Analysis of algorithms

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Programming, Data Structures and Algorithms using Python Week 2

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 - Naive approach takes thousands of years
 - Smarter solution takes a few minutes

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- $n \approx 10^9$ number of cards
- Naive algorithm: $t(n) \approx n^2$
- Clever algorithm: $t(n) \approx n \log_2 n$
 - log₂ *n* number of times you need to divide *n* by 2 to reach 1

Example 2 Video game

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- $\log_2 100,000$ is under 20, so $n \log_2 n$ takes a fraction of a second

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- Asymptotic complexity
 - What happens in the limit, as *n* becomes large
- Typical growth functions
 - Is t(n) proportional to $\log n, \ldots, n^2, n^3, \ldots, 2^n$?
 - Note: $\log n$ means $\log_2 n$ by default
 - Logarithmic, polynomial, exponential, ...

Input size	Values of $t(n)$						
	log n	n	$n \log n$	n^2	n^3	2 ⁿ	<i>n</i> !
10	3.3	10	33	100	1000	1000	10^{6}
100	6.6	100	66	10 ⁴	10^{6}	10^{30}	10^{157}
1000	10	1000	10 ⁴	10^{6}	10 ⁹		
10 ⁴	13	10 ⁴	10 ⁵	10 ⁸	10^{12}		
10 ⁵	17	10^{5}	10^{6}	10^{10}			
10 ⁶	20	10^{6}	10 ⁷	10^{12}			
10 ⁷	23	10 ⁷	10 ⁸				
108	27	10 ⁸	10^{9}				
10 ⁹	30	10 ⁹	10^{10}				
10 ¹⁰	33	10^{10}	10^{11}				

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- Exchange a pair of values?

$$(x,y) = (y,x)$$
 $t = x$
 $x = y$
 $y = t$

- If we ignore constants, focus on orders of magnitude, both are within a factor of 3
- Need not be very precise about defining basic operations

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 - Size of a list/array that we want to search or sort
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 - Arithmetic operations are performed digit by digit
 - Addition with carry, subtraction with borrow, multiplication, long division . . .

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 - \blacksquare Magnitude of n is not the correct measure
 - Arithmetic operations are performed digit by digit
 - Addition with carry, subtraction with borrow, multiplication, long division . . .
 - Number of digits is a natural measure of input size
 - Same as $\log_b n$, when we write n in base b



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 - \blacksquare Asymptotic complexity, as n becomes large
- From running time, we can estimate feasible input sizes
- We focus on worst case inputs
 - Pessimistic, but easier to calculate than average case
 - Upper bound on worst case gives us an overall guarantee on performance

Comparing orders of magnitude

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Orders of magnitude

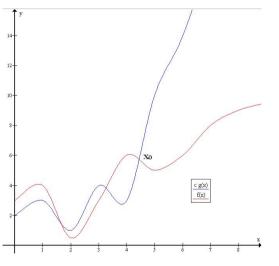
- When comparing t(n), focus on orders of magnitude
 - Ignore constant factors
- $f(n) = n^3$ eventually grows faster than $g(n) = 5000n^2$
- How do we compare functions with respect to orders of magnitude?

Upper bounds

■ f(x) is said to be O(g(x)) if we can find constants c and x_0 such that $c \cdot g(x)$ is an upper bound for f(x) for x beyond x_0

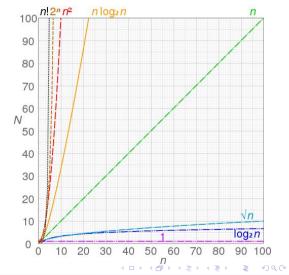
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- $f(x) \le cg(x)$ for every $x \ge x_0$



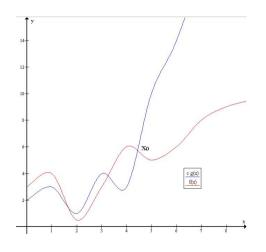
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- $f(x) \le cg(x)$ for every $x \ge x_0$
- Graphs of typical functions we have seen



