

# 091M4041H - Algorithm Design and Analysis

## Assignment 1

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# 1 Problem One

You are interested in analyzing some hard-to-obtain data from two separate databases. Each database contains  $n$  numerical values, so there are  $2n$  values total and you may assume that no two values are the same. You'd like to determine the median of this set of  $2n$  values, which we will define here to be the  $n$ th smallest value.

However, the only way you can access these values is through queries to the databases. In a single query, you can specify a value  $k$  to one of the two databases, and the chosen database will return the  $k$ th smallest value that it contains. Since queries are expensive, you would like to compute the median using as few queries as possible.

Give an algorithm that finds the median value using at most  $O(\log n)$  queries.

## 1.1 Algorithm Description

To find the median value of the two databases, the algorithm finds the middle of two databases and compare them. In every operation, find the correct part median value should exist in. Repeat find the middle of the remain part until the two middles are equal.

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**Algorithm 1** Find the median value in two databases

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```
1: function MIDIANSEARCH(arrayA, arrayB, n)
2:   leftA = leftB = 0;
3:   rightA = rightB = n;
4:   while true do
5:     midianA = arrayA[ $\lceil (rightA - leftA)/2 \rceil - 1$ ];
6:     midianB = arrayB[ $\lceil (rightB - leftB)/2 \rceil - 1$ ];
7:     if  $\lceil (rightA - leftA)/2 \rceil == 1$  then
8:       return min(arrayA[0], arrayB[0]);
9:     end if
10:    if midianA == midianB then
11:      return midianA;
12:    end if
13:    if midianA > midianB then
14:      rightA = (rightA - leftA)/2;
15:      leftB = (rightB - leftB)/2;
16:    else
17:      rightB = (rightB - leftB)/2;
18:      leftA = (rightA - leftA)/2;
19:    end if
20:  end while
21: end function
```

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## 1.2 subproblem reduction graph

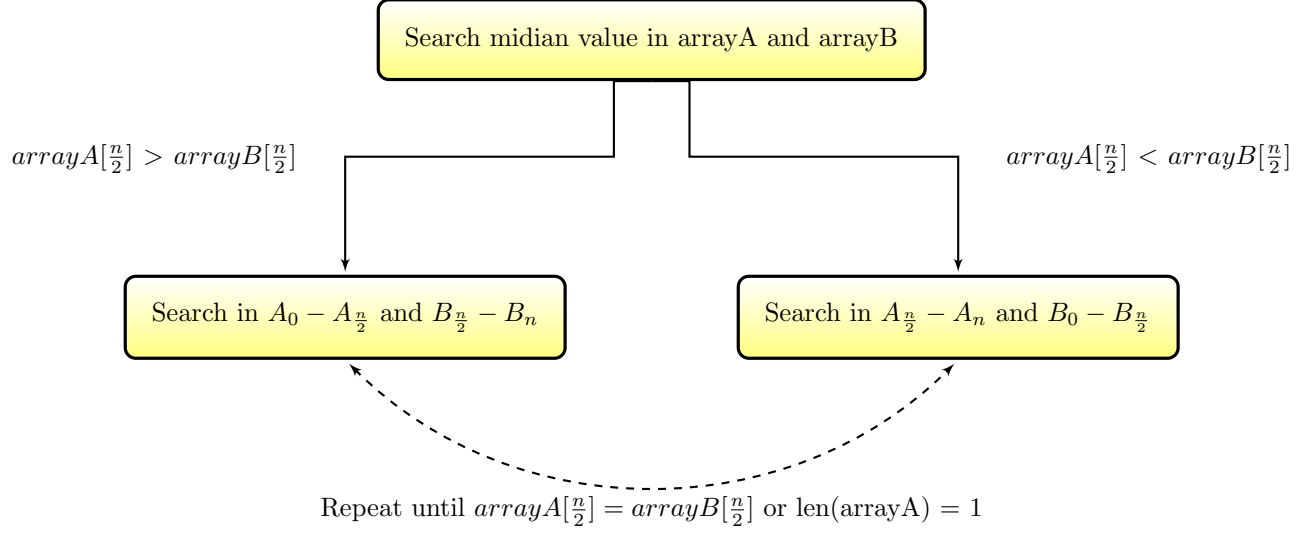


Figure 1: Subproblem reduction graph in problem one

## 1.3 the correctness of the algorithm

For  $n = 1$ , the answer is  $\min(A[0], B[0])$ .

For  $n > 1$ , we choose the median value of the two databases  $A[\frac{n}{2}]$  and  $B[\frac{n}{2}]$ . If  $A[\frac{n}{2}] > B[\frac{n}{2}]$ , because the two databases are already sorted, the median value must be in the part that the value is smaller than  $A[\frac{n}{2}]$  and bigger than  $B[\frac{n}{2}]$ . Also if  $A[\frac{n}{2}] < B[\frac{n}{2}]$ , the median value must be in the part that the value is bigger than  $A[\frac{n}{2}]$  and smaller than  $B[\frac{n}{2}]$ . In the next operation, we can find the remain of the part in two databases. And if  $A[\frac{n}{2}] = B[\frac{n}{2}]$ , we can know that the number the front part of  $A[\frac{n}{2}]$  and  $B[\frac{n}{2}]$  is equal to the later part. So the answer is  $A[\frac{n}{2}]$  or  $B[\frac{n}{2}]$ . So repeat the operation of finding the median of the two searchable parts until we find  $A[\frac{n}{2}] = B[\frac{n}{2}]$  or the number of the remain part is 1. The answer is indeed correct.

## 1.4 the complexity of the algorithm

Because we only find the middle of two array, we can describe the complexity as  $T(n) = 2T(n/2) = O(\log n)$ .

## 2 Problem Two

Given a binary tree, suppose that the distance between two adjacent nodes is 1, please give a solution to find the maximum distance of any two node in the binary tree.

### 2.1 Algorithm Description

The algorithm finds the maximum distance in left and right subtree through the current root node.

---

**Algorithm 2** Find the max distance in a binary tree

---

