

Abstract

An overview of algorithms, words and definitions from my studies as a computer scientist BSc, with an interest in algorithms.

Note that this document is not intended to be a *public friendly* document; it is written by one author and for one author, only. But you are still free to read.

No guarantee is given to the correctness of the content

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Chapter 1

Words and Definitions

1.1 Algorithms

Definition (Approximation algorithm). Find approximate solutions to Optimization problem

Definition (Asymptotic Polynomial-time Approximation Scheme, APTAS). A family of algorithms, and a constant c such that all solutions has an approximation of $(1 + \epsilon) \times OPT + c$ for minimization problems.

Definition (Bin-packing). A series of algorithms to learn how to distribute n numbers into k bins. First-fit, best-fit, worst-fit (stack into where there is most free space), best-fit, etc.

Definition (Complimentary slackness). Given an optimal solution to a linear program, Z_{LP} and it's dual Y_{LP} , with x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n and y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n respectively, with w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n and z_1, z_2, \dots, z_n as slack variables for each solution, respectively, then $\forall x, x_i z_i = 0$ and $\forall y, y_i w_i = 0$

This necessary condition for optimality conveys a fairly simple economic principle. In standard form (when maximizing), if there is slack in a constrained primal resource (i.e., there are "leftovers"), then additional quantities of that resource must have no value.

Definition (Difference heuristic and approximation). While an heuristic makes a choice, without a guarantee of optimality, an approximation can make a choice and know that this choice will render a solution within a factor of OPT.

Definition (EDD). Earliest Due Date

Definition (F-approximation). Also referred to as a linear approximation, using a function f , which is affine.

Definition (FPTAS, fully polynomial approximation scheme). As in PTAS, Polynomial-time approximation scheme, just $\frac{1}{\epsilon}$. The algorithm is required to be polynomial both in running time and problem size.

Note that strongly NP-complete problems do not have any FPTAS.

Definition (Integrality gap). The biggest difference between an IP and LP

Definition (Locality of Reference). also known as the principle of locality, is a phenomenon describing the same value, or related storage locations, being frequently accessed. There are two basic types of reference locality – temporal and spatial locality. Temporal locality refers to the reuse of specific data, and/or resources, within a relatively small time duration. Spatial locality refers to the use of data elements within relatively close storage locations. Sequential locality, a special case of spatial locality, occurs when data elements are arranged and accessed linearly, such as, traversing the elements in a one-dimensional array

Definition (Makespan). The total length of a schedule; from 0 to C_{max}

Definition (\tilde{O}). Given function $f(x)$, $\tilde{O}(f(x)) = O(f(x) \cdot \log^k f(x))$

Definition (Optimization problem). To find the best solution of n feasible solutions.

Definition (Perfect matching). A collection $E' \subseteq E$ of edges in a graph $G = (V, E)$, such that $\forall v \in V$, are connected from E' only once.

Definition (Pre-empty schedule). You can interrupt task and re-continue them.

Definition (PTAS, Polynomial-time approximation scheme). Given an optimization problem (e.g. an NP-problem) and a parameter ϵ , produce a solution within $((1 + \epsilon) \times OPT)$ $\epsilon > 0$

E.g. for the traveling salesman, a tour would be of length $\max (1 + \epsilon) \times L$, with L being the length of the tour

Note that for minimization, there is $1 + \epsilon$, and for maximization, there is $1 - \epsilon$

If you have a scheme with $(1 \pm \epsilon) \times OPT + \kappa$, then it is not under PTAS. PTAS only handles the former part, $(1 \pm \epsilon)$

For MAX SNP, there does not exist polynomial approximation schemes

Definition (Parallel Random Access Machine). an abstract computer for designing parallel algorithms

Definition (ρ -approximation). Polynomial algorithm that is guaranteed to have objective function to OPT within ρ of optimum (not the $(1 + \epsilon)$ of PTAS, Polynomial-time approximation scheme).

Definition (Scheduling). See Longest processing time rule,

- P_i = time to do a job i
- R_i = earliest time a job i can start
- C_i = time of completion for job i
- D_i = due date for job i
- $L_i = C_i - D_i$

Definition (Strong duality). The optimal value of the dual is equal to that of the primal linear program.

$$\sum y_i^* = \sum w_i x_i$$

Definition (Weak duality property). No dual program has a solution greater than the optimal of the primal linear program

Definition (α approximation). Produce a solution who's value is within a factor of α of the optimal.

1.2 Calculus

Definition (Adiabatic). adiabatic wall between two thermodynamic systems does not allow heat or matter to pass across it.

Definition (A priori estimate). An estimate for a size of a solution or it's derivatives of a PDE. The estimate is made before the solution is known to exist.

Definition (Affine). $f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = a_1x_1, a_2x_2, \dots, a_nx_n$

Definition (Analytic function). A function given by Convergence Power series.

Any polynomial, exponential and trigonometric function is analytic. Functions that are not differentiable at given points are not analytic.

Definition (arcsin).

$$\sin y = x$$

$$\arcsin x = \sin^{-1} x = y$$

Properties:

- $\arcsin x = \frac{\pi}{2} - \arccos x = 90 - \arccos x$
- $\cos(\arcsin x) = \sin(\arccos x) = \sqrt{1 - x^2}$
- $x = -1 \rightarrow \arcsin x = -1 \times \frac{\pi}{2}$
- $x = 1 \rightarrow \arcsin x = \frac{\pi}{2}$
- $x = 0 \rightarrow \arcsin x = 0$

Definition (arccos). Properties:

- $x = -1 \rightarrow \arccos x = \pi$
- $x = 1 \rightarrow \arccos x = 0$
- $x = 0 \rightarrow \arccos x = \frac{\pi}{2}$

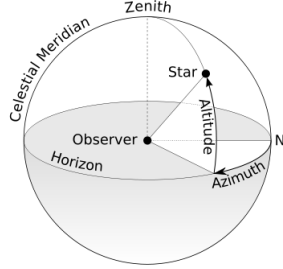
Definition (Arc length). Length of a curve when straightened out.

Definition (arccos). While cosine shows the relation between lengths in a triangle, arccos gives the angle.

Definition (Arithmetic-geometric mean inequality).

$$\left(\prod_{i=1}^k a_i \right)^{1/k} \leq \frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=1}^k a_i$$

Definition (Azimuth). is an angular measurement in a spherical coordinate system. The vector from an observer (origin) to a point of interest is projected perpendicularly onto a reference plane; the angle between the projected vector and a reference vector on the reference plane is called the azimuth.



Definition (Bijection).

$$S, R \text{ are sets} \quad (1.1)$$

$$\forall i \in S, \exists! f(i) \in R \wedge \quad (1.2)$$

$$\forall i \in R, \exists! f(i) \in S \quad (1.3)$$

$$(1.4)$$

Definition (Boundary value problem). A differential equation with additional restraints. A solution to a boundary value problem is a solution to the differential equation which also satisfies the boundary conditions.

Definition (Cauchy sequence). a sequence whose elements become arbitrarily close to each other as the sequence progresses. Think of *two* curves that approximate each other.

Definition (Cardinal number,). The size of a set.

Definition (Convergence). A series is convergent is the sum of it's elements approaches a given number.

Definition (Convolution). Dictionary: a coil or twist, especially one of many. Informal: an expression of how a shape from one function is modified by the other.

Can also be used to smoothen a discontinuous a function (making it continous on the given range). We need to normalize our $g(x - \tau)$ so that we do not continuously increase the $f(x)$

Definition (Continuous). In mathematics, a continuous function is a function for which "small" changes in the input result in "small" changes in the output.

As an example, consider the function $h(t)$, which describes the height of a growing flower at time t . This function is continuous. By contrast, if $M(t)$ denotes the amount of money in a bank account at time t , then the function jumps whenever money is deposited or withdrawn, so the function $M(t)$ is discontinuous.

Definition (Continuous variables). There are three types of continuous variables:

Nominal Categorized within groups: box 1, 2, 3 or 4.

Dichotomous Boolean, yes or no.

Ordinal A nominal variable, just that different groups give different values. E.g. to like something on a scale of 1 to 10 gives you a ordinal range

Definition (Conjugate). is a binomial formed by negating the second term of a binomial. The conjugate of $x + y$ is xy .

Definition (Concave). Let f be a function defined on the interval $[x_1, x_2]$. This function is concave according to the definition if, for every pair of numbers a and b with $x_1 \leq a \leq x_2$ and $x_1 \leq b \leq x_2$, the line segment from $(a, f(a))$ to $(b, f(b))$ lies on or below the function.

- The sine function is concave on the interval $[0, \pi]$
- Concave if every line segment joining two point is never above the graph
- Concave functions has $f''(x) \leq 0$ in a given interval

Definition (Congruence). Similar shape and growth, just different scalar / rotation.

Definition (Damping). is an influence within or upon an oscillatory system that has the effect of reducing, restricting or preventing its oscillations. Underdamped systems will start bouncy and then stop.