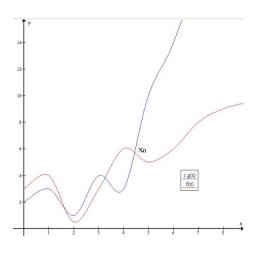
Examples

- 100n + 5 is $O(n^2)$
 - $100n + 5 \le 100n + n = 101n$, for $n \ge 5$
 - $101n < 101n^2$
 - Choose $n_0 = 5$, c = 101



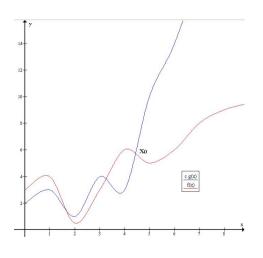
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 - Choose $n_0 = 5$, c = 101
- Alternatively
 - $100n + 5 \le 100n + 5n = 105n$, for $n \ge 1$
 - $105n < 105n^2$
 - Choose $n_0 = 1$, c = 105



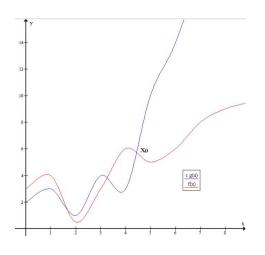
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- Alternatively
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 - $105n < 105n^2$
 - Choose $n_0 = 1$, c = 105
- Choice of n_0 , c not unique



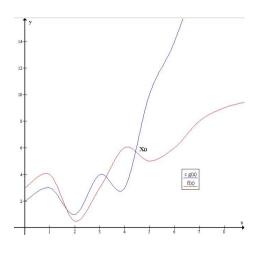
Examples . . .

- \blacksquare 100 $n^2 + 20n + 5$ is $O(n^2)$
 - $100n^2 + 20n + 5 \le 100n^2 + 20n^2 + 5n^2$, for $n \ge 1$
 - $100n^2 + 20n + 5 \le 125n^2$, for $n \ge 1$
 - Choose $n_0 = 1$, c = 125



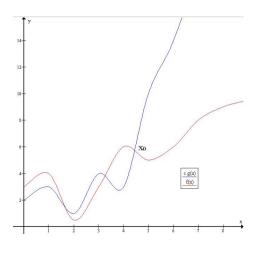
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 - \blacksquare 100 $n^2 + 20n + 5 < 125n^2$, for n > 1
 - Choose $n_0 = 1$, c = 125
- What matters is the highest term
 - 20n + 5 is dominated by $100n^2$



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 - $100n^2 + 20n + 5 \le 100n^2 + 20n^2 + 5n^2$, for $n \ge 1$
 - $100n^2 + 20n + 5 \le 125n^2$, for $n \ge 1$
 - Choose $n_0 = 1$, c = 125
- What matters is the highest term
 - 20n + 5 is dominated by $100n^2$
- \blacksquare n^3 is not $O(n^2)$
 - No matter what c we choose, cn^2 will be dominated by n^3 for n > c



■ If $f_1(n)$ is $O(g_1(n))$ and $f_2(n)$ is $O(g_2(n))$, then $f_1(n) + f_2(n)$ is $O(\max(g_1(n), g_2(n)))$

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- Proof
 - $f_1(n) \le c_1 g_1(n) \text{ for } n > n_1$
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 - For $n \ge n_3$, $f_1(n) + f_2(n)$ $\le c_1g_1(n) + c_2g_2(n)$
 - $\leq c_3(g_1(n)+g_2(n))$

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 - For $n \ge n_3$, $f_1(n) + f_2(n)$ $< c_1 g_1(n) + c_2 g_2(n)$
 - $< c_3(g_1(n) + g_2(n))$
 - $\leq c_3(g_1(n) + g_2(n))$
 - $\leq 2c_3(\max(g_1(n),g_2(n)))$

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- Least efficient phase is the upper bound for the whole algorithm

