



## 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 12 - Backtracking and memorization

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February 28, 2023

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

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## Review linear time selection

Given an array  $A = [0, \dots, n - 1]$  of  $n$  numbers and an index  $i$ , where  $0 \leq i \leq n - 1$ , find the  $i^{\text{th}}$  smallest element of  $A$ .

For instance, assume  $n = 20$  and  $i = 10$ .

4	3	15	7	1	17	9	10	14	13	8	18	11	2	12	16	6	19	5	20
---	---	----	---	---	----	---	----	----	----	---	----	----	---	----	----	---	----	---	----

The smallest element of rank 10 would be 11. But how do we figure that out

Do median of medians.....

Call **Median-of-Medians**( $A, 10$ )

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First thing we need to do is find the pivot!

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Call **Median-of-Medians**( $A, 10$ )

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## Review linear time selection

First we reorganize:

4	17	8	16
3	9	18	6
15	10	11	19
7	14	2	5
1	13	12	20



## Review linear time selection

First we reorganize:

4	17	8	16
3	9	18	6
15	10	11	19
7	14	2	5
1	13	12	20

Then we sort each column:

1	9	2	5
3	10	8	6
4	13	11	16
7	14	12	19
15	17	18	20

## Review linear time selection

First we reorganize:

4	17	8	16
3	9	18	6
15	10	11	19
7	14	2	5
1	13	12	20

Then we sort each column:

1	9	2	5
3	10	8	6
4	13	11	16
7	14	12	19
15	17	18	20

Still need the pivot. Find median of medians

## Review linear time selection

1	9	2	5
3	10	8	6
4	13	11	16
7	14	12	19
15	17	18	20

## Review linear time selection

1	9	2	5
3	10	8	6
4	13	11	16
7	14	12	19
15	17	18	20

- Call **Median-of-Medians**([4,13,11,16],  $\text{floor}(\text{len}/2) = 2$ )
- Can sort this in linear time.
- Get back 13.
- **13** is our new pivot!

## Review linear time selection

Back to our original array! Use the pivot (=13) to break it up into two.

4	3	15	7	1	17	9	10	14	13	8	18	11	2	12	16	6	19	5	20
---	---	----	---	---	----	---	----	----	----	---	----	----	---	----	----	---	----	---	----

4	3	7	1	9	10	8	11	2	12	6	5
---	---	---	---	---	----	---	----	---	----	---	---

13
----

15	17	14	18	16	19	20
----	----	----	----	----	----	----

We know the following:

- $\text{len}(A_{Lower}) = 12$
- $\text{len}(A_{Upper}) = 7$
- Want  $k = 10$

## Review linear time selection

Back to our original array! Use the pivot (=13) to break it up into two.

4	3	15	7	1	17	9	10	14	13	8	18	11	2	12	16	6	19	5	20
---	---	----	---	---	----	---	----	----	----	---	----	----	---	----	----	---	----	---	----

4	3	7	1	9	10	8	11	2	12	6	5
---	---	---	---	---	----	---	----	---	----	---	---

13
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15	17	14	18	16	19	20
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We know the following:

- $\text{len}(A_{\text{Lower}}) = 12$
- $\text{len}(A_{\text{Upper}}) = 7$
- Want  $k = 10$

Call **Median-of-Medians**( $A_{\text{Lower}}$ , 10)

## Review linear time selection

Then we do this again:

4	3	7	1	9	10	8	11	2	12	6	5
---	---	---	---	---	----	---	----	---	----	---	---

## Review linear time selection

Then we do this again:

4	3	7	1	9	10	8	11	2	12	6	5
---	---	---	---	---	----	---	----	---	----	---	---

First we reorganize:

4	10	
3	8	6
7	11	5
1	2	
9	12	



## Review linear time selection

Then we do this again:

4	3	7	1	9	10	8	11	2	12	6	5
---	---	---	---	---	----	---	----	---	----	---	---

First we reorganize:

4	10	
3	8	6
7	11	5
1	2	
9	12	

Then we sort each column:

1	2	
3	8	5
4	10	6
7	11	
9	12	

## Review linear time selection

1	2	
3	8	5
4	10	6
7	11	
9	12	

## Review linear time selection

1	2	
3	8	5
4	10	6
7	11	
9	12	

- Call **Median-of-Medians**([4,10,6],  $\text{floor}(n/2) = 10$ )
- Can sort this in linear time.
- Get back 6.
- **6** is our new pivot!