Definition (Differential operator). An operator to do differentiation. This is mainly to abstract differentiation.

Definition (Discrete Fourier Transform). converts a finite list of equally spaced samples of a function into the list of coefficients of a finite combination of complex sinusoids, ordered by their frequencies, that has those same sample values.

Definition (Discrete Laplace transform). An integral transform, which in 2d uses the kernel

Definition (Discrete Sine Transform). Similar to Discrete Fourier Transform, but uses only a real matrix.

Definition (Discretization). concerns the process of transferring continuous models and equations into discrete counterparts. AKA smoothening curves to avoid jumps.

Definition (Displacement). The shortest distance from source s to t (like air-distance).

Definition (Divergence). measures the magnitude of a Vector Field's source or sink at a given point, in terms of a signed scalar.

E.g. air can be thought of to have a point s and t , where they push out hot and cool air, respectively. From these points, you can create a Vector Field that shows how air spreads from s and t . The divergence measures the collected value from each of these Vector Fields.

The operator for divergence is $\{\text{div}\}$, represented by nabla.

Given vector field $F = Ui, Vj, Wk$:

$$\text{div}F = \nabla \cdot F = \frac{\partial U}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial V}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial W}{\partial z} \quad (1.5)$$

Definition (Elementary function). In mathematics, an elementary function is a function of one variable built from a finite number of exponentials, logarithms, constants, and n th roots through composition and combinations using the four elementary operations (+).

Definition (Expansion function). A function, with a series, to express a function. The series will in most cases be an approximation to the original function. Signal functions are often modeled using expansion functions.

Definition (Eulers formula). $e^{ix} = \cos x + i \sin x$

Definition (Explicit methods). In numerical analysis, an explicit method calculates the state of the system using only earlier history. See also Implicit method.

Definition (Extreme point). A point furthest away from something.

Definition (Field). A physical quantity that has a value for each point in space and time.

Definition (Finite difference). The difference in a function for $f(x+a) - f(x+b)$. There are three types:

Forward is of the form $\Delta f(x) = f(x+h) - f(x)$

Backward is of the form $\nabla f(x) = f(x) - f(x-h)$

Centered is of the form $\delta f(x) = f(x + \frac{1}{2}h) - f(x - \frac{1}{2}h)$

Definition (Finite element method). (FEM) is a numerical technique for finding approximate solutions to boundary value problems for differential equations. It uses variational methods (the calculus of variations) to minimize an error function and produce a stable solution. Analogous to the idea that connecting many tiny straight lines can approximate a larger circle, FEM encompasses all the methods for connecting many simple element equations over many small subdomains, named finite elements, to approximate a more complex equation over a larger domain.

Definition (Filter bank). To take a signal and expose it to a series of filters that separate the input signal into different channel. One example is sound equalizers: you can adjust different parts of the signal.

Definition (Fourier transform). Map one function onto another

Definition (Fourier Analysis). the study of the way general functions may be represented or approximated by sums of simpler trigonometric functions

Definition (Flow). Motion of particles in a given set.

Definition (Generalized function). A distribution without steps, i.e. it is continuous.

Definition (Harmonic numbers). $H_n = 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \cdots + \frac{1}{n} = \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{k} \simeq \ln n$

Definition (Heavyside Step Function).

$$H(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } x < 0 \\ \frac{1}{2} & x = 0 \\ 1 & \text{for } x > 0 \end{cases}$$

(it looks just like you think...)

Definition (Homogenous). If a function f is multiplied by a scalar k , then the result is a number multiplied by the scalar raised to some power a .

Definition (Hyperbolic). Two curves that kind of face each other like bananas.

Definition (Identity function). $\forall x, f(x) = x$

Definition (Implicit method). In numerical analysis, an implicit method calculates the state of the system using both the current state and future ones. E.g. Gauss-Seidel method See also Explicit methods.

Definition (Idempotence). An operation that can be applied multiple times without changing the result. E.g. $f(f(x)) = f(x)$

Definition (Independent variable). A variable that may be given without considering the value of other variables. E.g. for $y = 4x + 2$, x is independent (can be chosen freely) whereas y is not: it depends on the value of x .

Definition (Integral). The "reverse" to a derivative.

$$\int_a^b x^n dx = \frac{x^{n+1}}{n+1} + C \quad (1.6)$$

$$(1.7)$$

A function is said to be *locally integrable* if its integral is finite in a given domain.

Integration by parts: $\int u \times v dx = u \int v dx - \int u'(v dx)$

Some identities:

$$\left| \begin{array}{l} \int_a^b \cos x \\ \int_a^b \sin x \\ e^x \end{array} \right| \left| \begin{array}{l} \sin x + C \\ -1 \times \cos x + C \\ e^x + C \end{array} \right|$$

Definition (Integral transform). Input a function, and output another (using integrals). To do the transformation, one typically uses a *kernel function* (e.g. using

a stencil in a grid).

Usually, this is done to find a domain or function that is easier to compute on.

After completing the computations, one performs an inverse integral transform to translate back to the original domain.

Definition (Interpolating polynomial). Given a set of points, define a function f that intersects these points.

Definition (Kronecker delta). A function for two variables, that returns 1 if the variables are equal, and zero otherwise.

$$\delta_{i,j} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } i \neq j \\ 1 & \text{if } i = j \end{cases}$$

Definition (Law of cosines).

$$v \cdot u = |v||u| \cos \theta$$

Note that if v, u are unit vectors, their lengths are both 1. We can then rewrite the expression as

$$\begin{aligned} v \cdot u &= \cos \theta \\ \arccos(v \cdot u) &= \theta \end{aligned}$$

Definition (Laplace operator). Transform a function of f of t to a function f of s

A differential operator given by the Divergence of a gradient function in euclidian space.

Definition (Laplacian Matrix). sometimes called admittance matrix, Kirchhoff matrix or discrete Laplacian, is a matrix representation of a graph.

Definition (Lattice). In mathematics, especially in geometry and group theory, a lattice in \mathbf{R}^n is a discrete subgroup of \mathbf{R}^n which spans the real vector space \mathbf{R}^n . Every lattice in \mathbf{R}^n can be generated from a basis for the vector space by forming all linear combinations with integer coefficients.

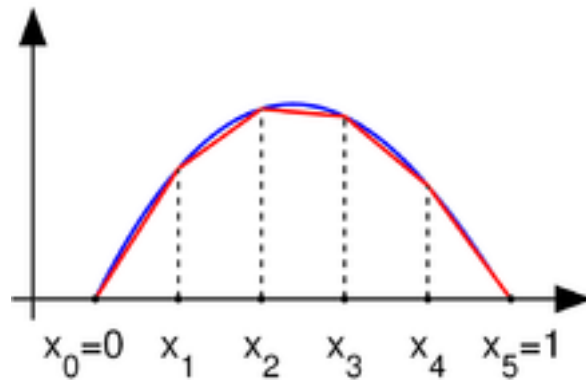
Definition (Line integral). An integral where the function to be integrated is along a curve. The function is usually a Vector Field or Scalar field.

Definition (Locus). a set of points whose location satisfies or is determined by one or more specified conditions

Definition (Moment). TBD.

Definition (Numerical analysis). The study of algorithms that use numerical approximation (as opposed to general symbolic manipulations) for the problems of mathematical analysis.

Given a space V , find a finite subspace of V , such that you can calculate on it..



A function in with zero values at the endpoints (blue), and a piecewise linear approximation (red)

Definition (Odd function). A function with the same values when you rotate 180 degrees around...

$$-f(x) = f(-x) \quad (1.8)$$

$$f(x) + f(-x) = 0 \quad (1.9)$$

See also Even function

Definition (Even function). Kind of like a mirror (90 degrees) around an axis;

$$f(x) = f(-x) \quad (1.10)$$

$$(1.11)$$

See also Odd function

Definition (Pathological). Something that is counter-intuitive. The opposite is well-behaved.

Definition (Parabola). A U-shaped, 2d, symmetrical curve.

Definition (Parameterization). Represent a curve as a function.

$$x = \cos t \quad (1.12)$$

$$y = \sin t \quad (1.13)$$

is the parametric representation of a unit circle.

Definition (Partial derivative). Given a function f with multiple parameters, a partial derivative is a derivative with respect to one of those variables.

Partial derivatives are often denoted by ∂ .

To use partial derivation, you often assume that the other variables are constants. Otherwise, there is an infinite number of tangent lines at any point, so you will have to have some range on the tangents.

Definition (Partial differential equation). A set of variables, and equations that show how they are all linked together.

Definition (Power series).

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n (x - c)^n \quad (1.14)$$

Definition (Rectangle function).

$$\Pi(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } x > \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} & \text{for } x = \frac{1}{2} \\ 1 & \text{for } x < \frac{1}{2} \end{cases}$$

Definition (Reference value). The optimal/starting value. Note that when calculating differences, a reference value implies that order matters, i.e. $x - y \neq y - x$.

