

# Merge Sort / Recursion

# Lecture Question

**Task:** In a package name `fp` create a Scala object named `ReturnFunction` with a method named `strangeAddition` which

- Takes an `Int` as a parameter
- Return a function that takes an `Int` as a parameter and returns an `Int`
- The returned function returns the addition of the two provided `Ints`
- Example:
  - **`val adder = ReturnFunction.strangeAddition(5)`**
  - This returns a function that adds 5 to its input
  - **`assert(adder(3) == 8)`**

# Runtime Analysis

- Last time we said Selection sort is inefficient
- Let's be more specific
- We'll measure the asymptotic runtime of the algorithm
  - Often use big-O notation
- Count the number of "steps" the algorithm take
  - A step is typically a basic operation (+, -, &&, etc)

# Runtime Analysis

- Asymptotic runtime
  - Measures the order of magnitude of the runtime in relation to the size of the input
  - Name the input size **n**
  - For sorting - Size of the input is the number of values in the data structure
  - Ignore constants
- Ex. Runtime of  $O(n)$  grows linearly with the size of the input

# Selection Sort - Runtime

- Abridged runtime analysis

```
def selectionSort[T](inputData: List[T], comparator: (T, T) => Boolean): List[T] = {  
  var data: List[T] = inputData  
  for (i <- data.indices) {  
    var minFound = data.apply(i)  
    var minIndex = i  
    for (j <- i until data.size) {  
      val currentValue = data.apply(j)  
      if (comparator(currentValue, minFound)) {  
        minFound = currentValue  
        minIndex = j  
      }  
    }  
    data = data.updated(minIndex, data.apply(i))  
    data = data.updated(i, minFound)  
  }  
  data  
}
```

**Outer loop  
runs once  
for each  
index**

**Runs  $O(n)$   
times**

# Selection Sort - Runtime

- Abridged runtime analysis

Inner loop  
runs once  
for each  
index from  
i to the end  
of the list

Runs for  
each  
iteration of  
the outer  
loop with  
a worst  
case of  
 $O(n)$

```
def selectionSort[T](inputData: List[T], comparator: (T, T) => Boolean): List[T] = {  
  var data: List[T] = inputData  
  for (i <- data.indices) {  
    var minFound = data.apply(i)  
    var minIndex = i  
    for (j <- i until data.size) {  
      val currentValue = data.apply(j)  
      if (comparator(currentValue, minFound)) {  
        minFound = currentValue  
        minIndex = j  
      }  
    }  
    data = data.updated(minIndex, data.apply(i))  
    data = data.updated(i, minFound)  
  }  
  data  
}
```

# Selection Sort - Runtime

- Abridged runtime analysis

**Run  $O(n)$   
iterations  
 $O(n)$  times  
results in  
an  $O(n^2)$   
total  
runtime**

```
def selectionSort[T](inputData: List[T], comparator: (T, T) => Boolean): List[T] = {  
  var data: List[T] = inputData  
  for (i <- data.indices) {  
    var minFound = data.apply(i)  
    var minIndex = i  
    for (j <- i until data.size) {  
      val currentValue = data.apply(j)  
      if (comparator(currentValue, minFound)) {  
        minFound = currentValue  
        minIndex = j  
      }  
    }  
    data = data.updated(minIndex, data.apply(i))  
    data = data.updated(i, minFound)  
  }  
  data  
}
```

# Selection Sort - Runtime

- Abridged runtime analysis

```
def selectionSort[T](inputData: List[T], comparator: (T, T) => Boolean): List[T] = {  
  var data: List[T] = inputData  
  for (i <- data.indices) {  
    var minFound = data.apply(i)  
    var minIndex = i  
    for (j <- i until data.size) {  
      val currentValue = data.apply(j)  
      if (comparator(currentValue, minFound)) {  
        minFound = currentValue  
        minIndex = j  
      }  
    }  
    data = data.updated(minIndex, data.apply(i))  
    data = data.updated(i, minFound)  
  }  
  data  
}
```

We reach  
 $O(n^3)$   
since apply  
takes  $O(n)$

More details  
next week



# Selection Sort - Runtime

- More mathematical analysis
  - Inner loop runs  $\sum i$  times where  $i$  ranges from  $n$  to  $1$
  - $n + n-1 + n-2 + \dots + 2 + 1 = n^2 / 2 + n/2$
  - For asymptotic we only consider the highest order term and ignore constant multipliers
  - Therefore  $n^2 / 2 + n/2$  is  $O(n^2)$
  - Selection Sort has  $O(n^2)$  runtime

# Merge Sort

- We briefly saw in CSE115 that we can do better by using merge sort and reaching  $O(n \log(n))$  runtime
- Let's analyze this in more depth

