Introduction to Algorithm Design

Lecture Notes 3



ROAD MAP



- Brute Force
 - Selection Sort
 - Bubble Sort
 - Sequential Search
 - String Matching
 - Closest-Pair Problem
 - Convex-Hull Problems
 - Travelling Salesman Problem
 - Exhaustive Search
 - Knapsack Problem
 - Assignment Problem





- Applicable to wide variety of problems
- Easiest way solving problem
 - Do not think much
 - Just do it!..
- Brute force is a straightforward approach based on
 - the problem's statement
 - definitions of the concepts





• Example:

Compute a^n for a given number a and a nonnegative integer n

By the definition of exponentiation,

$$a^n = \underbrace{a \times ... \times a}_{n \text{ times}}$$





- Brute force approach: used for many elementary but important algorithmic tasks
 - compute sum of n numbers
 - find largest element in a list
 - yields reasonable algorithms of practical value
 - sorting
 - searching
 - string matching
 - inefficient but can be used to solve small-size instances of a problem





Problem definition:

Given a list of *n* items, rearrange them in non-decreasing order.





Approach :

- 1. scan the entire given list to find its smallest element
- 2. exchange it with the first element, i.e., put the smallest element in its final position
- 3. scan the list starting with second element, find smallest among last n-1 elements
- 4. exchange it with second element i.e., put the second smallest element in its final position





In general

On the i^{th} pass of the algorithm through the list search for the smallest item among the last n-i elements swaps it with A_i

$$A_0 \le A_1 \le ... \le A_{i-1} \mid A_i, ..., A_{min}, ..., A_{n-1}$$

in their final position the last n-i elements

after *n-1* passes, the list is sorted

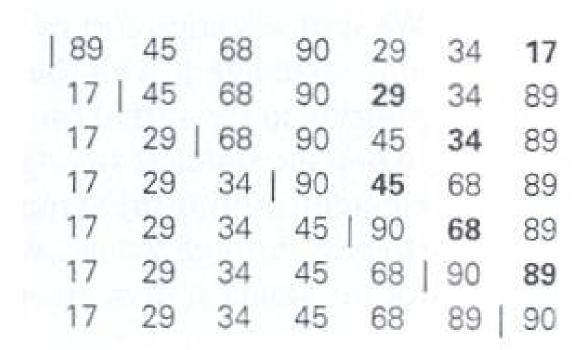




• Algorithm:



• Example









Analysis: The number of comparisons

$$C(n) = \sum_{i=0}^{n-2} \sum_{j=i+1}^{n-1} 1$$

$$C(n) = \sum_{i=0}^{n-2} [(n-1) - (i+1) + 1]$$

$$C(n) = \sum_{i=0}^{n-2} (n-1-i)$$

$$C(n) = \frac{n(n-1)}{2} = \theta(n^2)$$





- Discussion:
 - The number of key swaps is only $\theta(n)$
 - more precisely, n-1
 - one for each repetation of the loop
 - But selection sort is still a $\theta(n^2)$ algorithm
- What about space efficiency?





Approach :

- 1. Compare adjacent elements of the list
- 2. Exchange them if they are out of order

After ith pass

$$A_0 \ , \ \dots \ , \ A_j \ \stackrel{?}{\longleftrightarrow} \ A_{j+1}, \ \dots, \ A_{n-i-1} \ | \ A_{n-i} \ \leq \ \dots \leq A_{n-1}$$
 in their final position





Algorithm :

```
// The algorithm sorts a given array by buble sort
// Input : An array A[0 .. n-1] of orderable elements
// Output : Array A[0 .. n-1] sorted in ascending order

BubbleSort ( A[0..n-1])
for i←0 to n-2 do
  for j←0 to n-2-i
   if A[j+1] < A[j] swap A[j] and A[j+1]</pre>
```



• Example

	1/4												
89	?	45		68		90		29		34		17	
45		89	<i>→</i>	68	M. d	90		29		34		17	
45		68		89	<i>?</i> →	90	<i>?</i> →	29		34		17	
45		68		89		29		90	<i>?</i> →	34		17	
45		68		89		29		34		90	\leftrightarrow	17	
45		68		89		29		34		17		190	
45	?	68	? ↔	89	?	29	,	34		17		90	
45		68		29		89	· ?	34	_	17		190	
45		68		29		34		89	<i>?</i> →	17		190	
45		68		29		34		17		89		90	
						etc							

etc.

