

1 Experimental Studies

General pattern:

- Write a program implementing the algorithm
- Run the program with inputs of "varying size and composition"
- Use a system method to get an (in)accurate measure of the actual running time
- Plot the results
- Interpret & analyse

2 Limitations of Experiments

- It is necessary to implement the algorithm, which may be difficult or time consuming
- Results may not be indicative of the running time on other inputs not included in the experiment
- In order to compare two algorithms directly same hardware and software environments must be used