

Assignment #1 solutions and mark breakdown

1. (2 marks) Given an n -element array A , Algorithm X executes an $O(n)$ -time computation for each even number in A and an $O(\log n)$ -time computation for each odd number in A .

(a) What is the best-case running time of Algorithm X?

Answer: $O(n \log n)$ (1 mark). Additional info: The best-case running time will occur when all the n elements of the array are odd, as for each of these n numbers an $O(\log n)$ -time computation will be performed instead of the $O(n)$ one.

(b) What is the worst-case running time of Algorithm X?

Answer: $O(n^2)$ (1 mark). Additional info: The worst-case running time will occur when all the n elements of the array are even, as for each of these n numbers an $O(n)$ -time computation will be performed.

2. (9 marks) Use the definition of “ $f(n)$ is $O(g(n))$ ” to prove the following statements.

- (a) $f(n) = 7n^3 + 3n^2 - 2n + 100$ is $O(n^3)$. (1.5 mark) Many different answers are possible; here is one of them: The witness we chose are $c=110$ and $n_0=1$, since for all $n \geq 1$, the following holds $f(n) = 7n^3 + 3n^2 - 2n + 100 \leq 7n^3 + 3n^2 + 100 \leq 7n^3 + 3n^3 + 100n^3 \leq 110n^3$. So $f(n) \leq 110n^3$, for all $n \geq 1$.
- (b) $f(n) = (n^2 + 1)/(n + 1)$ is $O(n)$. (1.5 marks) The witness we chose are $c=2$ and $n_0=1$. For all $n \geq 1$, the following holds $(n^2 + 1) \leq n^2 + 2n + 1 = (n+1)^2$. So we get $f(n) = (n^2 + 1)/(n + 1) \leq (n+1)^2/(n+1) = n+1 \leq n + n = 2n$. So $f(n) \leq 2n$ for all $n \geq 1$.
- (c) $f(n) = n!$ is $O(n^n)$. (1.5 marks) The witness we chose are $c=1$ and $n_0=1$, since for all $n \geq 1$ we have $f(n) = n! = n \cdot (n-1) \cdot \dots \cdot 2 \cdot 1 \leq n \cdot n \cdot \dots \cdot n \cdot n = n^n$. So, $f(n) \leq n^n$, for all $n \geq 1$. (Some students may want to use the product notation, making more explicit that both are products of n numbers each of which is smaller than n)
- (d) $f(n) = \log_2 n$ is $O(\log_{10} n)$. (1.5 marks) The witness we chose are $c = \log_2 10$ and $n_0=1$. For this question we use the change of basis formula $\log_b a = \log_c a / \log_c b$. So we get

for all n , $f(n) = \log_2 n = \log_{10} n / \log_{10} 2 = (\log_2 10) \log_{10} n$, for all $n \geq 1$.
 So $f(n) \leq (\log_2 10) \log_{10} n$, for all $n \geq 1$.

(e) $f(n) = n^3$ is not $O(100n^2)$. (1.5 marks) Suppose by contradiction that $f(n) = n^3$ is $O(100n^2)$, i.e. there exist $c > 0$ and $n_0 \geq 1$ such that $f(n) = n^3 \leq c * 100 * n^2$ for all $n \geq n_0$. Now pick any $n_1 > \max\{c * 100, n_0\}$; therefore for all $n \geq n_1$, we obtain $c * 100 * n^2 < n_1 * n^2 \leq n * n^2 = n^3$. So, we proved that, for all $n > n_1$, $f(n) = n^3 \leq c * 100 * n^2 < n^3$ implying $n^3 < n^3$, which is a contradiction. Therefore our assumption that $f(n) = n^3$ is $O(100n^2)$, must be false.

(f) $f(n) = 2^{n+1}$ is $\Theta(2^n)$ (1.5 marks) This consists of two parts. First the big-Oh: $f(n) = 2^{n+1} = 2 * 2^n$, so using $c=2$ and $n_0=1$, we get $f(n) = 2^{n+1} \leq 2 * 2^n = c * 2^n$, for all $n \geq n_0$. Thus, $f(n) = 2^{n+1}$ is $O(2^n)$. Now proving the Omega: $f(n) = 2^{n+1} = 2 * 2^n \geq 2^n$, so using $c=1$ and $n_0=1$, we obtain $f(n) = 2^{n+1} \geq c * 2^n$ for all $n \geq n_0$. Thus, $f(n) = 2^{n+1}$ is $\Omega(2^n)$.

3. Given an array, A, of n integers, give an $O(n)$ -time algorithm that finds the longest subarray of A such that all the numbers in that subarray are in sorted order. Your algorithm outputs two integers: the initial and final indices of the longest subarray.

