

# CSC165H1, Problem Set 4

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## Question 1

- a) Loop 3 runs for  $\lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil$  iterations, each iteration costs 1 step, so then we have the total step being  $\lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil$

Loop 2 runs for  $\lceil \log_2 i \rceil$  iterations, each iteration takes  $\lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil$  steps (since loop 3 takes  $\lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil$  steps for each iteration of loop 2; and line 6 and line 9 together take 1 step, but because 1 step is constant time, we just count  $\lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil$  steps for each iteration of loop 2 for simplicity). Thus, total steps is  $\lceil \log_2 i \rceil \cdot \lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil$

Loop 1 runs for  $\lceil \log_2 n \rceil$  iterations, as  $i$  takes on values  $2^0, 2^1, \dots, 2^{\lceil \log_2 n \rceil - 1}$ . In each iteration of loop 1, line 4 and line 10 take constant time so they are counted as 1 step, and loop 2 has a total of  $\lceil \log_2 i \rceil \cdot \lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil$  steps; since 1 step is constant time, we just count  $\lceil \log_2 i \rceil \cdot \lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil$  steps for each iteration of loop 1 for simplicity.

So total steps in loop 1 is:

$$\begin{aligned} &= \sum_{i=0}^{\lceil \log_2 n \rceil - 1} \lceil \log_2 2^i \rceil \cdot \lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil \\ &= \lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil \cdot \sum_{i=0}^{\lceil \log_2 n \rceil - 1} \lceil \log_2 2^i \rceil \\ &= \lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil \cdot \sum_{i=0}^{\lceil \log_2 n \rceil - 1} \lceil i \rceil \\ &= \lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil \cdot \sum_{i=0}^{\lceil \log_2 n \rceil - 1} i && \text{(since } i \text{ is an integer already)} \\ &= \lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil \cdot \sum_{i=1}^{\lceil \log_2 n \rceil - 1} i && \text{(since adding } i = 0 \text{ doesn't change the sum)} \\ &= \lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil \cdot \frac{(\lceil \log_2 n \rceil - 1) \cdot (\lceil \log_2 n \rceil)}{2} \\ &= \lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil \cdot \frac{\lceil \log_2 n \rceil^2 - \lceil \log_2 n \rceil}{2} \end{aligned}$$

Line 2 takes 1 step. So the total number of steps of this algorithm is  $1 + \lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil \cdot \frac{\lceil \log_2 n \rceil^2 - \lceil \log_2 n \rceil}{2}$

Since the fastest growing term in the second term of the multiplication is  $\lceil \log_2 n \rceil^2 = \lceil \log_2 n \rceil \cdot \lceil \log_2 n \rceil$ , and the fastest growing term in the first term of the multiplication is  $n$ , we would have  $\Theta(n \log_2 n \log_2 n)$

- b) To begin, Loop 2 runs for  $i$  iterations. In each iteration, line 7 and line 8 take constant time that we count them as 1 step. Thus, the total number of steps for loop 2 is  $i$ .

In loop 3, it runs for  $n - i$  iterations. In each iteration, line 11 and line 12 take constant time that we count them as 1 step. Thus, the total number of steps for loop 3 is  $n - i$

In the outer loop, loop 1 takes  $n$  iterations ( $i = 0, \dots, n - 1$ ). When  $i$  is odd, loop 2 runs; when  $i$  is even, loop 3 runs.

**Case 1:  $n$  is even:** In this case, there will be  $\frac{n}{2}$  number of odd numbers from  $0, 1, 2, \dots, n - 1$ , and  $\frac{n}{2}$  number of even numbers from  $0, 1, 2, \dots, n - 1$  as well. So we take  $0$  to  $\frac{n}{2} - 1$  for both the summations for odd and even  $i$ 's.

We also count line 4, line 5 or 9 (depending on if  $i$  is even or odd), and line 13 as 1 step because they all take constant time - since 1 step is of lower order than the number of steps loop 2 or 3 takes, we will just count the number of steps from loop 2 and 3 for each iteration of loop 1 for simplicity.

