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# Introduction to Algorithms

## Science Honors Program (SHP)

### Session 1

**Christian Lim**  
Saturday, February 17, 2024

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# Christian Yongwhan Lim



## Education



## Part-time Jobs



## Full-time Job



## Workshops



## Coach/Judge



<https://www.yongwhan.io>

# Christian Yongwhan Lim



- Currently:
  - **Adjunct**, Columbia CS;
  - **CEO** (Co-Founder), Stealth Mode Startup;
  - **Co-Founder**, Christian and Grace Consulting;
  - **Head Coach**, Columbia ICPC;
  - **Internship Manager**, ICPC Foundation;
  - **Leadership Team**, ICPC North America (NA);
  - **Trainer**, ICPC NA Programming Camp;
  - **Judge**, ICPC NA Qualifiers and Regionals;



<https://www.yongwhan.io>

# Who are you?

- **School?** (State?)
- **Year?**
- **Programming Experience?**
- **USACO level**, if applicable?
- **Hobby?**

# Slide deck in github

- You may find the slide deck from:
  - [https://github.com/yongwhan/yongwhan.github.io/blob/master/columbia/shp/Spring%202024%20Introduction%20to%20Algorithms %20Session%201.pdf](https://github.com/yongwhan/yongwhan.github.io/blob/master/columbia/shp/Spring%202024%20Introduction%20to%20Algorithms%20Session%201.pdf)
- You may get to the link by:
  - <https://github.com/yongwhan/>
  - => yongwhan.github.io
  - => columbia
  - => shp
  - => session 1 slide

# Spring 2024 Overview - February

<b>February 17, 2024</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Logistics and Introduction</li><li>• Complexity Analysis</li><li>• Sorting Algorithm (bubble sort)</li><li>• Practice Strategies</li><li>• Primitive (Data) Types</li><li>• How to program in C++?</li></ul>
<b>February 24, 2024</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Built-in Data Structures (vector; stack; queue; priority_queue; set; map)</li><li>• Custom Data Structures (disjoint set union; Fenwick/Segment tree; ordered set)</li></ul>

# Spring 2024 Overview - March

<b>March 2, 2024</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Complete Search</li><li>• Divide and Conquer (merge sort, quicksort, etc.)</li></ul>
<b>March 9, 2024</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Greedy</li><li>• Dynamic Programming</li></ul>
<b>March 16, 2024</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>NO CLASSES (SPRING BREAK)</b></li></ul>
<b>March 23, 2024</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Graphs: Shortest Paths and Minimum Spanning Trees</li><li>• Graphs: Lowest Common Ancestor and Flows</li></ul>
<b>March 30, 2024</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>NO CLASSES (EASTER WEEKEND)</b></li></ul>

# Spring 2024 Overview - April

<b>April 6, 2024</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Ad Hoc</li><li>● Combinatorics</li></ul>
<b>April 13, 2024</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Number Theory</li><li>● Games</li></ul>
<b>April 20, 2024</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>NO CLASSES (SPRING BREAK)</b></li></ul>
<b>April 27, 2024</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Strings: Fundamentals</li><li>● Strings: Matchings</li></ul>



# Spring 2024 Overview - May

**May 4, 2024**

- Geometry: Fundamentals and Convex Hull
- Next Steps

# Complexity Analysis

- **Space Complexity**

- "the total amount of memory space used by an algorithm"
- typically, it includes the space for inputs too!

- **Time Complexity**

- "the total amount of time it takes to run an algorithm"

# Analysis Framework: Big O, Big Omega, and Big Theta

- **O**: We write  $f(x) = O(g(x))$  and read it "f(x) is big O of g(x)" if  
there exists  $M > 0$  and  $x_0$  such that  $|f(x)| \leq Mg(x)$  for all  $x > x_0$
- **$\Omega$** : We write  $f(x) = \Omega(g(x))$  and read it "f(x) is big Omega of g(x)" if  
there exists  $M > 0$  and  $x_0$  such that  $|f(x)| \geq Mg(x)$  for all  $x > x_0$
- **$\Theta$** : We write  $f(x) = \Theta(g(x))$  and read it "f(x) is big Theta of g(x)" if  
 $f(x)$  is both  $O(g(x))$  and  $\Omega(g(x))$

# Example 1: Big O

- is  $n^2$   $O(n)$ ?
- is  $n^2$   $O(n^3)$ ?
- is  $n^2 + 1,000,000,000$   $O(n^3)$ ?
- is  $2^n$   $O(n!)$ ?
- is  $\log(n)$   $O(n)$ ?
- is  $7n^2$   $O(n^2)$ ?

