

Re: puzzle

Source: <http://coding.derkeiler.com/Archive/General/comp.programming/2005-06/msg00365.html>

- *From:* spinoza111@xxxxxxxxxx
 - *Date:* 12 Jun 2005 20:16:54 -0700
-

Christopher Barber wrote:

> spinoza111@xxxxxxxxxx wrote:

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>> Christopher Barber wrote:

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>>>spinoza111@xxxxxxxxxx wrote:

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>>>>pete wrote:

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>>>>>spinoza111@xxxxxxxxxx wrote:

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>>>>>>You're doing $O(n)$ searches, times a linearly shrinking array, only in

>>>>>>the worst case. $N/2$ the time on average it finds U . This doesn't

>>>>>>transform order n^2 because it divides by a constant and not N but it

>>>>>>is none the less a significant reduction.

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>>>>>>Whatever $O(n * n / 2)$ could possibly mean

>>>>>>is what $O(n * n)$ actually means.

>>>>>>Constant factors aren't part of big O notation.

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>>>>>Of course not. But, $n*n/2 \neq n*n$ for positive n : $n*n/2 < n*n$ for $n>0$.

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>>>>>It is not clear to me that you understand. $O(n*n) \neq O(n*n/2)$!

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>> D'oh. As my kids would say.

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>> I am very disturbed by your failure to read the post properly, and this

>> kneejerk reduction of discussion to the biographical issue of who

>> understands what, which, as I have said, makes this ng useless for

>> either discussion of technical issues or the generation of solidarity

>> or understanding among programming professionals.

Re: puzzle

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- > You should consider the possibility that the reason that people are not
- > understanding you the way you intend is because you are failing to communicate
- > effectively and clearly. Your tendency to use (and sometimes misuse) obscure
- > words and to insert long paragraphs of orthogonal social commentary does not
- > make it easy for people to understand what you are saying.

This is a canard. The attentive reader can determine cultural references from context and