

CSSE 230 Day 3

Maximum Contiguous Subsequence Sum

After today's class you will be able to:

- state and solve the MCSS problem on small arrays by observation
- find the exact runtimes of the naive MCSS algorithms

Reminder of good code style

- ▶ **Good comments:**
 - Javadoc comments for public fields and methods.
 - Internal comments for anything that is not obvious.
- ▶ **Good variable and method names:**
 - Eclipse has name completion (ALT /), so the “typing cost” of using long names is small
- ▶ **Use local variables and static methods** (instead of fields and non-static methods) where appropriate
 - “where appropriate” includes any place where you can’t explicitly justify creating instance fields
- ▶ **No super-long lines of code**
- ▶ **No super-long methods:** use top down design
- ▶ **Consistent indentation** (ctrl-shift f)
- ▶ **Blank lines** between methods, **space** after punctuation

Review: Limits and Asymptotics

- ▶ Consider the limit

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(n)}{g(n)}$$

- ▶ What does it say about asymptotic relationship between f and g if this limit is...
 - 0?
 - finite and non-zero?
 - infinite?

Apply this limit property to the following pairs of functions

1. n and n^2
2. $\log n$ and n (on these questions and solutions ONLY, let $\log n$ mean natural log)
3. $n \log n$ and n^2
4. $\log_a n$ and $\log_b n$ ($a < b$)
5. n^a and a^n ($a > = 1$)
6. a^n and b^n ($a < b$)

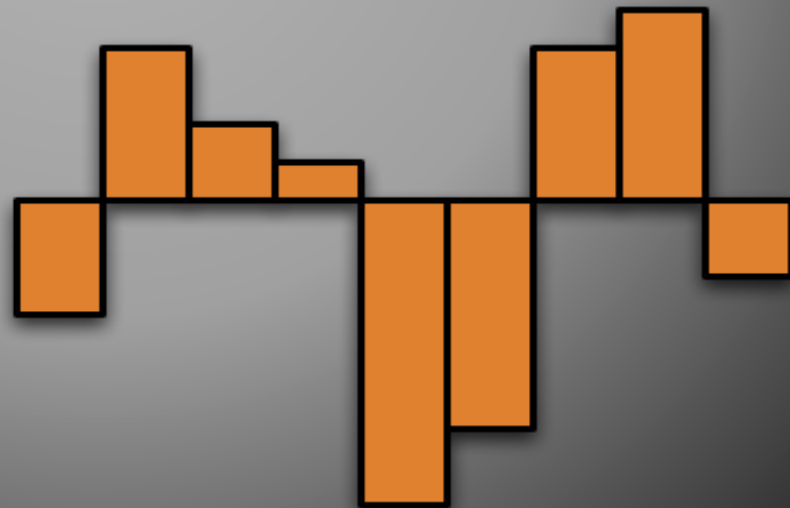
Recall l'Hôpital's rule:
under appropriate conditions,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f'(n)}{g'(n)}$$

Maximum Contiguous Subsequence Sum

A deceptively deep problem with a surprising solution.

$\{-3, 4, 2, 1, -8, -6, 4, 5, -2\}$

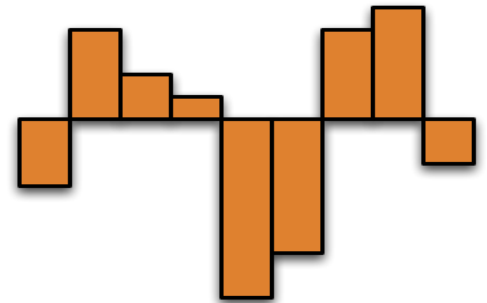


Why do we look at this problem?

- ▶ It's interesting
- ▶ Analyzing the obvious solution is instructive
- ▶ We can make the program more efficient

A Nice Algorithm Analysis Example

- ▶ **Problem:** Given a sequence of numbers, find the maximum sum of a contiguous subsequence.



- ▶ **Consider:**
 - What if all the numbers were positive?
 - What if they all were negative?
 - What if we left out “contiguous”?

