Week 01b: Analysis of Algorithms

Analysis of Algorithms

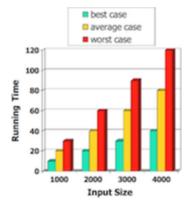
Running Time 2/87

An algorithm is a step-by-step procedure

- for solving a problem
- in a finite amount of time

Most algorithms map input to output

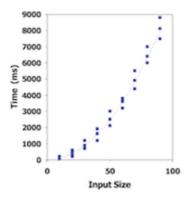
- running time typically grows with input size
- average time often difficult to determine
- Focus on worst case running time
 - o easier to analyse
 - o crucial to many applications: finance, robotics, games, ...



Empirical Analysis

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- 1. Write program that implements an algorithm
- 2. Run program with inputs of varying size and composition
- 3. Measure the actual running time
- 4. Plot the results



Limitations:

- requires to implement the algorithm, which may be difficult
- results may not be indicative of running time on other inputs
- same hardware and operating system must be used in order to compare two algorithms

Theoretical Analysis

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- Uses high-level description of the algorithm instead of implementation ("pseudocode")
- Characterises running time as a function of the input size, n
- Takes into account all possible inputs
- Allows us to evaluate the speed of an algorithm independent of the hardware/software environment

Pseudocode 5/87

Example: Find maximal element in an array

... Pseudocode 6/87

Control flow

```
if ... then ... [else] ... end if
while .. do ... end while repeat ... until for [all][each] .. do ... end for
```

Function declaration

```
f(arguments):Input ...Output ...
```

Expressions

= assignment

- equality testing
- n² superscripts and other mathematical formatting allowed
- swap A[i] and A[j] verbal descriptions of simple operations allowed

... Pseudocode 7/87

- More structured than English prose
- Less detailed than a program
- Preferred notation for describing algorithms
- Hides program design issues

Exercise #1: Pseudocode

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Formulate the following verbal description in pseudocode:

To reverse the order of the elements on a stack S with the help of a queue:

- 1. In the first phase, pop one element after the other from S and enqueue it in queue Q until the stack is empty.
- 2. In the second phase, iteratively dequeue all the elements from Q and push them onto the stack.

As a result, all the elements are now in reversed order on S.

Sample solution:

```
while S is not empty do
   pop e from S, enqueue e into Q
end while
while Q is not empty do
   dequeue e from Q, push e onto S
end while
```

Exercise #2: Pseudocode

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Implement the following pseudocode instructions in C

```
1. A is an array of ints
```

```
...
swap A[i] and A[j]
...
```

2. s is a stack

```
swap the top two elements on S
```

```
1. int temp = A[i];
  A[i] = A[j];
  A[j] = temp;
2. x = StackPop(S);
  y = StackPop(S);
  StackPush(S, x);
  StackPush(S, y);
```

The following pseudocode instruction is problematic. Why?

```
swap the two elements at the front of queue Q \dots
```

The Abstract RAM Model

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RAM = Random Access Machine

- A CPU (central processing unit)
- A potentially unbounded bank of memory cells
 - o each of which can hold an arbitrary number, or character
- Memory cells are numbered, and accessing any one of them takes CPU time

Primitive Operations

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- Basic computations performed by an algorithm
- Identifiable in pseudocode
- Largely independent of the programming language
- Exact definition not important (we will shortly see why)
- Assumed to take a constant amount of time in the RAM model

Examples:

- evaluating an expression
- indexing into an array
- calling/returning from a function

Counting Primitive Operations

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By inspecting the pseudocode ...

- we can determine the maximum number of primitive operations executed by an algorithm
- as a function of the input size

Example:

```
arrayMax(A):
   Input
         array A of n integers
   Output maximum element of A
   currentMax=A[0]
   for all i=1..n-1 do
                                      n+(n-1)
      if A[i]>currentMax then
                                      2(n-1)
         currentMax=A[i]
                                      n-1
      end if
   end for
   return currentMax
                                      5n-2
                              Total
```

Estimating Running Times

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Algorithm arrayMax requires 5n-2 primitive operations in the worst case

• best case requires 4n - 1 operations (why?)