Definition (Residual). In numerical analysis, this is the error from a result. E.g. in integration we have something-something + C , where C is the residual.

It can (perhaps betterly) be stated that residuals is the error that occurs when approximating a function.

Definition (Riemanns sum). Sum from an integral. Divide the area under/over a curve into rectangles or trapezoids, and sum together their area. The smaller the shapes, the better.

It is important to note that Riemanns sum is an approximation - one can not perfectly reconstruct the area under a curve.

Definition (Risk function). Gives the expected value from a lossy function (compare two results, diff).

Definition (Sine wave). or sinusoid is a mathematical curve that describes a smooth repetitive oscillation.

Its most basic form as a function of time (t) is:

$$y(t) = A \sin(2\pi f t + \varphi) = A \sin(\omega t + \varphi) \text{ where:}$$

A , the amplitude, is the peak deviation of the function from zero.

f , the ordinary frequency, is the number of oscillations (cycles) that occur each second of time.

$\omega = 2\pi f$, the angular frequency, is the rate of change of the function argument in units of radians per second

φ , the phase, specifies (in radians) where in its cycle the oscillation is at $t = 0$. I.e. the "horizontal shift" from a regular sine wave(????). If you e.g. represent two functions, $f(x) = \sin x$ and $g(x) = \sin x + 3$, the difference, i.e. phase shift, is 3. Note that these two functions have the same amplitude and frequency.

Definition (Standard form). To write a number as a power of 10.

Definition (Taylor series). A representation of a function as an infinite sum of terms that are calculated from the derivatives at a point in the function. The formula is:

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{f^{(n)}(a)}{n!} (x-a)^n \quad (1.15)$$

Definition (Shift invariant system). A discrete form of Time invariant system - the timesteps are discretized to follow a lattice spacing.

Definition (Time invariant system). A function with an output that does not depend on the output:

$$x(t) = y(t) \quad (1.16)$$

$$x(t + \delta) = y(t + \delta) \quad (1.17)$$

One example is the derivative function of polynomials (and others?) - no matter what timestep you choose - the value is the same.

The “antonym” would be a time variant system.

Definition (Translation invariant system). A system such that after a translation from A to T, any operator applied to A yields the same results in T.

Definition (Unity). The number one. “Unit functions”, “unit circles” all have the number 1.

Definition (Univariate). An equation with only one variable.

Definition (Vector Field). An assignment of direction for a given set of points in an euclidian space. E.g. select every (10n, 10n) pixels in an image and get their derivative.

Definition (Window function). A function that is zero outside of a given domain.

1.3 Graphs

Definition (Arborescence). an arborescence is a directed graph in which, for a vertex u called the root and any other vertex v , there is exactly one directed path from u to v .

Definition (Clique). A subset of vertices $C \subset V$, such that in this subgraph all nodes are connected, i.e. there is an edge from every pair of nodes.

Definition (Connected graph (component)). A graph in which, from any $v \in V$, you can reach any other $u \neq v$

Definition (Directed graph). Properties:

- $\sum_{v \in V} d(v) = 2|E|$
- $\sum_{v \in V} \text{indegree}(v) = \sum_{v \in V} \text{outdegree}(v)$

Definition (Eularian). Visit each *edge* once.

Definition (Hamiltonian). Visit each *vertex* once.

Definition (Metric spaces). See also Semi-metric Properties:

- $d_{u,v} = 0 \iff u = v$
- $d_{u,v} = d_{v,u}$
- $\forall k, d_{u,v} \leq d_{u,k} + d_{k,v}$

Definition (Minimum mean cost). minimize ratio of cost of arcs (directed edges) to number of arcs

Definition (MST). A minimum Spanning tree, such the weight of this tree is less than or equal to all other possible Spanning tree.

Definition (Planar graph). No edges need to cross each other.

Definition (Semi-metric). Like a Metric spaces, without the property that $d_{u,v} = 0 \iff u = v$

Definition (Spanning tree). Connected, undirected graph that has all vertices and some subset of edges to form a tree.

Definition (Strongly connected component). Similar to Connected graph (component), but in a directed graph.

Definition (Topological sort). Runs in $O(V + E)$, same as DFS, although it can be supered to $O(\log_2 n)$

Definition (Tree). Properties of a tree:

- in a tree, there will always be an even amount of nodes that has an uneven degree.
- Degree of nodes in a tree is at most twice the number of nodes

Definition (Vertex-cover). A selection of vertices such that each edge is incident to at least one of them.

1.4 Image Processing

Definition (Aliasing). Images are constructed and then reconstructed one or more times – each of these reconstructions are referred to as aliases.

Definition (Anisotropy). Directionally dependent. Opposite of Isotropy. Example is to apply a filter to a set of images – consider what would happen if one image was tilted.

Definition (Anisotropic diffusion). also called Perona–Malik diffusion, is a technique aiming at reducing image noise without removing significant parts of the image content, typically edges, lines or other details that are important for the interpretation of the image.

Definition (Aperture). A hole which light goes through.

Definition (Convolution). In image-processing, this can in general be thought of as applying a mask that takes the local neighbourhood for a pixel x and calculates its gradient.

Noteworthy, convolution as an operation to an image is in general $O(n^2)$.

Definition (Dilation (of functions)). To skew a function, e.g. for $f(x) = x$, you skew to $\hat{f}(x) = x + 2$.

Definition (Dirichet boundary condtions). In image processing, you can say that this boundary condition is to assume for a set of differential equations, the unknowns at the borders are equal in the equations and image.

Definition (extrapolation). The process of estimating, beyond the original observation range, the value of a variable on the basis of its relationship with another variable.

Creating a tangent line at the end of the known data and extending it beyond that limit.

Definition (Filter). Applying a mask or operation to an image to extract or distort values.

High-pass takes only the high frequency into play, lower values are not affected that strongly (if at all)

Low-pass ...

Definition (Gaussian blur). Use a gaussian function on an image to reduce image noise and detail

Definition (Gaussian filter). Gaussian filters have the properties of having no overshoot to a step function input while minimizing the rise and fall time.

Definition (Gaussian pyramid). A stack of images, where for each iteration, you take neighboring pixels and make them into one. That is, you reduce the intensity in the picture. This compresses the image.

It is a pyramid because for each iteration you take neighboring pixels from the previous pyramid to generate the current.

Definition (Gradient flow).

$$V = \nabla f = \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_1}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_2}, \dots, \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_n} \right)$$

Note that for an ordinary image, the gradient at a given position is given by:

$$\nabla f = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \hat{x} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \hat{y}$$

Where the first (x) term is the gradient in direction x, and y is the gradient in direction y.

One can also calculate the direction of the gradient using $\theta = \arctan^2 \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}$

Definition (Grating). A collection of identical parallel objects, placed next to each other with equal spacing.

Definition (Grayscale). an image in which the value of each pixel is a single sample, that is, it carries only intensity information

Grayscale images are distinct from one-bit bi-tonal black-and-white images, which in the context of computer imaging are images with only the two colors, black, and white (also called bilevel or binary images). Grayscale images have many shades of gray in between.

Grayscale images are often the result of measuring the intensity of light at each pixel in a single band of the electromagnetic spectrum

Definition (Image gradient). Gradual blend of color

Definition (Image noise). Unwanted signal, electrical signals not wanted in an image

Definition (Image masking). Apply an image over another. This can be used for e.g. putting a square image with only contents in the middle over another.

Definition (Interpolation). A way to estimate (pixel) values when resizing to a larger image.

An example from calculus is: given temps at noon and midnight, estimate the temp at 5 PM as the mean of noon and midnight.

Interpolation can also (in signal processing) be referred to as **upsampling**.

Definition (Isotropy). Directionally independent. Opposite of Anisotropy.

Definition (Laplacian). Highlight regions of rapid intensity change and is therefore often used for edge detection.

Often applied to an image that has first been smoothed with something approximating in order to reduce its sensitivity to noise.

Definition (Spatial frequency). The number of changes in color values that occur per space.

Images with high spatial frequency are detailed, images with low spatial frequency will appear blurred.

I.e. sharp transitions from low/high to high/low intensities are said to have a large spatial frequency,

Definition (SRGB). sRGB is a standard RGB color space created cooperatively by HP and Microsoft in 1996 for use on monitors, printers and the Internet.

Definition (Poisson image editing). Blend two images together and make them seem alike.

Definition (Raster order). Begin at top left, proceed to right, then at leftmost pixel in next line.

Definition (Raster image). An image with pixels.

Definition (Ringing). The size of the oscillations after a peak frequency. E.g. if you have a sudden overshoot (bright color) the amplitude of the next wave is the ringing. (???)

Definition (Scalar field). Associate a value to every point in a space. E.g. for an image, you could assign each pixel a color value.

Definition (Seperable filter). A filter that can be written as the product of two or more small filters. This is usually done to reduce the computational costs. E.g. Convolution is usually faster in 1d than iterating nD , for $n \geq 2$.

