

IMPERIAL COLLEGE LONDON

DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING  
EXAMINATIONS 2012

EEE/ISE PART II: MEng, BEng and ACGI

Corrected Copy

## ALGORITHMS AND COMPLEXITY

Monday, 11 June 4:00 pm

Time allowed: 1:30 hours

**There are TWO questions on this paper.**

**Answer BOTH questions. Question One carries 20 marks. Question Two carries 30 marks.**

**Any special instructions for invigilators and information for candidates are on page 1.**

Examiners responsible      First Marker(s) :      M.M. Draief  
Second Marker(s) :      D.B. Thomas

## ALGORITHMS AND COMPLEXITY

2012

1. The *Master Theorem* states that:

Let  $T(n)$  be the number of operations performed by an algorithm that takes an input of size  $n$ . If  $T(n)$  satisfies,  $T(n) = 0$  for  $n = 1$ , and for  $n \geq 2$

$$T(n) = aT(n/b) + O(n^d), \quad (1.1)$$

where  $a > 0, b > 1$  and  $d \geq 0$ . Then

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} O(n^d) & \text{if } d > \log_b(a) \\ O(n^d \log(n)) & \text{if } d = \log_b(a) \\ O(n^{\log_b(a)}) & \text{if } d < \log_b(a) \end{cases} \quad (1.2)$$

a) Most students responded correctly to this question

- a) Explain how equation (1.1) arises in the context of a divide-and-conquer algorithms. [4]  
 b) Describe the balance between solving subproblems and combining them in each of the cases in equation (1.2). [4]  
 c) For each of the algorithms below derive the corresponding complexity.

c) Questions i and ii were correctly answered by a majority of students.

- i) The problem is solved by dividing the initial problem into two subproblems of half the size, recursively solving each subproblem, and then combining the solutions in cubic time, i.e.  $O(n^3)$ . [3]  
 ii) The problem is solved by dividing the initial problem into two subproblems each of quarter of the size, recursively solving each subproblem, and then combining the solutions in time  $O(\sqrt{n})$ . [3]  
 iii) The problem is solved by recursively solving one subproblem of size  $n - 1$ , where  $n$  is the size of the initial problem, and then performing additional operations requiring linear time, i.e.  $O(n)$ . [3]  
 d) Given  $n$  sets  $S_1, \dots, S_n$ , where  $S_i$  is a subset of  $\{1, \dots, m\}$ , describe what the following pseudocode does and derive its complexity in terms of the parameters  $m$  and  $n$ .

d) A majority of students did this reasonably.

```

for i = 1 to n {
  for j = 1 to n {
    Fail=true
    for each element x ∈ Si {
      if x ∈ Sj then Fail=false}
    if Fail then
      report that Si and Sj are disjoint
  }
}

```

b) Students often provided a completely proof whereas a graphical answer would have sufficed (as in lecture)

c) Question iii, many students try to apply 1.2 which does not apply here.

[3]

<p>a) Many students did not provide all the solutions or missed some as they did not follow a logic way of listing them.</p> <p>a)iii) Many students tried to prove optimality in general while the question was to do it for this special case using i</p>	<p>We need to give change of some amount of money using the fewest number of coins. Suppose that the currency of interest has coins with <math>n</math> distinct values in <math>\{c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n\}</math>.</p>		<p>a) in ii, many students did not order the coins and so gave a bogus algorithm and failed to provide the correct complexity.</p>
	a)	<p>i) Provide all possible solutions for giving change of 34 when the coins are in <math>\{1, 5, 10, 25, 100\}</math>. [ 2 ]</p> <p>ii) A clever cashier decides to use the following algorithm: <i>At each iteration, add a coin of the largest value that does not take us past the amount to be paid.</i> Write an efficient pseudocode for this algorithm when the coins are in <math>\{c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n\}</math> and analyse its running time. [ 5 ]</p> <p>iii) For the special case of giving change of 34 using coins in <math>\{1, 5, 10, 25, 100\}</math>, show that the solution found by the above greedy procedure is optimal. [ 5 ]</p>	
	b)	<p>Suppose that we now have coins in <math>\{1, 10, 25\}</math>.</p> <p>i) Apply the greedy algorithm to give change of 30. [ 2 ]</p> <p>ii) Show that there is a better solution than the one provided by the greedy algorithm. [ 2 ]</p>	
<p>c) A number of students struggled with the question as it seems that many did not get the point of dynamic programming and only repeated material from the course that was not necessarily relevant.</p>	c)	<p>As illustrated above the greedy algorithm is not always optimal. We now describe a dynamic programming approach to the general problem.</p> <p>Let <math>C[m]</math> to be the minimum number of coins we need to give change of an amount <math>m</math> using coins from <math>\{c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n\}</math>. We recursively define the value of an optimal solution as follows</p> $C[m] = \begin{cases} \infty & \text{if } m < 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } m = 0 \\ 1 + \min_{1 \leq i \leq n} (C[m - c_i]) & \text{if } m \geq 1. \end{cases} \quad (2.1)$	<p>b) Most students did this question conveniently</p>
		<p>i) Apply the above dynamic programming with coins from <math>\{1, 10, 25, 50\}</math> to give change of 29. [ 4 ]</p> <p>ii) Derive the running time of the algorithm when we use <math>n</math> coins <math>\{c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n\}</math> to give change of an amount <math>m</math>. [ 5 ]</p>	
<p>d) This is a hard question meant to give an edge to the students who properly explored dynamic programming to do well. Very few students attempted this question.</p>	d)	<p>In this final question we describe another dynamic programming solution.</p> <p>Let <math>C[m, n]</math> be the smallest number of coins used to give change of an amount <math>m</math>, using only coins in <math>\{c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n\}</math>. We will assume that <math>c_1 = 1</math>.</p> <p><math>C[m, n]</math> can be defined using two cases (1) we do not use coin <math>c_n</math> or (2) we use coin <math>c_n</math> and reduce the amount.</p> <p>Combine the two cases to derive a new dynamic program.</p> <p><i>Hint: Note that since <math>c_1 = 1</math>, we have <math>C[m, 1] = m</math>.</i> [ 5 ]</p>	



