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# Complexity continued

## Subsets

The subsets of the set  $\{x, y, z\}$ , where  $x$ ,  $y$  and  $z$  are numbers, are

|    | a[0] | [1] | [2] | alternatively |
|----|------|-----|-----|---------------|
| 1. | x    | y   | z   | x y z         |
| 2. |      | y   | z   | x y           |
| 3. | x    |     | z   | x z           |
| 4. |      |     | z   | y z           |
| 5. | x    | y   |     | x             |
| 6. |      | y   |     | y             |
| 7. | x    |     |     | z             |
| 8. |      |     |     |               |

The left and right columns have the same subsets, but the order is different.

- the right is the 'natural' way of doing it
- the left is another way of 'thinking' about it

Now focus on the left ordering. It is based on the algorithm:

```
subset = {}
for a2 in subset && a2 !in subset {
  for a1 in subset && a1 !in subset {
    for a0 in subset && a0 !in subset {
      print subset
    }
  }
}
```

We can achieve this recursively by calling a function with decreasing  $n$

This algorithm generates:

$\{a_2, a_1, a_0\} \{a_2, a_1\} \{a_2, a_0\} \{a_2\} \{a_1, a_0\} \{a_1\} \{a_0\} \{\}$

*How do we implement this?*

- define an array  $in[]$  of Booleans to represent whether a number is in the subset
  - $in[1, 1, 1]$  means the subset is  $\{a_0, a_1, a_2\}$
  - $in[0, 0, 1]$  means the subset is  $\{a_2\}$

*How many subsets are there?*

- $2^3$  if the number of elements is 3

Here is a program that computes all the subsets of an array of elements

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```

1 // sub.c
2 // compute the subsets of a hardcoded array
3
4 #include <stdio.h>
5 #include <stdbool.h>
6
7 void printSubset(int a[], bool in[], int len) {
8     printf("Subset: ");
9     for (int i=0; i<len; i++) {
10         if (in[i]) {
11             printf("%d ", a[i]); // print out the path elements
12         }
13     }
14     putchar('\n');
15     return;
16 }
17
18 void subset(int a[], int n, bool in[], int len) {
19     // n is decremented, len is constant
20     printf("n = %d\n", n); // this is just debug
21
22     if (n == 0) {
23         printSubset(a, in, len);
24     }
25     else { // n>=1 here
26         in[n-1] = true; // element is in subset
27         subset(a, n-1, in, len);
28         in[n-1] = false; // element is not in subset
29         subset(a, n-1, in, len);
30     }
31     return;
32 }
33
34 int main() {
35     int a[] = {5,6,7}; // for demo purposes
36
37     int n = sizeof(a)/sizeof(a[0]); // n is number of elements
38     bool in[n]; // array of Booleans, in/out of subset
39                 // initialised in subset()
40     subset(a, n, in, n);
41
42     return 0;
43 }

```

All the work is done by *subset()*

- it calls itself with  $n=n-1$  twice
  - corresponding to the left and right branches
    - the left branch with  $in[n-1]==true$
    - the right branch with  $in[n-1]==false$
- at 0
  - $in[]$  is complete
  - it prints those elements that have  $in[] = true$

Output:

