



# How Algorithms Can Make Differences To Any Problem

Multiple Ways of Computing Fibonacci Numbers

## Fibonacci Numbers



- $Fib_0 = 0, Fib_1 = 1$
- $Fib_n = Fib_{n-1} + Fib_{n-2}$  for any integer  $n \geq 2$
- 0, 1,                            ...

## Lesson Objectives

- Calculate correct Fibonacci numbers manually
- Write recursive and iterative algorithms to calculate arbitrary Fibonacci numbers
- Distinguish time complexities of recursive and iterative Fibonacci calculation algorithms
- Argue what makes recursive Fibonacci calculation algorithm very slow

## Fibonacci Numbers Wiki Page

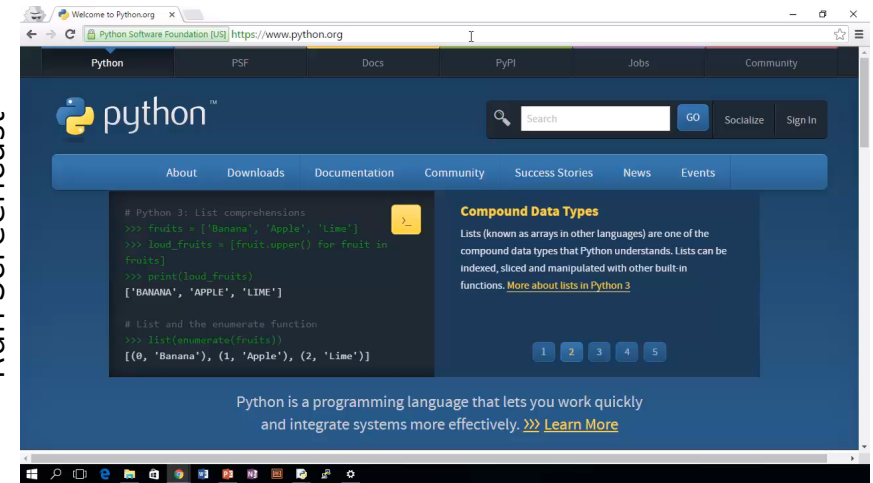
The screenshot shows the Wikipedia article for 'Fibonacci number'. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links like 'Not logged in', 'Talk', 'Contributions', 'Create account', and 'Log in'. Below this is a search bar and a list of actions: 'Article', 'Talk', 'Read', 'Edit', 'View history'. A banner for 'Wiki Loves Monuments' is visible. The main heading is 'Fibonacci number', followed by the subtext 'From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia'. The introductory text states: 'In mathematics, the **Fibonacci numbers** are the numbers in the following [integer sequence](#), called the **Fibonacci sequence**, and characterized by the fact that every number after the first two is the sum of the two preceding ones:<sup>[1][2]</sup>'. To the right of the text is a diagram of a yellow square divided into smaller squares, with the numbers 21 and 13 labeled. The bottom of the page shows the source URL 'https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fibonacci\_number' and a 'Web Viewer' footer with links to 'Terms' and 'Privacy & Cookies', and an 'Edit' button.

## Simple (Naive) Fibonacci Computation Algorithm

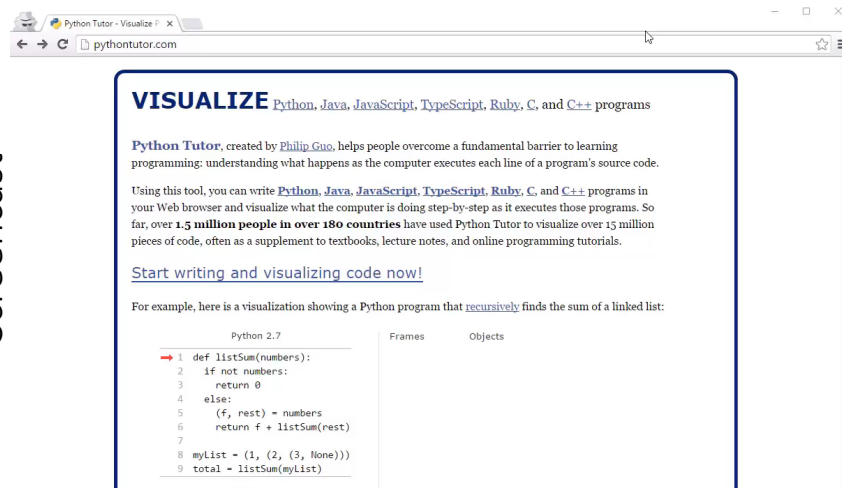
- How did you find  $Fib_{15}$  in the previous quiz problem?
- Will the following simple Fibonacci computation code be good enough for finding  $Fib_{50}$ ?

```
# Simple Python code to compute/print Fib_50.  
# (should be readable to everyone)  
def fib(n):  
    if n <= 1:  
        return n  
    return fib(n-1) + fib(n-2)  
  
print fib(50)
```

