

Notes for ECE 36800 - Data Structures and Algorithms

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January 9, 2024

These are lecture notes for spring 2024 ECE 36800 at Purdue. Modify, use, and distribute as you please.

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Course Introduction

Provides insight into the use of data structures. Topics include stacks, queues and lists, trees, graphs, sorting, searching, and hashing. The learning outcomes are:

- Advanced programming ideas, in practice and in theory
- Data structures and their abstractions: Stacks, lists, trees, and graphs
- Fundamentals of algorithms and their complexities: Sorting, searching, hashing, and graph algorithms
- Problem Solving

Introduction to Data Structures & Algorithms

Data Structures are methods of organizing information for ease of manipulation. Examples:

1. Dictionary
2. Check-out line or queues
3. Spring-loaded plate dispenser or stacked
4. Organizational Chart or tree

These are associated with methods known as algorithms to be manipulated

Algorithms are methods of doing something. Examples:

1. Multiplying two numbers
2. Making a sandwich
3. Getting dressed

The topics of interest within them are:

- Correctness
- Efficiency in time and space

Complexity