# Merge Sort

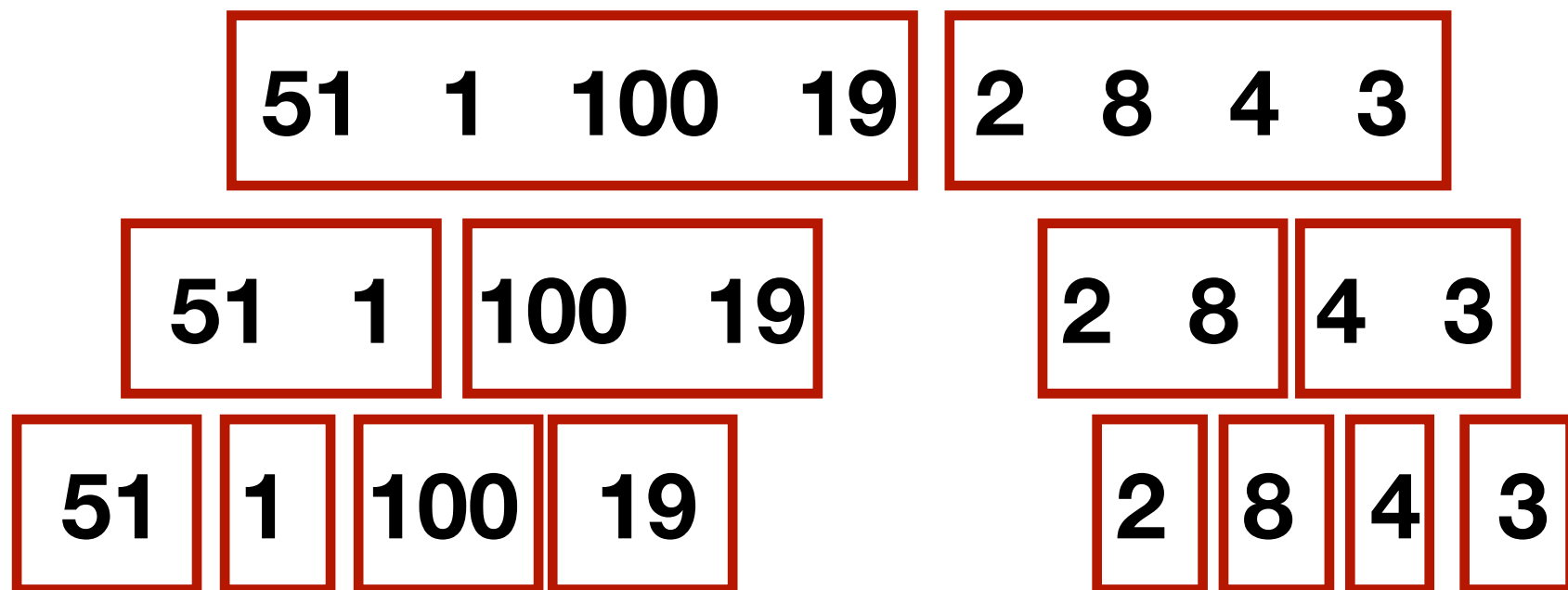
- The algorithm
  - If the input list has  $< 2$  elements
    - Return it (It's already sorted)
  - Else
    - Divide the input list in two halves
    - Recursively call merge sort on each half (Repeats until the lists are size 1)
    - Merge the two sorted lists together into a single sorted list

# Merge Sort

- Given an input

**51 1 100 19 2 8 4 3**

- Divide into two lists recursively until  $n=1$



# Merge Sort

- Merge lists until the original input is sorted

51	1	100	19
----	---	-----	----

2	8	4	3
---	---	---	---

1	51	19	100
---	----	----	-----

2	8	3	4
---	---	---	---

1	19	51	100	2	3	4	8
---	----	----	-----	---	---	---	---

1	2	3	4	8	19	51	100
---	---	---	---	---	----	----	-----

# Merge Sort - Merge

```
def mergeSort[T](inputData: List[T], comparator: (T, T) => Boolean): List[T] = {  
  if (inputData.length < 2) {  
    inputData  
  } else {  
    val mid: Int = inputData.length / 2  
    val (left, right) = inputData.splitAt(mid)  
    val leftSorted = mergeSort(left, comparator)  
    val rightSorted = mergeSort(right, comparator)  
    merge(leftSorted, rightSorted, comparator)  
  }  
}
```

