

BASICS

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WHAT IS AN ALGORITHM?

- A computable set of steps to achieve a desired result.
- All algorithm must satisfy the following criteria:
 - Input
 - Output
 - Definiteness
 - Finiteness
 - Effectiveness

EXAMPLE

- Statement 1: **"Is $n=2$ the largest value of n for which there exist positive integers $x, y,$ and z such that $x^n + y^n = z^n$ has a solution?"**
- Statement 2: **"Store 5 divided by zero into x and go to statement 3."**
- Which criterion do they violate?
 - Input
 - Output
 - Definiteness
 - Finiteness
 - Effectiveness