Definition (Stencil). A figure that connects dots on a grid. Usually a cross-like figure (one center dots, and one edge out in 4 directions from the center to other dots).

1.5 Linear Algebra

Definition (Basis). Given a set of vectors in \mathbf{R}^n , V , which is linearly independent, the set V is a *basis* if you can span \mathbf{R}^n using V .

Definition (Backward substitution). Opposite of Forward substitution.

Definition (Condition number). A measure of how the output value for a function changes respective to input variables.

Definition (Column space). All linear combinations of the columns of a matrix A .

Definition (Consistent). \iff the rightmost column of an augmented matrix is not a pivot column. I.e. in a 3×4 matrix, if the last row is zero and 2nd column has pivot column, then the system is still consistent.

Definition (Diagonal Dominance). $\forall i, \exists i A_{i,i}, \forall i, \iff A_{i,i} \geq \sum_{j=0, j \neq i}^m$, then matrix A is DD.

Definition (Diagonalizable matrix). Given a matrix A , we can express it as $A = PDP^{-1}$. Then, we can compute:

$$A^2 = (PDP^{-1})(PDP^{-1}) = PD(P^{-1}P)DP^{-1} = PDDP^{-1} \quad (1.18)$$

$$\text{Because } P \cdot P^{-1} = I \quad (1.19)$$

$$\dots A^k = PD^k P^{-1} \quad (1.20)$$

So, we use diagonal matrices to easily raise matrices to power k .

To diagonalize a matrix $A^{n \times n}$, it is required that it has n linearly independent eigenvectors.

Definition (Divergence). In vector calculus, divergence measures the magnitude to the gradient of Vector Fields at a given point.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} 7 & 8 \\ 9 & 10 \\ 11 & 12 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 58 & \\ & \end{bmatrix}$$

Definition (Dotting matrices).

Definition (Echelon form). A matrix where:

1. All nonzero rows are above zero-rows
2. Each pivot column is placed from left to right

Definition (Eigenvector). Given a square matrix A , when A is multiplied with an eigenvector v , the resulting matrix A' is a multiple of v . The multiple is denoted by λ and is called an eigenvalue. So, $Av = \lambda v$

Definition (Forward substitution). In an iterative method, if we first solve an element $A_{i,j}$, then when we calculate some $A_{i+a,j+b}$ in the same iteration, then we use the updated value of $A_{i,j}$. Opposite of Backward substitution

Definition (Gaussian Elimination). AKA “Row reduction”. Add row x to row y , $y \neq x$, to reduce y to zeroes.

Definition (Ill-conditioned matrix). A matrix is ill-conditioned if the Condition number is large. If you make a small change in an ill conditioned matrix, there are usually large differences in results from calculations with this matrix.

Definition (Inverse). For a matrix $A \in \mathbf{R}^{2 \times 2}$:

$$A^{-1} = \frac{1}{|A|} \begin{bmatrix} d & -b \\ -c & a \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{ad - bc} \begin{bmatrix} d & -b \\ -c & a \end{bmatrix}$$

For a matrix $A \in \mathbf{R}^{3 \times 3}$: bcacab

Properties:

- $(A^{-1})^{-1} = A$

Definition (Kernel). For a vector space given by a Linear transformation, a kernel is the set of vectors $v \in V$, s.t. $T(u) = 0$.

Definition (Length of Vector). For a vector

$$v = [a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n]$$

$$|v| = \sqrt{a_1^2 + a_2^2 + \dots + a_n^2}$$

Definition (Linear dependence). For $V = v_1, \dots, v_n$, and $\forall v, v$ is vector, if none of the vectors in V can be written as a linear combination from the other vectors in V , the set is linearly independent.

Definition (Linear transformation). Take a vector space into another, s.t.

$$T(u + v) = T(u) + T(v) \forall u, v \in V \quad (1.21)$$

$$T(cu) = cT(u) \forall u \in V \quad (1.22)$$

Definition (Matrix of observations). Collect a sample, subject it to tests, and for each test, you give a value. For n tests and m samples, you will result in $\mathbf{R}^{n \times m}$ matrix of observations.

Definition (Norm). The “length” of a vector, just remember to sum up over all dimensions. Each number is raised to n , and the total sum is then raised to

$$L1, L2.. \frac{1}{p}.$$

Definition (Normalization of vectors). $\hat{X} \equiv \frac{X}{|X|}$, where $|x|$ is the Length of Vector X is, in this case, evaluated as the additive sum of it's entries.

Definition (Null space). Given a matrix A , if you solve for that each row = 0, all possible values for each x makes out the Null space.

Note that here it is possible to get free variables for some x , and bound to others.

Definition (Orthogonal). Two lines that intersect each other at 90 degrees.

- Orthogonal matrices preserve dot products: given two vectors u , and v , and an orthogonal matrix Q , the following is true: $u \times v = Qu \times Qv$
- The determinant of an orthogonal matrix is always 1 or -1
- The transpose of Q is equal to it's inverse, hence: $Q \times Q^T = I$

Definition (Perpendicular). Similar to Orthogonal, but with lines.

Definition (Pivoting). Finding the first non-zero element in an algorithm on linear systems. To do so, you can do things like gaussian elimination, etc.

Complete pivoting find the largest absolute value of a pivot, considering all elements.

Partial pivoting finds the largest absolute value in the pivot column.

Scaled pivoting finds the largest absolute value of a pivot column relative to it's entries in the same row.

Definition (Plane). A flat, two-dimensional surface

Definition (Positive semidefinite matrix). Properties:

- Nonnegative Eigenvectors
- $X = V^T V$ for some $V \in \mathbf{R}^{m \times n}$
- $X = \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i w_i w_i^T$ for some $\lambda_i \geq 0$ and vectors $w_i \in \mathbf{R}^n$ such that $w_i^T w_i = 1$ and $w_i^T w_j = 0$

Definition (Preconditioner). A matrix P such that $P^{-1}A$ has a smaller Condition number than A .

Definition (Projection). define a vector v and u .

$$L = \{cv | c \in \mathbf{R}\}$$

$$\text{proj}(v) = l \in L \text{ such that } u - \text{proj}(v) \text{ is Orthogonal to } l$$

$$\text{i.e., } \text{proj}(v) = cv, c \in \mathbf{R}$$

Properties:

- $\text{proj}(v) = \text{proj}(v)^2$
- Linear independence on u, v also relates for $v - \text{proj}(v), u$
- adding $\text{proj}(v)$ to v gives you u

Definition (Relaxation methods). relaxation methods are iterative methods for solving systems of equations, including nonlinear systems. Examples are Gauss-Seidel, Jacobi, etc.

Definition (Singular matrix). Any square matrix without an inverse. A matrix is singular \iff its determinant is 0.

Definition (Span of vectors). All linear combinations of a set of vectors.

$$\begin{aligned} V &= \{v_1, \dots, v_n\} \\ C &= \{c \in \mathbb{R}\} \\ \text{span} &= c_1 v_1 + \dots + c_n v_n \end{aligned}$$

Definition (Spectrum of a matrix). The multiset of its eigenvalues

Definition (Spectral Radius). The largest absolute eigenvalue of a matrix.

Definition (Successive Over Relaxation). Gauss-Seidel is the same as SOR (successive over-relaxation) with $\omega = 1$

Definition (Symmetric). • Length of rows is equal

- The transpose is equal to the original

Definition (Tensor). Geometric objects that describe linear relations between vectors or scalars.

Definition (Toeplitz matrix).

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b & c & d \\ b & a & b & c \\ c & b & a & b \\ d & c & b & a \end{bmatrix}$$

Noteworthy, this kind of matrix can be inverted in $O(n \times \log n)$

Definition (Trace). Sum of all diagonal entries in a matrix. $A_{11} + A_{22} + A_{nn}$

Definition (Transpose). Take column i and make it into a row. Repeat.

Definition (Unit vector). A vector whose length is 1.

Definition (vector length). number of "steps" in a vector

1.6 Misc

Definition (Continuum). Continuum theories or models explain variation as involving gradual quantitative transitions without abrupt changes or discontinuities

It can also be the set of real numbers, or

Definition (Here document). here document (here-document, heredoc, hereis, here-string or here-script) is a file literal or input stream literal.

When used simply for string literals, the `jj` does not indicate indirection, but is simply a starting delimiter convention.

Example: (bash)

```
tr a-z A-Z << END_TEXT
one two three uno dos tres
END_TEXT
```

Definition (Information space). is the set of concepts and relations among them held by an information system; it describes the range of possible values or meanings an entity can have under the given rules and circumstances.

1.7 Programming Security

Definition (Accessory controls). If a company X notices that a part P of a product does not belong to them, they may reduce the effectiveness of the product.

For example, if a printer notices a competitors ink in the printer, it may go from high quality to low.

This is considered a form of authentication.