Define:

- a ... time taken by the fastest primitive operation
- b ... time taken by the slowest primitive operation

Let T(n) be worst-case time of arrayMax. Then

$$a \cdot (5n - 2) \le T(n) \le b \cdot (5n - 2)$$

Hence, the running time T(n) is bound by two linear functions

... Estimating Running Times

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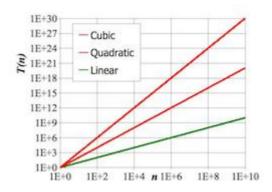
Seven commonly encountered functions for algorithm analysis

- Constant ≅ 1
- Logarithmic ≅ log n
- Linear ≅ n
- $N-Log-N \cong n log n$
- Quadratic $\approx n^2$
- Cubic $\approx n^3$
- Exponential ≅ 2ⁿ

... Estimating Running Times

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In a log-log chart, the slope of the line corresponds to the growth rate of the function

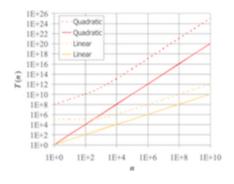


... Estimating Running Times

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The growth rate is not affected by constant factors or lower-order terms

- Examples:
 - \circ 10²n + 10⁵ is a linear function
 - \circ 10⁵ n^2 + 10⁸n is a quadratic function



... Estimating Running Times

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Changing the hardware/software environment

- affects *T(n)* by a constant factor
- but does not alter the growth rate of *T(n)*
- \Rightarrow Linear growth rate of the running time T(n) is an intrinsic property of algorithm arrayMax

Exercise #3: Estimating running times

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Determine the number of primitive operations

```
end for return C
```

```
matrixProduct(A,B):
   Input
          n×n matrices A, B
   Output n×n matrix A·B
   for all i=1..n do
                                               2n+1
       for all j=1...n do
                                               n(2n+1)
          C[i,j]=0
                                               n^{2}(2n+1)
          for all k=1..n do
                                               n^3 \cdot 4
              C[i,j]=C[i,j]+A[i,k]\cdot B[k,j]
          end for
       end for
   end for
   return C
                                               6n^3 + 4n^2 + 3n + 2
                                      Total
```

Big-Oh

Big-Oh Notation

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Given functions f(n) and g(n), we say that

$$f(n) \in \mathcal{O}(g(n))$$

if there are positive constants c and n_0 such that

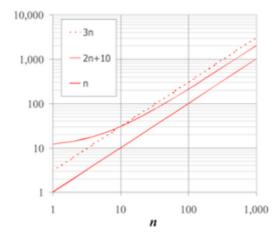
$$f(n) \le c \cdot g(n) \quad \forall n \ge n_0$$

Hence: O(g(n)) is the set of all functions that do not grow faster than g(n)

... Big-Oh Notation

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Example: function 2n + 10 is in O(n)

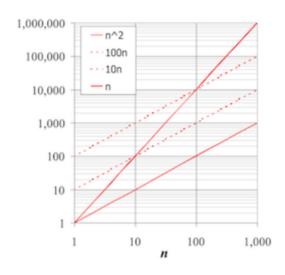


- $2n+10 \leq c \cdot n$
 - \Rightarrow $(c-2)n \ge 10$
 - $\Rightarrow n \ge 10/(c-2)$
- pick c=3 and $n_0=10$

... Big-Oh Notation

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Example: function n^2 is not in O(n)



- $n^2 \leq c \cdot n$
 - $\Rightarrow n \leq c$
- inequality cannot be satisfied since c must be a constant

Exercise #4: Big-Oh

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Show that

- 1. 7n-2 is in O(n)
- 2. $3n^3 + 20n^2 + 5$ is in $O(n^3)$
- 3. $3 \cdot \log n + 5$ is in $O(\log n)$
- 1. $7n-2 \in O(n)$

need c>0 and $n_0 \ge 1$ such that $7n-2 \le c \cdot n$ for $n \ge n_0$

- \Rightarrow true for c=7 and n₀=1
- 2. $3n^3 + 20n^2 + 5 \in O(n^3)$

need c>0 and $n_0 \ge 1$ such that $3n^3 + 20n^2 + 5 \le c \cdot n^3$ for $n \ge n_0$

- \Rightarrow true for c=4 and n₀=21
- 3. $3 \cdot \log n + 5 \in O(\log n)$

need c>0 and $n_0 \ge 1$ such that $3 \cdot \log n + 5 \le c \cdot \log n$ for $n \ge n_0$

 \Rightarrow true for c=8 and n₀=2

Big-Oh and Rate of Growth

- Big-Oh notation gives an upper bound on the growth rate of a function
 - \circ "f(n) \in O(g(n))" means growth rate of f(n) no more than growth rate of g(n)
- use big-Oh to rank functions according to their rate of growth

