

CSC165H1 Problem Set 2

Michelle Wang, Xuanqi Wei

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Question 1: Number representation

For each $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and $k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$, define $C(n, k)$ to be:

$$\exists a_1, \dots, a_k \in \mathbb{N}, (\forall i \in \mathbb{Z}^+, 1 \leq i \leq k \Rightarrow a_i \leq i) \wedge (n = \sum_{i=1}^k a_i \cdot i!)$$

Prove that: $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}, \forall k \in \mathbb{Z}^+, n < (k+1)! \Rightarrow C(n, k)$

Proof.

Let $n \in \mathbb{N}$. I will prove $\forall k \in \mathbb{Z}^+, n < (k+1)! \Rightarrow C(n, k)$ by induction on k .

Base Case:

Let $k = 1$. I need to prove $n < (k+1)! \Rightarrow C(n, k)$.

First, assume $n < (k+1)!$. Then, I will prove $C(n, k)$. That is, I will prove:

$$\exists a_1 \in \mathbb{N}, (\forall i \in \mathbb{Z}^+, 1 \leq i \leq 1 \Rightarrow a_i \leq i) \wedge (n = \sum_{i=1}^1 a_i \cdot i!), \text{ since } k = 1.$$

Let $a_1 = n$. We know $n \in \mathbb{N}$, and we know $n < (k+1)! = (1+1)! = 2! = 1 \cdot 2 = 2$ by assumption. Therefore, $0 \leq n \leq 1$, which implies $0 \leq a_1 \leq 1$ because $a_1 = n$.

I will first prove that $\forall i \in \mathbb{Z}^+, 1 \leq i \leq 1 \Rightarrow a_i \leq i$.

Let $i \in \mathbb{Z}^+$. Assume $1 \leq i \leq 1$. I need to prove $a_i \leq i$.

Since $1 \leq i \leq 1$, $i = 1$. Therefore, $a_i = a_1 \leq 1 = i$ because I have shown $0 \leq a_1 \leq 1$ above. I have proven that $\forall i \in \mathbb{Z}^+, 1 \leq i \leq 1 \Rightarrow a_i \leq i$ as needed.

I will then prove that $n = \sum_{i=1}^1 a_i \cdot i!$.

$$\sum_{i=1}^1 a_i \cdot i! = a_1 \cdot 1! = a_1 \cdot 1 = a_1 = n.$$

I have proven $n = \sum_{i=1}^1 a_i \cdot i!$. Therefore, I have proven $C(n, k)$, which completes the proof for the base case.

Inductive Step:

Let $m \in \mathbb{Z}^+$. Assume $n < (m+1)! \Rightarrow C(n, m)$. (*This is the induction hypothesis*)

I need to prove that $n < ((m+1)+1)! \Rightarrow C(n, m+1)$.

Assume $n < ((m+1)+1)! = (m+2)!$. I need to prove $C(n, m+1)$.

Since $m > 0$, $m+1 > 1$. Since $m+1 > 1$, $(m+1)! = \prod_{j=1}^{m+1} j > 0$.

Since $n \geq 0$ and $(m+1)! > 0$, we know $\frac{n}{(m+1)!} \geq 0$. Therefore, $\frac{n}{(m+1)!} - 1 \geq -1$.

By the fact from a worksheet that $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}, x-1 < \lfloor x \rfloor \leq x$, we can conclude:

$$\begin{aligned} -1 \leq \frac{n}{(m+1)!} - 1 &< \left\lfloor \frac{n}{(m+1)!} \right\rfloor \leq \frac{n}{(m+1)!} \\ 0 &\leq \left\lfloor \frac{n}{(m+1)!} \right\rfloor \leq \frac{n}{(m+1)!} \end{aligned} \quad \left(\text{since } \left\lfloor \frac{n}{(m+1)!} \right\rfloor \in \mathbb{Z} \right)$$

Therefore, $\left\lfloor \frac{n}{(m+1)!} \right\rfloor \in \mathbb{N}$. Let $a_{m+1} = \left\lfloor \frac{n}{(m+1)!} \right\rfloor$. Then we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{n}{(m+1)!} - 1 &< \left\lfloor \frac{n}{(m+1)!} \right\rfloor = a_{m+1} \leq \frac{n}{(m+1)!} \\ \left(\frac{n}{(m+1)!} - 1 \right) \cdot (m+1)! &< a_{m+1}(m+1)! \leq \frac{n}{(m+1)!} \cdot (m+1)! && (\text{because } (m+1)! > 0) \\ n - (m+1)! &< a_{m+1}(m+1)! \leq n \\ n - a_{m+1}(m+1)! &< (m+1)! \end{aligned}$$

