

COMP20003
Algorithms and Data Structures
Dictionaries and
Data Structures

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So far...

- We have:
 - Looked at algorithms, fast and slow.
 - **Estimated computation** time by **counting** operations.
 - **Formalized** a system for classifying algorithm efficiency.



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Outline of the first few lectures

- Algorithms: general
- This subject: details
- Algorithm efficiency: intuitive
- Computational complexity
- • **Data structures**
 - Basic data structures
 - Algorithms on basic data structures
 - Complexity analysis of algorithms on basic ds's

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Textbook

- Skiena: Chapter 3, Data Structures



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This section

- A lightning tour of **fundamental** data structures used for **search**:
 - Arrays
 - Linked Lists
 - Trees

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Abstract Data Types vs. Data Structures

- **Abstract** data type: **what it does**
 - Stack, queue.
 - Dictionary: look up by key.
 - **Does not specify an implementation**
- **Concrete** data structure:
 - Array, linked list, tree
 - **Implements an abstract** data type.

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Data structures

- **Organizing data** is important
- It is helpful to organize **with the task in mind**
- For searching, e.g.:
 - Some high-level languages have inbuilt “dictionaries”, or associative arrays (Python, awk).
 - In lower-level languages, dictionaries are implemented directly using a fundamental data structure.

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Searching

- **Search Question**:
 - Given a search **key**,
 - Find the **record(s)** that correspond to this key.
 - Typically we describe record simplistically with fields **key** and **info** (or just key).
 - **Examples**:
 - Students and seat numbers, Telephone books
- How you organize data is important for search!**

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Dictionaries

- Python built-in dictionary structure.
- ```
>>> tel = {'jack': 4098, 'sape': 4139}
>>> tel['guido'] = 4127
>>> tel
{'sape': 4139, 'guido': 4127, 'jack': 4098}
>>> tel['jack']
4098
```
- The **dictionary** is implemented using one of the **underlying data structures**.



## Outline of the first few lectures

- Algorithms: general
- This subject: details
- Algorithm efficiency: intuitive
- Computational complexity
- Data structures
  - Basic data structures
  - Algorithms on basic data structures
  - Complexity analysis of algorithms on basic ds's

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## Array

- Def: given an **index** (location), we can **retrieve** any item in **unit time**.
- If items are in arbitrary order, finding a key in array of size  $n$  requires  $O(n)$  time.

Mimics the structure of **random access memory** (RAM), where the index is the memory address

## Arrays in C (lightening review)

```
int A[10];
```



To **access** the value of the **first element** of the array:

**A[0]**  
**\*A** or **\*(A+0)**

To access the **value** of the **sixth element**:

**A[5]**  
**\*(A+5)**

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## Random Access Memory



int i;  
int j;  
int k;

#include <stdio.h>

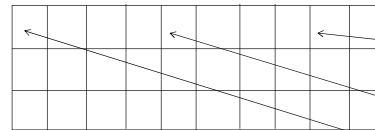
source: <https://doodle.com/a/4eW>

```
int main()
{
 int i,j,k;
 i = 5; j = 10; k = 15;
 printf("i: value = %d; address = %d\n", i, &i);
 printf("j: value = %d; address = %d\n", j, &j);
 printf("k: value = %d; address = %d\n", k, &k);
}
```

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## Random Access Memory



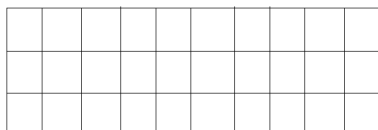
int i;  
int j;  
int k;

i: value = 5; address = 134509652  
j: value = 10; address = 134509648  
k: value = 15; address = 134509644