	$f(n) \in O(g(n))$	$g(n) \in O(f(n))$
g(n) grows faster	yes	no
f(n) grows faster	no	yes
same order of growth	yes	yes

Big-Oh Rules

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- If f(n) is a polynomial of degree $d \Rightarrow f(n)$ is $O(n^d)$
 - o lower-order terms are ignored
 - o constant factors are ignored
- Use the smallest possible class of functions
 - say "2n is O(n)" instead of "2n is O(n²)"
 - but keep in mind that, 2n is in O(n²), O(n³), ...
- Use the simplest expression of the class
 - o say "3n + 5 is O(n)" instead of "3n + 5 is O(3n)"

Exercise #5: Big-Oh

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Show that $\sum_{i=1}^{n} i$ is $O(n^2)$

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} i = \frac{n(n+1)}{2} = \frac{n^2 + n}{2}$$

which is $O(n^2)$

Asymptotic Analysis of Algorithms

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Asymptotic analysis of algorithms determines running time in big-Oh notation:

- find worst-case number of primitive operations as a function of input size
- express this function using big-Oh notation

Example:

algorithm arrayMax executes at most 5n − 2 primitive operations
 ⇒ algorithm arrayMax "runs in O(n) time"

Constant factors and lower-order terms eventually dropped

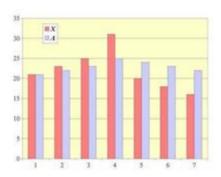
⇒ can disregard them when counting primitive operations

Example: Computing Prefix Averages

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• The *i-th prefix average* of an array X is the average of the first i elements:

$$A[i] = (X[0] + X[1] + ... + X[i]) / (i+1)$$



NB. computing the array A of prefix averages of another array X has applications in financial analysis

... Example: Computing Prefix Averages

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A quadratic algorithm to compute prefix averages:

```
prefixAverages1(X):
   Input
         array X of n integers
   Output array A of prefix averages of X
   for all i=0..n-1 do
                                  O(n)
      s=X[0]
                                  O(n)
                                  O(n^2)
      for all j=1...i do
                                  O(n^2)
         s=s+X[j]
      end for
      A[i]=s/(i+1)
                                  O(n)
   end for
   return A
                                  O(1)
```

$$2 \cdot O(n^2) + 3 \cdot O(n) + O(1) = O(n^2)$$

 \Rightarrow Time complexity of algorithm prefixAverages1 is $O(n^2)$

... Example: Computing Prefix Averages

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The following algorithm computes prefix averages by keeping a running sum:

Thus, prefixAverages2 is O(n)

Example: Binary Search

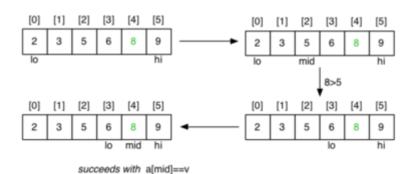
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The following recursive algorithm searches for a value in a sorted array:

... Example: Binary Search

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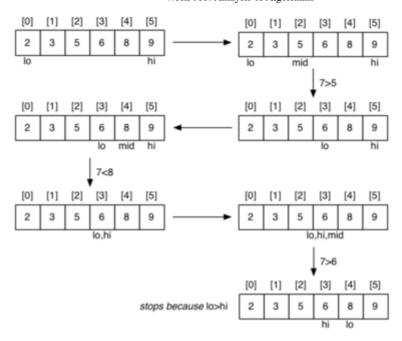
Successful search for a value of 8:



... Example: Binary Search

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Unsuccessful search for a value of 7:



... Example: Binary Search

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Cost analysis:

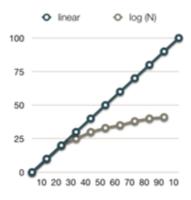
- C_i = #calls to search() for array of length i
- for best case, $C_n = 1$
- for a[i..j], j < i (length=0) • $C_0 = 0$
- for a[i..j], i≤j (length=n)
 - \circ $C_n = 1 + C_{n/2} \Rightarrow C_n = \log_2 n$

Thus, binary search is $O(log_2 n)$ or simply O(log n) (why?)

