CS1003/1004: Intro to CS, Spring 2004

Lecture #8: Algorithms IV Janak J Parekh janak@cs.columbia.edu

Administrivia

- HW#2 due now
 - Won't be returned before midterm, so I'll release solutions
- HW#3 out
 - All programming
- I'm teaching C lab this week
- Midterm next Tuesday
 - Topics list posted
 - Extra review session?

Agenda

- One more recursive example
- Talk about one more class of algorithms: *sorting*
- Spend some more time on big-Oh notation
- Midterm review
 - More midterm review in labs...

Recursion, redux

- Idea: instead of using explicit loops, cast problem in terms of itself
- *Base case(s)* and *recursive case*
- How can we compute n! recursively?
- I won't make you design a recursion on the exam, but you should be able to recognize one

Sorting

- Common problem: given data, sort it in some fashion
- Most common-type is *comparison-based sort*
- Can you come up with way to sort information?
- Many different kinds; we'll look at two today
 - Bubble sort
 - Insertion sort
- Let's make this interesting...

Big-Oh notation, redux

- Basic intuition:
 - Find the number of steps in terms of *n* or other variables
 - Drop any constants or additive lower-order terms
 - Put a O() around the result
 - Common: O(1), $O(\log N)$, O(N), $O(N^2)$, $O(2^N)$
- What's the complexity of the algorithms we just talked about?

Next time

- Midterm
- Then break! ☺
- Then HW3 is due... \otimes