

**CSC263H**  
**Data Structures and Analysis**

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Winter 2024 – Week 1

## Abstract Data Types and Data Structures

- **Abstract Data Type (ADT):** a set of **objects** together with a set of **operations** on these objects.

**Example:** Stack ADT

*PUSH*( $S, v$ ): add element  $v$  to the collection  $S$ .

*POP*( $S$ ): removes the most recently added element that was not yet removed.

*ISEMPTY*( $S$ ): returns whether the collection  $S$  is empty.

- **Data Structure:** an **implementation** of an ADT.

**Example:** Data structures for Stack:

1. Linked list (keep pointer to head).

*ISEMPTY*: test head == None

*PUSH*: insert at front of the list


*POP*: remove front of the list (if not empty)

2. Array with counter (size of stack).

*ISEMPTY*: test counter == 0

*PUSH*: insert at front of array and increase counter.

*POP*: remove front of array (if not empty) and decrease counter.



**In CSC263 we will:**

1. **Motivate** a new ADT.
2. **Introduce** a data structure, discussing both its mechanisms for how it stores data and how it implements operations on this data.
3. **Analyze** the running time performance of these operations.
4. **Justify** why the operations are correct with respect to the description of the ADT.

## Review: Algorithm Analysis

- **Complexity:** Amount of **resources** required for running an algorithm, measured as a **function of input size**.
- Resource: **running-time** or **memory space** (usually).
- Why analyze complexity?  
To **choose** between different implementations.

## Review: Complexity of Algorithms

- **Time Complexity:** Number of **steps** executed by an algorithm.
- **Space Complexity:** Number of **units of space** required by an algorithm.  
**Example:**
  - Number of elements in a list
  - Number of nodes in a tree

## Review: Running-Time Complexity of Algorithms

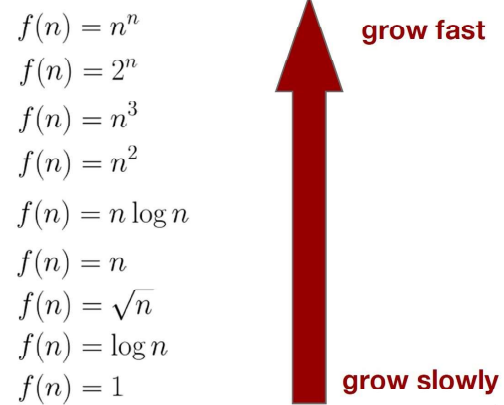
- **Running-Time Analysis:** the relationship between an algorithm's **input size** and the number of **basic operations** the algorithm performs.
- **Basic Operation:** any operation whose run-time **does not depend** on the input size.  
**Example:** arithmetic operations, assignments, array accesses, comparisons, return statements, etc.
- We do not try to precisely quantify the exact number of basic operations.

## Measuring running time by counting steps

- Represent as a function  $T(n)$  of input size  $n$ .
- We don't care about exact step counts, an estimate for  $T(n)$  is sufficient:
  - every **chunk** of instructions is represented by a constant.
  - **chunk**: sequence of instructions that always gets executed together.
- **Note**: Runtime can be measured by counting the number of times **all lines** are executed, or the number of times **some important lines** are executed. It is up to the problem, or what the question asks, so always read the question carefully.
- Most of the time, NO simple algebraic expression for  $T(n)$ . Instead, we prove bounds on  $T(n)$  using asymptotic notation.
- **Upper bound**:  $T(n) \in \mathcal{O}(f(n))$ .
- **Lower bound**:  $T(n) \in \Omega(f(n))$ .
- **Tight bound**:  $T(n) \in \Theta(f(n))$ :  $T(n) \in \mathcal{O}(f(n))$  and  $T(n) \in \Omega(f(n))$ .

## Some Rules for Big-Oh Notation - Review

- If  $T(n)$  is a **polynomial** of degree  $k$ , then  $T(n) \in \mathcal{O}(n^k)$ .
- If  $T(n) = g(n) + f(n)$ , and  $f(n)$  **asymptotically dominates**  $g(n)$ , then  $T(n) \in \mathcal{O}(f(n))$ .





