

The RAM Model and Runtime Analysis

COMS10018 - Algorithms

Dr Christian Konrad

Algorithms

What is an Algorithm?



Muhammad ibn
Musa al-Khwarizmi
 $\sim 780 - \sim 850$
(\approx Algorithms)

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What is an Algorithm?

- Computational procedure to solve a computational problem



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- Which individual steps can an algorithm do?

Depends on computer, programming language, ...

- How long do these steps take?

Depends on computer, compiler optimization, ...

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Models of Computation

Real Computers are complicated

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Memory hierarchy

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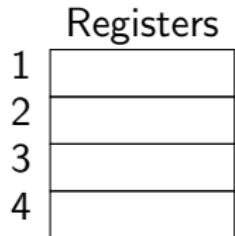
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See also:

COMS20007: Programming Languages and Computation

RAM Model

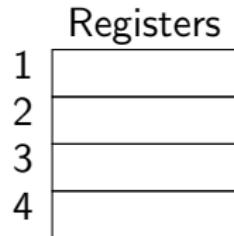
RAM Model: Random Access Machine Model



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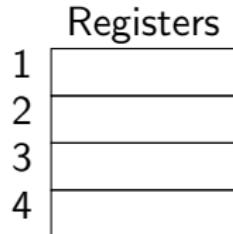
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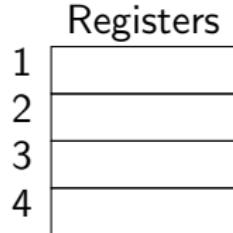
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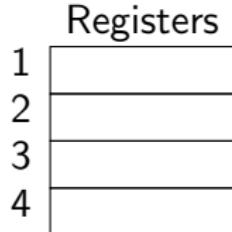
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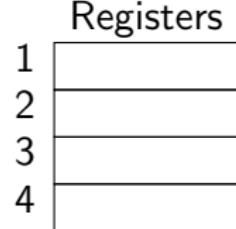
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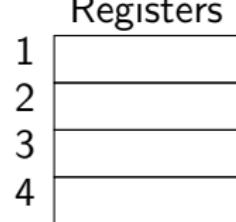
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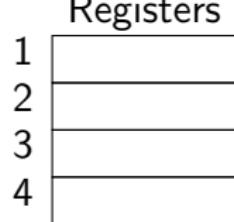
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In a single Time Step we can:

- Load a word from memory into a register
- Compute $(+, -, *, /)$, bit operations, comparisons, etc. on registers
- Move a word from register to memory



RAM Model (2)

Algorithm in the RAM Model

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Sequence of elementary operations (similar to assembler code)

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- This space is not accounted for

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Exercise: How to implement in RAM model?

Require: Array of n integers A

$S \leftarrow 0$

for $i = 0, \dots, n - 1$ **do**

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return S

Notions of Runtime

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Given a specific input X , what is the number of elementary operations of the algorithm on X ?

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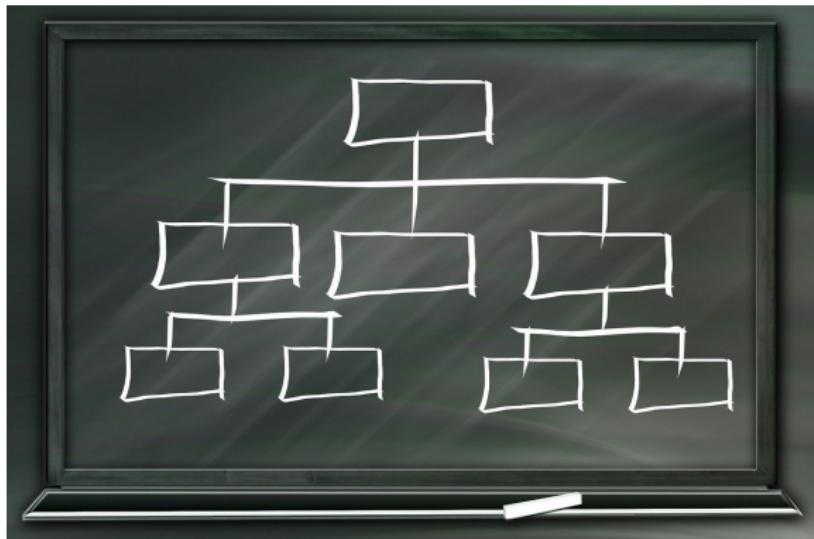
Consider the set of all inputs of length n . What is the minimum number of elementary operations executed by the algorithm when run on every input of this set?

Average-case

Consider a set of inputs (e.g. the set of all inputs of length n). What is the average number of elementary operations executed by the algorithm when run on every input of this set?

Hierarchy

Runtime Hierarchy:



Best-case = $O(\text{Average-case}) = O(\text{Worst-case})$

Runtime/Space Analysis of Algorithms

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- We would like to state and analyze our algorithms in pseudo code (or a programming language, natural language, . . .)

Solution:

- Analyze algorithm as specified in pseudo code directly
- Make sure that every instruction can be implemented in the RAM model using $O(1)$ elementary operations

Example

Require: Integer array A of length n

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s ← 0
for  $i \leftarrow 0 \dots n - 1$  do
     $s \leftarrow s + A[i]$ 
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Require: Integer array A of length n

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for  $i \leftarrow 0 \dots n - 1$  do          n times
    for  $j \leftarrow i \dots 2i$  do         $i + 1$  times
         $s \leftarrow s + A[i]$            O(1)
    return  $s$                          O(1)
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Runtime:

$$O(1) + \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} ((i+1) \cdot O(1)) + O(1)$$

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Runtime:

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```

Runtime:

$$\begin{aligned} O(1) + \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} ((i+1) \cdot O(1)) + O(1) &= O(1) + O(1) \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} (i+1) \\ &= O(1) + O(1) \sum_{i=1}^n i = O(1) + O(1) \frac{n(n+1)}{2} \\ &= O(1) + O\left(\frac{n^2}{2} + \frac{n}{2}\right) = O(1) + O(n^2) = O(n^2) . \end{aligned}$$

Example 3

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