

Pre-lecture brain teaser

We saw a linear time selection algorithm in the previous lecture.

Why did we choose lists of size 5? Will lists of size 3 work?

(Hint) Write a recurrence to analyze the algorithm's running time if we choose a list of size k .

ECE-374-B: Lecture 11 - Backtracking and memorization

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Median of medians time analysis

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Median-of-medians(A, i):
    sublists = [A[j:j+5] for j in range(0, len(A), 5)]
    medians = [sorted(sublist)[len(sublist)/2] for sublist in sublists]

    // Base Case
    if len(A) ≤ 5 return sorted(a)[i]

    // Find median of medians
    if len(medians) ≤ 5
        pivot = sorted(medians)[len(medians)/2]
    else
        pivot = Median-of-medians(medians, len/2)

    // Partitioning Step
    low = [j for j in A if j < pivot]
    high = [j for j in A if j > pivot]

    k = len(low)
    if i < k
        return Median-of-medians(low, i)
    elif i > k
        return Median-of-medians(low, i-k-1)
    else
        return pivot
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$$T(n) = T\left(\frac{1}{7}n\right) + T\left(\frac{10}{14}n\right) + cn$$

On different techniques for recursive algorithms

Reduction: Reduce one problem to another

Recursion

A special case of reduction

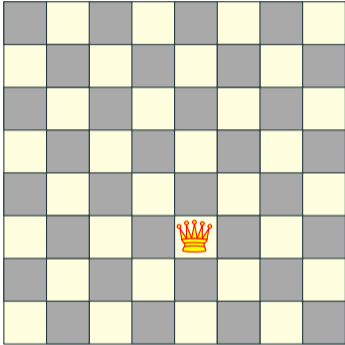
- reduce problem to a smaller instance of itself
- self-reduction
- Problem instance of size n is reduced to one or more instances of size $n - 1$ or less.
- For termination, problem instances of small size are solved by some other method as base cases.

Recursion in Algorithm Design

- Tail Recursion: problem reduced to a single recursive call after some work. Easy to convert algorithm into iterative or greedy algorithms.
Examples: Interval scheduling, MST algorithms....
- Divide and Conquer: Problem reduced to multiple independent sub-problems that are solved separately. Conquer step puts together solution for bigger problem.
Examples: Closest pair, median selection, quick sort.
- Backtracking: Refinement of brute force search. Build solution incrementally by invoking recursion to try all possibilities for the decision in each step.
- Dynamic Programming: problem reduced to multiple (typically) dependent or overlapping sub-problems. Use memorization to avoid recomputation of common solutions leading to iterative bottom-up algorithm.

Search trees and backtracking

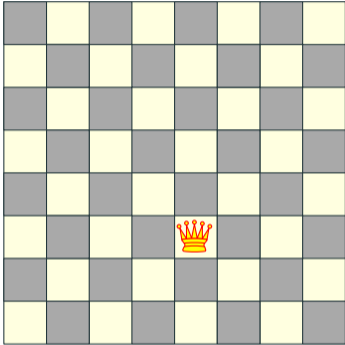
The queens problem



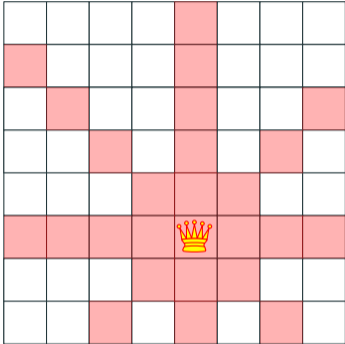
Q: How many queens can one place on the board?

Q: Can one place 8 queens on the board?

