



# University of Colombo School of Computing

## SCS1308 - Foundations of Algorithms

*Take Home Assignment 02*

### Instructions

- Try the following questions and upload your answer script as a zip file to the given link in the UGVLE on/before 8th of December at 6pm.
- Note: Rename your zip file with your index number and name. (i.e: indexNo\_Name.zip)

## 1 Asymptotic Growth Rates

### 1.1 Questions on Asymptotic Notations

1. Find an upper bound for  $f(n) = 3n + 8$ .
2. Find a lower bound for  $f(n) = n^2 - 4n + 7$ .
3. Find a tight bound for  $f(n) = 2n + 5$ .
4. Find an upper bound for  $f(n) = n \log_2 n + 3n$ .
5. Find a tight bound for  $f(n) = 4n^2 \log n + 2n \log n + 5n$ .

### 1.2 Determine which relationship is correct and briefly explain why.

For each of the following  $f(n)$  and  $g(n)$  pairs, either  $f(n)$  is in  $O(g(n))$ ,  $f(n)$  is in  $\Omega(g(n))$  or  $f(n)$  is in  $\Theta(g(n))$ .

1.  $f(n) = 10$ ;  $g(n) = \log(10)$
2.  $f(n) = \log n^2$ ;  $g(n) = \log n + 5$
3.  $f(n) = 2n^4 - 3n^2 + 7$ ;  $g(n) = n^5$
4.  $f(n) = \log n$ ;  $g(n) = \log n + \frac{1}{n}$

### 1.3 Prove or disprove the following

1.  $n^2 = O(2^n)$
2.  $n^3 - 3n^2 - n + 1 = O(n^3)$
3.  $\Theta(n^2) = \Theta(n^2 + 1)$

## 1.4 Reason the following claims

Note: State ‘Yes’ if you agree, ‘No’ if you disagree. Provide reasons for your claim

1. Is  $3^n = O(2^n)$ ?
2. Is  $\log 3^n = O(\log 2^n)$ ?
3. Is  $3^n = \Omega(2^n)$ ?
4. Is  $\log 3^n = \Omega(\log 2^n)$ ?

## 2 Recursion and Recurrence Relations

Find the time complexity of the following algorithms using recursion-tree method

### Question 01

```
1 int fact_helper(int n, int accumulator) {
2     if (n <= 1)
3         return accumulator; // Base case: Return the accumulated result
4     else
5         return fact_helper(n - 1, n * accumulator); // Recursive call
6             with updated accumulator
7 }
8 int fact(int n) {
9     return fact_helper(n, 1); // Initial call with accumulator set to 1
10 }
```

This algorithm modifies the standard recursive factorial by introducing an accumulator to carry the computation, enabling tail-recursive optimization.

**Part A:** Derive the recurrence relation for the time complexity  $T(n)$  of the `fact(n)` algorithm. Clearly explain each term in the recurrence relation.

**Part B:** Build a recursion tree for the algorithm `fact(n)`. For each level of the tree, write down the number of nodes and the non-recursive work.

**Part C:** Using the recursion tree method, calculate the total number of operations performed by `fact(n)` and explain why it has  $\Theta(n)$  complexity.

### Question 02

Consider a sorted array  $A$  of size  $n$  containing distinct integers between 1 and  $n + 1$ , with exactly one missing element (assume the arrays use 0-based indexing).

**Part A:** Design an algorithm  $O(\log n)$  to find the missing integer, without using any extra space. Provide a pseudocode for your algorithm and briefly explain how it works.

**Part B:** Derive the recurrence relation for the time complexity  $T(n)$  of your algorithm. Then, using the recursion tree method, prove that the run time is  $\Theta(\log n)$ . Include a sketch of the recursion tree and calculate the total cost.

### Question 03

Given two sorted arrays  $A$  and  $B$  of size  $n$  and  $m$ , respectively, find the median of the elements  $m + n$ . The overall run time complexity should be  $O(\log(n + m))$ . Derive the recurrence relation for the time complexity  $T(n)$  of your algorithm. Then, using the recursion tree method, prove that the runtime.

