

HW 09 Algorithms & Function Growth

Due: Nov 30, 2020

Instructions:

- This homework exists to strengthen your understanding of concepts so that you may apply them elsewhere
- To get full credit, show intermediate steps leading to your answers.
- You are welcome to work on problems with classmates though you may not directly view another student's solution to a given problem while working together. Include a brief statement at the beginning of your homework which lists your homework group members: "Homework group: person A, person B". If you did not work with other students on the assignment write "Homework group: none". A 5 point penalty will be applied to all work which does not include this statement.
- Questions whose points are labelled with an addition sign are extra credit (e.g. "+4 points"). These are designed to push you, so have fun and don't worry if you're not making headway immediately: they're supposed to take some time. Excellence will come with practice.

Problem 1 [22 points (2 pts each)]: True False

Tell whether each of the following statements is true or false. No explanation is needed.

i $n^2 + 3 = O(n^2)$

ii $19n = O(n)$

iii $\log_2 n = O(\log_3 n)$

iv $34n^3 + 2 = \Theta(\frac{n}{1000})$

v $123 = O(n!)$

vi $n^2 = \Omega(n^2 + 4)$

vii $n^2 = \Omega(123)$

viii $3 \log_2 n = \Theta(n \log_3 n)$

ix if $f(n) = \Theta(g(n))$ then $f(n) = O(g(n))$

x if $f(n) = \Omega(g(n))$ then $f(n) = O(g(n))$

xi if $f(n) = O(g(n))$ then $g(n) = O(f(n))$

Problem 2 [22 points (8, 5, 5, 4)]: Function Growth

- i Organize the following functions into six columns. Items in the same column should have the same asymptotic growth rates (big-O). If a column is to the left of another column, all its growth rates should be slower than those of the column to its right.

$$n^2, n!, \log_2 n, n \log_2 n, 3n, 5n^2 + 3, 2^n, 10000, n \log_3 n, 100n, 3\log_3 n$$

- ii Using the definition of big-O, show $100n + 5 = O(n)$. Give a particular c and n_0 .
- iii Using the definition of big-O, show that $n = O(2^n)$. Give a particular c and n_0 .
- iv Identify a function $f(n)$ which has $3n + 4n^2 + 3n! = O(f(n))$. You may use the facts that $n = O(n!)$ and $n^2 = O(n!)$.

Problem 3 [26 points (13 pts each)]: Sorting Steps

Sort the following list with the following sorts, showing all the intermediate steps.

$$18, 45, 23, 2, -5, 10, 99, 0$$

- i Insertion Sort
(Please use the \square symbol, as shown in the practice problems, to divide the sorted portion of the array from the unsorted portion.)
- ii Merge Sort
(You need only show the pyramid diagram of how the list is broken and recombined into a sorted list).

Problem 4 [30 points (10 pts each)]: Compute Power vs Algorithm Efficiency

Moe, Larry and Curly have just purchased three new computers and use three different algorithms¹ to sort lists:

	Comparisons / sec	Search Algorithm	$T(n)$
Moe	50	Linear Search	n
Larry	5	Optimal Chunk Search	$2\sqrt{n}$
Curly	1	Binary Search	$\log_2 n$

where $T(n)$ is the number of comparisons it takes, in the worst case, to sort a list of size n . How large must n be to ensure that, for every list, ...

- i Curly's computer sorts faster than Moe's?
- ii Larry's computer sorts faster than Moe's?

¹Neither section studied these algorithms, their operation isn't necessary to do this problem. However, if you're interested, a great exposition is given in Fell & Aslam's text.

iii Curly's computer sorts faster than Larry's?

Problem 5 [+5 points (1, 4)]: Bubble Sort

An array is *nearly-d sorted* if any element is not further than d spots from its sorted position. Consider the sorted list of elements:

$$X = [1, 5, 9, 10, 15, 20, 34, 57, 66, 91]$$

The same elements form a nearly-sorted list:

$$A = [1, 5, 10, 15, 9, 20, 34, 57, 91, 66]$$

with $d = 2$ because each value is, at most, 2 spots from its sorted position. Consider that the value 9 is out of order as it is in index 4^2 in A while it is in index 2 in B . Similarly,

$$B = [1, 5, 10, 9, 15, 20, 34, 57, 91, 66]$$

is nearly sorted with $d = 1$ as value 9 is in index 3 instead of index 2, 66 is in index 9 instead of index 8 and so on.

Bubble Sort³, a sorting algorithm we have not covered, has an advantage over other methods when operating on nearly- d sorted lists.

- i Describe Bubble Sort's Advantage in the best case scenario over other methods.
- ii Bubble Sort need only pass through a nearly- d sorted list d times to ensure the list is sorted. Justify why this is the case. (Hint: consider the early termination condition of Bubble Sort)

²We adopt the Python convention of indexing 0, 1, 2, 3, ...

³Wikipedia is a great place to start your Bubble Sort studying https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bubble_sort, the animation in particular was instructive. However, more kinesthetic learners may appreciate the following video too: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lyZQPjUT5B4>.