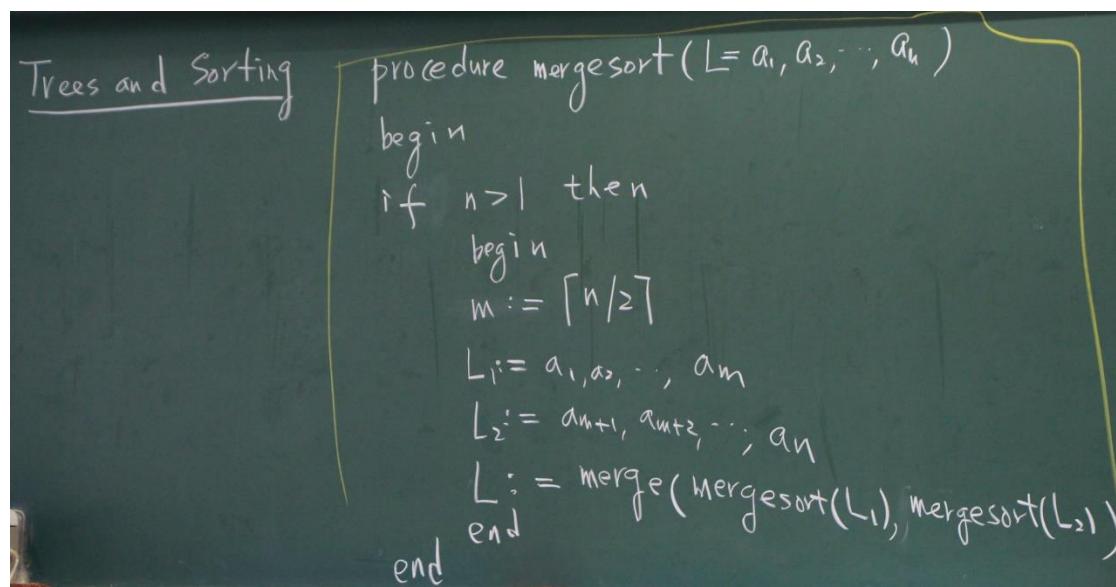
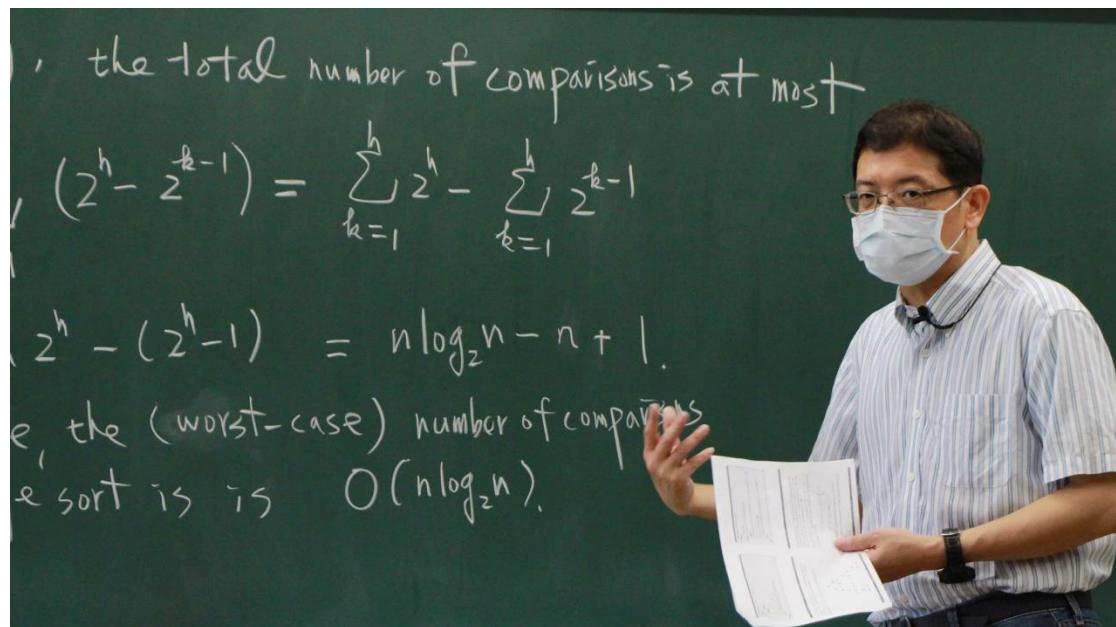


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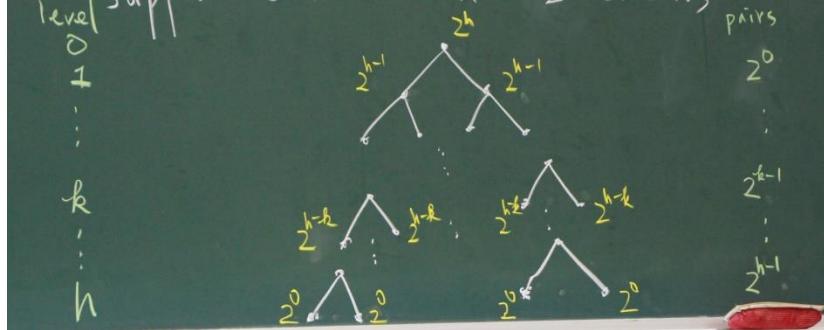