## Recursive Fibonacci Code Run Screencast

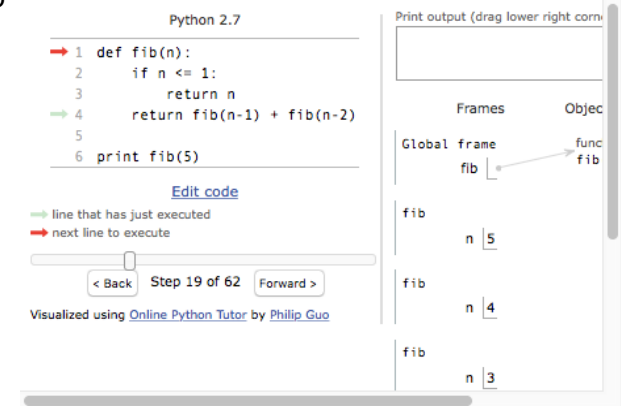


# Python Online Tutor Screencast



## Why So Slow?

- How recursive calls are executed?
- Did you see how many times fib(3) was called?
- How about fib(2)? fib(1)? fib(0)?
- Edit code by changing 5 in fib(5) and check # steps.



## Unnecessary Redundant Work

- When computing  $Fib_{50}$ ,
  - How many times `fib(50)` was called?
  - How many times `fib(49)` was called?
  - How many times `fib(48)` was called?
  - How many times `fib(47)` was called?
  - How many times `fib(46)` was called?
  - How many times `fib(45)` was called?
  - ...
  - How many times `fib(3)` was called?
  - How many times `fib(2)` was called?

## Analysis of Recursive Fibonacci

- $T(n)$ : # execution steps when calling `fib(n)`
  - “Execution steps” include comparisons, arithmetic operations (e.g., +), assignments, return, ... . It may not be the same as # lines of code.
- $T(0)? T(1)?$
- For  $n \geq 2$ ,  $T(n)?$ 

```
def fib(n):  
    if n <= 1:  
        return n  
    return fib(n-1) + fib(n-2)
```
- An equation like above is called a recurrence relation.
- Closed form solution (non-recurrence):

## Can We Do Any Better?

- How did you find  $Fib_{15}$  in the Checkpoint Quiz?
- Can you implement that idea in code?
- Check the interactive codes in the next slides
  - Click ‘Visualize Execution’ to visualize/trace the algorithm’s execution.
  - Trace each execution by clicking Forward. Make sure to think about what the next step does before clicking Forward.
  - Compare the two different numbers of steps for the same  $n$ .
    - Click ‘Edit Code’, replace 5 in ‘`print fib(5)`’ with another number, and click ‘Visualize Execution’ again to see the new number of steps for the different  $n$ .

### Recursive vs. Iterative Fibonacci

The image displays two side-by-side screenshots of an online Python tutor interface, specifically 'Online Python Tutor by Philip Guo'. The left screenshot shows a recursive Fibonacci function `def fib(n):` with a call stack on the right. The right screenshot shows an iterative Fibonacci function `def fib_iterative(n):` with a call stack on the right. Both screenshots include a 'Visualize Execution' button and a 'Create test cases' link. The left screenshot also has a 'Back' and 'Forward' button for navigating through the execution steps.