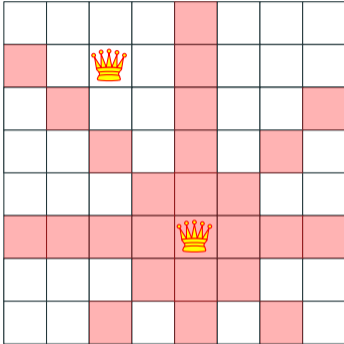
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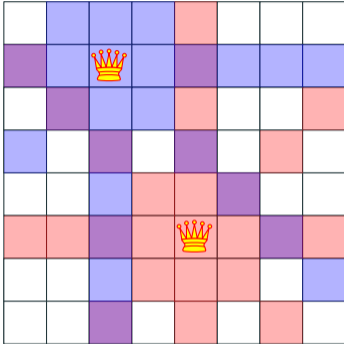
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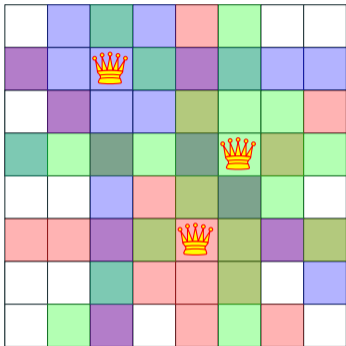
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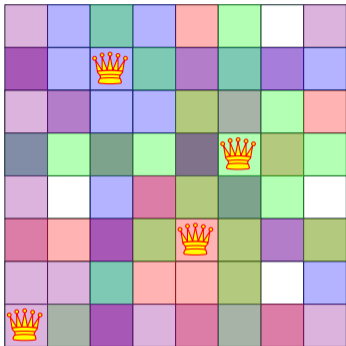
The queens problem



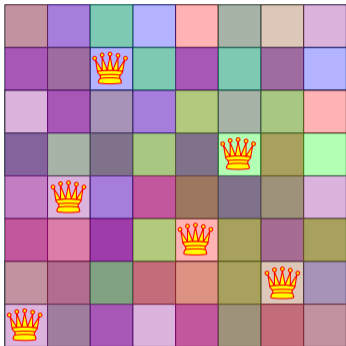
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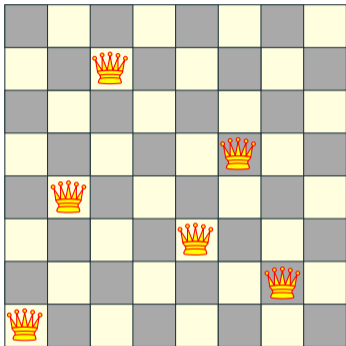
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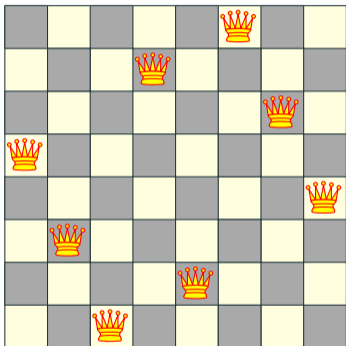


Q: How many queens can one place on the board?

Q: Can one place 8 queens on the board? How many permutations?

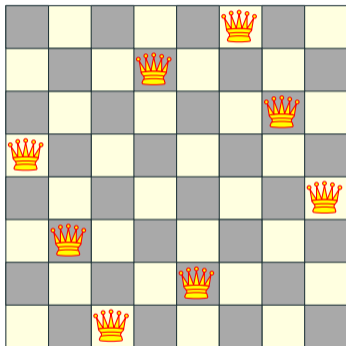
The eight queens puzzle

Problem published in 1848, solved in 1850.



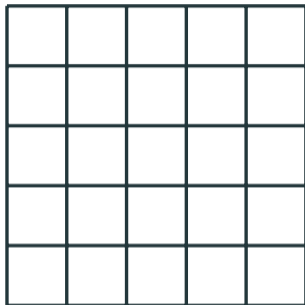
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Problem published in 1848, solved in 1850.



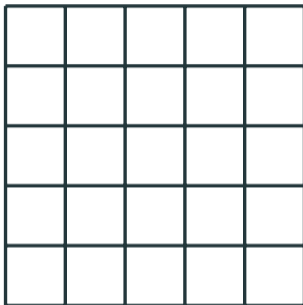
Q: How to solve problem for general n ?

Introducing concept of state tree



What if we attempt to find all the possible permutations and then check?