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## Random Access Memory

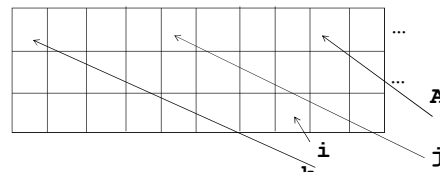


```
int i;
int A[100];
int j,k;
i = 5; j = 10; k = 15;
printf("i: value = %.2d; address = %d\n", i, &i);
printf("A: ; address = %d\n", A);
printf("j: value = %.2d; address = %d\n", j, &j);
printf("k: value = %.2d; address = %d\n", k, &k);
```

source: <https://doodle.com/a/4eX>

1-15

## Random Access Memory

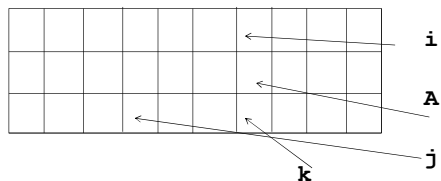


i: value = 05; address = 134509644  
A: ; address = 134509232  
j: value = 10; address = 134509228  
k: value = 15; address = 134509224

Element address =  
Addr Base + index \* element\_size

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## Random Access Memory

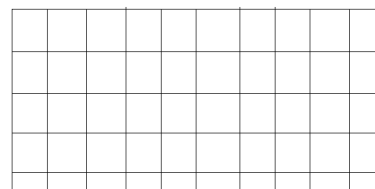


Although we often draw RAM to *look* like a 2-dimensional array,

- it is actually a linear (1-dimensional) array.

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## A 2-Dimensional Array in C

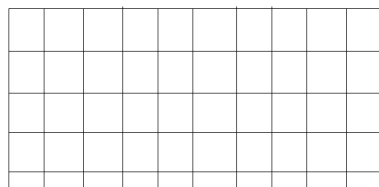


- `int A[rows][cols]`
- `int A[5][10]`

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## A 2-Dimensional Array in C



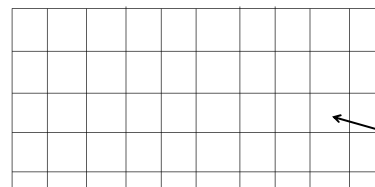
- `int A[5][10]`

Actually, **A** is an array of size 5,  
each element of **A** is an array of 10 ints.

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## A 2-Dimensional Array in C



`A[2][8]`

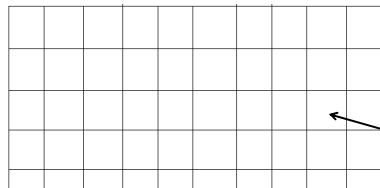
$\star (A + 2 \star 10 \star 4 + 8 \star 4)$

- Address of element[*thisrow*][*thiscolumn*] =  
Address Base + *thisrow* \* *num\_cols* \* *sizeof(element)*  
+ *thiscol* \* *sizeof(element)*

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## A 2-Dimensional Array in C



A[2][8]

$\ast (A + 2 \ast 10 \ast 4 + 8 \ast 4)$

- Address of element[thisrow][thiscolumn] =  
Address Base + thisrow \* num\_cols \* sizeof(element)  
+ thiscol \* sizeof(element)
- num\_cols \* sizeof(element) = size of one row

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## Homework

- What is the difference between:
  - `int a[10][20];`
  - `int *b[10];`
- ?

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## Back to arrays as dictionaries

- To sort or not to sort?
- How to determine which is best?

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## Sorting: fine points

- Sorting **assumes** the **keys** are “sortable”, *i.e. comparable*. E.g.:
  - *Comparable*: categories,
  - *Not Comparable*: colours, unless you associate an identifier.
- The CS definition of sorting means to put things into a **well-defined** order.
  - Other ways of sorting without comparing keys: counting sort. (next lectures)

1-24

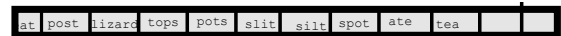
## Sorting: fine points

- In CS applications of sorting, there is a **key**, and associated **information**.
- We **sort** by **key**, and the **information** comes along for the ride.
  - Student database, sorted on student ID.
  - Information: name, address, degree, etc.
- In our examples, we often do not show the **information** explicitly.

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## Unsorted arrays

- Just put the item **at the end** of the array:
  - Insertion is in  $O(1)$



- How many comparisons you need to insert?



