

# Algorithm Design and Analysis

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# Administrative Stuff

Lectures: Yuhui Shi

- Wednesday 10:20-12:10
- Attendance is expected.

Lab: Yao Zhao

Prerequisite. CS203

Textbook. *Algorithm Design* by Jon Kleinberg and Éva Tardos.

# Grades

## Course grades.

- Final Exam: 40%
- Lab: 30%
- Homework: 20%
- Attendance: 10%
  - I will ask you to sign your names on a piece of paper during lecture time in several teaching weeks;
  - Do not sign for others. If caught, first time, 0 point for the Attendance part; second time, 0 point for the whole course;
  - No excuse will be accepted for not attending classes unless I have been notified by an official permission for absence at the university level (**approved**) in advance.

# Algorithms

## Algorithm.

- [webster.com] A procedure for solving a mathematical problem (as of finding the greatest common divisor) in a finite number of steps that frequently involves repetition of an operation.
- [Knuth, TAOCP] An algorithm is a finite, definite, effective procedure, with some input and some output.

Great algorithms are the poetry of computation. Just like verse, they can be terse, allusive, dense, and even mysterious. But once unlocked, they cast a brilliant new light on some aspect of computing. - *Francis Sullivan*

## Definition of Algorithm

must have a well-established structure in terms of the order of their execution, but not necessary in a sequencing. E.g. parallel algorithms, GPU, Interrupt

An algorithm is an **ordered** set of **unambiguous, executable** steps that defines a **terminating** process.

The diagram consists of a central definition of an algorithm. Four red arrows point from explanatory text blocks to specific words in the definition: 'unambiguous', 'ordered', 'executable', and 'terminating'.

The information in the state of the process must be **sufficient** to determine **uniquely and completely** the actions required by each step

Make a list of **all** the positive integers

The execution of an algorithm must lead to an end

# Etymology

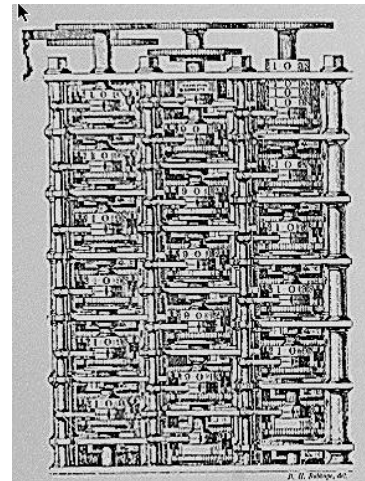
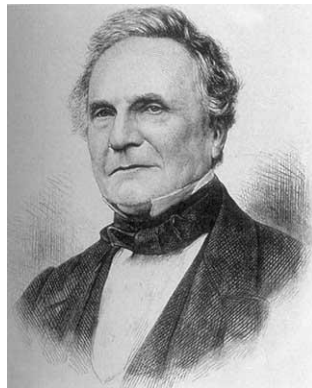
Etymology. [Knuth, TAOCP]

- *Algorism* = process of doing arithmetic using Arabic numerals.
- A misperception: *algiros* [painful] + *arithmos* [number].
- True origin: Abu 'Abd Allah Muhammad ibn Musa al-Khwarizm was a famous 9th century Persian textbook author who wrote *Kitab al-jabr wa'l-muqabala*, which evolved into today's high school algebra text.



# Theory of Algorithms

"As soon as an Analytic Engine exists, it will necessarily guide the future course of the science. Whenever any result is sought by its aid, the question will arise - By what course of calculation can these results be arrived at by the machine in the *shortest time*? - Charles Babbage



# Algorithmic Paradigms

Design and analysis of computer algorithms.

- Greedy.
- Divide-and-conquer.
- Dynamic programming.
- Network flow.
- Randomized algorithms.
- Intractability.
- Coping with intractability.

Critical thinking and problem-solving.



# Applications

Wide range of applications.

- Caching.
- Compilers.
- Databases.
- Scheduling.
- Networking.
- Data analysis.
- Signal processing.
- Computer graphics.
- Scientific computing.
- Operations research.
- Artificial intelligence.
- Computational biology.
- . . .

We focus on algorithms and techniques that are **useful in practice**.