## Analysis of Iterative Fibonacci

- $T(0), T(1)$  are the same as recursive.
- For  $n \geq 2$ , the while loop iterates exactly  $n - 2$  times
  - $T(n) =$
- Asymptotic notation for  $T(n)$

```
def fib_iterative(n):
    if n <= 1:
        return n

    fib_i_2 = 0 # fib(i-2)
    fib_i_1 = 1 # fib(i-1)
    fib_i = 1 # fib(i)
    i = 2
    while i < n:
        i += 1
        fib_i = fib_i_1 + fib_i_2
        fib_i_2 = fib_i_1
        fib_i_1 = fib_i
    return fib_i
```

## Comparing Growths of Linear Time and Exponential Time Complexities

- Assuming each execution step takes  $1\mu s$  (microsecond =  $10^{-6}s$ , frequently typed as 'us'),  $T_{rec}(n) = 2^n$  and  $T_{iter}(n) = 10000n$  (some big coefficient),

n	5	10	20	30	40	50	100	1000	10000
Iter. time									
Recur. time									

- See for yourself by computing/printing first 50 Fibonacci numbers using `fib_iterative(n)`
- Which algorithm would you use? Can we do better?

## Are All Recursive Algorithms Bad?

- Fibonacci is an extreme case
- Usually same time complexity
  - But still bigger coefficient
- Higher space complexity
  - Iterative is usually  $O(1)$ , whereas recursive is usually  $O(n)$ .
  - If memory is limited, can't use recursive.
- On the other hand, recursive algorithm can be:
  - Easier to understand
  - Smaller code: Iterative code can be extremely complicated in many cases
  - Easier to analyze time complexity

## Time Complexities of Quadratic Sorting Algorithms

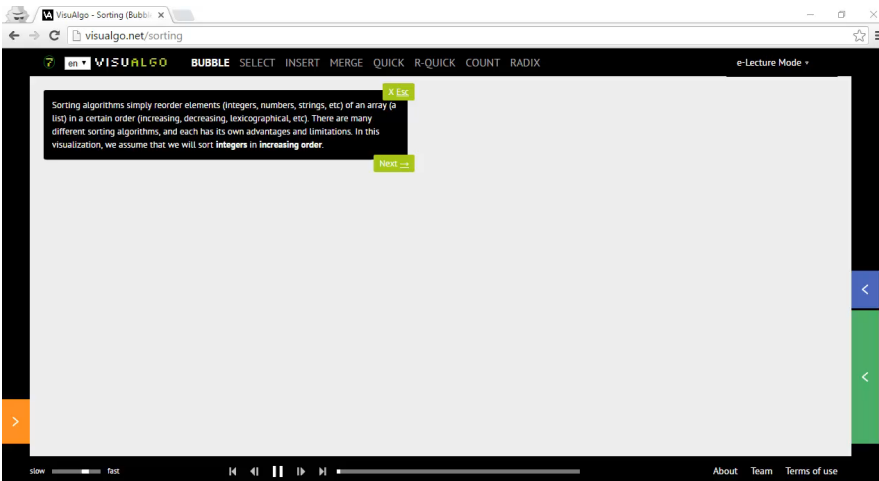
Selection, Insertion, Bubble Sorts

## Lesson Objectives

- Utilize algorithm visualization tool to understand how well-known elementary sorting algorithms work
- Utilize algorithm visualization tool to gain understanding on time complexities of well-known elementary sorting algorithms
- Task: Make sure to click the link in the following page and experiment as instructed.
  - There's also a screencast introducing the algorithm visualization tool

## [VisuAlgo.Net/sorting](https://visualgo.net/sorting)

- Click the link above and do the following experiments:
- For each 'BUBBLE', 'SELECT', 'INSERT', do the following:
  - Click Create. Then for each 'Random', 'Sorted-Increasing', 'Sorted-Decreasing':
    - Click 'Sort-Go'.
- See how each algorithm works visually
  - There are checkpoint quiz problems about the sorting algorithms
- Think about time complexity of each case
  - "Complexity": Since we are not using the raw running time, the word "complexity" is used to refer to the performant nature of an algorithm (its difficulty)
  - Complexity is always stated in asymptotic notation (big-Oh, Omega, Theta)



## Time Complexities of Quadratic Sorts

- "Quadratic" because their worst-case time complexities are all  $O(n^2)$ .
- We saw in Module 1 that in fact, selection sort is  $\Theta(n^2)$ !
  - Its best-case time complexity is still  $\Omega(n^2)$ .
- What is the best case time complexity for bubble & insertion sort?
- Can you prove formally your claim for the question above?
- Can we do better?

