

# COMP90038

# Algorithms and Complexity

Lecture 14: Transform-and-Conquer  
(with thanks to Harald Søndergaard & Michael Kirley)

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# On the previous lecture

- We talked about priority queues, heaps and heapsort
- A **priority queue** is a **set** of elements, each containing a **priority** value. Elements with **higher (lower)** priorities are **ejected** first.
- A **heap** is structured as a **complete binary tree** that satisfies the **condition**:

**Each child has a priority which is no greater (lesser) than its parent's**

- **Heapsort** is a sorting algorithm that uses repeatedly ejects elements from the heap, and then it restores it

# Today's lecture

- **Transform-and-Conquer** is a group of design techniques that:
  - **Modify** the problem to a more **amenable** form, and then
  - **Solve** it using a **known efficient** algorithm
- There are three major variations
  - Instance simplification
  - Representational change
  - Problem reduction

# Transform-and-conquer


- In **instance simplification** we try to make the problem **easier** through some type of **pre-processing**, typically **sorting**
- In **representation change** we use a different data structure with better properties
  - An **unsorted array** is reorganized as a **heap**
- In **problem reduction** we solve the instance **as if it was a different problem**
  - We will talk more about this on **week 11**

# Instance simplification

- Let's examine two problems in which **pre-sorting** the data significantly reduces complexity:
  - **Uniqueness checking**, i.e., given an unsorted array  $A[0] \dots A[n-1]$ , is  $A[i] \neq A[j]$  whenever  $i \neq j$ ?
  - **Finding the mode**, i.e., the element which occurs most frequently in a data set

# Uniqueness checking


- The obvious answer to this problem is a brute force approach

**1**  **for**  $i \leftarrow 0$  to  $n - 2$  **do**  
    **for**  $j \leftarrow i + 1$  to  $n - 1$  **do**  
        **if**  $A[i] = A[j]$  **then**  
            **return** FALSE  
**return** TRUE

| Memory state (1) |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| $A[0, \dots, 7]$ | [2 9 8 6 9 5 7 3] |
| $n$              | 8                 |
| $i$              | 0                 |
| $j$              |                   |
| $A[i]$           | 2                 |
| $A[j]$           |                   |
| $A[i] = A[j]$    |                   |

# Uniqueness checking


- The obvious answer to this problem is a brute force approach

**2**  **for**  $i \leftarrow 0$  to  $n - 2$  **do**  
    **for**  $j \leftarrow i + 1$  to  $n - 1$  **do**  
        **if**  $A[i] = A[j]$  **then**  
            **return** FALSE  
**return** TRUE

| Memory state (2) |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| $A[0, \dots, 7]$ | [2 9 8 6 9 5 7 3] |
| $n$              | 8                 |
| $i$              | 0                 |
| $j$              | 1                 |
| $A[i]$           | 2                 |
| $A[j]$           | 9                 |
| $A[i] = A[j]$    |                   |

# Uniqueness checking

- The obvious answer to this problem is a brute force approach


**3**  **for**  $i \leftarrow 0$  to  $n - 2$  **do**  
    **for**  $j \leftarrow i + 1$  to  $n - 1$  **do**  
        **if**  $A[i] = A[j]$  **then**  
            **return** FALSE  
**return** TRUE

| Memory state (3) |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| $A[0, \dots, 7]$ | [2 9 8 6 9 5 7 3] |
| $n$              | 8                 |
| $i$              | 0                 |
| $j$              | 1                 |
| $A[i]$           | 2                 |
| $A[j]$           | 9                 |
| $A[i] = A[j]$    | FALSE             |



# Uniqueness checking


- The obvious answer to this problem is a brute force approach

**4**  **for**  $i \leftarrow 0$  to  $n - 2$  **do**  
    **for**  $j \leftarrow i + 1$  to  $n - 1$  **do**  
        **if**  $A[i] = A[j]$  **then**  
            **return** FALSE  
**return** TRUE

| Memory state (4) |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| $A[0, \dots, 7]$ | [2 9 8 6 9 5 7 3] |
| $n$              | 8                 |
| $i$              | 0                 |
| $j$              | <b>2</b>          |
| $A[i]$           | 2                 |
| $A[j]$           | <b>8</b>          |
| $A[i] = A[j]$    | FALSE             |

