



Design & Analysis of Algorithms

Lecture 10

Brute Force Approach for Problem Solving

Brute Force Approach

- ***Brute force*** is a straightforward approach to solving a problem, usually directly based on the problem statement and definitions of the concepts involved.

Brute Force Approach

Examples

- Linear/Sequential Search
- Sorting
 - Bubble
 - Insertion
 - Selection

Brute Force Approach

Sorting

- we consider the application of the brute-force approach to the problem of sorting: given a list of n orderable items (e.g., numbers, characters from some alphabet, character strings), rearrange them in ascending/descending order.

Brute Force Approach

Bubble Sorting

- **Brute-force** approach– to compare adjacent elements of the list and exchange them if they are out of order.
- By doing it repeatedly, we end up “bubbling up” the largest element to the last position on the list.
- The next pass bubbles up the second largest element, and so on, until after **$n-1$ passes** the list is sorted.

Brute Force Approach

Bubble Sorting

ALGORITHM *BubbleSort*($A[0..n - 1]$)

//Sorts a given array by bubble sort

//Input: An array $A[0..n - 1]$ of orderable elements

//Output: Array $A[0..n - 1]$ sorted in nondecreasing order

for $i \leftarrow 0$ **to** $n - 2$ **do**

for $j \leftarrow 0$ **to** $n - 2 - i$ **do**

if $A[j + 1] < A[j]$ **swap** $A[j]$ and $A[j + 1]$

Example: Sorting a list— 89, 45, 68, 90, 29, 34, 17

Brute Force Approach

Bubble Sorting

Example: Sorting a list— 89, 45, 68, 90, 29, 34, 17

Pass 1:

89	$\overset{?}{\longleftrightarrow}$	45		68		90		29		34		17
45		89	$\overset{?}{\longleftrightarrow}$	68		90		29		34		17
45		68		89	$\overset{?}{\longleftrightarrow}$	90	$\overset{?}{\longleftrightarrow}$	29		34		17
45		68		89		29		90	$\overset{?}{\longleftrightarrow}$	34		17
45		68		89		29		34		90	$\overset{?}{\longleftrightarrow}$	17
45		68		89		29		34		17		90

Brute Force Approach

Bubble Sorting

Example: Sorting a list – 89, 45, 68, 90, 29, 34, 17

Pass 2:

45	$\overset{?}{\longleftrightarrow}$	68	$\overset{?}{\longleftrightarrow}$	89	$\overset{?}{\longleftrightarrow}$	29		34		17		90
45		68		29		89	$\overset{?}{\longleftrightarrow}$	34		17		90
45		68		29		34		89	$\overset{?}{\longleftrightarrow}$	17		90
45		68		29		34		17		89		90

etc.

Brute Force Approach

Bubble Sorting

Time Complexity

$$\begin{aligned} C(n) &= \sum_{i=0}^{n-2} \sum_{j=0}^{n-2-i} 1 = \sum_{i=0}^{n-2} [(n-2-i) - 0 + 1] \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^{n-2} (n-1-i) = \frac{(n-1)n}{2} \in \Theta(n^2). \end{aligned}$$

Brute Force Approach

Selection Sorting

- **Brute-force** approach– by scanning the entire given list to find its smallest element and exchange it with the first element, putting the smallest element in its final position in the sorted list.
- Then we scan the list, starting with the second element, to find the smallest among the last $n-1$ elements and exchange it with the second element, putting the second smallest element in its final position.

Brute Force Approach

Selection Sorting

ALGORITHM *SelectionSort*($A[0..n - 1]$)

//Sorts a given array by selection sort

//Input: An array $A[0..n - 1]$ of orderable elements

//Output: Array $A[0..n - 1]$ sorted in nondecreasing order

for $i \leftarrow 0$ **to** $n - 2$ **do**

$min \leftarrow i$

for $j \leftarrow i + 1$ **to** $n - 1$ **do**

if $A[j] < A[min]$ $min \leftarrow j$

 swap $A[i]$ and $A[min]$

Example: Sorting a list— 89, 45, 68, 90, 29, 34, 17

Brute Force Approach

Selection Sorting

Example: Sorting a list— 89, 45, 68, 90, 29, 34, 17

	89	45	68	90	29	34	17
17		45	68	90	29	34	89
17	29		68	90	45	34	89
17	29	34		90	45	68	89
17	29	34	45		90	68	89
17	29	34	45	68		90	89
17	29	34	45	68	89		90

Brute Force Approach

Selection Sorting

Time Complexity

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

$$= \Theta(n^2)$$

References

- **Chapter 3:** Anany Levitin, “Introduction to the Design and Analysis of Algorithms”, Pearson Education, Third Edition, 2017.
- **Chapter 2:** Thomas H. Cormen, Charles E. Leiserson, Ronald L. Rivest and Clifford Stein, “Introduction to Algorithms”, MIT Press/PHI Learning Private Limited, Third Edition, 2012.

Homework

Use brute-force approach to find time complexities of following algorithms:

- Linear/Sequential Search
- Insertion Sort
- Any other well-known sorting technique
- String Matching