

New CS 473: Theory II

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NEW CS 473: Theory II, Fall 2015

Administrivia, Introduction

Lecture 1

August 25, 2015

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The word “algorithm” comes from...

Muhammad ibn Musa al-Khwarizmi
780-850 AD

The word “algebra” is taken from the title of one of his books.

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Part I

Administrivia

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Instructional Staff

1. **Instructor:**
 - ▶ Sarel Har-Peled (sariel)
2. **Teaching Assistants:**
 - 2.1 Xu Chao
3. **Office hours:** See course webpage
4. **Email:** See course webpage

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Online resources

1. **Webpage:**
courses.engr.illinois.edu/cs473/fa2015/
General information, homeworks, etc.
2. **Moodle:** Quizzes, solutions to homeworks.
3. **Online questions/announcements:** Piazza
Online discussions, etc.

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Textbooks

1. **Prerequisites:** CS 173 (discrete math), CS 225 (data structures) and CS 373 (theory of computation)
2. **Recommended books:**
 - 2.1 Algorithms by Dasgupta, Papadimitriou & Vazirani.
Available online for free!
 - 2.2 Algorithm Design by Kleinberg & Tardos
3. **Lecture notes:** Available on the web-page before/during/after every class.
4. **Additional References**
 - 4.1 Previous class notes of Jeff Erickson, Sarel Har-Peled and the instructor.
 - 4.2 Introduction to Algorithms: Cormen, Leiserson, Rivest, Stein.
 - 4.3 Computers and Intractability: Garey and Johnson.

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Prerequisites

1. **Asymptotic notation:** $O()$, $\Omega()$, $\Theta()$.
2. **Discrete Structures:** sets, functions, relations, equivalence classes, partial orders, trees, graphs
3. **Logic:** predicate logic, boolean algebra
4. **Proofs: by induction,** by contradiction
5. **Basic sums and recurrences:** sum of a geometric series, unrolling of recurrences, basic calculus
6. **Data Structures:** arrays, multi-dimensional arrays, linked lists, trees, balanced search trees, heaps
7. **Abstract Data Types:** lists, stacks, queues, dictionaries, priority queues
8. **Algorithms:** sorting (merge, quick, insertion), pre/post/in order traversal of trees, depth/breadth first search of trees (maybe graphs)
9. **Basic analysis of algorithms:** loops and nested loops, deriving recurrences from a recursive program
10. **Concepts from Theory of Computation:** languages, automata, Turing machine, undecidability, non-determinism
11. **Programming:** in some general purpose language
12. **Elementary Discrete Probability:** event, random variable, independence
13. **Mathematical maturity**

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Grading Policy: Overview

1. **Attendance/clickers:** +5%
2. **Quizzes:** 5%
3. **Homeworks:** 15%
4. **Midterm(s):** 30%
5. **Finals:** 50% (covers the full course content)

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Homeworks

1. One quiz every 1-2 weeks: Due by midnight on Sunday.
2. One homework every week.
3. Homeworks can be worked on in groups of up to 3 and each group submits *one* written solution (except Homework 0).
 - 3.1 Short quiz-style questions to be answered individually on *Moodle*.
4. Groups can be changed a *few* times only.
5. Purpose of iclicker/quizzes/homeworks to prepare you for the exams.

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More on Homeworks

1. No extensions or late homeworks accepted.
2. To compensate, the homework with the least score will be dropped in calculating the homework average.
3. **Important:** Read homework FAQ/instructions on website.

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Advice

1. Attend lectures, please ask plenty of questions.
2. Clickers...
3. Don't skip homework and don't copy homework solutions.
4. Study regularly and keep up with the course.
5. Ask for help promptly. Make use of office hours.

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Homeworks

1. Homework 0 is posted on the class website. Quiz 0 available
2. Homework 0 to be submitted in individually.

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Due warning

1. Challenging class.
2. Material is difficult.
3. Too much material, too little time.
4. Feel dazed and confused.

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Part II

Course Goals and Overview

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Topics

1. Polynomial-time Reductions, NP-Completeness, Heuristics
2. Some fundamental algorithms
3. Broadly applicable techniques in algorithm design
 - 3.1 Understanding problem structure
 - 3.2 Brute force enumeration and backtrack search
 - 3.3 Reductions
 - 3.4 Recursion
 - 3.4.1 Divide and Conquer
 - 3.4.2 Dynamic Programming
 - 3.5 Greedy methods
 - 3.6 Network Flows and Linear/Integer Programming (optional)
4. Analysis techniques
 - 4.1 Correctness of algorithms via induction and other methods
 - 4.2 Recurrences
 - 4.3 Amortization and elementary potential functions

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Goals

- 1.
2. Learn/remember some basic tricks, algorithms, problems, ideas
3. Understand/appreciate limits of computation (intractability)
4. Appreciate the importance of algorithms in computer science and beyond (engineering, mathematics, natural sciences, social sciences, ...)
5. Have fun!!!