# Merge Sort And Intro To Divide-And-Conquer

Improving Sorting Performance From Quadratic To Linear-Logarithmic

## Lesson Objectives

- Identify the result of merging given two sorted subarrays, by applying the merge operation correctly
- Write the merge sort pseudocode fluently
- Derive merge sort's asymptotic time complexity by establishing and solving a recurrence relation

## Sub-Problem Property

- Recall selection sort:
  - After the first pass, we got a smaller problem of the same type (sorting).
    - Sorting an array with one fewer items, though the indexing structure is different.
  - Or we could say that we deliberately seek to reduce the original problem into a smaller sub-problem and the related reduction process.
    - In this case, the reduction process is a pre-process of finding the smallest and swapping it with the first entry.
  - Very similar nature in bubble sort: Reducing problem size by one every pass
- Can we think of a different sub-problem structure and reduction?
  - If we are reducing the problem size by one, why not reducing bigger?
  - How about *dividing* the original problem by halves?

## Merge Sort: Divide-And-Conquer Sorting

- Divide the original array into two halves.
  - Sort each half.
    - Need to use recursion. Recall the recursive algorithm for Fibonacci calculation.
    - For now, do not consider jumping into the recursive calls.
      - Just assume that the recursive call returned with the sorted sub-array (half).
- Then merge the two sorted halves. E.g.:
  - Sorted first half: 11, 33, 44, 66, 88
  - Sorted second half: 22, 35, 40, 77, 80
  - Merging two sorted subarrays:
- CLRS Section 2.3 Designing Algorithms

## Merge Sort



## Code: Merge Sort

- Top-level sort is easy: (CLRS pp. 34)

MERGE-SORT( $A, p, r$ )

```

1  if  $p < r$ 
2       $q = \lfloor (p + r) / 2 \rfloor$ 
3      MERGE-SORT( $A, p, q$ )
4      MERGE-SORT( $A, q + 1, r$ )
5      MERGE( $A, p, q, r$ )

```

- Top-level call is MERGE-SORT( $A, 1, A.length$ ) for  $A = \langle A[1], A[2], \dots, A[n] \rangle$  where  $A.length = n$ .

MERGE-SORT( $A$ )

1 MERGE-SORT( $A, 1, A.length$ )

- What's difficult is MERGE( $A, p, q, r$ )

## Code: Merge (CLRS pp. 31)

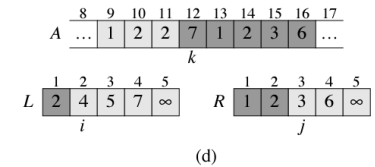
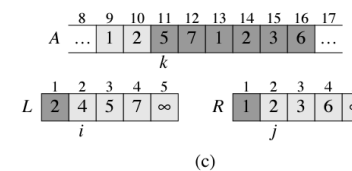
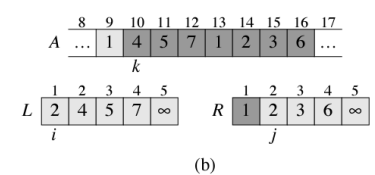
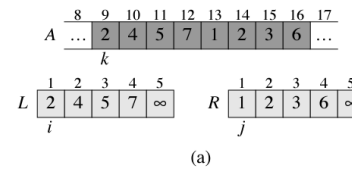
MERGE( $A, p, q, r$ )

```

1   $n_1 = q - p + 1$ 
2   $n_2 = r - q$ 
3  let  $L[1..n_1 + 1]$  and  $R[1..n_2 + 1]$  be new arrays
4  for  $i = 1$  to  $n_1$ 
5       $L[i] = A[p + i - 1]$ 
6  for  $j = 1$  to  $n_2$ 
7       $R[j] = A[q + j]$ 
8   $L[n_1 + 1] = \infty$ 
9   $R[n_2 + 1] = \infty$ 
10  $i = 1$ 
11  $j = 1$ 
12 for  $k = p$  to  $r$ 
13     if  $L[i] \leq R[j]$ 
14          $A[k] = L[i]$ 
15          $i = i + 1$ 
16     else  $A[k] = R[j]$ 
17          $j = j + 1$ 