Lower bounds

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- \blacksquare n^3 is $\Omega(n^2)$
 - $n^3 > n^2$ for all n, so $n_0 = 1$, c = 1
- Typically we establish lower bounds for a problem rather than an individual algorithm
 - If we sort a list by comparing elements and swapping them, we require $\Omega(n \log n)$ comparisons
 - This is independent of the algorithm we use for sorting



- f(x) is said to be $\Theta(g(x))$ if it is both O(g(x)) and $\Omega(g(x))$
 - Find constants c_1, c_2, x_0 such that $c_1g(x) \le f(x) \le c_2g(x)$ for every $x \ge x_0$

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$$n(n-1)/2 = n^2/2 - n/2 \le n^2/2$$
 for all $n \ge 0$

- Lower bound
 - $n(n-1)/2 = n^2/2 n/2 \ge n^2/2 (n/2 \times n/2) \ge n^2/4$ for $n \ge 2$

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 - Upper bound

$$n(n-1)/2 = n^2/2 - n/2 \le n^2/2$$
 for all $n \ge 0$

Lower bound

$$n(n-1)/2 = n^2/2 - n/2 \ge n^2/2 - (n/2 \times n/2) \ge n^2/4$$
 for $n \ge 2$

• Choose $n_0 = 2$, $c_1 = 1/4$, $c_2 = 1/2$

8/9

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 - Useful to describe asymptotic worst case running time
- f(n) is $\Omega(g(n))$ means g(n) is a lower bound for f(n)
 - Typically used for a problem as a whole, rather than an individual algorihm
- f(n) is $\Theta(g(n))$: matching upper and lower bounds
 - We have found an optimal algorithm for a problem

Calculating complexity — Examples

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Programming, Data Structures and Algorithms using Python
Week 2

Calculating complexity

- Iterative programs
- Recursive programs

Find the maximum element in a list

- Input size is length of the list
- Single loop scans all elements
- Always takes n steps
- Overall time is O(n)

```
def maxElement(L):
  maxval = L[0]
  for i in range(len(L)):
    if L[i] > maxval:
       maxval = L[i]
return(maxval)
```

Check whether a list contains duplicates

- Input size is length of the list
- Nested loop scans all pairs of elements
- A duplicate may be found in the very first iteration
- Worst case no duplicates, both loops run fully
- Time is (n-1) + (n-2) + ... + 1 = n(n-1)/2
- Overall time is $O(n^2)$

```
def noDuplicates(L):
   for i in range(len(L)):
     for j in range(i+1,len(L)):
        if L[i] == L[j]:
        return(False)
   return(True)
```

Matrix multiplication

- Matrix is represented as list of lists
 - $\begin{array}{c|cccc}
 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\
 4 & 5 & 6
 \end{array}$
 - **[**[1,2,3],[4,5,6]]
- Input matrices have size $m \times n$, $n \times p$
- Output matrix is $m \times p$
- Three nested loops
- Overall time is $O(mnp) O(n^3)$ if both are $n \times n$

```
def matrixMultiply(A,B):
  (m,n,p) = (len(A),len(B),len(B[0]))
  C = [[0 \text{ for i in range}(p)]]
           for j in range(m) ]
  for i in range(m):
    for i in range(p):
      for k in range(n):
        C[i][j] = C[i][j] + A[i][k]*B[k][j]
  return(C)
```

Number of bits in binary representation of n

- lacksquare log n steps for n to reach 1
- For number theoretic problems, input size is number of digits
- This algorithm is linear in input size

```
def numberOfBits(n):
   count = 1
   while n > 1:
      count = count + 1
      n = n // 2
   return(count)
```

Towers of Hanoi

- Three pegs A,B,C
- Move n disks from A to B, use C as transit peg
- Never put a larger disk on a smaller one



Towers of Hanoi

- Three pegs A,B,C
- Move n disks from A to B, use C as transit peg
- Never put a larger disk on a smaller one

Recursive solution

- Move n-1 disks from A to C, use B as transit peg
- Move larges disk from A to B
- Move n-1 disks from C to B, use A as transit peg



Recurrence

- M(n) number of moves to transfer n disks
- M(1) = 1
- M(n) = M(n-1) + 1 + M(n-1) = 2M(n-1) + 1