## Review linear time selection

Back to our original array! Use the pivot (=6) to break it up into two (well three).

4	3	7	1	9	10	8	11	2	12	6	5
---	---	---	---	---	----	---	----	---	----	---	---

4	3	1	2	5
---	---	---	---	---

6
---

7	9	10	8	11	12
---	---	----	---	----	----

We know the following:

- $\text{len}(A_{Lower}) = 5$
- $\text{len}(A_{Upper}) = 6$
- Want  $k = 10$  (pivot is of rank 6)

## Review linear time selection

Back to our original array! Use the pivot (=6) to break it up into two (well three).

4	3	7	1	9	10	8	11	2	12	6	5
---	---	---	---	---	----	---	----	---	----	---	---

4	3	1	2	5
---	---	---	---	---

6
---

7	9	10	8	11	12
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We know the following:

- $\text{len}(A_{Lower}) = 5$
- $\text{len}(A_{Upper}) = 6$
- Want  $k = 10$  (pivot is of rank 6)

Call **Median-of-Medians**( $A_{Upper}$ ,  $10 - 6 = 4$ )

## Review linear time selection

Then we do this again:

7	9	10	8	11	12
---	---	----	---	----	----

## Review linear time selection

Then we do this again:

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First we reorganize:

7	
9	
10	12
8	
11	

## Review linear time selection

Then we do this again:

7	9	10	8	11	12
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First we reorganize:

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9	
10	12
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Then we sort each column:

7	
8	
9	12
10	
11	



## Review linear time selection

7	
8	
9	12
10	
11	

## Review linear time selection

7	
8	
9	12
10	
11	

- Call **Median-of-Medians**([9,12],  $\text{floor}(\text{len}/2) = 1$ )
- Can sort this in linear time.
- Get back 12.
- **12** is our new pivot!

## Review linear time selection

Back to our original array! Use the pivot (=6) to break it up into two (well three).

7	9	10	8	11	12
---	---	----	---	----	----

7	9	10	8	11
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12
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We know the following:

- $\text{len}(A_{Lower}) = 5$
- $\text{len}(A_{Upper}) = 0$
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## Review linear time selection

Back to our original array! Use the pivot (=6) to break it up into two (well three).

7	9	10	8	11	12
---	---	----	---	----	----

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We know the following:

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- $\text{len}(A_{\text{Upper}}) = 0$
- Want  $k = 4$  (pivot is of rank 5)

Call **Median-of-Medians**( $A_{\text{Lower}}$ , 4)

## Review linear time selection

Final Step!

7	9	10	8	11
---	---	----	---	----

Can sort in linear time!

7	8	9	10	11
---	---	---	----	----

Return  $\text{Sorted}(A[4]) = 11$

# Median of medians time analysis

```
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)
    elseif i > k
        return Median-of-medians(low, i-k-1)
    else
        return pivot
```

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    elseif i > k
        return Median-of-medians(high, i-k-1)
    else
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```

$$T(n) = T\left(\frac{1}{5}n\right) + T\left(\frac{7}{10}n\right) + cn$$

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What about  $k = 7$ ?

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What about  $k = 7$ ?

$$T(n) = T\left(\frac{1}{7}n\right) + T\left(\frac{10}{14}n\right) + cn$$

# On different techniques for recursive algorithms

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**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.

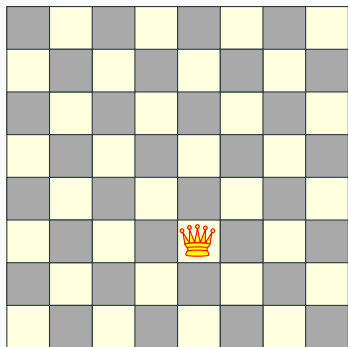
# Recursion in Algorithm Design

- 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

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# The queens problem

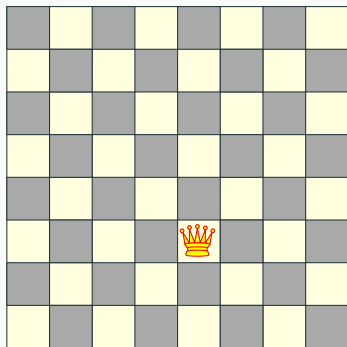


Q: How many queens can one place on the board?