# Uniqueness checking


- The obvious answer to this problem is a brute force approach

5  **for**  $i \leftarrow 0$  to  $n - 2$  **do**  
    **for**  $j \leftarrow i + 1$  to  $n - 1$  **do**  
        **if**  $A[i] = A[j]$  **then**  
            **return** FALSE  
**return** TRUE

| Memory state (5) |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| $A[0, \dots, 7]$ | [2 9 8 6 9 5 7 3] |
| $n$              | 8                 |
| $i$              | 0                 |
| $j$              | <b>3</b>          |
| $A[i]$           | 2                 |
| $A[j]$           | <b>6</b>          |
| $A[i] = A[j]$    | FALSE             |

# Uniqueness checking

- The obvious answer to this problem is a brute force approach


6 

```
for  $i \leftarrow 0$  to  $n - 2$  do
  for  $j \leftarrow i + 1$  to  $n - 1$  do
    if  $A[i] = A[j]$  then
      return FALSE
return TRUE
```

| Memory state (6) |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| $A[0, \dots, 7]$ | [2 9 8 6 9 5 7 3] |
| $n$              | 8                 |
| $i$              | 0                 |
| $j$              | 4                 |
| $A[i]$           | 2                 |
| $A[j]$           | 9                 |
| $A[i] = A[j]$    | FALSE             |

# Uniqueness checking


- The obvious answer to this problem is a brute force approach

**7**  **for**  $i \leftarrow 0$  to  $n - 2$  **do**  
    **for**  $j \leftarrow i + 1$  to  $n - 1$  **do**  
        **if**  $A[i] = A[j]$  **then**  
            **return** FALSE  
**return** TRUE

| Memory state (7) |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| $A[0, \dots, 7]$ | [2 9 8 6 9 5 7 3] |
| $n$              | 8                 |
| $i$              | 0                 |
| $j$              | <b>5</b>          |
| $A[i]$           | 2                 |
| $A[j]$           | <b>5</b>          |
| $A[i] = A[j]$    | FALSE             |

# Uniqueness checking


- The obvious answer to this problem is a brute force approach

**8**  **for**  $i \leftarrow 0$  to  $n - 2$  **do**  
    **for**  $j \leftarrow i + 1$  to  $n - 1$  **do**  
        **if**  $A[i] = A[j]$  **then**  
            **return** FALSE  
**return** TRUE

| Memory state (8) |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| $A[0, \dots, 7]$ | [2 9 8 6 9 5 7 3] |
| $n$              | 8                 |
| $i$              | 0                 |
| $j$              | <b>6</b>          |
| $A[i]$           | 2                 |
| $A[j]$           | <b>7</b>          |
| $A[i] = A[j]$    | FALSE             |

# Uniqueness checking

- The obvious answer to this problem is a brute force approach


9 

```
for  $i \leftarrow 0$  to  $n - 2$  do
  for  $j \leftarrow i + 1$  to  $n - 1$  do
    if  $A[i] = A[j]$  then
      return FALSE
return TRUE
```

| Memory state (9) |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| $A[0, \dots, 7]$ | [2 9 8 6 9 5 7 3] |
| $n$              | 8                 |
| $i$              | 0                 |
| $j$              | <b>7</b>          |
| $A[i]$           | 2                 |
| $A[j]$           | <b>3</b>          |
| $A[i] = A[j]$    | FALSE             |

# Uniqueness checking


- The obvious answer to this problem is a brute force approach

**10**  **for**  $i \leftarrow 0$  to  $n - 2$  **do**  
    **for**  $j \leftarrow i + 1$  to  $n - 1$  **do**  
        **if**  $A[i] = A[j]$  **then**  
            **return** FALSE  
**return** TRUE

| Memory state (10) |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| $A[0, \dots, 7]$  | [2 9 8 6 9 5 7 3] |
| $n$               | 8                 |
| $i$               | 1                 |
| $j$               | 2                 |
| $A[i]$            | 9                 |
| $A[j]$            | 8                 |
| $A[i] = A[j]$     | FALSE             |

