

Homework 1 Solutions

Assigned: Wednesday 2/2/2022

Due: 11:59PM, Thursday, 2/10/2022

Please write your solutions in detail and submit them in “.pdf”, “.docx” or “doc” format.

1. Let $a_1 = 2$, $a_2 = 9$, and $a_n = 2a_{n-1} + 3a_{n-2}$ for $n \geq 3$. Show that $a_n \leq 3^n$ for all positive integers n . (25 pt)

Proof: By induction (you must always specify what your proof method).

- **Base cases:**
 - For $n = 1$, we have $a_1 = 2$ which is less than 3^1 .
 - For $n = 2$, we have $a_2 = 9 \leq 3^2$.
- **Inductive hypothesis:** assume that $a_k \leq 3^k$ for $1 \leq k < n$.
- **Show:** $a_n \leq 3^n$.

$$\begin{aligned}
 a_n &= a_n = 2a_{n-1} + 3a_{n-2} \text{ (by definition)} \\
 &\leq 3^{n-1} + 3^{n-2} \text{ (by inductive hypothesis)} \\
 &= 3^{n-2} \cdot (3 + 1) \\
 &= 3^{n-2} \cdot 4 \\
 &< 3^{n-2} \cdot 3^2 \\
 &= 3^n
 \end{aligned}$$

2. Solve the Exercise 3.1-8 on page 53 from CLRS. (25 pt)

$$\Omega(g(n, m)) = \{f(n, m) : \text{there exist positive constants } c, n_0, \text{ and } m_0 \text{ such that } 0 \leq cg(n, m) \leq f(n, m) \text{ for all } n \geq n_0 \text{ or } m \geq m_0\} .$$

$$\Theta(g(n, m)) = \{f(n, m) : \text{there exist positive constants } c_1, c_2, n_0, \text{ and } m_0 \text{ such that } 0 \leq c_1g(n, m) \leq f(n, m) \leq c_2g(n, m) \text{ for all } n \geq n_0 \text{ or } m \geq m_0\} .$$

3. Exercise 4.3-3 on page 87 from CLRS. (25 pt)

Guess: $T(n) \geq cn \lg n$

$$\begin{aligned}
T(n) &= 2T(\lfloor n/2 \rfloor) + n \\
&\geq 2c\lfloor n/2 \rfloor \lg(\lfloor n/2 \rfloor) + n \\
&\geq 2c((n/2) - 1) \lg((n/2) - 1) + n \\
&= 2c((n-2)/2) \lg((n-2)/2) + n \\
&= c(n-2)(\lg(n-2) - \lg 2) + n \\
&= c(n-2) \lg(n-2) - c(n-2) + 1 \\
&\leq c(n-2) \lg(n-2) \text{ (Mistake!)}
\end{aligned}$$

Again, we didn't prove the exact claim which is $T(n) \geq cn \lg n$. We fix this by making another guess $T(n) \geq c(n+2) \lg(n+2)$.

$$\begin{aligned}
T(n) &= 2T(\lfloor n/2 \rfloor) + n \\
&\geq 2c\lfloor (n/2) + 2 \rfloor \lg(\lfloor (n/2) + 2 \rfloor) + n \\
&\geq 2c((n/2) - 1 + 2) \lg((n/2) - 1 + 2) + n \\
&= 2c((n+2)/2) \lg((n+2)/2) + n \\
&= c(n+2)(\lg(n+2) - \lg 2) + n \\
&= c(n+2) \lg(n+2) - c(n+2) + n \\
&= c(n+2) \lg(n+2) - cn - 2c + n \\
&= c(n+2) \lg(n+2) + (1-c)n - 2c \\
&\geq c(n+2) \lg(n+2)
\end{aligned}$$

if $(1-c)n - 2c \geq 0$ which holds for $n \geq 2c/(1-c)$

Solve the Exercise 4.5-1 on page 96 from CLRS. (25 pt)

In all parts of this problem, we have $a = 2$ and $b = 4$, and thus $n^{\log_b a} = n^{\log_4 2} = n^{1/2} = \sqrt{n}$.

- a.** $T(n) = \Theta(\sqrt{n})$. Here, $f(n) = O(n^{1/2-\epsilon})$ for $\epsilon = 1/2$. Case 1 applies, and $T(n) = \Theta(n^{1/2}) = \Theta(\sqrt{n})$.
- b.** $T(n) = \Theta(\sqrt{n} \lg n)$. Now $f(n) = \sqrt{n} = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$. Case 2 applies.
- c.** $T(n) = \Theta(n)$. This time, $f(n) = n^1$, and so $f(n) = \Omega(n^{\log_b a + \epsilon})$ for $\epsilon = 1/2$. In order for case 3 to apply, we have to check the regularity condition: $af(n/b) \leq cf(n)$ for some constant $c < 1$. Here, $af(n/b) = n/2$, and so the regularity condition holds for $c = 1/2$. Therefore, case 3 applies.
- d.** $T(n) = \Theta(n^2)$. Now, $f(n) = n^2$, and so $f(n) = \Omega(n^{\log_b a + \epsilon})$ for $\epsilon = 3/2$. In order for case 3 to apply, we again have to check the regularity condition: $af(n/b) \leq cf(n)$ for some constant $c < 1$. Here, $af(n/b) = n^2/8$, and so the regularity condition holds for $c = 1/8$. Therefore, case 3 applies.