

Theorem (3.2.18). *Let f be the function defined by $f(k, n) = 1^k + 2^k + \cdots + n^k$, where k and n are positive integers. $f(k, n)$ is $\mathcal{O}(n^{k+1})$.*

Proof. If $f(k, n)$ is $\mathcal{O}(n^{k+1})$, then there exist constant witnesses C and j such that $|1^k + 2^k + \cdots + n^k| \leq C|n^{k+1}|$, for all $n > j$. If $j = 1$, then

$$f(k, n) = (1^k + 2^k + \cdots + n^k) \leq (n^k + n^k + \cdots + n^k) = n(n^k) = n^{k+1}$$

Thus, $(1^k + 2^k + \cdots + n^k) \leq n^{k+1}$, for all $n > 1$. So $|f(k, n)| \leq |n^{k+1}|$, for all $n > 1$. It follows that $f(k, n)$ is $\mathcal{O}(n^{k+1})$ with constant witnesses $C = 1$ and $j = 1$. ■