

Algorithm :: Formal Definition :: Review

An ordered set of unambiguous steps that produces a result and terminates in a finite time


## Subalgorithm: Find larger

FindLargest
Input: A list of positive integers

1. Set Largest to 0
2. while (more integers)
2.1 FindLarger

End while
3. Return Largest

End






## Algorithm 8.7: Iterative factorial

Factorial
Input: A positive integer num

1. Set FactN to 0
2. Set ito 1
3. while (i is less than or equal to num)
3.1 Set FactN to FactN xi
3.2 Increment i

End while
4. Return FactN

End

Brooks/Cole

## Summary

- An algorithm is a step-by-step method for solving a problem or doing a task
- An algorithm accepts an input list of data and creates an output list of data
- A program is a combination of sequence constructs, decision constructs, and repetition constructs
- A flowchart is a pictorial representation of an algorithm
- Pseudocode is an Englishlike representation of an algorithm
- Formally, an algorithm is an ordered set of unambiguous steps that produces a result and terminates in a finite time


## Summary

- Searching, a process to locate a target in a list of data, is a basic algorithm
- Sequential search is used for undirected lists
- Binary search is used for ordered lists
- An iterative algorithms involves only the parameters and not the algorithm itself
- A recursive algorithm involves the algorithm itself
- Sorting, a process to order data, is a basic algorithm
- Selection sort, bubble sort, and insertion sort are commonly used sorting algorithms