Also, since $a_{m+1}(m+1)! \leq n$ we have shown above, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} a_{m+1}(m+1)! &\leq n \\ -n &\leq -a_{m+1}(m+1)! \\ 0 = n - n &\leq n - a_{m+1}(m+1)! \end{aligned}$$

$n - a_{m+1}(m+1)! \in \mathbb{Z}$ because n, a_{m+1} and $(m+1)!$ are all integers. Since $n - a_{m+1}(m+1)! \geq 0$ and $n - a_{m+1}(m+1)! \in \mathbb{Z}$, $n - a_{m+1}(m+1)! \in \mathbb{N}$. Then, by the induction hypothesis, since $n - a_{m+1}(m+1)! \in \mathbb{N}$ and since $n - a_{m+1}(m+1)! < (m+1)!$ holds as proven above, we can conclude that $C(n - a_{m+1}(m+1)!, m)$ is True. That is:

$$\exists a_1, \dots, a_m \in \mathbb{N}, (\forall i \in \mathbb{Z}^+, 1 \leq i \leq m \Rightarrow a_i \leq i) \wedge (n - a_{m+1}(m+1)! = \sum_{i=1}^m a_i \cdot i!)$$

I keep these a_1, \dots, a_m . Now I will prove $C(n, m+1)$ by proving that for these a_1, \dots, a_m and the a_{m+1} I have, $(\forall i \in \mathbb{Z}^+, 1 \leq i \leq m+1 \Rightarrow a_i \leq i) \wedge (n = \sum_{i=1}^{m+1} a_i \cdot i!)$ is True.

First, I need to prove $\forall i \in \mathbb{Z}^+, 1 \leq i \leq m+1 \Rightarrow a_i \leq i$.

Let $i \in \mathbb{Z}^+$. Assume $1 \leq i \leq m+1$. I will prove $a_i \leq i$ by cases. Since $1 \leq m < m+1$ and $1 \leq i \leq m+1$, one of the following case must be true: $1 \leq i \leq m$ or $m < i \leq m+1$. Divide up the proof into these two cases:

Case 1: Assume $1 \leq i \leq m$.

I have proven that $\forall i \in \mathbb{Z}^+, 1 \leq i \leq m \Rightarrow a_i \leq i$ above from the fact that $C(n - a_{m+1}(m+1)!, m)$ is true using the induction hypothesis. Since $i \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ and $1 \leq i \leq m$ by the assumption of case 1, we can conclude that $a_i \leq i$.

Case 2: Assume $m < i \leq m+1$.

Since $i \in \mathbb{Z}^+$, we have $i = m+1$. Then we have:

$$\begin{aligned} a_i = a_{m+1} &= \left\lfloor \frac{n}{(m+1)!} \right\rfloor \leq \frac{n}{(m+1)!} \\ a_i &\leq \frac{n}{(m+1)!} < \frac{(m+2)!}{(m+1)!} && (\text{since } n < (m+2)! \text{ by assumption}) \\ a_i &< \frac{(m+2)!}{(m+1)!} = \frac{(m+1)! \cdot (m+2)}{(m+1)!} = m+2 \\ a_i &\leq m+1 = i && (\text{because } a_{m+1} \in \mathbb{N}) \end{aligned}$$

Since for all possible cases, I have proven $a_i \leq i$, we can conclude $a_i \leq i$ is always true. Therefore, I have proven $\forall i \in \mathbb{Z}^+, 1 \leq i \leq m+1 \Rightarrow a_i \leq i$.

Then, I will prove $n = \sum_{i=1}^{m+1} a_i \cdot i!$.

I have proven above that $n - a_{m+1}(m+1)! = \sum_{i=1}^m a_i \cdot i!$ from the fact that $C(n - a_{m+1}(m+1)!, m)$ is true using the induction hypothesis.

Therefore, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} n - a_{m+1}(m+1)! &= \sum_{i=1}^m a_i \cdot i! \\ n &= a_{m+1}(m+1)! + \sum_{i=1}^m a_i \cdot i! \\ n &= \sum_{i=1}^{m+1} a_i \cdot i! \end{aligned}$$

I have proven $n = \sum_{i=1}^{m+1} a_i \cdot i!$ as needed.

I have proven $\forall i \in \mathbb{Z}^+, 1 \leq i \leq m+1 \Rightarrow a_i \leq i$ and $n = \sum_{i=1}^{m+1} a_i \cdot i!$. That is, I have proven $C(n, m+1)$. This completes the proof for the inductive step and thus completes the proof.

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Question 2: Induction

- (a) (i) Prove: $\forall m \in \mathbb{N}, P(m, 0)$

Proof.