## Different Cases of Running Time

Let  $t(x)$  represent number of steps executed by an algorithm  $A$  on input  $x$ .

- **Worst-Case** Running Time of  $A$ : The **maximum** running time of  $A$  for all inputs of size  $n$ .

$$T(n) = \max\{t(x) : x \text{ is an input of size } n\}$$

- **Best-Case** Running Time of  $A$ : The **minimum** running time of  $A$  for all inputs of size  $n$ .

$$T(n) = \min\{t(x) : x \text{ is an input of size } n\}$$

- **Average-Case** Running Time of  $A$ : The **expected** running time of  $A$  for all inputs of size  $n$ .

$$T(n) = \mathbb{E}[t_n]$$

## Worst-Case Running Time Analysis

1. Identify the **input size**.

**Example:**

- For numbers: number of bits.
- For lists: number of elements.
- For graphs: number of vertices and/or edges.

2. Identify the case in which the **performance** of the algorithm is **worst**; i.e., takes longer to terminate (You need to understand how the algorithm works).
3. Give an **approximation** of number of basic operations that execute in that case. Denote it by  $T(n)$ .
4. Give an **upper-bound/lower-bound/tight-bound** for  $T(n)$ .

## Worst-Case Running Time Analysis: Example

$L$  is a linked-list

```
def LinkedSearch(L):  
1  z = L.head  
2  while z != None and z.key != 42:  $\rightarrow n$   
3      z = z.next  
4  return z
```

1. Input size:  $n = \text{len}(L)$

2. What is the worst-case: 42 is not in  $L$  or is at the last node

3. Worst-case run-time:  $n+1$   $\in \begin{matrix} \mathcal{O}(n^2) \\ \mathcal{O}(n) \\ \Omega(n) \\ \Omega(1) \end{matrix}$   $\Rightarrow \Theta(n)$   
 $c n + b$

4. Upper-bound/lower-bound/tight-bound for  $T(n)$ :  $\Theta(n)$

## Worst-Case Running Time Analysis: Example

$L$  is a list.

```
def EvilEvens(L):
```

```
1  if every number in L is even:  $\rightarrow n$ 
2      repeat L.length times:  $\rightarrow n$ 
3          calculate and print the sum of L  $\left. \begin{array}{l} \rightarrow n \\ \rightarrow n \end{array} \right\} n \times n$ 
4      return 1
5  else:
6      return 0
```

1. Input size:  $n = \text{len}(L)$

2. What is the worst-case: All elements in  $L$  are even

3. Worst-case run-time:  $T(n) = n^2 + n$

4. Upper-bound/lower-bound/tight-bound for  $T(n)$ :  $\Theta(n^2)$

## IMPORTANT: Bounds vs Cases

- **Misconceptions:**

$\mathcal{O}$  is for describing worst-case running time  
 $\Omega$  is for describing best-case running time

- $\mathcal{O}$  and  $\Omega$  specify bounds over a *mathematical function*.
- Worst-case and best-case correspond to *algorithms*.
- $\mathcal{O}$  and  $\Omega$  can **both** be used to upper-bound and lower-bound the worst-case running time.
- $\mathcal{O}$  and  $\Omega$  can **both** be used to upper-bound and lower-bound the best-case running time.

## Worst-Case Running Time Analysis

Recall that the **worst-case** running time of an algorithm  $A(x)$  is defined as the **maximum** running time of  $A$  for all inputs of size  $n$ . That is:

$$T(n) = \max\{t(x) : x \text{ is an input of size } n\}$$

where  $t(x)$  represent number of steps executed by  $A$  on input  $x$ .

**How to argue algorithm  $A(x)$  **worst-case** runtime is in  $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$ ?**

We need to argue that \_\_\_\_\_ input  $x$  of size  $n$ , the number of steps executed by  $A$  on input  $x$ , i.e.,  $t(x)$  is \_\_\_\_\_ than  $cn^2$ , where  $c > 0$  is a constant.

- for every
- no larger
- there exists an
- no smaller

## Worst-Case Running Time Analysis

**Analogy:** Proving an "upper-bound" on the height of people in a room.

To prove **the tallest person in the room is at most 2 metres**,  
we need to show **every**/**some** person in the room is  
**no taller**/**no smaller** than 2 metres.

