

CSCI 3104, Algorithms
Problem Set 2 (50 points)

Advice 1: For every problem in this class, you must justify your answer: show how you arrived at it and why it is correct. If there are assumptions you need to make along the way, state those clearly.

Advice 2: Verbal reasoning is typically insufficient for full credit. Instead, write a logical argument, in the style of a mathematical proof.

Instructions for submitting your solution:

- The solutions **should be typed** and we cannot accept hand-written solutions. [Here's a short intro to LaTeX.](#)
 - You should submit your work through [Gradescope](#) only.
 - The easiest way to access Gradescope is through our Canvas page. There is a Gradescope button in the left menu.
 - Gradescope will only accept **.pdf** files.
 - [It is vital that you match each problem part with your work.](#) Skip to 1:40 to just see the matching info.
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1. The following problems are a review of logarithm and exponent topics.

(a) Solve for x .

i. $3^{2x} = 81$

ii. $3(5^{x-1}) = 375$

iii. $\log_3 x^2 = 4$

(b) Solve for x .

i. $x^2 - x = \log_5 25$

ii. $\log_{10}(x+3) - \log_{10} x = 1$

(c) Answer each of the following with a TRUE or FALSE.

i. $a^{\log_a x} = x$

ii. $a^{\log_b x} = x$

iii. $a = b^{\log_b a}$

iv. $\log_a x = \frac{\log_b x}{\log_b a}$

v. $\log b^m = m \log b$

Solution:

(a) i. $3x^2 = 81$

$$\log_3(81) = 2x$$

$$4 = 2x$$

$$\boxed{2 = x}$$

(Apply logarithm rules)

(Simplify)

(Divide both sides by 2)

ii. $3(5^{x-1}) = 375$

$$5^{x-1} = 125$$

$$\log_5(125) = x - 1$$

$$3 = x - 1$$

$$\boxed{4 = x}$$

(Divide both sides by 3)

(Apply logarithm rules)

(Simplify)

(Add 1 to both sides)

iii. $\log_3 x^2 = 4$

$$3^{\log_3(x^2)} = 3^4$$

$$x^2 = 3^4$$

$$x^2 = 81$$

$$\sqrt{x^2} = \sqrt{81}$$

$$\boxed{x = \pm 9}$$

(Raise each side as the exponent to 3)

(Simplify)

(Simplify)

(Take the square root of both sides)

(Simplify)

(b) i. $x^2 - x = \log_5 25$

$$x^2 - x = 2$$

$$x(x-1) = 2$$

$$\boxed{x = 2, -1}$$

(Simplify)

(Factor)

(Solve for roots)

ii. $\log_{10}(x+3) - \log_{10} x = 1$

$$\log_{10} \left(\frac{x+3}{x} \right) = 1$$

$$10^{\log_{10} \left(\frac{x+3}{x} \right)} = 10^1$$

$$\frac{x+3}{x} = 10$$

$$x+3 = 10x$$

$$3 = 10x - x$$

$$3 = 9x$$

$$\boxed{\frac{1}{3} = x}$$

(Apply log rules (subtraction))

(Raise each side as the exponent to 10)

(Simplify)

(Multiply both sides by x)

(Subtract x from both sides)

(Simplify)

(Divide both sides by 9)

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- (c) i. $a^{\log_a x} = x$ - **TRUE**
- ii. $a^{\log_b x} = x$ - **FALSE**
- iii. $a = b^{\log_b a}$ - **TRUE**
- iv. $\log_a x = \frac{\log_b x}{\log_b a}$ - **TRUE**
- v. $\log b^m = m \log b$ - **TRUE**

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2. Compute the following limits at infinity. Show all work and justify your answer.

$$(a) \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3x^3 + 2}{9x^3 - 2x^2 + 7}$$

$$(b) \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^3}{e^{x/2}}$$

$$(c) \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln x^4}{x^3}$$

Solution:

$$(a) \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3x^3 + 2}{9x^3 - 2x^2 + 7}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3 + \frac{2}{x^3}}{9 - \frac{2}{x} + \frac{7}{x^3}}$$

(Divide by x^3)

$$\frac{3 + 0}{9 - 0 + 0} = \frac{3}{9} = \boxed{\frac{1}{3}}$$

(Evaluate at infinity and simplify)

$$(b) \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^3}{e^{x/2}}$$

$$\stackrel{L'H}{=} \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3x^2}{\frac{e^{x/2}}{2}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{6x^2}{e^{x/2}}$$

(Apply L'Hôpital's and simplify)

$$\stackrel{L'H}{=} \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{12x}{\frac{e^{x/2}}{2}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{24x}{e^{x/2}}$$

(Apply L'Hôpital's and simplify)

$$\stackrel{L'H}{=} \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{24}{\frac{e^{x/2}}{2}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{48}{e^{x/2}}$$

(Apply L'Hôpital's and simplify)

$$\frac{48}{\infty} = \boxed{0}$$

(Evaluate at infinity and simplify)

$$(c) \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln x^4}{x^3}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{4 \ln x}{x^3}$$

(Apply logarithm rules)

$$\stackrel{L'H}{=} \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{4 \frac{1}{x}}{3x^2}$$

(Apply L'Hôpital's)

$$\stackrel{L'H}{=} \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{4}{3x^3}$$

(Simplify)

$$\frac{4}{\infty} = \boxed{0}$$

(Evaluate at infinity and simplify)

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3. Compute the following limits at infinity. Show all work and justify your answer.