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procedure merge (L1, L2)
begin
    L := empty list
    while L1 and L2 are both nonempty
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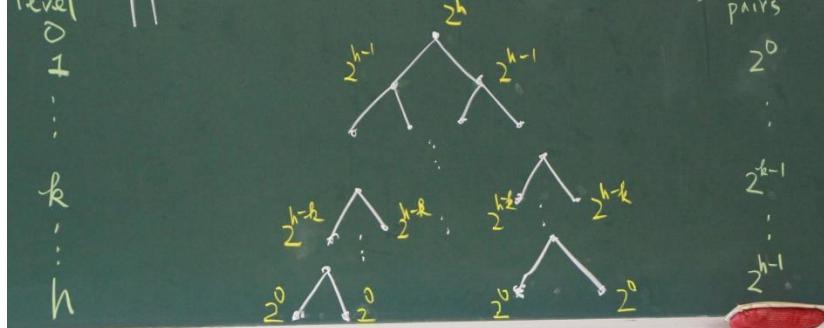
If sorted lists L_1 and L_2 have m_1 and m_2 elements, respectively, then at most m_1+m_2-1 comparisons are used in merge (L_1, L_2) to produce a sorted list.

Suppose there are $n = 2^h$ elements in L . In the splitting process,



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In the merging process, at level h , there are 2^{h-1} pairs of vertices. For each pair, there are two sublists each of size 2^0 and to merge the two sublists, at most $2^0 + 2^0 - 1 = 2^1 - 1$ comparisons is needed. Hence at level h at most $2^{h-1} (2^1 - 1) = 2^h - 2^{h-1}$ comparisons are used.

In general, at level k , $1 \leq k \leq h$, at most $2^{k-1} (2^{h-k} + 2^{h-k} - 1)$
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Consequently, the total number of comparisons is at most

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Therefore, the (worst-case) number of comparisons in merge sort is $O(n \log_2 n)$.

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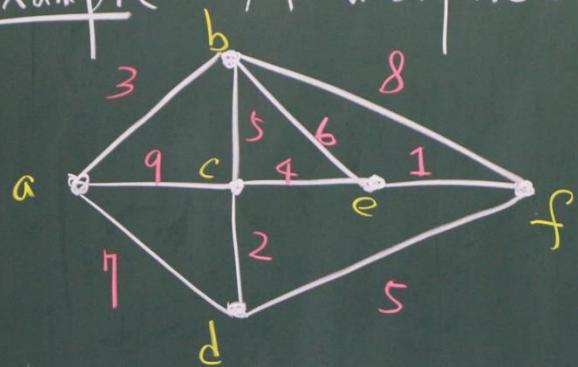
Optimization and Matching

Shortest-Path Problem

Consider an undirected connected simple graph $G = (V, E)$.

There is a weight $w(u, v) > 0$ for each edge
 $\{u, v\} \in E$. If $\{u, v\} \notin E$, then $w(u, v) = \infty$.

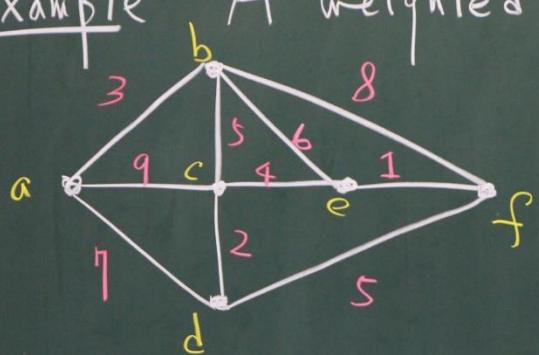
Example A weighted simple graph



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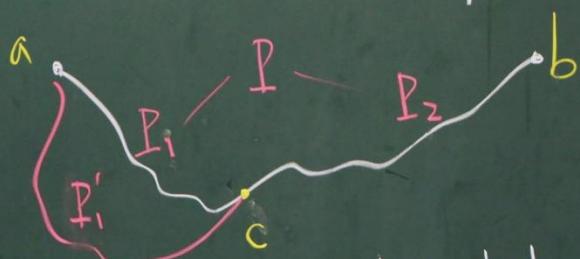
For example, the weight of the path

$a \rightarrow d \rightarrow c \rightarrow b \rightarrow f$ is $w(a,d) + w(d,c) + w(c,b) + w(b,f) = 7 + 2 + 5 + 8 = 22.$

We would like to find the path from some vertex to some other vertex with the least weight.

\Rightarrow the shortest-path problem.

Principle of optimality :



Suppose c is an intermediate vertex along the shortest path P from a to b . Then the portion of the path from a to c , P_1 , must be the shortest path among all paths from a to c . Otherwise, if there were a shorter path P'_1 from a to c , then the path $P'_1 P_2$ would be shorter than P .