# Uniqueness checking

- The obvious answer to this problem is a brute force approach

**11**  **for**  $i \leftarrow 0$  to  $n - 2$  **do**  
    **for**  $j \leftarrow i + 1$  to  $n - 1$  **do**  
        **if**  $A[i] = A[j]$  **then**  
            **return** FALSE  
**return** TRUE

| Memory state (11) |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| $A[0, \dots, 7]$  | [2 9 8 6 9 5 7 3] |
| $n$               | 8                 |
| $i$               | 1                 |
| $j$               | <b>3</b>          |
| $A[i]$            | 9                 |
| $A[j]$            | <b>6</b>          |
| $A[i] = A[j]$     | FALSE             |



# Uniqueness checking

- The obvious answer to this problem is a brute force approach

```
for  $i \leftarrow 0$  to  $n - 2$  do
  for  $j \leftarrow i + 1$  to  $n - 1$  do
    if  $A[i] = A[j]$  then
      return FALSE
return TRUE
```

12 →

| Memory state (12) |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| $A[0, \dots, 7]$  | [2 9 8 6 9 5 7 3] |
| $n$               | 8                 |
| $i$               | 1                 |
| $j$               | 4                 |
| $A[i]$            | 9                 |
| $A[j]$            | 9                 |
| $A[i] = A[j]$     | TRUE              |

# Uniqueness checking

- The obvious answer to this problem is a brute force approach

```
for  $i \leftarrow 0$  to  $n - 2$  do
  for  $j \leftarrow i + 1$  to  $n - 1$  do
    if  $A[i] = A[j]$  then
      return FALSE
return TRUE
```

| Memory state (12) |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| $A[0, \dots, 7]$  | [2 9 8 6 9 5 7 3] |
| $n$               | 8                 |
| $i$               | 1                 |
| $j$               | 4                 |
| $A[i]$            | 9                 |
| $A[j]$            | 9                 |
| $A[i] = A[j]$     | TRUE              |

- The complexity of this approach is  $O(n^2)$


# Uniqueness checking

- Let's examine a pre-sorting approach

```
MERGESORT( $A, n$ )  
for  $i \leftarrow 0$  to  $n - 2$  do  
    if  $A[i] = A[i + 1]$  then  
        return FALSE  
return TRUE
```

# Uniqueness checking

- Let's examine a pre-sorting approach

**1**  MERGESORT( $A, n$ )  
  **for**  $i \leftarrow 0$  **to**  $n - 2$  **do**  
    **if**  $A[i] = A[i + 1]$  **then**  
      **return** FALSE  
  **return** TRUE

| Memory state (1)  |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| $A[0, \dots, 7]$  | [2 9 8 6 9 5 7 3] |
| $n$               | 8                 |
| $i$               |                   |
| $A[i]$            |                   |
| $A[i + 1]$        |                   |
| $A[i] = A[i + 1]$ |                   |

# Uniqueness checking

- Let's examine a pre-sorting approach


2 →

```
MERGESORT( $A, n$ )  
  for  $i \leftarrow 0$  to  $n - 2$  do  
    if  $A[i] = A[i + 1]$  then  
      return FALSE  
  return TRUE
```

| Memory state (2)  |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| $A[0, \dots, 7]$  | [2 3 5 6 7 8 9 9] |
| $n$               | 8                 |
| $i$               | 0                 |
| $A[i]$            |                   |
| $A[i + 1]$        |                   |
| $A[i] = A[i + 1]$ |                   |

# Uniqueness checking


- Let's examine a pre-sorting approach

**3**  MERGESORT( $A, n$ )  
  **for**  $i \leftarrow 0$  **to**  $n - 2$  **do**  
    **if**  $A[i] = A[i + 1]$  **then**  
      **return** FALSE  
  **return** TRUE

| Memory state (3)  |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| $A[0, \dots, 7]$  | [2 3 5 6 7 8 9 9] |
| $n$               | 8                 |
| $i$               | 0                 |
| $A[i]$            | <b>2</b>          |
| $A[i + 1]$        | <b>3</b>          |
| $A[i] = A[i + 1]$ | FALSE             |