- (a) For real numbers $m, n > 0$ compute $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^m}{e^{nx}}$
- (b) What does this tell us about the rate at which e^{nx} approaches infinity relative to x^m ? A brief explanation is fine for this part.
- (c) For real numbers $m, n > 0$ compute $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(\ln x)^n}{x^m}$
- (d) What does this tell us about the rate at which $(\ln x)^n$ approaches infinity relative to x^m ? A brief explanation is fine for this part.

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{(a)} \quad & \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^m}{e^{nx}} \\
 & \stackrel{L'H}{=} \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{mx^{m-1}}{ne^{nx}} && \text{(Apply L'Hôpital's and simplify)} \\
 & \stackrel{L'H}{=} \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{m(m-1)x^{m-2}}{n^2e^{nx}} && \text{(Apply L'Hôpital's and simplify)}
 \end{aligned}$$

We see a pattern forming. If we repeat the pattern, we will eventually get

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\mathbf{m}!}{\mathbf{n}^m e^{nx}} = \mathbf{0}$$

for real numbers $m, n > 0$

- (b) This shows that x^m approaches infinity slower than e^{nx} .

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{(c)} \quad & \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(\ln x)^n}{x^m} \\
 & \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln^n x}{x^m} && \text{(Apply logarithm rules)} \\
 & \stackrel{L'H}{=} \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{n \ln^{n-1} x}{x}}{mx^{m-1}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n \ln^{n-1} x}{mx^m} && \text{(Apply L'Hôpital's and simplify)} \\
 & \stackrel{L'H}{=} \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{n(n-1) \ln^{n-2} x}{x}}{m^2 x^{m-1}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n(n-1) \ln^{n-2} x}{m^2 x^m} && \text{(Apply L'Hôpital's and simplify)}
 \end{aligned}$$

We see a pattern forming. If we repeat the pattern, we will eventually get

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\mathbf{n}!}{\mathbf{m}^n x^m} = \mathbf{0}$$

for real numbers $m, n > 0$

- (d) This shows that $(\ln x)^n$ approaches infinity slower than x^m .

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4. The problems in this question deal with the Root and the Ratio Tests. Determine the convergence or divergence of the following series. State which test you used.

(a) $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{e^{2n}}{n^n}$

(b) $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{2^n}{n!}$

(c) $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{n^2 2^{n+1}}{3^n}$

(d) $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{\ln n}{n} \right)^n$

Solution:

(a) **Root Test**

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{e^{2n}}{n^n} \rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{e^{2n}}{n^n} \right|^{\frac{1}{n}}$$

(Apply root test)

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \left(\frac{e^2}{n} \right)^n \right|^{\frac{1}{n}}$$

(Factor)

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{e^2}{n} \right|$$

(Simplify)

$$\left| \frac{e^2}{\infty} \right| = 0$$

(Evaluate at infinity and simplify)

$0 < 1$ Therefore by the root test, the series is **Convergent**

(b) **Ratio Test**

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{2^n}{n!} \rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{2^{n+1}}{(n+1)!}}{\frac{2^n}{n!}}$$

(Apply ratio test).

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n! \cdot 2^{n+1}}{2^n \cdot (n+1)!}$$

(Simplify)

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n! \cdot 2^n \cdot 2}{2^n \cdot n! \cdot (n+1)}$$

(Expand to allow for cancellation)

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2}{(n+1)}$$

(Cancel like terms)

$$\frac{2}{\infty} = 0$$

(Evaluate at infinity and simplify)

$0 < 1$ Therefore by the ratio test, the series is **Convergent**

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(c) **Ratio Test**

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{n^2 2^{n+1}}{3^n} \rightarrow \frac{\frac{(n+1)^2 \cdot 2^{n+1}}{3^{n+1}}}{\frac{n^2 \cdot 2^n}{3^n}} \quad (\text{Apply ratio test}).$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3^n \cdot (n+1)^2 \cdot 2^{n+1}}{3^{n+1} \cdot n^2 \cdot 2^n} \quad (\text{Simplify})$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3^n \cdot (n^2 + 2n + 1) \cdot 2^n \cdot 2}{3^n \cdot 3 \cdot n^2 \cdot 2^n} \quad (\text{Expand to allow for cancellation})$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2(n^2 + 2n + 1)}{3n^2} \quad (\text{Cancel like terms})$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2n^2 + 4n + 2}{3n^2} \quad (\text{Distribute})$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2 + \frac{4}{n} + \frac{2}{n^2}}{3} \quad (\text{Divide by } n^2)$$

$$\frac{2 + 0 + 0}{3} = \frac{2}{3} \quad (\text{Evaluate at infinity and simplify})$$

$\frac{2}{3} < 1$ Therefore by the ratio test, the series is **Convergent**

(d) **Root Test**

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{\ln n}{n} \right)^n \rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \left(\frac{\ln n}{n} \right)^n \right|^{\frac{1}{n}} \quad (\text{Apply root test})$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{\ln n}{n} \right| \quad (\text{Simplify})$$

$$\stackrel{L'H}{=} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{\frac{1}{n}}{1} \right| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{1}{n} \right| \quad (\text{Apply L'Hôpital's and simplify})$$

$$\left| \frac{1}{\infty} \right| = 0 \quad (\text{Evaluate at infinity and simplify})$$

$0 < 1$ Therefore by the root test, the series is **Convergent**