```

prompt$ gcc sub.c
prompt$ ./a.out

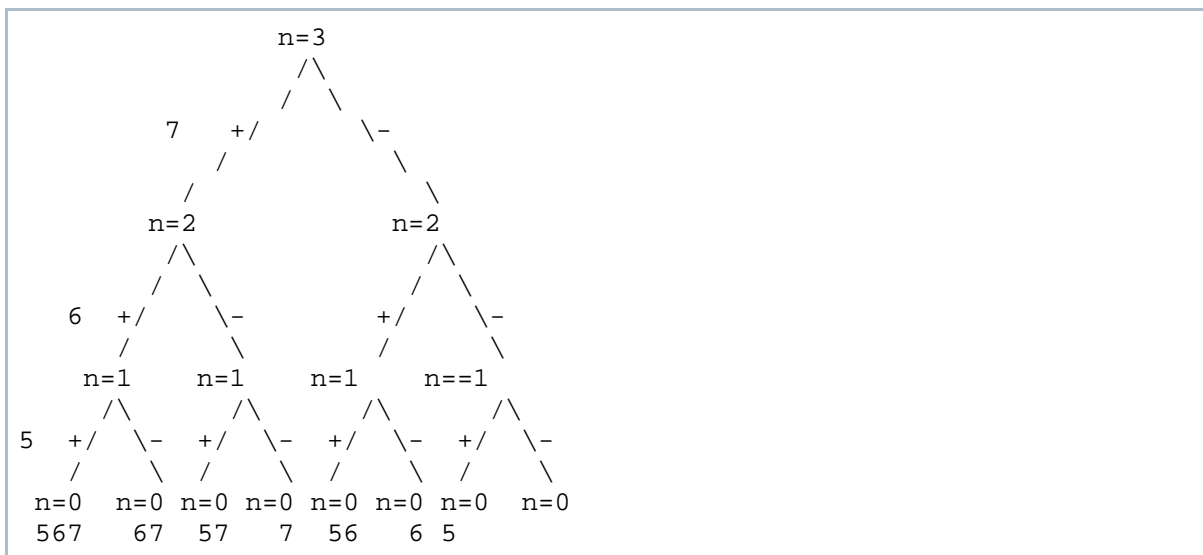
```

```

n = 3
n = 2
n = 1
n = 0
Subset: 5 6 7
n = 0
Subset: 6 7
n = 1
n = 0
Subset: 5 7
n = 0
Subset: 7
n = 2
n = 1
n = 0
Subset: 5 6
n = 0
Subset: 6
n = 1
n = 0
Subset: 5
n = 0
Subset:

```

The recursive calls to *subset()* are:



Notice the number of paths = number of leaves = number of subsets =  $2^3 = 8$

- makes sense: 3 Booleans, each can be 0/1

*How many recursive calls will it make?*

- $1 + 2 + 4 + 8 = 15$

*How many recursive calls will it make for a set of  $n$  numbers?*

- $1 + 2 + 4 + 8 + \dots + 2^n = 2^{n+1} - 1$ 
  - $2^0 + 2^1 + 2^2 + 2^3 + \dots + 2^n = 2^{n+1} - 1$  is a well-known property of geometric series

For example:

- the number of subsets of a set of 20 numbers is  $2^{21} - 1 = 2,097,152 - 1$
- e.g. for 40 numbers  $2,199,023,255,552 - 1$  (i.e about 2 trillion)

*What is its complexity?*

## Subset sum problem

A very important problem in computer science:

Given a set of positive integers, and an integer  $k$ , is there a non-empty subset whose sum is equal to  $k$

Example

- The set  $\{2, 4, 6, 8, 10\}$  and  $k=11$ . *Does any subset sum to  $k$ ?*
  - The answer is *no*.
- The set  $\{2, 5, 7, 9\}$  and  $k=14$ .
  - The answer is *yes*: subsets  $\{2,5,7\}$  and  $\{5,9\}$  both sum to 14

**The subset algorithm we have used actually generates the subsets of a given set.**

- so we won't answer yes/no, we will generate the sets that sum to  $k$
- we modify *sub.c* in the following way:
  1. we add a *sum* parameter to *subset()*
    - initialised in *main()* with the value of  $k$
  2. we recurse from  $n$  down to 0
    - crucially, we decrease the sum when we call *subset()*:
      - **if  $in[n-1]==true$ , then  $sum = sum - a[n-1]$**
      - **if  $in[n-1]==false$ , then  $sum$  does not change**
  3. when we reach  $n==0$  (at the leaf node), its a solution only if  $sum==0$

These changes can be found in the following program (comments in upper case).

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```

1 // subSum.c
2 // generate all subsets of a hardcoded array that sum to variable
  'k'
3 #include <stdio.h>
4 #include <stdbool.h>
5
6 void printSubset(int a[], bool in[], int len) {
7     printf("Subset: ");
8     for (int i=0; i<len; i++) {
9         if (in[i]) {
10             printf("%d ", a[i]); // print out the path elements
11         }
12     }
13     putchar('\n');
14     return;
15 }
16
17 void subset(int a[], int n, bool in[], int len, int sum) {
18     // n is decremented, len is constant
19     // printf("n = %d, sum = %d\n", n, sum); // TOO MUCH OUTPUT
    GENERATED
20
21     if (n == 0) {
22         if (sum == 0) { // ONLY WANT SUBSETS THAT SUM TO SUM
23             printSubset(a, in, len);
24         }
25     }
26     else { // n>=1 here
27         in[n-1] = true; // element is in subset
28         subset(a, n-1, in, len, sum-a[n-1]); // IF IN, SUBTRACT FROM
    SUM
29         in[n-1] = false; // element is not in subset

