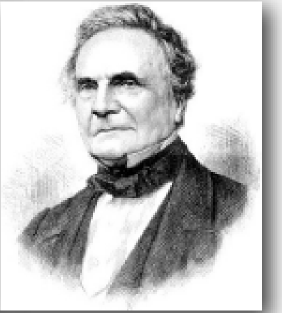
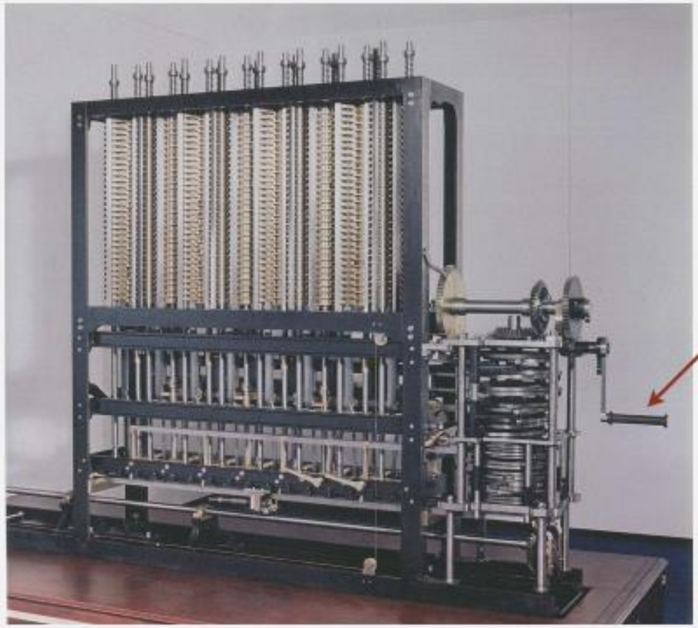
ANALYSIS OF ALGORITHMS

Running time

" As soon as an Analytic Engine exists, it will necessarily guide the future course of the science. Whenever any result is sought by its aid, the question will arise—By what course of calculation can these results be arrived at by the machine in the shortest time? " — *Charles Babbage (1864)*





how many times do you have to turn the crank?

Analytic Engine

Reasons to analyze algorithms

This course

Theory of algorithms

Predict performance

Compare algorithms

Provide guarantees

Understand theoretical basis

Primary practical reason: avoid performance bugs.

Observations

3-SUM. Given N distinct integers, how many triples sum to exactly zero?

```
% more 8ints.txt
8
30 -40 -20 -10 40 0 10 5

% java ThreeSum 8ints.txt
4
```

	a[i]	a[j]	a[k]	sum
1	30	-40	10	0
2	30	-20	-10	0
3	-40	40	0	0
4	-10	0	10	0

3-Sum: brute force

```
public class ThreeSum
{
   public static int count(int[] a)
   {
      int N = a.length;
      int count = 0;
      for (int i = 0; i < N; i++)
         for (int j = i+1; j < N; j++)
            for (int k = j+1; k < N; k++)
               if (a[i] + a[j] + a[k] == 0)
                  count++;
      return count;
   }

   public static void main(String[] args)
   {
      int[] a = In.readInts(args[0]);
      StdOut.println(count(a));
   }
}
```