```

## Merge Operations (CLRS Fig. 2.3 in pp. 32)



## Sidebar: MERGE() Implementation

- What if we can't depend on the availability of  $\infty$ ?
- Creating "new arrays" in Line 3 of MERGE(A,p,q,r) is computationally expensive. How can we avoid creating new arrays every time MERGE() is called?
- Can you re-implement MERGE(A,p,q,r) with the two constraints above?
  - This is a homework problem, and may be an exam problem!

## Analysis of Merge Sort

```

MERGE-SORT(A, p, r)
1  if p < r
2    q = ⌊(p + r)/2⌋
3    MERGE-SORT(A, p, q)
4    MERGE-SORT(A, q + 1, r)
5    MERGE(A, p, q, r)
    
```

- Straightforward top-level recurrence for  $T_{MergeSort}(n)$ :

$$T_{MergeSort}(n) = 2T_{MergeSort}\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + T_{Merge}(n) + c_1$$

- Of course  $T_{MergeSort}(0) = T_{Merge}(0) = c_2$  (all  $c_i$ 's are some constants)

- What is  $T_{Merge}(n)$ ?

- Counting the number of steps executed in MERGE(A,p,q,r) when  $r-p+1=n$ , we get:

$$T_{Merge}(n) = c_3n + c_4$$

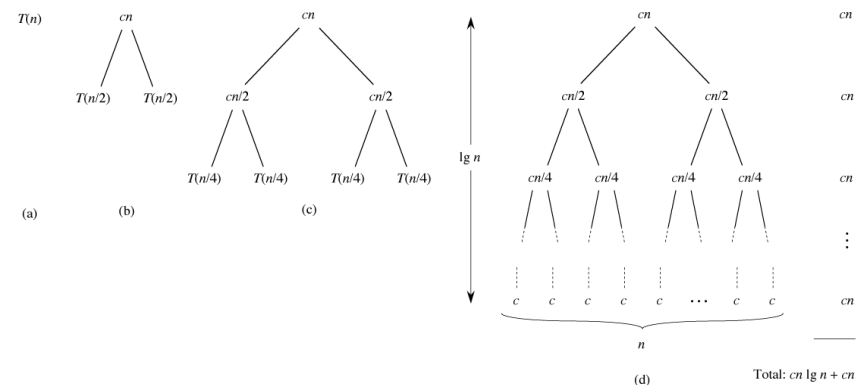
- Therefore,  $T_{MergeSort}(n) = 2T_{MergeSort}\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + cn + c'$

## Solving $T(n) = 2T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + cn$

- Expansion method:

- Solution:  $T(n) =$

## Recursion Tree Method for Solving Recurrence (CLRS Fig. 2.5 in pp. 38)







## Merge Sort vs. Quadratic Sorts

- $\Theta(n \log_2 n)$  merge sort vs.  $O(n^2)$  quadratic (selection, insertion, bubble) sorts
- Assuming each execution step takes  $1\mu s$  (microsecond =  $10^{-6}s$ , frequently typed as 'us'),  $T_{quad}(n) = n^2$  and  $T_{merge}(n) = 10000n \log_2 n$  (some big coefficient),

n	10	100	1000	10000	100000	$10^6$	$10^7$	$10^8$
$n^2$	0.1ms	0.01s	1s	100s	~2.8h	~11.6 days	~3.17 years	~317 years
$10000n \log_2 n$	~0.33s	~6.6s	~100s	22m	~4.6h	~2.3 days	~26.7 days	~307.6 days

- Which algorithm would you use? Can we do better?