(a) (4 marks) Give the algorithm pseudocode.

```

if (n=0) return "empty subarray"
else {
    longest= currentLongest=1; maxini=ini=0; // A[0..0] is the longest so far
    for (i=1; i<n; i++) {
        If A[i-1]<=A[i] then { // one more item in current subarray
            currentLongest++; // increment size
            If currentLongest > longest then { //must update the longest so far
                longest=currentLongest
                maxini=ini;
            }
        }
        else { // new subarray starts and size is current 1 : A[i..i]
            currentLongest=1;
            ini=i;
        }
    }
    return (maxini, maxini+longest-1) // initial and final indices of longest subarray
}

```

(b) (1 mark) Justify your big-Oh (1 mark). For all $n \geq 1$ we go to the first else, and the loop is executed $n-1$ times. Inside the loop we have no more than a constant number of

steps (steps in the if-the-else). So the algorithm runs in $O(n)$. The given solution uses only a constant amount of extra variables; if your solution uses another array of length n then your solution to the question will be worth 80% (4/5).

4. Suppose you are given a sorted array, A , of n distinct integers in the range from 1 to $n+1$, so there is exactly one integer in this range missing from A . Give an $O(\log n)$ -time algorithm for finding the integer in this range that is not in A . Hint: the algorithm resembles binary search. **The key to this solution is that the missing element will be (considering indexes 1.. n) the first index such that $A[i] \neq i$, and therefore $A[i] > i$ (since the array is sorted and only one element is missing). Ex: $A[1]=1$ $A[2]=2$ $A[3]=4$ $A[4]=5$, here we conclude the missing element is $i=3$ is the lowest i such that $A[i] > i$**

- (a) (4 marks) Give the algorithm pseudocode.

```

Algorithm Find_missing( $A, n$ ) {
  // We give an iterative version of binary search since this is easier to analyse
  // We also assume array index from 1.. $n$  to make it more clear (it can easily be
  // changed to work for array with index 0.. $(n-1)$ )

  begin=1; end=n;
  while (begin <= end) {
    i=(begin+end) div 2; // this is the same as floor( (begin+end)/2)
    if ( $A[i]=i$ ) then begin=i+1 // everyone up to i is present in the array
    else // here we know  $A[i] > i$  since  $A[i] < i$  never happens
      end=i-1
    }
  // we reach here when begin=end+1
  // here we conclude  $A[i]=i$  for  $i=1..begin-1$  and  $A[begin]=A[end+1] > end+1=begin$ 
  // therefore begin is the missing integer
  return begin
}

```

- (b) (1 mark) Justify your big-Oh (1 mark).

A careful justification of why this algorithm, like binary search, takes $O(\log n)$ would require a careful induction proof which is not required here. We would accept that you quote that this has the same running time as binary search so it is $O(\log n)$. Alternatively, you could give a not so formal justification as follows. At the beginning, the number of candidates to be the missing number is $n+1$; at each iteration, the number of candidates is reduced by half, until we have only one candidate. The number of iterations is at most $k = \log_2(n+1)$, as by the definition of logarithm base 2, k is the number of times we can divide $n+1$ by 2 until we obtain the number 1 or less, which causes the loop to end.

5. (4 marks) Fill a table showing a series of following queue operations and their effects on an initially empty queue Q of integer objects. Here Q is implemented with an Array of size 7.

| Operation | Output Q |
|--------------|--|
| enqueue (4) | Q: 4,-,-,-,-,-, f=0, r=1 |
| dequeue () | Q: -, -, -, -, -, -, f=r=1 Output(return): 4 |
| dequeue () | Q: -, -, -, -, -, -, f=r=1 Output: ERROR/empty queue exception |
| enqueue (44) | Q: -,44,-,-,-,-, f=1, r=2 |
| enqueue (7) | Q: -,44,7,-,-,-, f=1, r=3 |
| enqueue (6) | Q: -,44,7,6,-,-, f=1, r=4 |
| dequeue () | Q: -, -, 7,6,-,-, f=2, r=4 Output : 44 |
| isEmpty() | Q: -, -, 7,6,-,-, f=2, r=4 Output: false |
| enqueue (3) | Q: -, -, 7,6,3,-, f=2 r=5 |
| enqueue(5) | Q: -, -, 7,6,3,5,-, f=2,r=6 |
| dequeue () | Q: -, -, -, 6,3,5,-, f=3, r=6 Ouput: 7 |
| dequeue () | Q: -, -, -, -, 3,5,-, f=4, r=6 Ouput: 6 |
| dequeue () | Q: -, -, -, -, -, 5,- f=5 r=6 Ouput: 3 |
| dequeue () | Q: -, -, -, -, -, -, f=6 r=6 Ouput: 5 |
| enqueue(32) | Q: -, -, -, -, -, 32, f=6, r=0 |
| enqueue(39) | Q: 39,-,-,-,-,32, f=6, r=1 |
| enqueue(9) | Q: 39, 9,-,-,-,32, f=6 r=2 |
| size() | Q: 39,9,-,-,-,32, f=6 r=2 Output: 3 |
| enqueue (32) | Q: 39, 9,32,-,-,32, f=6,r=3 |
| size() | Q: 39, 9,32,-,-,32, f=6,r=3 Output: 4 |
| dequeue () | Q: 39,9,32,-,-,-, f=0,r=3 Output: 32 |
| enqueue (6) | Q: 39, 9,32,6,-,-, f=0,r=4 |
| enqueue (5) | Q: 39,9,32,6,5,-, f=0,r=5 |
| dequeue () | Q: -, 9,32,6,5,-, f=1,r=5 Output 39 |

| | |
|-------------|-------------------------------------|
| front() | Q: -,9,32,6,5,-,-, f=1,r=5 Output 9 |
| size() | Q: -,9,32,6,5,-,-, f=1,r=5 Output 4 |
| enqueue (9) | Q: -,9,32,6,5,9,-, f=1,r=6 |

