

Pseudo-polynomial Algorithms – By GeeksForGeeks

What is Pseudo-polynomial?

An algorithm whose worst case time complexity depends on numeric value of input (not number of inputs) is called Pseudo-polynomial algorithm.

For example, consider the problem of counting frequencies of all elements in an array of positive numbers. A pseudo-polynomial time solution for this is to first find the maximum value, then iterate from 1 to maximum value and for each value, find its frequency in array. This solution requires time according to maximum value in input array, therefore pseudo-polynomial. On the other hand, an algorithm whose time complexity is only based on number of elements in array (not value) is considered as polynomial time algorithm.

Pseudo-polynomial and NP-Completeness

Some NP-Complete problems have Pseudo Polynomial time solutions. For example, Dynamic Programming Solutions of **0-1 Knapsack**, **Subset-Sum** and **Partition** problems are Pseudo-Polynomial. NP complete problems that can be solved using a pseudo-polynomial time algorithms are called weakly NP-complete.

Reference:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pseudo-polynomial_time