

Competitive Analysis in Buffer Management

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Abstract. An important new direction of research in buffer management, gaining popularity over the last decade, deals with worst-case bounds on the competitive ratios of buffer management policies in various settings. This is a young field of study, and many cutting edge problems are easy to understand and, perhaps, quite possible to solve. In the short course, we will review the main definitions of competitive analysis, prove several worst-case bounds for illustration, and survey the main problem settings and the current frontier of the field.