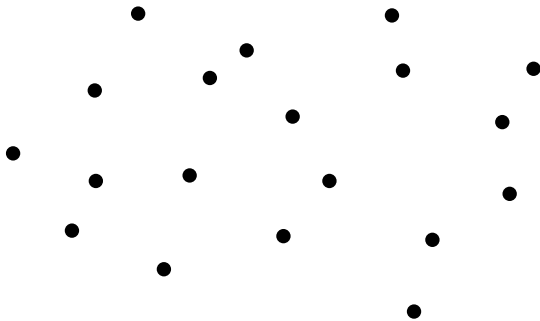
- Each level takes running time $O(n)$
- There are $O(\log n)$ levels
- Running time = $O(n \log n)$

$O(n^2)$ (Quadratic) Running Time

Closest Pair

Input: n points in plane: $(x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2), \dots, (x_n, y_n)$

Output: the pair of points that are closest

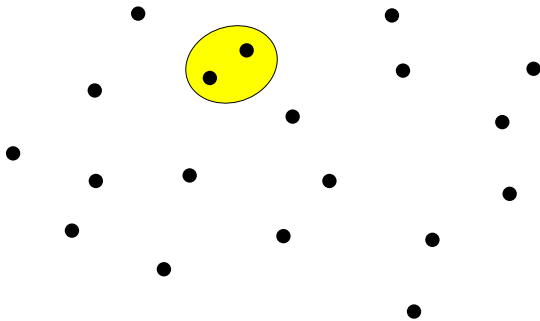


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Output: the pair of points that are closest

closest-pair(x, y, n)

- 1 $bestd \leftarrow \infty$
- 2 for $i \leftarrow 1$ to $n - 1$
- 3 for $j \leftarrow i + 1$ to n
- 4 $d \leftarrow \sqrt{(x[i] - x[j])^2 + (y[i] - y[j])^2}$
- 5 if $d < bestd$ then
- 6 $besti \leftarrow i, bestj \leftarrow j, bestd \leftarrow d$
- 7 return $(besti, bestj)$

$O(n^2)$ (Quadratic) Running Time

Closest Pair

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- 5 if $d < bestd$ then
- 6 $besti \leftarrow i, bestj \leftarrow j, bestd \leftarrow d$
- 7 return $(besti, bestj)$

Closest pair can be solved in $O(n \log n)$ time!

$O(n^3)$ (Cubic) Running Time

Multiply two matrices of size $n \times n$

matrix-multiplication(A, B, n)

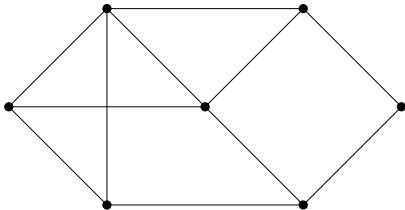
- 1 $C \leftarrow$ matrix of size $n \times n$, with all entries being 0
- 2 for $i \leftarrow 1$ to n
- 3 for $j \leftarrow 1$ to n
- 4 for $k \leftarrow 1$ to n
- 5 $C[i, k] \leftarrow C[i, k] + A[i, j] \times B[j, k]$
- 6 return C

$O(n^k)$ Running Time for Integer $k \geq 4$

Def. An **independent set** of a graph $G = (V, E)$ is a subset $S \subseteq V$ of vertices such that for every $u, v \in S$, we have $(u, v) \notin E$.

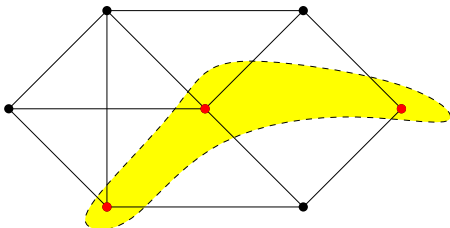
$O(n^k)$ Running Time for Integer $k \geq 4$

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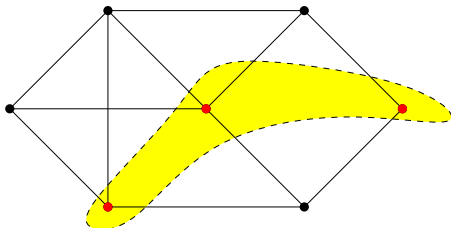
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Independent set of size k

