
Lab Assignment 3: Time Complexity comparison for fibonacci_naive vs Memoized Fibonacci

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Abstract: This lab is about writing a python program to get fibonacci numbers (for a given n) using two different approaches. Both are based on recursion, But main focus of this exercise is to understand how implementation of 'call stack' in python impacts time complexity, and what approach can be applied to reduce time complexity for fibonacci_naive i.e. by storing function values in a dictionary, we can reduce repeated function calls and can significantly reduce execution time.

File	Description
fibb_approaches_comp.py	Contains the fibonacci functions

Execution Steps

Execution Time and function calls for n=5

```

PS C:\mysharedfolder\git\EE-3233-0AT-2025-SystemsProgramming> & c:/mysharedfolder/gi
ogramming/lab_3/fibb_approaches_comp.py
running fibonacci_naive(5)
running fibonacci_naive(4)
running fibonacci_naive(3)
running fibonacci_naive(2)
running fibonacci_naive(1)
running fibonacci_naive(0)
running fibonacci_naive(1)
running fibonacci_naive(2)
running fibonacci_naive(1)
running fibonacci_naive(0)
running fibonacci_naive(3)
running fibonacci_naive(2)
running fibonacci_naive(1)
running fibonacci_naive(0)
running fibonacci_naive(1)
running fibonacci_memo(5), current fibbdict {}
running fibonacci_memo(4), current fibbdict {}
running fibonacci_memo(3), current fibbdict {}
running fibonacci_memo(2), current fibbdict {}
running fibonacci_memo(1), current fibbdict {}
running fibonacci_memo(0), current fibbdict {1: 1}
running fibonacci_memo(1), current fibbdict {1: 1, 0: 0, 2: 1}
running fibonacci_memo(2), current fibbdict {1: 1, 0: 0, 2: 1, 3: 2}
running fibonacci_memo(3), current fibbdict {1: 1, 0: 0, 2: 1, 3: 2, 4: 3}
Naïve Fibonacci Result: fibonacci_naive(5): 5
Naïve Time Elapsed: fibonacci_naive(5): 0.002053 seconds

Memoized Fibonacci Result: fibonacci_memo(5,dict): 5
Memoized Time Elapsed: fibonacci_memo(5,dict): 0.000779 seconds
PS C:\mysharedfolder\git\EE-3233-0AT-2025-SystemsProgramming>

```

Execution Time for n=40

```

PS C:\mysharedfolder\git\EE-3233-0AT-2025-SystemsProgramming> & c:/my
ogramming/lab_3/fibb_approaches_comp.py
Naïve Fibonacci Result: fibonacci_naive(40): 102334155
Naïve Time Elapsed: fibonacci_naive(40): 9.165893 seconds

Memoized Fibonacci Result: fibonacci_memo(40,dict): 102334155
Memoized Time Elapsed: fibonacci_memo(40,dict): 0.000018 seconds
PS C:\mysharedfolder\git\EE-3233-0AT-2025-SystemsProgramming>

```

Conclusion

Conclusion: Learnt importance to understand how call stack is implemented and how it impact algorithms performance.

Source Code

Source Code

```

import time
# Naive recursive Fibonacci function - function to get Fibb value using recursion
# input int n
# output fib(n)
def fibonacci_naive(n):
    print(f"running fibonacci_naive({n})")
    if n <= 1:
        return n
    return fibonacci_naive(n - 1) + fibonacci_naive(n - 2)

# Memoized recursive Fibonacci function using dictionary to store value so that these values can be reused in next function call
# input int n, dict fibbdict with default as empty dict()
# output fib(n), from fibbdict
def fibonacci_memo(n, fibbdict={}):
    print(f"running fibonacci_memo({n}), current fibbdict {fibbdict}")
    if n in fibbdict:
        return fibbdict[n]
    if n <= 1:
        fibbdict[n] = n
    else:
        fibbdict[n] = fibonacci_memo(n - 1, fibbdict) + fibonacci_memo(n - 2, fibbdict)
    return fibbdict[n]

n=5
# Calculate F(n) using the naive approach and time it
start_naive = time.time()
result_naive = fibonacci_naive(n)
end_naive = time.time()
elapsed_naive = end_naive - start_naive

# Calculate F(n) using the memoized approach and time it
start_memo = time.time()
result_memo = fibonacci_memo(n)
end_memo = time.time()
elapsed_memo = end_memo - start_memo

# Print the results
print(f"Naive Fibonacci Result: fibonacci_naive({n}): {result_naive}")
print(f"Naive Time Elapsed: fibonacci_naive({n}): {elapsed_naive:.6f} seconds\n")

print(f"Memoized Fibonacci Result: fibonacci_memo({n},dict): {result_memo}")
print(f"Memoized Time Elapsed: fibonacci_memo({n},dict): {elapsed_memo:.6f} seconds")

