

Fundamental Algorithms, Section 003
Homework 6, Additional Problems, Fall 22.

1. Suppose you are given a collection of DNA strings (they use the 4-character alphabet A,C,G,T). You are writing an algorithm for a genetic engineer who would like to cut and paste from one string to another (no copying of portions of the strings, however; see the challenge problem on the homework for how to support copying). This is defined by specifying the cut as going from the i -th to the j -th characters in one string, and the paste as occurring right after the k -th character in a second string. Show how to maintain the strings so that the cut and paste operations can be performed in $O(\log n)$ assuming the total length of the strings is n .

Present your algorithm so it is clear why it works and justify the runtime briefly. You may state known results about data structures.

2.a. Let S and T be two sets having combined size n .

a. Suppose we were willing to tolerate a 2% incorrect answer rate.

i. Give an algorithm to test if $S \subseteq T$ that runs in worst-case time $O(n)$, but uses only an additional $O(n)$ bits of space. Remember the algorithm is allowed to have a small probability of giving an incorrect answer. Justify your answer.

ii. Why might it be difficult to obtain a similar algorithm to test if S and T are disjoint, again with worst case running time $O(n)$.

b. Suppose instead that we wanted correct answers but would accept an $O(n)$ expected runtime. What are the answers to (i) and (ii) now? Justify your answers.