


DSA3 Lab session 2

What the hell is this Big O thing?

- Strong intuitive feel for Big O is critical for all software engineers
- Precise/rigorous/formal Big O important in:
 - Algorithm research
 - Competitive programming
 - Performance-critical applications
- People typically care less about Big Ω and Big Θ

Can you “feel” what the Big O is here?

```
1  
2 def function_1(S):  
3     n = len(S)  
4     total = 0  
5     for i in range(n):  
6         total += S[i]  
7      return total
```

and here?

```
2  def function_2(S):
3      n = len(S)
4      for i in range(n):
5          S[i] += 1
6
7      for i in range(n):
8          S[i] *= 2
9      return S
```

How about here?

```
1  
2  def function_3(S):  
3      n = len(S)  
4      total = 0  
5      for i in range(n):  
6          for j in range(i + 1):  
7              total += S[j]  
8      return total
```

One more...

```
1
2  ✓ def function_4(A, B):
3      n = len(A)
4      count = 0
5      ✓ for i in range(n):
6          total = 0
7          ✓ for j in range(n):
8              ✓ for k in range(j + 1):
9                  total += A[k]
10             ✓ if B[i] == total:
11                 count += 1
12         return count
```

Other common patterns: $O(1)$

```
1
2 def constant_function(item):
3     if item != None:
4         return True
5     return False
6
```

Other common patterns: $O(\log n)$

```
1
2  def num_times_divisible_by_two(n):
3      count = 0
4      while n > 1:
5          n = n // 2
6          count += 1
7      return count
8
```


We now know $O(n)$ and $O(\log n)$

- How do we conceptualize

- $O(n * \log n)$?

- We'll see some $O(n \log n)$ next week

Other common patterns: $O(2^n)$

```
1
2  def fib(n):
3      if n <= 1:
4          return n
5      return fib(n - 1) + fib(n - 2)
6
```

Let's avoid $O(2^n)$ if we can

```
2 import time
3
4 def fib(n):
5     if n <= 1:
6         return n
7     return fib(n - 1) + fib(n - 2)
8
9 start = time.perf_counter()
10 result = fib(45)
11 time_elapsed = time.perf_counter() - start
12 print(result, time_elapsed)
13
```

PROBLEMS 3 OUTPUT DEBUG CONSOLE TERMINAL PORTS

● 1134903170 209.80041380001057

```
2 import time
3
4 def fib(n):
5     left, right = 0, 1
6     for _ in range(n):
7         left, right = right, left + right
8     return left
9
10 start = time.perf_counter()
11 result = fib(45)
12 time_elapsed = time.perf_counter() - start
13 print(result, time_elapsed)
14
```

PROBLEMS 3 OUTPUT DEBUG CONSOLE TERMINAL PORTS

● 1134903170 6.400005077011883e-06

Other common patterns: $O(n!)$

```
4 def factorial_algorithm(items):
5     if len(items) == 0:
6         return [[]]
7     result = []
8     for i in range(len(items)):
9         first = items[i]
10        rest = items[:i] + items[i+1:]
11        for p in factorial_algorithm(rest):
12            result.append([first] + p)
13    return result
14
15 results = factorial_algorithm([1, 2, 3])
16 print(results)
17
```

PROBLEMS 3 OUTPUT DEBUG CONSOLE TERMINAL PORTS

• `[[1, 2, 3], [1, 3, 2], [2, 1, 3], [2, 3, 1], [3, 1, 2], [3, 2, 1]]`

$O(n!)$ is bad! We need to avoid it!

```
For a list with 1 elements: 7.099995855242014e-06
For a list with 2 elements: 1.4399993233382702e-05
For a list with 3 elements: 1.2799995602108538e-05
For a list with 4 elements: 4.260000423528254e-05
For a list with 5 elements: 0.00017719999596010894
For a list with 6 elements: 0.0011934000067412853
For a list with 7 elements: 0.008729399996809661
For a list with 8 elements: 0.07634620000317227
For a list with 9 elements: 0.9669547000085004
For a list with 10 elements: 14.593110500005423
For a list with 11 elements: 205.16084120000596
```

□

↖ I stopped it after an hour

Traveling salesman problem

- You have a list of cities, and a list of distances between each city pair
- What's the shortest route that visits every city once and returns to the origin city?
- This will come up later; you don't need to study it on your own now

Is Big O our lord and master?