**Recursion!**

# Merge Sort - Runtime

- Each level of the recursion has  $2^i$  lists of size  $n/2^i$
- Recursion ends when  $n/2^i == 1$ 
  - $i = \log(n)$
  - $\log(n)$  levels of recursion
- Each level needs to merge a total of  $n$  elements across all sub-lists
- If we can merge in  $O(n)$  time we'll have  $O(n \log(n))$  total runtime

# Merge Sort - Merge

- Merge two sorted lists in  $O(n)$  time
- Take advantage of each list being sorted
- Start with pointers at the beginning of each list
- Compare the two values at the pointers and find which come first based on the comparator
  - Append it to a new list and advance that pointer
- When a pointer reaches the end of a list copy the rest of the contents




# Merge Sort - Merge

1 19 51 100



2 3 4 8



# Merge Sort - Merge

1 19 51 100




2 3 4 8




1

# Merge Sort - Merge

1 19 51 100




2 3 4 8




1 2

# Merge Sort - Merge

1 19 51 100



2 3 4 8



1 2 3

# Merge Sort - Merge

**1   19   51   100**



**2   3   4   8**



**1   2   3   4**

# Merge Sort - Merge

**1   19   51   100**



**2   3   4   8**



**When a pointer reaches the end of a list,  
copy the rest of the other list to the result**

**1   2   3   4   8**

# Merge Sort - Merge

**1   19   51   100**



**2   3   4   8**



**When a pointer reaches the end of a list,  
copy the rest of the other list to the result**

**1   2   3   4   8   19   51   100**

# Merge Sort - Merge

```
def merge[T](left: List[T], right: List[T], comparator: (T, T) => Boolean): List[T] = {  
  var leftPointer = 0  
  var rightPointer = 0  
  
  var sortedList: List[T] = List()  
  
  while (leftPointer < left.length && rightPointer < right.length) {  
    if (comparator(left.apply(leftPointer), right.apply(rightPointer))) {  
      sortedList = sortedList :+ left.apply(leftPointer)  
      leftPointer += 1  
    } else {  
      sortedList = sortedList :+ right.apply(rightPointer)  
      rightPointer += 1  
    }  
  }  
  
  while (leftPointer < left.length) {  
    sortedList = sortedList :+ left.apply(leftPointer)  
    leftPointer += 1  
  }  
  while (rightPointer < right.length) {  
    sortedList = sortedList :+ right.apply(rightPointer)  
    rightPointer += 1  
  }  
  
  sortedList  
}
```

**Use the comparator to make ordering decisions**



# One Last Sorting Example

# Custom Sorting

- We can sort any type with any comparator
- But what if we want to sort points by their distance from a reference point
  - In general: what if the comparator needs more parameters than just the two elements?
  - [Without using global state]
- We can dynamically create a new function with the additional parameters "built-in"

# Returning Functions

- We can write a function/method that takes all the needed parameters and returns a function that fits the signature of a comparator
- The distanceComparator method returns a comparator that compares the distance to a reference point

```
def distance(v1: PhysicsVector, v2: PhysicsVector): Double = {  
    Math.sqrt(Math.pow(v1.x - v2.x, 2.0) + Math.pow(v1.y - v2.y, 2.0) + Math.pow(v1.z - v2.z, 2.0))  
}
```

```
def distanceComparator(referencePoint: PhysicsVector): (PhysicsVector, PhysicsVector) => Boolean = {  
    (v1: PhysicsVector, v2: PhysicsVector) => {  
        distance(v1, referencePoint) < distance(v2, referencePoint)  
    }  
}
```

# Returning Functions

- Use distanceComparator to create a comparator function when needed
- Can create different comparators with different reference points
  - Global state would only allow one comparator at a time

```
val referencePoint = new PhysicsVector(0.5, 0.5, 0.0)
val sortedPoints = MergeSort.mergeSort(points, distanceComparator(referencePoint))
```

```
def distance(v1: PhysicsVector, v2: PhysicsVector): Double = {
  Math.sqrt(Math.pow(v1.x - v2.x, 2.0) + Math.pow(v1.y - v2.y, 2.0) + Math.pow(v1.z - v2.z, 2.0))
}
```

```
def distanceComparator(referencePoint: PhysicsVector): (PhysicsVector, PhysicsVector) => Boolean = {
  (v1: PhysicsVector, v2: PhysicsVector) => {
    distance(v1, referencePoint) < distance(v2, referencePoint)
  }
}
```

# Recursion

# Recursion Example

```
def computeGeometricSum(n: Int): Int = {  
  if(n>0) {  
    var result: Int = computeGeometricSum(n - 1)  
    result += n  
    result  
  }else{  
    0  
  }  
}  
  
def main(args: Array[String]): Unit = {  
  val result: Int = computeGeometricSum(3)  
  println(result)  
}
```