```
1: function FINDMAXLEN(BTreeroot) MaxLen = 0
2:   if root == NULL then
3:     return 0;
4:   end if
5:   if root → left == NULL then
6:     root → MaxLeftDistance = 0;
7:   end if
8:   if root → right == NULL then
9:     root → MaxRightDistance = 0;
10:  end if
11:  if root → left! = NULL then
12:    FindMaxLen(root → left);
13:    if root → left → MaxLeftDistance > root → left → MaxRightDistance then
14:      root → MaxLeftDistance = root → left → MaxLeftDistance + 1
15:    else
16:      root → MaxLeftDistance = root → left → MaxRightDistance + 1
17:    end if
18:  end if
19:  if root → right! = NULL then
20:    FindMaxLen(root → right);
21:    if root → right → MaxLeftDistance > root → right → MaxRightDistance then
22:      root → MaxRightDistance = root → right → MaxLeftDistance + 1
23:    else
24:      root → MaxRightDistance = root → right → MaxRightDistance + 1
25:    end if
26:  end if
27:  if root → MaxRightDistance + root → MaxLeftDistance > MaxLen then
28:    MaxLen = root → MaxRightDistance + root → MaxLeftDistance;
29:  end if
30: end function
```

---

## 2.2 subproblem reduction graph

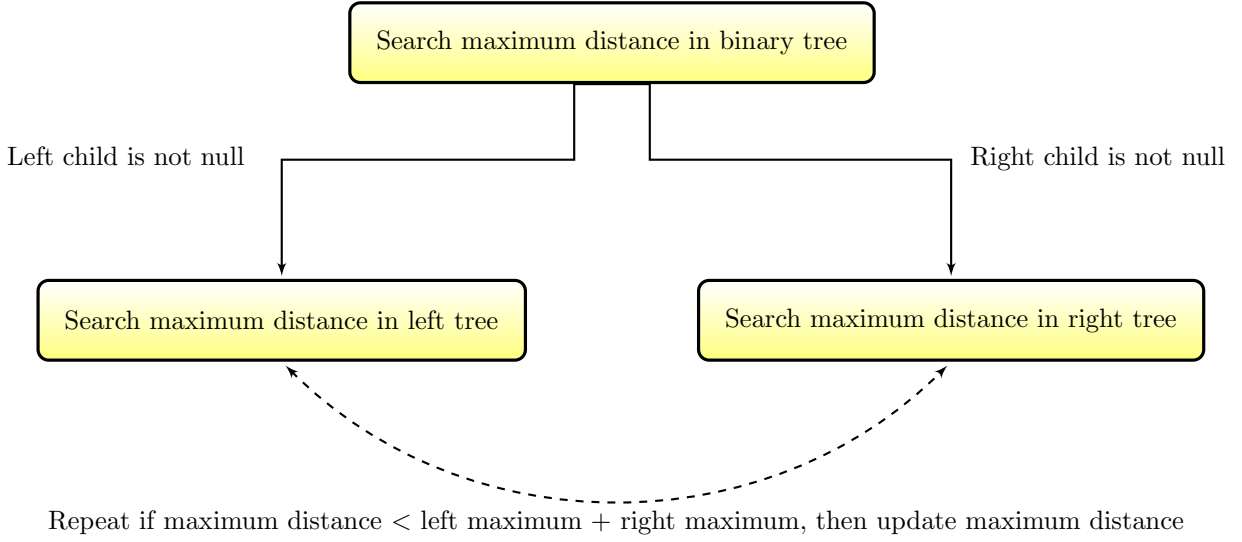


Figure 2: Subproblem reduction graph in problem two

## 2.3 the correctness of the algorithm

We assume the two nodes farthest from the  $K$ th subtree:  $u_k$  and  $v_k$ , whose distance is defined as  $d(u_k, v_k)$ , then the node  $u_k$  or  $v_k$  is the node with the longest distance from the subtree  $K$  to the root node  $R_k$ . Without loss of generality, we set  $u_k$  to be the node with the longest distance  $R_k$  from the root node in subtree  $K$ , and its distance from the root node is defined as  $d(u_k, R)$ . Taking the two largest values  $max_1$  and  $max_2$  of  $d(u_i, R)$  ( $1 \geq i \geq k$ ), then the longest path through the root node  $R$  is  $max_1 + max_2 + 2$ , so the farthest distance in the tree  $R$  is The distance between the two points is:  $\max(d(u_1, v_1), \dots, d(u_k, v_k), max_1 + max_2 + 2)$ . So the algorithm is correct.

## 2.4 the complexity of the algorithm

Because the algorithm searches the left and right child in the binary tree, the complexity is equal to the problem of searching in binay tree as  $O(\log n)$ .

### 3 Problem Three

Consider an  $n$ -node complete binary tree  $T$ , where  $n = 2^d - 1$  for some  $d$ . Each node  $v$  of  $T$  is labeled with a real number  $x_v$ . You may assume that the real numbers labeling the nodes are all distinct. A node  $v$  of  $T$  is a local minimum if the label  $x_v$  is less than the label  $x_w$  for all nodes  $w$  that are joined to  $v$  by an edge.

You are given such a complete binary tree  $T$ , but the labeling is only specified in the following implicit way: for each node  $v$ , you can determine the value  $x_v$  by probing the node  $v$ . Show how to find a local minimum of  $T$  using only  $O(\log n)$  probes to the nodes of  $T$ .

#### 3.1 Algorithm Description

The algorithm searches a local minimum in complete binary tree. In every operation, find the left and right child who is smaller than current nodes.

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**Algorithm 3** Find a local minimum in complete binary tree

---