Therefore, the number of total steps of loop 1 in this case is:

$$= \sum_{i=0}^{(n/2)-1} (n - 2i) + \sum_{i=0}^{(n/2)-1} (2i + 1)$$

(first sum for the even numbers from  $0, 1, \dots, n - 1$ , second sum for the odd numbers from  $0, 1, \dots, n - 1$ )

$$\begin{aligned} &= \sum_{i=0}^{(n/2)-1} (n - 2i + 2i + 1) && \text{(combined summations for first and second)} \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^{(n/2)-1} (n + 1) \\ &= \frac{n}{2} \cdot (n + 1) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \cdot (n^2 + n) \end{aligned}$$

Now, outside of loop 1, line 2 takes 1 step and we can add that to  $\frac{1}{2} \cdot (n^2 + n)$ . However, in the expression for the total number of steps of this algorithm  $\frac{1}{2} \cdot (n^2 + n) + 1$ ,  $n^2$  is the fastest growing term. This will give us  $\Theta(n^2)$  for the case where  $n$  is even.

**Case 2:  $n$  is odd:** In this case, there will be  $\frac{n-1}{2}$  number of odd numbers from  $0, 1, 2, \dots, n - 1$ , and  $\frac{n-1}{2} + 1$  number of even numbers from  $0, 1, 2, \dots, n - 1$ . So we take  $0$  to  $\frac{n-1}{2} - 1$  for the odd summations and  $\frac{n-1}{2} + 1 - 1 = \frac{n-1}{2}$  for the even summations.

We also count line 4, line 5 or 9 (depending on if  $i$  is even or odd), and line 13 as 1 step because they all take constant time - since 1 step is of lower order than the number of steps loop 2 or 3 takes, we will just count the number of steps from loop 2 and 3 for each iteration of loop 1 for simplicity.

Therefore, the total steps for this case is:

$$= \sum_{i=0}^{\frac{n-1}{2}} (n - 2i) + \sum_{i=0}^{\frac{n-1}{2}-1} (2i + 1)$$

(first sum for the even numbers from 0, 1, ...  $n - 1$ , second sum for the odd numbers from 0, 1, ...  $n - 1$ )

$$= \left( \sum_{i=0}^{\frac{n-1}{2}-1} (n - 2i) \right) + \left( n - 2\left(\frac{n-1}{2}\right) \right) + \sum_{i=0}^{\frac{n-1}{2}-1} (2i + 1)$$

(took  $(n - 2(\frac{n-1}{2}))$  from the first sum out)

$$= \left( \sum_{i=0}^{\frac{n-1}{2}-1} (n - 2i + 2i + 1) \right) + (n - n + 1) \quad \text{(combined summations)}$$

$$= \left( \sum_{i=0}^{\frac{n-1}{2}-1} (n + 1) \right) + 1$$

$$= \frac{n-1}{2} (n + 1) + 1$$

$$= \frac{n^2 - 1}{2} + 1$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} (n^2 + 1)$$

Now, outside loop 1, line 2 takes 1 step so the total number of steps of this algorithm is  $\frac{1}{2}(n^2 + 1) + 1$ . However,  $n^2$  is the fastest growing term in the whole expression. This will give us  $\Theta(n^2)$  for the even case.

Both cases conclude in the same theta bound, and thus, the theta bound on the running time for this function is  $\Theta(n^2)$ .

- c) In the previous question, we examined the running time of cases where  $n$  is odd or even. When we subtract 1 from each expression in the 2 cases (subtracting 1 because 1 is the number of step that the line (line 2) outside loop 1 takes) resembles the amount of print statements that get outputted from the function.

Since in loop 1, we counted line 4, line 5 or 9 (depending on if  $i$  is even or odd), and line 13 as 1 step because they all take constant time; and in loop 2, we counted line 7 and line 8 as 1 step since they take constant time; similarly, in loop 3, we counted line 11 and 12 as 1 step. We know that for each iteration  $i$  of loop 1, the print statements are generated  $i$  times in loop 2 (if line 5 evaluates to True), and  $n - i$  times in loop 3 (if line 5 evaluates to False), and loop 1 has  $n$  iterations, so the number of print statements executed is the same as the number of steps we got in 1b). Thus we have Case 1 of  $n$  is even generating  $\frac{1}{2} \cdot (n^2 + n)$  print statements. Case 2 of  $n$  is odd generating  $\frac{1}{2}(n^2 + 1)$  print statements.