Definition (Access control). I assume the meaning is intuitive to understand. What's worth mentioning is that access control can operate on four levels, namely:

- Application
- Middleware
- Operating system
- Hardware

Definition (Access Control Lists). Most UNIX-fans will know them already: `-rw-r--r-- 1 <owner of file> <group owner of file>`. This is an example of a rowwise mandatory ACL- where an object has a given set of definitions for three different groups: the first three letters in the string denotes what the owner can do (in this case, there is no execution, but read and write), the third next letters (mid-block) denote what members of the owner group can do to the file, and the next three letters denote what everyone else can do.

This type of ACL are slow for systems with many users. The vantage is that is efficient. Other forms of ACL's include database access control (suffering from inability to model states, etc).

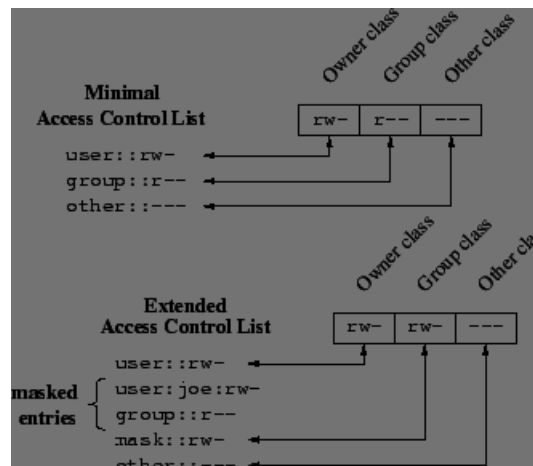


Figure 1.1: Typical UNIX ACL

Definition (Assurance classes).

1.7. PROGRAMMING SECURITY CHAPTER 1. WORDS AND DEFINITIONS

Definition (Authentication). To prove that you are who you claim to be. E.g. to provide a password for an account, etc.

Definition (Authorization). To ensure that a user has sufficient permissions to do what he/she asks for. E.g. an authenticated user may log in, but may not change the passwords for other users, because this authenticated user is not authorized for this account.

Definition (BAN-logic). IS THIS REALLY NECESSARY?

...formal reasoning in cryptology, somewhat alike first-order-logic.

Definition (Biba Model). Essentially BLP, just that it is read by "no read down, no write up". The BLP can be categorized as "no write down, no read up".

A monk may write a prayer book that can be read by commoners, but not one to be read by a high priest

— Wikipedia

Definition (Bell LaPadula model). Any system that adheres to the two following properties, are said to adhere to the Bell LaPadula Model, which is a Security Policy (model):

Simple security property *no process may read data at a higher level.* If a process is on runlevel X , it should not have access to data at level $X + 1$.

***-property** *no process may write data to a lower level.* Imagine that a sysadmin gets a Trojan that reads much sensitive data. The *-property prevents this data to be written down to a lower level where it is accessible to other accounts with lower clearance.

It is worthwhile noting that the properties fail to mention policies for creation and destruction of files. Furthermore, the model is broken if sensitive data is temporarily declassified. The data can then be manipulated without violating the constraints of BLP. Hence, to make the BLP safe, we need to introduce the **tranquility property**:

Strong: Security labels on objects never change during systems operation.

Weak: Security labels never change in such a way that it defines the given security policy.

However, the problem with the tranquility property is that process will have a difficult time reading files. If at first one reads something at a high level, then no concurrent read/write operation can occur for a lower level. Applications will therefore need to be customized extensively to accomodate for the tranquility property.

The BLP only deals with confidentiality, not integrity (see Biba Model)

Definition (Biba Model). Deals with integrity alone, ignores confidentiality.

Definition (BMA model). British Medical Association. Basically a 9-point long list which comprehends the BLP, but also represents state, and so on. Used for medical records.

It's worthwhile noting that for medical records, it's much harder to define privacy and such because doctors are often required to involve third parties with their records. This could be researchers, drug companies, family, so on.

Definition (Capture error). People are used to clicking "OK" on alert boxes without reading, so you might fool them into clicking on one of your buttons by simply making a popup box.

Definition (Chinese Wall). Let's say that you work in finance, reviewing different oil companies. If you've worked on account A for some time, you might have information that is relevant for account B. To prohibit this, you're given a timed restriction, such that you cannot work on other accounts if you have sensitive information.

The general idea is to say that "you can access this, but nothing else, there's a chinese wall between you and other accounts."

The chinese wall has been expressed to be similar to the BLP. Let c denote objects of interest, for example bank data. s denotes a subject, for example a person, who tries to access objects. $y(x)$ is a function y for an object x that denotes a company y 's interest for the object x . Similarly, for a company f , there's a function $f(x)$. The domain $S = S(s)$ is a set which covers all objects that s can access.

Simple security property $\forall s, s$ will have access to c iff $\forall o \in S(s), y(c) \cap x(o) = \emptyset$ or $y(c) \in y(o)$

The *-property s can write to an object c iff $\forall o \{m \mid m \in S(s)\}, o \notin x(c)$ and $y(c) \neq y(o)$ ^[what?]

Definition (Common Criteria). Defines many Security functional requirements. ISO-standard.

Definition (Confidentiality). *Who/what could have read this message?*

Definition (Covert channel). If a system adheres to the BLP, a low security object might still communicate with one at a higher level. If the two share a resource, e.g. a disc, one could make the higher level process do something with the disc head to communicate. This could for example be invoking an error at time t_i to indicate that bit i in an important file is either 1 or 0. This way of communication is called a covert channel.

Definition (Cryptographic nonce). a nonce is an arbitrary number used only once in a cryptographic communication. The nonce is there to ensure freshness of a message, e.g. it could be a timestamp. That way, one can be assured that encrypted messages are recent and not old.

Definition (CSRF). performs an action on the server. The user is typically not aware of what he/she is doing. I.e., if there is a URL that can be used to purchase 50 cars, Eve can send that to Alice and make her, unwillingly, buy 50 cars.

CSRF attack can be mitigated by properly implementing session authentication tokens, such that one cannot modify/use an account without having a valid token from the server. That way, the POST to purchase cannot be instantiated unless the client performs a series of steps.

Definition (Discretionary Access Control). A simple form of access control. The ease of implementing DAC makes it popular. DAC is similar to Mandatory Access Control, except from that there are no *policies* for objects. This means that whenever a subject wants to apply an action to an object o , the operating system will only evaluate s and o , not the action that s wants to apply, in order to determine whether or not s 's action will be executed.

Definition (Difference between DAC and MAC). DAC is not a multilevel security protocol in that, for any subject s , **any** operation on an object o is either granted or not **only by considering the relationship between s and o , not the action applied**.

Furtherly, the following quotes quite sum it up:

Systems can be said to implement both MAC and DAC simultaneously, where DAC refers to one category of access controls that subjects can transfer among each other, and MAC refers to a second category of access controls that imposes constraints upon the first.

— Wikipedia

In general, when systems enforce a security policy independetly of user actions, they are described as having madatory access control, as opposed to the discretionary access control in systems like Unix where users can take their own access decision about their files

— Page 246 in the book

Definition (Evaluation Assurance Level). The Common Criteria uses

Definition (Format string vulnerability). Input data will be used to format output. However, the input data goes to the stack, and there are therefore vulnerabilities.

Definition (High water mark principle). Start off at the bottom and elevate permissions as you need them. E.g.às one opens a mail client, one finds

Definition (Identify Friend or Foe). IFF: A system that can tell whether you are a friend of a foe. A classical crypto-problem; how can I know that I am not talking to Eve?

Definition (Integer manipulation attack). Causing an under- or overflow or truncation such that you can exploit software.

Definition (Integrity). *Who/what could have altered this package?*

Definition (Kernel bloat). E.g. in Windows, you need to have many drivers run as root in the kernel. This will naturally open up for more security holes.

Definition (Key-distribution). One entity on a network wants to talk to another in a network. We will assume Alice wants to talk to Bob. Her concern is that they might establish a connection, but Eve might hijack it and pretend to be either party. Alice needs to know that she is speaking with Bob, and she needs to know that Bob is not communicating with any Eve.

To prevent this, a trusted third party is introduced. We will call this Sam. We will assume that the connection to Sam is safe, and that Sam knows every user of the network. Alice contacts Sam. Her request is as follows: "I am Alice, and want to communicate with Bob". Sam returns two tokens. The first token can only be read by Alice, and the second only by Bob. Alice then contacts Bob, giving him only the second certificate. Bob decrypts the certificate, which unravels an encryption/decryption key. Bob and Alice can now encrypt and decrypt messages to each other using this key, and communicate without Sam.

Definition (Landing pad). A piece of code, such that when executed, the processor will execute malicious code.

Definition (Lattice model). Essentially equivalent to the BLP. You use labels such as "TOP SECRET", "SECRET" and say that there are no communications between levels as in the BLP.

You combine things, so for each item, e.g. for "missiles" you might have a clearance for something like "SECRET". But you also need codewords, such as "SECRET MISSILES" if you want to read the secret stuff about missiles.