## Unsorted array: search

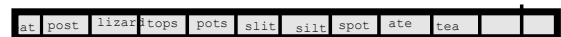
```
int i, cmps=0; int EMPTY = 0; int searchkey = 7;
int A[10] = {1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,0};

for(i=0; A[i]!=EMPTY; i++) /*A[] is an array of integers */
{
 cmps++;
 if (A[i] == searchkey)
 {
 printf("Found key %d at position %d\n", searchkey,i);
 printf("Key comparisons: %d\n", cmps);
 printf("FOUND");
 return 0;
 }
}
```

Source: <https://jdoodle.com/a/4f1>

## Unsorted arrays

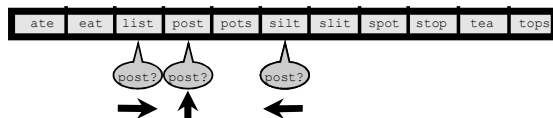
- Just put the item in at the end of the array:
  - Insertion is in  $O(1)$



- What is the **complexity of search**?
  - $O(?)$

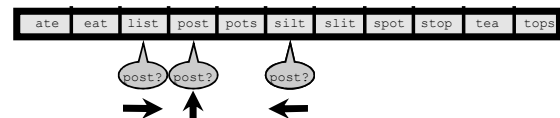
## Sorted arrays

- How do you search for "post"?



## Sorted arrays

- Binary search in sorted array:



## Sorted array: binary search

```
int start = 0;
int end = ARRAYSIZE-1;
while(start <= end)
{
 cmps++;
 mid = (start + end) / 2; //DIVIDE: Get the middle position
 if(A[mid]==searchkey)
 {
 printf("Found key %d at position %d, comparisons: %d\n",searchkey,start,cmps);
 printf("FOUND");
 return 0;
 }
 //If middle position smaller than key, then update the end, discard A[mid,...,end]
 if (searchkey < A[mid])
 end = mid-1;
 else // otherwise, update the beginning and discard A[start,...,mid]
 start = mid+1;
}
```

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## Searching: analysis

- Unsorted array:  $O(?)$
- Sorted array (binary search):  $O(?)$

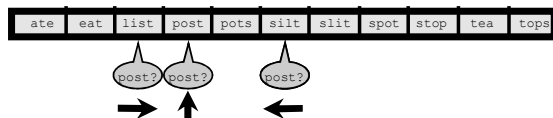
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## Sorted arrays

- Binary search in sorted array:
  - Search is in  $O(\log n)$



- What about insertion?

## Sorted arrays: insertion

```
int i = ArrayFill-1;
// Shift values to the right until finding the correct position,
while(A[i]>INSERTNUM && i>=0)
{
 A[i+1] = A[i];
 i--;
}
/** only get here when A[i] <= INSERTNUM, i.e. have already moved
 * previous contents
 */
A[i+1] = INSERTNUM;

/* to accomodate the new item */
ArrayFill++;

/* Any Assumptions */
```

Source: <https://jdoodle.com/a/4fj> 1-34

## Sorted and unsorted arrays

### Key comparisons:

- usually the **most expensive operation** in searching.

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## Analysis

- Search:
  - **Unsorted** array:
  - **Sorted** array (**binary search**):
- Insert:
  - **Unsorted** array:
  - **Sorted** array:

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### Search: m lookups on n items

- Unsorted array, linear search:
  - $n$  insertions @  $?$  operation  $\rightarrow n$  operations,  $O(?)$
  - $m$  lookups @  $?$  operations  $\rightarrow m*?$  (worst case)
  - $O(n + m*?) = O(?)$
- Sorted array, binary search:
  - $n$  insertions @  $?$  comparisons and  $?$  data movements each  $\rightarrow O(n^2)$
  - $m$  searches @  $?$  comps each  $\rightarrow m*?$
  - $O(?)$

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### Search: m lookups on n items

- Unsorted array, linear search:
  - $?$
- Sorted array, binary search:
  - $?$
- For  $m \ll n$ , unsorted arrays are better!
- But usually  $m > n$ , so use sorted array
  - Or even something better!?

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### Something better?