```

```

import time
# This code is to generate a list of fibonacci series by two different approaches
# Goal is to observe and improve time complexity (total time to execute).
# both approaches use recursion, but once we observe how 'call stack' works in
python, we understand how a small change i.e. storing values in an appropriate
datastructure makes a big difference in time complexity.

# 1) Naive Recursive:
#     time complexity  $O(2^n)$    Repeats subproblems, calls same function multiple
times.
# 2) Memoized Recursive
#     time complexity  $O(n)$      Solves each subproblem only once

# Call Stack : for any program, Python maintains a stack of function calls.
# Each time a function is called, it's pushed onto the stack, and when it returns,
it's popped off.
# we will observe how function 'call stack' gets populated, pushes a function on
top and pops once it executes.

# in both approaches for fib(n): a binary recursion tree will be created as there
are two sub-function calls for each function call (fib(n)) = (fib(n-1)) + (fib(n-

```

```

2))
# and function gets pushed to stack in NLR (node, left, right) order, and gets
# popped of when it gets executed.
# in this space Order of complexity is  $O(n)$ , as memory fn callstack will have
# function call equal of depth of binary recursive tree.

# for recursion this function call will be multiple times,
# fibonacci_naive(5)
# └─ fibonacci_naive(4)
#   └─ fibonacci_naive(3)
#     └─ fibonacci_naive(2)
#       └─ fibonacci_naive(1) → 1    ← base case
#         └─ fibonacci_naive(0) → 0  ← base case
#       └─ fibonacci_naive(1) → 1    ← base case
#     └─ fibonacci_naive(2)
#       └─ fibonacci_naive(1) → 1    ← base case
#         └─ fibonacci_naive(0) → 0  ← base case
#   └─ fibonacci_naive(3)
#     └─ fibonacci_naive(2)
#       └─ fibonacci_naive(1) → 1    ← base case
#         └─ fibonacci_naive(0) → 0  ← base case
#     └─ fibonacci_naive(1) → 1    ← base case

# As the program runs, the call stack looks like this:
# Top of Stack (Fib(4))
#   running fibonacci_naive(4)
#   running fibonacci_naive(3)
#   running fibonacci_naive(2)
#   running fibonacci_naive(1)
#   running fibonacci_naive(0)
#   running fibonacci_naive(1)
#   running fibonacci_naive(2)
#   running fibonacci_naive(1)
#   running fibonacci_naive(0)
# Bottom of Stack (bottom will be executed first)
# and max. stack depth is (height of recursive binary tree, which is  $n$ ) for
# fibonacci_naive( $n$ ), stack space is  $O(n)$ 

# first approach:
# here we will observe that many sub-functions will be called multiple times,
# causing to increase time complexity.
# with time complexity of  $O(2^{**}n)$  and space complexity if  $O(n)$ 

# second approach:
# if we store these values in a dict, then time to execute will be far less.

# For time Complexity, we will understand that there 2 function calls made for each
# function
# Space Complexity:

# Space Complexity:
#  $O(n)$  for the memo dictionary
#  $O(n)$  for recursion stack

