

**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:  $O/\Omega$  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.