

Precept Outline

- Review of Lectures 5 and 6:
 - Comparators and Comparables
 - Elementary sorts
 - Mergesort

Relevant Book Sections

- Book chapters: 2.1, 2.2 and 2.5

A. Review: O/Ω Notation + Elementary Sorts + Mergesort + Comparable/Comparator

Your preceptor will briefly review key points of this week's lectures. They may refer to the warm-up exercise and the code snippet shown below.

Warm-up: Let $f(n) = 3n + 4n \log_2 n + 8\sqrt{n} \log_2 n$. Select all that apply.

- $f(n) = O(n)$
- $f(n) = \Omega(n)$
- $f(n) = O(\sqrt{n} \log n)$
- $f(n) = \Omega(\sqrt{n} \log n)$
- $f(n) = O(n \log n)$
- $f(n) = \Omega(n \log n)$
- $f(n) = O(n^2)$
- $f(n) = \Omega(n^2)$
- $f(n) = O(\log n)$
- $f(n) = \Omega(\log n)$
- $f(n) = O(2^n)$
- $f(n) = \Omega(2^n)$

```
1 public class YourClass implements Comparable<YourClass> {
2     public int compareTo(YourClass that) {
3         // returns int > 0 if this > that
4         // returns int < 0 if this < that
5         // returns 0 otherwise
6     }
7
8     private static class YourComparator implements Comparator<YourClass> {
9         public int compare(YourClass obj1, YourClass obj2) {
10            // returns int > 0 if obj1 > obj2
11            // returns int < 0 if obj1 < obj2
12            // returns 0 otherwise
13        }
14    }
15    public static Comparator<YourClass> yourComparison() {
16        return new YourComparator();
17    }
18    ...
19 }
```

B. Comparable & Comparator

The code snippet below shows the instance variables of a class `Movie`, and partially filled instance methods that should support comparing elements of this class in three ways:

- by alphabetical order of `title` (the default order);
- by release `year`; and
- by `rating` (0-5 stars).

Fill in the blanks numbered 1 to 6.

```
1 public class Movie implements _____(1)_____ {
2     private String title;
3     private int    year;
4     private int    rating;
5
6     public int compareTo(Movie m) {
7         return _____(2)_____;
8     }
9
10    public static Comparator<Movie> byYear() {
11        return new YearComparator();
12    }
13
14    private static class YearComparator implements _____(3)_____ {
15        public int compare(Movie m1, Movie m2) {
16            return _____(4)_____;
17        }
18    }
19
20    public static Comparator<Movie> byRating() {
21        return new RatingComparator();
22    }
23
24    private static class RatingComparator implements _____(5)_____ {
25        public int compare(Movie m1, Movie m2) {
26            return _____(6)_____;
27        }
28    }
29    ...
30 }
```

C. Sorting Algorithms

Part 1: Spring'24 Midterm Problem

Given two integer arrays, `a[]` and `b[]`, the *symmetric difference* between `a[]` and `b[]` is the set of elements that appear in exactly one of the arrays. Design an algorithm that receives two *sorted arrays*, each consisting of n *distinct elements*, and outputs the size of their symmetric difference.

For full credit, it must use $\Theta(1)$ extra memory and its running time must be $\Theta(n)$ in the worst case (the arrays `a[]` and `b[]` should not be modified).

Part 2: Sorting Lower Bounds

Imagine you are given unlimited access to call a method (say, via “the cloud”) which costs your program *constant time* in order to help sort an array `Comparable[] a`.

Suppose the method is `argmin(Comparable[] a, int i)`, which returns $\arg \min_{i \leq k < n} \{a[k]\}$, i.e. the minimum elements in the range $[i, n]$. Can you use it to implement a (comparison-based) sorting algorithm with $O(n)$ running time? If so, how? If not, why not?

Part 3: Finding the Missing Element

Suppose that you are given a sorted array $a[]$ with $n - 1$ distinct integers between 0 and $n - 1$. In other words, you are given the array $[0, 1, \dots, n - 1]$ but with one of the elements missing. Design an algorithm with $\Theta(\log n)$ worst-case running time that outputs the missing element.

For example, if the array is $a[] = [0, 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7]$, then $n = 8$ and the missing element is 4.