```

```

30     subset(a, n-1, in, len, sum);           // NOT IN, SO NO CHANGE
31 }
32 return;
33 }
34
35 int main() {
36     int a[] = {2,5,7,9}; // FOR DEMO PURPOSES
37     int k = 14;          // THIS IS THE SUM WE WANT
38
39     int n = sizeof(a)/sizeof(a[0]); // n is number of elements
40     bool in[n]; // array of Booleans, in/out of subset
41                // initialised in subset()
42     subset(a, n, in, n, k); // PASS K TO THE FUNCTION
43
44     return 0;
45 }

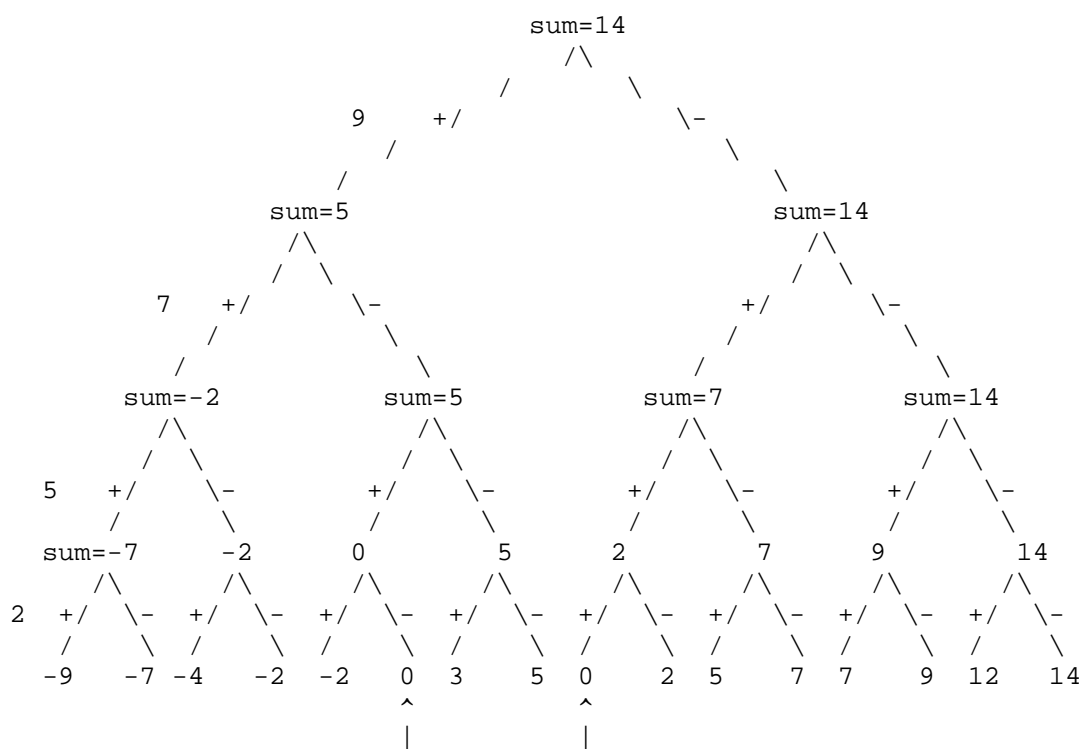
```