```

```

# Total: O(n)

# Summary
# Approach Time Complexity Space Complexity
# Naïve Recursive O(2^n) O(n)
# Memoized Recursive O(n) O(n)

# Naïve recursive Fibonacci function - function to get Fibb value using recursion
# input int n
# output fib(n)
def fibonacci_naive(n):
    print(f"running fibonacci_naive({n})")
    if n <= 1:
        return n
    return fibonacci_naive(n - 1) + fibonacci_naive(n - 2)

# Memoized recursive Fibonacci function using dictionary to store value so that
these values can be reused in next function call
# input int n, dict fibbdict with default as empty dict()
# output fib(n), from fibbdict
def fibonacci_memo(n, fibbdict={}):
    print(f"running fibonacci_memo({n}), current fibbdict {fibbdict}")
    if n in fibbdict:
        return fibbdict[n]
    if n <= 1:
        fibbdict[n] = n
    else:
        fibbdict[n] = fibonacci_memo(n - 1, fibbdict) + fibonacci_memo(n - 2,
fibbdict)
    return fibbdict[n]

n=5
# Calculate F(n) using the naïve approach and time it
start_naive = time.time()
result_naive = fibonacci_naive(n)
end_naive = time.time()
elapsed_naive = end_naive - start_naive

# Calculate F(n) using the memoized approach and time it
start_memo = time.time()
result_memo = fibonacci_memo(n)
end_memo = time.time()
elapsed_memo = end_memo - start_memo

# Print the results
print(f"Naïve Fibonacci Result: fibonacci_naive({n}): {result_naive}")
print(f"Naïve Time Elapsed: fibonacci_naive({n}): {elapsed_naive:.6f} seconds\n")

print(f"Memoized Fibonacci Result: fibonacci_memo({n},dict): {result_memo}")
print(f"Memoized Time Elapsed: fibonacci_memo({n},dict): {elapsed_memo:.6f}
seconds")

```

Annexure: Lab Assignment 3

EE-3233 Systems Programming for Engineers
Teaching/Lab Assistant: Kriza Baby
Recitation: Friday 11:00am – 12:00pm

Lab Assignment 3

In this assignment you must implement the Fibonacci function by using both the naïve(`fibonacci_naive`) and memo (`fibonacci_memo`) approaches. Then, measure the time it takes Python3 to compute `F(40)`. Please use the concepts taught in the lecture for this assignment.

Testing

Use the time module (import time) to track the time it takes for a function to execute.

```
import time
```

```
start_time = time.time()
```

```
...
```

```
end_time = time.time()
```

```
elapsed_time = end_time - start_time # This is in seconds.
```

Call your two functions and measure time it takes for your code to complete. With `F(40)` I get the following output:

```
andres@lab-vm:~/Documents/assignment$ python3 assignment-3.py
Naive time: 34.00093603134155 sec
Memo time : 3.5762786865234375e-05 sec
```

Write the corresponding code to print your results.

Note

Beyond `F(40)` the time for the naïve approach increases drastically.

Deliverables

Upload a unique PDF file with screenshots of your code and simulation output. **Your PDF must include a simple header with your name and your abc123.** Submit a file with your work even if you cannot replicate the output shown above.

Grading

Full marks will be granted to students that replicate the output, or whose logic is correct.

- 1/10 points if you don't include the header with your name and abc123 in your file.
- 1/10 points if you only submit the image files to blackboard (.jpeg, .png, etc...)
- Submissions with links to screenshots uploaded to the internet will not be accepted.
- No late submissions will be accepted. Refer to the syllabus.

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Testing

Use the time module (import time) to track the time it takes for a function to execute.

```
import time
```

```
start_time = time.time()
```

```
...
```

```
end_time = time.time()
```

```
elapsed_time = end_time - start_time # This is in seconds.
```

Call your two functions and measure time it takes for your code to complete. With `F(40)` I get the following output:

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andres@lab-vm:~/Documents/assignment$ python3 assignment-3.py
Naive time: 34.00093603134155 sec
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