## Worst-Case Running Time Analysis

Recall that the **worst-case** running time of an algorithm  $A(x)$  is defined as the **maximum** running time of  $A$  for all inputs of size  $n$ . That is:

$$T(n) = \max\{t(x) : x \text{ is an input of size } n\}$$

where  $t(x)$  represent number of steps executed by  $A$  on input  $x$ .

**How to argue algorithm  $A(x)$  **worst-case** runtime is in  $\Omega(n^2)$ ?**

We need to argue that \_\_\_\_\_ input  $x$  of size  $n$ , the number of steps executed by  $A$  on input  $x$ , i.e.,  $t(x)$  is \_\_\_\_\_ than  $cn^2$ , where  $c > 0$  is a constant.

- for every
- no larger

- there exists an
- no smaller



## Worst-Case Running Time Analysis

**Analogy:** Proving an "lower-bound" on the height of people in a room.

To prove the **tallest** person in the room is **at least 2 metres**,  
we need to show **every/some** person in the room is  
**no taller/no smaller** than 2 metres.

## Average-Case Running Time Analysis

- In reality, the running time is *NOT* always the best case or the worst case. It is **distributed** between the best and the worst.

**Example:** For the *LinkedSearch(L)* algorithm the runtime is distributed between:

1 to  $n+1$  (inclusive)

- Computing **average-case** running time for an algorithm  $A$ :
  - Define  $S_n$ : space of **all inputs** of size  $n$ .
  - Assume a **probability distribution** over  $S_n$ : specifying likelihood of each input.
  - Define the **random variable**  $t_n$  over  $S_n$ , representing the running time of  $A$ :  
 $t_n(x)$  : number of **steps** executed by  $A$  on an input  $x$  in  $S_n$ .  
**Example:** For the *LinkedSearch(L)*,  $t_n$  takes values between 1 to  $n+1$
  - Compute the expected value** of  $t_n(x)$ :

$$T(n) = \mathbb{E}[t_n] = \sum_i i \times \text{Pr}[t_n = i]$$

$\text{Pr}[i = t_n]$ : Probability of  $t_n$  obtaining the value  $i$  (according to the probability distribution).

## Average-Case Running Time Analysis

- To know  $Pr(i = t_n)$ , we need to know the probability distribution on the inputs.  
E.g., by specifying how inputs are generated.
- **Example Distribution:**  
For each key in the linked list, we pick an integer  
between 1 and 100 (inclusive), independently, uniformly at random.

## Average-Case Running Time Analysis – Example

**Assumption:** For each key in the linked list, we pick an integer between 1 and 100 (inclusive), independently, uniformly at random.

$L$  is a linked-list

```
def LinkedSearch(L):
1  z = L.head
2  while z != None and z.key != 42:
3      z = z.next
4  return z
```

$S_n = \{L: L \text{ is a list of size } n \text{ which includes } 42\}$   
 $t_n: 1, 2, 3, \dots, n, n+1$

$$P(t_n=1) = \frac{1}{100} \quad (\text{head is } 42)$$

$$P(t_n=2) = \left(\frac{99}{100}\right) \times \frac{1}{100} \quad (\text{head is not } 42 \text{ but second node is})$$

$$P(t_n=3) = \left(\frac{99}{100}\right)^2 \times \frac{1}{100}$$

$$P(t_n=i) = \left(\frac{99}{100}\right)^{i-1} \times \frac{1}{100} \quad 1 \leq i \leq n$$

$$P(t_n = n+1) = \underbrace{\frac{99}{100} \times \frac{99}{100} \times \dots \times \frac{99}{100}}_n = \left(\frac{99}{100}\right)^n$$

$$E[t_n] = \sum_{i=1}^{n+1} i \times P(t_n = i)$$



Let  $S = \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^n i(0.99)^{i-1}}_{(A)}$ . Then  $\underbrace{0.99S = \sum_{i=1}^n i(0.99)^i}_{(B)}$

$$A - B = S - 0.99S = 0.01S$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{aligned} 0.01S &= \underbrace{1 + 2(0.99) + 3(0.99)^2 + \dots + n(0.99)^{n-1}}_A \\ &\quad - \underbrace{[0.99 + 2(0.99)^2 + \dots + n(0.99)^n]}_B \\ &= 1 + 0.99 + (0.99)^2 + (0.99)^3 + \dots + (0.99)^{n-1} - n(0.99)^n \\ &\stackrel{\text{sum of geometric series}}{=} \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} (0.99)^i - n(0.99)^n \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{1 - (0.99)^n}{1 - 0.99} - n(0.99)^n \\ &= 100 - (100 + n)(0.99)^n \end{aligned}$$





