

CE0825a: Object Oriented Programming II

11: Algorithms, Structures, Searching

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Algorithms

- The basic tools of programming: sorting, searching...
- How do we compare them? Which is 'best'?
 - CPU usage
 - Memory usage
 - Quality (Zopfli takes 1s to shave 35k off this PDF)
 - Note: Often a trade-off between those
 - LZMA2 ('Ultra', 8 threads): over 4Gb!

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Big-O Notation

- Quick short-hand way of describing *roughly* how an algorithm scales
- Form of “Bachmann-Landau notation”, but name “Big O” stuck
- Memory/workspace
- Time (usually CPU)
- If the problem size doubles, resource needs ... ?
- For example: “ $O(n)$ time, $O(1)$ space”

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Example: Calculate Mean

From back in week 2:

- 1 Iterate through each item in list
- 2 Add to running total and counter
- 3 Divide those values and return

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Analysing Mean Algorithm

How does that algorithm perform if we have twice, or ten times, as many items?

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Space Still just one counter and one running total:
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Typical Complexities

Constant $O(1)$ Fixed: resources unaffected by input size.

Log $O(\ln n)$ Slightly more for each doubling of input size.

Linear $O(n)$ Proportional: $10 \times \text{data} \rightarrow 10 \times \text{resources}$

Quasilinear $O(n \ln n)$ $10 \times \text{data} \rightarrow c12 \times \text{resources}$

Quadratic $O(n^2)$ $10 \times \text{data} \rightarrow 100 \times \text{resources}$

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Example Complexities

Constant Space Finding mean of inputs

Log Time Searching an index

Linear Time Finding mean of inputs

Quasilinear Time Quicksort on most inputs

Quadratic Time Selection sort (find lowest, remove, repeat)

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- Clearly no *sub-linear time* solution possible: must visit each item at least once
- Possibly *constant space* though: could sort input in-place

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- Generic/ideal abstract machine, no CPU specifics
- General case, ignores tiny/huge/corner cases
- Ignores parallelism: on 8 core CPU, multithreaded may be $8\times$ faster, same big-O
- Ignores constants: multithreaded LZMA2 compression can be over 4 Gb, still 'constant'
- Tiny data sets cached, huge ones mean hitting disk

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Algorithmic Complexity Summary

- Each algorithm has two key complexities: time, space
- Two algorithms could have similar complexity but one is faster
- Generally refers to typical case, ignores corner cases

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Data Structures

Lists Arrays, linked lists

Trees Binary trees, red-black trees

Tables Hash tables, lookup tables

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Data Structure: Array

Insert Linear time (rewrite)

Delete Linear time (rewrite)

Search Linear time

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Search Linear time

Data Structure: Binary Tree

When (roughly) balanced

Insert $O(\ln n)$

Delete $O(\ln n)$

Search $O(\ln n)$

All variants of searching: find the point where the item is or should be.

Caveat: in-order insertions can turn the tree into a linked list, $O(n)$ for all!

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Data Structure: Red-Black Tree

- Binary tree
- Mark (colour) each node either red or black
- Red nodes have only black child nodes
- Every path contains the same number of black nodes
- Shortest has all black, longest alternates black-red, i.e. twice as long

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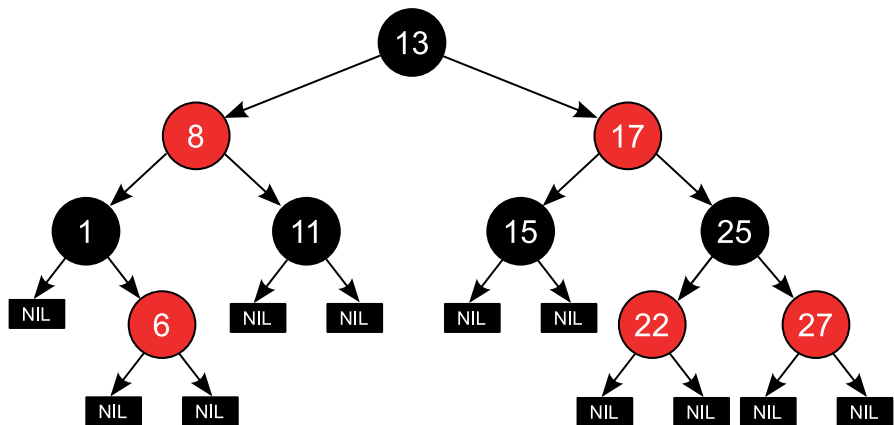
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Red Black Tree Example¹



¹Source: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Red-black_tree_example.svg

Data Structure: Lookup Tables

1	AMG
2	SET
3	DBS
4	SHS
5	GS

Lookup Table Operations

Insert Linear time (rewrite)

Delete Linear time (rewrite)

Search Constant time: jump to offset (linear time for reverse)

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Data Structure: Hash Tables

Split the data into 'buckets' by 'hash value'. Calculate the hash, search that bucket.

Bernstein CDB hash function:

$$h = 5381$$

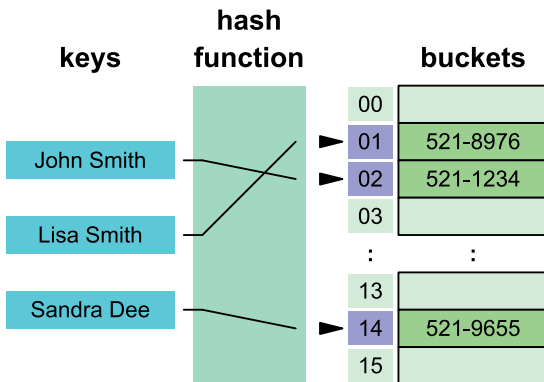
for each byte:

$$h = h \times 33 \oplus \text{byte}$$

End result is an array, but containing only some fraction of the total data.

With a predetermined list, like language keywords, you can precompute a *perfect hash* in which each valid word has a unique value.

Hash Table Example²



²Source: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Hash_table_3_1_1_0_1_0_0_SP.svg

Searching and Soundex

Encode (English) words into alphanumeric strings so that words which sound the same have the same code.

- 1. Leave the first letter alone
- 2. Drop vowels, Y, H, W
- 3. Drop repetitions unless they were separated by a vowel-sound
- 4. Take 3 digits, truncate/zero-extend as needed

e.g. their, they're, there = T600

1	BFPW
2	CGJKQSXZ
3	DT
4	L
5	MN
6	R

Lab Task Week 11

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- 2 Write your own Soundex implementation in Java

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