

1) (10 pts) ANL (Algorithm Analysis)

Consider the following problem:

Given two input values, n and k , determine the number of strings of length n , which only contains A's and B's, that have a run of k or more consecutive B's.

One algorithm to solve the problem is as follows:

Recursively generate each possible string of n letters, each A's and B's. These can be generated in alphabetical order, never storing more than 1 of the strings at the same time.

For each string generated, loop through the string from left to right, keeping a running tally of the current number of B's. (For example, with the string ABBABBBAAAB, the running counter would update as follows $0 \rightarrow 1 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 0 \rightarrow 1 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 3 \rightarrow 0 \rightarrow 0 \rightarrow 1$.) If this running tally ever equals or exceeds k , add 1 to a global counter storing the final result. For simplicities sake, assume that the loop completes going through the whole string before 1 is potentially added to the global counter.

With proof, determine the Big-Oh runtime of this algorithm in terms of the input parameter, n .