- Al and Bob are arguing about which of their algms is faster
- Al's is $O(n \log n)$
- Bob's is $O(n^2)$

Is Big O our lord and master?

- Al and Bob are arguing about which of their algms is faster
 - Al's is $O(n \log n)$
 - Bob's is $O(n^2)$
- They time their algorithms, if $n < 100$ $O(n^2)$ is faster, $n \geq 100$ $O(n \log n)$ faster
- What's happening?

What are some use cases of recursion?

What are some use cases of recursion?

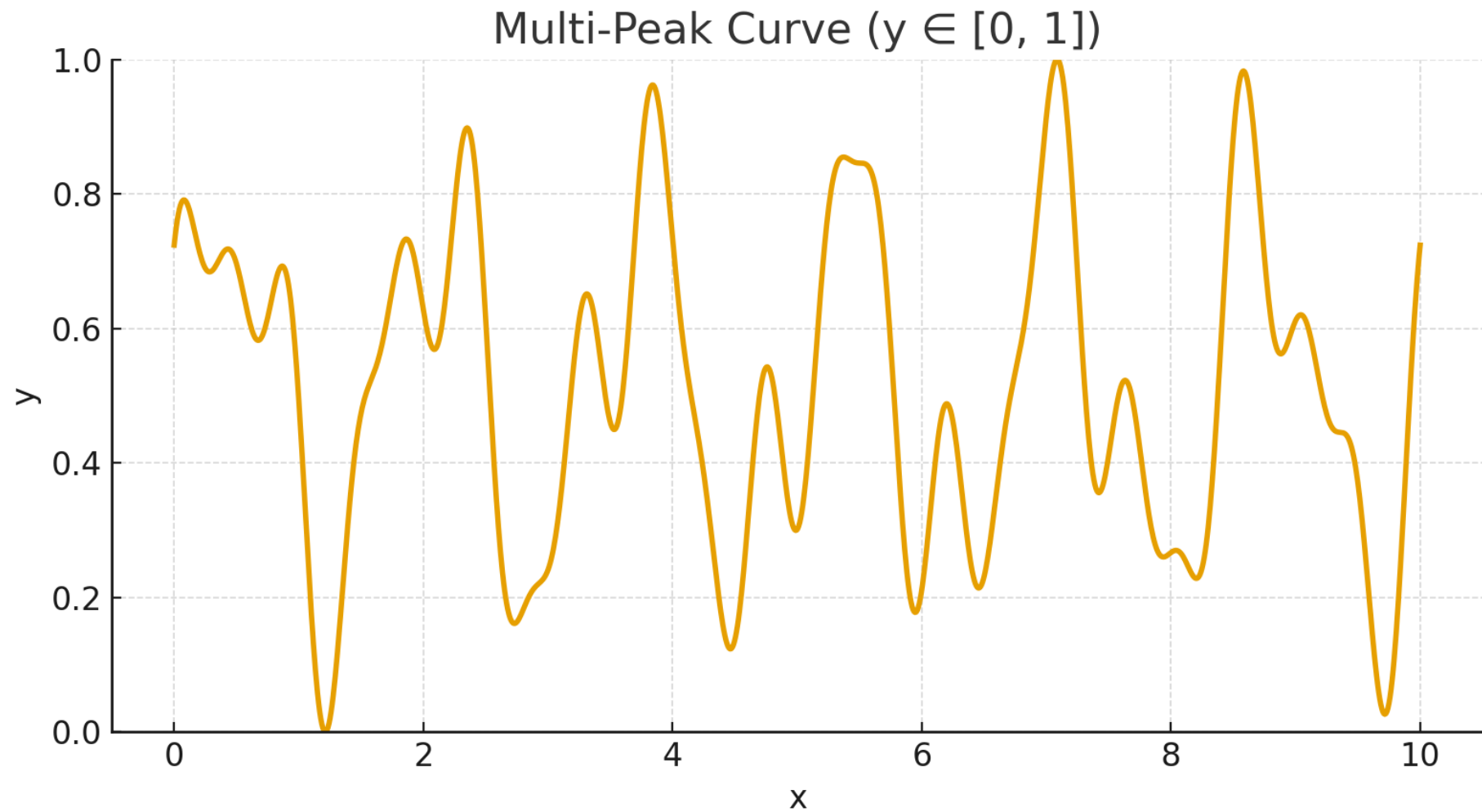
- Fractal generation
- Math problems (Fibonacci, factorial, etc)
- Tree/graph traversals
- Divide/conquer algorithms

What are some of the weaknesses of recursion?