Output:

```

prompt$ gcc subSum.c
prompt$ ./a.out
Subset: 5 9
Subset: 2 5 7

```



Note:

- $sum=0$  at an internal node is a subset computation not yet complete
- $sum=0$  at a leaf node is a solution
  - two solutions: reading from top-to-bottom
    1. 9 5
    2. 7 5 2

But the highlighted *subset sum problem* statement only wants a yes/no answer

- that's easier: we do not need to know the route to the leaf
  - so remove all references to `in[]`
  - change `subset()` into a Boolean function

切换行号显示

```

1 // subSumYes.c
2 // for a hardcoded array and sum k, returns 'yes' if some subset
sums to k
3
4 #include <stdio.h>
5 #include <stdbool.h>
6
7 bool subset(int a[], int n, int sum) {
8     bool retval = false;
9
10    // printf("n = %d, sum = %d\n", n, sum);
11
12    if (n == 0) {
13        if (sum == 0) {
14            retval = true;
15        }
16    }
17    else { // n>=1 here
18        bool with = subset(a, n-1, sum-a[n-1]);
19        bool wout = subset(a, n-1, sum);
20        retval = with || wout;
21    }
22    return retval;
23 }
24
25 int main() {
26     int a[] = {2,5,7,9}; // FOR DEMO PURPOSES
27     int k = 14;           // THIS IS THE SUM WE WANT
28
29     int n = sizeof(a)/sizeof(a[0]); // n is number of elements
30     if (subset(a, n, k)) {
31         printf("Yes\n");
32     }
33     else {
34         printf("No\n");
35     }
36     return 0;
37 }

```

Output:

```

prompt$ gcc subSumYes.c
prompt$ ./a.out
Yes

```

What is the complexity of this algorithm?

- the algorithm to generate all the subsets was  $O(2^n)$
- with the additional work of computing sums, which is linear, this algorithm is  $O(n \cdot 2^n)$

## Towers of Hanoi

Described on site  Wikipedia: Towers of Hanoi

The number of moves to solve the Towers of Hanoi is given by the formula  $(2^n - 1)$  where  $n$  is the number of disks

- For example:
  - to move 2 disks takes **3** moves
  - to move 100 disks takes **1,267,650,600,228,229,401,496,703,205,375** moves (i.e.  $10^{30}$  moves)

To solve the problem, you need to express the  $n$ -disk problem in terms of the  $n-1$  disk problem

- called the *inductive case*

then define a base case

- from the base case, the inductive case can be used to compute a solution

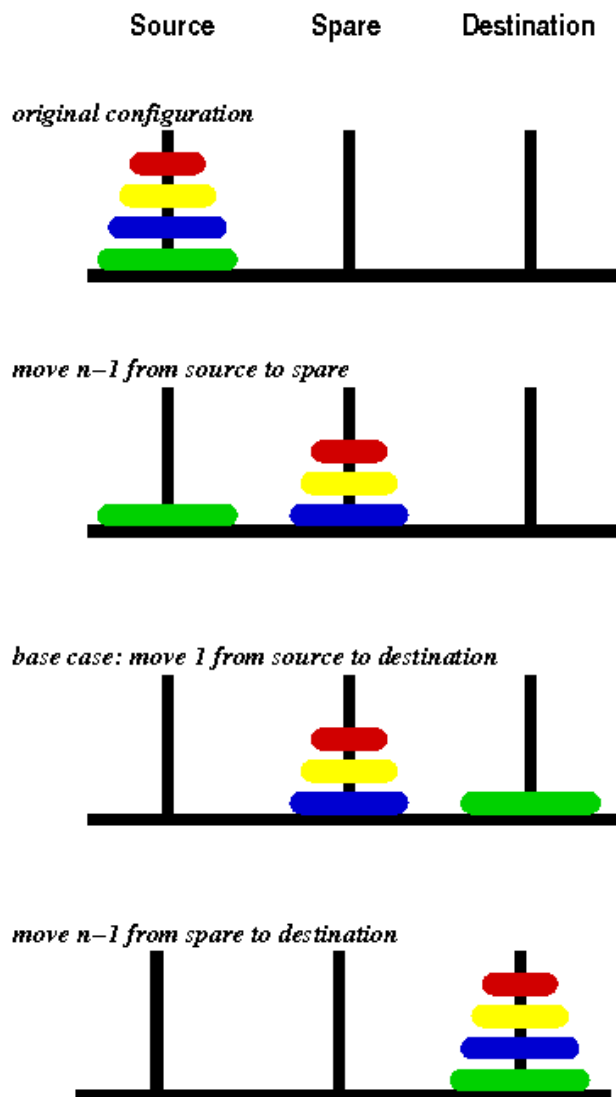
*So how do you move  $n$  disks from the source pin A to the destination pin C, with only pin B as spare?*

