

Intro to Algorithms, COMP-160, Homework #1

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1. Compare each of the following pairs of functions asymptotically.

To compare $f(n)$ and $g(n)$, you should prove that $f(n)$ is $O(g(n))$ or $\Omega(g(n))$, or both.

(a) 2^{n+1} vs $2^n \rightarrow 2^{n+1} = \Theta(2^n)$

$$c_1 \cdot 2^n \leq 2^{n+1} = 2 \cdot 2^n \leq c_2 \cdot 2^n$$

$$c_1 \leq 2 \leq c_2$$

$$c_1 \leq 2 \leq c_2 \text{ and } n_0 \geq 1$$

Therefore $\exists c_1, c_2$ such that $c_1 \cdot 2^n \leq 2^{n+1} \leq c_2 \cdot 2^n$, so $2^{n+1} = \Theta(2^n)$

(b) 2^{2n} vs $2^n \rightarrow 2^{2n} = \Omega(2^n)$

$$c \cdot 2^n \leq 2^{2n} = 4^n$$

$$c \leq \frac{4^n}{2^n} = 2^n$$

$$\text{Since } n_0 \geq 1, c \leq 2$$

Therefore, $\exists c$ such that $c \cdot 2^n \leq 2^{2n}$, so $2^{2n} = \Omega(2^n)$

(c) 4^n vs $2^{2n} \rightarrow 4^n = \Theta(2^{2n})$

$$c_1 \cdot 2^{2n} \leq 4^n \leq c_2 \cdot 2^{2n}$$

$$c_1 \cdot 4^n \leq 4^n \leq c_2 \cdot 4^n$$

$$c_1 \leq \frac{4^n}{4^n} \leq c_2$$

$$c_1 \leq 1 \leq c_2 \text{ and } n_0 \geq 0$$

Therefore $\exists c_1, c_2$ such that $c_1 \cdot 2^{2n} \leq 4^n \leq c_2 \cdot 2^{2n}$, so $4^n = \Theta(2^{2n})$

(d) 2^n vs $4^n \rightarrow 2^n = O(4^n)$

$$2^n \leq c \cdot 4^n$$

$$\frac{1}{2^n} \leq c$$

$$\text{Since } n_0 \geq 1, c \geq \frac{1}{2}$$

Therefore, $\exists c$ such that $2^n \leq c \cdot 4^n$, so $2^n = O(4^n)$