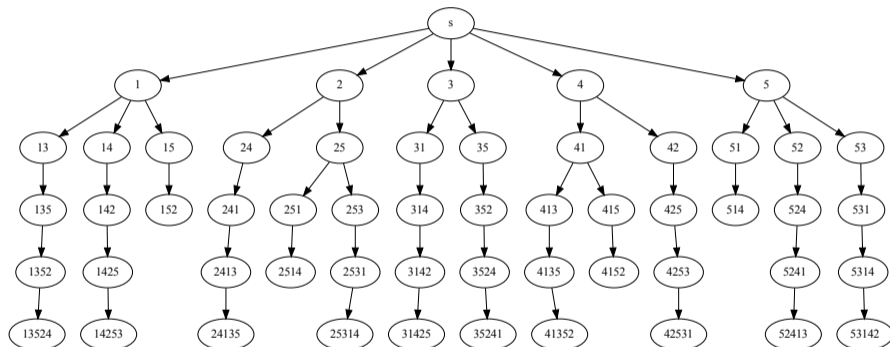
Search tree for 5 queens



Let's be a bit smarter and recognize that:

- Queens can't be on the same row, column or diagonal
- Can have n queens max.

Search tree for 5 queens



Backtracking: Informal definition

Recursive search over an implicit tree, where we “backtrack” if certain possibilities do not work.

n queens C++ code

```
void generate_permutations( int * permut, int row, int n )
{
    if ( row == n ) {
        print_board( permut, n );
        return;
    }

    for ( int val = 1; val <= n; val++ )
        if ( isValid( permut, row, val ) ) {
            permut[ row ] = val;
            generate_permutations( permut, row + 1, n );
        }
}

generate_permutations( permut, 0, 8 );
```

Quick note: n queens - number of solutions

N	Number of Solutions	Number of Unique Solutions
1	1	1
2	0	0
3	0	0
4	2	1
5	10	2
6	4	1
7	40	6
8	92	12
9	352	46
10	724	92
11	2,680	341
12	14,200	1,787
13	73,712	9,233
14	365,596	45,752
15	2,279,184	285,053

Sudoku

Sudoku problem

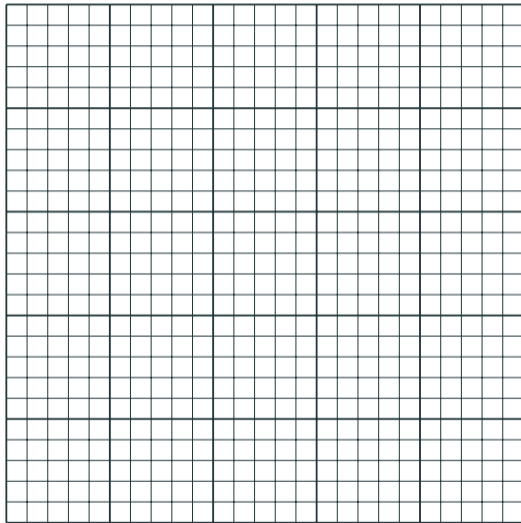
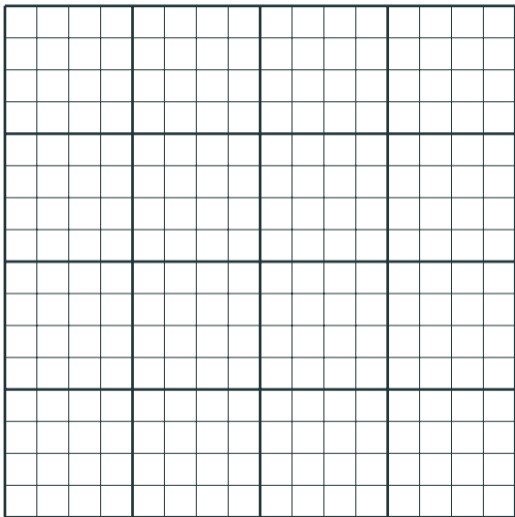
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	3			6			7	
		1				6		
5	4						1	9
		2				7		
	9			3			8	
2			8		4			7
	1		9		7		6	

Unsolved Sudoku

4	2	6	5	7	1	3	9	8
8	5	7	2	9	3	1	4	6
1	3	9	4	6	8	2	7	5
9	7	1	3	8	5	6	2	4
5	4	3	7	2	6	8	1	9
6	8	2	1	4	9	7	5	3
7	9	4	6	3	2	5	8	1
2	6	5	8	1	4	9	3	7
3	1	8	9	5	7	4	6	2

