



De La Salle University
D A S M A R I Ñ A S



CS Algorithms Demystified: A Beginner's Guide to Searching, Sorting, and Solving

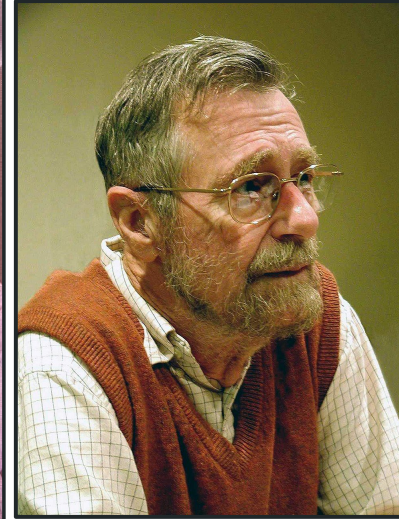
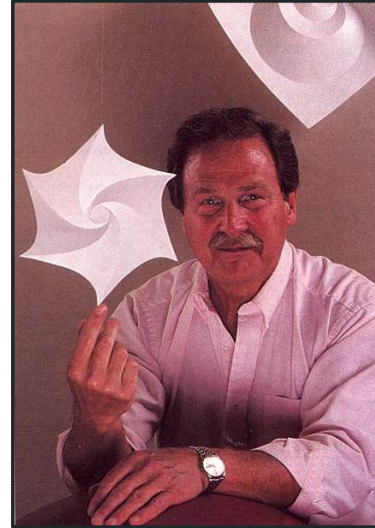
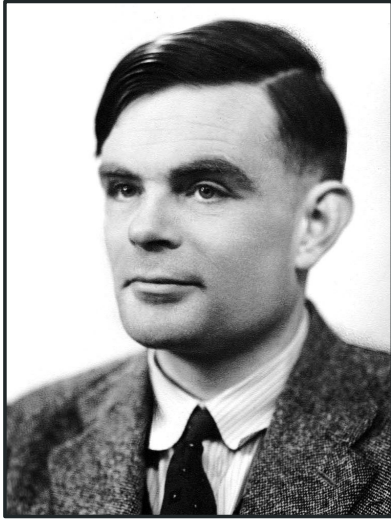
Christian Elijah DC. Darvin
March 25, 2026

OUTLINE

Chapter 1	Algorithms
Chapter 2	Time & Space Complexity
Chapter 3	Searching & Sorting Algorithms

Chapter 1: Algorithms

HISTORY OF COMPUTING



algorithm noun

al·go·rithm

'al-gə-,ri-thəm 

: a procedure for solving a mathematical problem (as of finding the greatest **common divisor**) in a finite number of steps that frequently involves repetition of an operation

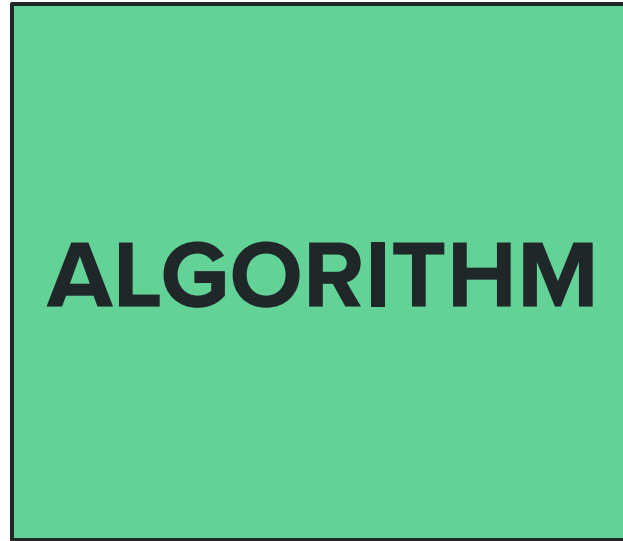
broadly : a step-by-step procedure for solving a problem or accomplishing some end

PROPERTIES

Definiteness
Finiteness
Effectiveness

REPRESENTATION

INPUT →



→ OUTPUT

PROBLEM A



PSEUDOCODE

Pseudo code: **Bubble Sort**(Array $a[]$)

1. begin
2. for $i = 1$ to $n - 1$
3. for $j = 1$ to $n - i$
4. if ($a[j] > a[j + 1]$) then
5. Swap ($a[j], a[j + 1]$)
8. end

PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES



PSEUDOCODE

Pseudo code: **Bubble Sort**(Array $a[]$)

```
1. begin
2.   for  $i = 1$  to  $n - 1$ 
3.     for  $j = 1$  to  $n - i$ 
4.       if ( $a[j] > a[j + 1]$ ) then
5.         Swap ( $a[j], a[j + 1]$ )
8. end
```