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Part III

Algorithms and efficiency

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Primality testing

Problem

Given an integer $N > 0$, is N a prime?

SimpleAlgorithm:

```
for  $i = 2$  to  $\lfloor \sqrt{N} \rfloor$  do
  if  $i$  divides  $N$  then
    return 'COMPOSITE'
return 'PRIME'
```

Correctness? If N is composite, at least one factor in $\{2, \dots, \sqrt{N}\}$

Running time? $O(\sqrt{N})$ divisions? Sub-linear in input size!

Wrong!

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Primality testing

...Polynomial means... in input size

1. How many bits to represent N in binary? $\lceil \log N \rceil$ bits.
2. Simple Algorithm takes $\sqrt{N} = 2^{(\log N)/2}$ time.
Exponential in the input size $n = \log N$.
3. 3.1 Modern cryptography: binary numbers with 128, 256, 512 bits.
3.2 Simple Algorithm will take 2^{64} , 2^{128} , 2^{256} steps!
3.3 Fastest computer today about 3 petaFlops/sec: 3×2^{50} floating point ops/sec.

Lesson:

Pay attention to representation size in analyzing efficiency of algorithms. Especially in *number* problems.

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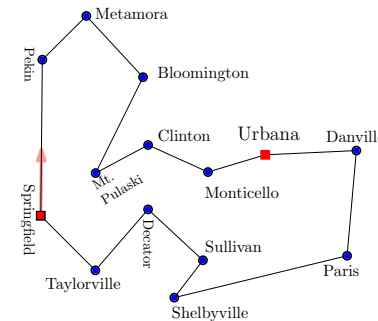
Efficient algorithms

1. Is there an *efficient/good/effective* algorithm for primality?
2. **Question:** What does efficiency mean?
3. Here: **efficiency** is broadly equated to *polynomial time*.
4. $O(n)$, $O(n \log n)$, $O(n^2)$, $O(n^3)$, $O(n^{100})$, ... where n is size of the input.
5. Why? Is n^{100} really efficient/practical? Etc.
6. Short answer: polynomial time is a robust, mathematically sound way to define efficiency. Has been useful for several decades.

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problem

Lincoln's tour



1. Circuit court - ride through counties staying a few days in each town.
2. Lincoln was a lawyer traveling with the Eighth Judicial Circuit.
3. Picture: travel during 1850.
 - 3.1 Very close to optimal tour.
 - 3.2 Might have been optimal at the time..

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Solving by a Computer

Is it hard?

1. n = number of cities.
2. n^2 : size of input.
3. Number of possible solutions is

$$n * (n - 1) * (n - 2) * ... * 2 * 1 = n!.$$

4. $n!$ grows very quickly as n grows.
 $n = 10$: $n! \approx 3628800$
 $n = 50$: $n! \approx 3 * 10^{64}$
 $n = 100$: $n! \approx 9 * 10^{157}$

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Solving by a Computer

Fastest computer...

1. Fastest super computer can do (roughly)

$$2.5 * 10^{15}$$

operations a second.

2. Assume: computer checks $2.5 * 10^{15}$ solutions every second, then...
 - 2.1 $n = 20 \implies$ 2 hours.
 - 2.2 $n = 25 \implies$ 200 years.
 - 2.3 $n = 37 \implies 2 * 10^{20}$ years!!!

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What is a good algorithm?

Running time...

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"No, Thursday's out. How about never—is never good for you?"

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What is a good algorithm?

Running time...