Formal Definition: Maximum Contiguous Subsequence Sum

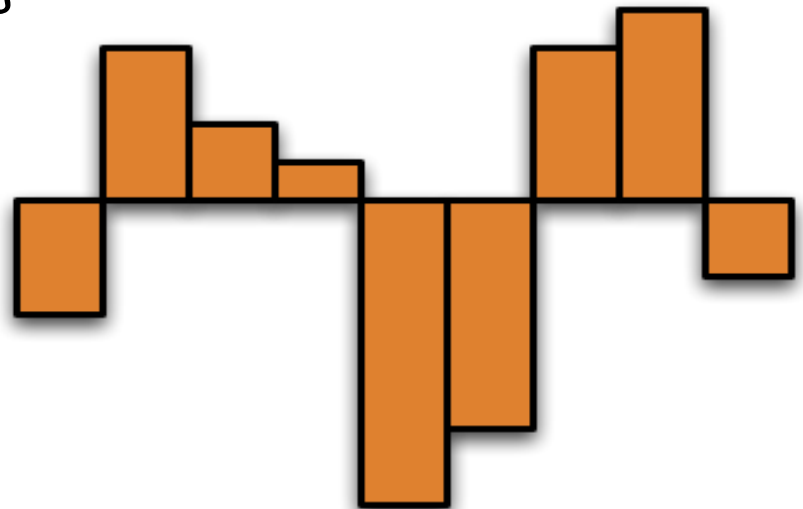
Problem definition: Given a non-empty sequence of n (possibly negative) integers A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n , find the maximum consecutive subsequence $S_{i,j} = \sum_{k=i}^j A_k$, and the corresponding values of i and j .

- ▶ In $\{-2, 11, -4, 13, -5, 2\}$, $S_{2,4} = ?$
- ▶ In $\{1, -3, 4, -2, -1, 6\}$, what is MCSS?
- ▶ If every element is negative, what's the MCSS?

1-based indexing

A quick-and-dirty algorithm

- ▶ Design one right now.
 - Efficiency doesn't matter.
 - It has to be easy to understand.
 - 3 minutes
- ▶ Examples to consider:
 - $\{-3, 4, 2, 1, -8, -6, 4, 5, -2\}$
 - $\{5, 6, -3, 2, 8, 4, -12, 7, 2\}$



First Algorithm

Find the sums of
all subsequences

```
public final class MaxSubTest {
    private static int seqStart = 0;
    private static int seqEnd = 0;

    /* First maximum contiguous subsequence sum algorithm.
     * seqStart and seqEnd represent the actual best sequence.
     */
    public static int maxSubSum1( int [ ] a ) {
        int maxSum = 0;
        //In the analysis we use "n" as a shorthand for "a.length
        for( int i = 0; i < a.length; i++ ) "
            for( int j = i; j < a.length; j++ ) {
                int thisSum = 0;

                for( int k = i; k <= j; k++ )
                    thisSum += a[ k ];

                if( thisSum > maxSum ) {
                    maxSum = thisSum;
                    seqStart = i;
                    seqEnd = j;
                }
            }
        return maxSum;
    }
}
```

i: beginning of
subsequence

j: end of
subsequence

k: steps through
each element of
subsequence

Where
will this
algorithm
spend the
most
time?

How many times
(exactly, as a function of
 $N = a.length$) will that
statement execute?

Analysis of this Algorithm

- ▶ What statement is executed the most often?
- ▶ How many times?
- ▶ How many triples, (i, j, k) with $1 \leq i \leq k \leq j \leq n$?

```
//In the analysis we use "n" as a shorthand for "a.length "  
for( int i = 0; i < a.length; i++ )  
    for( int j = i; j < a.length; j++ ) {  
        int thisSum = 0;  
  
        for( int k = i; k <= j; k++ )  
            thisSum += a[ k ];
```

Outer numbers could be 0 and $n - 1$,
and we'd still get the same answer.

How to find the exact sum

- ▶ By hand
- ▶ Using Maple

Counting is (surprisingly) hard!

- ▶ How many triples, (i, j, k) with $1 \leq i \leq k \leq j \leq n$?
- ▶ What is that as a summation?