check each triple

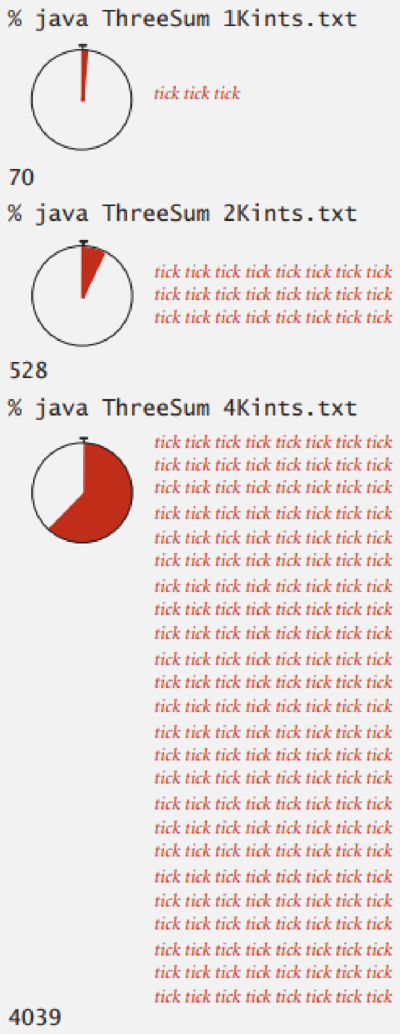
for simplicity, ignore integer overflow

Measuring the running time

Q. How to time a program?

A. Manual.

```
public static void main(String[] args)
{
   int[] a = In.readInts(args[0]);
   Stopwatch stopwatch = new Stopwatch();
   StdOut.println(ThreeSum.count(a));
   double time = stopwatch.elapsedTime();
}
```



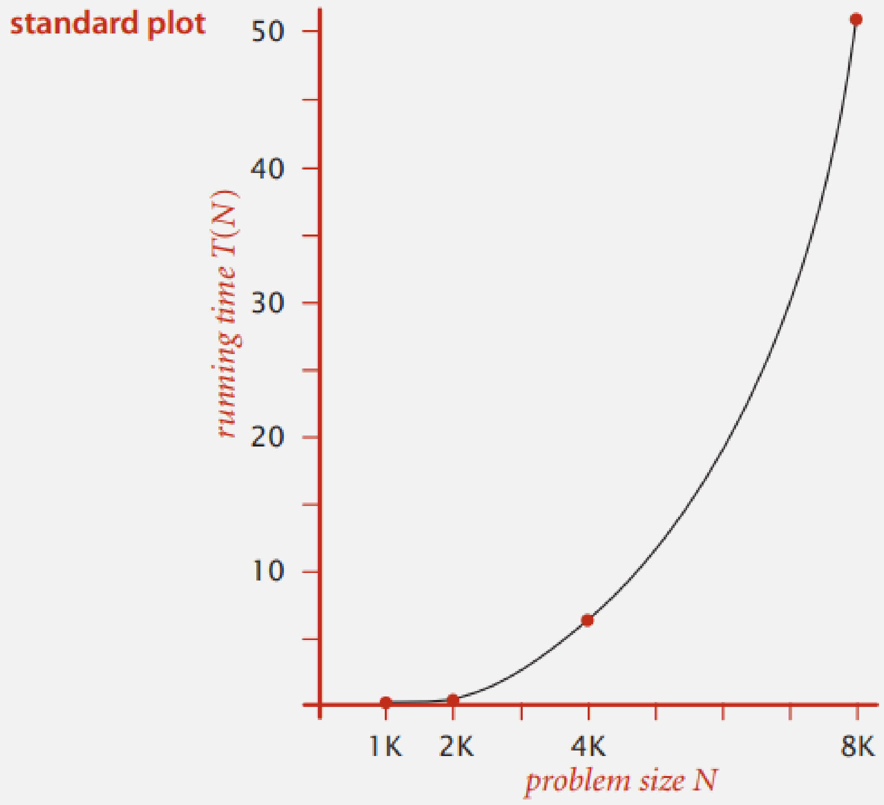
Empirical analysis

Run the program for various input sizes and measure running time.

N	time (seconds) †
250	0.0
500	0.0
1,000	0.1
2,000	0.8
4,000	6.4
8,000	51.1
16,000	?