# Recursive Example

```

2:      if(n>0) {
3:          var result: Int = computeGeometricSum(n - 1)
4:          result += n
5:          result
6:      }else{
7:          0
8:      }
9:  }
10:
11: def main(args: Array[String]): Unit = {
12:     val result: Int = computeGeometricSum(3)
13:     println(result)
14: }

```

- Each recursive calls creates a new stack frame
- Each frame remembers where it will resume running when its on the top of the stack

[illegible]

# Recursive Example

```
1: def computeGeometricSum(n: Int): Int = {
2:   if(n>0) {
3:     var result: Int = computeGeometricSum(n - 1)
4:     result += n
5:     result
6:   }else{
7:     0
8:   }
9: }
10:
11: def main(args: Array[String]): Unit = {
12:   val result: Int = computeGeometricSum(3)
13:   println(result)
14: }
```

- Each time the method is called a new frame is created
- New frame starts at the first line of the method

[illegible]



# Recursive Example

```

1:  def computeGeometricSum(n: Int): Int = {
2:      if(n>0) {
3:          var result: Int = computeGeometricSum(n - 1)
4:          result += n
5:          result
6:      }else{
7:          0
8:      }
9:  }
10:
11: def main(args: Array[String]): Unit = {
12:     val result: Int = computeGeometricSum(3)
13:     println(result)
14: }

```

- Top frame on the stack executes the method one line at a time

[illegible]

# Recursive Example

```
1: def computeGeometricSum(n: Int): Int = {
2:   if(n>0) {
3:     var result: Int = computeGeometricSum(n - 1)
4:     result += n
5:     result
6:   }else{
7:     0
8:   }
9: }
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11: def main(args: Array[String]): Unit = {
12:   val result: Int = computeGeometricSum(3)
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```

- Top frame on the stack executes the method one line at a time

[illegible]

# Recursive Example

```

2:     if (n > 0) {
3:         var result: Int = computeGeometricSum(n - 1)
4:         result += n
5:         result
6:     } else {
7:         0
8:     }
9: }
10:
11: def main(args: Array[String]): Unit = {
12:     val result: Int = computeGeometricSum(3)
13:     println(result)
14: }

```

- When a method call returns, its frame is destroyed
- Calling frames resumes and uses the return value

[illegible]

# Recursive Example

```

2:     if (n > 0) {
➡ 3:         var result: Int = computeGeometricSum(n - 1)
4:         result += n
5:         result
6:     } else {
7:         0
8:     }
9: }
10:
11: def main(args: Array[String]): Unit = {
12:     val result: Int = computeGeometricSum(3)
13:     println(result)
14: }

```

- When a method call returns, its frame is destroyed
- Calling frames resumes and uses the return value

[illegible]

# Recursive Example



- Method continues after the recursive call

[illegible]

# Recursive Example



- Method continues after the recursive call

[illegible]

# Recursive Example

```

2:  if (n > 0) {
3:      var result: Int = computeGeometricSum(n - 1)
4:      result += n
5:      result
6:  } else {
7:      0
8:  }
9: }
10:
11: def main(args: Array[String]): Unit = {
12:     val result: Int = computeGeometricSum(3)
13:     println(result)
14: }

```

- Return value
- Pop off the stack
- Resume execution of the top frame

[illegible]

# Recursive Example

```
1: def computeGeometricSum(n: Int): Int = {
2:   if(n>0) {
3:     var result: Int = computeGeometricSum(n - 1)
4:     result += n
5:     result
6:   }else{
7:     0
8:   }
9: }
10:
11: def main(args: Array[String]): Unit = {
12:   val result: Int = computeGeometricSum(3)
13:   println(result)
14: }
```

- Process continues until all recursive calls resolve
- Last frame returns to main

[illegible]



# Recursive Example

```
1: def computeGeometricSum(n: Int): Int = {
2:   if(n>0) {
3:     var result: Int = computeGeometricSum(n - 1)
4:     result += n
5:     result
6:   }else{
7:     0
8:   }
9: }
10:
11: def main(args: Array[String]): Unit = {
12:   val result: Int = computeGeometricSum(3)
13:   println(result)
14: }
```

- Main continues with the result from the recursive calls

[illegible]

# Lecture Question

**Task:** In a package name `fp` create a Scala object named `ReturnFunction` with a method named `strangeAddition` which

- Takes an `Int` as a parameter
- Return a function that takes an `Int` as a parameter and returns an `Int`
- The returned function returns the addition of the two provided `Ints`
- Example:
  - **`val adder = ReturnFunction.strangeAddition(5)`**
  - This returns a function that adds 5 to its input
  - **`assert(adder(3) == 8)`**