Let $m \in \mathbb{N}$. I need to prove $P(m, 0)$. That is, I need to prove $|F_{m,0}| = \frac{(m+0)!}{m! \cdot 0!} = \frac{m!}{m!} = 1$. We know $A_m = \{a \mid a \in \mathbb{N} \wedge a \leq m\}$, and $B_0 = \{b \mid b \in \mathbb{N} \wedge b \leq 0\} = \{0\}$ because 0 is the only natural number that is less than or equal to 0, meaning that it is the only possible element that could satisfy the condition of B_0 .

For the set $F_{m,0}$, we know all elements of it must be functions with domain A_m and codomain B_0 , and must satisfy the following conditions:

$$[\forall k, l \in A_m, k \leq l \Rightarrow f(k) \leq f(l)] \wedge f(m) = 0.$$

All functions in $F_{m,0}$ must have domain A_m and codomain B_0 , meaning that all values in A_m must be mapped to the only value in B_0 , which is 0. Since there is only one possible way of mapping, there is only one function that has the desired domain and codomain: $f(a) = 0$, where $a \in A_m$. This function is the only potential element of $F_{m,0}$.

Now I will verify if this function f satisfies all conditions of $F_{m,0}$.

Let $k, l \in A_m$. Assume $k \leq l$. I want to show $f(k) \leq f(l)$. Since $\forall a \in A_m, f(a) = 0$, we have $f(k) = 0 = f(l)$, which satisfies $f(k) \leq f(l)$.

Then I will want to show $f(m) = 0$. Since $m \in \mathbb{N}$ and $m \leq m$, we know $m \in A_m$. Therefore, $f(m) = 0$ because $\forall a \in A_m, f(a) = 0$.

I have shown f satisfies the conditions that $[\forall k, l \in A_m, k \leq l \Rightarrow f(k) \leq f(l)] \wedge f(m) = 0$. Therefore, f is an element of $F_{m,0}$ and is its only element. Thus, $|F_{m,0}| = 1$ as needed. ■

- (ii) Prove: $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}, P(0, n)$

Proof.

Let $n \in \mathbb{N}$. I need to prove $P(0, n)$. That is, I need to prove $|F_{0,n}| = \frac{(0+n)!}{0! \cdot n!} = \frac{n!}{n!} = 1$.

We know $B_n = \{b \mid b \in \mathbb{N} \wedge b \leq n\}$, and $A_0 = \{a \mid a \in \mathbb{N} \wedge a \leq 0\} = \{0\}$ because 0 is the only natural number that is less than or equal to 0, meaning that it is the only possible element that could satisfy the condition of A_0 .

For the set $F_{0,n}$, we know all elements of it must be functions with domain A_0 and codomain B_n , and must satisfy the following conditions:

$$[\forall k, l \in A_0, k \leq l \Rightarrow f(k) \leq f(l)] \wedge f(0) = n.$$

All functions in $F_{0,n}$ must have domain A_0 , meaning that there is only one value in its domain, which is 0. Also, all functions in $F_{0,n}$ must satisfy the condition that $f(0) = n$. Since there is only one value in the domain, and this value must be mapped to n , there is only one possible way of mapping and therefore only one potential function: $f(a) = n$, where $a \in A_0$. This is the only potential element of $F_{0,n}$.

Since $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and $n \leq n$, we have $0 \in B_n$. Therefore, the function f has the desired domain and codomain.

Now I will verify if this function f satisfies all conditions of $F_{0,n}$.

Let $k, l \in A_0$. Assume $k \leq l$. I have $f(k) = f(l) = f(0) = n$, which satisfies $f(k) \leq f(l)$ and $f(0) = n$

I have shown f satisfies the conditions that $[\forall k, l \in A_0, k \leq l \Rightarrow f(k) \leq f(l)] \wedge f(0) = n$. Therefore, f is an element of $F_{0,n}$ and is its only element. Thus, $|F_{0,n}| = 1$ as needed. ■

(iii) Prove: $\forall m, n \in \mathbb{N}, P(m, n+1) \wedge P(m+1, n) \Rightarrow P(m+1, n+1)$

Proof.

Let $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$. Assume $P(m, n+1) \wedge P(m+1, n)$. That is, assume $|F_{m,n+1}| = \frac{(m+n+1)!}{m! \cdot (n+1)!}$ and $|F_{m+1,n}| = \frac{(m+n+1)!}{(m+1)! \cdot n!}$. I need to prove $P(m+1, n+1)$. That is, I need to prove $|F_{m+1,n+1}| = \frac{(m+n+2)!}{(m+1)! \cdot (n+1)!}$.

We know all functions in $F_{m+1,n+1}$ must satisfy that $\forall k, l \in A_{m+1}, k \leq l \Rightarrow f(k) \leq f(l)$ and $f(m+1) = n+1$. Therefore, since $m, m+1 \in A_{m+1}$ and $m < m+1$, we can conclude that for all functions in $F_{m+1,n+1}$, $f(m) \leq f(m+1) = n+1$. Therefore, all functions in $F_{m+1,n+1}$ must satisfy one and only one of the following conditions: $f(m) = n+1$ or $f(m) \leq n$.