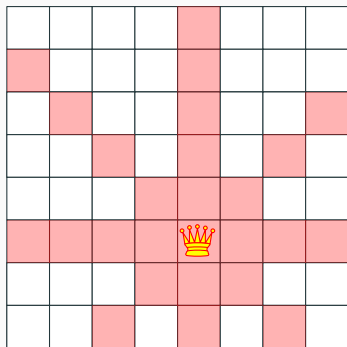
Q: Can one place 8 queens on the board?



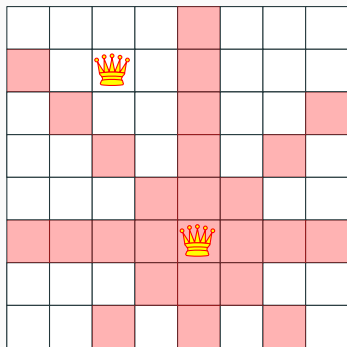
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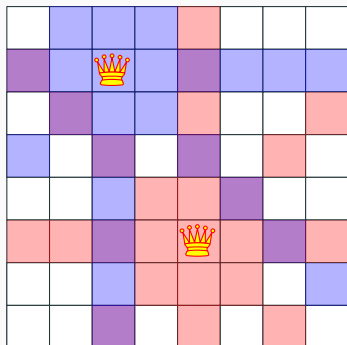
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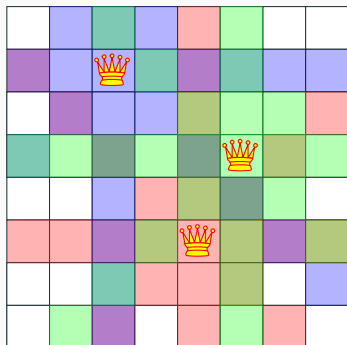
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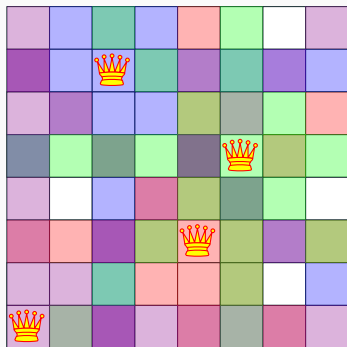
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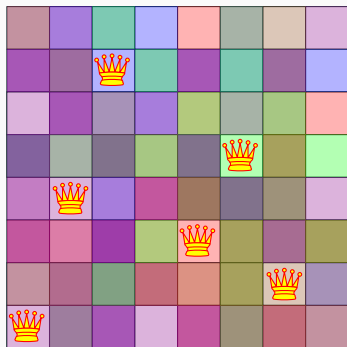
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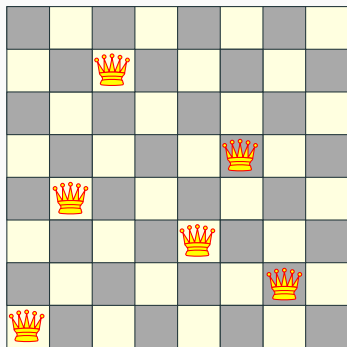
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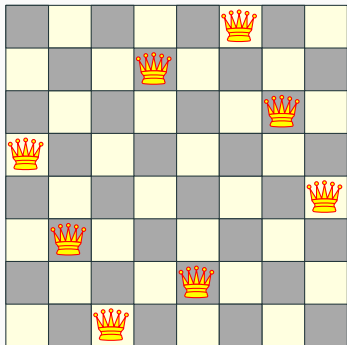
Q: How many queens can one place on the board?

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



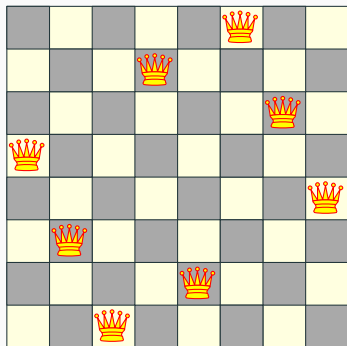
# The eight queens puzzle

Problem published in 1848, solved in 1850.



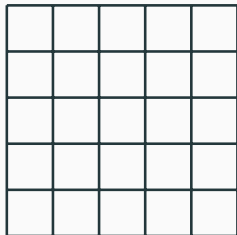
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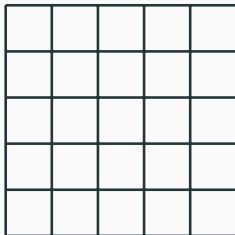
Q: How to solve problem for general  $n$ ?

