

# RUNNING TIME ANALYSIS

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Problem Solving with Computers-II

C++

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

int main(){
    cout<<"Hola Facebook\n";
    return 0;
}
```



# Problem: Fibonacci Numbers

## Definition:

The Fibonacci numbers are the sequence

1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21, 34, 55,...

Defined by

$$F_0 = F_1 = 1$$

$$F_n = F_{n-1} + F_{n-2} \text{ for } n \geq 2$$

Problem: Given  $n$ , compute  $F_n$ .

# Which implementation is significantly faster ?

A.

```
F(int n){  
    if(n <= 1) return 1  
    return F(n-1) + F(n-2)  
}
```

B.

```
F(int n){  
    Initialize A[0 . . . n]  
    A[0] = A[1] = 1  
  
    for i = 2 : n  
        A[i] = A[i-1] + A[i-2]  
  
    return A[n]  
}
```

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The “right” question is: How does the running time grow?

E.g. How long does it take to compute  $F(200)$  recursively?

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It will take approximately  $2^{92}$  seconds to compute  $F_{200}$ .

Time in seconds

Interpretation

$2^{10}$

17 minutes

$2^{20}$

12 days

$2^{30}$

32 years

$2^{40}$

35000 years  
(cave paintings)

$2^{50}$

35 million years ago

$2^{70}$

Big Bang

**What is the main takeaway so far?**

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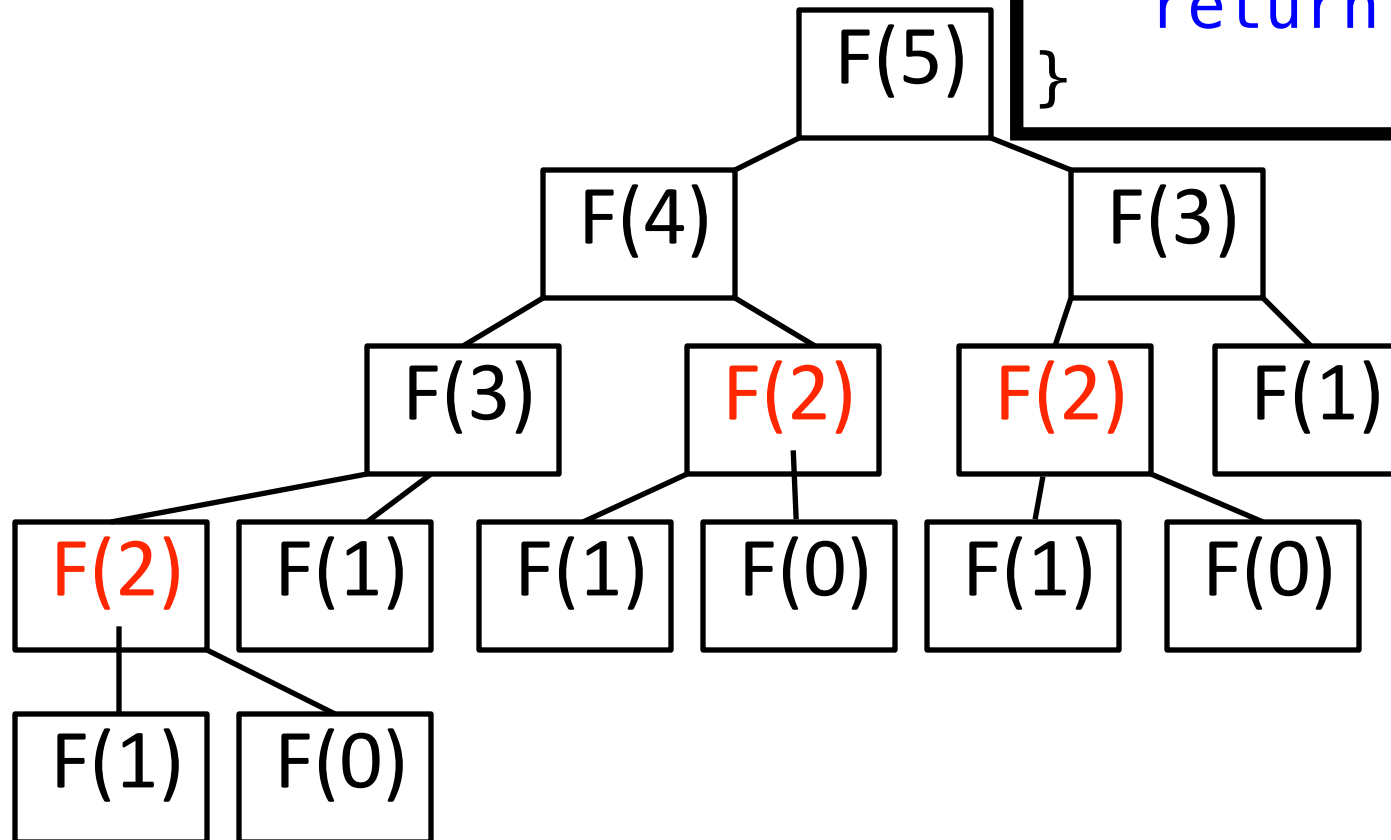
### Questions of interest:

- Why is Algo A so slow?
- How do we quantify efficiency?
- Is Algo A better than Algo B?
- When will my code finish running?

# Why So Slow?

Too many recursive calls.

