

## COMP2119A Introduction to Data Structures and Algorithms - Quiz 2

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Time Limit: 1 hour 50 minutes

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Rules: You can get at most 100 points if attempting all problems. Please make your answers precise and concise.

### Course Outcomes

- [O1]. Mathematics foundation
- [O2]. Basic data structures
- [O3]. Problem solving
- [O4]. Implementation

1. [O1, O2] (30 pts) Fill in the blanks.

I (18 pts) You need to state your proof.

- (a) In a complete  $k$ -ary tree, every node has exactly  $k$  children or no child. The internal node has exact  $k$  children. The number of leaves in such a tree with  $n$  internal nodes is \_\_\_\_\_. (Express it in terms of  $n$  and  $k$ .)

**Solution:**  $n(k - 1) + 1$ .

Assume the number of leaves is  $x$ . On the one hand, there are  $x + n$  nodes in total, so there are  $x + n - 1$  edges. On the other hand, the number of edges is  $nk$ .  $nk = x + n - 1, x = n(k - 1) + 1$ .

- (b) There exists an input array of length  $n$  that forces randomized quicksort to run in  $\Theta(n^2)$  time in expectation. (True or false)

**Solution:** False. For any input, the expected running time of quicksort is  $O(n \log n)$ , where the expectation is taken over the random choices made by quicksort, independent of the choice of the input.

- (c) There exists a comparison-based sorting algorithm for 5 numbers that uses at most 6 comparisons in the worst case. (True or false)

**Solution:** False. The number of leaves of a decision tree which sorts 5 numbers is  $5!$  and the height of the tree is at least  $\lg(5!)$ . Since  $6 < \lg(5!) < 7$ . Thus at least 7 comparisons are required.

II (12 pts) No proof is needed.

- (a) A binary search tree  $T$  produces sequence of keys “0, 16, 13, 22, 19, 36, 75, 88, 54, 23”, after a post-order traversal of  $T$ . Please write down the sequence

if we do an pre-order traversal of  $T$ :

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**Solution:** 23, 19, 13, 0, 16, 22, 54, 36, 88, 75

- (b) A binary search tree contains the values 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8. The tree is traversed in pre-order and the values are printed out. Which of the following sequences might be a valid output?

A. 53124786

B. 53126487

C. 53241678

D. 53124768

**Solution:** D

- (c) The complexity of which of the following sorting algorithms remains to be the same in its best, average and worst case, counting sort, quick sort, insertion sort or selection sort? ( You may choose more than one sorting algorithm.)

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**Solution:** Counting sort and selection sort.

- (d) If the array is already sorted, which of comparison-based sorting algorithms will exhibit the best performance, bubble sort, insertion sort, selection sort, merge sort, or quick sort? \_\_\_\_\_.

**Solution:** Insertion sort.

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2. [O2, O3] (12 pts) Height of a tree is the length of the path from root of that tree to its farthest node. In a binary tree, for every node the difference between the number of nodes in the left and right subtrees is at most 2. Assume the minimum number of nodes in such a tree with height  $h$  is  $a_h$ .

- (a) (4 pts) Please calculate  $a_1, a_2$ .

**Solution:**  $a_1 = 2, a_2 = 3$ .

- (b) (8 pts) What is  $a_h$ ? Express it in terms of  $h$ , and prove it's tight. (By showing such a tree exists.)

**Solution:**  $a_h = 2^{h-1} + 1$ .

Consider root node, assume the height of left subtree is  $h - 1$ , then, the number of nodes in right subtree is at least  $a_{h-1} - 2, h > 2$ .

$$a_h \geq a_{h-1} + a_{h-1} - 2 + 1.$$

$$a_h - 1 \geq 2(a_{h-1} - 1), a_h - 1 \geq 2^{h-2}(a_2 - 1). \text{ We have } a_1 = 2, a_2 = 3.$$

Therefore,  $a_h \geq 2^{h-1} + 1, h > 0$ .