Therefore, based on these two conditions, we can break $F_{m+1,n+1}$ into two subsets: $C_{m+1,n+1} = \{f \mid f \in F_{m+1,n+1} \wedge f(m) = n+1\}$ and $D_{m+1,n+1} = \{f \mid f \in F_{m+1,n+1} \wedge f(m) \leq n\}$. Since every element of $F_{m+1,n+1}$ is also an element of one and only one of the two sets $C_{m+1,n+1}$ and $D_{m+1,n+1}$, we know $|F_{m+1,n+1}| = |C_{m+1,n+1}| + |D_{m+1,n+1}|$.

First, I will show $|C_{m+1,n+1}| = |F_{m,n+1}|$. We know, by conditions of set $F_{m+1,n+1}$, that for all functions in $C_{m+1,n+1}$, the value $m+1$ in its domain must be mapped to $n+1$. Therefore, for all functions in $C_{m+1,n+1}$, the way of mapping only depends on other values in its codomain, i.e., only depends on values in $A_{m+1} \setminus m+1 = A_m$ because $f(m+1) = n+1$ always holds. Therefore, to find $|C_{m+1,n+1}|$, we only need to find the number of ways of mapping from A_m to $B_n + 1$ that satisfies $f(m) = n+1$ and $\forall k, l \in A_m, k \leq l \Rightarrow f(k) \leq f(l)$, which is exactly $|F_{m,n+1}|$.

Then, I will show $|D_{m+1,n+1}| = |F_{m+1,n}|$. We know, by conditions of set $F_{m+1,n+1}$, that for all functions in $D_{m+1,n+1}$, the value $m+1$ in its domain must be mapped to $n+1$. Therefore, for all functions in $D_{m+1,n+1}$, the way of mapping only depends on other values in its codomain, i.e., only depends on values in $A_{m+1} \setminus m+1 = A_m$ because $f(m+1) = n+1$ always holds. Therefore, to find $|D_{m+1,n+1}|$, we only need to find the number of ways of mapping from A_m to $B_n + 1$ that satisfies $f(m) \leq n$ and $\forall k, l \in A_m, k \leq l \Rightarrow f(k) \leq f(l)$. Similarly, the number of ways of mapping in $F_{m+1,n}$ also only depends on A_m since $f(m+1)$ is always mapped for $f \in F_{m+1,n}$ so it won't affect the number of ways of mapping. For functions in $F_{m+1,n}$, we know $\forall k, l \in A_{m+1}, k \leq l \Rightarrow f(k) \leq f(l)$ and $f(m+1) = n$. Equivalently, they also satisfy $f(m) \leq f(m+1) = n$ since $m < m+1$. Therefore, $F_{m+1,n}$ contains all the ways of mapping that satisfy $\forall k, l \in A_m \subset A_{m+1}, k \leq l \Rightarrow f(k) \leq f(l)$ and $f(m) \leq n$, which is exactly what we are looking for. Thus, $|D_{m+1,n+1}| = |F_{m+1,n}|$.

I have shown $|C_{m+1,n+1}| = |F_{m,n+1}|$ and $|D_{m+1,n+1}| = |F_{m+1,n}|$. Therefore, we have:

$$\begin{aligned}
 |F_{m+1,n+1}| &= |C_{m+1,n+1}| + |D_{m+1,n+1}| \\
 |F_{m+1,n+1}| &= |F_{m,n+1}| + |F_{m+1,n}| \\
 |F_{m+1,n+1}| &= \frac{(m+n+1)!}{m! \cdot (n+1)!} + \frac{(m+n+1)!}{(m+1)! \cdot n!} && \text{(by assumption)} \\
 |F_{m+1,n+1}| &= \frac{(m+n+1)! \cdot (m+1)}{(m+1)! \cdot (n+1)!} + \frac{(m+n+1)! \cdot (n+1)}{(m+1)! \cdot (n+1)!} \\
 |F_{m+1,n+1}| &= \frac{(m+n+1)! \cdot (m+1) + (m+n+1)! \cdot (n+1)}{(m+1)! \cdot (n+1)!} = \frac{(m+n+1)! \cdot (m+n+2)}{(m+1)! \cdot (n+1)!} \\
 |F_{m+1,n+1}| &= \frac{(m+n+2)!}{(m+1)! \cdot (n+1)!} \text{ as needed.}
 \end{aligned}$$

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(b) Using results from (a), prove: $P(1,1) \wedge P(2,2)$

Proof.

From (a)(i) and (ii), we know $\forall m \in \mathbb{N}, P(m,0)$ and $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}, P(0,n)$. Then since $1, 2 \in \mathbb{N}$, we can conclude $P(1,0)$ and $P(0,1)$ and $P(2,0)$ and $P(0,2)$ are true.

