

## HW8: Function Growth, Sequences & Series

**Due:** Nov 26, 2024 @ 11:59 PM

**Instructions:**

- [HW instructions](#)
- [academic integrity and collaboration](#)

**Problem 1 [36 pts]: Sequences & Series**

For each of the following sequences:

- Identify if the sequence is arithmetic, geometric or quadratic<sup>1</sup>. Justify your response.
- Give an expression for  $a_k$ , the  $k$ -th term in the sequence. Use the convention that the first term shown in each sequence below corresponds to  $k = 0$ .
- If the sequence is arithmetic or geometric, compute the sum of the first 11 terms in the sequence (i.e.  $a_0 + a_1 + \dots + a_{10}$ )

i 18, 72, 288, 1152, 4608, 18432, ...

ii -1, 1, 7, 17, 31, 49, ...

iii 0, -1, -2, -3, -4, -5, ...

**Problem 2 [18 pts (3 each)]: Function Growth True/False**

Tell whether the statements are true or false, no justification is needed.

i  $5n^3 + 2n = O(n^4)$

ii  $n^5 = O(7n + 1)$

iii If a function  $2n^3 + 6n = O(h(n))$ , then  $2n^3 + 6n > h(n)$  for every value of  $n$ .

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<sup>1</sup>its possible a sequence can be neither arithmetic, geometric or quadratic, but each of these examples is of one of these three types

- iv  $4n + 1 = \Omega(n^2)$
- v  $6n^2 + 4 = O(6n^2 + 4)$
- vi  $5 \log_2 n = \Theta(7 \log_{10} n + 1)$ <sup>2</sup>

**Problem 3 [22 pts (14, 8) pts]: Function Growth**

- i Organize the following functions into seven 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(s) 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 Identify the simplest<sup>3</sup> function  $f(n)$  which has  $3n + 4n^2 + 3n! = O(f(n))$ .

**Problem 4 [24 pts (6 each)]: Demonstrating Function Growth**

Recall that  $f(x) = O(g(x))$  means that:

$$\exists c, x_0 \in \mathbb{R} \text{ such that } x \geq x_0 \rightarrow 0 \leq f(x) \leq cg(x).$$

Using this definition, show that each of the statements below is true, or explain in one sentence why the statement is false. To prove a statement is true, find “witness values”  $c, x_0$  such that  $0 \leq f(x) \leq cg(x)$  for  $x \geq x_0$ . For clarity, write out this inequality for each true statement.

- i  $2^x = O(3^x)$
- ii  $5x^3 + x = O(x^3)$
- iii  $x^4 = O(\ln(x))$
- iv  $4x + 7 = O(x^2)$

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<sup>2</sup>Recall that you can change the base of logarithms using:

$$\log_a b \cdot \log_b x = \log_a x$$

<sup>3</sup>having the fewest operations