- What are the **worst properties** of a **sorted** array?

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### Limited size

- We can overcome the **limited size** problem using **dynamic memory allocation**
- C library functions:
  - `void *calloc(size_t nobj, size_t size)`
  - `void *realloc(void *p, size_t size)`
  - also, of course `void *malloc(size_t size)`
  - All defined in **`stdlib.h`**

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## malloc(): size\_t

- malloc(size\_t size)
- size\_t is:
  - an unsigned integer type
  - the type returned by the sizeof operator
  - widely used in the standard library (stdlib) to represent sizes
- e.g. malloc(sizeof(int))

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## malloc() example (part 1)

```
#define NUMBER 5
int main (argc, argv)
{
 int var;
 var = NUMBER;
 printf("%d - %d\n", &var, var);
 return 0;
}

>a.out
134509940 - 5
```

1-42

## malloc() example: (part 2)

```
#include<stdlib.h>
#include<stdio.h>
#define NUMBER 5
int main ()
{
 int* ptr;
 ptr = (int *)malloc(sizeof(int));
 ptr = NUMBER; / note '*' */
 printf("%d - %d\n", ptr, *ptr);
 return 0;
}

>a.out
134613280 - 5
```

Source: <https://jdoodle.com/a/4fjm>

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## malloc():check return value

- Be aware: malloc() can fail!
- If malloc() fails, it returns NULL
- Never use a pointer to something where the memory allocation has failed!

```
int* B;
B = (int*) malloc (NUMBER * sizeof(int));
/* always check return value of malloc() */
if (B == NULL)
{
 printf("malloc() error\n");
 exit(1);
}
```

→ write a function safemalloc() that does this

## Getting memory for an array using malloc()

```
int A[NUMBER];
/**
 * while insertions < NUMBER array is OK
 * BUT... has a limit
 */
int* B;
/* always check return value of malloc() */
if((B = (int*) malloc(NUMBER * sizeof(int))) == NULL)
{
 printf("malloc() error\n");
 exit(1);
}
/**
 * B can now be used like A
 * better to use calloc(NUMBER, sizeof(int))
 */
```

1-45

## Getting memory for an array using calloc()

```
int* B;
/* always check return value of malloc() */
if((B = (int*) calloc(NUMBER, sizeof(int))) == NULL)
{
 printf("calloc() error\n");
 exit(1);
}

/* B now comes with each slot initialized to 0 */
```

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## realloc()

```
/**
 * as previously, used malloc(), calloc()
 * RESIZE when insertions == NUMBER
 */
B = realloc(B, (NUMBER * 2) * sizeof(int));
/* should also check realloc() for NULL */

/* now initialize new part of array */
for(i = NUMBER; i < NUMBER * 2; i++)
 B[i] = NULL;

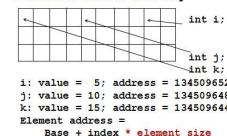
/* now we have a bigger array, first half copied from the old B */
```

1-47

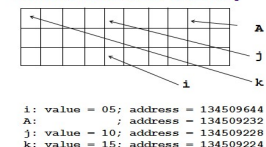
## Details about malloc() and friends

- malloc() returns a pointer to a place in memory.
- Argument to malloc() specifies how much space to reserve in memory

Random Access Memory



Random Access Memory



## What's a pointer?

- A pointer is an **address in memory**
- What is the output of this code?  

```
int* ptr;
ptr = (int *)malloc(sizeof(int));
*ptr = 5;
printf("%d, %d", ptr, *ptr);
```
- Now what is the output of *this* code? Try it: <https://jdoodle.com/a/4fP>  

```
int* ptr;
ptr = (int*) malloc(sizeof(int));
ptr = 5;
printf("%d, %d", ptr, *ptr);
```
- `Int* p;` or `int *p;` ? What the inventor of C++ thinks:
  - [http://www.stroustrup.com/bs\\_faq2.html#whitespace](http://www.stroustrup.com/bs_faq2.html#whitespace)

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## Details about malloc() and friends

- `#include <stdlib.h>`
- Read the documentation for fine points:
  - `malloc()` returns **uninitialized** space
  - `calloc()` returns space **initialized to 0**
  - `realloc(void *p, size_t size)` returns space where the **start is copied from p** and the **rest is uninitialized**.
- **Check return value of all memory alloc functions!**

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## malloc() and free()

- `malloc()` allocates memory.
- `free()` use to **deallocate** memory

```
void* ptr;
ptr = malloc(NUMBER_OF_BYTES);
/* do things until finished with the
 contents pointed to by ptr */
free(ptr);
```

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## Back to sorted arrays...