1. move  $n-1$  disks to the spare pin
  - (this leaves just one disk remaining on the source pin)
2. move that remaining disk to the destination pin
3. move the  $n-1$  disks on the spare pin onto the destination pin

This is 'divide and conquer':

- translate the larger problem into smaller problems that are solvable
- the smaller solutions are then combined to form a solution of the original problem

See how it works if  $n=4$



Expressed as a recursive algorithm:

- to move  $n$  disks from pin A to pin C using pin B as spare:
  - if  $n$  is 1, just do it (this is the base case)
  - otherwise the recursive case
    - move  $n-1$  disks from A to B using C as spare

- move 1 disk from A to C using B as spare
  - move  $n-1$  disks from B to C using A as spare
- to program, you do not need any data structures
  - you only want to know the moves

## Algorithmic complexity

Let  $T(n)$  be the minimum number of moves needed to solve the puzzle with  $n$  disks.

- We can see for example:
  - $T(0) = 0$
  - $T(1) = 1$
  - $T(2) = 3$
  - $T(3) = 7$
  - $T(4) = 15$

Let's try to derive a general formula to express this.

- The algorithm above:
  - twice moves  $(n-1)$  disks from one pin to another and
  - makes 1 additional move
- We therefore have the *recurrence relation*:
  - $T(n) = T(n-1) + 1 + T(n-1) = 2*T(n-1) + 1$

Let's check this recurrence relation works (given  $T(0) = 0$ ):

- $T(1) = 2*T(0) + 1 = 1$
- $T(2) = 2*T(1) + 1 = 3$
- $T(3) = 2*T(2) + 1 = 7$
- and so on, agreeing with the numbers above.

Let's simplify and write  $S(n) = T(n) + 1$

- we can express the recurrence relation in terms of  $S(n)$ 
  - $S(n) = T(n) + 1 = (2*T(n-1) + 1) + 1 = 2*T(n-1) + 2 = 2*S(n-1)$

We can solve this by *unrolling*:

- $S(n) = 2*S(n-1) = 2*2*S(n-2) = 2*2*2*S(n-3) = \dots = 2^n*S(n-n) = 2^n$ 
  - note  $S(0) = T(0) + 1 = 1$

Substituting that value of  $S(n)$  into  $S(n) = T(n) + 1$

- $T(n) = S(n) - 1 = 2^n - 1$  for  $n \geq 0$

**Hence the complexity of the Hanoi algorithm is exponential,  $O(2^n)$**

## Ackermann's function

Originally conceived in 1928.

```
A(0, n) := n+1 for n ≥ 0
A(m, 0) := A(m-1, 1) for m > 0
A(m, n) := A(m-1, A(m, n-1)) for m > 0, n > 0
```

Often used as a 'mad' compiler benchmark

- will always overflow or burn out something



## Performance

- uses addition and subtraction only
- grows faster than an exponential or even multiple exponential function
- recursion is almost unlimited