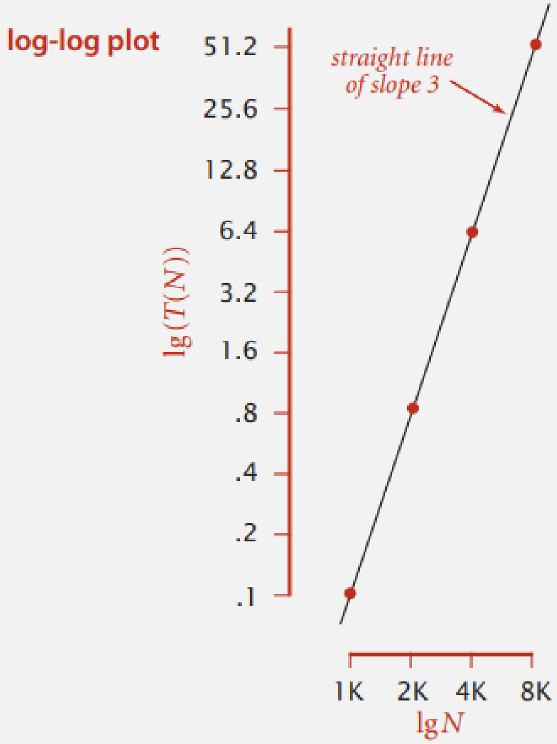
Data analysis

Standard plot. Plot running time *T (N)* vs. input size *N*.



Data analysis

Log-log plot. Plot running time T (N) vs. input size N using log-log scale



$\lg(T(N)) = b \lg N + c$
$b = 2.999$
$c = -33.2103$

$T(N) = a N^b$, where $a = 2^c$

Regression. Fit straight line through data points: aN^b.
Hypothesis. The running time is about $1.006 \times 10^{-10} \times N^{2.999}$ seconds.

Data analysis

Hypothesis. The running time is about $1.006 \times 10^{-10} \times N^{2.999}$ seconds.

Predictions.

- 51.0 seconds for N = 8,000.
- 408.1 seconds for N = 16,000.

Observations.

N	time (seconds) †
8,000	51.1
8,000	51.0
8,000	51.1
16,000	410.8

validates hypothesis!

Experimental algorithmics

System independent effects.

- Algorithm.
- Input data.

System dependent effects.

- Hardware: CPU, memory, cache, …
- Software: compiler, interpreter, garbage collector, …
- System: operating system, network, other apps, …

Bad news. Difficult to get precise measurements.

Good news. Much easier and cheaper than other sciences

Mathematical models for running time

Total running time: sum of cost × frequency for all operations.

- Need to analyze program to determine set of operations.
- Cost depends on machine, compiler.
- Frequency depends on algorithm, input data

Cost of basic operations

operation	example	nanoseconds †
integer add	`a + b`	2.1
integer multiply	`a * b`	2.4
integer divide	`a / b`	5.4
floating-point add	`a + b`	4.6
floating-point multiply	`a * b`	4.2
floating-point divide	`a / b`	13.5
sine	`Math.sin(theta)`	91.3
arctangent	`Math.atan2(y, x)`	129.0
...	...	...

Cost of basic operations

operation	example	nanoseconds †
variable declaration	`int a`	c_1
assignment statement	`a = b`	c_2
integer compare	`a < b`	c_3
array element access	`a[i]`	c_4
array length	`a.length`	c_5
1D array allocation	`new int[N]`	$c_6 N$
2D array allocation	`new int[N][N]`	$c_7 N^2$
string length	`s.length()`	c_8
substring extraction	`s.substring(N/2, N)`	c_9
string concatenation	`s + t`	$c_{10} N$

Example: 1-Sum

Q. How many instructions as a function of input size N ?

```
int count = 0;
for (int i = 0; i < N; i++)
   if (a[i] == 0)
      count++;
```

operation	frequency
variable declaration	2
assignment statement	2
less than compare	N + 1
equal to compare	N
array access	N
increment	N to 2 N

