

# Introduction to Algorithms

## CSI 3344

### Homework 1

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Prepare a LaTeX file with each problem beginning on a fresh page. Use the Upload Site to submit your solution. These problems are a review of material from earlier courses that will serve us well in CSI 3344:

1. In each of the following situations, indicate whether  $f(n) \in O(g(n))$ , or  $f(n) \in \Omega(g(n))$ , or both (in which case  $f(n) \in \Theta(g(n))$ ).

$f(n)$	$g(n)$	Answer
$n - 100$	$n - 200$	$f(n) \in \Theta(g(n))$
$n^{\frac{1}{2}}$	$n^{\frac{2}{3}}$	$f(n) \in O(g(n))$
$100n + \log(n)$	$n + (\log(n))^2$	$f(n) \in \Theta(g(n))$
$n \log(n)$	$10n \log(10n)$	$f(n) \in \Theta(g(n))$
$\log(2n)$	$\log(3n)$	$f(n) \in \Theta(g(n))$
$10\log(n)$	$\log(n^2)$	$f(n) \in \Theta(g(n))$
$n^{1.01}$	$n \log^2 n$	$f(n) \in \Omega(g(n))$
$\frac{n^2}{\log(n)}$	$n(\log(n))^2$	$f(n) \in \Omega(g(n))$
$n^{0.1}$	$(\log(n))^{10}$	$f(n) \in \Omega(g(n))$
$(\log n)^{\log n}$	$\frac{n}{\log n}$	$f(n) \in \Omega(g(n))$
$\sqrt{n}$	$(\log n)^3$	$f(n) \in \Omega(g(n))$
$n^{\frac{1}{2}}$	$5 \log_2 n$	$f(n) \in O(g(n))$
$n 2^n$	$3^n$	$f(n) \in O(g(n))$
$2^n$	$2^{(n+1)}$	$f(n) \in \Theta(g(n))$
$n!$	$2^n$	$f(n) \in \Omega(g(n))$
$(\log n)^{\log n}$	$2^{(\log_2 n)^2}$	$f(n) \in O(g(n))$
$\sum_{i=1}^n i^k$	$n^{k+1}$	$f(n) \in \Theta(g(n))$

2. Geometric series.

**Note:** We will use the geometric series formula:  $S(n) = \frac{a-ar^{n+1}}{1-r}$ .

(a) Give a simple upper bound on  $1 + 2 + 4 + \dots + 2^n$ . Conclude that this sum is  $O(2^n)$ .

- This can be written as  $\sum_{i=0}^n 2^i = 2^{n+1} - 1$ . We can ignore the constant and from the above table we know that  $2^{n+1} \in O(2^n)$ .

(b) Do the same for  $1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \dots + \frac{1}{2^n}$  and conclude that the sum is  $O(1)$ .

- This can be written as  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (\frac{1}{2})^n = \frac{\frac{1}{2}}{1-\frac{1}{2}}$  using the geometric series formula. In this case,  $a = 1, r = \frac{1}{2}$ .
- $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (\frac{1}{2})^n = \frac{\frac{1}{2}}{1-\frac{1}{2}} = 1$ . Thus the series converges to 1.  $S \in O(1)$ .

(c) By considering a more general series  $S(n) = 1 + c + c^2 + \dots + c^n$ , establish the following very useful rule: in big-O terms, the sum of a geometric series is simply:

**Note:** In this case, the common ratio  $r = c$ .

i. the first term if the series is strictly decreasing,

- The series is strictly decreasing if  $c < 1$ .
- Using the formula above we have  $S(n) = \frac{1-c^{n+1}}{1-c}$ .

If  $c < 1$ , then  $1-c < 1-c^{n+1} < 1$ . Dividing by  $1-c$  gives  $1 < \frac{1-c^{n+1}}{1-c} < \frac{1}{1-c}$ .  
 $1 < S(n) < \frac{1}{1-c}$ .

- Thus,  $S(n) \in \Theta(1)$ , where 1 is the first term.

ii. the last term if the series is strictly increasing,

- The series is strictly increasing if  $c > 1$ ,
- Using the formula above we have  $S(n) = \frac{1-c^{n+1}}{1-c} = \frac{c^{n+1}-1}{c-1}$ .

If  $c > 1$ , then  $c^n < c^{n+1} - 1 < c^{n+1}$ . Divide by  $1-c$  gives  $\frac{1}{1-c} * c^n < S(n) < \frac{c}{1-c} * c^n$

- Thus,  $S(n) \in \Theta(c^n)$ , where  $c^n$  is the last term.

iii. the number of terms if the series is unchanging.