# Uniqueness checking


- Let's examine a pre-sorting approach

**4**  MERGESORT( $A, n$ )  
  **for**  $i \leftarrow 0$  **to**  $n - 2$  **do**  
    **if**  $A[i] = A[i + 1]$  **then**  
      **return** FALSE  
  **return** TRUE

| Memory state (4)  |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| $A[0, \dots, 7]$  | [2 3 5 6 7 8 9 9] |
| $n$               | 8                 |
| $i$               | <b>1</b>          |
| $A[i]$            | <b>3</b>          |
| $A[i + 1]$        | <b>5</b>          |
| $A[i] = A[i + 1]$ | FALSE             |

# Uniqueness checking

- Let's examine a pre-sorting approach


**5**  MERGESORT( $A, n$ )  
  **for**  $i \leftarrow 0$  **to**  $n - 2$  **do**  
    **if**  $A[i] = A[i + 1]$  **then**  
      **return** FALSE  
  **return** TRUE

| Memory state (5)  |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| $A[0, \dots, 7]$  | [2 3 5 6 7 8 9 9] |
| $n$               | 8                 |
| $i$               | <b>2</b>          |
| $A[i]$            | <b>5</b>          |
| $A[i + 1]$        | <b>6</b>          |
| $A[i] = A[i + 1]$ | FALSE             |



# Uniqueness checking

- Let's examine a pre-sorting approach


6 

```
MERGESORT( $A, n$ )  
  for  $i \leftarrow 0$  to  $n - 2$  do  
    if  $A[i] = A[i + 1]$  then  
      return FALSE  
  return TRUE
```

| Memory state (6)  |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| $A[0, \dots, 7]$  | [2 3 5 6 7 8 9 9] |
| $n$               | 8                 |
| $i$               | 4                 |
| $A[i]$            | 6                 |
| $A[i + 1]$        | 7                 |
| $A[i] = A[i + 1]$ | FALSE             |

# Uniqueness checking


- Let's examine a pre-sorting approach

**7**  MERGESORT( $A, n$ )  
  **for**  $i \leftarrow 0$  **to**  $n - 2$  **do**  
    **if**  $A[i] = A[i + 1]$  **then**  
      **return** FALSE  
  **return** TRUE

| Memory state (7)  |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| $A[0, \dots, 7]$  | [2 3 5 6 7 8 9 9] |
| $n$               | 8                 |
| $i$               | <b>5</b>          |
| $A[i]$            | <b>7</b>          |
| $A[i + 1]$        | <b>8</b>          |
| $A[i] = A[i + 1]$ | FALSE             |

# Uniqueness checking

- Let's examine a pre-sorting approach

**8**  MERGESORT( $A, n$ )  
  **for**  $i \leftarrow 0$  **to**  $n - 2$  **do**  
    **if**  $A[i] = A[i + 1]$  **then**  
      **return** FALSE  
  **return** TRUE

| Memory state (8)  |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| $A[0, \dots, 7]$  | [2 3 5 6 7 8 9 9] |
| $n$               | 8                 |
| $i$               | <b>6</b>          |
| $A[i]$            | <b>8</b>          |
| $A[i + 1]$        | <b>9</b>          |
| $A[i] = A[i + 1]$ | FALSE             |

# Uniqueness checking

- Let's examine a pre-sorting approach

9 

```
MERGESORT( $A, n$ )  
  for  $i \leftarrow 0$  to  $n - 2$  do  
    if  $A[i] = A[i + 1]$  then  
      return FALSE  
  return TRUE
```

| Memory state (9)  |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| $A[0, \dots, 7]$  | [2 3 5 6 7 8 9 9] |
| $n$               | 8                 |
| $i$               | <b>7</b>          |
| $A[i]$            | <b>9</b>          |
| $A[i + 1]$        | <b>9</b>          |
| $A[i] = A[i + 1]$ | TRUE              |

# Uniqueness checking

- Let's examine a pre-sorting approach

```
MERGESORT( $A, n$ )  
  for  $i \leftarrow 0$  to  $n - 2$  do  
    if  $A[i] = A[i + 1]$  then  
      return FALSE  
  return TRUE
```

- What is the complexity of this approach?

| Memory state (9)  |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| $A[0, \dots, 7]$  | [2 3 5 6 7 8 9 9] |
| $n$               | 8                 |
| $i$               | <b>7</b>          |
| $A[i]$            | <b>9</b>          |
| $A[i + 1]$        | <b>9</b>          |
| $A[i] = A[i + 1]$ | TRUE              |