From (a)(iii), we know $\forall m, n \in \mathbb{N}, P(m, n+1) \wedge P(m+1, n) \Rightarrow P(m+1, n+1)$. Since $0 \in \mathbb{N}$, and we know $P(0, 0+1) \wedge P(0+1, 0)$ is true as proven above, we can conclude $P(0+1, 0+1)$ is true, i.e., $P(1,1)$ is true. And since $1, 0 \in \mathbb{N}$, and we know $P(1, 0+1) \wedge P(1+1, 0)$, we can conclude $P(1+1, 0+1)$ is true, i.e., $P(2,1)$ is true. Also, since we know $P(0, 1+1) \wedge P(0+1, 1)$, we can conclude $P(0+1, 1+1)$ is true, i.e., $P(1,2)$ is true. Finally, since we know $P(1, 1+1) \wedge P(1+1, 1)$ is true, we can conclude $P(1+1, 1+1)$ is true, i.e., $P(2,2)$ is true.

I have proven $P(1,1) \wedge P(2,2)$ as needed.

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(c) Using induction and result from (a), prove: $\forall t \in \mathbb{N}, Q(t)$.

Proof.

I will prove this using induction on t .

Base Case:

Let $t = 0$. I will prove $Q(0)$. That is, I will prove $\forall m, n \in \mathbb{N}, m + n = 0 \Rightarrow P(m, n)$.

Let $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$. Assume $m + n = 0$. Therefore, $m = 0$ and $n = 0$. I need to prove $P(m, n)$. That is, I need to prove $P(0, 0)$.

From (a)(i), we know $\forall m \in \mathbb{N}, P(m, 0)$. Since $m \in \mathbb{N}$, we can conclude $P(0, 0)$ is true as needed.

Inductive Step:

Let $s \in \mathbb{N}$. Assume $Q(s)$. That is, assume $\forall m_0, n_0 \in \mathbb{N}, m_0 + n_0 = s \Rightarrow P(m_0, n_0)$. I need to prove $Q(s + 1)$. That is, I need to prove $\forall m, n \in \mathbb{N}, m + n = s + 1 \Rightarrow P(m, n)$.

Let $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$. Assume $m + n = s + 1$. I will prove $P(m, n)$ by cases.

Since $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$ and $m + n = s + 1 \geq 1$, we know $m \geq 0$, $n \geq 0$ and $m + n \geq 1$, so it is impossible that $m = n = 0$. Therefore, one of the following 3 cases must be true: $m = 0$ and $n \geq 1$, $m \geq 1$ and $n = 0$, or $m \geq 1$ and $n \geq 1$. Divide up the proof into these three cases:

Case 1: Assume $m = 0$ and $n \geq 1$.

From (a)(ii), we know $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}, P(0, n)$. Since $n \in \mathbb{N}$, we can conclude $P(0, n)$ is true. That is, $P(m, n)$ is true since $m = 0$.

Case 2: Assume $m \geq 1$ and $n = 0$.

From (a)(i), we know $\forall m \in \mathbb{N}, P(m, 0)$. Since $m \in \mathbb{N}$, we can conclude $P(m, 0)$ is true. That is, $P(m, n)$ is true since $n = 0$.

Case 3: Assume $m \geq 1$ and $n \geq 1$.

Since $m + n = s + 1$, we have $m + (n - 1) = s$. Since $n \geq 1$ by assumption of case 3, we have $n - 1 \geq 0$ and therefore $n - 1 \in \mathbb{N}$. Since $n - 1 \in \mathbb{N}$, $m \in \mathbb{N}$, and $m + (n - 1) = s$, by the induction hypothesis, we can conclude that $P(m, n - 1)$ is true.

Since $m + n = s + 1$, we have $n + (m - 1) = s$. Since $m \geq 1$ by assumption of case 3, we have $m - 1 \geq 0$ and therefore $m - 1 \in \mathbb{N}$. Since $m - 1 \in \mathbb{N}$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$, and $(m - 1) + n = s$, by the induction hypothesis, we can conclude that $P(m - 1, n)$ is true.

From (a)(iii), we know $\forall m, n \in \mathbb{N}, P(m, n + 1) \wedge P(m + 1, n) \Rightarrow P(m + 1, n + 1)$.

Since $m - 1, n - 1 \in \mathbb{N}$, and since $P(m - 1, (n - 1) + 1) \wedge P((m - 1) + 1, n - 1)$ is true as prove above, we can conclude $P((m - 1) + 1, (n - 1) + 1)$ is true. That is, $P(m, n)$ is true.

I have proven that for all possible cases, $P(m, n)$ is true. Therefore, we can conclude $P(m, n)$ is always true. This completes the inductive step and thus the proof.

