

# Overview of important Algorithms

- Searching

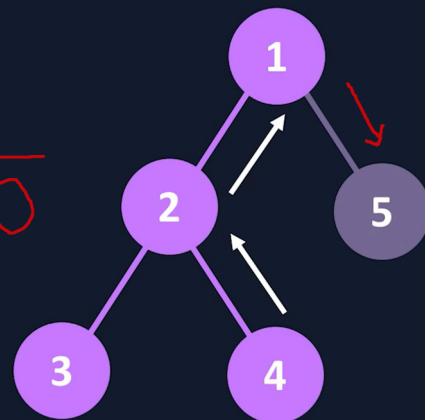
- Binary Search

- Depth First Search for trees and graphs

- start from the top of a tree and go as deep as possible along the same branch
    - once you are at the bottom then go to nearest unvisited node usually a sibling of the deepest node
      - this process is called **Backtracking**
    - used to solve a maze
    - $O(\text{number of nodes} + \text{number of branches})$

## DFS: Visualized

visited = [1, 2, 3, 4]. 5



- Breadth First Search for trees and graphs

- you don't go to deepest point like DFS
    - instead you make sure that the sibling node has been visited
    - once you are on a node look at its children and add them to a queue and then you visit the node in the queue and add them to visited array and remove them from sibling queue
    - if the node in the queues has more children then add them to queue when marking it visited
    - used in chess
    - $O(\text{number of nodes} + \text{number of branches})$

- Sorting

- **Insertion Sort**
  - compares the  $n$ th element with  $(n+1)$ th element and swaps them if  $n$ th element is larger
  - best case  $O(n)$  if everything is already sorted
  - worst case  $O(n^2)$  when nothing is sorted beforehand
- **Merge Sort**
  - divide and conquer and conquer by divide and conquer and so on
  - recursion
  - splits array in half till we have pairs of 2
  - then all pairs of 2 are sorted and then 2 pairs of 2 are merged and sorted till the array is completely merged back again
  - best and worst case are same  $O(n \log n)$
- **Quick Sort**
  - recursive like merge sort so divides and conquers
  - we choose a pivot element of the array which is closest to the median of the array elements
  - then we split the lists into 2 such that one list has elements less than the pivot element and one where all elements are greater than the pivot element
  - we repeat the same on these 2 lists
  - we move the pivot element to the end of the list
  - we place 2 pointers one on the 0th index and the 2nd on the 2nd last element and compare the two if the 0th one is larger we swap
  - keep doing it till the 2 pointers meet
  - when they meet replace that element with the last one
  - we now have 2 lists like we wanted and we can do the same thing on them individually
  - best case  $O(n \log n)$
  - worst case  $O(n^2)$
  - still can be 2 to 3 times faster than merge sort by reducing the chances of worst case
  - needs less memory  $O(\log n)$  than merge sort  $O(n)$
- **Greedy Algorithm**
  - It makes the best possible decision at every local step
  - when not to be greedy
    - not meant for efficiency

- when to be greedy
  - when you don't want to find the most efficient way out of millions of permutations then greedy might be a good enough solution
  - when optimal solution not possible and brute force is not acceptable become greedy

## Recursion

- a recursive function should have a terminating condition also called as a base condition
- the values in the scope of the function can be used before(ascending) or after(descending) the termination condition and recursive call

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

void head(int n)
{
    if (n > 0)
    {
        head(n - 1);
        cout << n << " ";
    }
}

void tail(int n)
{
    if (n > 0)
    {
        cout << n << " ";
        tail(n - 1);
    }
}

int main()
{
    head(10);
    cout << endl;
    tail(10);

    return 0;
```

```

}
// 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
// 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

```

- use static variables in recursive function if you need a counter and don't want the counter to reset on every recursive call
  - static variable will have a single copy for all recursive calls and will not be a local variable of the scope of a recursive function
  - it is like global but more restrictive
- types of recursion
  - tail
    - when the function calls itself in the last line of the function
    - easier to convert recursive logic to iterative
  - head
    - when the function calls itself in the first line of the function
    - harder to convert recursive logic to iterative
  - tree
    - opposite of tree recursion is linear recursion when the recursive function calls itself only one time
    - in tree recursion the recursive function calls itself more than one times