1/ Solutions - 2012

1/4

a/ Initial pb of size  $n$  subdivided into  $a$  smaller subproblems of size  $n/b$  each.

Once each of these pbs is solved, it takes  $O(n^d)$  operations to combine their solutions in order to obtain a solution to the initial pb.

b)  $d > \log_b a$ : Here combining subproblems is the most expensive part of algo

$d < \log_b a$ : It is cheaper to combine the problems than it is to solve all the subproblems at hand.

$d = \log_b a$ : combining & solving are as expensive to perform

c)

$$i) T(n) = 2T(n/2) + O(n^3) \Rightarrow T(n) = O(n^3)$$

$$a=b=2; d=3 \quad \log_a b = 1 < 3 = d$$

$$ii) T(n) = 2T(n/4) + O(\sqrt{n}) \Rightarrow T(n) = O(n)$$

$$a=2, b=4, d=1/2 \quad \log_a b = 2 > 1/2 = d$$

$$iii) T(n) = T(n-1) + n = T(n-2) + n-1 + n-2$$

By induction;  $T(n) = \frac{n(n-1)}{2} = O(n^2)$

2/4

d) Code checks whether  $S_1 \dots S_n \subset \{1, \dots, m\}$  are disjoint or not. It takes  $O(n^2 m)$  operations

~~35 = 2~~  
 2/ ~~34 = 25 + 5 + 4 x 1~~  
~~34 = 25 + 5 + 4~~

a/

i/	$34 = 1 \times 25 + 1 \times 5 + 4 \times 1$	6 coins
	$34 = 1 \times 25 + 9 \times 1$	10 coins
	$34 = 3 \times 10 + 4 \times 1$	7 "
	$34 = 2 \times 10 + 2 \times 5 + 4 \times 1$	8
	$34 = 2 \times 10 + 1 \times 5 + 9 \times 1$	12
	$34 = 2 \times 10 + 14 \times 1$	16
	$34 = 1 \times 10 + 4 \times 5 + 4 \times 1$	9
	$34 = 1 \times 10 + 3 \times 5 + 9 \times 1$	13
	$34 = 1 \times 10 + 2 \times 5 + 14 \times 1$	17
	$34 = 1 \times 10 + 1 \times 5 + 19 \times 1$	21
	$34 = 6 \times 5 + 4 \times 1$	10
	$34 = 5 \times 5 + 9 \times 1$	14
	$34 = 4 \times 5 + 14 \times 1$	18
	$34 = 3 \times 5 + 19 \times 1$	22
	$34 = 2 \times 5 + 24 \times 1$	26
	$34 = 1 \times 5 + 29 \times 1$	30
	$34 = 34 \times 1$	34

ii) Sort coins by value  $c_1 \leq \dots \leq c_n$   
 $S \leftarrow \emptyset$   
 while  $(n > 0)$

Let  $k$  largest integer such that  $c_k \leq x$ .

if  $k = 0$  return no solution found.

else  $x \leftarrow x - c_k$

$S \leftarrow S \cup \{k\}$

return  $S$ .

$O(n \log n)$  for sorting + cost going through the sequence  $c_1, \dots, c_n$ .

iii) By i)  $34 = 1 \times 25 + 5 \times 1 + 4 \times 1 = 6 \text{ coins}$

is optimal  
 & it is the solution provided by the greedy algorithm.

b) i)  $30 = 25 + 5 \times 1$  ~~which~~ is greedy solution.

~~30 = 25~~  
 ii) Optimal

$30 = 3 \times 10$  3 coins  
 instead of 6  
 coins with greedy



$$c) \quad c[29] = 1 + \min \begin{cases} c[29-5] = \infty \\ c[29-4] = c[4] = 4 \\ c[29-1] = c[18] \\ c[29-1] = c[28] \end{cases}$$

~~$$c[29] = 1 + \min$$~~

$$c[19] = 1 + \min \begin{cases} c[19-5] = \infty \\ c[19-4] = \infty \\ c[19-1] = c[9] = 9 \\ c[19-1] = c[18] \end{cases}$$

$$c[18] = 1 + \min \begin{cases} c[18-1] = c[8] = 8 \\ c[18-1] = 17 = 6 \end{cases}$$

$$c[28] = c[4] + 1 = 5$$

Solution  $29 = 25 + 4 \times 1$

ii) Equation (2.1) takes at most  $n$  operations to go through all the cases. & this has to be done at most  $n$  times.

$O(mn)$  complexity

$$a). \quad c[m, n] = \begin{cases} \infty & m < 0 \\ 0 & m = 0 \\ m & m = 1 \\ \min \{ c[m, n-1], 1 + c[m-e_i, n] \} & m \geq 1, n \geq 2 \end{cases}$$