8/9

Recurrence

- M(n) number of moves to transfer n disks
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Recurrence

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$$M(n) = 2M(n-1)+1$$

= $2(2M(n-2)+1)+1=2^2M(n-2)+(2+1)$

Recurrence

- M(n) number of moves to transfer n disks
- M(1) = 1
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$$M(n) = 2M(n-1)+1$$

$$= 2(2M(n-2)+1)+1=2^2M(n-2)+(2+1)$$

$$= 2^2(2M(n-3)+1)+(2+1)=2^3M(n-3)+(4+2+1)$$

Recurrence

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$$= 2^{2}(2M(n-3)+1)+(2+1) = 2^{3}M(n-3)+(4+2+1)$$
...
$$= 2^{k}M(n-k)+(2^{k}-1)$$

Recurrence

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...
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...
$$= 2^{n-1}M(1)+(2^{n-1}-1)$$

Recurrence

- M(n) number of moves to transfer n disks
- M(1) = 1
- M(n) = M(n-1) + 1 + M(n-1) = 2M(n-1) + 1

Unwind and solve

$$M(n) = 2M(n-1)+1$$

$$= 2(2M(n-2)+1)+1=2^{2}M(n-2)+(2+1)$$

$$= 2^{2}(2M(n-3)+1)+(2+1)=2^{3}M(n-3)+(4+2+1)$$
...
$$= 2^{k}M(n-k)+(2^{k}-1)$$
...
$$= 2^{n-1}M(1)+(2^{n-1}-1)$$

$$= 2^{n-1}+2^{n-1}-1-2^{n}-1$$

8/9

- Iterative programs
 - Focus on loops

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 - Focus on loops
- Recursive programs
 - Write and solve a recurrence

- Iterative programs
 - Focus on loops
- Recursive programs
 - Write and solve a recurrence
- Need to be clear about accounting for "basic" operations

Searching in a List

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Week 2

■ Is value v present in list 1?

- Is value v present in list 1?
- Naive solution scans the list

```
def naivesearch(v,1):
   for x in 1:
     if v == x:
       return(True)
   return(False)
```

- Is value v present in list 1?
- Naive solution scans the list
- Input size n, the length of the list

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def naivesearch(v,1):
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- Is value v present in list 1?
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- Input size n, the length of the list
- Worst case is when v is not present in 1

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- Is value v present in list 1?
- Naive solution scans the list
- Input size n, the length of the list
- Worst case is when v is not present in 1
- Worst case complexity is O(n)

```
def naivesearch(v,1):
   for x in 1:
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```

■ What if 1 is sorted in ascending order?

- What if 1 is sorted in ascending order?
- Compare v with the midpoint of 1

- What if 1 is sorted in ascending order?
- Compare v with the midpoint of 1
 - If midpoint is v, the value is found
 - If v less than midpoint, search the first half
 - If v greater than midpoint, search the second half
 - Stop when the interval to search becomes empty

```
def binarysearch(v.1):
  if 1 == []:
    return(False)
 m = len(1)//2
  if v == 1[m]:
    return(True)
  if v < 1 [m]:
    return(binarysearch(v,1[:m]))
  else:
    return(binarysearch(v,1[m+1:]))
```

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- Compare v with the midpoint of 1
 - If midpoint is v, the value is found
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- Binary search

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```

Binary search

How long does this take?

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```

Binary search

- How long does this take?
 - Each call halves the interval to search
 - Stop when the interval become empty
- log *n* number of times to divide *n* by 2 to reach 1
 - 1//2 = 0, so next call reaches empty interval

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  if 1 == []:
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- $O(\log n)$ steps

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Alternative calculation

- T(n): the time to search a list of length n
 - If n = 0, we exit, so T(n) = 1
 - If n > 0, T(n) = T(n//2) + 1