## Example 2: Big Omega

- is  $n^2$   $\Omega(n)$ ?
- is  $n^2$   $\Omega(n^3)$ ?
- is  $n^2 + 1,000,000,000$   $\Omega(n^3)$ ?
- is  $2^n$   $\Omega(n!)$ ?
- is  $\log(n)$   $\Omega(n)$ ?
- is  $7n^2$   $\Omega(n^2)$ ?

## Example 3: Big Theta

- is  $n^2$   $\Theta(n)$ ?
- is  $n^2$   $\Theta(n^3)$ ?
- is  $n^2 + 1,000,000,000$   $\Theta(n^3)$ ?
- is  $2^n$   $\Theta(n!)$ ?
- is  $\log(n)$   $\Theta(n)$ ?
- is  $7n^2$   $\Theta(n^2)$ ?

# Example 1

```
int ret=0;  
for (int i=0; i<n; i++)  
    ret++;
```

- Space Complexity: ?
- Time Complexity: ?

# Example 1

```
int ret=0;  
for (int i=0; i<n; i++)  
    ret++;
```

- Space Complexity:  $\theta(1)$
- Time Complexity:  $\theta(n)$



## Example 2

```
vector<int> a(n);  
for (int i=0; i<n; i++)  
    cin>>a[i];
```

```
int ret=0;  
for (int i=0; i<n; i++)  
    ret+=a[i];
```

- Space Complexity: ?
- Time Complexity: ?

## Example 2

```
vector<int> a(n);  
for (int i=0; i<n; i++)  
    cin>>a[i];
```

```
int ret=0;  
for (int i=0; i<n; i++)  
    ret+=a[i];
```

- Space Complexity:  $\theta(n)$
- Time Complexity:  $\theta(n)$

# Recurrence Relation

- **Fibonacci number:**
  - $f[0]=1;$
  - $f[1]=1;$
  - $f[n]=f[n-1]+f[n-2]$  for any  $n \geq 2$ .
- Other "named" linear recurrence can be found [here](#).
  - Lucas number, Padovan sequence, Pell number, Pell-Lucas number, Perrin sequence, ...
  - No need to memorize these, but knowing these exist is good enough!

- Space:  $\theta(n)$
- Time:  $\theta(n)$

## Recurrence Relation: Iterative Implementation

- Writing a code for finding  $n^{\text{th}}$  Fibonacci number in iterative way is:

```
vector<int> f={1,1};  
for (int i=2; i<n; i++)  
    f.push_back(f[i-1]+f[i-2]);
```

- Space:  $\theta(n)$
- Time:  $\theta(2^n)$

# Recurrence Relation: Recursive Implementation

- Writing it recursively is:

```
int fib(int n) {  
    if(n==0) return 1;  
    if(n==1) return 1;  
    return fib(n-1)+fib(n-2);  
}
```

- We will learn how to write it more efficiently using **memoization** later!

# Sorting

- Given an array of integers (or any other data types that can be pairwise compared in terms of '<'), **sorting** would reorder the elements in the array from the **smallest** to the **largest** (or the largest to the smallest) using a comparing function ("comparer").
- Typically, in C++, you can use `sort(v.begin(), v.end())` to sort a container v (e.g., vector).

# Sorting

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5	3	2	7	1	4	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

would look like:

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5	3	2	7	1	4	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

would look like:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
---	---	---	---	---	---	---



# Sorting

- There are many sorting algorithms. Some popular ones are:
  - **Bubble Sort;**
  - Insertion Sort;
  - Selection Sort;
  - Quick Sort;
  - Merge Sort;
- Today, we will cover:
  - Bubble Sort;

# Bubble Sort

- Repeatedly swaps the adjacent elements if they are in the wrong order.

# Bubble Sort

- Repeatedly swaps the adjacent elements if they are in the wrong order.
- Specifically, in bubble sort:
  - elements are scanned from left to right,
  - each element is compared to its adjacent element and the higher one is placed at right side by swapping, as necessary.