```
1: function FINDLOCALMIN(BTreeroot)
2:   if root == NULL then
3:     return 0;
4:   end if
5:   if root → left == NULL and root → right == NULL then
6:     return root → value;
7:   end if
8:   if root → value < root → left → value and root → value < root → right → value then
9:     return root → value;
10:  end if
11:  if root → value ≥ root → left → value then
12:    FindLocalMin(root → left);
13:  end if
14:  if root → value ≥ root → right → value then
15:    FindLocalMin(root → right);
16:  end if
17: end function
```

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### 3.2 subproblem reduction graph

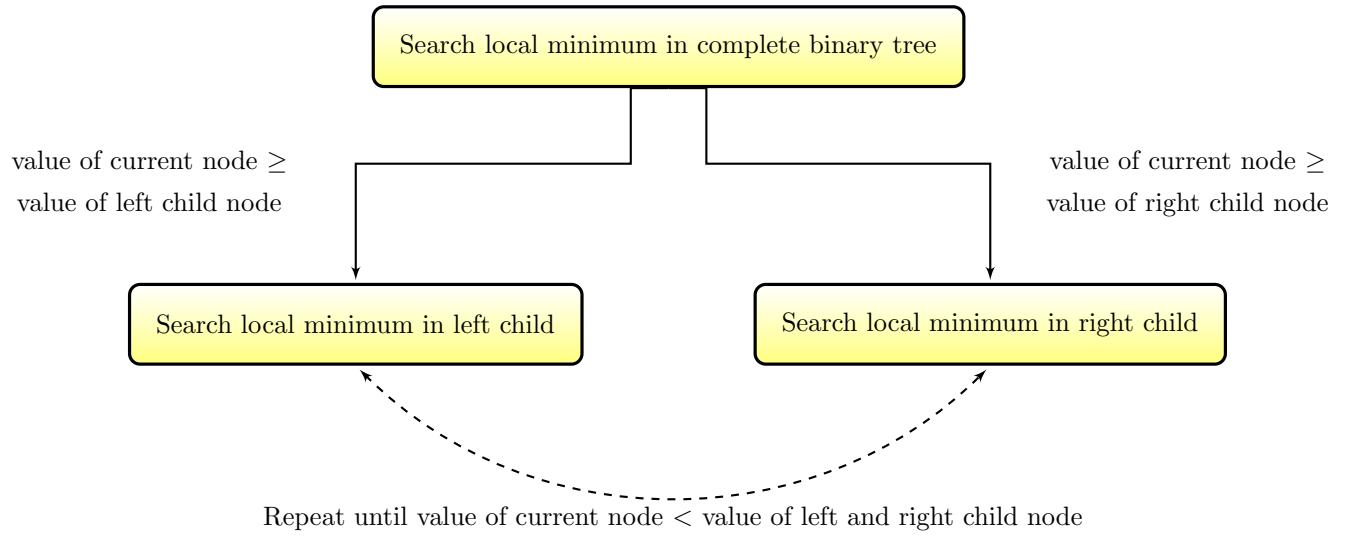


Figure 3: Subproblem reduction graph in problem three

### 3.3 the correctness of the algorithm

We know that a local minimum is smaller than the other nodes connect with it. From the root of the binary tree, searching in the root's left and right subtree, we must be able to find a set of descending nodes described as  $(v_0, v_1, \dots, v_n)$  and the  $n$ th node is indeed the local minimum we look for. So the algorithm is correct.

### 3.4 the complexity of the algorithm

Because the algorithm searches the left and right child in the binary tree, the complexity is equal to the problem of searching in binary tree as  $O(\log n)$ .