Input size	n^2 ops	n^3 ops	n^4 ops	$n!$ ops
5	0 secs	0 secs	0 secs	0 secs
20	0 secs	0 secs	0 secs	16 mins
30	0 secs	0 secs	0 secs	$3 \cdot 10^9$ years
100	0 secs	0 secs	0 secs	never
8000	0 secs	0 secs	1 secs	never
16000	0 secs	0 secs	26 secs	never
32000	0 secs	0 secs	6 mins	never
64000	0 secs	0 secs	111 mins	never
200,000	0 secs	3 secs	7 days	never
2,000,000	0 secs	53 mins	202.943 years	never
10^8	4 secs	12.6839 years	10^9 years	never
10^9	6 mins	12683.9 years	10^{13} years	never

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Primes is in P!

Theorem (Agrawal-Kayal-Saxena'02)

There is a polynomial time algorithm for primality.

First polynomial time algorithm for testing primality. Running time is $O(\log^{12} N)$ further improved to about $O(\log^6 N)$ by others. In terms of input size $n = \log N$, time is $O(n^6)$.

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What about before 2002?

Primality testing a key part of cryptography. What was the algorithm being used before 2002?

Miller-Rabin *randomized* algorithm:

1. runs in polynomial time: $O(\log^3 N)$ time
2. if N is prime correctly says "yes".
3. if N is composite it says "yes" with probability at most $1/2^{100}$ (can be reduced further at the expense of more running time).

Based on Fermat's little theorem and some basic number theory.

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Factoring

1. Modern public-key cryptography based on **RSA** (Rivest-Shamir-Adelman) system.
2. Relies on the difficulty of factoring a composite number into its prime factors.
3. There is a polynomial time algorithm that decides whether a given number N is prime or not (hence composite or not) but no known polynomial time algorithm to factor a given number.

Lesson

Intractability can be useful!

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Unit-Cost RAM Model

Informal description:

1. Basic data type is an integer/floating point number
2. Numbers in input fit in a word
3. Arithmetic/comparison operations on words take constant time
4. Arrays allow random access (constant time to access $A[i]$)
5. Pointer based data structures via storing addresses in a word

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Example

Sorting: input is an array of n numbers

1. input size is n (ignore the bits in each number),
2. comparing two numbers takes $O(1)$ time,
3. random access to array elements,
4. addition of indices takes constant time,
5. basic arithmetic operations take constant time,
6. reading/writing one word from/to memory takes constant time.

We will usually not allow (or be careful about allowing):

1. bitwise operations (and, or, xor, shift, etc).
2. floor function.
3. limit word size (usually assume unbounded word size).

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Caveats of RAM Model

Unit-Cost RAM model is applicable in wide variety of settings in practice. However it is not a proper model in several important situations so one has to be careful.

1. For some problems such as basic arithmetic computation, unit-cost model makes no sense. Examples: multiplication of two n -digit numbers, primality etc.
2. Input data is very large and does not satisfy the assumptions that individual numbers fit into a word or that total memory is bounded by 2^k where k is word length.
3. Assumptions valid only for certain type of algorithms that do not create large numbers from initial data. For example, exponentiation creates very big numbers from initial numbers.

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Models used in class

In this course:

1. Assume unit-cost **RAM** by default.
2. We will explicitly point out where unit-cost RAM is not applicable for the problem at hand.

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Part IV

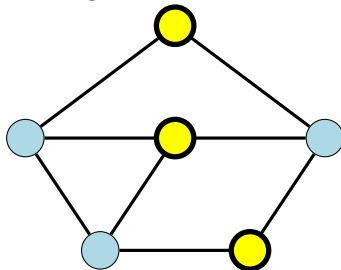
Reductions

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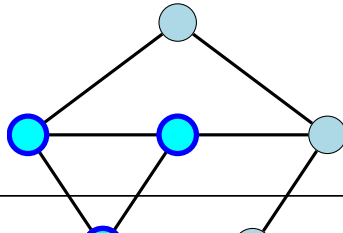
Independent Sets and Cliques

Given a graph G , a set of vertices V' is:

1. An **independent set**: if no two vertices of V' are connected by an edge of G .



2. **clique**: every pair of vertices in V' connected by an edge of



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The Independent Set and Clique Problems

Independent Set

Instance: A graph G and an integer k .

Question: Does G has an independent set of size $\geq k$?

Clique

Instance: A graph G and an integer k .

Question: Does G has a clique of size $\geq k$?