Example: 2-Sum

Q. How many instructions as a function of input size N ?

```
int count = 0;
for (int i = 0; i < N; i++)
   for (int j = i+1; j < N; j++)
      if (a[i] + a[j] == 0)
         count++;
```

$$0 + 1 + 2 + \ldots + (N-1) \quad = \quad \frac{1}{2} N\,(N-1)$$

operation	frequency
variable declaration	N + 2
assignment statement	N + 2
less than compare	½ (N + 1) (N + 2)
equal to compare	½ N (N − 1)
array access	N (N − 1)
increment	½ N (N − 1) to N (N − 1)

Simplifying the calculations

" It is convenient to have a measure of the amount of work involved in a computing process, even though it be a very crude one. We may count up the number of times that various elementary operations are applied in the whole process and then given them various weights. We might, for instance, count the number of additions, subtractions, multiplications, divisions, recording of numbers, and extractions of figures from tables. In the case of computing with matrices most of the work consists of multiplications and writing down numbers, and we shall therefore only attempt to count the number of multiplications and recordings. " — *Alan Turing*

ROUNDING-OFF ERRORS IN MATRIX PROCESSES

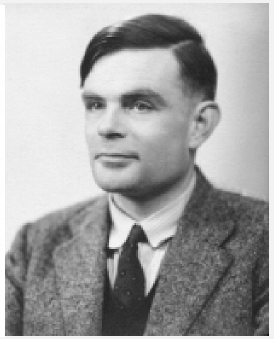
By A. M. TURING

(*National Physical Laboratory, Teddington, Middlesex*)

[Received 4 November 1947]

SUMMARY

A number of methods of solving sets of linear equations and inverting matrices are discussed. The theory of the rounding-off errors involved is investigated for some of the methods. In all cases examined, including the well-known 'Gauss elimination process', it is found that the errors are normally quite moderate: no exponential build-up need occur.



Simplification 1: cost model

```
int count = 0;
for (int i = 0; i < N; i++)
   for (int j = i+1; j < N; j++)
      if (a[i] + a[j] == 0)
         count++;
```

$$0 + 1 + 2 + \ldots + (N-1) \;=\; \frac{1}{2} N (N-1)$$

operation	frequency
variable declaration	N + 2
assignment statement	N + 2
less than compare	½ (N + 1) (N + 2)
equal to compare	½ N (N – 1)
array access	N (N – 1)
increment	½ N (N – 1) to N (N – 1)

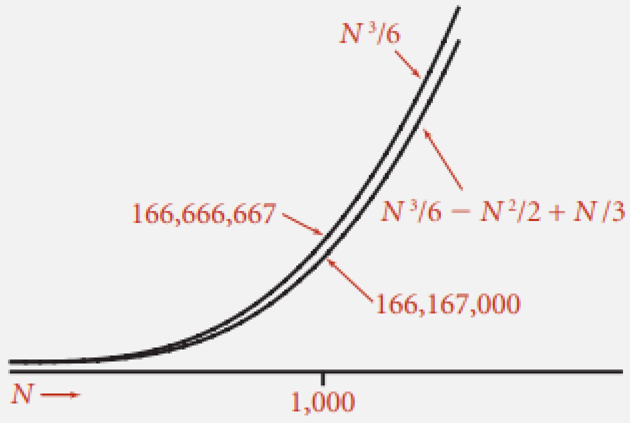
Simplification 2: tilde notation

- Estimate running time (or memory) as a function of input size N.
- Ignore lower order terms.
  - when N is large, terms are negligible
  - when N is small, we don't care

Ex 1. $\frac{1}{6}N^3 + 20N + 16 \sim \frac{1}{6}N^3$

Ex 2. $\frac{1}{6}N^3 + 100N^{\frac{4}{3}} + 56 \sim \frac{1}{6}N^3$

Ex 3. $\frac{1}{6}N^3 - \frac{1}{2}N^2 + \frac{1}{3}N \sim \frac{1}{6}N^3$



Leading-term approximation

Technical definition. $f(N) \sim g(N)$ means $\lim_{N\to\infty} \frac{f(N)}{g(N)} = 1$