- A human-readable, step-by-step description of an algorithm's logic
- Design phase
- “Pseudo”

PROGRAMMING LANGUAGE

```
c++ hello_world.cpp ×
4  #include <iostream>
3  int main() {
2      std::cout << "Hello, World!" << '\n';
1      return 0;
5  }
```

- Instructs a computer to perform tasks
 - Implementation phase
 - Compiler/Interpreter
-

Chapter 2: Time & Space Complexity

INPUT →



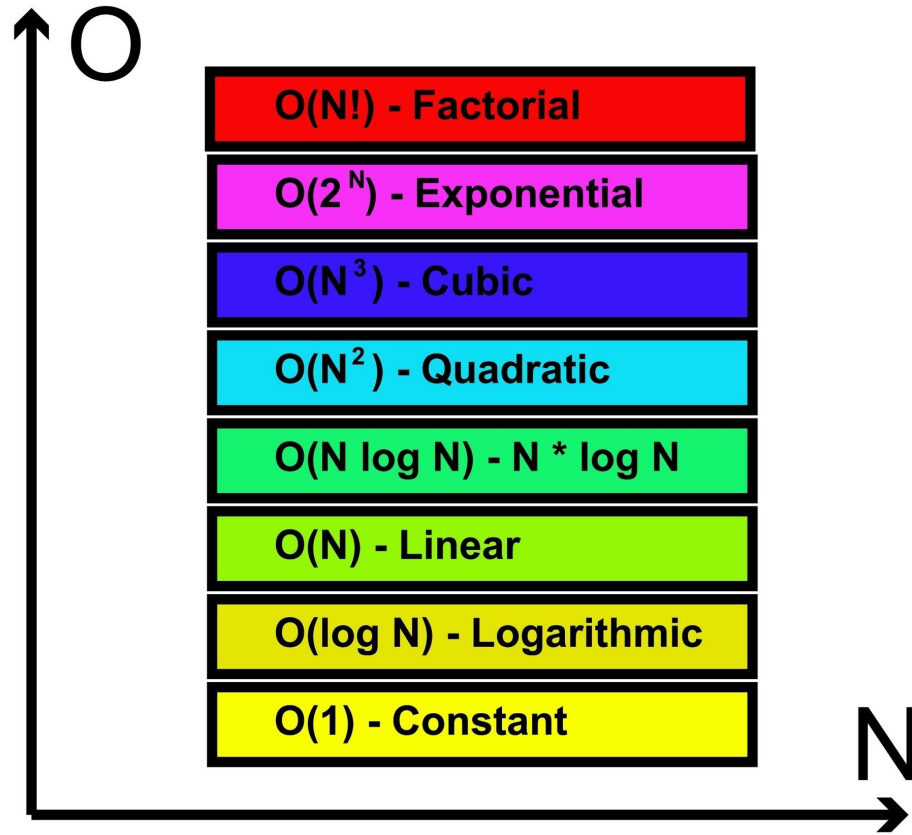
→ OUTPUT

TIME

- How fast? (CPU Usage)
- Measured by the number of operations or steps the CPU has to take

SPACE

- How heavy? (RAM Usage)
 - Measured by how much extra RAM the program needs to run.
-



Big O Notation

O(1)	1
O(log n)	6.64
O(n)	100
O(n log n)	664
O(n²)	10,000
O(n³)	1,000,000
O(2ⁿ)	1.26 x 10 ³⁰
O(n!)	9.33 x 10 ³⁷

Bubble Sort

N	Time (s)	Comparisons
1000	0.00438599	498465
5000	0.099257	12495289
10000	0.419583	49992150
20000	2.05291	199966995
50000	14.0708	1249948435
100000	57.7297	4999887519
120000	83.5827	7199767422

Quick Sort

N	Time (s)	Comparisons
1000	9.9383e-05	9904
5000	0.00061064	72178
10000	0.00144613	157158
20000	0.00280229	341807
50000	0.00763538	952103
100000	0.0149471	2054544
120000	0.0175353	2430767

Bubble Sort $O(n^2)$

Input Size (N)	n^2
1,000	1,000,000
5,000	25,000,000
10,000	100,000,000

Quick Sort

$$O(n * \log_2 n)$$

Input Size (N)	$n * \log_2 n$
1,000	$\approx 9,970$
5,000	$\approx 61,450$
10,000	$\approx 132,900$

Time-Space Trade-Off

Is there a universal way to measure the efficiency of algorithms? **YES.**

ASYMPTOTIC NOTATIONS

O (Oh) | Ω (Omega) | Θ (Theta)

Chapter 3: Searching & Sorting Algorithms

Searching

Locating a specific item in a dataset.