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(d) Using result from (c), prove: $\forall m, n \in \mathbb{N}, P(m, n)$

Proof.

Let $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$. I need to prove $P(m, n)$.

Let $s = m + n$. Since $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$, $s \in \mathbb{N}$.

From (c), we know $\forall t \in \mathbb{N}, Q(t)$. Since $s \in \mathbb{N}$, we can conclude $Q(s)$ is true. That is, $\forall m_0, n_0 \in \mathbb{N}, m_0 + n_0 = s \Rightarrow P(m_0, n_0)$.

Since $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$ and $m + n = s$, we can conclude $P(m, n)$ as needed.

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Question 3: Asymptotic notation

a) Disprove that $n^n \in \mathcal{O}(n!)$.

Proof.

I will prove $n^n \notin \mathcal{O}(n!)$ by contradiction.

First, assume for a contradiction that this statement is false, i.e., assume $n^n \in \mathcal{O}(n!)$ is True. That is, I assume for a contradiction that $\exists c, n_0 \in \mathbb{R}^+, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}, n \geq n_0 \Rightarrow n^n \leq c \cdot n!$ by the definition of Big-O. I will derive a contradiction from this.

I keep these c and n_0 . Then for c and n_0 , I know the statement $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}, n \geq n_0 \Rightarrow n^n \leq c \cdot n!$ is true.

Let $n' = \lceil c + n_0 \rceil + 1$.

Since $c, n_0 \in \mathbb{R}^+$, $c + n_0 \in \mathbb{R}^+$. Then, by the fact from a worksheet that $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}, x \leq \lceil x \rceil < x + 1$, we can conclude:

$$\begin{aligned} 0 < c + n_0 &\leq \lceil c + n_0 \rceil \\ 1 < \lceil c + n_0 \rceil + 1 &= n' \\ 2 &\leq n' \quad (\text{because } n' \in \mathbb{Z}) \end{aligned}$$

We can also conclude:

$$\begin{aligned} c < c + n_0 &\leq \lceil c + n_0 \rceil < \lceil c + n_0 \rceil + 1 \\ c &< n', \text{ and} \\ n_0 < c + n_0 &\leq \lceil c + n_0 \rceil < \lceil c + n_0 \rceil + 1 \\ n_0 &< n', \end{aligned}$$

Since $n' \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $n' \geq 2$, $n' \in \mathbb{N}$. Then, by the fact that $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}, n \geq n_0 \Rightarrow n^n \leq c \cdot n!$, we can conclude $n'^{n'} \leq c \cdot n'!$ because we have proven $n_0 < n'$, which satisfies $n' \geq n_0$.

Then, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} 0 < n'^{n'} &\leq c \cdot n'! \\ \ln(n'^{n'}) &\leq \ln(c \cdot n'!) \\ n' \ln n' &\leq \ln c + \ln(n'!) = \ln c + \ln[1 \cdot \dots \cdot (n' - 1) \cdot n'] \\ \sum_{i=1}^{n'} \ln n' &= n' \ln n' \leq \ln c + [\ln 1 + \dots + \ln(n' - 1) + \ln n'] = \ln c + \sum_{i=1}^{n'} \ln i \\ \sum_{i=1}^{n'} (\ln n' - \ln i) &= \sum_{i=1}^{n'} \left(\ln \frac{n'}{i}\right) \leq \ln c \end{aligned}$$

But on the other hand, I know $\sum_{i=1}^{n'} (\ln \frac{n'}{i}) = \ln \frac{n'}{1} + \sum_{i=2}^{n'} (\ln \frac{n'}{i}) = \ln n' + \sum_{i=2}^{n'} (\ln \frac{n'}{i})$ since $n' \geq 2$. $\sum_{i=2}^{n'} (\ln \frac{n'}{i}) \geq 0$ because for every $2 \leq i \leq n'$, $\frac{n'}{i} \geq 1$ and therefore $\ln \frac{n'}{i} \geq 0$. We have proven above that $c < n'$, so we have:

$$c < n'$$

$$\ln c < \ln n' \leq \ln n' + \sum_{i=2}^{n'} \left(\ln \frac{n'}{i} \right) = \sum_{i=1}^{n'} \left(\ln \frac{n'}{i} \right) \quad \left(\text{since } \sum_{i=2}^{n'} \left(\ln \frac{n'}{i} \right) \geq 0 \right)$$

$$\ln c < \sum_{i=1}^{n'} \left(\ln \frac{n'}{i} \right)$$

I have proven both $\sum_{i=1}^{n'} \left(\ln \frac{n'}{i} \right) > \ln c$ and $\sum_{i=1}^{n'} \left(\ln \frac{n'}{i} \right) \leq \ln c$ are true, which is a contradiction. Thus, the statement $n^n \in \mathcal{O}(n!)$ is false.