Simplification 2: tilde notation

operation	frequency	tilde notation
variable declaration	$N + 2$	$\sim N$
assignment statement	$N + 2$	$\sim N$
less than compare	$\frac{1}{2} (N + 1) (N + 2)$	$\sim \frac{1}{2} N^2$
equal to compare	$\frac{1}{2} N (N - 1)$	$\sim \frac{1}{2} N^2$
array access	$N (N - 1)$	$\sim N^2$
increment	$\frac{1}{2} N (N - 1)$ to $N (N - 1)$	$\sim \frac{1}{2} N^2$ to $\sim N^2$

Example: 2-Sum

Q. Approximately how many array accesses as a function of input size *N* ?

```
int count = 0;
for (int i = 0; i < N; i++)
   for (int j = i+1; j < N; j++)
      if (a[i] + a[j] == 0)
         count++;
```

"inner loop"

A. $\sim N^2$ array accesses.

Example: 3-Sum

Q. Approximately how many array accesses as a function of input size *N* ?

```
int count = 0;
for (int i = 0; i < N; i++)
   for (int j = i+1; j < N; j++)
      for (int k = j+1; k < N; k++)
         if (a[i] + a[j] + a[k] == 0)
            count++;
```

"inner loop"

$$\binom{N}{3} = \frac{N(N-1)(N-2)}{3!}$$

A. $\sim N^2$ array accesses.

Estimating a discrete sum

Q. How to estimate a discrete sum?

A1. Take discrete mathematics course.

A2. Replace the sum with an integral, and use calculus!

Ex 1. $1 + 2 + \ldots + N.$

$$\sum_{i=1}^{N} i \sim \int_{x=1}^{N} x\,dx \sim \frac{1}{2} N^2$$

Ex 2. $1^k + 2^k + \ldots + N^k.$

$$\sum_{i=1}^{N} i^k \sim \int_{x=1}^{N} x^k dx \sim \frac{1}{k+1} N^{k+1}$$

Ex 3. $1 + 1/2 + 1/3 + \ldots + 1/N.$

$$\sum_{i=1}^{N} \frac{1}{i} \sim \int_{x=1}^{N} \frac{1}{x} dx = \ln N$$

Ex 4. 3-sum triple loop.

$$\sum_{i=1}^{N} \sum_{j=i}^{N} \sum_{k=j}^{N} 1 \sim \int_{x=1}^{N} \int_{y=x}^{N} \int_{z=y}^{N} dz\,dy\,dx \sim \frac{1}{6} N^3$$

Mathematical models for running time

In principle, accurate mathematical models are available.

In practice,

- Formulas can be complicated.
- Advanced mathematics might be required.
- Exact models best left for experts.

costs (depend on machine, compiler)

$$T_N = c_1 A + c_2 B + c_3 C + c_4 D + c_5 E$$

$A =$ array access
$B =$ integer add
$C =$ integer compare
$D =$ increment
$E =$ variable assignment

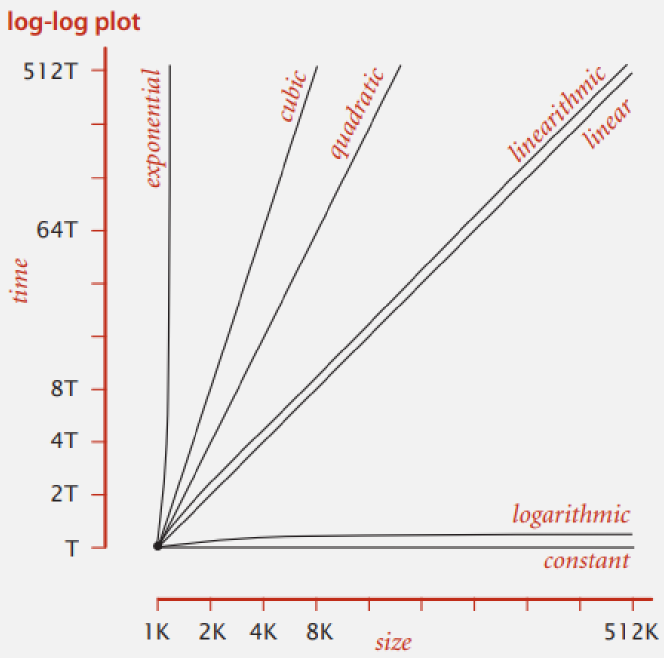
frequencies
(depend on algorithm, input)