Sorting

Arranging data into a specific sequence.

HUMAN VIEW

10

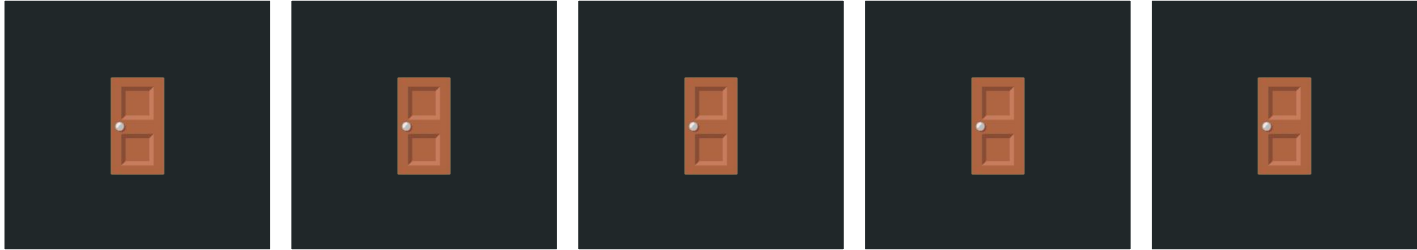
3

5

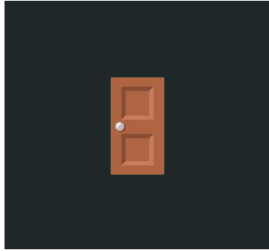
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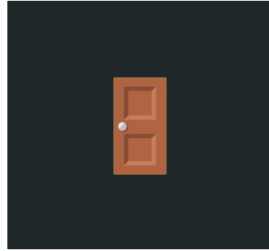
COMPUTER VIEW



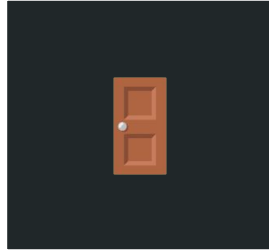
COMPUTER VIEW



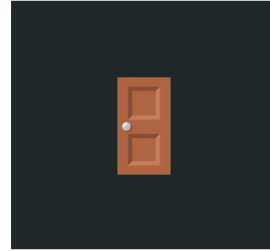
[0]



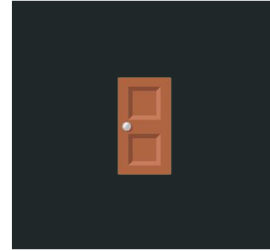
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[2]

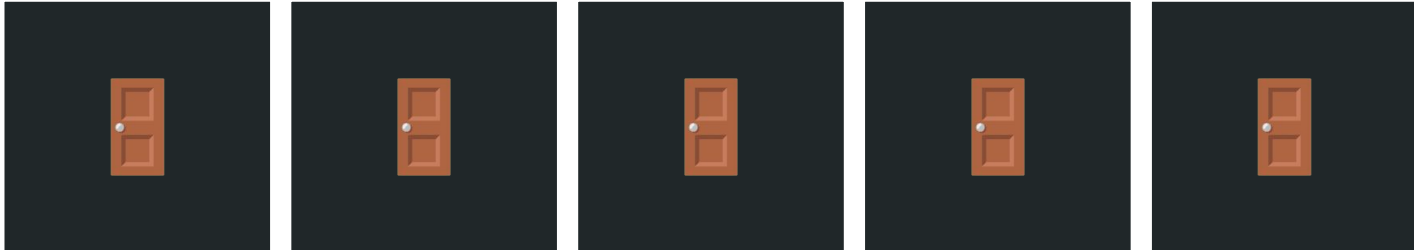


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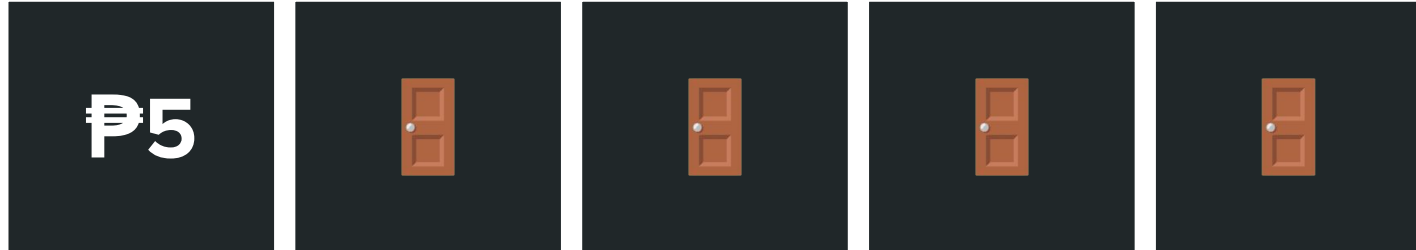
[4]

