

Homework#1

Problem 1 (10 points)

- Each element of an array $A[1, \dots, n]$ is a digit (0, ..., 9).
- The array is ordered: $A[i] \leq A[i+1]$ for all i .
- Consider the problem of finding the sum of array $A[1, \dots, n]$.
- Can we do it in $O(\log n)$ time?

Answer:

At a first glance, it would make sense from an iterative perspective that that only $O(n)$ could be achieved given that the more elements you add to the list, more you need to add to the final sum. However, given that the **list ordered**, we could take advantage of this using a technique such as **binary search** to achieve a better performance.

With **binary search**, we divide the array into multiple segments in each iteration, therefore we only focus on **half** of it each time. Looking at figure 1 below, which is simply an example of binary search, you will see how the operation works through each iteration. We begin with our full list of length n , and drop half in the following step resulting in n/b , and continue down this path.

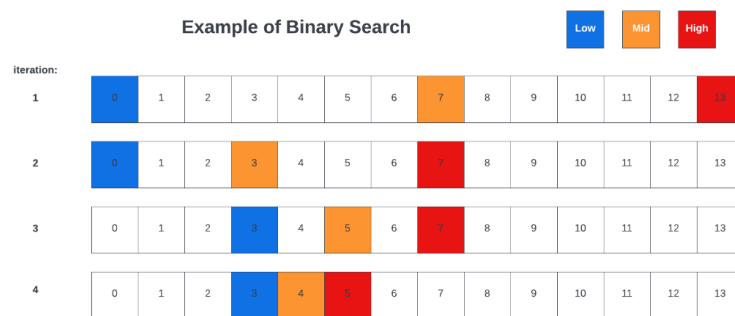


Figure (1): An example of binary search

Given that we now know the boundaries, you will be able to achieve **$\log(n)$** irrespective of the length of the array. Alternatively, we can say that given n and b , when $\frac{n}{b^x} = 1$, then $n = b^x$, which is **$\log_b n$**

\therefore Therefore, yes, it is possible

Problem 2 Growth of Functions (10 = 5 + 5 points)

- For each of these parts, indicate whether $f = O(g)$, $f = \Omega(g)$, or both (i.e., $f = \Theta(g)$).
- In each case, give a brief justification for your answer.
- Hint: It may help to plot the functions and obtain an estimate of their relative growth rates. In some cases, it may also help to express each function as a power of 2 and then compare.

(a) $f(n) = n^{1.01}$; $g(n) = n(\log n)^2$

(b) $f(n) = \frac{n^2}{\log n}$; $g(n) = n(\log n)^2$

Homework#1

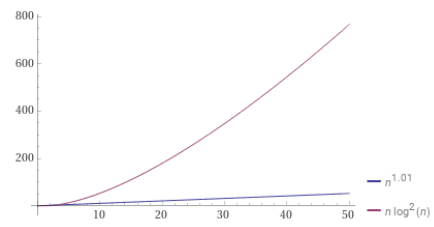
Answer:

Before we explore this question, let us go ahead and define what $f = O(g)$ and $f = \Omega(g)$ actually mean. We can say that an algorithm is $\Omega(g(n))$ when the running time of the algorithm as an input of n as n gets larger is **proportional** to $g(n)$, so it is lower bound. On the other hand, when an algorithm is of $O(g(n))$, we mean that the running time of the algorithm as the input n gets larger is **at most proportional** to $g(n)$, so it is upper bound.

(a) In the case of $f(n) = n^{1.01}$; $g(n) = n(\log n)^2$:

Per their relation, we can say that $f = \Omega(g)$, since the running time of the algorithm as an input of n as n gets larger is proportional to $g(n)$.

Graphing the two equations, we can see a rising trend between the two over the range of $n = \{0, 1, \dots, 50\}$:

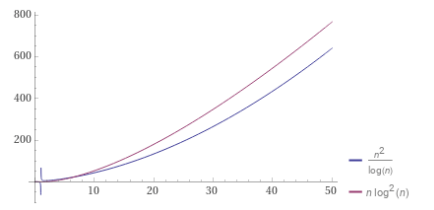


As we extend the range to a much larger value such as 500, we see a slight change in the values but the overall trend remains roughly the same. However this does not cover much larger values of n . For example, if we use a substitution, $u^{100} = x$, we would get $f(u) = u^{101}$ and with $g(u) = u^{100} * \log(u)^2 \approx u^{100} * \log(u)^2$. Finally, we can see that we will reach infinity in the positive direction given that $\frac{f}{g} = u / \log(u)^2$, reshaping the trend and showing that $f(n)$ grows much faster than its $g(n)$ counterpart.