```
F(int n){  
    if(n <= 1) return 1  
    return F(n-1) + F(n-2)  
}
```



# Bottom Line

We want to analyze the **impact of the algorithm on running time**, separate from other hardware dependent artifacts that affect time:

- CPU speed
- Memory architecture
- Compiler optimizations
- Background processes

Too much to consider for every analysis **if we analyzed absolute time**



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**Big idea:** Count operations instead of absolute time!

# Machine model used for analysis

**Big Idea:** Count primitive operations instead of absolute time!

- Every computer can do some **primitive operations** in constant time:
  - Data movement (assignment)
  - Data load/store (accessing an element of an array)
  - Control statements (branch, function call, return)
  - Arithmetic and logical operations
- By inspecting the pseudo-code, we can count the number of primitive operations executed by an algorithm
- **Assumption:** each primitive operation takes a **constant amount of time**

# Iterative Fibonacci Algorithm

Lets compute  $T(n)$  = **number of primitive operations** to execute  $F(n)$

```
F(int n){  
    Initialize A[0 . . . n] 1 op  
    A[0] = A[1] = 1 2 ops  
    for (int i = 2; i <= n ; n++)  
        A[i] = A[i-1] + A[i-2]  
    return A[n]  
}
```

Operation counts (in red):

- Initialize A[0 . . . n]: 1 op
- A[0] = A[1] = 1: 2 ops
- for (int i = 2; i <= n ; n++): 1 op (for i = 2), 1 op (for i <= n), 2 ops (for n++)
- A[i] = A[i-1] + A[i-2]: 2 ops (for A[i-1]), 2 ops (for A[i-2]), 1 op (for +)
- return A[n]: 2 ops

$T(n) =$

# Iterative Fibonacci Algorithm

Lets compute  $T(n)$  = **number of lines of code**  $F(n)$  needs to execute.