The point of the lattice model is that you have aggregated values, such that a lattice will yield a numeric d . To get access to d you need $e > d$.

Definition (Malware).

Definition (Mandatory Access Control). *Also known as multilevel security.* MAC is enforced as follows: for each object o , define a set of actions that are applicable to this object, and categorize them by access level. E.g. one could define deletions as *administrator-level* and modifications as *user-level*. The categorization of actions to objects is known as defining the **policy**. The policy is often stored as an *??*. Typical values for o include files, directories, ports, etc. When subject s requests an action a on o , the operating system looks up the rules for o , finds a , and evaluates s against the policy for a on o .

To clarify: in MAC, there is no such thing as "super-user-access", i.e. being a user with high privileges won't necessarily grant you privileges on all objects, because some objects might have policies that only permit certain other users to manipulate them. For example, even though you might be a system administrator, you should not be able to read other user's passwords, nor modify them. You might rather grant sysadmins the privilege to reset the password, and let authenticated users modify their own passwords.

MAC ensures a security policy independent of user actions. That is, even though a user owns a file, he/she might not be able to do whatever he/she wants with it.

A good example of the usefulness of MAC is that a computer that is hacked may not jeopardize other systems. Despite of having obtained some level of control, the attacker may not get access to other critical features.

MLS's are usually difficult to implement. One example is the **cascading** problem; two systems A and B may both have access to an object o . Simultaneously, system A have access to another object a , system B has access to object b , where $a \neq b$. Now, modifying o might affect how a, b are treated. So if system B wants to alter a , it may modify o , then system A reads o , then modifies a .

Do also note figure 1.7 as it highlights a security caveat of MLS; low-level data can also be worthwhile protecting. See also the quote in Difference between DAC and MAC

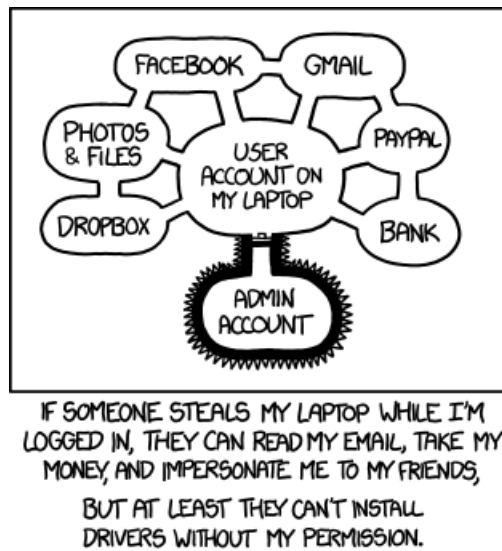


Figure 1.2: xkcd.com/1200

Definition (No-operation). NO-OP: From assembly, do nothing.

Definition (Phishing). Essentially the same as Pretexting, just that you're trying to deceive customers instead of staff.

Definition (Pretext). To create a plausible scenario that can deceive personell with sensitive information to disclose this to Eve.

Definition (Principle of least privilege). Programs should only have as much privilege as they need. There's no need to "sudo webbrowser"

Definition (Protection profile). A document that identifies the desired security properties of a product. This is structured as a list of security requirements defined in a way that adheres to Common Criteria

Definition (Pump). A one way transfer (data diode) that takes data from a low access level to a higher access level.

Definition (Race condition). Process A reads resource X, process B reads resource X, process A writes, then process B writes. The value is bad, since B's original value was bad.

Definition (Reflection attacks). First, see Challenge-Response. Suppose that the challenge-response is similar for two entities. I.e. party A sends a challenge N to someone. To solve the challenge, party E simply returns N to A, has party A solve it, and voila, party E knows the solution to N .

Definition (Replay attack). Assume that to login, Alice encrypts her password with one million bits, three times, and sends her password to a login page. The login decrypts and accepts Alice's authentication token.

Eve could simply sniff the POST from Alice and the replay it to the server. Even though the password is highly encrypted, Eve's POST will be valid. The login page accepts Eve.

To mitigate, one should/could implement session tokens; see Session token. As mentioned in that section, however, session tokens also introduce other risks.

Definition (Repudiation attack). To give someone a bad reputation. This could be by rating items with low scores, writing mean reviews, etc.

Definition (Role based access control). Permissions are not related to users, but rather their functions. This means that if a sysadmin is sick, a second-in-rank user could assume the rank of the sysadmin to do whatever is necessary.

Definition (Sandbox). A limited environment. It is common to host websites in sandboxes, so that even if the webserver is hacked, a hacker can't do much on the mainframe.

Definition (Security Policy (model)).

Definition (Secrecy).

Definition (Security assurance requirements).

Definition (Security functional requirements).

A document that expresses clearly and concisely what the protection mechanisms are to achieve. ... It will often take the form of statements about which users may access which data

— page 240

As with most computer policies, it's important the statements are succinct, i.e. briefly and clearly expressed, without implications. Also, it's important to make sure that you explicitly define:

- Who determines the policy?
- What qualifies for "need to know"?

- How will the policy be enforced?

Definition (Security requirement). A statement which defines what level of security is utilized for different kind of attacks. It's important that the requirements do not discuss design, only what is required (hence, requirement).

All requirements should be testable. Good ways to do this is to quantify. Quantifying security is difficult, however.

Definition (Security target). A document that describes what a product does, or at the very what it does that has an impact/relevance in security contexts.

Definition (Session token). *Also known as session ID or session identifier.* A session token is a unique identifier, usually in the form of a hash generated by a hash function that is generated and sent from a server to a client to identify the current interaction session.

If Eve can obtain the session ID, she can also, in theory, perform actions, pretending to be the victim. This is known as **session hijacking**. As the session ID needs to be submitted for every POST and GET, it can be easy to obtain it by sniffing or tricking the victim. Hence, there should also be other security measures in place to make the use of session tokens safe.

Definition (Smashing the stack). Making an overflow such that excess bytes are considered as code rather than arguments.

Definition (Software Security Touchpoints).

Definition (SQL-injection). If you can't define this, please go get some sleep.

Definition (Target of Evaluation). ToE. The product under evaluation.

Definition (Trojan). A piece of software that looks cool, but in reality it causes harm when executed.

Definition (Two-channel authentication). I fail to see the big difference from Two-factor authentication but according to the book, this is "sending an access code the user via a separate channel"

Definition (Two-factor authentication). To authenticate, you need "something you have, and something you remember". E.g. a password and a password calculator.

Most companies are sceptical of this. While it does seem to improve security per today's date, it is still prone to real-time mitm attacks.

Definition (validation of input). Given input ι , filter any bad input b and return ι_{clean} . There are multiple types of input validation:

Blacklist-validation do not regard context and trim away any bad characters from input. I.e. one can define a set of bad characters in a set $S = \{', ", \}$, etc. Given input ι , return ι_{clean} , s.t. $\iota_{clean} \cap S = \{\emptyset\}$ The problem with black-validation is that is often easily bypassed, since the attacker can often distort his input in a way that bypasses the filters. Note that the filter only checks for characters, not context.

Whitelist-validation In many contexts, the character ' is considered malicious, however, it is also required in some names, etc. White-validation looks at what structure input should have, and validates accordingly. It is stronger than blacklist-validation in that, for example for dates it is possible to know what structure the input should have, and thereby you can trim from character length and structure.

It is also worthwhile to talk of this as contextual encoding.

Another form of validation is the translation of characters to another typeset. This is typically known as **escaping** input. Before using any input one can e.g. do html-escaping. I assume the reader knows what this is. Character escaping has a recommended order: first do HTML-escaping, then JS-escaping. Finally, it is worth mentioning about escaping that it does not prevent XSS, it just makes it harder to render data as code^[why?].

Definition (Valet attack). Assume that you use a random number in your key to unlock something, like a car. This means that whenever you want to unlock the car, there are different codes, all valid.

If Eve gets to unlock Alice's car every day, Eve can record all keys used to unlock Alice's car. Eventually, when Alice's car run out of memory, it will not remember that the first key has ever been used. Eve then tries to use this first key that she recorded. This unlocks the car.

Definition (Virus).

Definition. XSS upload a script that to a server that will be executed by other users. XSS is a popular type of attack and hence there's a lot of terminology...

Stored XSS the malicious script sent by an attacker is stored permanently on the webserver.

Reflected XSS the malicious script sent by an attacker causes an immediate malformed response from the server, but the script will not be stored on the server.

DOM-based XSS typically sends a URL to a user such that his/her site, i.e. DOM, is modified. E.g. if the values for a selection field is specified from the url, modifying the parameters to be scripts instead means that the DOM is modified via XSS.