```
def bsearch(v.1):
  if 1 == []:
    return(False)
  m = len(1)//2
  if v == 1 \lceil m \rceil:
    return(True)
  if v < 1[m]:
    return(bsearch(v,1[:m]))
  else:
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- T(n) = T(n/2) + 1 $= (T(n//4) + 1) + 1 = T(n//2^2) + \underbrace{1+1}_{}$ $= T(n//2^k) + \underbrace{1 + \cdots + 1}_{}$

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 $= \cdots$
 $= T(n//2^k) + \underbrace{1 + \cdots + 1}_{k}$
 $= T(1) + k$, for $k = \log n$
 $= (T(0) + 1) + \log n = 2 + \log n$

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def bsearch(v.1):
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Summary

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 - Need to scan the entire list
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- For a sorted list, binary search takes time $O(\log n)$
 - Halve the interval to search each time

Summary

- Search in an unsorted list takes time O(n)
 - Need to scan the entire list
 - Worst case is when the value is not present in the list
- For a sorted list, binary search takes time $O(\log n)$
 - Halve the interval to search each time
- In a sorted list, we can determine that v is absent by examining just $\log n$ values!

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Programming, Data Structures and Algorithms using Python Week 2

- Sorting a list makes many other computations easier
 - Binary search
 - Finding the median
 - Checking for duplicates
 - Building a frequency table of values

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 - Papers in random order of marks
 - Your task is to arrange the papers in descending order of marks



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Strategy 1

 Scan the entire pile and find the paper with minimum marks

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Strategy 1

- Scan the entire pile and find the paper with minimum marks
- Move this paper to a new pile
- Repeat with the remaining papers
 - Add the paper with next minimum marks to the second pile each time

- Sorting a list makes many other computations easier
 - Binary search
 - Finding the median
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- How do we sort a list?
- You are the TA for a course
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Strategy 1

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- Move this paper to a new pile
- Repeat with the remaining papers
 - Add the paper with next minimum marks to the second pile each time
- Eventually, the new pile is sorted in descending order

74 32 89 55 21 64

Madhavan Mukund Selection Sort PDSA using Python Week 2

74 32 89 55 21 64

21



Madhavan Mukund Selection Sort PDSA using Python Week 2

74 32 89 55 21 64

21 32

74 32 89 55 21 64

21 32 55

Madhavan Mukund Selection Sort

74 32 89 55 21 64

21 32 55 64

74 32 89 55 21 64

21 32 55 64 74

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21 32 55 64 74 89

Madhavan Mukund Selection Sort

Select the next element in sorted order

- Select the next element in sorted order
- Append it to the final sorted list

- Select the next element in sorted order
- Append it to the final sorted list
- Avoid using a second list
 - Swap the minimum element into the first position
 - Swap the second minimum element into the second position
 -

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- Avoid using a second list
 - Swap the minimum element into the first position
 - Swap the second minimum element into the second position
 - . . .
- Eventually the list is rearranged in place in ascending order

```
def SelectionSort(L):
   n = len(L)
   if n < 1:
      return(L)
   for i in range(n):
      # Assume L[:i] is sorted
      mpos = i
      # mpos: position of minimum in L[i:]
      for j in range(i+1,n):
        if L[i] < L[mpos]:</pre>
           mpos = j
      # L[mpos] : smallest value in L[i:]
      # Exchange L[mpos] and L[i]
      (L[i],L[mpos]) = (L[mpos],L[i])
      # Now L[:i+1] is sorted
   return(L)
```

Correctness follows from the invariant

```
def SelectionSort(L):
   n = len(L)
   if n < 1:
      return(L)
   for i in range(n):
      # Assume L[:i] is sorted
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      for j in range(i+1,n):
        if L[i] < L[mpos]:</pre>
           mpos = j
      # L[mpos] : smallest value in L[i:]
      # Exchange L[mpos] and L[i]
      (L[i],L[mpos]) = (L[mpos],L[i])
      # Now L[:i+1] is sorted
   return(L)
```

- Correctness follows from the invariant
- Efficiency

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def SelectionSort(L):
   n = len(L)
   if n < 1:
      return(L)
   for i in range(n):
      # Assume L[:i] is sorted
      mpos = i
      # mpos: position of minimum in L[i:]
      for j in range(i+1,n):
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 - Outer loop iterates n times

