

Empirical Analysis of the Johnson Trotter and Grey Code Algorithms

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Johnson Trotter

Problem Statement

The Johnson Trotter algorithm aims to create every permutation of a set by only switching the position of two elements within the set during each iteration. Each iteration of the algorithm is guaranteed to produce a unique permutation of the set until the last permutation is reached.

Here, we will test the Johnson Trotter algorithm to confirm that it does indeed visit every permutation once and only once.

Experiment Setup

To confirm this, we analyze the amount of processing time required to visit every permutation with sets of size N . Each set size N tested is in the range $[2, 12]$. For each N , 10 tests are performed and the runtime from the tests are averaged to get an accurate portrayal of the algorithm's actual run time.

Results

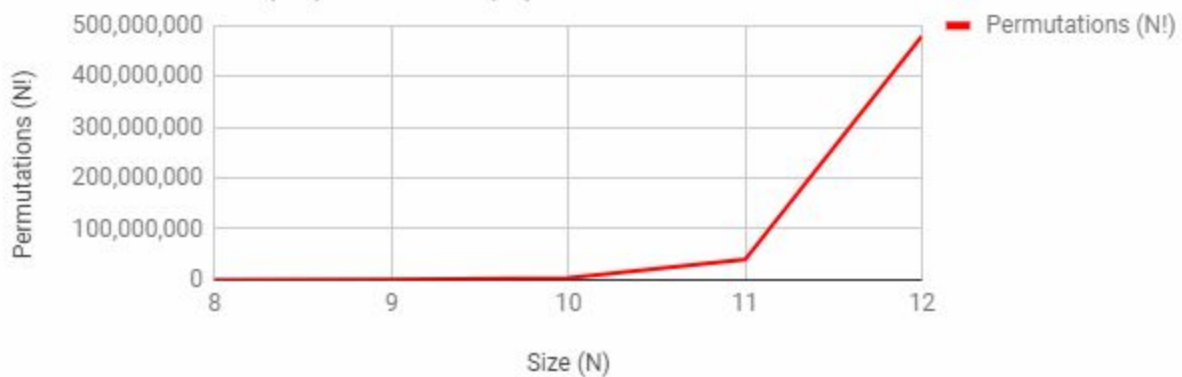
The table and graphs for the results are displayed on the next page (2). The Permutations vs. Size (PvS) graph shows the growth rate of the number of permutations as the size of the set increases. The Time vs. Size (TvS) graph shows the growth rate of the Johnson Trotter algorithm runtime as the size of the set increases.

Conclusion

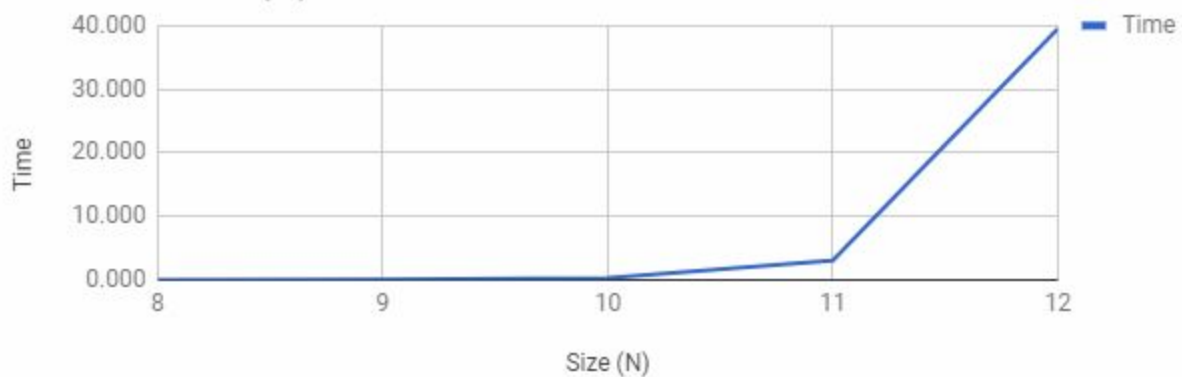
Notice that PvS is actually a graph of $N!$ vs. N . The Johnson Trotter algorithm runtime follows the same trend as the $N!$ vs. N graph. This supports the original hypothesis; the Johnson Trotter algorithm visits each permutation in a set's $N!$ permutations once and only once.

Johnson Trotter		
Size (N)	Permutations (N!)	Time
2	2	0.003
3	6	0.000
4	24	0.009
5	120	0.009
6	720	0.000
7	5,040	0.003
8	40,320	0.000
9	362,880	0.033
10	3,628,800	0.253
11	39,916,800	3.040
12	479,001,600	39.508

Permutations (N!) vs. Size (N)



Time vs. Size (N)



Grey Code

Problem Statement

The goal of the Grey Code algorithm is to visit every single subset that exists within a set once and only once. This is done by starting with the empty set and adding or removing only one element from our current subset during each iteration. This is done until the Grey Code algorithm creates every possible subset.

Our goal is to test the Grey Code algorithm to make sure that it visits every subset once and only once.

Experiment Setup

To do this, we will analyze the amount of processing time required to visit every unique subset within a set of size (N). The sizes of the sets tested will be in the range of [1, 30]. For every N, the Grey Code algorithm will run 5 times and the average runtime from those five tests will represent the runtime of the Grey Code algorithm for that set size.