```
F(int n){  
    Initialize A[0 . . . n]  
    A[0] = A[1] = 1
```

2 lines

```
    for i = 2 : n  
        A[i] = A[i-1] + A[i-2]
```

2(n-1) lines

```
    return A[n]
```

1 line

```
}
```

$$T(n) = 2n + 1$$

# Effect of constant factors

For the iterative fib, we derived two expressions for the running time

$$T(n) = 10n - 3$$

$$T(n) = 2n + 1$$

Discuss: how much do the constant factors matter as  $n$  gets large?

- Think about  $10n - 3$  vs.  $10n$  and  $2n + 1$  vs.  $2n$
- What about  $10n$  vs  $2n$ ?

# Analogy: Types of roads and orders of growth

Think of algorithms as **cars traveling a distance**.

- **Running time  $T(n)$** : Effort (or fuel) needed to complete the trip
- **Input size  $n$** : The distance the car needs to go

$10n$       vs.       $2n$

**SUV on a highway**

**Sedan on a highway**

Both cars take a similar level of effort (linear) when traveling on a highway.

Think about effort to drive on a smooth highway vs. winding mountain vs. off-road jungle trek

# Orders of growth

**Analogy:** Trips that need a similar effort have the same **order of growth**

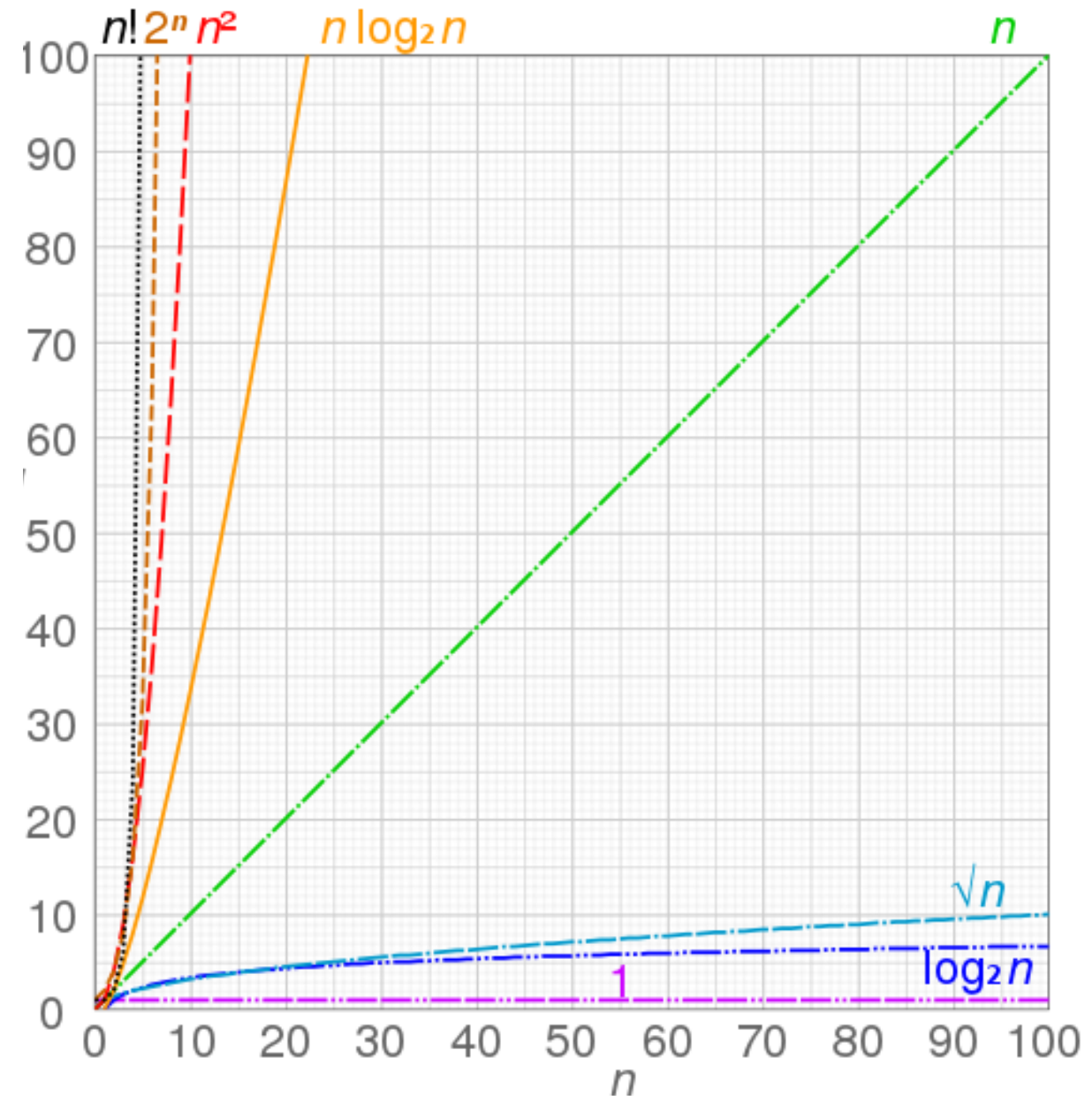
An **order of growth** is a set of functions whose (asymptotic) growth behavior is considered equivalent.