The first two passes of bubble sort on the list 89, 45, 68, 90, 29, 34, 17¹⁵





Analysis: The number of comparisons

$$C(n) = \sum_{i=0}^{n-2} \sum_{j=0}^{n-2-i} 1$$

$$C(n) = \sum_{i=0}^{n-2} [(n-2-i)-0+1]$$

$$C(n) = \sum_{i=0}^{n-2} (n-1-i)$$

$$C(n) = \frac{n(n-1)}{2} \in \theta(n^2)$$





An improvement:

- If a pass makes no swaps, the list is already sorted
 - Do not make any more passes
- Does not improve worst case
- Just runs faster for some inputs

Bubble Sort



• Discussion:

- The number of key swaps depends on the input.
 - for the worst case of decreasing arrays, same as the number of comparisons
- The improved algorithm works very well on already sorted lists
 - performs just one pass on them





Definition :

Search Problem is to find a given item (some search key K) in a list of n elements

- A match with the search key is found in the list
- The search key is not in the list





Approach :

- 1. compare successive elements of a given list with a given search key
- 2. exit if search key matches the element of the list
- 3. exit if search key does not match any elements of the list





Algorithm :

```
// The algorithm implements sequential search with a
search key as a sentine!
// Input : An array of n elements and a search key
// Output : The position of the first element in array
A[0 .. n-1] whose value is equal to K or -1 if no such
element is found

SequentialSearch(A[0..n], K)
   A[n] ← K
   i ← 0
   while A[i] ≠ K do
   i ← i+1
   if i < n return i
   else return -1</pre>
```

Sequential Search

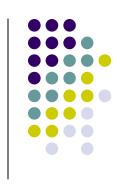


• Analysis:

$$T(n) = \theta (n)$$

Sequential Search

- Any idea of improvement?..
- What if the list is sorted?..







• Problem definition:

Given a string of **n** characters called **text** Given a string of **m** characters called **pattern**

Find a substring of the text that matches the pattern





1. Pattern: 001011

Text: 10010101101001100101111010

2. Pattern: happy

Text: It is never too late to have a happy childhood.

• Brute-force Approach?..







• Approach:

- 1. align the pattern against the first m characters of the text
- 2. start matching the corresponding pairs of characters from left to right
 - until either all m pairs of the characters match or
 - mismatching pair is encountered
- 3. shift the pattern one position to the right
- 4. resume character comparisons, starting with the first character of the pattern and its counterpart in the text



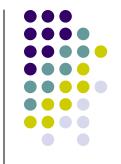


1. Pattern: 001011

Text: 10010101101001100101111010

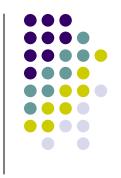
2. Pattern: happy

Text: It is never too late to have a happy childhood.



Algorithm :

• Example



```
N O B O D Y _ N O T I C E D _ H I M
N O T
N O T
N O T
N O T
N O T
N O T
N O T
N O T
N O T
N O T
N O T
N O T
N O T
N O T
N O T
N O T
```



- Analysis??
 - Time efficiency

Space efficiency





- In worst case, the algorithm make all m comparisons before shifting the pattern
- There are *n-m+1* tries.
- So in worst case the algorithm is θ (nm)
- The average case should be better than worst case
 - All tries cannot make m comparisons!...
- It has been shown that in random texts, algorithm is
 θ (n+m) = θ (n)





• Discussion:

There are several more sophisticated and more efficient algorithms for string matching. We will discuss them later!

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Problem Definition :

Find the closest points in a set of *n* points.

- We consider the two dimensional case of the problem
- We assume that points in question are specified in a standard fashion by their (x,y) Cartesian coordinates
- We assume that distance between two points $P_i = (x_i, y_i)$ and $P_j = (x_j, y_j)$ is the standard Euclidean distance

$$d(P_i, P_j) = \sqrt{(x_i - x_j)^2 + (y_i - y_j)^2}$$

Closest - Pair Problem



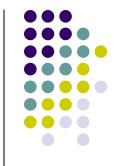
• Brute force approach?





