



YEAH A5

Bag'O Big-O



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- You're also welcome to work in pairs on this assignment.
- We **strongly** recommend that you finish the midterm **before** starting this assignment!
- Don't worry, we designed this assignment to be lighter than the others!

Assignment Overview

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1. Big-O Analysis

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1. Big-O Analysis
2. Recursive Combine

Part 1: Big-O Analysis

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- We've also given you access to a runtime plotter that displays the relationship between n , the size of the input, and the execution time of the function calls.
- With these two things, all you need to do is determine the runtime of each of the 13 functions, and log your answers in `BigOAnswers.txt`

Part 1: Big-O Analysis

Let's review some Big-O Basics!

Part 1: Big-O Analysis

- Big-O notation is a way of quantifying the rate at which some quantity grows.
- We can use it to roughly estimate how well our program scales with increasingly large input.
- Let's see some examples!

Part 1: Big-O Analysis - $O(1)$

```
void foo1(const Vector<int>& input) {  
    cout << "hello world!" << endl;  
}
```

Some functions exhibit behaviors independent of the size of their inputs.

Part 1: Big-O Analysis - $O(1)$

```
void foo1(const Vector<int>& input) {  
    cout << "hello world!" << endl;  
}
```

```
void foo2(const Vector<int>& input) {  
    for (int i = 0; i < 100000000; i++) {  
        cout << i << endl;  
    }  
}
```

They can do a lot of work, but in Big-O they are still constant.

Part 1: Big-O Analysis - $O(N)$

```
void foo2(const Vector<int>& input) {  
    for (int i = 0; i < input.size(); i++) {  
        cout << input[i] << endl;  
    }  
}
```

Other functions have runtimes that grow LINEARLY with the size of the input.

Part 1: Big-O Analysis - $O(N)$

```
void foo2(const Vector<int>& input) {  
    for (int i = 0; i < input.size(); i++) {  
        cout << input[i] << endl;  
    }  
}
```

Again, constants don't matter.

```
void foo2(const Vector<int>& input) {  
    for (int i = 0; i < input.size(); i++) {  
        cout << input[i] << endl;  
    }  
    for (int i = 0; i < input.size() * 2; i++) {  
        cout << input[i/2] << endl;  
    }  
    for (int i = 0; i < 137; i++) {  
        cout << "more printing!" << endl;  
    }  
}
```

Part 1: Big-O Analysis - $O(N^2)$

```
void foo5(const Vector<int>& input) {  
    for (int i = 0; i < input.size(); i++) {  
        for (int j = 0; j < input.size(); j++) {  
            cout << i << j << endl;  
        }  
    }  
}
```

Runtimes can be quadratic, and potentially much higher.

Part 1: Big-O Analysis - $O(N^2)$

```
void foo5(const Vector<int>& input) {
    for (int i = 0; i < input.size(); i++) {
        for (int j = 0; j < input.size(); j++) {
            cout << i << j << endl;
        }
    }
}
```

However, a function's runtime is not always determined by the number of functions it calls.

```
void foo6(Vector<int>& input) {
    while (!input.isEmpty()) {
        input.remove(0);
    }
}
```

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Some general rules:

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    for (int i = 0; i < input.size(); i++) {
        cout << input[i] << endl;
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void foo5(const Vector<int>& input) {  
    for (int i = 0; i < input.size(); i++) {  
        for (int j = 0; j < input.size(); j++) {  
            cout << i << j << endl;  
        }  
    }  
}
```

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}
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Part 1: Big-O Analysis

Some general rules:

- Two parallel blocks of code add their runtime.
- Nested code multiplies its runtime.
- Recursive function:
 - How many calls are there (in terms of the size of input N) * how much work is done per call

Part 1: Big-O Analysis

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- Just in case it wasn't clear, there's no need to write/modify any code in this part of the assignment!

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- You'll probably want to read up on the documentation for the various functions you find in the code. Ensure you know the runtimes of each, and don't take anything for granted!
- Just in case it wasn't clear, there's no need to write/modify any code in this part of the assignment!
- With respect to runtime plots, expect somewhat noisy data plots for small-input levels. Additionally, you might see odd spikes at certain points in your graphs -- this is probably because your computer had other things going on in the background!

Questions about Part 1?

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```
Vector<DataPoint> combine(const Vector<Vector<DataPoint>>& dataPoints)
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- For those interested, a `DataPoint` is a little struct that looks like this:

```
struct DataPoint {  
    string name; // Name of this data point; varies by application  
    int weight; // "Weight" of this data point. Points are sorted by weight.  
};
```

Part 2: Combine

Here's how we want you to approach this problem:

Part 2: Combine

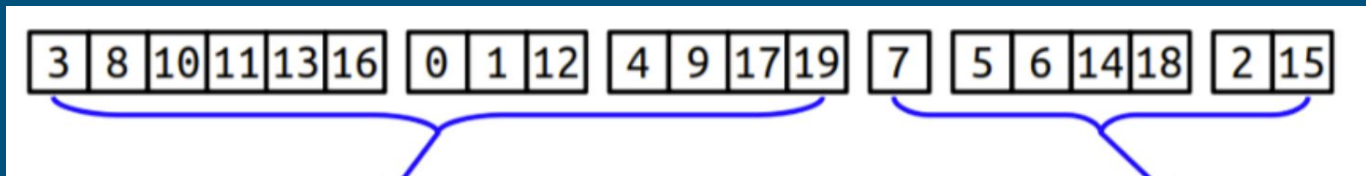
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[Above: A collection of sorted sequences being regrouped into 2 collections of sequences of size roughly $k/2$.]

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2. Call your `combine ()` function recursively on both of the `vector`'s

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As you can see, each call returns a `Vector<DataPoint>`'s that is sorted!

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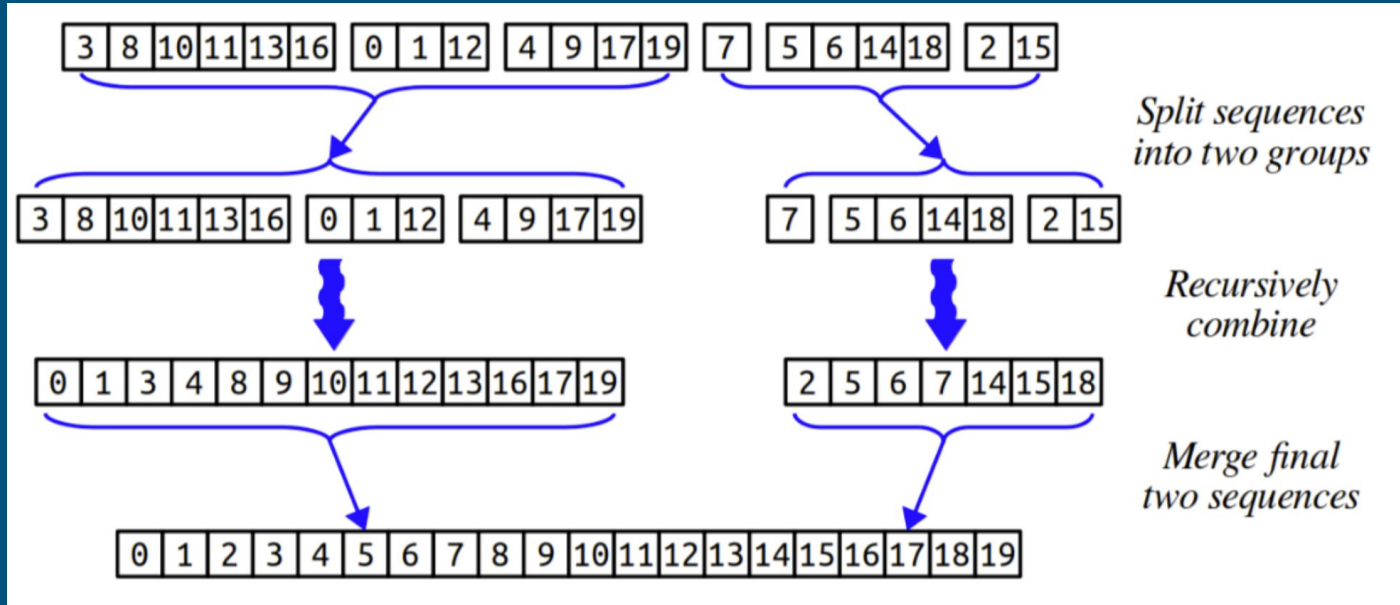
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Vector<DataPoint> combine(const Vector<Vector<DataPoint>>& dataPoints)
```

As you can see, each call returns a `vector<DataPoint>`'s that is sorted!

3. Use the `merge ()` algorithm from class to combine these two sorted sequences into a single sorted sequence, which you'll return!

Part 2: Combine

At a high level, here's a visual of what's going on:



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- You'll want this code to run in $O(n \log k)$ time, where n is the number of elements total and k is the number of sequences originally. Think about why this is the case.

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- You'll want this code to run in $O(n \log k)$ time, where n is the number of elements total and k is the number of sequences originally. Think about why this is the case.
- If you use the `merge()` routine from class, recall that removing from the front of a `vector` does not run in $O(1)$ time. You're going to need to figure out a workaround that preserves the required runtime.

Part 2: Combine

A few more implementation notes:

- Just to be clear -- you'll be determining ordering based on the **weight** field of the `DataPoint` struct. Ties can be broken arbitrarily.

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- Just to be clear -- you'll be determining ordering based on the **weight** field of the `DataPoint` struct. Ties can be broken arbitrarily.
- The sequences you merge together might not be the same size -- some might even be empty! Your code should correctly combine them all.
- Before you submit, run the "Time Tests" portion of the GUI and verify visually that your code runs in $O(n \log k)$ time. After completing part 1 of this assignment, we think you'll know how to identify this runtime on a plot!

Any Questions?