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 - Outer loop iterates n times
 - Inner loop: n-i steps to find minimum in L[i:]
 - $T(n) = n + (n-1) + \cdots + 1$

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      # Exchange L[mpos] and L[i]
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      # Now L[:i+1] is sorted
   return(L)
```

- Correctness follows from the invariant
- Efficiency
 - Outer loop iterates n times
 - Inner loop: *n* − *i* steps to find minimum in L[i:]
 - $T(n) = n + (n-1) + \cdots + 1$
 - T(n) = n(n+1)/2

```
def SelectionSort(L):
   n = len(L)
   if n < 1:
      return(L)
   for i in range(n):
      # Assume L[:i] is sorted
      mpos = i
      # mpos: position of minimum in L[i:]
      for j in range(i+1,n):
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- T(n) is $O(n^2)$

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```

Selection sort is an intuitive algorithm to sort a list

- Selection sort is an intuitive algorithm to sort a list
- Repeatedly find the minimum (or maximum) and append to sorted list

Madhavan Mukund Selection Sort PDSA using Python Week 2

- Selection sort is an intuitive algorithm to sort a list
- Repeatedly find the minimum (or maximum) and append to sorted list
- Worst case complexity is $O(n^2)$
 - Every input takes this much time
 - No advantage even if list is arranged carefully before sorting

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Programming, Data Structures and Algorithms using Python Week 2

- You are the TA for a course
 - Instructor has a pile of evaluated exam papers
 - Papers in random order of marks
 - Your task is to arrange the papers in descending order of marks

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Strategy 2

■ Move the first paper to a new pile

- You are the TA for a course
 - Instructor has a pile of evaluated exam papers
 - Papers in random order of marks
 - Your task is to arrange the papers in descending order of marks

- Move the first paper to a new pile
- Second paper
 - Lower marks than first paper? Place below first paper in new pile
 - Higher marks than first paper? Place above first paper in new pile

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- Third paper
 - Insert into correct position with respect to first two

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- Second paper
 - Lower marks than first paper? Place below first paper in new pile
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- Third paper
 - Insert into correct position with respect to first two
- Do this for the remaining papers
 - Insert each one into correct position in the second pile

74 32 89 55 21 64

74 32 89 55 21 64

74



74 32 89 55 21 64

32 74



74 32 89 55 21 64

32 74 89

74 32 89 55 21 64

32 55 74 89

74 32 89 55 21 64

21 32 55 74 89

21 32 55 64 74 89

■ Start building a new sorted list

Madhavan Mukund Insertion Sort PDSA using Python Week 2

- Start building a new sorted list
- Pick next element and insert it into the sorted list

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- An iterative formulation
 - Assume L[:i] is sorted
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   if n < 1:
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  for i in range(n):
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      i = i
      while(j > 0 and L[j] < L[j-1]):
        (L[i],L[i-1]) = (L[i-1],L[i])
        i = i-1
      # Now L[:i+1] is sorted
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```

