

## **Lab task 1. Empirical study of the complexity of algorithms**

### **HEXAGONAL NUMBERS**

#### **Problem description**

A hexagonal number [1] is a polygonal number [2] that represents a hexagon. The hexagonal number for  $n$  is given by the formula,

$$H_n = n(2n - 1) = 2n^2 - n \quad (1)$$

However, it also can be obtained as the  $n$ th term of the series,

$$H_n = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} (4i + 1) \quad (2)$$

You are asked to design three algorithms implemented in Java that, using  $n$  as input parameter, provide the  $n$ th hexagonal number. The first algorithm must use equation (1) and the other two equation (2) in iterative and recursive form. You should:

- 1) Determine theoretically the complexity of the algorithms
- 2) Determine empirically the running time of the algorithms as a function of  $n$ 
  - a. In this case, assign different values to  $n$  and, for each of them, calculate the running time of each method. To do this, you can use the `currentTimeMillis` and/or `nanoTime` methods of the `System` class, which provide the system time in milliseconds and nanoseconds, respectively.

Each class and method in the program should include appropriate internal documentation to make it fully understandable. The `InternalDocumentation.pdf` file (lab section in *Campus Virtual*) contains a brief guide to writing internal documentation.

#### **References**

1. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hexagonal\\_number](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hexagonal_number)
2. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Polygonal\\_number](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Polygonal_number)