**Proof:**

We construct a tree with height  $h$  and the number of nodes  $a_h$  as follows:

First, generate a tree with height 1: it contains two nodes and one edge.

- i. Generate a new root node  $r$ .
- ii. Make current tree  $r$ 's left subtree.
- iii. Generate a new tree  $rt$  by removing two nodes carefully from  $r$ 's left subtree without breaking the difference property. (If the number of left subtree is more than 2, assume the height of  $r$ 's left subtree is  $d$ , remove the two nodes with depth  $d$  and  $d - 1$ ; Otherwise,  $rt = \text{NULL}$ .)
- iv. Make  $rt$   $r$ 's right subtree. A new tree is generated.

Repeat the above process  $h - 1$  times until the height of current tree reaches  $h$ .

Therefore,  $a_h = 2^{h-1} + 1, h > 0$ .

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3. [O3, O4] (13 pts) You are given a binary search tree with  $n$  nodes of height  $h$ , together with a range  $[a, b]$ . The keys in the tree are distinct integers. Please write a program that outputs all keys in the tree that are **at least**  $a$  and **at most**  $b$ . Suppose there are  $t$  such keys, your program needs to run in  $O(h + t)$  time.

```
function TRAVERSE(root,a,b)  
/* Write your algorithm here */
```

**Solution:**

```
function TRAVERSE(root,a,b)  
  if root is NULL then  
    RETURN  
  if  $a \leq \text{root.key} \leq b$  then  
    PRINT root.key  
  if  $\text{root.key} \geq a$  then  
    TRAVERSE(root.left,a,b)  
  if  $\text{root.key} \leq b$  then  
    TRAVERSE(root.right,a,b)
```

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4. [O1] (15 pts) There are  $n!$  different arrays of size  $n$  containing  $1, 2, \dots, n$ . If we do bubble sort on all these arrays, what is the average number of swap? (For example, when  $n = 2$ , there are two arrays:  $[1, 2]$  and  $[2, 1]$ . The total number of swap is 1, so the average is 0.5.)

```
void bubble_sort(int *array, int n)
{
    int i, j;
    for (i = 0; i < n - 1; ++i)
    {
        for (j = 0; j < n - 1; ++j)
        {
            if (array[j] > array[j + 1])
            {
                swap(array[j], array[j+1]);
            }
        }
    }
}
```

**Solution:**

We consider inverse pair: if  $i, j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}, i < j$ , and  $array[i] > array[j]$ , we call  $i$  and  $j$  an inverse pair.

For any array  $A$ , assume there are  $x$  inverse pair(s). Reverse  $A$  to  $B$ , such that  $A[i] = B[n - 1 - i]$ . The number of inverse pair(s) in  $B$  is  $\frac{n(n-1)}{2} - x$ .

Therefore, the average is  $\frac{n(n-1)}{4}$ .

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5. **Close Numbers [O1, O3]** (30 pts, 3 parts)

Consider a set  $S$  of  $n \geq 2$  distinct numbers. For simplicity, assume that  $n = 2^k + 1$  for some  $k > 0$ . Call a pair of distinct numbers  $x, y \in S$  close in  $S$  if

$$|x - y| \leq \frac{1}{n-1} (\max_{z \in S} z - \min_{z \in S} z),$$

i.e. if the distance between  $x$  and  $y$  is at most the average distance between consecutive numbers in the sorted order.

(a)(10 pts) Explain why every set  $S$  of  $n \geq 2$  distinct numbers contains a close pair of numbers.

**Solution:** Without loss of generality, assume  $S = \{z_1, z_2, \dots, z_n\}$ , with  $z_i \leq z_{i+1}$ . The average distance between two consecutive numbers  $z_i$  and  $z_{i+1}$  is

$$\frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} (z_{i+1} - z_i) = \frac{1}{n-1} (z_n - z_1)$$

There exists at least one pair of consecutive numbers  $x$  and  $y$  whose distance between them is less than or equal to the average. The result then follows from the definition of the *close* pair.