Input: graph $G = (V, E)$

Output: whether there is an independent set of size k

$O(n^k)$ Running Time for Integer $k \geq 4$

Independent Set of Size k

Input: graph $G = (V, E)$

Output: whether there is an independent set of size k

independent-set($G = (V, E)$)

- 1 for every set $S \subseteq V$ of size k
- 2 $b \leftarrow \text{true}$
- 3 for every $u, v \in S$
- 4 if $(u, v) \in E$ then $b \leftarrow \text{false}$
- 5 if b return true
- 6 return false

Running time = $O\left(\frac{n^k}{k!} \times k^2\right) = O(n^k)$ (assume k is a constant)

Beyond Polynomial Time: 2^n

Maximum Independent Set Problem

Input: graph $G = (V, E)$

Output: the maximum independent set of G

max-independent-set($G = (V, E)$)

- 1 $R \leftarrow \emptyset$
- 2 for every set $S \subseteq V$
- 3 $b \leftarrow \text{true}$
- 4 for every $u, v \in S$
- 5 if $(u, v) \in E$ then $b \leftarrow \text{false}$
- 6 if b and $|S| > |R|$ then $R \leftarrow S$
- 7 return R

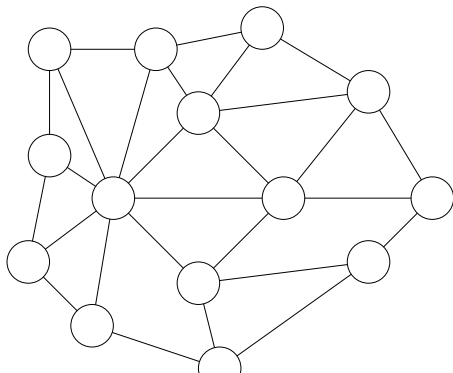
Running time = $O(2^n n^2)$.

Beyond Polynomial Time: $n!$

Hamiltonian Cycle Problem

Input: a graph with n vertices

Output: a cycle that visits each node exactly once,
or say no such cycle exists

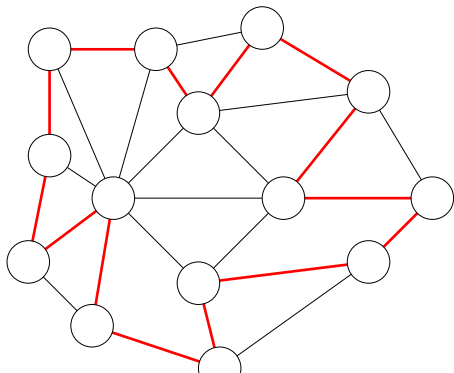


Beyond Polynomial Time: $n!$

Hamiltonian Cycle Problem

Input: a graph with n vertices

Output: a cycle that visits each node exactly once,
or say no such cycle exists



Beyond Polynomial Time: $n!$

Hamiltonian($G = (V, E)$)

- 1 for every permutation (p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n) of V
- 2 $b \leftarrow \text{true}$
- 3 for $i \leftarrow 1$ to $n - 1$
- 4 if $(p_i, p_{i+1}) \notin E$ then $b \leftarrow \text{false}$
- 5 if $(p_n, p_1) \notin E$ then $b \leftarrow \text{false}$
- 6 if b then return (p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n)
- 7 return "No Hamiltonian Cycle"

Running time = $O(n! \times n)$

$O(\log n)$ (Logarithmic) Running Time

$O(\log n)$ (Logarithmic) Running Time

- Binary search
 - Input: sorted array A of size n , an integer t ;
 - Output: whether t appears in A .