6. (2 marks) Give an example of a positive function $f(n)$ such that $f(n)$ is neither $O(n^2)$ nor $\Omega(n^2)$. Explain both assertions.

$$f(n) = n^3 (1 + \sin(n))$$

Note that:

$-1 \leq \sin(n) \leq 1$ and $\sin(n)$ repeatedly oscillates between -1 and 1)

$0 \leq 1 + \sin(n) \leq 2$ and $1 + \sin(n)$ repeatedly oscillates between 0 and 2)

$0 \leq n^3 * (1 + \sin(n)) \leq 2 n^3$ and $n^3 * (1 + \sin(n))$ repeatedly oscillates between 0 and $2 n^3$)

Suppose by contradiction $f(n)$ is $O(n^2)$, thus there exist $c > 0$ and $n_0 \geq 1$ such that $f(n) \leq c \cdot n^2$ for all $n \geq n_0$. However, for infinitely many values n' larger than n_0 , we have $f(n') = 2(n')^3 \leq c(n')^2$. Using similar arguments as in question 2-e we get a contradiction.

Now, suppose by contradiction that $f(n)$ is $\Omega(n^2)$, thus there exist $c > 0$ and $n_0 \geq 1$ such that $f(n) \geq c \cdot n^2$ for all $n \geq n_0$. However, for infinitely many values n' larger than n_0 we have $f(n') = 0$. Using $0 = f(n') \geq c \cdot (n')^2 \geq c \cdot n_0^2 \geq c > 0$, we get the contradiction that $0 > 0$.

7. (3 marks) Give a big-Oh characterization, in terms of n , of the running time of the following method. Show your analysis!

```

1. public void Ex(int n)
2. int a = 1;
3. for (int i = 0 ; i < n*n ; i++)
4.   for (int j = 0; j <= i; j++)
5.     if( a <= j)
6.       a = i;
7. }
```

The lines are numbered to facilitate reference. First, you need to be convinced that the big-Oh will be determined by the number of times the loop runs, or the number of times lines 5 to 6 are executed, given that lines 5-6 run in constant time.

The first loop runs with i from 0 to n^2 and the second loop with $j=0$ to i . So the total number of times that lines 5-6 are executed will be $1+2+3 + \dots + n^2$ which equals $n^2(n^2+1)/2 = (n^4 + n^2)/2 < (n^4 + n^4)/2 = n^4$ which is $O(n^4)$.

8. Give a big-Oh characterization (in terms of the number n of elements stored in the queue) of the running time of the following methods. Show your analysis!

- (a) (4 marks) Describe how to implement the queue ADT using two stacks. That is: write pseudocode algorithms which implement the *enqueue()* and *dequeue()* methods of the queue using the methods of the stack.

Assume that we have two stacks named *S1* and *S2*.

S1 will store the queue elements assuming the top element in the stack is the front of the queue. *S2* will be used as temporary storage when enqueueing new elements.

Explanation:

dequeue

When we want to dequeue an element, we can just perform a pop on *S1*.

enqueue

While when we want to enqueue an element *o*, we should pop all the elements from *S1* and push them in *S2*, then push the element *o* in *S1* and then pop all the elements from *S2* and push them back in *S1*.

The code follows:

Algorithm dequeue()

If S1.isEmpty() then

ERROR

Return S1.pop()

Algorithm enqueue(object o)

While not S1.isEmpty

S2.push(S1.pop())

S1.push(o)

While not S2.isEmpty

S1.push(S2.pop())

SOLUTION 2: Note it is also possible to make enqueue simply one *S2.push* consequently making *dequeue()* to do more work doing the swing of elements from *S2* to *S1* then pop then swing the elements back from *S1* to *S2*.

- (b) (1 mark) What are the running times of your *dequeue()* and *enqueue()* algorithms?

The running times will be as a function of *n*, the number of elements in the queue.

Answer for solution 1: (can simply say the big-Oh; here we give more explanations) *dequeue()* runs in constant time, regardless of the queue size so it is in $O(1)$.

enqueue() will perform the following tasks:

- 1) the first while loop does n times $S1.pop$, and n times $S2.push$, so it runs in $O(n)$
 - 2) one $S1.push$ runs in $O(1)$
 - 3) the second while loop does n times $S2.pop$ and n times $S1.push$, so it runs in $O(n)$
- The three steps together run in $O(n)+O(1)+O(n)$ which is $O(n)$.

SOLUTION 2: `dequeue()` runs in $O(n)$ and `enqueue` runs in $O(1)$

Marking scheme: 0.5 to say correct running time for `dequeue()` and 0.5 to say correct running time for `enqueue`;

If code has different big-Oh as above, the answers for running time should match what the student programmed.