

## SOLUTIONS

### Problem 1

Analyze the runtime of the following code snippets and prove an asymptotic bound.

a.

```
1. procedure loopsA(integer n):
2.   for i = 1; i <= n:
3.     i = i + 2;
4.     print i;
5.     for j = 5; j <= n:
6.       j = j * 2;
7.       print j;
8. end procedure
```

b.

```
1. procedure loopsB(integer n):
2.   for i = 1; i <= n:
3.     i = i * 2;
4.     print i;
5.     for j = 1; j <= i:
6.       j = j + 2;
7.       print j;
8. end procedure
```

### Problem 2

Consider a modified mergesort algorithm which, on alternating levels of the recursion, partitions the input into either an  $(4, n - 4)$  or  $(n/4, 3n/4)$  split. Assume the first partition is  $(n/4, 3n/4)$ .

(*hint*: it may help to draw out the recurrence tree.)

- a. Write down a recurrence for the modified mergesort algorithm.
- b. Solve the recurrence relation using the tree method. How does this tree compare to the recursion tree from the previous problem?

## Asymptotics Cheat Sheet

**(Limit Comparison Test)** If the limit  $L := \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)}$  exists, then:

- if  $0 < L < \infty$ , then  $f(x) \in \Theta(g(x))$  (“they grow at the same rate”)
- if  $L = 0$ , then  $f(x) \in O(g(x))$ , but  $f(x) \notin \Theta(g(x))$  (“ $g$  grows faster than  $f$ ”)
- if  $L = \infty$ , then  $g(x) \in O(f(x))$ , but  $g(x) \notin \Theta(f(x))$  (“ $f$  grows faster than  $g$ ”)

**(L’Hôpital’s rule)** Suppose  $g$  and  $f$  are both differentiable functions, with either

- a.  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x) = 0$  and  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} g(x) = 0$ ; or
- b.  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x) = \pm\infty$  and  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} g(x) = \pm\infty$

If  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)}$  exists, then  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f'(x)}{g'(x)}$ .

## Some Helpful Identities

$$a \sum_{i=0}^n r^i = a \left( \frac{1-r^{n+1}}{1-r} \right) \quad (\text{Finite Geometric Series})$$

$$a \sum_{i=0}^n i = \frac{an(n+1)}{2} \quad (\text{Sum of first } n \text{ integers/special case of Finite Arithmetic Series})$$

$$\sum_{i=0}^n ix^i = \frac{x(nx^{n+1} - (n+1)x^n + 1)}{(x-1)^2}$$

$$\sum_{i=0}^n i^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}$$