## Question 2

a) Let  $n = \text{len}(\text{lst})$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$

For a fixed iteration in loop 1, loop 2 runs for at most  $i$  iterations,  $j = 0, 1, 2, \dots, i - 1$ .  $i$  is the loop variable for loop 1. We know that each iteration takes 1 step (since line 5 and line 6 both take constant time), so the total steps is at most  $i$ .

In loop 1, it runs for at most  $n$  iterations,  $i = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n - 1$ . Every iteration takes at most  $i$  steps, from previously.

Total number of steps at most:

$$\begin{aligned} &= \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} i \\ &= \frac{n(n-1)}{2} \\ &= \frac{n^2 - n}{2} \end{aligned}$$

The line of "return False" takes 1 step, then the total steps is at most  $1 + \frac{n^2 - n}{2}$  which is  $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$  as  $n^2$  is the fastest growing term that we can disregard the lower order terms.

b) Let  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ ,  $\text{len}(\text{lst}) = n$ , and let  $\text{lst} = [0, 1, \dots, n - 1]$  where the elements are natural numbers from 0 to  $n - 1$  in ascending order. Let  $s = -100$ .

Then, we would have  $i = 0, 1, \dots, n - 1$ , if we fix  $i$ , then  $j = 0, 1, \dots, i - 1$ . Thus,  $\text{lst}[i] = i$ ,  $\text{lst}[j] = j$ , and  $\text{lst}[i] + \text{lst}[j] = i + j$ .

From the definition of  $i$ ,  $i$  is  $n - 1$  at most. From the definition of  $j$ ,  $j$  is at most  $i - 1 = n - 1 - 1 = n - 2$ . So then,  $i + j = n - 1 + n - 2 = 2n - 3$  at most.

Because the elements in the  $\text{lst}$  are in ascending order from 0 to  $n - 1$ ,  $\text{lst}[i] + \text{lst}[j]$  will never be negative, which means it will never be equal to  $-100$ . So, the loops will go through all the elements and the function will terminate when it hits line 7, which is "return False".

In this case, total number of steps:

$$\begin{aligned} &= \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} i + 1 && \text{(adds 1 step from "return False")} \\ &= \frac{n(n-1)}{2} + 1 \\ &= \frac{n^2 - n}{2} + 1 \end{aligned}$$

Then, the runtime function on this  $\text{lst}$  and  $s$  takes  $\frac{n^2 - n}{2} + 1$ , which is  $\Omega(n^2)$  as  $n^2$  is the fastest growing term that we can disregard lower order terms. This matches the upper bound in a).

c) Let  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ .

Let  $s = \lceil \sqrt{n} \rceil$ .

Let  $\text{lst}$  be a list of length  $n$  where every element is 0 except for  $(\lceil \sqrt{n} \rceil + 1)^{\text{th}}$  element.

The  $(\lceil \sqrt{n} \rceil + 1)^{\text{th}}$  will be equal to  $(\lceil \sqrt{n} \rceil)$ .

Therefore, our input family will be  $[0, 0, \dots, \lceil \sqrt{n} \rceil, \dots, 0]$

Want to show that  $RT_{\text{some}} \in \Theta(\text{len}(\text{lst}))$

i.e.  $\Theta(n)$

For loop 1:

When  $i = 0, \dots, \lceil \sqrt{n} \rceil$ : for each iteration  $i$  of loop 1, loop 2 will need to iterate  $i$  times since  $\text{lst}[i] + \text{lst}[j]$  is always equal to 0 and not equal to  $s$ .

When  $i = \lceil \sqrt{n} \rceil + 1$ ,  $\text{lst}[i] = \lceil \sqrt{n} \rceil$ . So the function will terminate at  $j = 0$  in loop 2, because  $\text{lst}[0] = 0$ , and so  $\text{lst}[i] + \text{lst}[j] = \lceil \sqrt{n} \rceil$ .