... Example: Binary Search

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Why logarithmic complexity is good:



Math Needed for Complexity Analysis

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Logarithms

```
    log<sub>b</sub> (xy) = log<sub>b</sub> x + log<sub>b</sub> y
    log<sub>b</sub> (x/y) = log<sub>b</sub> x - log<sub>b</sub> y
    log<sub>b</sub> x<sup>a</sup> = a log<sub>b</sub> x
    log<sub>b</sub> a = log<sub>x</sub> a / log<sub>x</sub> b
```

Exponentials

```
ponentials
o a^{(b+c)} = a^b a^c
o a^{bc} = (a^b)^c
o a^b / a^c = a^{(b-c)}
o b = a^{log}a^b
o b^c = a^{c \cdot log}a^b
```

- Proof techniques
- Summation (addition of sequences of numbers)
- Basic probability (for average case analysis, randomised algorithms)

Exercise #6: Analysis of Algorithms

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What is the complexity of the following algorithm?

```
enqueue(Q,Elem):
    Input queue Q, element Elem
    Output Q with Elem added at the end
    Q.top=Q.top+1
    for all i=Q.top down to 1 do
        Q[i]=Q[i-1]
    end for
    Q[0]=Elem
    return Q
```

Answer: O(|Q|)

Exercise #7: Analysis of Algorithms

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What is the complexity of the following algorithm?

```
binaryConversion(n):
```

Assume that creating a stack and pushing an element both are O(1) operations ("constant")

Answer: O(log n)

Relatives of Big-Oh

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big-Omega

• $f(n) \in \Omega(g(n))$ if there is a constant c > 0 and an integer constant $n_0 \ge 1$ such that

$$f(n) \ge c \cdot g(n) \quad \forall n \ge n_0$$

big-Theta

• $f(n) \in \Theta(g(n))$ if there are constants c',c'' > 0 and an integer constant $n_0 \ge 1$ such that

$$c' \cdot g(n) \leqslant f(n) \leqslant c'' \cdot g(n) \quad \forall n \geqslant n_0$$

... Relatives of Big-Oh

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- f(n) belongs to O(g(n)) if f(n) is asymptotically less than or equal to g(n)
- f(n) belongs to $\Omega(g(n))$ if f(n) is asymptotically greater than or equal to g(n)
- f(n) belongs to ⊖(g(n)) if f(n) is asymptotically equal to g(n)

... Relatives of Big-Oh

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Examples:

- $\frac{1}{4}n^2 \in \Omega(n^2)$
 - o need c > 0 and $n_0 \ge 1$ such that $\frac{1}{4}n^2 \ge c \cdot n^2$ for $n \ge n_0$
 - o let $c=\frac{1}{4}$ and $n_0=1$
- $\frac{1}{4}n^2 \in \Omega(n)$
 - o need c > 0 and $n_0 \ge 1$ such that $\frac{1}{4}n^2 \ge c \cdot n$ for $n \ge n_0$
 - \circ let c=1 and n_0 =2
- $\frac{1}{4}n^2 \in \Theta(n^2)$
 - since $\frac{1}{4}n^2$ belongs to $\Omega(n^2)$ and $O(n^2)$

Complexity Analysis: Arrays vs. Linked Lists

Static/Dynamic Sequences

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Previously we have used an array to implement a stack

- fixed size collection of heterogeneous elements
- can be accessed via index or via "moving" pointer

The "fixed size" aspect is a potential problem:

- how big to make the (dynamic) array? (big ... just in case)
- what to do if it fills up?

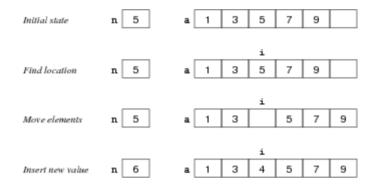
The rigid sequence is another problems:

• inserting/deleting an item in middle of array

... Static/Dynamic Sequences

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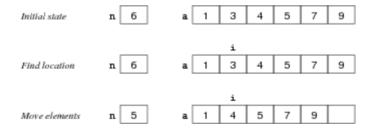
Inserting a value (4) into a sorted array a with n elements:



... Static/Dynamic Sequences

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Deleting a value (3) from a sorted array a with n elements:

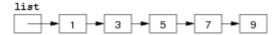


... Static/Dynamic Sequences

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The problems with using arrays can be solved by

- allocating elements individually
- linking them together as a "chain"



Benefits:

- insertion/deletion have minimal effect on list overall
- only use as much space as needed for values

Self-referential Structures

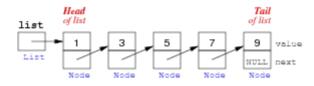
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To realise a "chain of elements", need a node containing

- a value
- a link to the next node

To represent a chained (linked) *list* of nodes:

- we need a pointer to the first node
- each node contains a pointer to the next node
- the next pointer in the last node is NULL



... Self-referential Structures

55/87

Linked lists are more flexible than arrays:

- values do not have to be adjacent in memory
- values can be rearranged simply by altering pointers
- the number of values can change dynamically
- values can be added or removed in any order

Disadvantages:

- it is not difficult to get pointer manipulations wrong
- each value also requires storage for next pointer

... Self-referential Structures

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Create a new list node:

```
makeNode(v)
```

Exercise #8: Creating a Linked List

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Write pseudocode to create a linked list of three nodes with values 1, 42 and 9024.

```
mylist=makeNode(1)
mylist.next=makeNode(42)
(mylist.next).next=makeNode(9024)
```

Iteration over Linked Lists

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When manipulating list elements

- typically have pointer p to current node
- to access the data in current node: p.value
- to get pointer to next node: p.next

To iterate over a linked list:

- set p to point at first node (head)
- examine node pointed to by p
- change p to point to next node
- stop when p reaches end of list (NULL)

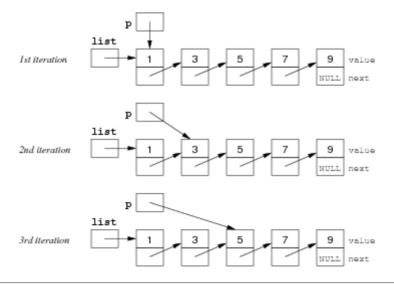
... Iteration over Linked Lists

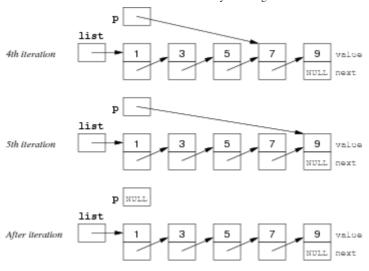
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Standard method for scanning all elements in a linked list:

... Iteration over Linked Lists

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... Iteration over Linked Lists

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Check if list contains an element:

Time complexity: O(|L|)

... Iteration over Linked Lists

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Print all elements:

```
showLL(L):
    Input linked list L

    p=L
    while p≠NULL do
        print p.value
        p=p.next
    end while
```

Time complexity: O(|L|)

Exercise #9: Traversing a linked list

65/87

What does this code do?

```
p=list
1
2
   while p≠NULL do
3
      print p.value
4
      if p.next≠NULL then
5
         p=p.next.next
6
      else
7
         p=NULL
      end if
8
9
   end while
```

What is the purpose of the conditional statement in line 4?

Every second list element is printed.

If p happens to be the last element in the list, then p.next.next does not exist.

The if-statement ensures that we do not attempt to assign an undefined value to pointer p in line 5.

Exercise #10: Traversing a linked list

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Rewrite **showLL()** as a recursive function.

```
printLL(L):
    Input linked list L

    if L≠NULL do
        print p.value
        printLL(L.next)
    end if
```

Modifying a Linked List

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Insert a new element at the beginning:

```
insertLL(L,d):
    Input linked list L, value d
    Output L with d prepended to the list
    new=makeNode(d) // create new list element
    new.next=L // link to beginning of list
    return new // new element is new head
```

Time complexity: O(1)

... Modifying a Linked List

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Delete the first element:

```
deleteHead(L):
    Input non-empty linked list L, value d
    Output L with head deleted
    return L.next // move to second element
```

Delete a specific element (recursive version):

Time complexity: O(|L|)

Time complexity: O(1)

Exercise #11: Implementing a Queue as a Linked List

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Develop a datastructure for a queue based on linked lists such that ...

- enqueuing an element takes constant time
- dequeuing an element takes constant time

Use pointers to both ends



Dequeue from the front ...

```
dequeue(Q):
```

Enqueue at the rear ...

Comparison Array vs. Linked List

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Complexity of operations, *n* elements

	array	linked list
insert/delete at beginning	O(n)	O(1)
insert/delete at end	O(n) O(1)	O(1) ("doubly-linked" list, with pointer to rear)
insert/delete at middle	O(n)	O(n)
find an element	O(n) (O(log n), if array is sorted)	O(n)
index a specific element	O(1)	O(n)

Complexity Classes

Complexity Classes

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Problems in Computer Science ...