- if  $c = 1$ , then  $S(n) = 1 + 1 + 1 + \dots + 1 = 1 + n$ .  
If  $S(n) = n + 1$ , then  $S(n) \in \Theta(n)$ .

3. Proving by induction. We would like to establish the following formula for the sum of the first  $n$  odd numbers:  $1 + 3 + 5 + \dots + (2n - 1) = n^2$ . A nice way to do this is by induction. Let  $S(n)$  be the statement above. **We want to prove**  $\sum_{i=1}^n (2i - 1) = n^2$ .

An inductive proof would have the following steps:

(a) Show that  $S(1)$  is true.

- i. Let  $n = 1$ . Then  $\sum_{i=1}^1 (2(1) - 1) = 1^2$ .  
That gives  $(2(1) - 1) = 1^2$ .  
 $(2 - 1) = 1^2$ .  
 $1 = 1$ . Thus, it is true for the base case.

(b) Assume that if  $S(1), \dots, S(k)$  are true,

(c) then show  $S(k+1)$  is true.

- i. If it is true for  $S(1) \dots S(k)$ , then  $\sum_{i=1}^k (2i - 1) = k^2$ .

- ii. Let  $n = k + 1$ . Then we have,  $\sum_{i=1}^{k+1} (2(k + 1) - 1) = (k + 1)^2$ .

$$\sum_{i=1}^{k+1} (2k + 2 - 1) = k^2 + 2k + 1.$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^{k+1} (2k + 1) = k^2 + 2k + 1.$$

$$3 + 5 + 7 + \dots + 2k - 1 + 2(k + 1) - 1 = k^2 + 2k + 1.$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^k (2i - 1) + 2(k + 1) - 1 = k^2 + 2k + 1.$$

$$k^2 + 2(k + 1) - 1 = k^2 + 2k + 1. \text{ (Inductive hypothesis)}$$

$k^2 + 2k + 1 = k^2 + 2k + 1$ . Thus, it is true for the base case and inductive hypothesis. QED.

4. Practice with *big-O* and  $\Omega$ . For some fixed positive integer  $c$ , consider the summation  $S(n) = 1^c + 2^c + 3^c + \dots + n^c$ .

(a) Show that  $S(n)$  is  $O(n^{c+1})$ . Hint: There are  $n$  terms in the series, and each is at most ...?

(b) Show that  $S(n)$  is  $\Omega(n^{c+1})$ . Hint: Look just at the second half of the series.

- $S(n) = \sum_{i=1}^n i^c = \frac{1}{c+1}n^{c+1}$  by definition. Let  $f(n) = \frac{1}{c+1}n^{c+1}$  and  $g(n) = n^{c+1}$ .

Using L'Hopital's rule:  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f'(n)}{g'(n)} = \frac{n^c}{(c+1)n^c}$ . Drop constant and get 1. Thus,

$f(n) \in \Theta(n^{c+1})$ . Since  $f(n) = S(n)$ ,  $S(n) \in \Theta(n^{c+1})$ .

By definition of  $\Theta$ , if  $S(n) \in \Theta(n^{c+1})$ , then  $S(n) \in O(n^{c+1})$  and  $S(n) \in \Omega(n^{c+1})$

5. Logarithms (base two). Recall the definition of logarithm base two: saying  $p = \log_2 m$  is the same as saying  $m = 2^p$ . In this class, we will typically write  $\log$  to mean  $\log_2$ .

- (a) How many bits are needed to write down a positive integer  $n$ ? Give your answer in big-O notation, as a function of  $n$ , where  $n$  is the length of the number.

Number	Number of bits
0	0
1	1
2	2
3	2
4	3
5	3
6	3
7	3
8	4
.	4
.	4
16	5
.	5
.	5
32	6
.	6
.	6
64	7
.	7
.	7

Largest Number with n digits	n	Number of bits
9	1	4
99	2	7
999	3	10
9999	4	14

Thus, it takes  $O(\lceil n \log_2(10) \rceil)$ , where  $\log_2(10) \approx 3.3$ .

For example, from the right table, if  $n = 4$ , the number of bits required is  $\lceil 4 * 3.3 \rceil = 14$ .

- (b) How many times does the following piece of code print “hello”? Assume  $n$  is an integer, and that division rounds down to the nearest integer. Give your answer in big-O form, as a function of  $n$ .

```
while n > 1:
    print "hello"
    n := n/2
```

n	Number of prints
0	0
1	0
2	1
3	1
4	2
5	2
6	2
7	2
8	3
9	3
10	3
11	3
12	3
13	3
14	3
15	3
16	4

Looks like  $O(\log_2(n))$