For example:

The expansion of  $A(4,3)$  cannot be recorded in the known physical universe.

$$\begin{aligned}
 A(4,3) &= A(3, A(4,2)) \\
 &= A(3, A(3, A(4,1))) \\
 &= A(3, A(3, A(3, A(4,0)))) \\
 &= A(3, A(3, A(3, A(3,1)))) \\
 &= A(3, A(3, A(3, A(2, A(3,0))))) \\
 &= A(3, A(3, A(3, A(2, A(2,1))))) \\
 &= A(3, A(3, A(3, A(2, A(1, A(2,0))))) \\
 &= A(3, A(3, A(3, A(2, A(1, A(1,1))))) \\
 &= A(3, A(3, A(3, A(2, A(1, A(0, A(1,0))))) \\
 &= A(3, A(3, A(3, A(2, A(1, A(0, A(0,1))))) \\
 &= A(3, A(3, A(3, A(2, A(1, A(0,2))))) \\
 &= A(3, A(3, A(3, A(2, A(1,3))))) \\
 &= A(3, A(3, A(3, A(2, A(0, A(1,2))))) \\
 &= A(3, A(3, A(3, A(2, A(0, A(0, A(1,1))))) \\
 &= A(3, A(3, A(3, A(2, A(0, A(0, A(0, A(1,0))))) \\
 &= A(3, A(3, A(3, A(2, A(0, A(0, A(0, A(0,1))))) \\
 &= A(3, A(3, A(3, A(2, A(0, A(0, A(0,2))))) \\
 &= A(3, A(3, A(3, A(2, A(0, A(0,3))))) \\
 &= A(3, A(3, A(3, A(2, A(0,4))))) \\
 &= A(3, A(3, A(3, A(2,5)))) \\
 &= \dots \\
 &= A(3, A(3, A(3,13))) \\
 &= \dots \\
 &= A(3, A(3, 65533)) \\
 &= \dots \\
 &= A(3, 2^{65536} - 3) \\
 &= \dots \\
 &= 2^{2^{65536}} - 3.
 \end{aligned}$$

| $A(m,n)$ | $n = 0$ | $n = 1$ | $n = 2$ | $n = 3$ | $n = 4$ | $n = 5$ |
|----------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| $m = 0$  | 1       | 2       | 3       | 4       | 5       | 6       |
| $m = 1$  | 2       | 3       | 4       | 5       | 6       | 7       |
| $m = 2$  | 3       | 5       | 7       | 9       | 11      | 13      |

|              |                       |                             |                                   |   |   |     |
|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|---|-----|
| <b>m = 3</b> | 5                     | 13                          | 29                                | 61                                      | 125   | 253 |
| <b>m = 4</b> | $2^{**}2^{**}2$<br>-3 | $2^{**}2^{**}2^{**}2$<br>-3 | $2^{**}2^{**}2^{**}2^{**}2$<br>-3 | $2^{**}2^{**}2^{**}2^{**}2^{**}2$<br>-3 | $2^{**}2^{**}2^{**}2^{**}2^{**}2^{**}2$<br>-3 | ... |

- $A(4,0) = 2^{**}2^{**}2 - 3 = 2^4 - 3 = 13$
- $A(4,1) = 2^{**}2^{**}2^{**}2 - 3 = 2^{16} - 3 = 65533$
- $A(4,2) = 2^{**}2^{**}2^{**}2^{**}2 - 3 = 2^{65536} - 3 = 10^{19727.78}$
- $A(4,3) = 2^{**}2^{**}2^{**}2^{**}2^{**}2 - 3 = 2^{**}(2^{65536}) - 3 = \dots$

Curiously:

- rows  $m=0$ ,  $m=1$  and  $m=2$  all grow ?
- row  $m=3$  grows ?
- row  $m=4$  grows ?

Complexity2 (2019-07-04 10:05:58由AlbertNymeyer编辑)