Approach :

- 1. compute distance between each pair of distinct points
- 2. find a pair with the smallest distance
- We do not want to compute the distance between same pair of points twice
 - consider only the pairs of points (P_i, P_j) for which i < j



Closest - Pair Problem

Algorithm :

Closest - Pair Problem



• Analysis:

What is the basic operation?





• Discussion:

- Basic operation is computing Euclidean distance between two points
 - square root is not a simple operation such as addition or multiplication
- So, is it an algorithm?..
- We can ignore square root function and compare values
 (x_i-x_j)² + (y_i-y_j)² themselves
 - the smaller a number of which we take square root, the smaller its square root
 - square root function is strictly increasing



Closest - Pair Problem

Analysis: The number of basic operations (multiplications)

$$C(n) = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \sum_{j=i+1}^{n} 2$$

$$C(n) = 2\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} (n-i)$$

$$C(n) = 2[(n-1) + (n-2) + ... + 1]$$

$$C(n) = (n-1)n \in \theta(n^2)$$



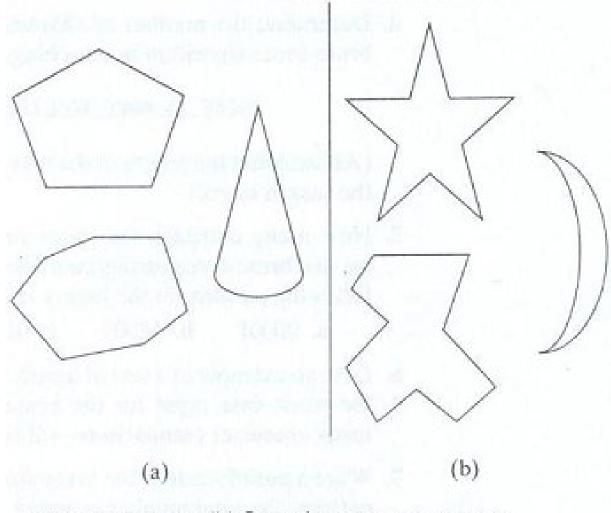


What is convex ?

A set of points (finite or infinite) on the plane is called *convex* if for any two points *P* and *Q* in the set, the entire line segment with the end points *P* and *Q* belongs to the set







(a) Convex sets. (b) Sets that are not convex.





What is convex hull?

The *convex hull* of a set *S* of points is the smallest convex set containing *S*.

The *smallest* requirement means that the convex hull of *S* must be a subset of any convex set containing *S*





What is convex hull?

- If S is convex, its convex hull is obviously S itself
- If S is a set of two points, its convex hull is the line segment connecting these points
- If S is a set of three points not on the same line, its convex hull is the triangle with the vertices at the three points given
 - If three points do lie on the same line, the convex hull is the line segment with its end points at the two points that are farthest apart



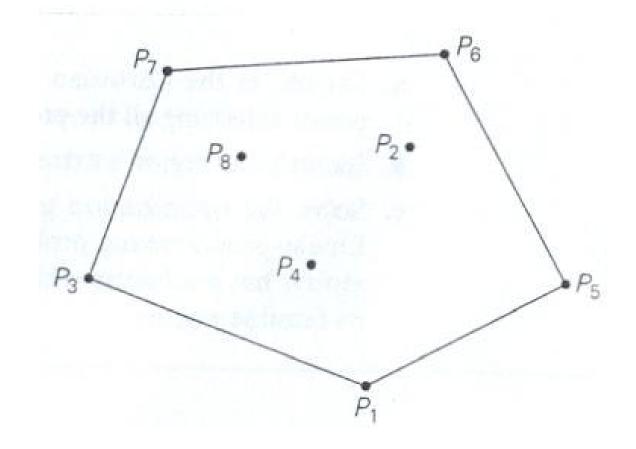


• Theorem :

- The convex hull of any set S of n>2 points (not on the same line) is a convex polygon with the vertices at some of the points of S.
 - If all the points do line on the same line, the polygon degenerates to a line segment but still with the end points at two points of S







Convex hull for set of 8 points: polygon with its vertices at P₁, P₅, P₆, P₇, P₃





Problem Definition :

Convex hull problem is the problem to constructing the convex hull for a given set S of n points

Convex-Hull Problem



- Need to find the the vertices of the polygon
 - called "extreme points"
 - extreme point of a convex set is a point of this set that is not a middle point of any line segment with end points in the set
 - extreme points of a triangle are its three vertices
- Find which pairs of points need to be connected to form the boundary of the convex hull
 - List of extreme points in clockwise order

So, how can we solve convex-hull problem in a brute force manner?