- Space limitations:
  - Can use `realloc()`.
  - Or can use **linked list** (sorted linked list).

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## More about Pointers

- For an excellent exposition of pointers in C, see the excellent [tutorial](#) by Ted Jensen:
  - [LMS Resources → Pointers and Arrays in C](#)

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## 101 on Pointers

- Declaration: pointer `*` in C is an **address**
- Operators:

|                    |                                      |                                          |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| <code>*</code>     | Value at Operator<br>(dereferencing) | Gives Value stored at Particular address |
| <code>&amp;</code> | Address of Operator                  | Gives Address of Variable                |

```
int k;
int* ptr;

k=5;
ptr = &k;
printf("%d", *ptr);
```

<5>

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## 101 on Pointers

- A pointer in C is an **address**.
- When A is the name of an array, **A is a pointer** to the array, and
  - A[0] is equivalent to \*(A+0),
  - A[5] is equivalent to \*(A+5)...

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## Memory Allocation: Summary

- `malloc()`, `calloc()`, and `realloc()` return:
  - The **(untyped)** address of allocated memory;
  - i.e.* a **pointer to allocated memory**.

```
/*allocates just enough room for an address */
struct node* ptr;
/* allocates enough room for the node */
ptr = (struct node*) malloc(sizeof(struct node));
```

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We have discussed the **strong** and **weak** points of **sorted arrays** as data structures for **search**

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## Linked lists: flexibility, but overheads

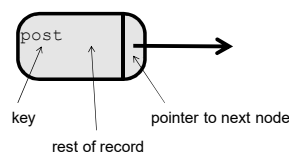
- In a linked list:
  - each item (or key) is located in an arbitrary place in memory,
  - with a link (pointer) to the next item
- Search Operations:
  - If unsorted, finding item is still  $\Theta(n)$ -time.
  - Once insertion point has been determined, easy to insert (or delete) a new item, by rearranging links.

## Linked lists: flexibility, but overheads

- Takes extra space for each item in the list.
- Takes extra time to allocate the memory for the node for each item.

## The node

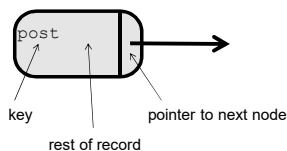
```
struct node{
 record r;
 struct node *next;
};
```



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## The node

```
typedef struct node{
 record r;
 struct node *next;
} node_t;
```



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## A linked list of nodes

```
struct node
{
 char* key;
 char* info;
 struct node* next;
};

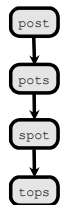
struct node* newnode;

newnode = /*malloc space and put in the key and info */

/* suggested declaration style for beginner and intermediate */
```

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## A (sorted) linked list of nodes



/\* record struct contains key and other info \*/

```
typedef struct node{
 record r;
 struct node* next;
} node_t;

typedef node_t* node_ptr;

node_ptr newnode;

/* more advanced style */
```

1-63

## Traverse the list

```
p = listhead;
if(p!=NULL){ /* empty list */
 while(p->next !=NULL)
 {
 printf("%d\n", p->key);
 p = p->next;
 }
 printf("%d\n",p->key);
}
```