I have proven $n^n \notin \mathcal{O}(n!)$ as needed. ■

b) Prove that if $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ and $b > 0$, then $(n + a)^b \in \Theta(n^b)$.

Translation. $\forall a, b \in \mathbb{R}, b > 0 \Rightarrow (n + a)^b \in \Theta(n^b)$

Proof.

Let $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$. Assume $b > 0$. I will prove $(n + a)^b \in \Theta(n^b)$ by cases. Since $a \in \mathbb{R}$, one of the following cases must be true: $a < 0$ or $a \geq 0$. Divide up the proof into these two cases:

Case 1: Assume $a < 0$.

I will prove $(n + a)^b \in \Theta(n^b)$. That is, by the definition of Θ , I will prove:

$$\exists c_1, c_2, n_0 \in \mathbb{R}^+, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}, n \geq n_0 \Rightarrow c_1 n^b \leq (n + 1)^b \leq c_2 n^b$$

Let $c_1 = \frac{1}{2^b}$. $c_1 \in \mathbb{R}^+$ because $2 > 0$ and then $2^b > 0$. Let $c_2 = 1 \in \mathbb{R}^+$. Let $n_0 = -2a + 1$. $n_0 \in \mathbb{R}^+$ because $a < 0$ by assumption and then $-2a > 0$ and then $n_0 = -2a + 1 > 1$.

Let $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Assume $n \geq n_0$. I need to prove $c_1 n^b \leq (n + 1)^b \leq c_2 n^b$.

Since $n \geq n_0$ by assumption, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} n &\geq n_0 = -2a + 1 > -2a \\ -n &< 2a \\ n = -n + 2n &< 2a + 2n = 2(a + n) \\ n^b &< [2(a + n)]^b = 2^b(a + n)^b && \text{(because } b > 0 \text{ and } n > 0) \\ c_1 n^b &< 2^b(a + n)^b \cdot c_1 = (a + n)^b && \text{(because } c_1 > 0) \end{aligned}$$

Also, we have: $n \geq n_0 = -2a + 1 > -2a$

$$\begin{aligned} n &> n + a > -a > 0 && \text{(because } a < 0 \text{ by assumption)} \\ c_2 n^b &= n^b > (n + a)^b && \text{(because } b > 0) \end{aligned}$$

I have proven $c_1 n^b < (a + n)^b < c_2 n^b$, which satisfies $c_1 n^b \leq (n + 1)^b \leq c_2 n^b$. Therefore, I have proven $(n + a)^b \in \Theta(n^b)$.

Case 2: Assume $a \geq 0$.

I will prove $(n + a)^b \in \Theta(n^b)$. That is, by the definition of Θ , I will prove:

$$\exists c_1, c_2, n_0 \in \mathbb{R}^+, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}, n \geq n_0 \Rightarrow c_1 n^b \leq (n + 1)^b \leq c_2 n^b$$

Let $c_1 = 1 \in \mathbb{R}^+$. Let $c_2 = 2^b \in \mathbb{R}^+$. Let $n_0 = a + 1$. $n_0 = a + 1 \in \mathbb{R}^+$ since $a \geq 0$ by assumption. Let $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Assume $n \geq n_0$. I need to prove $c_1 n^b \leq (n + 1)^b \leq c_2 n^b$.

Since $a \geq 0$ by assumption, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} n + a &\geq n > 0 \\ (n + a)^b &\geq n^b = c_1 n^b && \text{(because } b > 0 \text{ by assumption)} \end{aligned}$$

Since $n \geq n_0$ by assumption, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} n &\geq n_0 = a + 1 > a \geq 0 \\ n + n &> a + n \geq 0 \\ c_2 n^b &= 2^b n^b = (2n)^b > (a + n)^b && \text{(because } b > 0 \text{ by assumption)} \end{aligned}$$

I have proven $c_1 n^b \leq (a+n)^b < c_2 n^b$, which satisfies $c_1 n^b \leq (n+1)^b \leq c_2 n^b$. Therefore, I have proven $(n+a)^b \in \Theta(n^b)$.

Since for all possible cases, I have proven $(n+a)^b \in \Theta(n^b)$, we can conclude this statement is always true. This completes the proof.

■

Question 4: More asymptotic notation

a) Prove: if $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{\geq 0}$, $k \in \mathbb{R}^+$, and $f(n) \in \mathcal{O}(n^k)$, then $\log_2(f(n)) \in \mathcal{O}(\log_2 n)$.

Proof.