Problem has no obvious algorithmic solution!

• Idea:

- A line segment connecting two points P_i and P_j of a set of n points is a part of its convex hull's boundary iff all the other points of the set lie on the same side of the straight line through these two points
- Repeating this test for every pair of points yields a list of line segments that make up the convex hull's boundary





How to check whether all points in the set are on the same side of the line connecting two points:

• Straight line through two points (x_1,y_1) , (x_2,y_2) in the coordinate plane is

where
$$a=y_2-y_1$$
, $b=x_1-x_2$, $c=x_1y_2-y_1x_2$

- Such a line divides plane into two half-planes
 - The points in one half → ax+by>c
 - The points in other → ax+by<c
- To check whether certain points lie on the same side of the line, we can check whether the expression ax+by-c has the same sign at each of these points





Analysis:

for each of n(n-1)/2 pairs of distinct points. check the sign of ax+by-c for each of the other n-2 points

$$T(n) = O(n^3)$$

There are more efficient algorithms for this problem. We will discuss them later!

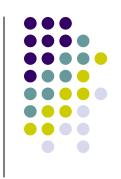
Convex-Hull Problem



• Discussion:

- Convex hull problem has no obvious algorithmic solution.
- But there exists simple algorithms for this problem





Problem definition :

Find the shortest tour through a given set of *n* cities that visits each city exactly once before returning to the city where it started





- The problem can be modeled by a weighted graph
- Vertices represents cities
- Edge weights represent the distances
- Exhaustive search can be used to solve the problem

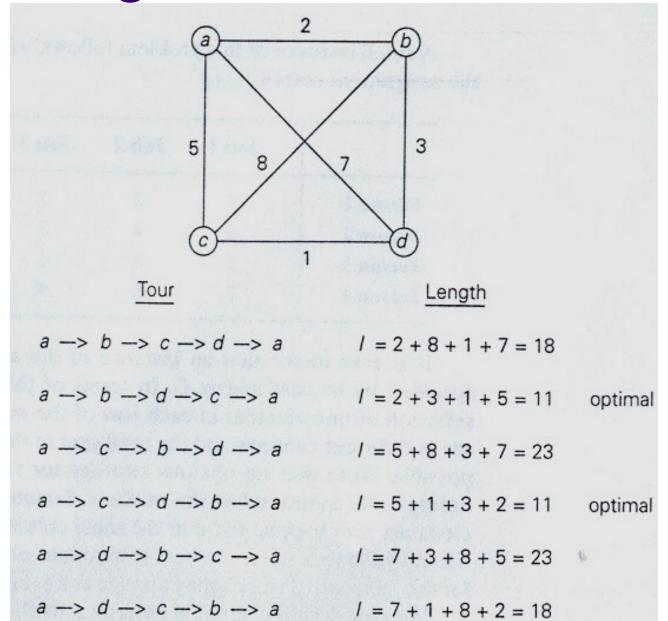




- Exhaustive search is a simple brute force approach to combinatorial problems
- Exhaustive search suggests
 - Generating each and every element of the problem's domain
 - Selecting those of them that satisfy the problem constraints
 - Finding a desired element
 - Optimizes some objective function

Traveling Salesman Problem





A solution to a small instance of the traveling salesman problem by exhaustive search





Discussion :

- This problem has been intriguing for the last 150 years by
 - seemingly simple formulation,
 - important applications and
 - interesting connections to other combinatorial problems





Problem Definition :

Given n items of known weights $w_1, ..., w_n$ and values $v_1, ..., v_n$ and a knapsack of capacity W.