(b)(10 pts) Suppose that we partition  $S$  around a pivot element  $p \in S$ , organizing the result into two subsets of  $S$ :  $S_1 = \{x \in S | x \leq p\}$  and  $S_2 = \{x \in S | x \geq p\}$ . Prove that either

1. every pair  $x, y \in S_1$  of numbers that is close in  $S_1$  is also close in  $S$ , or
2. every pair  $x, y \in S_2$  of numbers that is close in  $S_2$  is also close in  $S$ .

Show how to determine, in  $O(n)$  time, a value  $k \in \{1, 2\}$  such that every pair  $x, y \in S_k$  of numbers that is close in  $S_k$  is also close in  $S$ .

**Notice:** elements in  $S$  are distinct.

**Solution:** Without loss of generality, assume that the elements in  $S_k$  are in sorted order. For  $k = 1, 2$ , let  $a_k$  be the average distance between two consecutive numbers in  $S_k$ , and let  $n_k$  the number of elements in  $S_k$ . Using the result from Part (a), we have

$$a_1 = \frac{1}{n_1 - 1} (\max_{z \in S_1} z - \min_{z \in S_1} z) = \frac{1}{n_1 - 1} (p - \min_{z \in S_1} z)$$

and

$$a_2 = \frac{1}{n_2 - 1} (\max_{z \in S_2} z - \min_{z \in S_2} z) = \frac{1}{n_2 - 1} (\max_{z \in S_2} z - p)$$

The average distance between two consecutive numbers in  $S$  in sorted order is then given by

$$a = \frac{1}{n-1} (\max_{z \in S} z - \min_{z \in S} z) = \frac{1}{n-1} (p - \min_{z \in S} z) + \frac{1}{n-1} (\max_{z \in S} z - p) = \frac{n_1 - 1}{n-1} a_1 + \frac{n_2 - 1}{n-1} a_2$$

Note that  $n_1 + n_2 = n + 1$ , because  $p$  is included in both  $S_1$  and  $S_2$ . So,  $a$  is a weighted average of  $a_1$  and  $a_2$ ,

$$a = (1 - \alpha)a_1 + \alpha a_2$$

, where  $\alpha = \frac{n_2-1}{n-1}$ . Suppose that  $a_1 \leq a_2$ . If  $x$  and  $y$  are a close pair in  $S_1$ , then

$$|x - y| \leq a_1 = (1 - \alpha)a_1 + \alpha a_1 \leq (1 - \alpha)a_1 + \alpha a_2 = a.$$

This implies that every close pair in  $S_1$  is also a close pair in  $S$ . Similarly, if  $a_2 \leq a_1$ , then every close pair in  $S_2$  is a close pair in  $S$ . The average distance  $a_k$  can be computed in  $O(n)$  time, by searching for the minimum or the maximum number in  $S_k$ . Therefore, the subset  $S_k$  with the specified property can be computed in  $O(n)$  time.

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(c) (10 pts) Describe an expected  $O(n)$ -time algorithm to find a close pair of numbers in  $S$ . Explain briefly why your algorithm is correct, and analyse its running time.

(Hint: 1. Use divide and conquer; 2. Might be a randomized algorithm, like quick sort. )

**Solution:** The idea is to partition  $S$  recursively until we find a close pair.

1. Determine the median of  $S$  and use it to partition  $S$  into  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  .
2. Use the result from Part (b) to determine the set  $S_k$  that contains a close pair of  $S$ .
3. Recursion on  $S_k$  until  $S_k$  contains 2 elements.

Since each recursive step reduces the cardinality of the set by roughly a half, the recursion is guaranteed to terminate. After each recursive step, the remaining set contains a close pair of  $S$ . Step 1 takes  $O(n)$  time in the worst case, if we use the deterministic median-finding algorithm. Step 2 takes  $O(n)$  time based on the result from Part (b). Therefore, the running time of the algorithm is given by the following recurrence:  $T(n) = T(n/2) + O(n)$ , with the solution  $T(n) = O(n)$ .