

Week 2 Notes

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Why study algorithms

Simple programming problems

- Has linear scan
- Cannot do much better
- The obvious program works

Algorithms Problems

- Not clear how to do
- Simple ideas to slow
- Room for optimization

AI programming problems

- Typically hard to state what it is and how it should be implemented

Fibonacci

- Sequence of natural numbers
- $n = 0, n = 1, n > 1$
- $0, 1, F_{n-1} + F_{n-2}$
- Used as a mathematical model for rabbit population

Naïve Algorithm

```
If  $n \leq 1$ {  
    Return  $n$   
} Else{  
    return  $\text{fibRecur}(n-1) + \text{fibRecur}(n-2)$   
}
```

- Let $T(n)$ denote the number of lines of code executed by $\text{fibRecur}(n)$

Why is it slow?

- Computing the same thing over and over again

Efficient Algorithms

Imitate hand computation:

0, 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8

$$0 + 1 = 1$$

$$1 + 1 = 2$$

$$1 + 2 = 3$$

$$2 + 3 = 5$$

$$3 + 5 = 8$$

- Every second and third number can find the value after $1+1$
 - Like $2+3=5$

$$3+5=7$$

FibList(n)

- Create an array $F[0...n]$
 - $F[0] = 0$
 - $F[1] = 1$
 - For i from 2 to n
 - $F[i] = F[i-1] + F[i-2]$
 - Return $F[n]$
- $T(n) = 2N+2$. So $T(100) = 202$ lines of code
- Easy to compute

GCD Problem

GCDs

- Put fraction a/b in the simplest form
- Divide numerator and denominator by d , to get a/d over b/d
Example: GCD of 10, 4 is 2
- Important for Cryptography

Compute GCD

Input: Integer $a, b \geq 0$

Output: $\text{gcd}(a, b)$

- Want to run with large numbers like $\text{gcd}(37463, 47822)$

Function NaiveGCD(a, b)

```

best ← 0
for d from 1 to a + b:
    if d|a and d|b:
        best ← d
return best

```

- Very slow code for anything over 20

Euclidian Algorithm

Function EuclidGCD(a, b)

```

if b = 0:
    return a
a' ← the remainder when a is
    divided by b
return EuclidGCD(b, a')

```

- Produces correct results by lemma

Example

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \text{gcd}(3918848, 1653264) \\
 &= \text{gcd}(1653264, 612320) \\
 &= \text{gcd}(612320, 428624) \\
 &= \text{gcd}(428624, 183696) \\
 &= \text{gcd}(183696, 61232) \\
 &= \text{gcd}(61232, 0) \\
 &= 61232.
 \end{aligned}$$

Runtime

- Each Step reduces the size of numbers at about a factor of 2
- Take about $\log(ab)$ steps
- GCDs of 1-- digit numbers take about 600 steps
- Each step a single division

Computing Runtime

- Figuring out accurate runtime is a huge mess
- In practice, you might not even know some of these details

Asymptotic Notation

- All of these issues can multiply runtimes by (large) constant.

Approximate Runtimes

	n	$n \log n$	n^2	2^n
$n = 20$	1 sec	1 sec	1 sec	1 sec
$n = 50$	1 sec	1 sec	1 sec	13 day
$n = 10^2$	1 sec	1 sec	1 sec	$4 \cdot 10^{13}$ year
$n = 10^6$	1 sec	1 sec	17 min	
$n = 10^9$	1 sec	30 sec	30 year	
max n	10^9	$10^{7.5}$	$10^{4.5}$	30

Big- O Notation

Definition

$f(n) = O(g(n))$ (f is Big- O of g) or $f \preceq g$
if there exist constants N and c so that for
all $n \geq N$, $f(n) \leq c \cdot g(n)$.

- Using Big- O loses important information about constant multiples
- Big- O is only asymptotic

Overview:

The problems covered over these lectures are created by naïve algorithms that have a slow run time even though they might seem logical to use.

When we sit down to program we don't necessarily think our code is going to cause problems and be inefficient.

Going over the Fibonacci numbers we looked at examples of how a computer can slow down and take a long time to compute step by step code, we looked at Efficient Algorithms to combat this issue by looking at past results then trying to produce our own