Find the most valuable subset of the items that fit into the knapsack





- Exhaustive Search Approach :
 - Consider all the subsets of the set of n items given
 - Compute the total weight of each subset in order to identify feasible subsets
 - Find a subset of the largest value among them





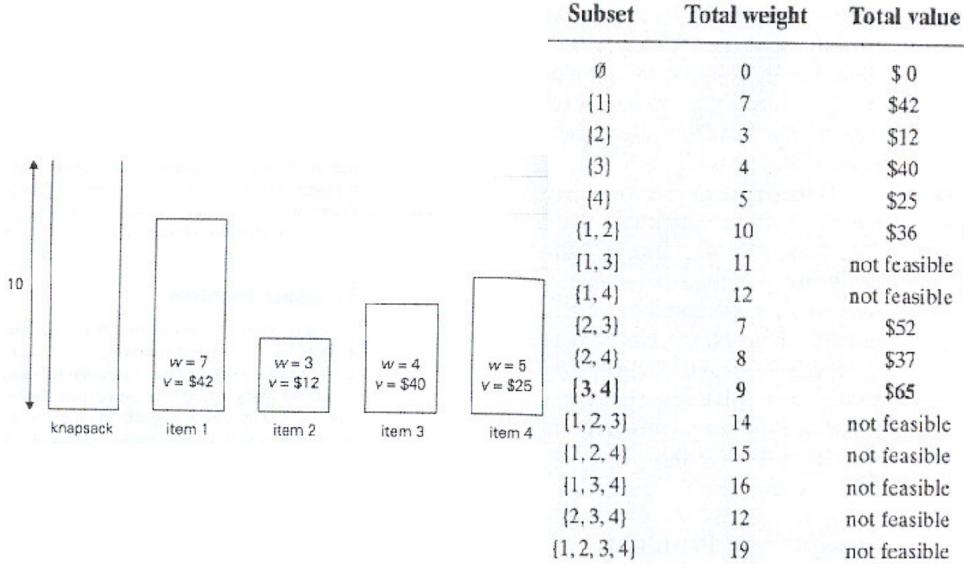
• Analysis:

of subsets of an *n*-element set is 2ⁿ

So exhaustive search leads to a Ω (2ⁿ) algorithm

Knapsack Problem





Knapsack Problem



Discussion :

- Knapsack is a well known problem in algorithmics
- Exhaustive search leads to algorithms that are extremely inefficient on every input
- In fact knapsack is one of the examples of NPhard problems
- No polynomial-time algorithm is known for any NP-hard problem!





• Problem Definition:

- There are n people who need to be assigned to execute n jobs, one person per job.
- The cost of assigning the *i*th person to the *j*th job is a known quantity C[i,j] for each pair $i,j=1,\ldots,n$.
- Problem is to find an assignment with smallest total cost!





- Exhaustive Search Approach:
 - Assignment problem is completely specified by its cost matrix C [i,j]
 - Example

	Job 1	Job 2	Job 3	Job 4
Person 1	9	2	7	8
Person 2	6	4	3	7
Person 3	5	8	1	8
Person 4	7	6	9	4





Exhaustive Search Approach :

- Describe n-tuples $(j_1, ..., j_n)$ in which the ith component, i=1, ..., n, indicates the column of the element selected in the ith row
- There is a one to one correspondence between feasible assignments and permutations of the first n integers
- 1. generate all permutations of integers 1,2,...,n
- 2. compute the total cost of each assignment by summing up the corresponding elements of the cost matrix
- 3. select the one with smallest sum





$$C = \begin{bmatrix} 9 & 2 & 7 & 8 \\ 6 & 4 & 3 & 7 \\ 5 & 8 & 1 & 8 \\ 7 & 6 & 9 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$<1, 2, 3, 4> cost = 9 + 4 + 1 + 4 = 18$$

$$<1, 2, 4, 3> cost = 9 + 4 + 8 + 9 = 30$$

$$<1, 3, 2, 4> cost = 9 + 3 + 8 + 4 = 24$$

$$<1, 3, 4, 2> cost = 9 + 3 + 8 + 6 = 26$$

$$<1, 4, 2, 3> cost = 9 + 7 + 8 + 9 = 33$$

$$<1, 4, 3, 2> cost = 9 + 7 + 1 + 6 = 23$$

First few iterations of solving a small instance of the assignment problem by exhaustive search





Discussion :

- The fact that the problem's domain grows exponentially (or faster) does not necessarily imply that there can be no efficient algorithm for solving it
- We will discuss them later!

Brute-Force Strengths and Weaknesses



Strengths

- wide applicability
- simplicity
- yields reasonable algorithms for some important problems (e.g., matrix multiplication, sorting, searching, string matching)

Weaknesses

- rarely yields efficient algorithms
- some brute-force algorithms are unacceptably slow
- not as constructive as some other design techniques