

A2

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1 Array-based Data Structures

1.1 Implement two Stacks in one Array

From 10.1-3 of CLRS

Explain how to implement two stacks in one array $A[1 : n]$ in such a way that neither stack overflows unless the total number of elements in both stacks together is n . The `PUSH` and `POP` operations should run in $O(1)$ time.

2 Linked List

2.1 Reverse a Linked List

From 10.2-5 of CLRS

Give a $\Theta(n)$ -time non-recursive procedure that reverses a singly linked list of n elements. The procedure should use no more than constant storage beyond that needed for the list itself.

3 Divide-and-Conquer & Recursion

3.1 Multiply Matrices with Squaring Algorithm

From 4.2-6 of CLRS

Suppose that you have a $\Theta(n^\alpha)$ -time algorithm for squaring $n \times n$ matrices, where $\alpha \geq 2$ is a constant. Show how to use that algorithm to multiply two different $n \times n$ matrices in $\Theta(n^\alpha)$ time.

3.2 Sort the Pancakes

From 1.9 of *Algorithms by Jeff Erickson*

Suppose you are given a stack of n pancakes of different sizes. You want to sort the pancakes so that smaller pancakes are on top of larger pancakes. The only operation you can perform is a *flip*—insert a spatula under the top k pancakes, for some integer k between 1 and n , and flip them all over.

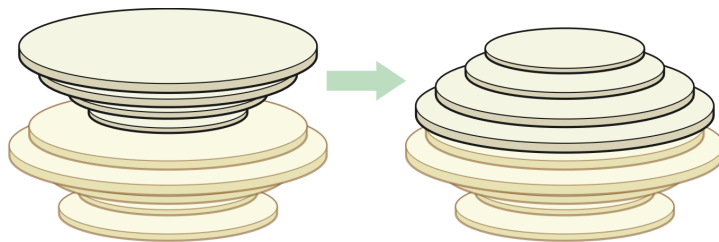


Figure 1.19. Flipping the top four pancakes.

1. Describe an algorithm to sort an arbitrary stack of n pancakes using $O(n)$ flips. *Exactly* how many flips does your algorithm perform in the worst case? ¹

2. Now suppose one side of each pancake is burned. Describe an algorithm to sort an arbitrary stack of n pancakes, so that the burned side of every pancake is facing down, using $O(n)$ flips. *Exactly* how many flips does your algorithm perform in the worst case?

3.3 Calculate the Inversions

From 1.13 of Algorithms by Jeff Erickson

An **inversion** in an array $A[1 \dots n]$ is a pair of indices (i, j) such that $i < j$ and $A[i] > A[j]$. The number of inversions in an n -element array is between 0 (if the array is sorted) and $\binom{n}{2}$ (if the array is sorted backward).

Describe and analyze an algorithm to count the number of inversions in an n -element array in $O(n \log n)$ time.

[Hint: Modify mergesort.]

1. The *exact* worst-case optimal number of flips required to sort n pancakes (either burned or unburned) is a long-standing open problem; just do the best you can.

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