

Review

- Class vs. Class object
- Method vs. Function
- Object-oriented programming
 - Encapsulation
 - Abstraction
 - Inheritance
 - Polymorphism
 - Computing 1 for DS covers OOP more deeply

Linear Search

Lecture 9-1

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Why Search?

- Searching is a fundamental part of programming, especially in data science
- There are **massive** amount of data in the world and you want to find data you are interested
- You should find data that you want, **efficiently**

Linear Search – Algorithm

- Find if a target value exists in a list
- To do this, search from the first item to the last item sequentially (**linear search**)
- If the target value exists, return the index where the value first occurs
- Otherwise, return -1

Linear Search – Algorithm

- Find if a target value exists in a list
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target = 4

index	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
values	5	-2	0	100	-6	7	4	9	-7	50	4	3

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Linear Search – Algorithm

- Find if a target value exists in a list
- To do this, search from the first item to the last item sequentially (**linear search**)
- If the target value exists, return the index where the value first occurs
- Otherwise, return -1

target = 4

Found!
Return 6

index	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
values	5	-2	0	100	-6	7	4	9	-7	50	4	3

Linear Search – Algorithm

- Find if a target value exists in a list
- To do this, search from the first item to the last item sequentially (**linear search**)
- If the target value exists, return the index where the value **first occurs**
- Otherwise, return -1

target = 4

*Found!
Return 6*

index	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
values	5	-2	0	100	-6	7	4	9	-7	50	4	3

Ignored...

Linear Search – Algorithm

- Find if a target value exists in a list
- To do this, search from the first item to the last item sequentially (**linear search**)
- If the target value exists, return the index where the value first occurs
- Otherwise, return -1

target = 1

index	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
values	5	-2	0	100	-6	7	4	9	-7	50	4	3

Linear Search – Algorithm

- Find if a target value exists in a list
- To do this, search from the first item to the last item sequentially (**linear search**)
- If the target value exists, return the index where the value first occurs
- Otherwise, return -1

target = 1

	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	No target! Return -1
index	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
values	5	-2	0	100	-6	7	4	9	-7	50	4	3	

Algorithm vs. Programming

Algorithm: A recipe for computers to follow (logical steps)

Program: An instruction set in programming languages for a computer to understand and put an algorithm to practice

*There can be **many different** ways to implement (program)
a **single** algorithm!*

Linear Search – Impl (1): While Loop



- `def linear_search_while(L: list, value: Any) -> int:`
- `i = 0`
- `while i < len(L) and L[i] != value:`
- `i = i + 1`
- `if i == len(L):`
- `return -1`
- `else:`
- `return i`

Linear Search – Impl (2): While Loop with Sentinel

- The while loop version needs to do $(i < \text{len}(L))$ every time
 - Because we need to know when the loop reaches the end of the list
- How can we remove this? – by using **sentinel** at the end of the list!



Linear Search – Impl (2): While Loop with Sentinel

- `def linear_search_sentinel(L: list, value: Any) -> int:`
- `L.append(value) # Add the sentinel` 
- `i = 0`
- `while L[i] != value: # This condition is enough!`
- `i = i + 1`
- `L.pop() # Remove the sentinel` 
- `if i == len(L):`
- `return -1`
- `else:`
- `return i`

Caveat

Some people do not like modifying the input list because it could be dangerous and possibly incur errors

Linear Search – Impl (3): For Loop

- `def linear_search_for(L: list, value: Any) -> int:`
- `for i in range(len(L)):`
- `if L[i] == value:`
- `return i`
- `return -1`

- Simple code, no complex conditions
- But some people dislike returning in the middle of a loop
- We have learnt three types of linear search, among which you can choose according to your taste 😊

Linear Search – Time Complexity

- How to measure time spent for an algorithm?
 - `import time`
 - `t_start = time.perf_counter()`
 - `<<Your Algorithm>>`
 - `t_end = time.perf_counter()`
 - `return (t_end - t_start) * 1000.0` # the unit becomes milliseconds

Linear Search – Time Complexity (10 M items)

- When the value is located at the end of the list, it takes more time (**linear increase**)
 - This is why the algorithm is called **linear** search!
- Built-in `list.index` is the **fastest**
 - Python program is notoriously slow since every line of code needs to pass through the Python **interpreter** at run time

Case	while	sentinel	for	list.index
First	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Middle	1261	697	515	106
Last	2673	1394	1029	212

*What if the list is **sorted**?
Can we do anything better?*

index	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
values	5	-2	0	100	-6	7	4	9	-7	50	4	3

*What if the list is **sorted**?
Can we do anything better?*

index	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
values	-7	-6	-2	0	3	4	4	5	7	9	50	100

Summary

- Linear search
 - Evaluate the **first** item and cut the **one** evaluated item
 - Time proportional to **len(L)**
 - Applicable to **any** list

