

INTRODUCTION TO DATA STRUCTURE AND ALGORITHMS

- Data Structure
- Algorithm

Objectives:

- Introduce the concept of variables, data types, data structures, types of analysis, algorithms.
- Differentiate the following terms: data types, data structures, abstract data type.
- Define what an Algorithm is and describe the entering for creating a good algorithm
- Identify the ways to represent algorithms

Let's define

a type is a set of values

a data type refer to the data that a variable can hold in a programming language.

Two Data Types -

 Build-in Data Type - which a language has built-in support [example: integer, Boolean, float, char]

 Derived Data Type - which are implementation independent [example: list, array, stack, queue]

***All programming language has a set of built-in data types.



Let's define

Data Definition defines a particular data with the following characteristics

- Atomic definition should define a single concept
- Traceable definition should be able to mapped to some data element (piece of information record)
- Accurate definition should be unambiguous
- Clear and Concise definition should be understandable

Data Object represents an object having a data



Data Structure

specialized format to store and organize data in a computer's memory or disk

collection of variables, possibly of several different data types connected in various ways

Basic Operations -

- Traversing
- Searching
- Insertion
- Deletion
- Sorting
- Merging

Types of Data Structure -

- Array
- Linked List
- Stacks
- Trees
- **Hash Tables**



Data Structure: Primitive vs Aggregate

All data structures can be classified as primitives or aggregates.

Primitives

 The simplest kind of data structure stores single data items.

[example: a variable that stores a Boolean value or an integer]

Aggregates

 Many data structures are capable of storing multiple data items.

[example: an array can store multiple data items in its various slots, and an object can store multiple data items via its fields]

Abstract Data Type

- specification of a set of data and set of operations performed in a data
- storage for data defined in terms of set of operations to be performed on the data

*** A data type is said to be an abstract when it is independent of various concrete implementation

The following Abstract Data Types implemented in a programming language include:

- Deque
- List
- Priority queue
- Set
- Stack
- Tree



Algorithm

 a step-by-step procedure, which defines a set of instructions to be executed in certain order to get the desired output.

recipe for solving a problem

From the data structure point of view, following are some important categories of algorithms -

- Search
- Sort
- Insert
- Update
- Delete



Characteristics of an Algorithm

not all procedures can be called an algorithm.

An algorithm should have the following characteristics –

- Unambiguous Each of its steps (or phases), and their inputs/outputs should be clear and must lead to only one meaning.
- **Input** An algorithm should have 0 or more well-defined inputs.
- Output An algorithm should have 1 or more well-defined outputs, and should match the desired output.
- Finiteness Algorithms must terminate after a finite number of steps.
- Feasibility Should be feasible with the available resources.
- Independent An algorithm should have step-by-step directions, which should be independent of any programming code.



Examples: Algorithm

Simple Algorithm: Applying Shampoo

- Apply to wet hair
- Massage gently
- Leave on for a few moments
- Rinse off

Simple Algorithm: Washing Dishes

- Stack dishes by sink
- Fill sink with soapy water
- While there are more dishes get dish from counter wash dish push dish in drain rack
- Wipe off counter
- Rinse out sink



Examples: Algorithm

Problem: Design an algorithm to add two numbers and display the result

Step 1: START

Step 2: declare three integers a, b, and c

Step 3: define values of a and b

Step 4: add values of a and b

Step 5: store value of step 4 to c

Step 6: print c

Step 7: END

Alternatively,

Step 1: START ADD

Step 2: get values of a and b

Step 3: c □ a + b

Step 4: display c

Step 5: STOP