FIND THE ₱100 MONEY



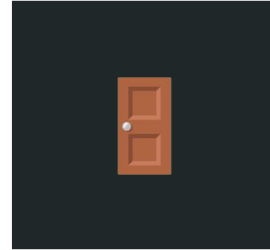
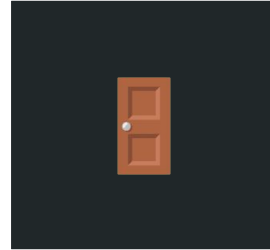
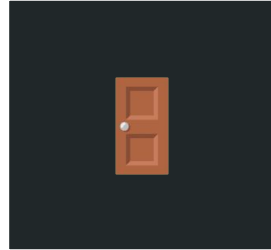
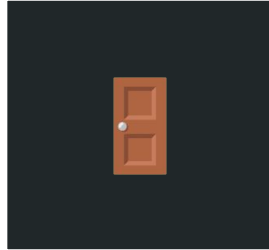
APPROACH A: Start from left

TARGET: ₱100



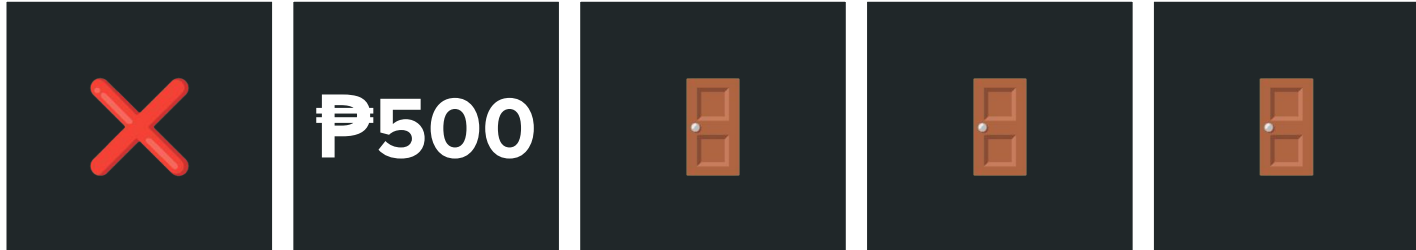
APPROACH A

TARGET: ₱100



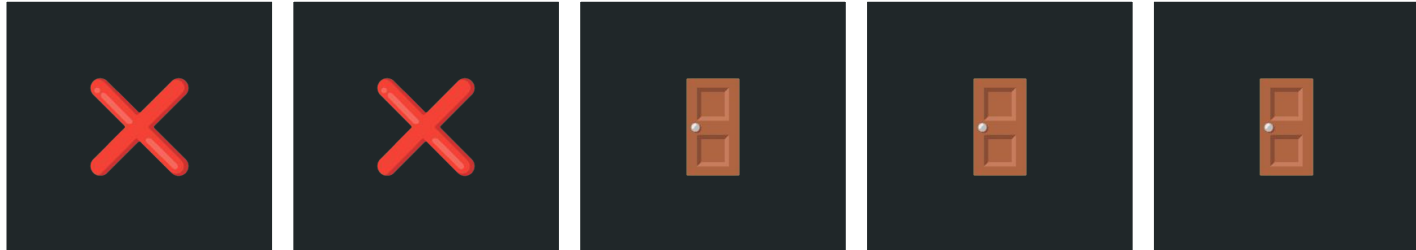
APPROACH A

TARGET: ₱100



APPROACH A

TARGET: ₱100



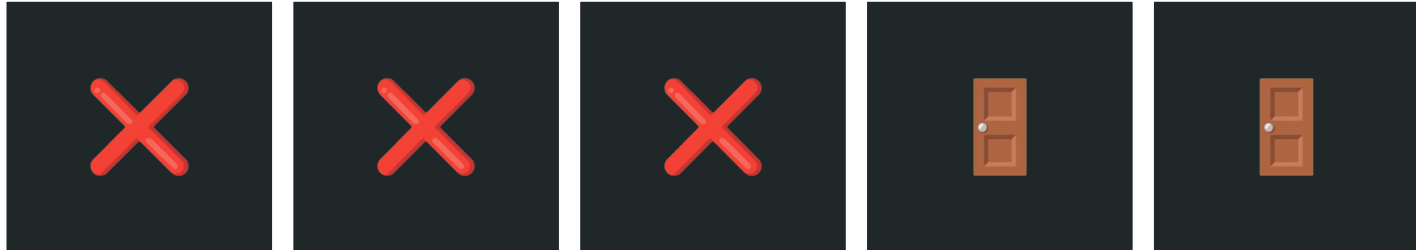
APPROACH A

TARGET: ₱100



APPROACH A

TARGET: ₱100



APPROACH A

TARGET: ₱100



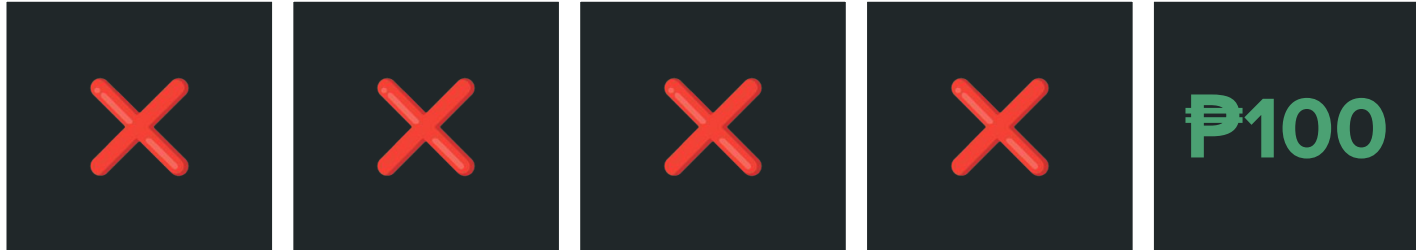
APPROACH A

TARGET: ₱100



APPROACH A

TARGET: ₱100



LINEAR SEARCH

The idea of the algorithm is to **iterate** across the array from left to right, searching for a specified element.

LINEAR SEARCH

If the **current** element is equal to the **target** element, return the **index** (position) of that element

SCENARIO A

Target

9

11 23 8 14 30 9 6 17 22 28 25 15 7 10 19

$n = 15$

Target

9

11

23

8

14

30

9

6

17

22

28

25

15

7

10

19

Target

9

11

23

8

14

30

9

6

17

22

28

25

15

7

10

19

Target

9

11

23

8

14

30

9

6

17

22

28

25

15

7

10

19

Target

9

11

23

8

14

30

9

6

17

22

28

25

15

7

10

19

Target

9

11

23

8

14

30

9

6

17

22

28

25

15

7

10

19

