Discussion 06: October 06, 2025

1 Re-cursed with Asymptotics

(a) What is the runtime of the code below in terms of n?

```
public static int curse(int n) {
   if (n <= 0) {
      return 0;
   } else {
      return n + curse(n - 1);
   }
}</pre>
```

(b) Can you find a runtime bound for the code below? We can assume the System.arraycopy method takes $\Theta(N)$ time, where N is the number of elements copied. The official signature is System.arrayCopy(Object sourceArr, int srcPos, Object dest, int destPos, int length). Here, <math>System.arrayCopy(Object sourceArr, int srcPos, Object dest, int destPos, int length). Here, System.arrayCopy(Object sourceArr, int srcPos, Object dest, int destPos, int length). Here, System.arrayCopy(Object sourceArr, int srcPos, Object dest, int destPos, int length).

```
public static void silly(int[] arr) {
    if (arr.length <= 1) {
        System.out.println("You won!");
        return;
    }

    int newLen = arr.length / 2;
    int[] firstHalf = new int[newLen];
    int[] secondHalf = new int[newLen];

    System.arraycopy(arr, 0, firstHalf, 0, newLen);
    System.arraycopy(arr, newLen, secondHalf, 0, newLen);
    silly(firstHalf);
    silly(secondHalf);
}</pre>
```

(c) Given that exponentialWork runs in $\Theta(3^N)$ time with respect to input N, what is the runtime of amy?

```
public void ronnie(int N) {
   if (N <= 1) {
      return;
   }
   amy(N - 2);
   amy(N - 2);
   amy(N - 2);
   exponentialWork(N); // Runs in $Theta(3^N)$ time
}</pre>
```

2 BST Asymptotics

Below we define the **find** method of a BST (Binary Search Tree) as in lecture, which returns the BST rooted at the node with key **sk** in our overall BST. In this setup, assume a **BST** has a **key** (the value of the tree root) and then pointers to two other child BSTs, **left** and **right**.

```
public static BST find(BST tree, Key sk) {
   if (tree == null) {
      return null;
   }
   if (sk.compareTo(tree.key) == 0) {
      return tree;
   } else if (sk.compareTo(tree.key) < 0) {
      return find(tree.left, sk);
   } else {
      return find(tree.right, sk);
   }
}</pre>
```

(a) Assume our BST is perfectly bushy. What is the runtime of a single **find** operation in terms of N, the number of nodes in the tree? Can we generalize the runtime of **find** to a theta bound?

(b) Say we have an empty BST and want to insert the keys [6, 2, 5, 9, 0, -3] (in some order). In what order should we insert the keys into the BST such that the runtime of a single **find** operation after all keys are inserted is O(N)? Draw out the resulting BST.

3 ADT Matchmaking!

Match each task to the best Abstract Data Type for the job and justify your answer (ie. explain why other options would be less ideal). The options are List, Map, Queue, Set, and Stack. Each ADT will be used once.

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1.	You want to keep track of all the unique users who have logged on to your system.
2.	You are creating a version control system and want to associate each file name with a Blob.
3.	We are grading a pile of exams and want to grade starting from the top of the pile ($Hint$: what order do we pile papers in?).
4.	We are running a server and want to service clients in the order they arrive.

5. We have a lot of books at our library and we want our website to display them in some sorted order. We

have multiple copies of some books and we want each listing to be separate.