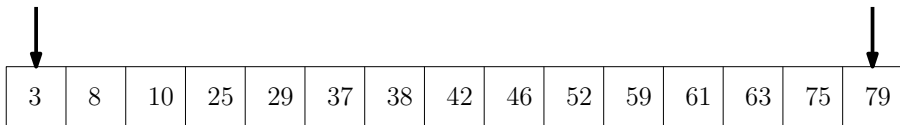
$O(\log n)$ (Logarithmic) Running Time

- Binary search
 - Input: sorted array A of size n , an integer t ;
 - Output: whether t appears in A .
- E.g, search 35 in the following array:

3	8	10	25	29	37	38	42	46	52	59	61	63	75	79
---	---	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

$O(\log n)$ (Logarithmic) Running Time

- Binary search
 - Input: sorted array A of size n , an integer t ;
 - Output: whether t appears in A .
- E.g, search 35 in the following array:

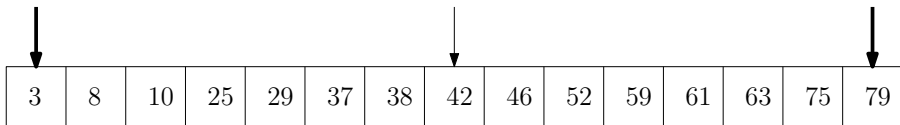


A horizontal array of 15 cells, each containing a number. The numbers are 3, 8, 10, 25, 29, 37, 38, 42, 46, 52, 59, 61, 63, 75, and 79. A black arrow points down to the first cell (3), and another black arrow points down to the last cell (79).

3	8	10	25	29	37	38	42	46	52	59	61	63	75	79
---	---	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

$O(\log n)$ (Logarithmic) Running Time

- Binary search
 - Input: sorted array A of size n , an integer t ;
 - Output: whether t appears in A .
- E.g, search 35 in the following array:

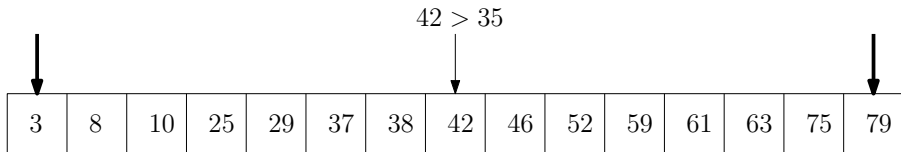


A horizontal array of 15 cells, each containing a number. The numbers are 3, 8, 10, 25, 29, 37, 38, 42, 46, 52, 59, 61, 63, 75, and 79. Three black arrows point downwards to the first cell (3), the eighth cell (42), and the last cell (79).

3	8	10	25	29	37	38	42	46	52	59	61	63	75	79
---	---	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

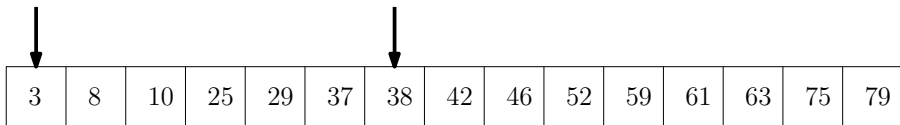
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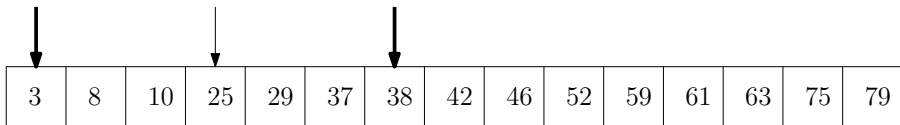


A horizontal array of 14 cells, each containing a number. The numbers are 3, 8, 10, 25, 29, 37, 38, 42, 46, 52, 59, 61, 63, 75, 79. Two black arrows point downwards to the first cell (3) and the seventh cell (38).

3	8	10	25	29	37	38	42	46	52	59	61	63	75	79
---	---	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

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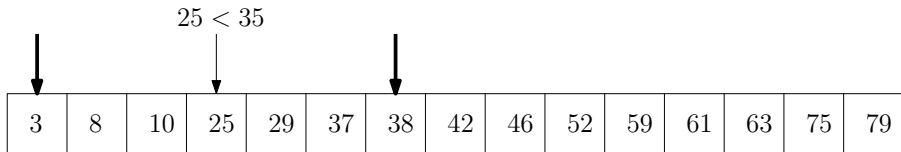


A horizontal array of 14 cells containing the numbers 3, 8, 10, 25, 29, 37, 38, 42, 46, 52, 59, 61, 63, 75, 79. Three black arrows point downwards to the first, fourth, and seventh cells.