Solved Sudoku

Variable Sized Sudoku



Naive Enumeration

	2		5		1		9	
8			2		3			6
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		1				6		
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```
algSudokuNaive( $S[0..n-1, 0..n-1]$ ):  
  for possible value ( $X$ ) in empty space do  
    if SudokuValid? == True then  
      return  $X$   
  
  return NULL
```

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Running time:

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Running time: $O(n^2 9^{n^2})$.

n^2 time to check all rows/columns/squares contain values 1 through n

9 possibilities per square for n^2 squares

Better Enumeration

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Initialize Bitmap (BM) to contain only
values available for each square

algSudoku-smaller($S[0..n-1, 0..n-1]$, $BM[0..n-1, 0..n-1]$):

for each empty space X **do**

for each possible value x for X according to BM **do**

S -new = S (Assign $X = x$)

BM -new = Modify BM removing x from same
row/column/square

if no more empty squares

return X

else

algSudoku-smaller(S , BM)

return NULL

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Longest Increasing Sub-sequence

Sequences

Definition

Sequence: an ordered list a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n . Length of a sequence is number of elements in the list.

Definition

a_{i_1}, \dots, a_{i_k} is a subsequence of a_1, \dots, a_n if $1 \leq i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_k \leq n$.

Definition

A sequence is increasing if $a_1 < a_2 < \dots < a_n$. It is non-decreasing if $a_1 \leq a_2 \leq \dots \leq a_n$. Similarly decreasing and non-increasing.

Example

- Sequence: 6, 3, 5, 2, 7, 8, 1, 9
- Subsequence of above sequence: 5, 2, 1
- Increasing sequence: 3, 5, 9, 17, 54
- Decreasing sequence: 34, 21, 7, 5, 1
- Increasing subsequence of the first sequence: 2, 7, 9.

Longest Increasing Subsequence Problem

Input A sequence of numbers a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n

Goal Find an increasing subsequence $a_{i_1}, a_{i_2}, \dots, a_{i_k}$ of maximum length

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Example

- Sequence: 6, 3, 5, 2, 7, 8, 1
- Increasing subsequences: 6, 7, 8 and 3, 5, 7, 8 and 2, 7 etc
- Longest increasing subsequence: 3, 5, 7, 8

Naive Enumeration

Assume a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n is contained in an array A

```
algLISNaive( $A[1..n]$ ):  
   $max = 0$   
  for each subsequence  $B$  of  $A$  do  
    if  $B$  is increasing and  $|B| > max$  then  
       $max = |B|$   
  
  Output  $max$ 
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Running time: $O(n2^n)$.

2^n subsequences of a sequence of length n and $O(n)$ time to check if a given sequence is increasing.

Recursive Approach: LIS: Longest increasing subsequence

Can we find a recursive algorithm for LIS?

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- **Case 1:** Does not contain $A[n]$ in which case $\text{LIS}(A[1..n]) = \text{LIS}(A[1..(n-1)])$
- **Case 2:** contains $A[n]$ in which case $\text{LIS}(A[1..n])$ is

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Observation

For second case we want to find a subsequence in $A[1..(n-1)]$ that is restricted to numbers less than $A[n]$. This suggests that a more general problem is

LIS_smaller($A[1..n], x$) *which gives the longest increasing subsequence in A where each number in the sequence is less than x .*

Recursive Approach

LIS_smaller($A[1..n], x$) : length of longest increasing subsequence in $A[1..n]$ with all numbers in subsequence less than x

```
LIS_smaller( $A[1..n], x$ ):  
  if ( $n = 0$ ) then return 0  
   $m = \mathbf{LIS\_smaller}(A[1..(n-1)], x)$   
  if ( $A[n] < x$ ) then  
     $m = \max(m, 1 + \mathbf{LIS\_smaller}(A[1..(n-1)], A[n]))$   
  Output  $m$ 
```

```
LIS( $A[1..n]$ ):  
  return  $\mathbf{LIS\_smaller}(A[1..n], \infty)$ 
```

Running time analysis

Running time of LIS([1..n])

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LIS_smaller(A[1..n], x) :  
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Output m
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```
LIS(A[1..n]) :  
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Running time of LIS([1..n])

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....one can do much better using memorization!