## Two Computational Approaches

### Approach 1: Direct Computation

$$\mathbb{E}[t_n] = \sum_{i=1}^n i \times \Pr[t_n = i]$$

### Approach 2: Indicator Random Variables

Define indicator random variables  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_m$  s.t.:

- $X = X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_m$ ;
- Each  $X_i$  has only two possible values: 0 or 1.

Then  $\mathbb{E}[X]$  is computed as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}[X] &= \mathbb{E}[X_1 + \dots + X_m] \\ &= \mathbb{E}[X_1] + \dots + \mathbb{E}[X_m] && \text{(by linearity of expectation)} \\ &= \Pr[X_1 = 1] + \dots + \Pr[X_m = 1]\end{aligned}$$

where the last equality holds because for each  $X_i$ :

$$\mathbb{E}[X_i] = 0 \times \Pr[X_i = 0] + 1 \times \Pr[X_i = 1] = \Pr[X_i = 1].$$

## Indicator Random Variables – Example

**Assumption:** For each key in the linked list, we pick an integer between 1 and 100 (inclusive), *independently, uniformly at random*.

$L$  is a linked-list

```
def LinkedSearch(L):
    1   z = L.head
    2   while z != None and z.key != 42:
    3       z = z.next
    4   return z
```

4      return z

$x_1 = 1$     if ~~z~~    Line 2 is executed at least 1 time

$x_2 = 1$     if ~~z~~    "   "   "   "   "   "   2 times

$x_3 = 1$     "   "   "   "   "   "   "   3 "

$\vdots$

$x_n = 1$     "   "   "   "   "   "   "   n "

$x_{n+1} = 1$     "   "   "   "   "   "   "   n+1 "

$$t_n = x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + \dots + x_n + x_{n+1}$$

$$\begin{array}{cccc} \downarrow & \downarrow & \downarrow & \downarrow \\ 3 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{array}$$

$$P(x_1=1) = 1$$

$$P(x_2=1) = P(L[0] \text{ is not } 42)$$

$$= \frac{99}{100}$$

$$P(x_3=1) = P(L[0] \text{ and } L[1] \text{ are not } 42)$$

$$= \frac{99}{100} \times \frac{99}{100}$$

$$P(x_i=1) = \left(\frac{99}{100}\right)^{i-1} \quad 1 \leq i \leq n+1$$

$$E[t_n]$$



## Direct Computation vs. Indicator Random Variables

- Which method to use?
  - Sometimes one method would be easier than the other. Try both, and see whether you get stuck.
  - You'll slowly develop intuition for which method will work for which problem.

## Average-Case Running Time Analysis – Take-Home Exercise

$L$  is a list

Define  $S_n$

```
def EvilEvens(L):  
1  if every number in L is even:  
2      repeat L.length times:  
3          calculate and print the sum of L  
4      return 1  
5  else:  
6      return 0
```

Identify possible values for  $t_n$



Calculate the probability of each value  $t_n$  takes:

Calculate  $E[t_n]$

$$= \underbrace{n^2 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n}_{\Theta(1)} + n$$

$$\Rightarrow T(n) \in \Theta(n)$$

## Summary

- **This week we learned / reviewed**
  - ADT and Data structures
  - Best-case, worst-case, average-case analysis
  - Asymptotic upper/lower bounds
- **What should you do this week?**
  - Complete the Probability Review worksheet.
  - Complete Quiz 0 (deadline Friday at 10pm).
  - Start working on Assignment 1.
- **Next week**  
ADT: Priority queue, Data structure: Heap