### Question 04

Consider the quicksort algorithm for sorting an array of size  $n$ . Assume the pivot is always chosen as the last element, and analyze the average-case time complexity assuming random input (balanced partitions on average).

**Part A** Provide clear pseudocode (recursive) for the quicksort algorithm and briefly explain why it is correct.

**Part B** Derive the recurrence relation  $T(n)$  for the average-case running time of quicksort.

**Part C** Using the **recursion tree method**, prove that the average-case running time is  $\Theta(n \log n)$ . Draw a sketch of the recursion tree and compute the total cost across all levels.

### Question 05

Consider following algorithm of the Fast Fourier Transform (FFT) for computing the Discrete Fourier Transform (DFT) of a sequence of length  $n$  (assuming  $n$  is a power of 2 for simplicity), using a divide-and-conquer approach.

```
1 FFT(a):
2     n = len(a)
3     if n == 1:
4         return a // Base case: DFT of single element is itself
5
6     omega = exp(2 * pi * i / n) // Primitive nth root of unity
7
8     a_even = [a[2*k] for k in 0 to n/2 - 1]
9     a_odd = [a[2*k + 1] for k in 0 to n/2 - 1]
10
11    even_dft = FFT(a_even) // DFT of even indices
12    odd_dft = FFT(a_odd) // DFT of odd indices
13
14    result = [0] * n
15    for k in 0 to n/2 - 1:
16        wk = omega ^ k
17        result[k] = even_dft[k] + wk * odd_dft[k]
18        result[k + n/2] = even_dft[k] - wk * odd_dft[k]
19
20    return result
```

**Part A** Derive the recurrence relation  $T(n)$  for the running time of the algorithm.

**Part B** Using the **recursion tree method**, prove that the running time is  $\Theta(n \log n)$ . Draw a sketch of the recursion tree and compute the total cost across all levels.

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## Definitions

### Asymptotic Notation: Big-O, Omega, and Theta Bounds

- $f(n) = O(g(n))$  means  $c \cdot g(n)$  is an *upper bound* on  $f(n)$ . Thus, there exists some constant  $c$  such that  $f(n) \leq c \cdot g(n)$  for every large enough  $n$  (that is, for all  $n \geq n_0$ , for some constant  $n_0$ ).
- $f(n) = \Omega(g(n))$  means  $c \cdot g(n)$  is a *lower bound* on  $f(n)$ . Thus, there exists some constant  $c$  such that  $f(n) \geq c \cdot g(n)$  for all  $n \geq n_0$ .
- $f(n) = \Theta(g(n))$  means  $c_1 \cdot g(n)$  is an *upper bound* on  $f(n)$  and  $c_2 \cdot g(n)$  is a *lower bound* on  $f(n)$ , for all  $n \geq n_0$ . Thus, there exist constants  $c_1$  and  $c_2$  such that  $f(n) \leq c_1 \cdot g(n)$  and  $f(n) \geq c_2 \cdot g(n)$  for all  $n \geq n_0$ . This means that  $g(n)$  provides a *nice, tight bound* on  $f(n)$ .
- $f(n) = o(g(n))$  means  $g(n)$  *strictly dominates*  $f(n)$  asymptotically. For *every* positive constant  $c > 0$ , there exists  $n_0$  such that  $f(n) < c \cdot g(n)$  for all  $n \geq n_0$ . In other words,  $f(n)$  grows *slower* than any positive multiple of  $g(n)$ . Equivalently,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} = 0$ .
- $f(n) = \omega(g(n))$  means  $f(n)$  *strictly dominates*  $g(n)$  asymptotically. For *every* positive constant  $c > 0$ , there exists  $n_0$  such that  $f(n) > c \cdot g(n)$  for all  $n \geq n_0$ . Thus,  $f(n)$  grows *faster* than any positive multiple of  $g(n)$ . Equivalently,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} = \infty$ .