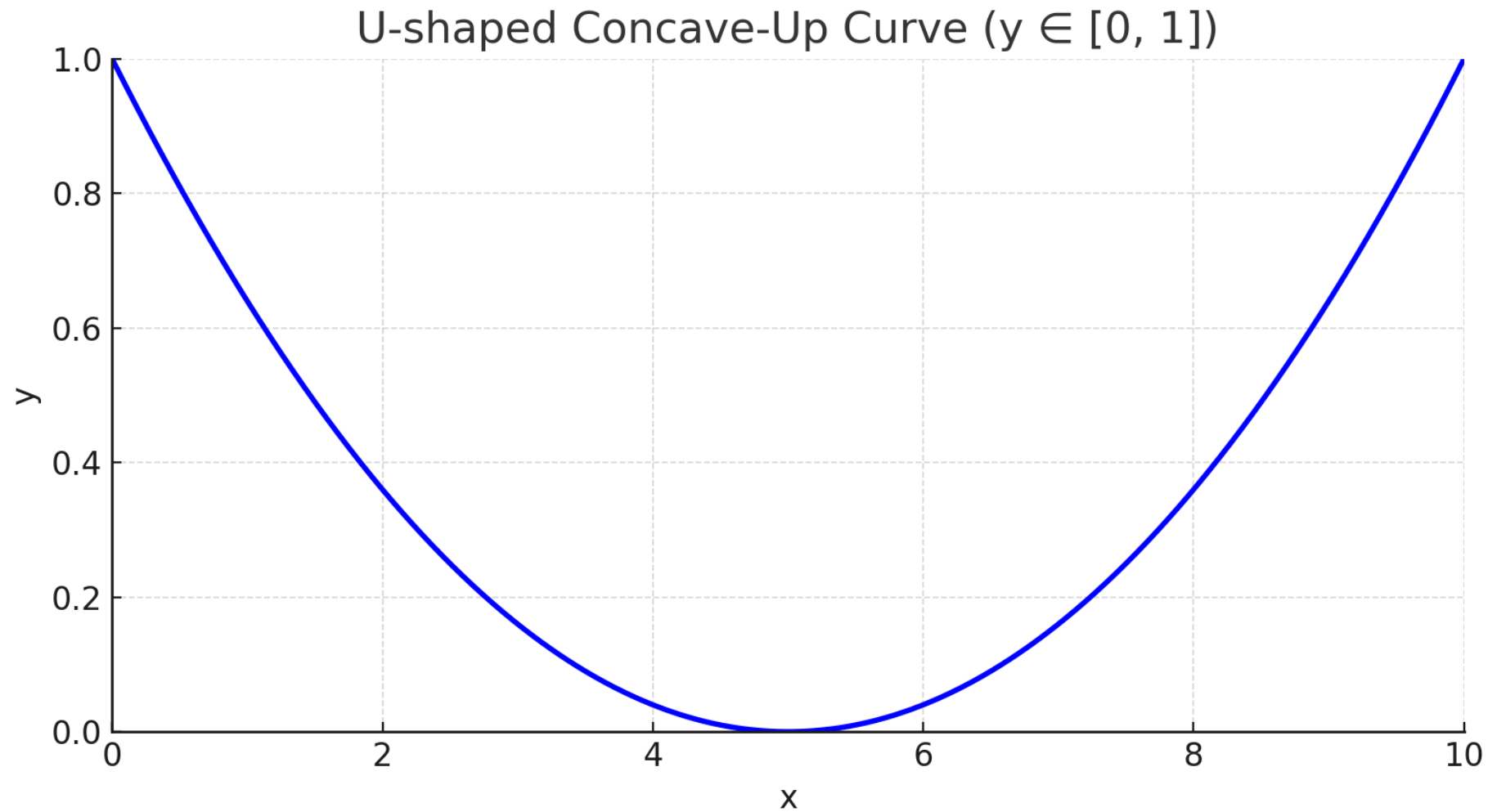
A language-independent question

- We have some list of n numbers
- We want to remove all the duplicates
- How?

Let's take a look at assignment 2



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ChatGPT did this, don't @me