Common order-of-growth classifications

Good news. The small set of functions

$$1,\ \ \log N,\ \ N,\ \ N\log N,\ \ N^2,\ \ N^3,\ \ and\ 2^N$$

suffices to describe order-of-growth of typical algorithms.



Typical orders of growth

Common order-of-growth classifications

order of growth	name	typical code framework	description	example	T(2N) / T(N)
1	constant	`a = b + c;`	statement	add two numbers	1
$\log N$	logarithmic	`while (N > 1)` `{ N = N / 2; ... }`	divide in half	binary search	~ 1
N	linear	`for (int i = 0; i < N; i++)` `{ ... }`	loop	find the maximum	2
$N \log N$	linearithmic	[see mergesort lecture]	divide and conquer	mergesort	~ 2

N^2	quadratic	`for (int i = 0; i < N; i++)`
		`for (int j = 0; j < N; j++)`
		`{ ... }`
			double loop	check all pairs	4

N^3	cubic	`for (int i = 0; i < N; i++)`
		`for (int j = 0; j < N; j++)`
		`for (int k = 0; k < N; k++)`
		`{ ... }`
			triple loop	check all triples	8

2^N	exponential	[see combinatorial search lecture]	exhaustive search	check all subsets	T(N)

Practical implications of order-of-growth

growth rate	problem size solvable in minutes			
	1970s	1980s	1990s	2000s
1	any	any	any	any
log N	any	any	any	any
N	millions	tens of millions	hundreds of millions	billions
N log N	hundreds of thousands	millions	millions	hundreds of millions
N^2	hundreds	thousand	thousands	tens of thousands
N^3	hundred	hundreds	thousand	thousands
2^N	20	20s	20s	30

An $N^2 \log N$ algorithm for 3-Sum

An $N^2\log N$ algorithm for 3-Sum

Sorting-based algorithm.

- Step 1: Sort the N (distinct) numbers.
- Step 2: For each pair of numbers $a[i]$ and $a[j]$, binary search for $-(a[i]\ +\ a[j])$.

Analysis. Order of growth is $N^2\log N$.

- Step 1: N^2 with insertion sort.
- Step 2: $N^2\log N$ with binary search.

input

30 -40 -20 -10 40 0 10 5

sort

-40 -20 -10 0 5 10 30 40

binary search

(-40, -20) 60

(-40, -10) 50

(-40, 0) 40

(-40, 5) 35

(-40, 10) 30

⋮ ⋮

(-40, 40) ~~0~~

⋮ ⋮

(-20, -10) 30

⋮ ⋮

(-10, 0) 10

⋮ ⋮

(10, 30) ~~-40~~

(10, 40) -50

(30, 40) -70

only count if a[i] < a[j] < a[k] to avoid double counting

Comparing programs

N	time (seconds)
1,000	0.1
2,000	0.8
4,000	6.4
8,000	51.1

ThreeSum.java

N	time (seconds)
1,000	0.14
2,000	0.18
4,000	0.34
8,000	0.96
16,000	3.67
32,000	14.88
64,000	59.16

ThreeSumDeluxe.java

Types of analyses

Best case. Lower bound on cost.

- Determined by "easiest" input.
- Provides a goal for all inputs.

Worst case. Upper bound on cost.

- Determined by "most difficult" input.
- Provides a guarantee for all inputs.

Average case. Expected cost for random input.

- Need a model for "random" input.
- Provides a way to predict performance.