∴ Given the dominance of $f(n)$, ultimately, we see that $f = \Omega(g)$.

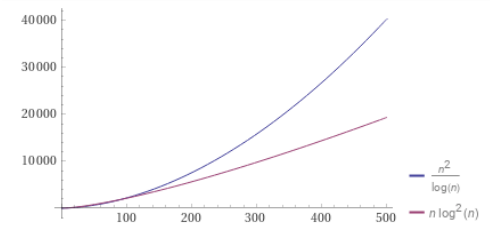
(b) In the case of $f(n) = \frac{n^2}{\log n}$; $g(n) = n(\log n)^2$:

If we graph these two equations using a range of $n = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, 50\}$, we can see that $g(n)$ is dominant:



However, upon extending the range of $n = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, 500\}$, we can see that the relationship changes, and $f(n)$ is now the dominant function

Homework#1



In addition, we can also reduce the function by dividing the two sides by $n/\log n$ allowing us to compare n relative to $\log n^3$, thus proving the same point.

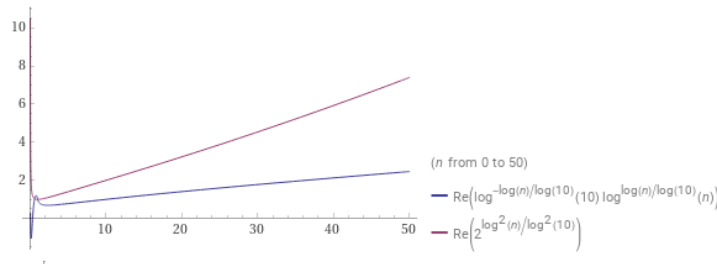
\therefore Given the dominance of $f(n)$, ultimately, we see that $f = \Omega(g)$.

Problem 3 Growth of Functions (10 = 5 + 5 points)

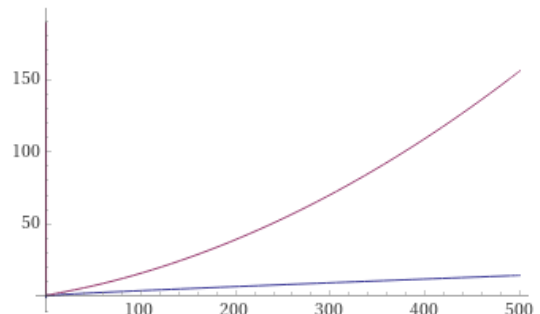
- For each of these parts, indicate whether $f = O(g)$, $f = \Omega(g)$, or both (i.e., $f = \Theta(g)$).
- In each case, give a brief justification for your answer.

(a) $f(n) = (\log n)^{\log n}$; $g(n) = 2^{(\log n)^2}$

Upon graphing the two functions using a range of $n = \{1, 2, 3, \dots, 50\}$ we can see that the function $g(n)$ dominates the space at it grows faster than its $f(n)$ counterpart.



As we extend the domain of $n = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, 500\}$ we can see that while the trend has changed in the sense that $g(n)$ is growing far faster, its $f(n)$ counterpart still remains inferior.



