CMSC 337 Algorithms: Design & Practice

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- Simple
- Lies
- Labels
- Appropriate type



- Simple
- Lies
- Labels
- Appropriate type



- Simple
- Lies
- Labels
- Appropriate type
- Beautiful



- Simple
- Lies
- Labels
- Appropriate type











Favorite Class



Programming Language



Programming Language



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Algorithms



A Bird's Eye View

Information Processing



Problem Solving (Investigation of Processes)

- Given a dictionary of english words, what are all the anagram classes? (e.g. earthling, haltering, lathering)
- Given the details of a tropical depression, can you predict if it will become a hurricane? What path will it take?
- Can you play the game of chess in a way that guarantees a win or a draw?
- How does the mind work?
- What is the most optimal way to get from here to there?
- What is the square root of 42?
- What impact will the Fed raising short term interest rates have on international currencies?
- What is the meaning of life?

Investigation: Asking Questions

Given: A problem/process.

- Does it have a model?
- Is the model solvable?
- Is it computable?
- What is the best algorithm for it?
- Write a computer program that implements the algorithm.
- Is the program equivalent to the model?
- Does the model lend any new insights into the problem/process?

Given: A Problem



Information Processing



Information Processing



Given: A Problem



Computability:

Problems that can be solved by algorithms (Turing Machines)





Complexity Theory: Computational Resources required (time & space)



What is an *algorithm*?

A set of instructions arranged in a specific order is a *procedure*.

Similar to a recipe, process, method, technique, procedure, routine, rigmarole, except the word "algorithm" connotes just a little something different.
An algorithm is a finite, definite, effective procedure, with

some output.

Donald Knuth: The Art of Computer Programming, Volume 1: Fundamental Algorithms, 3rd edition, 1997.



Algorithm (properties)

Finite

There must be an end to it within a reasonable time

Definite

Precisely definable in clearly understood terms, no "pinch of salt" type vagaries, or possible ambiguities

Effective

It must be possible to actually carry out the steps

Procedure

The sequence of specific steps

Output

Unless there is something coming out of the computation, the result will be unknown!

Problem Size

• Time complexity of a problem is the number of steps that it takes to solve an instance of the problem as a function of the size of the input. i.e. if the input is of size, *n*, it will take *f*(*n*) steps to solve it.



Computer A

Speed: 10^{10} instructions/sec Running O(n^2) sort Requires $2n^2$ instructions

How long will it take?

Computer B

Speed: 10^7 instructions/sec Running O($n \log n$) sort Requires 50 $n \log n$ instructions

How long will it take?

Computer A

Speed: 10^{10} instructions/sec Running O(n^2) sort Requires $2n^2$ instructions

$$\frac{2 * (10^7)^2}{10^{10}} \approx 20,000 \mathrm{s}$$

~5.5 hours

Computer B

Speed: 10^7 instructions/sec Running O($n \log n$) sort Requires 50 $n \log n$ instructions

How long will it take?

Computer A

Speed: 10^{10} instructions/sec Running O(n^2) sort Requires $2n^2$ instructions

$$\frac{2 * (10^7)^2}{10^{10}} \approx 20,000s$$

~5.5 hours

Computer B

Speed: 10^7 instructions/sec Running O($n \log n$) sort Requires 50 $n \log n$ instructions

$$\frac{50*10^7*log10^7}{10^7} \approx 1163s$$

under 20 minutes!

Computer A

Speed: 10^{10} instructions/sec Running O(n^2) sort Requires $2n^2$ instructions

$$\frac{2*(10^7)^2}{10^{10}} \approx 20,000s$$

If running $50 n \log n$ program: < 2s!!

Computer B

Speed: 10^7 instructions/sec Running O($n \log n$) sort Requires 50 $n \log n$ instructions

$$\frac{50*10^7*log10^7}{10^7}\approx 1163s$$

under 20 minutes!



P = NP?



from wikipedia

NP-Complete

- NP = Non-determinitic Polynoimial
- in NP == Solution is verifiable in P time
- problem is provably equivalent to other NP complete problems

• vertex cover of a graph is a set of vertices that includes at least one endpoint of every edge.



Vertex Cover Algorithm

- Find the minimum vertex cover of a graph
 - We will discuss graph representations, just make something up for now

Vertex Cover Algorithm

• Optimal algorithm

Naive algorithm

Greedy Algorithm

xkcd??



More on xkcd.com

Algorithm for Algorithm Development

def algorithmDevelopment(problemSpec):
 correct = false
 while not correct or not fastEnough(runningTime):
 algorithm = deviseAlgorithm(problemSpec)
 correct = analyzeCorrectness(algorithm)
 runningTime = analyzeEfficiency(algorithm)
 return algorithm

Algorithm for Program Development

```
def programDevelopment(algorithm, testSuite):
    language = pickLanguage(algorithm)
    program = code(algorithm, program)
    do:
        check = false
        while not check;
```

```
program = debug(program)
check = verifyProgram(program, testSuite)
```

```
performance = measure(performance)
while not acceptable(performance)
```



An algorithm to consider

- Given two lists of integers
 - call these A and B
- Find: min(abs(A[i]-B[j])