# Uniqueness checking

- Let's examine a pre-sorting approach

```
MERGESORT( $A, n$ )  
  for  $i \leftarrow 0$  to  $n - 2$  do  
    if  $A[i] = A[i + 1]$  then  
      return FALSE  
  return TRUE
```

- What is the complexity of this approach?
  - The sorting step takes  $O(n \log n)$
  - The search step takes  $O(n)$
  - The overall complexity is  $O(n \log n)$

| Memory state (9)  |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| $A[0, \dots, 7]$  | [2 3 5 6 7 8 9 9] |
| $n$               | 8                 |
| $i$               | <b>7</b>          |
| $A[i]$            | <b>9</b>          |
| $A[i + 1]$        | <b>9</b>          |
| $A[i] = A[i + 1]$ | TRUE              |

# Finding the mode

- Take a few minutes to **think of a design** for mode-finding algorithm based on the pre-sorting version of uniqueness check. Test it with the following data, whose solution is **42**

[42, 78, 13, 57, 42, 57, 78, 42]

# Finding the mode

- Take a few minutes to **think of a design** for mode-finding algorithm based on the pre-sorting version of uniqueness check. Test it with the following data, whose solution is **42**

[42, 78, 13, 57, 42, 57, 78, 42]


```
MERGESORT( $A, n$ )  
 $i \leftarrow 0$   
 $fmax \leftarrow 0$   
while  $i < n$  do  
     $seq \leftarrow 1$   
    while  $i + seq < n$  and  $A[i + seq] = A[i]$  do  
         $seq \leftarrow seq + 1$   
    if  $seq > fmax$  then  
         $fmax \leftarrow seq$   
         $mode \leftarrow A[i]$   
     $i \leftarrow i + seq$   
return  $mode$ 
```



# Finding the mode

- Take a few minutes to **think of a design** for mode-finding algorithm based on the pre-sorting version of uniqueness check. Test it with the following data, whose solution is **42**

[42, 78, 13, 57, 42, 57, 78, 42]


Sort the array, the result is [13, **42, 42, 42**, 57, 57, 78, 78]  MERGESORT( $A, n$ )

```
 $i \leftarrow 0$   
 $fmax \leftarrow 0$   
while  $i < n$  do  
     $seq \leftarrow 1$   
    while  $i + seq < n$  and  $A[i + seq] = A[i]$  do  
         $seq \leftarrow seq + 1$   
    if  $seq > fmax$  then  
         $fmax \leftarrow seq$   
         $mode \leftarrow A[i]$   
     $i \leftarrow i + seq$   
return  $mode$ 
```

# Finding the mode

- Take a few minutes to **think of a design** for mode-finding algorithm based on the pre-sorting version of uniqueness check. Test it with the following data, whose solution is **42**

[42, 78, 13, 57, 42, 57, 78, 42]

Index counter  MERGESORT( $A, n$ )

```
 $i \leftarrow 0$   
 $fmax \leftarrow 0$   
while  $i < n$  do  
     $seq \leftarrow 1$   
    while  $i + seq < n$  and  $A[i + seq] = A[i]$  do  
         $seq \leftarrow seq + 1$   
    if  $seq > fmax$  then  
         $fmax \leftarrow seq$   
         $mode \leftarrow A[i]$   
     $i \leftarrow i + seq$   
return  $mode$ 
```

# Finding the mode

- Take a few minutes to **think of a design** for mode-finding algorithm based on the pre-sorting version of uniqueness check. Test it with the following data, whose solution is **42**

[42, 78, 13, 57, 42, 57, 78, 42]

Frequency of the most common element so far



```
MERGESORT( $A, n$ )  
 $i \leftarrow 0$   
 $fmax \leftarrow 0$   
while  $i < n$  do  
     $seq \leftarrow 1$   
    while  $i + seq < n$  and  $A[i + seq] = A[i]$  do  
         $seq \leftarrow seq + 1$   
    if  $seq > fmax$  then  
         $fmax \leftarrow seq$   
         $mode \leftarrow A[i]$   
     $i \leftarrow i + seq$   
return  $mode$ 
```

# Finding the mode

- Take a few minutes to **think of a design** for mode-finding algorithm based on the pre-sorting version of uniqueness check. Test it with the following data, whose solution is **42**

