

SEARCHING AND SORTING

DR IAN CORNELIUS

1





- Learning Objectives
 - 1. Understand the concept of searching and sorting in Python
 - 2. Demonstrate the ability to use sorting algorithms

2



INTRODUCTION TO SEARCHING ALGORITHMS

- Searching algorithms are a series of instructions to retrieve information stored in a data structure
- Split into two categories:
 - 1. Sequential
 - 2. Interval
- There are many searching algorithms
 - i.e. linear search, binary search, interpolation search and exponential search



LINEAR SEARCH

- A method to find a target value in a list
- It will sequentially check each element of the list for a target value
 - this is repeated until a match is found or until all elements have been searched

ALGORITHM INSTRUCTIONS

- 1. Start at the left-most (or right-most) element of the list
- 2. One-by-one compare each element of the array to a target
- 3. If the element matches the target, return the index number
- 4. If the element does not match the target, go back to step 2
- 5. If any of the elements do not match the target value, then return False



LINEAR SEARCH DEMONSTRATION

- Demonstration of the Linear Search algorithm
 - Refer to the pre-recorded video for a demonstration







BINARY SEARCH

- An efficient search algorithm to solve problems
- It will search a sorted array by dividing the search interval in half

ALGORITHM INSTRUCTIONS

- 1. Compare the target value with the middle element
- 2. If the target value matches with the middle element, return the middle index
- 3. If the target value is greater than the middle element, perform a search on the right half of the list
- 4. If the target value is less than the middle element, perform a search on the left half of the list
- 5. If the element does not match any of the elements, return False



BINARY SEARCH DEMONSTRATION

- Demonstration of the Binary Search algorithm
 - Refer to the pre-recorded video for a demonstration







INTRODUCTION TO SORTING

- Sorting algorithms are made up of a series of instructions
 they accept a list as an input and outputs a sorted list
- There are many examples of sorting algorithms:
 - \circ i.e. selection sort, bubble sort, insertion sort, merge sort etc.
- In this lecture we shall look at two sorting algorithms: bubble and insertion sort



BUBBLE SORT

• A simple algorithm that works by swapping adjacent elements if they are in the incorrect order

ALGORITHM INSTRUCTIONS

- 1. Compare each adjacent element in the list
- 2. Swap the two elements if necessary
- 3. Repeat the process for all elements in the list until the list is sorted



BUBBLE SORT DEMONSTRATION

- Demonstration of the Bubble Sort algorithm
 - Refer to the pre-recorded video for a demonstration







INSERTION SORT

• A sorting algorithm that works in a similar method to how we would sort playing cards in our hands

ALGORITHM INSTRUCTIONS

- 1. Compare the first element (n) of the list to the next one (n + 1)
- 2. If n is less than n + 1, add n to the sorted sub-list, move onto the next element
- 3. Compare the current element to all the elements in the sub-list
- 4. Shift all elements in the sorted sub-list if it is greater than the current element
- 5. Insert the current element into the sorted sub-list
- 6. Repeat this process until the list is sorted



INSERTION SORT DEMONSTRATION

- Demonstration of the Insertion Sort algorithm
 - Refer to the pre-recorded video for a demonstration







GOODBYE

- Questions?
 - Post them in the **Community Page** on Aula
- Contact Details:
 - Dr Ian Cornelius, ab6459@coventry.ac.uk