

# CIS 575. Introduction to Algorithm Analysis

## Assignment #1, Spring 2019

### Due Thursday, January 31, 11:59pm

You may if you so prefer work in groups of two in which case each name should be listed on your answer but only one of you should submit.

**Problem.** We want to write an algorithm that expects an array  $A[1..n]$  and a number  $x$ , and returns a number  $q$ , and that implements the specification

**precondition** the array  $A[1..n]$  is non-decreasing, and we know that  $x$  occurs in  $A[1..n]$

**postcondition**  $q \in 1..n$  and  $A[q] = x$ .

For example, if  $A[1..6]$  is given by 

1	2	3	4	5	6
12	15	17	17	26	30

 then

- if  $x = 26$  then  $q = 5$  must be returned
- if  $x = 17$  then either  $q = 3$  or  $q = 4$  must be returned (the specification is non-deterministic)
- if  $x = 10$  then (as the precondition is not fulfilled) the algorithm could behave in any way; it may return 1, never terminate, or crash...

To implement this specification we shall use the binary search principle, and develop an iterative algorithm of the form

```
FIND( $x, A, n$ )
   $P$ 
   $q \leftarrow (lo + hi) \text{ div } 2$ 
  while  $A[q] \neq x$ 
    if  $A[q] < x$ 
       $T$ 
    else
       $E$ 
     $q \leftarrow (lo + hi) \text{ div } 2$ 
  return  $q$ 
```

which uses variables  $lo$ ,  $hi$ , and  $q$ , and where the loop invariant  $\Phi$  has various parts:

- (0)  $A$  is non-decreasing
- (1)  $1 \leq lo \leq hi \leq n$
- (2)  $lo \leq q \leq hi$
- (3)  $x$  occurs in  $A[lo..hi]$

In this exercise, we shall develop  $P$  so as to complete the preamble, and develop  $T$  and  $E$  so as to complete the loop body.

**1. Specification (6p)** Translate the precondition into a formula in predicate logic (which must contain quantifiers, universal  $\forall$  and/or existential  $\exists$ ).

**2. Preamble (8p)** We shall find a suitable  $P$ .

1. (4p) Give an example that shows that letting  $P$  be  $lo \leftarrow 1$ ;  $hi \leftarrow n - 1$  may *not* establish  $\Phi$ .
2. (4p) Now define  $P$  (as a sequence of assignments) so that  $\Phi$  will *always* be established (you don't need to argue for that).

**3. Loop body (18p)** We shall find suitable  $T$  and  $E$ .

1. (5p) First consider the case where  $T$  is given by  $hi \leftarrow q$  and  $E$  is given by  $lo \leftarrow q$ .  
It is quite obvious that this choice will maintain parts (0)–(2) of  $\Phi$ . But give an example that shows that this may *not* maintain part (3) of  $\Phi$ .
2. Next consider the case where  $T$  is given by  $lo \leftarrow q$  and  $E$  is given by  $hi \leftarrow q$ .
  - (a) (4p) Argue that this choice will maintain part (3) of  $\Phi$ .
  - (b) (5p) Give an example that shows that with this choice, the loop may *not* terminate.
3. (4p) Write  $T$  and  $E$  such that  $\Phi$  is maintained *and* termination is ensured (you do not need to argue for these properties).

**4. Recursion (8p)** Translate your completed iterative algorithm into a recursive algorithm that is equivalent, in that it always examines the *same* array elements.

Specifically, you must write a function FIND that calls itself (but contains no **while** loop) and which as argument takes at least  $lo$  and  $hi$ , and *perhaps* also  $q$ , but you *may* omit the “global”  $A$  and  $x$ . Remember also to state how to call FIND at “top-level” so as to implement the specification.