# Bubble Sort: Step 1: the largest element

<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	2	7	1	4	6
3	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	7	1	4	6
3	2	<b>5</b>	<b>7</b>	1	4	6
3	2	5	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	4	6
3	2	5	1	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	6
3	2	5	1	4	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>
3	2	5	1	4	6	<b>7</b>

## Bubble Sort: Step 2: the 2nd largest element

3	2	5	1	4	6	7
2	3	5	1	4	6	7
2	3	5	1	4	6	7
2	3	1	5	4	6	7
2	3	1	4	5	6	7
2	3	1	4	5	6	7

**Bubble Sort: the process will continue until possible!**

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

- Time:  $O(n^2)$
- Space:  $O(n)$

## Bubble Sort: Code

```
void bubbleSort(vector<int> &a, int n) {  
    bool swapped;  
    for (int i=0; i<n-1; i++) {  
        swapped = false;  
        for (j=0; j<n-i-1; j++)  
            if (a[j] > a[j+1])  
                swap(arr[j], arr[j+1]), swapped = true;  
        if (!swapped) break;  
    }  
}
```

# Remarks

- **Sorting** is guaranteed to be  **$n \log n$**  for **merge sort**.
- In practice, **quicksort** is faster ( $n \log n$  still on average) but the worst case time complexity is quadratic.
  - Even when the pivot selection is randomized, we can get extremely unlucky and happen to hit the bad pivot each time.
- We will look at merge sort and quicksort closely in the future!



An aerial photograph of a wave breaking over a rocky reef. The water is a deep blue, and the breaking wave creates a thick, white foam that stretches across the middle of the frame. Below the foam, the dark, jagged shapes of the rocks are visible. The word "BREAK" is superimposed in large, white, bold, sans-serif capital letters across the upper portion of the image, centered horizontally.

**BREAK**

# CodeForces Zealots Problem Set

- Please join the following group:  
<https://codeforces.com/group/hosRkEuluH>
- Doing questions in Zealots problem set is **COMPLETELY** optional!

# How to use the Zealots Problem Set?

- Those who are just starting should focus on the **first half** of problems in Zealots Problem Set. Your main focus should be gaining some experiences with an explicit goal to enjoy the process of solving new problems and potentially making it to **USACO Platinum!**
- Those who are more serious should focus on the **second half** of problems in Zealots Problem Set. Your goal would be making into **USACO Programming Camp** and/or **International Olympiad in Informatics!**

# Practice Strategies

- If your goal is to get to a rating of **X**, you should practice on problems that are **X + 300** typically, with a spread of 100. So, picking problems within the range of:

**$\{X + 200, X + 300, X + 400\}$**

would be sensible!

- So, if you want to target becoming a **red**, which has a lower-bound of 2400, you should aim to solving  $\{2600, 2700, 2800\}$ .
- **(Eventual) Target:** You should focus on solving it for 30 minutes or less!

# Practice Strategies

- You should focus on solving each problem for **30 minutes or less**; if you cannot solve any problem with this range, you should consider solving a problem with a lower rating.
- You should aim to solve **10 ~ 15 problems** each day within this range to expect a rank up within a quarter (3 months).

# Practice Strategies

- If you **cannot** solve a problem, here is a sample recipe you can follow:
  - Look at editorial for **hints**, and try to solve the problem.
  - Look at editorial for **full solutions**, and try to solve the problem.
  - Look at **accepted solutions**, and try to solve the problem.
  - Make sure you look back **after two weeks** and see if you can solve it.

# Live Contest Strategies

- [A Terse Guide to Live Contests](#)

# C++ Tips and Tricks: best to learn those through practice!

- [C++ Tricks](#) (HosseinYousefi)
- [C++ tips and tricks](#) (Golovanov399)
- [Some Tips for Coding in C++ in Competitive Programming](#) (Nea1)
- Use `"#include <bits/stdc++.h>"` header to include **almost everything**.