For example,  $2n$ ,  $100n$  and  $n$  belong to the same order of growth (linear)

Which of the following functions has a higher order of growth?

A.  $50n$

B.  $2n^2$



# Big-O notation

- Big-O notation provides an asymptotic upper bound on the running time
- Its like saying “No matter how bad it gets, the effort won’t exceed this level of difficulty”



# Definition of Big-O

$f(n)$  and  $g(n)$  map positive integer inputs to positive reals.

We say  $f = O(g)$  if there is a constant  $c > 0$  and  $k > 0$  such that  $f(n) \leq c \cdot g(n)$  for all  $n \geq k$ .

$f = O(g)$

means that “ $f$  grows no faster than  $g$ ”

## Express in Big-O notation

1. 100000000
2.  $3n$
3.  $6n-2$
4.  $15n + 44$
5.  $50n\log(n)$
6.  $n^2$
7.  $n^2-6n+9$
8.  $3n^2+4*\log(n)+1000$
9.  $3^n + n^3 + \log(3*n)$

### Common sense rules

1. Multiplicative constants can be omitted:  
 $14n^2$  becomes  $n^2$ .
2.  $n^a$  dominates  $n^b$  if  $a > b$ : for instance,  $n^2$  dominates  $n$ .
3. Any exponential dominates any polynomial:  
 $3^n$  dominates  $n^5$  (it even dominates  $2^n$ ).

**For polynomials, use only leading term, ignore coefficients: linear, quadratic**

What is the Big O running time of sum()?