Ex 1. Array accesses for brute-force 3-SUM.

Best: $\sim \frac{1}{2} N^3$

Average: $\sim \frac{1}{2} N^3$

Worst: $\sim \frac{1}{2} N^3$

Ex 2. Compares for binary search.

Best: ~ 1

Average: $\sim \lg N$

Worst: $\sim \lg N$

Types of analyses

Best case. Lower bound on cost.

Worst case. Upper bound on cost.

Average case. “Expected” cost.

Actual data might not match input model?

- Need to understand input to effectively process it.
- Approach 1: design for the worst case.
- Approach 2: randomize, depend on probabilistic guarantee.

Commonly-used notations in the theory of algorithms

notation	provides	example	shorthand for	used to
Big Theta	asymptotic order of growth	$\Theta(N^2)$	$\frac{1}{2} N^2$ $10 N^2$ $5 N^2 + 22 N \log N + 3N$ $\vdots$	classify algorithms
Big Oh	$\Theta(N^2)$ and smaller	$O(N^2)$	$10 N^2$ $100 N$ $22 N \log N + 3 N$ $\vdots$	develop upper bounds
Big Omega	$\Theta(N^2)$ and larger	$\Omega(N^2)$	$\frac{1}{2} N^2$ N^5 $N^3 + 22 N \log N + 3 N$ $\vdots$	develop lower bounds

Theory of algorithms: example 1

Goals.

- Establish "difficulty" of a problem and develop "optimal" algorithms.
- Ex. 1-SUM = "*Is there a* 0 *in the array?*"

Upper bound. A specific algorithm.

- Ex. Brute-force algorithm for 1-SUM: Look at every array entry.
- Running time of the optimal algorithm for 1-SUM is $O(N)$.

Lower bound. Proof that no algorithm can do better.

- Ex. Have to examine all N entries (any unexamined one might be 0).
- Running time of the optimal algorithm for 1-SUM is $\Omega(N)$.

Optimal algorithm.

- Lower bound equals upper bound (to within a constant factor).
- Ex. Brute-force algorithm for 1-SUM is optimal: its running time is $\Theta(N)$.

Theory of algorithms: example 2

Goals.

- Establish "difficulty" of a problem and develop "optimal" algorithms.
- Ex. 3-SUM.

Upper bound. A specific algorithm.

- Ex. Brute-force algorithm for 3-SUM.
- Running time of the optimal algorithm for 3-SUM is $O(N^3)$.

Theory of algorithms: example 2

Goals.

- Establish "difficulty" of a problem and develop "optimal" algorithms.
- Ex. 3-SUM.

Upper bound. A specific algorithm.

- Ex. Improved algorithm for 3-SUM.
- Running time of the optimal algorithm for 3-SUM is $O(N^2 \log N)$.

Lower bound. Proof that no algorithm can do better.

- Ex. Have to examine all N entries to solve 3-SUM.
- Running time of the optimal algorithm for solving 3-SUM is $\Omega(N)$.

Open problems.

- Optimal algorithm for 3-SUM?
- Subquadratic algorithm for 3-SUM?
- Quadratic lower bound for 3-SUM?

Algorithm design approach

Start.

- Develop an algorithm.
- Prove a lower bound.

Gap?

- Lower the upper bound (discover a new algorithm).
- Raise the lower bound (more difficult).

Golden Age of Algorithm Design.

- 1970s–.
- Steadily decreasing upper bounds for many important problems.
- Many known optimal algorithms.

Caveats.

- Overly pessimistic to focus on worst case?
- Need better than "to within a constant factor" to predict performance.

Memory basics

Bit. 0 or 1.

Byte. 8 bits.

NIST — most computer scientists

Megabyte (MB). 1 million or 2^{20} bytes.

Gigabyte (GB). 1 billion or 2^{30} bytes.

64-bit machine. We assume a 64-bit machine with 8 byte pointers.

