

## Session 0

# Course Orientation

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### Lecture Summary

#### Course Introduction and Motivation

- Why study “Analysis and Design of Algorithms”?
- Course information and expectations

#### What is an “Algorithm”?

1. The definition
2. Place in computer science
3. Preparation for “thinking about the definition” next class

#### First Exercise

Discuss the session exercise.

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### Session Exercise


P1. Run the sorting performance study in the course website start page and compare.

#### Detailed instructions

- Go through the programming startup guide
- Run the exercise for list sizes: 800, 1500, 10000, 20000, 50000, 100000
- Record sort run time in milliseconds for each case using the timing in the **Console** panel
- Comment out `quicksort()` line in `sortdemo.js` and repeat for bubble sort
- For each size, you will have 2 run times, one from each sort. Calculate a *speedup* for each pair (divide the larger run time by the smaller)
- Organize results in a table (hint: use Excel)
- Write a conclusion based on your experience and findings
  - 👁️ Why get a new run time for the *same* case whenever the script is re-run (page refreshed)?
- Upload a PDF of results table and a conclusion paragraph

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### Reading List

- 1-page course syllabus
-  1.1

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### Keywords

Algorithm