1-64



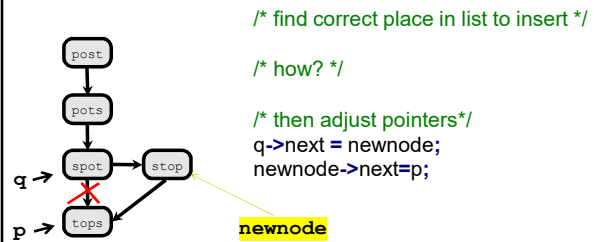
## Traverse the list

```
p = listhead;
if(p==NULL)
{
 printf("List empty\n");
 return;
}

/* traverse and print key */
while(p->next !=NULL)
{
 printf("%d\n", p->key);
 p = p->next;
}
printf("%d\n",p->key);
```

1-65

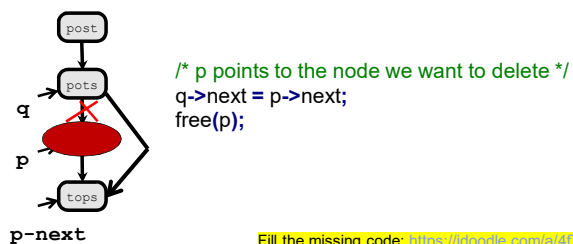
## Inserting a new node into a sorted linked list



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## Deleting a node



Fill the missing code: <https://jiboodle.com/a41/>

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## Linked lists: sorted vs. unsorted

- What are the **advantages** of keeping a linked list in **sorted** order?
- What are the **disadvantages**?

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## Search: Arrays vs. Linked Lists

- Sorted arrays:
  - Fast search (binary search), but
  - Slow insertion (keeping sorted order)
- Sorted array:
  - Fixed size, but
  - Can grow with realloc()
- Array needs (in general) only 1 memory allocation
  - Linked list needs many

## Table of “running times”

|                      | One Search | One Insert |
|----------------------|------------|------------|
| Unsorted array       |            |            |
| Sorted array         |            |            |
| Unsorted linked list |            |            |
| Sorted linked list   |            |            |

## Exercise

How many operations are needed for  $m$  searches in a dictionary of  $n$  items?

|                      | Each Insertion | Each Search | Build + Search |
|----------------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|
| Unsorted array       |                |             |                |
| Sorted array         |                |             |                |
| Unsorted linked list |                |             |                |
| Sorted linked list   |                |             |                |

## Practical complexity and algorithms

- $O(1)$ : Execute instructions once (or a few times), independent of input
  - Example: pick a lottery winner
- $O(\log n)$ : keep splitting the input, and only operate on one section of the input.
  - Example:
- $O(n)$ : Execute instruction(s) once for each item:
  - Example:

## Practical complexity and algorithms

- $O(n \log n)$ : **split the input** repeatedly, and do something to **all** the segments
  - Example: Many sorting algorithms
- $O(n^2)$ : **For each item**, do something to **all** the others. (Nested loops.)
  - Example:
    - Note: getting slow for large data...
- $O(n^3)$ :
- $O(2^n)$ :

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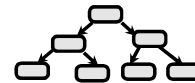
## Breaking out of linearity

- Compare:

- **Linked list**



- **Binary tree**



- If we **reliably know** whether the **desired item** is in the **left** subtree or the **right** subtree, we could find it more quickly!

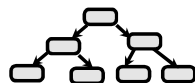
## Breaking out of linearity

- Compare:

- **Linked list**



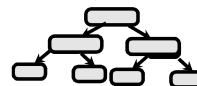
- **Binary tree**



- Note: for a **complete** binary tree, **half the nodes** are at the **bottom** level...

## What is a complete binary tree?

- A binary tree is **complete** if **every level, except possibly the last**, is:
  - completely filled, and
  - **all nodes are as far left** as possible.

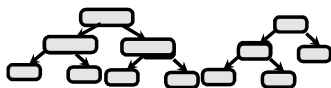


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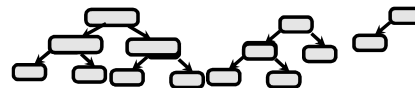


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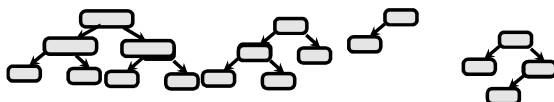


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### What is a complete binary tree?