- Start building a new sorted list
- Pick next element and insert it into the sorted list
- An iterative formulation
 - Assume L[:i] is sorted
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- A recursive formulation
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def ISort(L):
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- For input of size n, let
 - \blacksquare TI(n) be the time taken by Insert
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```
def Insert(L,v):
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 - Unwind to get TI(n) = n
- Set up a recurrence for TS(n)
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 - TS(n) = TS(n-1) + TI(n-1)
- Unwind to get $1+2+\cdots+n-1$

```
def Insert(L,v):
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Insertion sort is another intuitive algorithm to sort a list

Summary

- Insertion sort is another intuitive algorithm to sort a list
- Create a new sorted list
- Repeatedly insert elements into the sorted list

Summary

- Insertion sort is another intuitive algorithm to sort a list
- Create a new sorted list
- Repeatedly insert elements into the sorted list
- Worst case complexity is $O(n^2)$
 - Unlike selection sort, not all cases take time n^2
 - If list is already sorted, Insert stops in 1 step
 - Overall time can be close to O(n)

Merge Sort

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Programming, Data Structures and Algorithms using Python
Week 2

- Both selection sort and insertion sort take time $O(n^2)$
- This is infeasible for n > 10000

Madhavan Mukund Merge Sort PDSA using Python Week 2

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- How can we bring the complexity below $O(n^2)$?

Madhavan Mukund Merge Sort PDSA using Python Week 2

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Strategy 3

Divide the list into two halves

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Strategy 3

- Divide the list into two halves
- Separately sort the left and right half

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- How can we bring the complexity below $O(n^2)$?

Strategy 3

- Divide the list into two halves
- Separately sort the left and right half
- Combine the two sorted halves to get a fully sorted list

Combine two sorted lists A and B into a single sorted list C

Madhavan Mukund Merge Sort PDSA using Python Week 2

- Combine two sorted lists A and B into a single sorted list C
 - Compare first elements of A and B

Madhavan Mukund Merge Sort PDSA using Python Week 2

- Combine two sorted lists A and B into a single sorted list C
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- Combine two sorted lists A and B into a single sorted list C
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- 2 74 89
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21

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- 32 74 89
- 21 55 64

21 32

- Combine two sorted lists A and B into a single sorted list C
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■ Compare first elements of A and B

21 55 64

Move the smaller of the two to CRepeat till you exhaust A and B

21 32 55

- Combine two sorted lists A and B into a single sorted list C
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- Combine two sorted lists A and B into a single sorted list C
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 - Repeat till you exhaust A and B

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21 32 55 64 7

- Combine two sorted lists A and B into a single sorted list C
 - Compare first elements of A and B
 - Move the smaller of the two to C
 - Repeat till you exhaust A and B

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- Combine two sorted lists A and B into a single sorted list C
 - Compare first elements of A and B
 - Move the smaller of the two to C
 - Repeat till you exhaust A and B
- Merging A and B

- 32 74 89
- 21 55 64

21 32 55 64 74 89

■ Let n be the length of L

Madhavan Mukund Merge Sort PDSA using Python Week 2

- Let n be the length of L
- Sort A[:n//2]

Madhavan Mukund Merge Sort PDSA using Python Week 2

- Let n be the length of L
- Sort A[:n//2]
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- Let n be the length of *L*
- Sort A[:n//2]
- Sort A[n//2:]
- Merge the sorted halves into B

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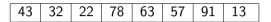
43	32	22	78	63	57	91	13

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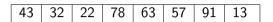
43 32 22 78 63 57 91 13

32 | 43 | 22 | 78 | 57 | 63 | 13 | 91

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PDSA using Python Week 2

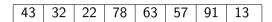
- Let n be the length of L
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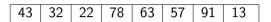
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43

78

63

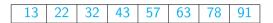
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13		52	75	31	0.5	10	91

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Divide and Conquer

- Break up the problem into disjoint parts
- Solve each part separately
- Combine the solutions efficiently

■ Combine two sorted lists A and B into C

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Madhavan Mukund Merge Sort PDSA using

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PDSA using Python Week 2

Merge sort using divide and conquer to sort a list

- Merge sort using divide and conquer to sort a list
- Divide the list into two halves

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- Next, we have to check that the complexity is less than $O(n^2)$

8/8

Analysis of Merge Sort

Madhavan Mukund

https://www.cmi.ac.in/~madhavan

Programming, Data Structures and Algorithms using Python
Week 2

- To sort A into B, both of length n
- If $n \le 1$, nothing to be done
- Otherwise
 - Sort A[:n//2] into L
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 - Merge L and R into B

Merging two sorted lists A and B into C

- If A is empty, copy B into C
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■ Merge A of length m, B of length n

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PDSA using Python Week 2

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- Recall that $m + n \le 2(\max(m, n))$
- If $m \approx n$, merge take time O(n)

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- Let T(n) be the time taken for input of size n
 - For simplicity, assume $n = 2^k$ for some k

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- Hence T(n) is $O(n \log n)$

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- Inherently recursive
 - Recursive calls and returns are expensive