Results

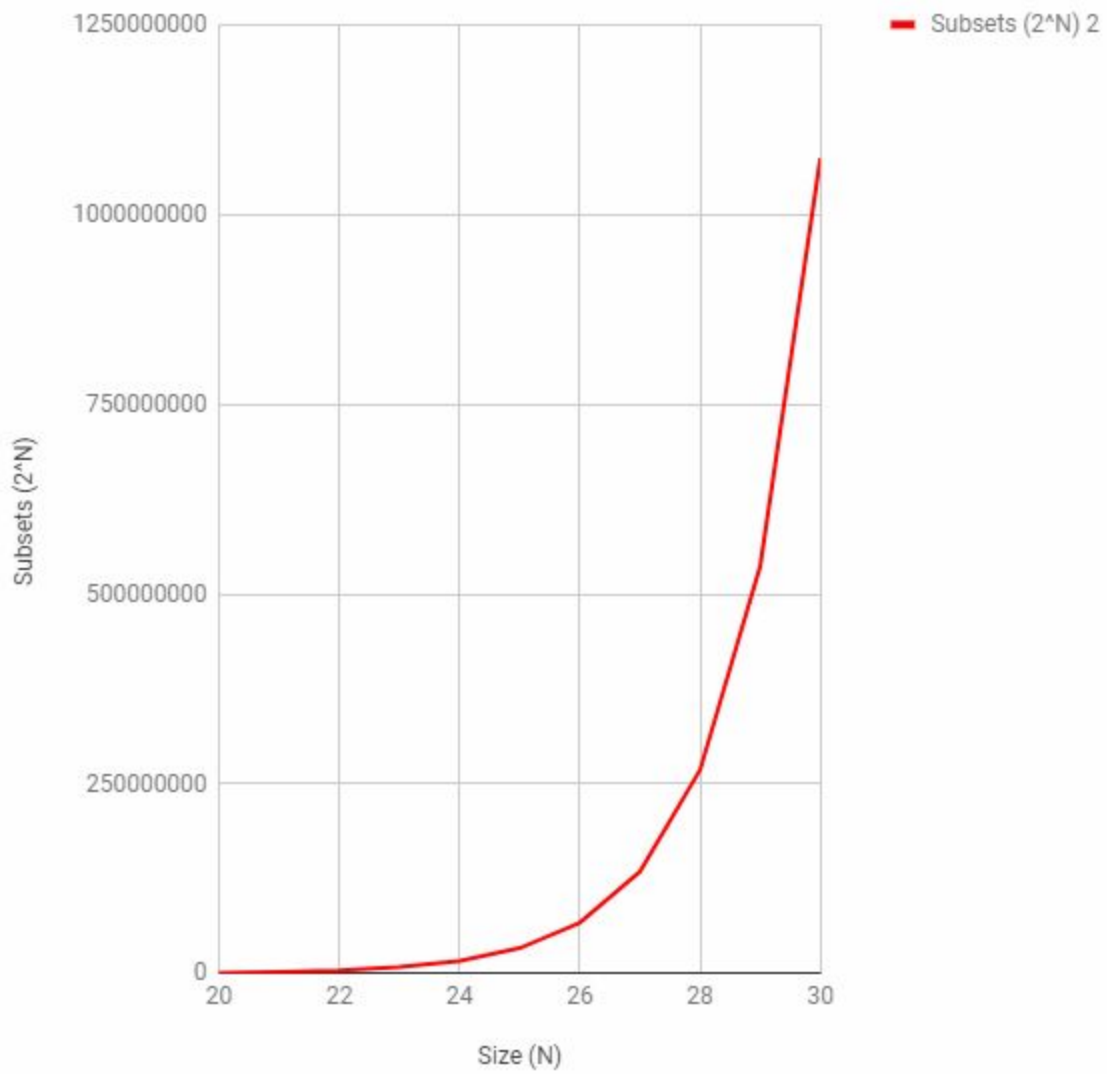
The table and graphs from the results of the tests can be found on the next couple of pages (4-6). The first graph, Subset vs. Size (SvS), shows the growth rate in the number of subsets against the size of the set. The second graph, Time vs. Size (TvS), shows the growth rate of the Grey Code algorithm runtime as the size of the set increases.

Conclusion

SvS displays a growth rate of 2^N . TvS follows this same growth rate curve. The similar growth rates in these two graphs demonstrate that the Grey Code algorithm visits every subset within a set's 2^N subsets once and only once.

Gray Code		
Size (N)	Subsets (2^N)	Time
1	2	0.003
2	4	0.000
3	8	0.000
4	16	0.000
5	32	0.003
6	64	0.000
7	128	0.006
8	256	0.000
9	512	0.000
10	1024	0.000
11	2048	0.003
12	4096	0.000
13	8192	0.003
14	16384	0.003
15	32768	0.003
16	65536	0.003
17	131072	0.009
18	262144	0.009
19	524288	0.009
20	1048576	0.025
21	2097152	0.046
22	4194304	0.093
23	8388608	0.171
24	16777216	0.343
25	33554432	0.690
26	67108864	1.400
27	134217728	2.771
28	268435456	5.524
29	536870912	11.071
30	1073741824	22.165

Subsets (2^N) vs. Size (N)



Time vs. Size (N)