3	8	10	25	29	37	38	42	46	52	59	61	63	75	79
---	---	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

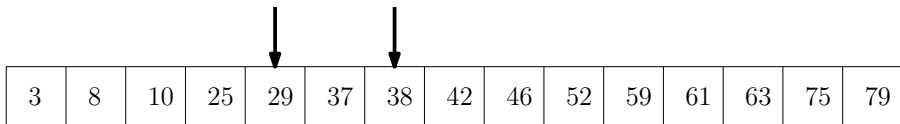
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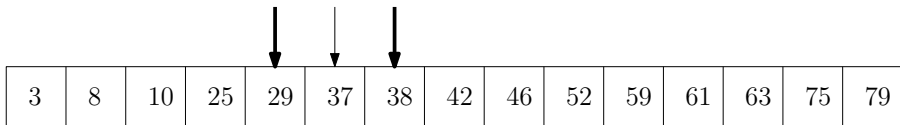
A horizontal array of 14 cells, each containing a number. The numbers are 3, 8, 10, 25, 29, 37, 38, 42, 46, 52, 59, 61, 63, 75, 79. Two black arrows point downwards from above the array to the cells containing the numbers 29 and 38.

3	8	10	25	29	37	38	42	46	52	59	61	63	75	79
---	---	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

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---	---	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

A horizontal array of 15 cells containing the numbers 3, 8, 10, 25, 29, 37, 38, 42, 46, 52, 59, 61, 63, 75, and 79. Three arrows point downwards to the cells containing 29, 37, and 38. The arrow pointing to 29 is black, the arrow pointing to 37 is gray, and the arrow pointing to 38 is black.

$O(\log n)$ (Logarithmic) Running Time

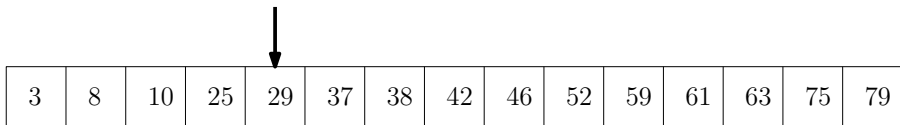
- Binary search
 - Input: sorted array A of size n , an integer t ;
 - Output: whether t appears in A .
- E.g, search 35 in the following array:

$37 > 35$

3	8	10	25	29	37	38	42	46	52	59	61	63	75	79
---	---	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

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3	8	10	25	29	37	38	42	46	52	59	61	63	75	79
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$O(\log n)$ (Logarithmic) Running Time

Binary search

- Input: sorted array A of size n , an integer t ;
- Output: whether t appears in A .

binary-search(A, n, t)

- 1 $i \leftarrow 1, j \leftarrow n$
- 2 while $i \leq j$ do
- 3 $k \leftarrow \lfloor (i + j) / 2 \rfloor$
- 4 if $A[k] = t$ return true
- 5 if $t < A[k]$ then $j \leftarrow k - 1$ else $i \leftarrow k + 1$
- 6 return false

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Running time = $O(\log n)$

Comparing the Orders

- Sort the functions from smallest to largest asymptotically
 $\log n$, n , n^2 , $n \log n$, $n!$, 2^n , e^n , n^n
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- $n! = O(n^n)$

Terminologies

When we talk about upper bound on running time:

- Logarithmic time: $O(\log n)$
- Linear time: $O(n)$
- Quadratic time $O(n^2)$
- Cubic time $O(n^3)$
- Polynomial time: $O(n^k)$ for some constant k
- Exponential time: $O(c^n)$ for some $c > 1$
- Sub-linear time: $o(n)$
- Sub-quadratic time: $o(n^2)$

Goal of Algorithm Design

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- Design algorithms to minimize the order of the running time.
- Using asymptotic analysis allows us to ignore the leading constants and lower order terms
- Makes our life much easier! (E.g., the leading constant depends on the implementation, compiler and computer architecture of computer.)

Q: Does ignoring the leading constant cause any issues?

- e.g, how can we compare an algorithm with running time $0.1n^2$ with an algorithm with running time $1000n$?

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A:

- Sometimes yes
- However, when n is big enough, $1000n < 0.1n^2$
- For “natural” algorithms, constants are not so big!
- So, for reasonably large n , algorithm with lower order running time beats algorithm with higher order running time.