[42, 78, 13, 57, 42, 57, 78, 42]

This counter keeps track of sequences of equal numbers →

```
MERGESORT( $A, n$ )  
 $i \leftarrow 0$   
 $fmax \leftarrow 0$   
while  $i < n$  do  
     $seq \leftarrow 1$   
    while  $i + seq < n$  and  $A[i + seq] = A[i]$  do  
         $seq \leftarrow seq + 1$   
    if  $seq > fmax$  then  
         $fmax \leftarrow seq$   
         $mode \leftarrow A[i]$   
     $i \leftarrow i + seq$   
return  $mode$ 
```

# Finding the mode

- Take a few minutes to **think of a design** for mode-finding algorithm based on the pre-sorting version of uniqueness check. Test it with the following data, whose solution is **42**

[42, 78, 13, 57, 42, 57, 78, 42]

While we do not overflow, and the sequence continues →

```
MERGESORT( $A, n$ )  
 $i \leftarrow 0$   
 $fmax \leftarrow 0$   
while  $i < n$  do  
     $seq \leftarrow 1$   
    while  $i + seq < n$  and  $A[i + seq] = A[i]$  do  
         $seq \leftarrow seq + 1$   
    if  $seq > fmax$  then  
         $fmax \leftarrow seq$   
         $mode \leftarrow A[i]$   
     $i \leftarrow i + seq$   
return  $mode$ 
```

# Finding the mode

- Take a few minutes to **think of a design** for mode-finding algorithm based on the pre-sorting version of uniqueness check. Test it with the following data, whose solution is **42**

[42, 78, 13, 57, 42, 57, 78, 42]

Increase the sequence counter 

```
MERGESORT( $A, n$ )  
 $i \leftarrow 0$   
 $fmax \leftarrow 0$   
while  $i < n$  do  
     $seq \leftarrow 1$   
    while  $i + seq < n$  and  $A[i + seq] = A[i]$  do  
         $seq \leftarrow seq + 1$   
    if  $seq > fmax$  then  
         $fmax \leftarrow seq$   
         $mode \leftarrow A[i]$   
     $i \leftarrow i + seq$   
return  $mode$ 
```

# Finding the mode

- Take a few minutes to **think of a design** for mode-finding algorithm based on the pre-sorting version of uniqueness check. Test it with the following data, whose solution is **42**

[42, 78, 13, 57, 42, 57, 78, 42]

If the sequence is the largest so far... 

```
MERGESORT( $A, n$ )  
 $i \leftarrow 0$   
 $fmax \leftarrow 0$   
while  $i < n$  do  
     $seq \leftarrow 1$   
    while  $i + seq < n$  and  $A[i + seq] = A[i]$  do  
         $seq \leftarrow seq + 1$   
    if  $seq > fmax$  then  
         $fmax \leftarrow seq$   
         $mode \leftarrow A[i]$   
     $i \leftarrow i + seq$   
return  $mode$ 
```

# Finding the mode

- Take a few minutes to **think of a design** for mode-finding algorithm based on the pre-sorting version of uniqueness check. Test it with the following data, whose solution is **42**

[42, 78, 13, 57, 42, 57, 78, 42]

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MERGESORT( $A, n$ )  
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```

Update both the frequency and mode variables 



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Skip the complete sequence of equal numbers 

# Finding the mode

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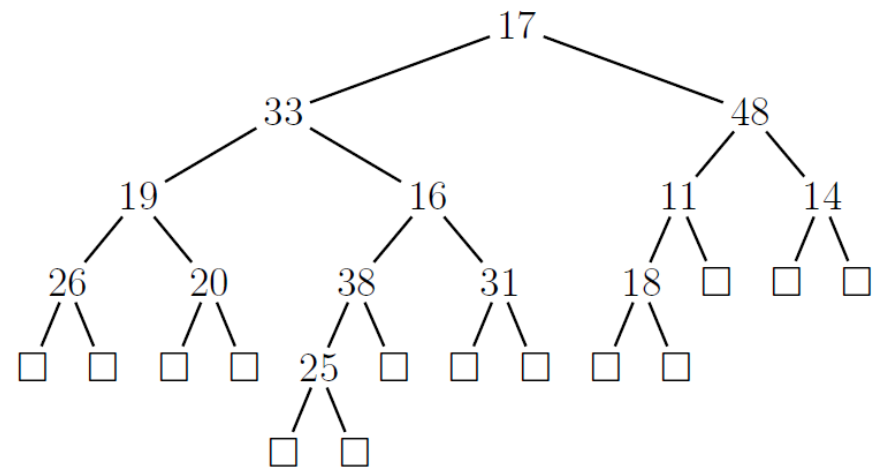
- What is the complexity of this approach?