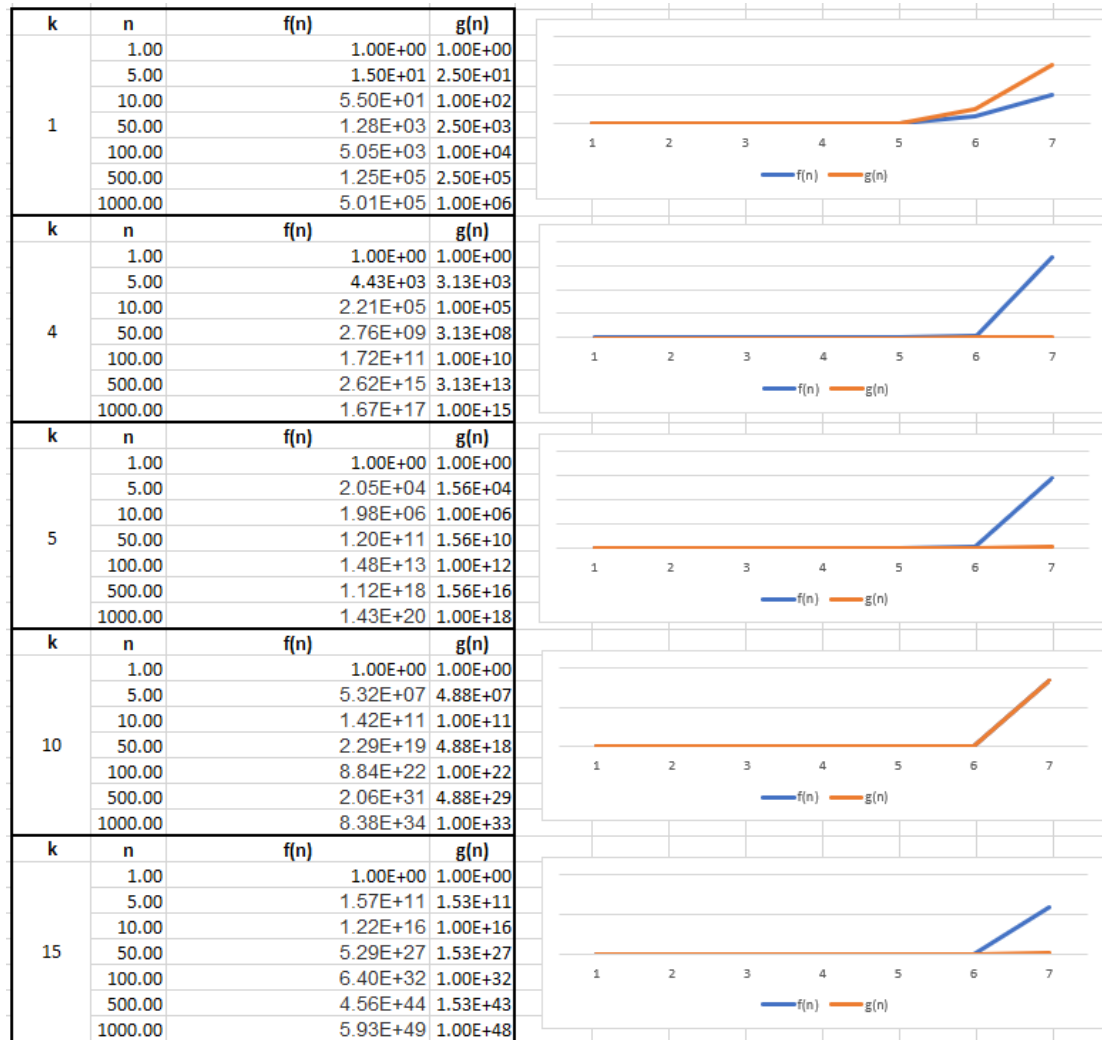
\therefore Given the dominance of $g(n)$, ultimately, we see that $f = O(g)$.

Homework#1

(b) $f(n) = \sum_{i=1}^n i^k$; $g(n) = n^{(k+1)}$

Similarly to the other problems we have solved, we can once again look at the growth of both functions over a given range to determine their relationship to one another. However, this time we are given a new variable, k , which needs to also be accounted for. Let us assume that $k > -1$.

We can give both n and k a range such that $n = \{1, 5, 10, 50, 100, 500, 1000\}$, and $k = \{1, 4, 5, 10, 15\}$. As we visualize the relationships between the two, we notice that the value of k changes this relationship quite drastically. In some instances, we see $f(n)$ growing faster indicating $f = \Omega(g)$, alternatively we also see the other two instances of $f = O(g)$, and $f = \Theta(g)$ depending on the values at hand, rendering it more difficult to prove.



Given that the pattern is based on the value of k , it is likely that it would be most accurate to determine that $f = \Theta_k(g)$. We can prove this via the following:

Homework#1

$$\sum_{i=1}^n i^k = \Theta(n^{k+1})$$

Proof

$$\sum_{i=1}^n i^k = 1^k + 2^k + 3^k + \dots + n^k$$

$$f(n) = \Theta(g(n)) \text{ is } c_1 g_1(n) \leq f(n) \leq c_2 g_2(n)$$

$$f(n) = O(g(n)) \text{ if } f(n) \leq c_2 g_2(n)$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n i^k = 1^k + 2^k + 3^k + \dots + n^k \leq n^k + n^k + n^k + n^k$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n i^k = 1^k + 2^k + 3^k + \dots + n^k \leq n * n^k$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n i^k = 1^k + 2^k + 3^k + \dots + n^k \leq n^{k+1}$$

Therefore, we can say that:

$$1^k + 2^k + 3^k + \dots + n^k = O(n^{k+1})$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n i^k = O(n^{k+1})$$

Let us also say that:

$$g(n) = n^{k+1}$$

$$1^k + 2^k + 3^k + \dots + n^k \geq n^k$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n i^k = \Omega(n^k)$$

Finally, given this, let us now say that:

$$g(n) = n^k$$

$$n^k \leq f(n) \leq n^{k+1}$$

$$f(n) = \Theta(n^{k+1})$$

∴ Given the situation, we see that $f = \Theta_k(g)$.