- Can address more memory.
- Pointers use more space.

some JVMs "compress" ordinary object pointers to 4 bytes to avoid this cost

Typical memory usage for primitive types and arrays

type	bytes
boolean	1
byte	1
char	2
int	4
float	4
long	8
double	8

for primitive types

type	bytes
char[]	$2N + 24$
int[]	$4N + 24$
double[]	$8N + 24$

for one-dimensional arrays

type	bytes
char[][]	$\sim 2 M N$
int[][]	$\sim 4 M N$
double[][]	$\sim 8 M N$

for two-dimensional arrays

Typical memory usage for objects in Java

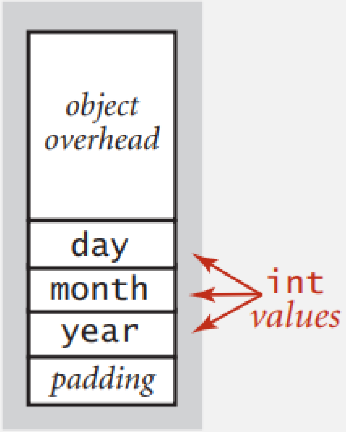
Object overhead. 16 bytes.

Reference. 8 bytes.

Padding. Each object uses a multiple of 8 bytes.

Ex 1. A `Date` object uses 32 bytes of memory.

```
public class Date
{
   private int day;
   private int month;
   private int year;
...
}
```



16 bytes (object overhead)

4 bytes (int)

4 bytes (int)

4 bytes (int)

4 bytes (padding)

32 bytes

Typical memory usage for objects in Java

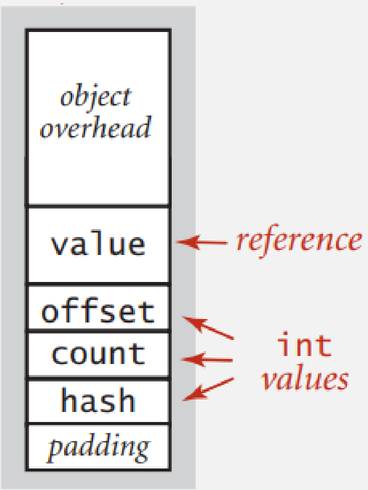
Object overhead. 16 bytes.

Reference. 8 bytes.

Padding. Each object uses a multiple of 8 bytes.

Ex 2. A virgin `String` of length N uses $\sim 2N$ bytes of memory.

```
public class String
{
   private char[] value;
   private int offset;
   private int count;
   private int hash;
...
}
```



16 bytes (object overhead)

8 bytes (reference to array)
2N + 24 bytes (char[] array)

4 bytes (int)

4 bytes (int)

4 bytes (int)

4 bytes (padding)

2N + 64 bytes

Typical memory usage summary

Total memory usage for a data type value:

- Primitive type: 4 bytes for int, 8 bytes for double, …
- Object reference: 8 bytes.
- Array: 24 bytes + memory for each array entry.
- Object: 16 bytes + memory for each instance variable + 8 bytes if inner class (for pointer to enclosing class).
- Padding: round up to multiple of 8 bytes.

Shallow memory usage: Don't count referenced objects.

Deep memory usage: If array entry or instance variable is a reference, add memory (recursively) for referenced object.

Example

Q. How much memory does *WeightedQuickUnionUF* use as a function of N ? Use tilde notation to simplify your answer.

```
public class WeightedQuickUnionUF
{
   private int[] id;
   private int[] sz;
   private int count;

   public WeightedQuickUnionUF(int N)
   {
      id = new int[N];
      sz = new int[N];
      for (int i = 0; i < N; i++) id[i] = i;
      for (int i = 0; i < N; i++) sz[i] = 1;
   }
   ...
}
```

16 bytes (object overhead)

8 + (4N + 24) each reference + int[] array

4 bytes (int)

4 bytes (padding)

A. 8 N + 88 ~ 8 N bytes.