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Types of Problems

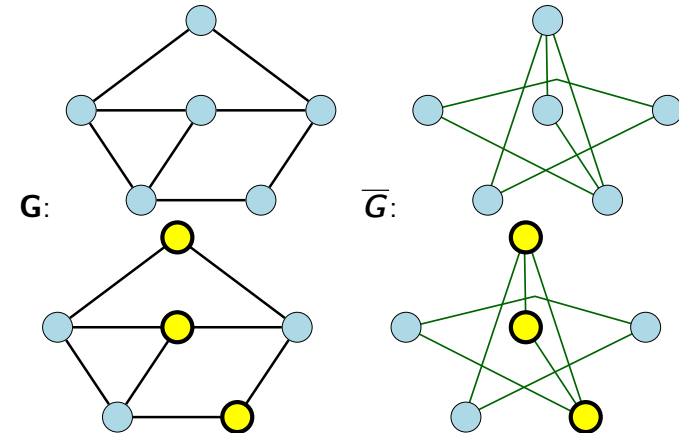
Decision, Search, and Optimization

1. **Decision problem.** Example: given n , is n prime?.
2. **Search problem.** Example: given n , find a factor of n if it exists.
3. **Optimization problem.** Example: find the **smallest** prime factor of n .

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Reducing Independent Set to Clique

An instance of **Independent Set** is a graph G and an integer k . Convert G to \overline{G} , in which (u, v) is an edge $\iff (u, v)$ is **not** an edge of G . (\overline{G} is the *complement* of G .)
 (\overline{G}, k) : instance of **Clique**.



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Independent Set and Clique

1. **Independent Set** \leq **Clique**.
What does this mean?
2. If have an algorithm for **Clique**, then we have an algorithm for **Independent Set**.
3. **Clique** is *at least as hard as* **Independent Set**.
4. Also... **Independent Set** is *at least as hard as* **Clique**.

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Reductions, revised.

For decision problems X, Y , a **reduction from X to Y** is:

1. An algorithm ...
2. Input: I_X , an instance of X .
3. Output: I_Y an instance of Y .
4. Such that:

$$\boxed{I_Y \text{ is YES instance of } Y} \iff \boxed{I_X \text{ is YES instance of } X}$$

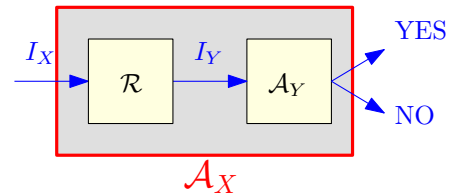
(Actually, this is only one type of reduction, but this is the one we'll use most often.)

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Using reductions to solve problems

1. \mathcal{R} : Reduction $X \rightarrow Y$
2. \mathcal{A}_Y : algorithm for Y :
3. \implies New algorithm for X :

```
 $\mathcal{A}_X(I_X)$ :  
  //  $I_X$ : instance of  $X$ .  
   $I_Y \leftarrow \mathcal{R}(I_X)$   
  return  $\mathcal{A}_Y(I_Y)$ 
```



In particular, if \mathcal{R} and \mathcal{A}_Y are polynomial-time algorithms, \mathcal{A}_X is also polynomial-time.

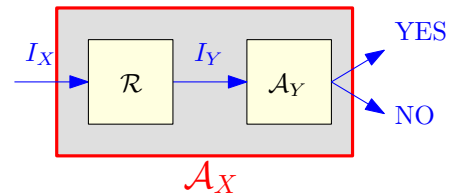
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Comparing Problems

1. Reductions allow us to formalize the notion of “Problem X is no harder to solve than Problem Y ”.
2. If Problem X **reduces to** Problem Y (we write $X \leq Y$), then X cannot be harder to solve than Y .
3. More generally, if $X \leq Y$, we can say that X is no harder than Y , or Y is at least as hard as X .

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Polynomial-time reductions



1. Algorithm is **efficient** if it runs in polynomial-time.
2. Interested only in **polynomial-time reductions**.
3. $X \leq_P Y$: Have polynomial-time reduction from problem X to problem Y .
4. \mathcal{A}_Y : poly-time algorithm for Y .
5. \implies Polynomial-time/efficient algorithm for X .

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Polynomial-time reductions and hardness

Lemma

For decision problems X and Y , if $X \leq_P Y$, and Y has an efficient algorithm, X has an efficient algorithm.

1. **Independent Set**: “believe” there is no efficient algorithm.
2. What about **Clique**?
3. Showed: **Independent Set** \leq_P **Clique**.
4. If **Clique** had an efficient algorithm, so would **Independent Set**!

Observation

If $X \leq_P Y$ and X does not have an efficient algorithm, Y cannot have an efficient algorithm!

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