```
/* n is the length of the array*/  
int sum(int arr[], int n)  
{  
    int result = 0;  
    for(int i = 0; i < n; i+=2)  
        result+=arr[i];  
    return result;  
}
```

- A.  $O(n^2)$
- B.  $O(n)$
- C.  $O(n/2)$
- D.  $O(\log n)$
- E. None of the above

## What is the Big O running time of sum()?

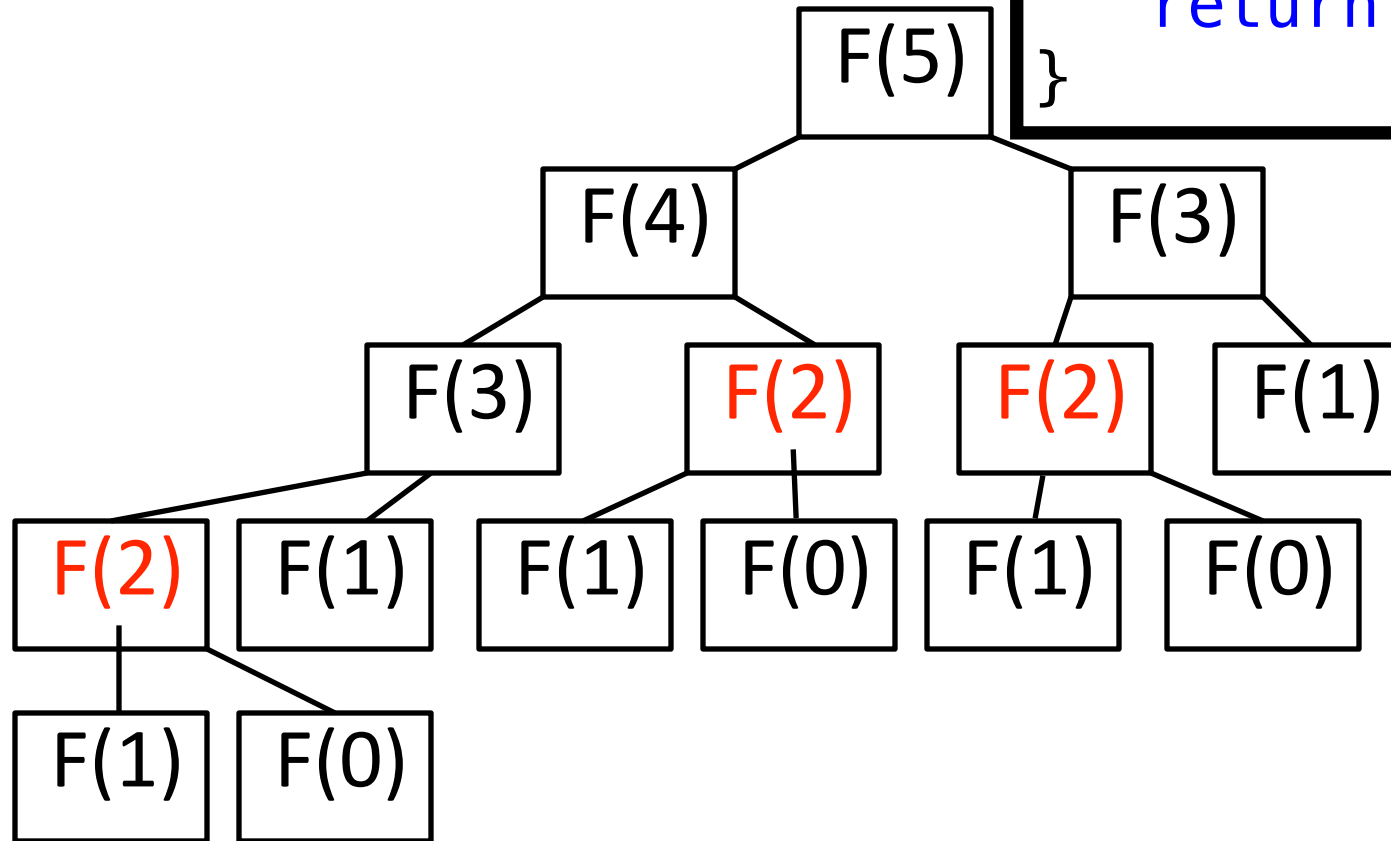
```
/* n is the length of the array*/  
int sum(int arr[], int n)  
{  
    int result = 0;  
    for(int i = 1; i < n; i*=2)  
        result+=2*arr[i];  
    return result;  
}
```

- A.  $O(n^2)$
- B.  $O(n)$
- C.  $O(n^3)$
- D.  $O(\log n)$
- E. None of the above

# Why Big-O is useful in analysis of recursive fib?

Derive  $T(n) = O(2^n)$

