Chapter 8: Searching and Sorting Arrays

8.1 Introduction to Search Algorithms

**Search**: locate an item in a list of information

**Two algorithms we will examine:**
- Linear search
- Binary search

**Linear Search**

- Also called the sequential search
- Starting at the first element, this algorithm sequentially steps through an array examining each element until it locates the value it is searching for.

**Linear Search - Example**

- **Array numlist contains:**
  
  | 17 | 23 | 5 | 11 | 2 | 29 | 3 |

- Searching for the value 11, linear search examines 17, 23, 5, and 11
- Searching for the value 7, linear search examines 17, 23, 5, 11, 2, 29, and 3

**Linear Search**

- **Algorithm:**
  
  ```
  set found to false; set position to –1; set index to 0
  while index < number of elts. and found is false
    if list[index] is equal to search value
      found = true
      position = index
    end if
    add 1 to index
  end while
  return position
  ```
**A Linear Search Function**

```c
int searchList(int list[], int numElems, int value) {
    int index = 0;      // Used as a subscript to search array
    int position = -1;  // To record position of search value
    bool found = false; // Flag to indicate if value was found

    while (index < numElems && !found) {
        if (list[index] == value) // If the value is found
            {
                found = true; // Set the flag
                position = index; // Record the value's subscript
                index++; // Go to the next element
            }
    return position; // Return the position, or -1
}
```

**Linear Search - Tradeoffs**

- **Benefits:**
  - Easy algorithm to understand
  - Array can be in any order

- **Disadvantages:**
  - Inefficient (slow): for array of N elements, examines N/2 elements on average for value in array, N elements for value not in array

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**Binary Search**

Requires array elements to be in order
1. Divides the array into three sections:
   - middle element
   - elements on one side of the middle element
   - elements on the other side of the middle element
2. If the middle element is the correct value, done. Otherwise, go to step 1. using only the half of the array that may contain the correct value.
3. Continue steps 1. and 2. until either the value is found or there are no more elements to examine

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**Binary Search - Example**

Array `numlist2` contains:

```
2 3 5 11 17 23 29
```

- Searching for the value 11, binary search examines 11 and stops
- Searching for the value 7, linear search examines 11, 3, 5, and stops

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**A Binary Search Function**

```c
int binarySearch(int array[], int size, int value) {
    int first = 0,             // First array element
        last = size - 1,       // Last array element
        middle,                // Mid point of search
        position = -1;         // Position of search value
    bool found = false;        // Flag

    while (!found && first <= last) {
        middle = (first + last) / 2;     // Calculate mid point
        if (array[middle] == value)      // If value is found at mid
            {
                found = true;
                position = middle;
            }
        else if (array[middle] > value)  // If value is in lower half
            last = middle - 1;
        else                           // If value is in upper half
            first = middle + 1;

    return position;
}
```
**Binary Search - Tradeoffs**

- **Benefits:**
  - Much more efficient than linear search. For array of N elements, performs at most $\log_2 N$ comparisons

- **Disadvantages:**
  - Requires that array elements be sorted

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**Introduction to Sorting Algorithms**

- **Sort:** arrange values into an order:
  - Alphabetical
  - Ascending numeric
  - Descending numeric

- **Two algorithms considered here:**
  - Bubble sort
  - Selection sort

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**Bubble Sort**

- **Concept:**
  - Compare 1st two elements
  - If out of order, exchange them to put in order
  - Move down one element, compare 2nd and 3rd elements, exchange if necessary. Continue until end of array.
  - Pass through array again, exchanging as necessary
  - Repeat until pass made with no exchanges

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**Example – First Pass**

Array `numlist3` contains:

17  23  5  11

- compare values 17 and 23 – in correct order, so no exchange
- compare values 23 and 5 – not in correct order, so exchange them
- compare values 23 and 11 – not in correct order, so exchange them

**Example – Second Pass**

After first pass, array `numlist3` contains:

17  5  11  23

- compare values 17 and 11 – not in correct order, so exchange them
- compare values 17 and 23 – in correct order, so no exchange
Example – Third Pass

After second pass, array numlist3 contains:

5  11  17  23

compare values 5 and 11 – in correct order, so no exchange
compare values 11 and 17 – in correct order, so no exchange
compare values 17 and 23 – in correct order, so no exchange

No exchanges, so array is in order

A Bubble Sort Function – From Program 8-4

```c
void sortArray(int array[], int size)
{
    bool swap;
    int temp;
    do
    {
        swap = false;
        for (int count = 0; count < (size - 1); count++)
        {
            if (array[count] > array[count + 1])
            {
                temp = array[count];
                array[count] = array[count + 1];
                array[count + 1] = temp;
                swap = true;
            }
        }
    }
    while (swap);
}
```

Bubble Sort - Tradeoffs

- Benefit:
  - Easy to understand and implement
- Disadvantage:
  - Inefficient: slow for large arrays

Selection Sort

- Concept for sort in ascending order:
  - Locate smallest element in array. Exchange it with element in position 0
  - Continue until all elements are arranged in order

Selection Sort - Example

Array numlist contains:

11  2  29  3

1. Smallest element is 2. Exchange 2 with element in 1st position in array:

2  11  29  3

2. Next smallest element is 3. Exchange 3 with element in 2nd position in array:

2  3  29  11

3. Next smallest element is 11. Exchange 11 with element in 3rd position in array:

2  3  11  29

Example (Continued)
A Selection Sort Function – From Program 8-5

```c
void selectionSort(int array[], int size)
{
    int startScan, minIndex, minValue;
    for (startScan = 0; startScan < (size - 1); startScan++)
    {
        minIndex = startScan;
        minValue = array[startScan];
        for(int index = startScan + 1; index < size; index++)
        {
            if (array[index] < minValue)
            {
                minValue = array[index];
                minIndex = index;
            }
        }
        array[minIndex] = array[startScan];
        array[startScan] = minValue;
    }
}
```

Selection Sort - Tradeoffs

**Benefit:**
- More efficient than Bubble Sort, since fewer exchanges

**Disadvantage:**
- May not be as easy as Bubble Sort to understand