

# HW2

1)  $n^2$

(a)  $(2n)^2 = 4n^2$ : It becomes 4 times slower.

(b)  $(n+1)^2 = n^2 + 2n + 1$ : Factor of increase is  $(n^2 + 2n + 1)/n^2 \approx 1 + 2/n + 1/n^2$  for large  $n$ .

2)  $n^3$

(a)  $(2n)^3 = 8n^3$ : It becomes 8 times slower.

(b)  $(n+1)^3 = n^3 + 3n^2 + 3n + 1$ : Factor of increase is  $(n^3 + 3n^2 + 3n + 1)/n^3 \approx 1 + 3/n + 3/n^2 + 1/n^3$ .

3)  $100n^2$

(a)  $100(2n)^2 = 400n^2$ : It becomes 4 times slower.

(b)  $100(n+1)^2 = 100(n^2 + 2n + 1)$ : Factor of increase is  $100(n^2 + 2n + 1)/100n^2 \approx 1 + 2/n + 1/n^2$

4)  $n \log n$

(a)  $2n \log(2n) = 2n(\log 2 + \log^2 n) = 2n \log n + 2n \log 2$ : Approximately doubles but increase by  $2 \log 2$  times due to the  $\log 2$  term.

- (b)  $(n+1) \log(n+1)$ : This is a bit more complex, but increases proportionally by a factor approaching  $\log(n+1) - \log n \approx 1/n$  for large  $n$ .

5)  $2^n$

(a)  $2^{2n} = (2^n)^2 = 2^n \cdot 2^n = 4^n$ : Exponential increase, precisely squared.

(b)  $2^{n+1} = 2^n \cdot 2$ : exactly two times slower.

3)

To arrange the given functions in ascending order of growth rate, we'll analyze each function's asymptotic behavior as  $n$  becomes large. The function that grows slowest as  $n$  increases should be listed first, and the one that grows fastest should be listed last. Here's a breakdown of each function's growth:

1.  $f_2(n) = \sqrt{2n}$

This function grows as  $\Theta(\sqrt{n})$ , which is slower than linear growth.

2.  $f_3(n) = n + 10$

This is a linear function  $\Theta(n)$ , and grows faster than  $\sqrt{n}$ .

3.  $f_1(n) = n^2$

This polynomial function grows faster than linear but slower than cubic functions. It is  $\Theta(n^{2.5})$ .

4.  $f_6(n) = n^2 \log n$

This function grows faster than any polynomial  $n^k$  for  $k \leq 2$  but slower than  $n^3$ . It is super-quadratic due to the logarithmic factor.

5.  $f_4 = 10^n$

This exponential function grows very fast, significantly faster than polynomial or polynomial-logarithmic functions.

6.  $f_5 = 100^n$

This function, also exponential, grows even faster than  $10^n$  to a larger base.

Arranging them in order of ascending growth rate gives:

-  $f_2(n) = \sqrt{2n}$  (smallest growth rate)

-  $f_3(n) = n + 10$

-  $f_1(n) = n^2$

- $f_6(n) = n^2 \log n$
- $f_4 = 10^n$
- $f_5 = 100^n$  (largest growth rate)

This list ensures that each function is  $O(g(n))$  of the function that follows it, reflecting an increasing order of growth rates.

5)

Given the statement that  $f(n)$  is  $O(g(n))$ , let's analyze each sub-statement to decide whether they are true or false, providing proofs or counterexamples accordingly:

**(a)  $\log_2 f(n)$  is  $O(\log_2 g(n))$ .**

True. Since  $f(n) = O(g(n))$ , by definition, there exists a positive constant  $c$  and a value  $n_0$  such that  $f(n) \leq c * g(n)$  for all  $n \geq n_0$ . Taking logarithms of both sides:

$$\log_2 f(n) \leq \log_2 (c * g(n)) = \log_2 c + \log_2 g(n)$$

Here,  $\log_2 c$  is a constant. Hence,  $\log_2 f(n)$  can be bounded by a constant plus  $\log_2 g(n)$ , which means  $\log_2 f(n) = O(\log_2 g(n))$ .

**(b)  $2^{f(n)}$  is  $O(2^{g(n)})$ .**

False. This statement can be false because exponential growth is sensitive to the exponent's rate of increase. Consider  $f(n) = g(n) + \log_2 n$ . Clearly,  $f(n) = O(g(n))$  since the logarithmic term grows much slower than any polynomial, and thus does not affect the overall class. However:

$$2^{f(n)} = 2^{g(n) + \log_2 n} = 2^{g(n)} * n$$

This is not  $O(2^{g(n)})$  because the factor of  $n$  makes  $2^{f(n)}$  grow faster than any constant multiple of  $2^{g(n)}$ .

c)  $n^2$  is  $O(g(n)^2)$ .

True. Again, since  $f(n) = O(g(n))$ , there exists some constant  $c$  such that  $f(n) \leq c * g(n)$  for all  $n \geq n_0$ . Squaring both sides yields:

$$f(n)^2 \leq (c * g(n))^2 = c^2 * g(n)^2$$

Thus,  $f(n)^2 = O(g(n)^2)$  because we can find a constant  $c^2$  that bounds  $f(n)^2$  in terms of  $g(n)^2$ .

These proofs and counterexamples show the nuanced effects of different mathematical operations on growth rates and asymptotic behaviors.

The "How to Design Algorithms" handout serves as a foundational guide for students and professionals in computer science, outlining effective strategies for algorithm design. It emphasizes a structured approach to problem-solving, aimed at crafting efficient and reliable algorithms.

**Core Elements of the Handout:**

1. **Problem Understanding:** Clarity on the problem at hand is essential. It entails defining the objectives and constraints accurately, which guides the selection of appropriate strategies.
2. **Solution Exploration:** The document encourages exploring multiple solutions through brainstorming and examining existing algorithms. This phase may involve sketching ideas using flowcharts or pseudocode to visualize potential solutions.
3. **Algorithm Development:** The handout advocates for an iterative development process. Starting with a basic solution, it is refined progressively through testing and optimization to handle various inputs effectively.
4. **Performance Analysis:** Emphasis is placed on analyzing the algorithm's efficiency concerning time and space usage. Techniques for optimizing performance are discussed, ensuring the algorithm operates within acceptable parameters.
5. **Documentation and Review:** Maintaining detailed documentation throughout the algorithm's development is crucial. The handout also recommends peer reviews as a means to gain insights and identify unnoticed errors.