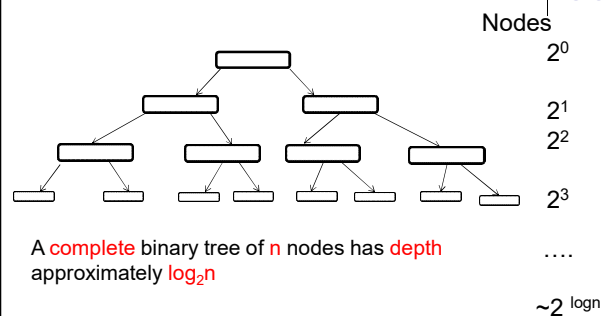
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### complete binary tree



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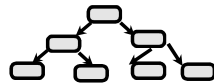
## Breaking out of linearity

- Compare:

- Linked list

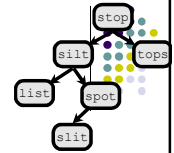


- Binary tree



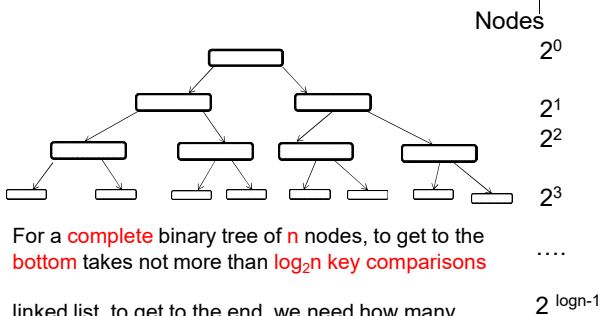
- As we will see, both **insertion** and **search** are  $O(\log n)$  operations.

## How a binary search tree work?



- In a **sorted linked list**:
  - next** links to a record with a **key**  $\geq$  this one.
- In a **BST**
  - left** links to items with **key**  $<$  current key
  - right** links to items with **key**  $\geq$  current key.
- Insert node with key **slit** in this tree.

## Looking at a complete binary tree



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## Binary tree exercises

- Put the following numeric keys into a bst:
  - 45, 37, 86, 90, 50, 16, 37
  - How long (**how many key comparisons**) does it take to **search** for **key=5**?
- Put the following numeric keys into a bst:
  - 90, 86, 50, 45, 37, 32, 16
  - How long does it take to **search** for **key=5**?

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### Best case run time in bst: Perfectly balanced tree



- **Best case** for BST: **perfectly balanced**
- **Height** of tree with  $n$  items:  $\log_2 n$
- **Path** from **root** to **any** node:
  - Maximum length:  $\log_2 n$
  - Average length:  $\log_2 n$
- **Insertion/search/deletion** are all  $O(\log n)$  for a **well-balanced** tree

### Worst case run time in bst: Stick



- **Worst case** for BST: a **stick**.
  - e.g. when items are inserted in sorted order.
  - The BST degenerates to a linked list!
- **Height** of tree with  $n$  items:  $n$
- **Path** from **root** to **any** node:
  - maximum length:  $n$
  - average length:  $n/2$
- **Insertion/search/deletion** are  $O(n)$ !

### Binary search trees



- Deletion?

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### Something to think about



- Why don't we just **randomize the order** of the items we **insert** into the binary search tree, to **prevent worst case** behavior?

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## Binary search trees

- Good **average** case behavior –  $\log n$
- Bad **worst** case behavior –  $n$
- So overall BST  $O(n)$ .
  - Actual behavior usually not linear
  - But potential linearity
- Balanced trees: AVL, red-black; 2,3,4; B+tree.

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## Dictionaries: Summary

- We have looked at various **underlying data structures** for implementing **dictionaries**:



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## Dictionaries: Summary

- We have analyzed the **computational complexity** for these data structures:



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## Dictionaries: Summary

- So far the **best** we have done is  **$\log n$  search**, where either:
  - **Insertion** is  $O(n)$ ; or
  - $O(\log n)$  average case but  $O(n)$  worst case.
- We can do better...

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### Next section

- Balanced trees.

