

CompSci 161

Winter 2023 Lecture 1:

Finding a Celebrity (continued)

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What is a celebrity?

- ▶ Within a group of people G
We say a person p is a celebrity (famous) iff:
 - ▶ Everyone knows who p is
(celebrities must be known by everyone)
 - ▶ Person p does not know who anyone else is
- ▶ Person p might be a celebrity within G
 - ▶ How can you check?
 - ▶ What actions can we take?

3 Who is a Celebrity?

$$|G|=n$$

- ▶ Checking if person p is a celebrity:

```
for each person  $x$  in  $G - \{p\}$ 
  if  $p$  knows  $x$ 
    return false
  if  $x$  does not know  $p$ 
    return false
return true
```

} 2 questions

$n-1$ people: $2n-2$ questions

▷ Is there a celebrity in group? $2n^2 - 2n$

```
for each  $p \in G$ 
  check if  $p$  is celebrity
```

4 Finding a Celebrity

- ▶ The previous solution was “brute force”
- ▶ Can we do better?
- ▶ Things to look for:
 - ▶ Did we repeat work?
(Work that was needed, but was done twice)
 - ▶ Did we do unnecessary work?
(work that we could have done without)

5 Finding a Celebrity

Given group G , is there a celebrity? If so, who?

$G' = \text{copy of } G$

while $|G'| > 1$

select a, b distinct and arbitrary
from G'

if a knows b

remove a from G'

else remove b from G'

} $n-1$ questions
Total

$P \leftarrow$ only one left in G'

check if P is celebrity } $2n-2$ qs

6 Finding a Celebrity

- Previous solution assumes at most one celebrity
- Would a group have two or more?

Suppose FSOC a group could

let a, b be two distinct
celebs

does a know b ?

If yes: a not celeb $\rightarrow \leftarrow$

if no b not celeb $\rightarrow \leftarrow$