CS 200: Algorithm Analysis

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Administrative info:

- Course website
- Book
- Syllabus
- Moodle

This course serves two purposes:

- Design and analyze algorithms
- Prepare for Senior IS



Versions of the book...



4th edition We are using this one

It is available **online for free** through College of Wooster libraries 3rd edition

2nd edition

Introduction

CLRS 1.1 & 1.2

Example: Boss assigns a task

- Given today's prices of pork, grain, sawdust, etc...
- Given constraints on what constitutes a hotdog.
- Make the cheapest hotdog.

Every industry asks these questions.

How to do this?		
• Best:	"I can develop an algorithm for you."	
• Better:	"I learned an algorithm that will work."	
• Mundane programmer:	"Um? Tell me what to code."	

How to do this?









Tools you need

Example: Design an inventory system which can quickly find an item.

• What data structure to use?



Tools you need

Example: Design an inventory system which can quickly find an item.

What approach to take?

Brute force Dynamic programming Divide and conquer Greedy method Prune and search

• Are there any existing algorithms that could be used/modified?



Tools you need

Example: Design an inventory system which can quickly find an item.

- How to determine which solution is best?
- Does it work as required?
 Rationalization
 Proof of correctness
- How much memory is required? How long does it take?

Big-oh notation Amortization Complexity analysis



Algorithm Analysis

- How to evaluate algorithms (correctness, complexity)
 - Notations and abstractions for describing algorithms
- Advanced data structures and their analysis
- Fundamental techniques to solve the vast array of unfamiliar problems that arise in a rapidly changing field
 - Up to date grasp of fundamental problems and solutions
 - Approaches to solve
- To think algorithmically like a 'real' computer scientist

Course Content

- A list of algorithms
 - Learn the code
 - Trace them until you are convinced that they work
 - Implement them.

class InsertionSortAlgorithm extends SortAlgorithm {
 void sort(int a[]) throws Exception {
 for (int i = 1; i < a.length; i++) {
 int j = i;
 int B = a[i];
 while ((j > 0) && (a[j-1] > B)) {
 a[j] = a[j-1];
 j--; }
 a[j] = B;
 }
 }
}

Course Content

- A survey of algorithmic design techniques
- Abstract thinking
- How to develop new algorithms for any problem that may arise



Start with some math

Time complexity as a function



$$t(n) = \Theta(n^2)$$

Counting primitive operations

- Sequences and summations
- Linear functions
- Logarithmic and exponential functions

$$a + ar + ar^2 + ar^3 + \dots + ar^{n-1} = \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} ar^k = a\left(rac{1-r^n}{1-r}
ight)$$

Classifying functions





Data Structures



Searching & Sorting



insertion sort

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-	
	_
	-

selection sort



heap sort

-

merge sort

	_
-	
_	-
	_

quick sort

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Fundamental Techniques



Graph algorithms

Minimum Spanning Tree





Graph search



Useful Learning Techniques

- You are expected to read ahead (before class)
 - This will facilitate more productive discussion during class
 - Plicker questions will be based on assigned reading
- Guess at potential algorithms for solving a problem
 - Look for input instances where your algorithm is wrong
- Practice explaining
 - You'll be tested on your ability to explain material
- Ask questions
 - Why is it done this way and not that way?

Applications in a wide variety of areas: Junior IS

Each student will undertake a major individual computer science project in the context of a particular application of interest to the student.

- Written component, software component, presentation
- Should include algorithm analysis
- Cover methods/topics not covered

The purpose is to prepare you for the process of Senior IS

Some previous topics have included:

- Image / handwriting recognition
- P vs. NP
- Path finding applications
- Procedural generation