

14.1 True or False?

(a)  $\sin x = O(1)$  as  $x \rightarrow \infty$ .

Soln: By definition, we seek a constant  $C$  such that

$$|\sin x| \leq C \cdot 1,$$

as  $x \rightarrow \infty$ . Since  $-1 \leq \sin x \leq 1 \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}$ ,we may set  $C = 1$ . Then  $|\sin x| \leq 1$ holds, and we conclude that  $\sin x = O(1)$ as  $x \rightarrow \infty$ . The statement is True.

(b)  $\sin x = O(1)$  as  $x \rightarrow 0$ . Again choose  $C = 1$ , then for all  $x$ ,

$$-1 \leq \sin x \leq 1 \Rightarrow |\sin x| \leq 1,$$

Thus it is also true for  $x \rightarrow 0$ . The statement is True.

(c)  $\log x = O(x^{1/100})$  as  $x \rightarrow \infty$ .

Consider  $x > x^{99/100} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{x} < \frac{1}{x^{99/100}}$ , for  $x \rightarrow \infty$ .

Integrating both sides of this inequality yields

$$|\log x| < 100 x^{1/100} \text{ as } x \rightarrow \infty.$$

Let  $C = 100$ , then we have

$$|\log x| < C x^{1/100} \text{ as } x \rightarrow \infty.$$

Therefore,  $\log x = O(x^{1/100})$  as  $x \rightarrow \infty$ .The statement is true.

(d)  $n! = O\left(\left(\frac{n}{e}\right)^n\right)$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

This statement is false. Consider Stirling's approximation to  $n!$ , which has

$$n! \sim \sqrt{2\pi n} \left(\frac{n}{e}\right)^n$$

Also one of the coolest approximations in math, in my opinion. Anyway, This implies that  $\nexists$  a single constant  $C$  with  $n! \leq C\left(\frac{n}{e}\right)^n$ , since  $C$  would have to be dependent on  $n$ . The statement is False.

(e)  ~~$A = O\left(\left(\frac{n}{e}\right)^n\right)$~~

$A = O(V^{2/3})$  as  $V \rightarrow \infty$ , where  $A$  &  $V$  are surface area and volume of a sphere measured in square miles and cubic microns, respectively.

First note that  $1 \text{ mi}^3 = 4.168 \times 10^{27} \text{ microns}^3$ .

Thus,  $V_{\text{miles}} = \frac{1 \text{ mi}^3}{4.168 \times 10^{27} \text{ microns}^3} V_{\text{microns}}$ . Let  $C = 4\pi a^{2/3}$  with

$a = \frac{1}{4.168 \times 10^{27}}$ . Then since  $r \geq 0$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} A_{\text{miles}} &= 4\pi r^2 \leq 4\pi \left(\frac{\pi}{3}\right)^{2/3} r^2 \\ &= 4\pi \left(\frac{\pi}{3} r^3\right)^{2/3} \\ &\leq 4\pi \left(a V_{\text{microns}}\right)^{2/3} \\ &= 4\pi a^{2/3} V_{\text{microns}}^{2/3} \\ &= C V_{\text{microns}}^{2/3} \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $A = O(V^{2/3})$  as  $V \rightarrow \infty$ . The statement is True (2)

$$(f) \underline{f(\pi) - \pi = O(\epsilon_{machine})}.$$

By definition of  $f(\pi)$ ,  $\exists \epsilon$  with  $|\epsilon| < \epsilon_{machine}$  such that

$$f(\pi) = \pi(1 + \epsilon).$$

Thus

$$|\epsilon| < \epsilon_{machine}$$

$$\Rightarrow \pi |\epsilon| < \pi \epsilon_{machine}$$

$$\Rightarrow |\pi \epsilon + \pi - \pi| < \pi \epsilon_{machine}$$

$$\Rightarrow |\pi(1 + \epsilon) - \pi| < \pi \epsilon_{machine}$$

$$\Rightarrow |f(\pi) - \pi| < \pi \epsilon_{machine}.$$

That is, we have found a constant  $C = \pi$  such that  $|f(\pi) - \pi| \leq C \epsilon_{machine}$ .

Thus,  $f(\pi) - \pi = O(\epsilon_{machine})$ . The statement is True.

(g)  $f(n\pi) - n\pi = O(\epsilon_{machine})$  uniformly for all integers  $n$ .

Solution: By definition of uniformly  $O(\epsilon_{machine})$ , we need a constant  $C$  such that

$$|f(n\pi) - n\pi| \leq C \epsilon_{machine}$$

$\forall n \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

But  $f(n\pi) \Rightarrow \exists \epsilon$  with  $|\epsilon| \leq \epsilon_{machine}$  such that  $f(n\pi) = n\pi(1 + \epsilon)$ . But this means,

$$|\varepsilon| \leq \varepsilon_{\text{machine}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{2} |n\pi \varepsilon| < n\pi \varepsilon_{\text{machine}} \text{ for } n \in \mathbb{Z}, n \geq 0.$$

$$\Rightarrow |n\pi \varepsilon + n\pi - n\pi| \leq n\pi \varepsilon_{\text{machine}}$$

$$\Rightarrow |n\pi(1+\varepsilon) - n\pi| \leq n\pi \varepsilon_{\text{machine}}$$

$$\Rightarrow |f(n\pi) - n\pi| \leq n\pi \varepsilon_{\text{machine}}.$$

Here  $C = n\pi$  is dependent on  $n$ . Since uniformly  $O(\varepsilon_{\text{machine}})$  is  $\forall n \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $\nexists C$  a single constant such that  $|f(n\pi) - n\pi| \leq C \varepsilon_{\text{machine}}$ .  
The statement is False.