# Standard Input/Output (stdio)

- Yet again on C++ input/output (andreyv)
- **scanf/printf vs cin/cout**
  - Often, use `"ios::sync_with_stdio(0); cin.tie(0); cout.tie(0);"`

# Primitive Type

- `int, long long, double, long double, char, float, ...`

# int

- "int" is short for "integer"
- Used to store whole numbers
- Internally, they are stored using binary numbers: ones and zeros
- Number of bytes used for an int varies by system
- 1 byte = 8 bits

# Examples

- 6
- 13
- 1993
- -777
- 10
- 2
- 2021

# float

- "float" is short for "floating-point"
- Floats can store numbers with a fractional part (real numbers)

# Examples

- $-777.77$
- $6.131993$
- $9.301989$
- $10.22021$
- $-123.765$
- $0.0$

# char

- "char" is short for "character"
  - Used to store individual letters, digits, symbols, etc
  - These are the keys you have on your keyboard
- 
- Typically stored using a single byte
  - But, with the rise of Unicode, many systems use two bytes now
  - In C, chars are delimited by apostrophes (single quotes)

# Examples

- 'A'
- '7'
- ' '
- '\$'
- '&'
- '^'
- '-'



# Numeric Limits (Machine Dependent)

- SIGNED INTEGERS (short, int, long long)
  - short minimum:  $-32768 = -2^{15}$
  - short maximum:  $32767 = 2^{15} - 1$
  - int minimum:  $-2147483648 = -2^{31}$
  - int maximum:  $2147483647 = 2^{31} - 1$
  - long minimum:  $-9223372036854775808 = -2^{63}$
  - long maximum:  $9223372036854775807 = 2^{63} - 1$
- UNSIGNED INTEGERS (unsigned short, unsigned int, unsigned long long)
  - minimum is all zero.
  - unsigned short maximum:  $65535 = 2^{16} - 1$
  - unsigned int maximum:  $4294967295 = 2^{32} - 1$
  - unsigned long maximum:  $18446744073709551615 = 2^{64} - 1$

# Numeric Limits (Machine Dependent)

- FLOAT PRECISION:
  - float precision digits: 6
  - float maximum exponent: 38
  - float maximum: 3.402823e+038
  - double precision digits: 15
  - double maximum exponent: 308
  - double maximum: 1.797693e+308
  - long double precision: 18
  - long double maximum exponent: 4932
  - long double maximum: 1.189731e+4932

# Declaring Variables

- All variables **MUST** be declared.
- Examples:
  - `int day;`
  - `int cents;`
  - `float x;`
  - `float y1, y2;`
  - `double degrees;`
  - `double a,b,c;`

# So, how to program in C++? First, setup your compiler!

- <https://www.onlinegdb.com/>
- If you are serious, you may want to have a local setup.
  - For Windows, I recommend using Visual Studio  
(<https://code.visualstudio.com/docs/cpp/config-mingw>)
  - For Mac, you should already have a built-in compiler. If you like gcc, you may try: "brew install gcc" in terminal  
(<https://osxdaily.com/2023/05/02/how-install-gcc-mac>)

# So, how to program in C++? First, setup your compiler!

- You may also want to set up "bits/stdc++.h"
  - If you run into issues, please take a look at:  
<https://apple.stackexchange.com/questions/148401/file-not-found-error-while-including-bits-stdc-h>

# So, how to program in C++? Second, try "Hello World!"

- Let's try the following **hello world** program!

```
#include<bits/stdc++.h>
using namespace std;

int main() {
    cout<<"Hello World!"<<endl;
    return 0;
}
```

# So, how to program in C++? Third, learn template code

- Typically, you'd like to have the following template as `template.cpp`:

```
#include <bits/stdc++.h>
using namespace std;
typedef long long ll;

int main() {
    ios::sync_with_stdio(0); cin.tie(0); cout.tie(0);
    return 0;
}
```

# (Optional) Try CodeForces Zealots Problem Set

- Next week, we will cover **Data Structures!**
  - **Built-in Data Structures:** vector; stack; queue; priority\_queue; set; map;
  - **Custom Data Structures:** Disjoint Set Union; Fenwick/Segment Tree; Ordered Set;



# Next Week!

- Next week, we will cover **Data Structures!**
  - **Built-in Data Structures:** vector; stack; queue; priority\_queue; set; map;
  - **Custom Data Structures:** Disjoint Set Union; Fenwick/Segment Tree; Ordered Set;

# Slide Deck

- You may find the slide decks from:
  - <https://github.com/yongwhan/yongwhan.github.io/blob/master/columbia/shp>

# THANK YOU