## Introducing concept of state tree



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

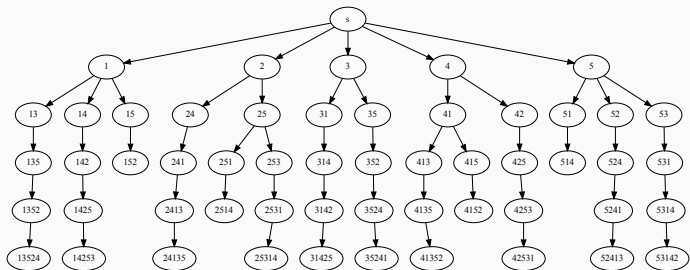
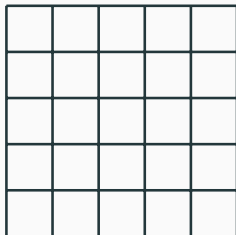
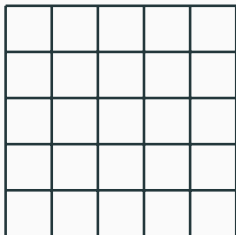
## Search tree for 5 queens



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



# Longest Increasing Sub-sequence

---

## 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

# Longest Increasing Subsequence Problem

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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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```
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```

Running time:

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     $max = 0$   
    for each subsequence  $B$  of  $A$  do  
        if  $B$  is increasing and  $|B| > max$  then  
             $max = |B|$   
  
    Output  $max$ 
```

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?

LIS( $A[1..n]$ ):

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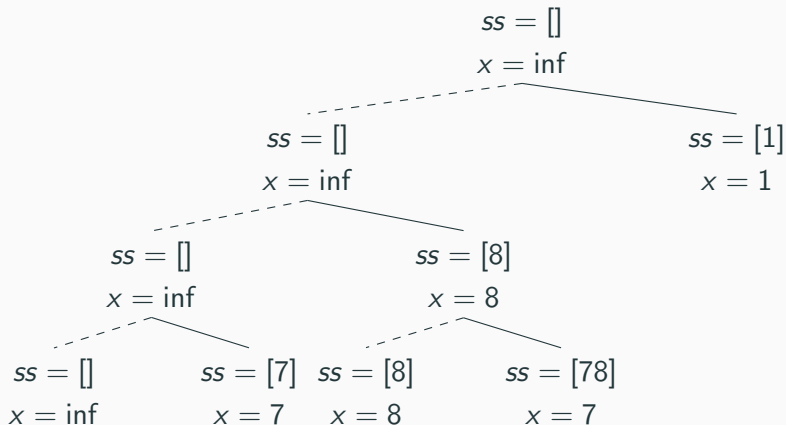
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- **Case 2:** contains  $A[n]$  in which case  $\text{LIS}(A[1..n])$  is not so clear.

## 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  $x$ .*

## Example

Sequence:  $A[1..5] = 5, 9, 7, 8, 1$



## 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  
   $m = \text{LIS\_smaller}(A[1..(n-1)], x)$   
  if ( $A[n] < x$ ) then  
     $m = \max(m, 1 + \text{LIS\_smaller}(A[1..(n-1)], A[n]))$   
  Output  $m$ 
```

```
LIS( $A[1..n]$ ) :  
  return LIS_smaller( $A[1..n]$ ,  $\infty$ )
```

# Running time analysis

---

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

```
LIS_smaller(A[1..n], x):  
  if (n = 0) then return 0  
  m = LIS_smaller(A[1..(n - 1)], x)  
  if (A[n] < x) then  
    m = max(m, 1 + LIS_smaller(A[1..(n - 1)], A[n]))  
Output m
```

```
LIS(A[1..n]):  
  return LIS_smaller(A[1..n], ∞)
```



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

**Lemma**

**LIS\_smaller** runs in  $O(2^n)$  time.

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**LIS\_smaller** runs in  $O(2^n)$  time.

Improvement: From  $O(n2^n)$  to  $O(2^n)$ .

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

### Lemma

**LIS\_smaller** runs in  $O(2^n)$  time.

Improvement: From  $O(n2^n)$  to  $O(2^n)$ .

...one can do much better using memorization!