Problem Set 1

Data Structures and Algorithms, Fall 2020

Due: September 17, in class.

Problem 1

Consider the following algorithm to sort n numbers stored in an array A. First find the smallest element of A and swap it with the element stored in A[1]. Then find the second smallest element of A and swap it with the element stored in A[2]. Continue in this manner for n-1 times and we are done.

- (a) Give the pseudocode of this algorithm.
- (b) Give the best-case and worst-case running times of this algorithm in Θ -notation.
- (c) What loop invariant does this algorithm maintain? State it, prove it, and then use it to show the correctness of the algorithm.

Problem 2

Given c_0, c_1, \dots, c_n and a value for x, we can evaluate a polynomial

$$P(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{n} c_k x^k = c_0 + x(c_1 + x(c_2 + \dots + x(c_{n-1} + xc_n) \dots))$$

using the following algorithm:

PolyEval $(x, c_0, c_1, \cdots, c_n)$

- 1: $y \leftarrow 0$
- 2: for (i = n downto 0) do
- 3: $y \leftarrow c_i + xy$
- (a) Give the runtime of PolyEval in Θ -notation.
- (b) What loop invariant does PolyEval maintain? State it, prove it, and then use it to show the correctness of PolyEval.

Problem 3

- (a) Let $f(n): \mathbb{N}^+ \mapsto \mathbb{R}^+$ and $g(n): \mathbb{N}^+ \mapsto \mathbb{R}^+$ be two functions, prove that $\max\{f(n), g(n)\} = \Theta(f(n) + g(n))$.
- (b) Let $a \in \mathbb{R}$ and $b \in \mathbb{R}^+$ be two constants, prove that $(n+a)^b = \Theta(n^b)$.
- (c) Among asymptotic notations $o, O, \omega, \Omega, \Theta$, which can be used to describe the relationship between \sqrt{n} and $n^{\sin(n)}$? You do not need to prove your answer.

Problem 4

Sort the following functions from asymptotically smallest to asymptotically largest, indicating ties if there are any. You do not need to prove your answer. To simplify notation, write $f(n) \ll g(n)$ to mean f(n) = o(g(n)) and f(n) = g(n) to mean $f(n) = \Theta(g(n))$.

Problem 5

Explain how to implement a FIFO queue using two stacks. You should give a brief overview of your implementation, then provide pseudocode for enqueue and dequeue operations. Assuming push and pop each takes $\Theta(1)$ time, analyze the running time of enqueue and dequeue.

Problem 6

Design a MINSTACK data structure that can store comparable elements and supports stack operations push (x), pop(), as well as the min() operation, which returns the minimum value currently stored in the data structure. All operations should run in O(1) time in your implementation. (You may assume there exists a STACK data structure which supports push and pop, and both operations run in O(1) time.) You should give a brief overview of your MINSTACK data structure, then provide pseudocode for each of the three operations. You should also discuss the space complexity of your implementation.

Problem 7

Design a RANDOMQUEUE data structure. This is an implementation of the QUEUE interface in which the remove operation removes an element that is chosen uniformly at random among all the elements currently in the queue. You may assume you have access to a random function which takes a positive integer as input: random(x) returns a uniformly chosen random integer in [1,x], in O(1) time. You should give a brief overview of your data structure, then provide pseudocode for add and remove operations. You should also discuss the time complexity of add and remove operations. (To get full credit, add and remove operations should run in O(1) time in your implementation. You may assume the number of elements in the queue never exceeds N.)

Problem 8

You are given an infix expression in which each operator is in $\{+, \times, !\}$ and each operand is a single digit positive integer. Write an algorithm to convert it to postfix. (For example, given " $2+3\times 3!$ ", whose value is 20, your algorithm should output " $233!\times +$ ".) You should give a brief overview of your algorithm, then provide pseudocode, and finally discuss its time complexity. (To get full credit, you your algorithm need to have O(n) time complexity.)