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \left(\sum_{j=i}^n \left(\sum_{k=i}^j 1 \right) \right)$$

- ▶ Let's solve it by hand to practice with sums

Simplify the sum

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \left(\sum_{j=i}^n \left(\sum_{k=i}^j 1 \right) \right)$$

- ▶ When it gets down to “just Algebra”, Maple is our friend

Help from Maple, part 1

Simplifying the last step of the monster sum

```
> simplify( (n^2+3*n+2) / 2*n  
- (n+3/2) * n * (n+1) / 2 + 1/2 * n * (n+1) * (2*n+1) / 6 ) ;
```

$$\frac{1}{6}n^3 + \frac{1}{2}n^2 + \frac{1}{3}n$$

```
> factor(%) ;
```

$$\frac{1}{6}(n+2)n(n+1)$$

Help from Maple, part 2

Letting Maple do the whole thing for us:

```
sum(sum(sum(1, k=i..j), j=i..n), i=1..n);
```

$$\frac{1}{2}(n+1)n^2 + 2(n+1)n + \frac{1}{3}n + \frac{5}{6} - \frac{1}{2}n(n+1)^2 - (n+1)^2$$

$$+ \frac{1}{6}(n+1)^3 - \frac{1}{2}n^2$$

```
> factor(simplify(%));
```

$$\frac{1}{6}(n+2)n(n+1)$$

We get same answer if we sum from 0 to n-1, instead of 1 to n

```
factor(simplify(sum(sum(sum(1, k=i..j), j=i..n), i=1..n)));
```

$$\frac{n(n+2)(n+1)}{6}$$

```
factor(simplify(sum(sum(sum(1, k=i..j), j=i..n-1), i=0..n-1)));
```

$$\frac{n(n+2)(n+1)}{6}$$

Interlude

- ▶ Computer Science is no more about computers than astronomy is about _____.

Donald Knuth

Interlude

- ▶ Computer Science is no more about computers than astronomy is about telescopes.

Donald Knuth

Fun tangent

Observe that $\frac{n(n+1)(n+2)}{6} = \binom{n+2}{3}$,
from basic counting/probability

- ▶ The textbook makes use of this in a curious way to find the sum more easily. Fun, but not required for class.

Where do we stand?

- ▶ We showed MCSS is $O(n^3)$.
 - Showing that a **problem** is $O(g(n))$ is relatively easy – just analyze a known algorithm.
- ▶ Is MCSS $\Omega(n^3)$?
 - Showing that a **problem** is $\Omega(g(n))$ is much tougher. How do you prove that it is impossible to solve a problem more quickly than you already can?
- Or maybe we can find a faster algorithm?

$f(n)$ is $O(g(n))$ if $f(n) \leq cg(n)$ for all $n \geq n_0$

- So O gives an upper bound

$f(n)$ is $\Omega(g(n))$ if $f(n) \geq cg(n)$ for all $n \geq n_0$

- So Ω gives a lower bound

$f(n)$ is $\theta(g(n))$ if $c_1g(n) \leq f(n) \leq c_2g(n)$ for all $n \geq n_0$

- So θ gives a tight bound

- $f(n)$ is $\theta(g(n))$ if it is both $O(g(n))$ and $\Omega(g(n))$

What is the main source of the simple algorithm's inefficiency?

```
//In the analysis we use "n" as a shorthand for "a.length "  
for( int i = 0; i < a.length; i++ )  
    for( int j = i; j < a.length; j++ ) {  
        int thisSum = 0;  
  
        for( int k = i; k <= j; k++ )  
            thisSum += a[ k ];
```

- ▶ The performance is bad!

Eliminate the most obvious inefficiency...

```
for( int i = 0; i < a.length; i++ ) {  
    int thisSum = 0;  
    for( int j = i; j < a.length; j++ ) {  
        thisSum += a[ j ];  
  
        if( thisSum > maxSum ) {  
            maxSum = thisSum;  
            seqStart = i;  
            seqEnd = j;  
        }  
    }  
}
```

This is $\Theta(?)$

MCSS is $O(n^2)$

- ▶ Is MCSS $\theta(n^2)$?
 - Showing that a problem is $\Omega(g(n))$ is much tougher. How do you prove that it is impossible to solve a problem more quickly than you already can?
 - Can we find a yet faster algorithm?

$f(n)$ is $O(g(n))$ if $f(n) \leq cg(n)$ for all $n \geq n_0$

- So O gives an upper bound

$f(n)$ is $\Omega(g(n))$ if $f(n) \geq cg(n)$ for all $n \geq n_0$

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- $f(n)$ is $\theta(g(n))$ if it is both $O(g(n))$ and $\Omega(g(n))$

Can we do even better?

Tune in next time for the exciting conclusion!

