

Complexity analysis

A. Multiple Choice Questions

Problem 1. Despite feeling sleepy all day long, Omer has written a *correct* program that returns the median of a given table with n elements. You have not seen Omer's algorithm. Nonetheless, you can still assert that only one of the following statements is true. Reason which.

- A. The cost of Omer's algorithm is necessarily $\Theta(n)$.
- B. The cost of Omer's algorithm is necessarily $\Omega(n)$.
- C. The average-case cost of Omer's algorithm is necessarily $O(\lg n)$.
- D. The worst-case cost of Omer's algorithm is necessarily $O(n \lg n)$.

Problem 2. Use the following algorithm to answer the next three questions.

FOO

```
1  for  $i = 1$  to  $N$ 
2      for  $j = 1$  to  $i$ 
3          for  $k = 1$  to  $i$ 
4               $sum = sum + 1$ 
5  for  $p = 1$  to  $N \times N$ 
6      for  $q = 1$  to  $p$ 
7           $sum = sum - 1$ 
```

(i) How many times is line 4 executed?

- A. $O(N)$
- B. $O(N^2)$
- C. $O(N^3)$
- D. $O(N^4)$

(ii) How many times is line 7 executed?

- A. $O(N)$
- B. $O(N^2)$
- C. $O(N^3)$
- D. $O(N^4)$

(iii) What is the total running time of the fragment?

- A. $O(N^2)$
- B. $O(N^3)$
- C. $O(N^4)$
- D. $O(N^5)$

B. Questions

Problem 3. What is wrong with the following binary search algorithm?

```

BINARY-SEARCH( $A, x, l, r$ )
    //  $A$ : data array
    //  $x$ : value to be found
    //  $l$ : lower bound
    //  $r$ : upper bound
1  if  $l == r$ 
2      return  $l$ 
3  else  $m = \lfloor (l + r)/2 \rfloor$ 
4      if  $x \leq A[m]$ 
5          return BINARY-SEARCH( $A, x, l, m$ )
6      else return BINARY-SEARCH( $A, x, m, r$ )

```

Problem 4. An algorithm takes 0.5 ms for input size 100. How long will it take [Weiss 2012] for input size 500 if the running time is the following (assume low-order terms are negligible)

- (a) linear
- (b) $O(N \lg N)$
- (c) quadratic
- (d) cubic

Problem 5. Let A be an array with n elements.

- (a) Write an algorithm that makes exactly $n - 1$ comparisons to find the maximum element in A .
- (b) Write an algorithm that makes exactly $n - 1$ comparisons to find the minimum element in A .
- (c) Write an algorithm that finds both the maximum and the minimum elements in A and makes only $\frac{3}{2}n$ comparisons.

Problem 6. So that the number of comparisons used by the binary search algorithm when n is not necessarily a power 2 is at most $\lceil \lg n \rceil$.

Problem 7. Solve the following subtractive recurrences. (Assume that $T(1) = 1$ and n is a power of 2)

- (a) $T(n) = T(n - 1) + \Theta(1)$
- (b) $T(n) = T(n - 2) + \Theta(1)$
- (c) $T(n) = T(n - 1) + \Theta(n)$
- (d) $T(n) = 2T(n - 1) + \Theta(1)$

Problem 8. Solve the following divisive recurrences. (Assume that $T(1) = 1$ and n is a power of 2)

- (a) $T(n) = 2T(n/2) + \Theta(1)$
- (b) $T(n) = 2T(n/2) + \Theta(n)$
- (c) $T(n) = 2T(n/2) + \Theta(n^2)$
- (d) $T(n) = 4T(n/2) + n$
- (e) $T(n) = 2T(n/2) + n^2$
- (f) $T(n) = 9T(n/3) + 3n + 2$
- (g) $T(n) = 2T(n/4) + \sqrt{n}$

Problem 9. For each of the following code segments, analyse its time complexity in terms of Big-Oh notation.

- (a)
- ```

1 public void foo1(int n) {
2 int s = 0;
3 for (int i = 0; i < n; ++i) {
4 ++s;
5 }
6 }

```
- (b)
- ```

1 public void foo2(int n) {
2     int s = 0;
3     for (int i = 0; i < n; i += 2) {
4         ++s;
5     }
6 }

```
- (c)
- ```

1 public void foo3(int n) {
2 int s = 0;
3 for (int i = 0; i < n; ++i) {
4 ++s;
5 }
6 for (int j = 0; j < n; ++j) {
7 ++s;
8 }
9 }

```
- (d)
- ```

1 public void foo4(int n) {
2     int s = 0;
3     for (int i = 0; i < n; ++i) {
4         for (int j = 0; j < n; ++j) {
5             ++s;
6         }
7     }
8 }

```
- (e)
- ```

1 public void foo5(int n) {
2 int s = 0;
3 for (int i = 0; i < n; ++i) {
4 for (int j = 0; j < i; ++j) {
5 ++s;
6 }
7 }
8 }

```
- (f)
- ```

1 public void foo6(int n) {
2     int s = 0;
3     for (int i = 0; i < n; ++i) {
4         for (int j = 0; j < n; ++j) {
5             for (int k = 0; k < n; ++k) {
6                 ++s;
7             }
8         }
9     }
10 }

```

Problem 10. Analyze the time complexity of the following recursive functions that compute x^n for $n \geq 0$.

- (a)
- ```

1 public double power1(double x, int n) {
2 if (n == 0) {
3 return 1;
4 } else {
5 return x * power1(x, n - 1);
6 }
7 }

```
- (b)
- ```

1 public double power2(double x, int n) {
2     if (n == 0) {
3         return 1;
4     } else if (n % 2 == 0) {
5         double y = power2(x, n / 2);
6         return y * y;
7     } else {
8         double y = power2(x, n / 2);
9         return y * y * x;
10    }
11 }

```
- (c)
- ```

1 public double power3(double x, int n) {
2 if (n == 0) {
3 return 1;
4 } else if (n % 2 == 0) {
5 return power3(x, n / 2) * power3(x, n / 2);
6 } else {
7 return power3(x, n / 2) * power3(x, n / 2) * x;
8 }
9 }

```

**Problem 11.** The cost of algorithm  $A$  is given by the recurrence  $T_A(n) = 7T_A(n/2) + n^2$ . A competing algorithm  $B$  has cost given by  $T_B(n) = xT_B(n/4) + n^2$ . Which is the largest integer  $x$  for which  $B$  is asymptotically better than  $A$ ? [\*]

**Problem 12.** Solve the recurrence  $T(n) = T(\sqrt{n} + 1)$  using a change of variables. [\*]  
Assume that  $n$  is of the form  $2^{2^i}$  for an integer  $i \geq 0$ .

**Problem 13.** Consider a bidimensional array of size  $n \times n$  where each column has its elements sorted in strict increasing order from top to bottom, and each row has its elements sorted in strict decreasing order from left to right. [\*]

- (a) Give an algorithm of cost  $\Theta(n)$  that, given an element  $x$ , determine whether  $x$  is in the array.
- (b) Give an algorithm of cost  $\Theta(n)$  that, given an element  $x$ , determine how many elements in the array are strictly smaller than  $x$ .

## References

- Atserias, Albert et al. (2022). *Data Structure and Algorithms Problem Set*. Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya.
- Parberry, Ian and William Gasarch (2002). *Problems on Algorithms*. 2nd.