# A challenge for home...

- An **anagram** of a word  $w$  is a word which uses the same letters as  $w$  but in a different order. For example:
  - 'ate', 'tea' and 'eat' are anagrams.
  - 'post', 'spot', 'pots' and 'tops' are anagrams.
  - 'garner' and 'ranger' are anagrams.
- You are given a very long list of words:  
  
{health, revolution, foolish, garner, drive, praise, traverse, anger, ranger, ...  
scoop, fall, praise}
- **Design** an algorithm to find all anagrams in the list using pre-sorting

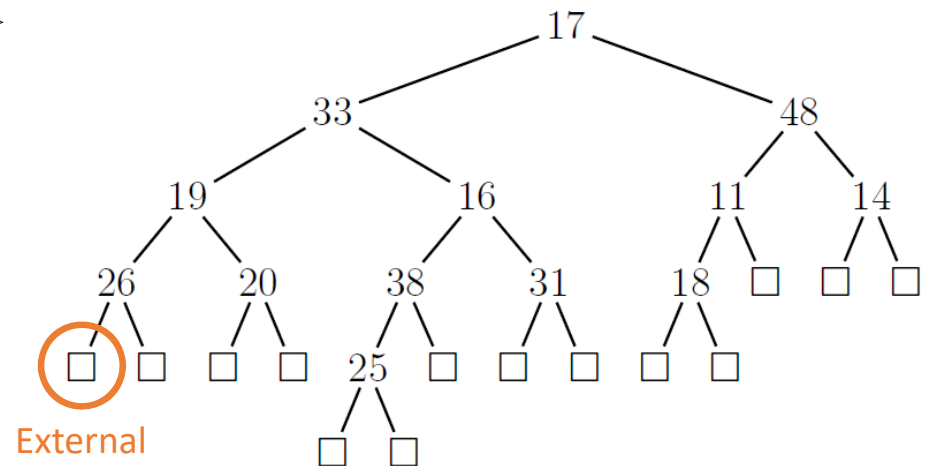
# Representational change

- On lecture 12, you discussed **binary trees** in general
  - Each **node** has the fields  $\{root, left, right\}$



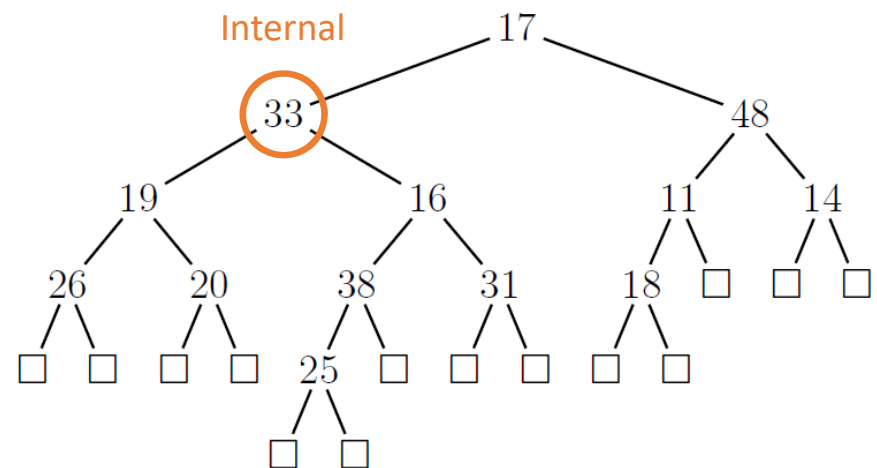
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  - Each **node** has the fields  $\{root, left, right\}$
  - **Empty** subtrees are marked by **null** pointers, and they are often called **external** nodes