Binary Search

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Binary Search – Motivation

- Linear search does work for a sorted list, but does **NOT** take advantage of the fact that it is sorted

target = 4

*Return 5
(Takes similar)*



index	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
values	-7	-6	-2	0	3	4	4	5	7	9	50	100

Binary Search – Motivation

- Linear search does work for a sorted list, but does **NOT** take advantage of the fact that it is sorted

target = 100

*Return 11
Takes very long*

index	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
values	-7	-6	-2	0	3	4	4	5	7	9	50	100

Binary Search - Idea

- Idea: Evaluate the **middle** of the sorted list and removes half of candidate entries
- Linear search: one evaluation removes **one** candidate entry
- Binary search: one evaluation removes **half** of candidate entries

index	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
values	-7	-6	-2	0	3	4	4	5	7	9	50	100

Binary Search – Algorithm

- Idea: Evaluate the **middle** of the sorted list and removes half of candidate entries
- Linear search: one evaluation removes **one** candidate entry
- Binary search: one evaluation removes **half** of candidate entries

target = 9

start = 0
end = 11

$mid = (0 + 11) // 2$
 $4 < target$



index	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
values	-7	-6	-2	0	3	4	4	5	7	9	50	100


Binary Search – Algorithm

- Idea: Evaluate the **middle** of the sorted list and removes half of candidate entries
- Linear search: one evaluation removes **one** candidate entry
- Binary search: one evaluation removes **half** of candidate entries

target = 9

$start = \underline{6}$
 $end = 11$

$mid = (0 + 11) // 2$
 $4 < target$



index	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
values	-7	-6	-2	0	3	4	4	5	7	9	50	100

Binary Search – Algorithm

- Idea: Evaluate the **middle** of the sorted list and removes half of candidate entries
- Linear search: one evaluation removes **one** candidate entry
- Binary search: one evaluation removes **half** of candidate entries

target = 9

start = 6
end = 11

$mid = (6 + 11) // 2$
 $7 < target$



index	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
values	-7	-6	-2	0	3	4	4	5	7	9	50	100

Binary Search – Algorithm

- Idea: Evaluate the **middle** of the sorted list and removes half of candidate entries
- Linear search: one evaluation removes **one** candidate entry
- Binary search: one evaluation removes **half** of candidate entries

target = 9

start = 9
end = 11

$mid = (6+11)//2$
 $7 < target$



index	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
values	-7	-6	-2	0	3	4	4	5	7	9	50	100

Binary Search – Algorithm

- Idea: Evaluate the **middle** of the sorted list and removes half of candidate entries
- Linear search: one evaluation removes **one** candidate entry
- Binary search: one evaluation removes **half** of candidate entries

target = 9

start = 9
end = 11

mid = (9+11)//2
50 >= target



index	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
values	-7	-6	-2	0	3	4	4	5	7	9	50	100

Binary Search – Algorithm

- Idea: Evaluate the **middle** of the sorted list and removes half of candidate entries
- Linear search: one evaluation removes **one** candidate entry
- Binary search: one evaluation removes **half** of candidate entries

target = 9

start = 9
end = 9

$mid = (9 + 11) // 2$
 $50 \geq target$



index	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
values	-7	-6	-2	0	3	4	4	5	7	9	50	100


Binary Search – Algorithm

- Idea: Evaluate the **middle** of the sorted list and removes half of candidate entries
- Linear search: one evaluation removes **one** candidate entry
- Binary search: one evaluation removes **half** of candidate entries

target = 9

start = 9
end = 9

mid = (9+9)//2
9 >= target



index	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
values	-7	-6	-2	0	3	4	4	5	7	9	50	100

Binary Search – Algorithm

- Idea: Evaluate the **middle** of the sorted list and removes half of candidate entries
- Linear search: one evaluation removes **one** candidate entry
- Binary search: one evaluation removes **half** of candidate entries

target = 9

start = 9
end = 8

Cannot proceed further!

*If there is target in L,
L[start] must be the target!*



index	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
values	-7	-6	-2	0	3	4	4	5	7	9	50	100

Binary Search – Code

- `def binary_search(L: list, v: Any) -> int:`
- `start, end = 0, len(L) - 1`
- `while start != end + 1:`
- `mid = (start+end) // 2`
- `if L[mid] < v:`
- `start = mid + 1`
- `else:`
- `end = mid - 1`
- `if start < len(L) and L[start] == v:`
- `return start`
- `else:`
- `return -1`

Binary Search – Time Complexity (10 M items)

- Linear search
 - Time delay is proportional to $\text{len}(L)$
- Binary search
 - Time delay is proportional to $\log_2^{\text{len}(L)}$
- A good example why **sorting** is useful!
 - But remember that sorting is **NOT** free either. It also takes non-negligible time...

Case	list.index	binary_search
First	0.007	0.02
Middle	105	0.02
Last	211	0.02 (WoW!)

Summary

- Binary search
 - Evaluate the **middle** item and cut the **half**
 - Time proportional to $\log_2^{len(L)}$
 - Applicable to a **sorted** list

Thanks!