Reflected and Stored XSS are server side execution issues while DOM based XSS is a client (browser) side execution issue

— OWASP, <https://www.owasp.org/index.php/DOM.based.XSS.Prevention.Cheat.Sheet>

Mitigations: see validation of input

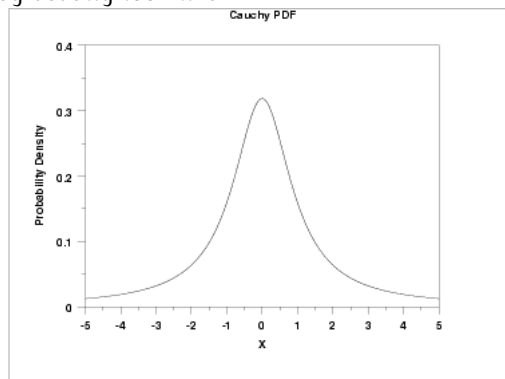
1.8 Statistics

Definition (Bernoulli distribution). A distribution of parameters, where $\forall x, 0 \leq x \leq 1$. Typically dual, e.g. in coin toss there is heads and tails. If $\Pr_{heads} = k$, then $\Pr_{tails} = 1 - \Pr_{heads}$

Definition (Bigvee). $\bigvee_{a \in I} P_a$ says that at least one P_a is true. It can also be used for the maximum value in a set.

Definition (Central moment). The distribution of variable [values] around the mean. This way, you can now if the distribution is spread out or not.

Definition (Cauchy distribution). A family of distributions with no expected value. They usually look like:



Definition (Chernoff bound). In a nutshell, it determines a bound on how many times we must perform a trial to know that our random variables represent a majority. E.g. if we trying to determine that a coin is biased (heads/tails), a chernoff bound will say how many times we must flip the coin to know that we have unraveled a bias. In this case, for example, simply flipping it twice will not suffice.

Definition (Conditional expectations).

$$E(X|Y = y) = \sum_{x \in X} x P(X = x|Y = y) = \sum_{x \in X} x \frac{P(X = x, Y = y)}{P(Y = y)}$$

$$\overset{\text{"Probability Of"}}{\downarrow} P(\underset{\text{Event A}}{A} \text{ and } \underset{\text{Event B}}{B}) = P(\underset{\text{Event A}}{A}) \times \overset{\text{"Given"}}{\downarrow} P(\underset{\text{Event B}}{B} | \underset{\text{Event A}}{A})$$

Definition (Conditional probability).

Definition (Covariance). A measure of how much two random variables change together.

Definition (Expected value). $E[X] = \sum_{s \in S} X(s) \cdot \Pr(\{s\})$

$$E[X] = \sum_{s \in S} X(s) \cdot \Pr(X = x)$$

Definition (hyperplane). A plane (surface) that has one less dimension than it's ambient space, i.e. the space around it. E.g. a hyperplane for 3-d dims is only defined 2D.

A hyperplane will therefore act as a separator. Imagine a holding a square in the middle of a ball.

Definition (Gold standard). In medicine and statistics, gold standard test refers to a diagnostic test or benchmark that is the best available under reasonable conditions. It does not have to be necessarily the best possible test for the condition in absolute terms. For example, in medicine, dealing with conditions that require an autopsy to have a perfect diagnosis, the gold standard test is less accurate than the autopsy.

Definition (Ground truth). to the accuracy of the training set's classification for supervised learning techniques. This is used in statistical models to prove or disprove research hypotheses. The term "ground truthing" refers to the process of gathering the proper objective data for this test.

Definition (Normal (Gaussian) distribution). A distribution that is centered around a value. E.g. when you collect people's height, there will be many around the average, and fewer and fewer to the sides.

Definition (Indicator variable). Indicator variable: 0 or 1 for whether an element is selected or not.

Definition (Linearity of expectation). $E[X] + E[Y] = E[X + Y]$

$$\begin{aligned} & \left[\sum_{x \in S} X(s) \cdot \Pr(X = x) + \sum_{y \in S} X(s) \cdot \Pr(Y = y) \right] \\ &= \left[\sum_{s \in S} a \cdot \Pr(Y = a) + a \cdot \Pr(X = a) \right] \end{aligned}$$

Theorem 1 (Likelihood that both X and Y occur in S).

$$E[X] \cdot E[Y] = E[X \cdot Y]$$

Proof. From Expected value:

$$\begin{aligned} E[X \cdot Y] &= \sum_{z \in S} z \cdot \Pr(X = z \text{ and } Y = z) = \\ &= \sum_{x \in S} \sum_{y \in S} x \cdot y \cdot \Pr(X = x \text{ and } Y = y) = \\ &= \left[\sum_{x \in S} x \cdot \Pr(X = x) \right] \cdot \left[\sum_{y \in S} y \cdot \Pr(Y = y) \right] = \\ &= E[X] \cdot E[Y] \end{aligned}$$

□

Definition (Poisson distribution). expresses the probability of a given number of events occurring in a fixed interval of time and/or space if these events occur with a known average rate and independently of the time since the last even.

Definition (Probability Mass function). A function that gives a probability that a variable is exactly equal to some value.

Definition (Supervised learning). the machine learning task of inferring a function from labeled training data. The training data consist of a set of training examples. In supervised learning, each example is a pair consisting of an input object (typically a vector) and a desired output value (also called the supervisory signal).

1.9 C++

`const <C>& function { return FOO; }` means it will return a constant reference to C

`<C>& function const { return FOO; }` means it will not modify any data in C.

`std::vector<T>` will typically allocate space in 2^n , where n is minimal. Whenever n increases, a new buffer is allocated, which means that it will have to iterate over all its former elements – giving $2^n + 1$ iterations. Hence, one should pre-allocate the space needed when possible.

Whenever you use `cout` to output something, `ostream` buffers it but does not send it to the output device immediately. Only when the buffer is flushed will the output get sent to the destination. This can cause trouble if e.g. the buffer is full (usually 512 bytes).

1.10 Haskell

Definition (`=>`). Every expression preceding the `=>` is a **class constraint**: it forces types and memberships

Definition (`->`). Used to separate variables and return types in functions.

Definition (Guards). Guards are indicated by pipes that follow a function's name and its parameters. They evaluate to true or false, and then the following function body is used in case of true.

1.11 More words and def...

Definition (Concurrency). To execute several unrelated tasks at the same time. E.g. on a game-server one thread deals with chatting, one deals with connections, etc. One important aspect of concurrent threads is that they are Nondeterministic programming. That means that you can predict their state pre-emptively. That is also why we usually do so much thread joining etc. See also Parallelism.

Definition (Currying). the technique of translating the evaluation of a function that takes multiple arguments (or a tuple of arguments) into evaluating a sequence of functions, each with a single argument (partial application)

E.g. $f(x, y) \rightarrow h(x) = y \rightarrow f(x, y)$. Here, $h(x)$ is a curried version of f , and the \rightarrow is a function that maps the result from h to f .

Definition (Folding). Take a list, apply a function and reduce the list to a single value. (this is the python's `reduce`)

Definition (High order functions). can take functions as parameters and return functions as return values.

Definition (Include guards). Avoid re-invoking a header multiple times: enforce that they are only loaded once. In C++ (11) you can use the

`#pragma once`

Definition (Nondeterministic programming). A nondeterministic programming language is a language which can specify, at certain points in the program (called "choice points"), various alternatives for program flow. Unlike an if-then statement, the method of choice between these alternatives is not directly specified by the programmer; the program must decide at run time between the alternatives, via some general method applied to all choice points

Definition (Lock order inversion). Entity A acquires a lock on X , entity B acquires a lock on Y . Now, X depends on something in Y and verca visa. The programs will now deadlock - each waiting for the other to finish their task.

Definition (Parallelism). To use multiple threads to solve one problem. See also Concurrency.

Definition (Strict variable). A variable with a determined typed. E.g. writing "int myvar = 5" instead of just "myvar = 5" (non-strict).

Chapter 2

Algorithms and Methods

2.1 Algorithms

2.1.1 Cristofeleles algorithm

Objective: solve TSP with $\frac{3}{2}$ -approximation

1. Construct an MST
2. Extract the odd degree vertices
3. Find a matching, using odd degree vertex from (2)
4. Combine the edges from the tree with those in the matching
5. Form a eularian circuit
6. Short the the traversal path to form a hamiltonian cycle

2.1.2 Double-tree algorithm

2-approximation

1. Construct MST
2. Give each node a redundant entry (graph can now be traversed like an Eularian graph)
3. Traverse the nodes from start to finish(DFS), but only retain the first time occurence of a city

2.1.3 Dijkstra

Assign all nodes distance = ∞ Start at given node s . Assign all neighboring nodes their distance from s to n . Proceed to the lowest cost. Repeat. Whenever a better match is found, use the new path instead. The result is a path from s to t , or an MST.

2.1.4 K-center

2-approximation. A form of clustering.

1. Pick arbitrary $i \in V$
2. $S \rightarrow \{i\}$
3. pick other node furthest away from k , add to S
4. repeat, furthest away from all previous picked nodes.

2.1.5 Kruskal's algorithm

Always choose cheapest edge that does not include two pre-discovered nodes. Returns MST.