- some have *polynomial* worst-case performance (e.g. n^2)
- some have *exponential* worst-case performance (e.g. 2ⁿ)

Classes of problems:

- P = problems for which an algorithm can compute answer in polynomial time
- *NP* = includes problems for which no *P* algorithm is known

Beware: NP stands for "nondeterministic, polynomial time (on a theoretical Turing Machine)"

... Complexity Classes

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Computer Science jargon for difficulty:

- tractable ... have a polynomial-time algorithm (useful in practice)
- intractable ... no tractable algorithm is known (feasible only for small n)
- non-computable ... no algorithm can exist

Computational complexity theory deals with different degrees of intractability

Generate and Test

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In scenarios where

- it is simple to test whether a given state is a solution
- it is easy to generate new states (preferably likely solutions)

then a *generate and test* strategy can be used.

It is necessary that states are generated systematically

- so that we are guaranteed to find a solution, or know that none exists
 - some randomised algorithms do not require this, however (more on this later in this course)

... Generate and Test

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Simple example: checking whether an integer *n* is prime

- generate/test all possible factors of *n*
- if none of them pass the test $\Rightarrow n$ is prime

Generation is straightforward:

• produce a sequence of all numbers from 2 to *n*–1

Testing is also straightforward:

check whether next number divides n exactly

... Generate and Test

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Function for primality checking:

Complexity of isPrime is O(n)

Can be optimised: check only numbers between 2 and $|\sqrt{n}|$ \Rightarrow O(\sqrt{n})

Example: Subset Sum

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Problem to solve ...

Is there a subset S of these numbers with $\Sigma_{x \in S} x = 1000$?

```
34, 38, 39, 43, 55, 66, 67, 84, 85, 91, 101, 117, 128, 138, 165, 168, 169, 182, 184, 186, 234, 238, 241, 276, 279, 288, 386, 387, 388, 389
```

General problem:

- given *n* arbitrary integers and a target sum *k*
- is there a subset that adds up to exactly *k*?

... Example: Subset Sum

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Generate and test approach:

- How many subsets are there of n elements?
- How could we generate them?

... Example: Subset Sum

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Given: a set of n distinct integers in an array A ...

produce all subsets of these integers

A method to generate subsets:

- represent sets as *n* bits (e.g. *n=4*, 0000, 0011, 1111 etc.)
- bit *i* represents the *i* th input number
- if bit i is set to 1, then A[i] is in the subset

- if bit i is set to 0, then A[i] is not in the subset
- e.g. if A[] == {1,2,3,5} then 0011 represents {1,2}

... Example: Subset Sum

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Algorithm:

```
subsetsum1(A,k):

| Input set A of n integers, target sum k | Output true if \Sigma_{x \in S} x = k for some S \subseteq A | false otherwise |

| for s = 0...2^n - 1 do | if k = \Sigma_{(i^{th} \ bit \ of \ s \ is \ 1)} A[i] then | return true | end if | end for | return false
```

Obviously, subsetsum1 is $O(2^n)$

... Example: Subset Sum

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Alternative approach ...

```
subsetsum2(A,n,k)
```

(returns true if any subset of A[0..n-1] sums to k; returns false otherwise)

- if the n^{th} value A[n–1] is part of a solution ...
 - then the first n-1 values must sum to k A[n-1]
- if the nth value is not part of a solution ...
 - then the first *n*–1 values must sum to *k*
- base cases: k=0 (solved by {}); n=0 (unsolvable if k>0)

subsetsum2(A,n,k):

... Example: Subset Sum

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Cost analysis:

- $C_i = \#calls$ to subsetsum2() for array of length i
- for worst case,

$$\circ$$
 C₁ = 2

$$\circ \ C_n = 2 + 2 \cdot C_{n-1} \ \Rightarrow C_n \cong 2^n$$

Thus, subsetsum2 also is $O(2^n)$

... Example: Subset Sum

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Subset Sum is typical member of the class of NP-complete problems

- intractable ... only algorithms with exponential performance are known
 - o increase input size by 1, double the execution time
 - \circ increase input size by 100, it takes $2^{100} = 1,267,650,600,228,229,401,496,703,205,376$ times as long to execute
- but if you can find a polynomial algorithm for Subset Sum, then any other *NP*-complete problem becomes *P* ...

Summary

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- Big-Oh notation
- Asymptotic analysis of algorithms
- Examples of algorithms with logarithmic, linear, polynomial, exponential complexity
- Linked lists vs. arrays
- Suggested reading:
 - o Sedgewick, Ch. 2.1-2.4, 2.6

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