```

#include <iostream>
using namespace std;
void tree(int n)
{
    if (n > 0)
    {
        cout << n << " ";
        tree(n - 1);
        tree(n - 1);
    }
}

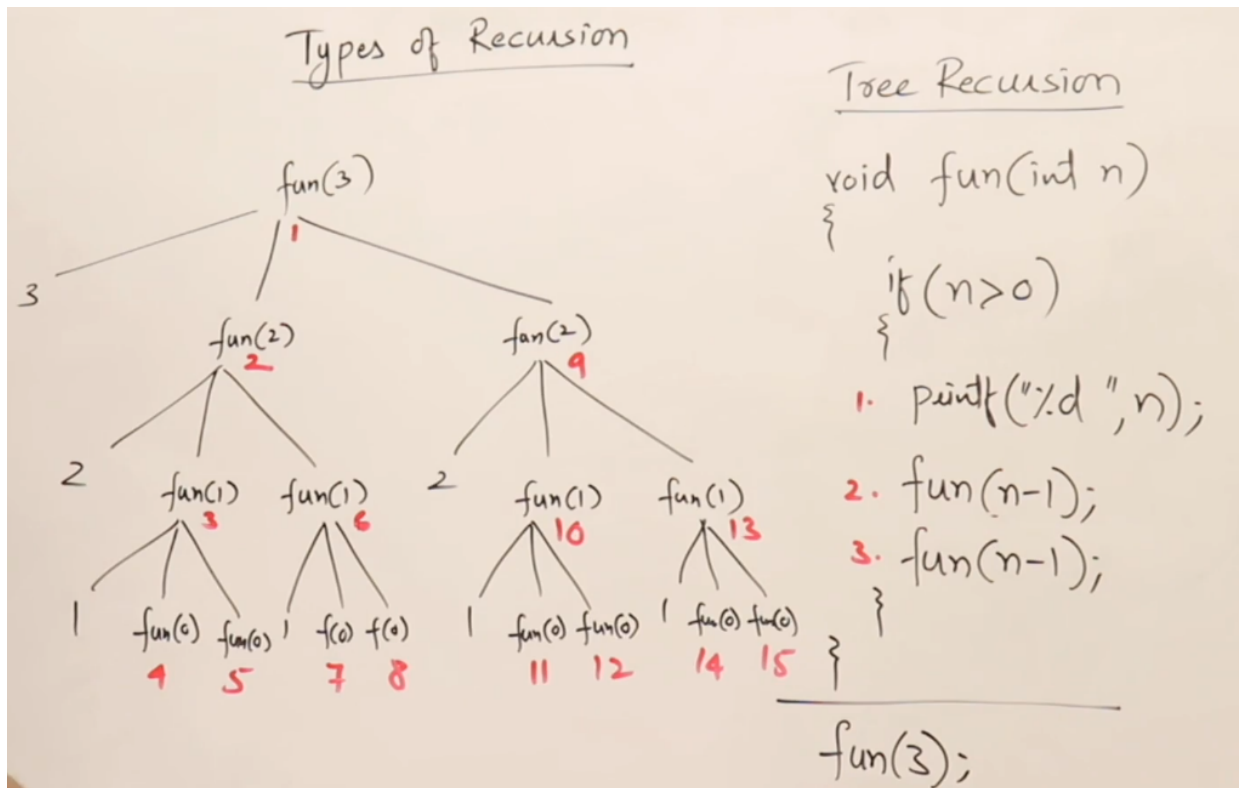
int main()
{

```

```

    tree(3);
    return 0;
}
// 3 2 1 1 2 1 1
// Time  $O(2^n)$ 
// Space  $O(n)$ 

```



- indirect
- nested