Let $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{\geq 0}$. Let $k \in \mathbb{R}^+$. Assume $f(n) \in \mathcal{O}(n^k)$. That is, assume:

$$\exists c_1, n_1 \in \mathbb{R}^+, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}, n \geq n_1 \Rightarrow f(n) \leq c_1 \cdot n^k$$

I need to prove $\log_2(f(n)) \in \mathcal{O}(\log_2 n)$. That is, I need to prove:

$$\exists c_2, n_2 \in \mathbb{R}^+, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}, n \geq n_2 \Rightarrow \log_2(f(n)) \leq c_2 \cdot \log_2 n$$

Let $c_2 = k + \log_2(c_1 + 1)$. We know $c_2 \in \mathbb{R}^+$ because $c_1 + 1 > 1$ so $\log_2(c_1 + 1) > 0$ and therefore $c_2 > 0$. Let $n_2 = \max(n_1, 2) \in \mathbb{R}^+$. Let $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Assume $n \geq n_2$. Then we know $n \geq n_1$ and $n \geq 2$. Therefore, $\log_2 n \geq \log_2 2 = 1$. I need to prove $\log_2(f(n)) \leq c_2 \cdot \log_2 n$.

Since we know $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and $n \geq n_1$, then by the assumption that $f(n) \in \mathcal{O}(n^k)$, we can conclude that $f(n) \leq c_1 \cdot n^k$. Then we have:

$$f(n) \leq c_1 \cdot n^k$$

$$\log_2(f(n)) \leq \log_2(c_1 \cdot n^k) \quad (\text{because } 2 > 1, f(n) > 0 \text{ and } c_1 \cdot n^k > 0)$$

$$\log_2(f(n)) \leq \log_2((c_1 + 1)n^k) \quad (\text{because } (c_1 + 1)n^k > c_1 \cdot n^k)$$

$$\log_2(f(n)) \leq \log_2(c_1 + 1) + k \log_2 n \leq \log_2(c_1 + 1) \cdot \log_2 n + k \log_2 n \quad (\text{since } \log_2 n \geq 1)$$

$$\log_2(f(n)) \leq (\log_2(c_1 + 1) + k) \cdot \log_2 n = c_2 \log_2 n$$

I have proven $\log_2(f(n)) \leq c_2 \log_2 n$ as needed. ■

b) Prove: if $f_1, f_2, g_1, g_2 : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{\geq 0}$, $f_1 \in \mathcal{O}(g_1)$, and $f_2 \in \mathcal{O}(g_2)$, then $f_1 + f_2 \in \mathcal{O}(\max(g_1, g_2))$.

Proof.

Let $f_1, f_2, g_1, g_2 : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{\geq 0}$. Assume $f_1 \in \mathcal{O}(g_1)$ and $f_2 \in \mathcal{O}(g_2)$. That is, assume:

$$\exists c_1, n_1 \in \mathbb{R}^+, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}, n \geq n_1 \Rightarrow f_1(n) \leq c_1 \cdot g_1(n)$$

and

$$\exists c_2, n_2 \in \mathbb{R}^+, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}, n \geq n_2 \Rightarrow f_2(n) \leq c_2 \cdot g_2(n)$$

I want to prove $f_1 + f_2 \in \mathcal{O}(\max(g_1, g_2))$. That is, I want to prove:

$$\exists c_3, n_3 \in \mathbb{R}^+, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}, n \geq n_3 \Rightarrow (f_1 + f_2)(n) \leq c_3 \cdot \max(g_1, g_2)(n)$$

Let $c_3 = c_1 + c_2 \in \mathbb{R}^+$. Let $n_3 = \max(n_1, n_2) \in \mathbb{R}^+$. Let $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Assume $n \geq n_3$. I need to prove $(f_1 + f_2)(n) \leq c_3 \cdot \max(g_1, g_2)(n)$.

Since $n \geq n_3 = \max(n_1, n_2)$, we have $n \geq n_1$ and $n \geq n_2$. Therefore, by the assumptions that $f_1 \in \mathcal{O}(g_1)$ and $f_2 \in \mathcal{O}(g_2)$, we can conclude $f_1(n) \leq c_1 \cdot g_1(n)$ and $f_2(n) \leq c_2 \cdot g_2(n)$.

Therefore, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} f_1(n) + f_2(n) &\leq c_1 \cdot g_1(n) + c_2 \cdot g_2(n) \\ (f_1 + f_2)(n) &\leq c_1 \cdot g_1(n) + c_2 \cdot g_2(n) \leq c_1 \cdot \max(g_1(n), g_2(n)) + c_2 \cdot \max(g_1(n), g_2(n)) \\ (f_1 + f_2)(n) &\leq (c_1 + c_2) \cdot \max(g_1(n), g_2(n)) = c_3 \cdot \max(g_1, g_2)(n) \end{aligned}$$

I have proven $(f_1 + f_2)(n) \leq c_3 \cdot \max(g_1, g_2)(n)$ as needed.

■