2.1.6 Nearest addition

2-approximation

1. Find two closest cities
2. Traverse from i to j and back
3. Repeat, consider from each node

2.1.7 Prim's algorithm

Start at a given node s . Choose the cheapest edge. Now repeat, just that you consider s and the node you added. Etc. Never choose an edge that leads to a pre-discovered vertex.

2.1.8 List scheduling algorithm

Whenever a machine is idle, assign it a job. This algorithm runs $\leq 2 \times OPT$.

Proof. Note that $OPT = \frac{\sum p_i}{m}$. We know that the last job, l , starts at time t . Since we've always assigned jobs whenever we could, that means that all machines have so far been busy. Hence we know:

$$t \leq \frac{\sum p_j - p_l}{m} \leq OPT - \frac{p_l}{m}$$

Since OPT is lower bounded as the average work done by each machine.

We can now bound the maximal finishing time:

$$C_{max} \leq t + p_l \leq OPT + p_l \times (1 - \frac{1}{m}) \leq (2 - \frac{1}{m}) \times OPT$$

□

2.1.9 Longest processing time rule

As List scheduling algorithm, just that you first sort the jobs in order of length; put the longest jobs first. This algorithm has approximation ratio $\frac{4}{3} \times OPT$

2.1.10 Shortest remaining time, SRFT

In this scheduling algorithm, the process with the smallest amount of time remaining until completion is selected to execute. This algorithm is applied to Pre-empty schedule schedules

2.1.11 Knapsack DP

Fill out two arrays of $n \times B$, where B is the capacity of the knapsack. In row i , consider item b_i against the capacity given in column j . If $j \geq w_i$, compare the value of $A_{i,j}$ to $A_{i-1,j}$ and use whichever is greater. For all cases where $b_i \geq j$, consider which is better: to use $b_i + A_{i-1,j-w_i}$, or retain the value above. The last equation is: to use current item + whatever we can fit in on the remaining weight, given by the line above. Make sure to simultaneously maintain a “keep-array” that gives 1 or zero, indicating whether or not you’ve used item b_i .

In backtracking, start in the lower right of the keep array. Whenever you get a 1, include item i and decrement i and j by one. Whenever you get a zero, decrement i alone.

The above mentioned runs in $O(n \times W)$, where W is the capacity of the knapsack. The algorithm is *exact*, but pseudopolynomial, since $W = \sum w_i$, which in binary becomes $\log_2 W$, which hence becomes $O(\log_2 W^n)$. An FPTAS, fully polynomial approximation scheme exists, see book.

2.2 Programming Security

2.2.1 Challenge-Response

You insert a car key into a car engine. The engine would now like to know that this key is valid.

Let K be the key, and E the engine. Then,:

$$E \rightarrow K : N \quad (2.1)$$

$$K \rightarrow E : \{E, N\}_K \quad (2.2)$$

Here, N is a challenge sent by the engine to the key in step (1). The key responds by encrypting the text. If the engine can decrypt and get valid number, will it start.

2.2.2 Needham-Schroeder Protocol

A primitive, three-way Key-distribution process. Also known to inspire Kerberos¹, the security protocol in windows. The word *primitive* is used to emphasize that the protocol comes from an age where attacks were mostly thought of as external-to-internal penetrations, i.e. one needs to assume that attacks come from external networks, by people without means of authentication. Hence, the protocol fails to defend against users of its own system.

Having defined key-distribution in section ??, the following should be somewhat intuitive:

$$A \rightarrow S : A, B, N_A \quad (2.1)$$

$$S \rightarrow A : \{N_A, K_{AB}, B, \{K_{AB}, A\}_{K_{BS}}\}_{K_{AS}} \quad (2.2)$$

$$A \rightarrow B : \{K_{AB}, A\}_{K_{BS}} \quad (2.3)$$

$$B \rightarrow A : \{N_B\}_{K_{AB}} \quad (2.4)$$

$$A \rightarrow B : \{N_B - 1\}_{K_{AB}} \quad (2.5)$$

The difference from plain Key-distribution is that we here introduce the concept of Cryptographic nonces. In step 1, Alice attaches her nonce N_A when talking to Sam. The nonce will be used in Sam's reply. That way, Alice can know that she is not receiving an old/corrupted message.

The entity $\kappa = \{K_{AB}, A\}_{K_{BS}}$ represents the shared key between Alice and Bob, encrypted such that only Bob can read it (denoted by the subscript K_{BS}). K_{AB} is the key, and the A is included such that Bob knows it is intended for his use to Alice. In step 3, Alice sends κ to Bob. Bob can decrypt with his key, given to him earlier by Sam. Finally, to ensure that no data has been corrupted by Eve or other errors, the last two steps verify the legitimacy of the keys. Should Alice fail to return back $N_B - 1$, that is, a nonce from Bob - 1, then Bob can know that he is not talking to a valid user.

¹originally from Greek/Roman mythology, a three-headed dog, or "hellhound", which guards the entrance of Hades.

One easy to understand flaw in this system is that if someone is able to obtain Alice's identifier, they could easily impersonate Alice. The only required step is to contact Sam, get keys, and then communicate. Alice cannot be aware of this since she never initiated the requests. To revoke the damage done, Sam would have to keep logs of every issued key and thereafter alert everyone who has recieved Alice's key that she was compromised.

2.3 Debugging with GDB

Use **bt** to get a backtrace. Example:

```
#0  0x00007ffff48daf7c in std::string::assign(std::string const&) () from /usr/lib/gcc/x86_64-linux-gnu/4.7.3/libstdc++.so.6
Python Exception <type 'exceptions.IndexError'> list index out of range:
#1  0x00005555555925a7 in image_psb::ImageSolver::doImageDisplay (this=0x7ffffffffffcb40, mapF=sImageRoot="./test_media/") at /home/andesil/PSB/src/./image2.cpp:489
#2  0x0000555555591c99 in image_psb::ImageSolver::renderImages (this=0x7ffffffffffcb40, sImageRoot="./test_media/",
    vIf=std::vector of length 3, capacity 3 = {...}, cImagePath=0x55555563e50a "/image/") at /home/andesil/PSB/src/./image2.cpp:511
#3  0x0000555555585b4b in main (argc=5, argv=0x7ffffffffffd888) at /home/andesil/PSB/src/main.cpp:10
```

Here, each number is called a *frame*. You can inspect each frame by typing “**info frame #n**”, where #n is the number of the frame. To get a local inspection (set scope), type “**set frame #n**”. Then it makes more sense to type commands like “**info locals**” and “**info args**”.

To only show some items in the backtrace, type “**bt -n**”, where n is the number of frames, from bottom that you want to include.

Chapter 3

Notes and Thoughts

3.1 Algorithms

The performance guarantee of a primal-dual algorithm provides an upper bound on the Integrality gap of an integer programming formulation. The Integrality gap also gives a lower bound on the performance guarantee that can be achieved via a standard primal-dual analysis.

Primal dual is good for when there might be exponential problem sizes in the input.

General method:

1. Determine decisions
2. Define the value of making those decisions
3. Decide bounds on OPT
4. Prove that decision bound OPT by α

3.2 Programming Security

It's considered difficult to protect against social engineering. Some of the problem is that you questioning everyone takes time, training everyone takes time, and that since being sceptical takes more time for employees, people aren't going to do it. The best way to protect against it is to never trust anyone, and build autonomous systems.

The problem about centralizing data is that once a breach is made, the effects can be more severe. If a small datasource is compromised occasionally, the negative impacts might still be small enough to be handled. However, it is easier making centralized systems safe against small crimes.

Passwords are good to authenticate, but they're easy to guess and people are not good at ensuring policies for passwords. When you ask for secure passwords, people tend to store them in an unsafe fashion such that the **security at the expense of usability is usability at the expense of security**.

In general, protocols may be defeated by changing the environment that they operate in. Most protocols make some assumptions about how things work - as soon as this is modified, the protocol might break.

A cool form of attack: if a privileged user has "." in his path, and you could put in a piece of software there, like "ls", you could trick the admin into executing it. Since the "ls" in "." might be preferred, he will then launch a program with elevated privileges, that you might have put there.

Appendix A

Greek alphabet

A.1 Conventional letters

α	A	alpha
β	B	beta
γ	Γ	gamma
δ	D	delta
ϵ, ε	E	epsilon
ζ	Z	zeta
η	H	eta
θ, ϑ	Θ	theta
ι	I	iota
κ, κ	K	kappa
λ	Λ	lambda
μ	M	mu
ν	N	nu
ξ	Ξ	xi
o	O	omicron
π, ϖ	Π	pi
ρ, ϱ	P	rho
σ, ς	Σ	sigma
τ	T	tau
υ	Υ	upsilon
ϕ, φ	Φ	phi
χ	X	chi
ψ	Ψ	psi
ω	Ω	omega

A.2 Other symbols

∂
 \hbar
 \imath
 ℓ
 \Re
 \Im
 \wp
 ∇
 \square
 ∞
 \aleph
 \sqcup
 \sqcap