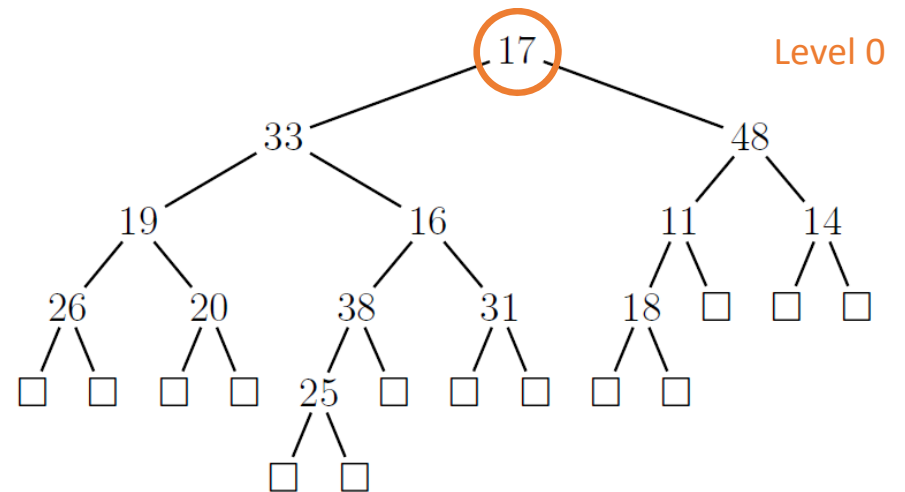
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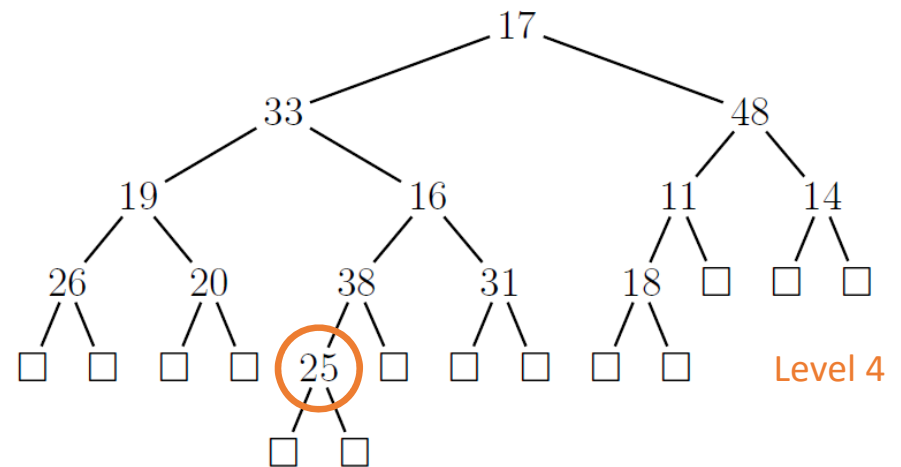
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  - **Internal** nodes have a  $root \neq \text{NULL}$
  - The **root** of the tree is at level 0
  - This tree has a **height** of 4





# Binary search trees

- A **binary search tree (BST)** is a binary tree that stores elements in all internal nodes, with each sub-tree satisfying the property:

Let the root be  $r$ ; then each element in the **left subtree is smaller** than  $r$  and each element in the **right sub-tree is larger** than  $r$

- For simplicity we assume that all keys are **different**

# How to ... an element in a BST?

- To **search** for an element  $k$  in a BST, we compare against the root  $r$ .
  - If  $r=k$ , we are done
  - Otherwise, search to the **left** if  $k < r$  and to the **right** if  $k > r$
- To **insert** a new element  $k$  into a BST, we pretend to search for  $k$ .
  - Once we reach an **empty** sub-tree, we insert  $k$  in that position.
- Let's take a few minutes to **build** a tree by inserting [15 8 20 5 9 17 25 29 2 6 12 10] one at the time.

# The importance of being *balanced*

- If a BST with  $n$  elements is kept “**reasonably**” **balanced**, search involves  $\Theta(\log n)$  comparisons in the worst case
- If the BST is **unbalanced**, search performance may degrade to be as bad as linear search
- Let’s take a few minutes to build a BST by inserting [325 18 21 212 157 105] one at the time

# Next lecture

- Balanced binary search trees
  - AVL trees and 2–3 trees (Levitin Section 6.3)