Target

9

11

23

8

14

30

9

6

17

22

28

25

15

7

10

19

Target
9

11 23 8 14 30 9 6 17 22 28 25 15 7 10 19

0 1 2 3 4 5



SCENARIO B

Target

90

11 23 8 14 30 9 6 17 22 28 25 15 7 10 19

SCENARIO B

Target

90



Element not found!

Best-Case	$\Omega(1)$
Worst-Case	$O(n)$

BUBBLE SORT

The algorithm shifts **higher** values **right** and **lower** values **left**.

BUBBLE SORT

Set swap counter to a non-zero value

Repeat until the swap counter is 0:

- Reset swap counter to 0

- Look at each adjacent pair

 - If two adjacent elements are not in order, swap them and add one to the swap counter

BUBBLE SORT

Swap
Counter
0

5

2

1

3

6

4

BUBBLE SORT

Swap
Counter
0



BUBBLE SORT

Swap
Counter
1



BUBBLE SORT

Swap
Counter
1



BUBBLE SORT

Swap
Counter
2



BUBBLE SORT

Swap
Counter
2



BUBBLE SORT

Swap
Counter
3



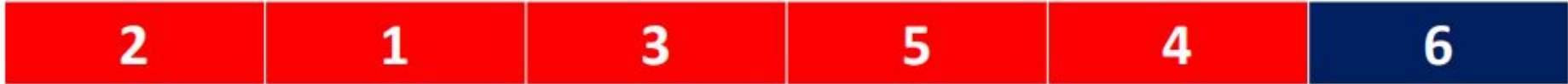
BUBBLE SORT

Swap
Counter
4



BUBBLE SORT

Swap
Counter
4



BUBBLE SORT

Swap
Counter
0



Best-Case	$\Omega(n)$
Worst-Case	$O(n^2)$

The "best" algorithm depends on the problem you're trying to solve.

There is no one-size-fits-all solution.

We can only see a short distance ahead, but we can see plenty there that needs to be done.

— **Alan Turing**, *Computing Machinery and Intelligence* (1950)