```
F(int n){  
    if(n <= 1) return 1  
    return F(n-1) + F(n-2)  
}
```



# Empirical Analysis: Recursive Fibonacci Running Time

For recursive fibonacci algorithm, we derived that  $T(n) = O(2^n)$

How well does this represent practice?

**Observation:** Time grows fast — roughly 1.6x per  $n$ .

**Hypothesis:** Exponential growth, like  $T(n) = a * b^n$ ?

$n$	Time (ms)
40	788.09
41	1270.18
42	2070.68
43	3391.74
44	6411.54
45	9589.44
50	100329.11

Ratios between consecutive  $n$ :

- $n = 41$  to  $42$ :  $2070.68/1270.18 \approx 1.63$
- $n = 42$  to  $43$ :  $3391.74/2070.68 \approx 1.64$
- $n = 43$  to  $44$ :  $6411.54/3391.74 \approx 1.89$
- $n = 44$  to  $45$ :  $9589.44/6411.54 \approx 1.50$
- **Average:**  $\sim 1.66$

**Tested on my machine**

# Confirming Exponential Growth

$$T(n) = a * b^n \rightarrow \log_2(T(n)) =$$

# Confirming Exponential Growth

$$T(n) = a * b^n \rightarrow \log_2(T(n)) = \log_2(a) + n \log_2(b)$$

Calculate:

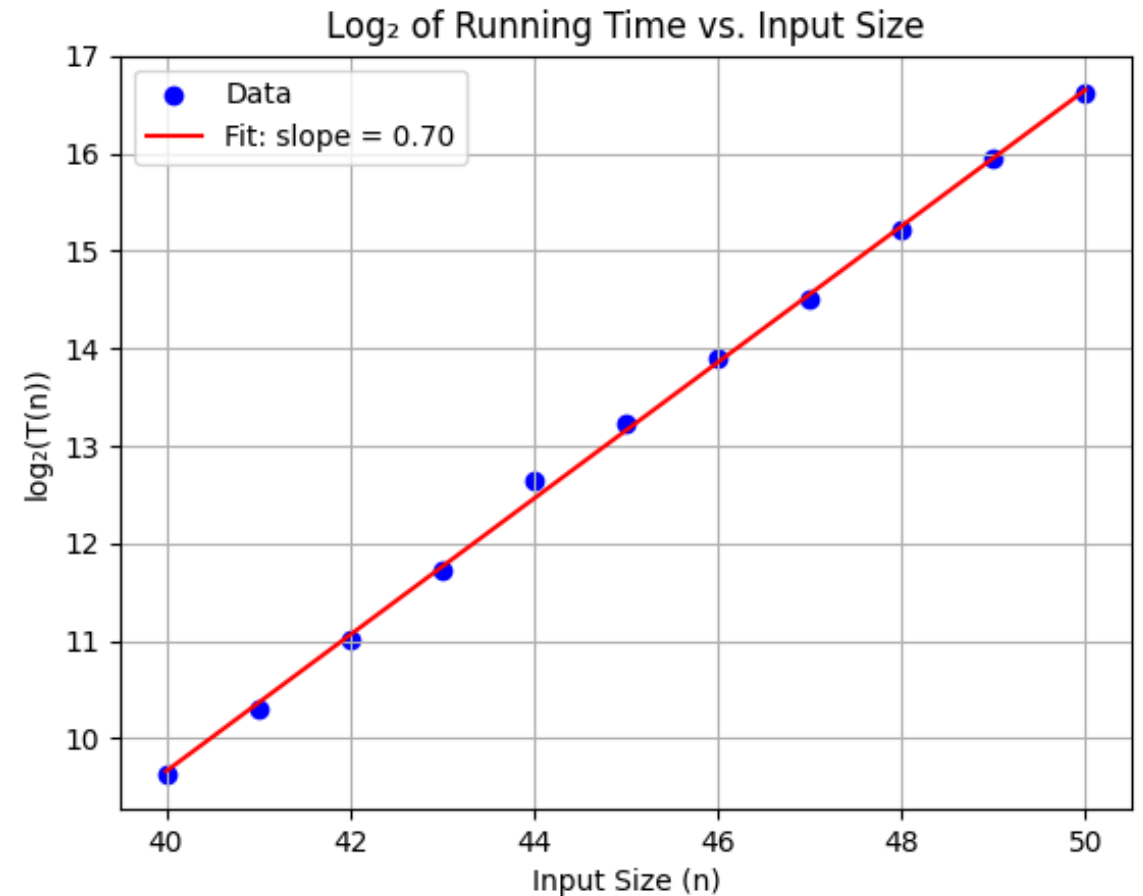
$$\log_2(788.09) \approx 9.62 \text{ (n=40)}$$

$$\log_2(100329.11) \approx 16.61 \text{ (n=50)}$$

$$\text{Slope} = (16.61 - 9.62) / (50 - 40) \approx 0.70$$

$$b \approx 2^{0.7} \approx 1.62 \approx \varphi \text{ (1.618)}$$

$$a \approx 2^{-18.39}$$



**Lab01: Do a similar empirical analysis for the 3-sum problem!!**



# Comparing predictions for $T(200)$

**How does our prediction for  $T(200)$  compare with Prof. Dasgupta's ( $2^{92}$  s)?**

- Our empirical result:  $T(n) \approx 2^{(-18.39+0.7n)} \text{ ms} \approx 2^{(-28.39+0.7n)} \text{ s}$
- Our prediction for  $T(200) \approx 2^{111} \text{ s}$
- Dasgupta's prediction  $= 2^{92} \text{ s}$
- Our predicted running time is larger by a factor of  $2^{19} = 5 \cdot 10^5$
- What can account for the difference in the results?

**Lab01: Do a similar empirical analysis for the 3-sum problem!!**

# Next time

- Abstract Data Types (OOP implementation of LinkedList)

Credits and references:

Slides based on presentations by Professors Sanjoy Das Gupta and Daniel Kane at UCSD  
<https://cseweb.ucsd.edu/~dasgupta/book/toc.pdf>