Then, we have the total running time:

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \sum_{i=0}^{\lceil \sqrt{n} \rceil} i + 1 \\
 &\text{(adds 1 since when } i = \lceil \sqrt{n} \rceil + 1, \text{ loop 2 iterates once (} j = 0 \text{) and returns True)} \\
 &= \frac{\lceil \sqrt{n} \rceil (\lceil \sqrt{n} \rceil + 1)}{2} + 1 \\
 &= \frac{n + \lceil \sqrt{n} \rceil}{2} + 1
 \end{aligned}$$

Since we can disregard the lower order terms that take constant time, we can get rid of  $\frac{1}{2}$  in the denominator from the first term and the second term, 1.

By properties of ceiling, we know that  $\lceil \sqrt{n} \rceil \in \Omega(\sqrt{n})$ . Also, we know that  $\lceil \sqrt{n} \rceil < \sqrt{n} + 1$ . This means that  $\lceil \sqrt{n} \rceil \in \mathcal{O}(\sqrt{n})$ .

For the first term,  $n$ , we know that it is  $\in \Theta(n)$ . Because  $1 > \frac{1}{2}$ , we know that the second term,  $\lceil n^{\frac{1}{2}} \rceil$ , is  $\in \mathcal{O}(n)$ .

Then,  $n + \lceil \sqrt{n} \rceil \in \Theta(n)$ .

Finally, we can conclude that the  $RT_{\text{some}} \in \Theta(n)$ , which is  $\Theta(\text{len}(\text{lst}))$ .

## Question 3

a) **Part 1: Find upper bound**

Let  $n = \text{len}(\text{lst})$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  since the precondition is that  $\text{lst}$  is a non-empty list of integers.

For a fixed iteration  $i$  in loop 1, and fixed iteration  $j$  in loop 2, loop 3:

- has  $j - i$  iterations ( $k = i, \dots, j - 1$ )

- each iteration takes 2 steps at most (when “`if lst[j] - lst[k] < d`” evaluates to True)
- total number of steps at most is  $2(j - i)$

For a fixed iteration  $i$  in loop 1, loop 2:

- has  $n - i - 1$  iterations ( $j = i + 1, \dots, n - 1$ )
- each iteration takes at most  $2(j - i)$  steps - total number of steps at most is:

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_{j=i+1}^{n-1} 2(j - i) &= 2 \sum_{j=i+1}^{n-1} (j - i) \\
&= 2 \left( \sum_{j=i+1}^{n-1} j - \sum_{j=i+1}^{n-1} i \right) \\
&= 2 \left( \sum_{j=1}^{n-1-i} j + i - \sum_{j=1}^{n-1-i} i \right) && \text{(change of index)} \\
&= 2 \left( \sum_{j=1}^{n-1-i} j + \sum_{j=1}^{n-1-i} i - \sum_{j=1}^{n-1-i} i \right) \\
&= 2 \sum_{j=1}^{n-1-i} j \\
&= 2 \cdot \frac{(n - i - 1)(n - i - 1 + 1)}{2} && \text{(since } j \in \mathbb{N}) \\
&= (n - i - 1)(n - i)
\end{aligned}$$

For a fixed iteration  $i$  in loop 1, loop 4:

- has  $n - i - 1$  iterations ( $j = i + 1, \dots, n - 1$ )
- each iteration takes 1 step
- total number of steps is  $n - i - 1$

For a fixed iteration  $i$  in loop 1, in the case where the `if` condition in line 5 of the code evaluates to True, loop 2 and loop 4 will run, therefore the total number of steps at most is:

$$\begin{aligned}
(n - i - 1)(n - i) + (n - i - 1) &= (n - i - 1)(n - i + 1) \\
&= (n - i)^2 - 1
\end{aligned}$$

For a fixed iteration  $i$  in loop 1, loop 5:

- has at most  $n - i - 1$  iterations, when `lst[j] > 0` for all  $j$  ( $j = i + 1, \dots, n - 1$ )
- each iteration takes 1 step
- total number of steps at most is  $n - i - 1$

For a fixed iteration  $i$  in loop 1, in the case where the **if** condition in line 5 of the code evaluates to False, the **else** block starting from line 13 of the code will execute,  $j = i + 1$  takes 1 step, then loop 5 will run, which has a total number of steps at most  $n - i - 1$ . Therefore, the total number of steps when the **else** block executes is  $n - i$

Since  $(n - i)$  has a lower order than  $(n - i)^2 - 1$ , for a fixed iteration  $i$  in loop 1, the total number of steps at most is  $(n - i)^2 - 1$

Loop 1:

- has  $(n - 1)$  iterations ( $i = 0, 1, \dots, n - 2$ )
- each iteration takes at most  $(n - i)^2 - 1$  steps
- total number of steps at most is:

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_{i=0}^{n-2} ((n - i)^2 - 1) &= \sum_{i=0}^{n-2} ((n^2 - 2ni + i^2) - 1) \\
&= \sum_{i=0}^{n-2} (n^2 - 1) + \sum_{i=0}^{n-2} (i^2 - 2ni) \\
&= (n - 1)(n^2 - 1) - 2n \sum_{i=0}^{n-2} i + \sum_{i=0}^{n-2} i^2 \\
&= (n - 1)(n^2 - 1) - 2n \cdot \frac{(n - 2)(n - 1)}{2} + \sum_{i=1}^{n-2} i^2 \\
&\quad \text{(since } i \in \mathbb{N}, \text{ and } i^2 = 0 \text{ when } i = 0) \\
&= (n - 1)(n^2 - 1) - n(n - 2)(n - 1) + \frac{(n - 2)(n - 1)(2n - 3)}{6} \\
&\quad \text{(since } \sum_{i=1}^n i^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}, i \in \mathbb{N}) \\
&= \frac{1}{3}n^3 + \frac{1}{2}n^2 - \frac{5}{6}n
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the total number of steps of this algorithm is at most  $\frac{1}{3}n^3 + \frac{1}{2}n^2 - \frac{5}{6}n$ , which is  $\mathcal{O}(n^3)$

## Part 2: Find lower bound

Let  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$

Let  $\text{len}(\text{lst}) = n$ , and let  $\text{lst} = [2, \dots, 2n]$ , i.e.,  $\forall i \text{ in range}(n), \text{lst}[i] = 2(i+1)$ , so the **if** condition in line 5 of the code evaluates to True for every element in the  $\text{lst}$ .

Therefore, loop 2, loop 3 and loop 4 will always execute.

For a fixed iteration  $j$  in loop 2, loop 3:

- has  $j - i$  iterations ( $k = i, \dots, j - 1$ )
- each iteration takes 1 step at least (when “**if**  $\text{lst}[j] - \text{lst}[k] < d$ ” always evaluates

to False)

- total number of steps at least is  $(j - i)$

For a fixed iteration  $i$  in loop 1, loop 2:

- has  $n - i - 1$  iterations ( $j = i + 1, \dots, n - 1$ )

- each iteration takes at least  $(j - i)$  steps

- total number of steps at least is:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j=i+1}^{n-1} (j - i) &= \sum_{j=i+1}^{n-1} j - \sum_{j=i+1}^{n-1} i \\ &= \frac{(n - i - 1)(n - i)}{2} \end{aligned} \quad (\text{similar to the calculation in Part 1})$$

Loop 1:

- has  $(n - 1)$  iterations ( $i = 0, 1, \dots, n - 2$ )

- each iteration takes at least  $\frac{(n-i-1)(n-i)}{2}$  steps

- total number of steps at least is:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=0}^{n-2} \frac{(n - i - 1)(n - i)}{2} &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=0}^{n-2} (n^2 - 2in - n + i + i^2) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=0}^{n-2} (n^2 - n) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=0}^{n-2} (i^2) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=0}^{n-2} (i) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=0}^{n-2} (-2in) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} (n - 1)(n^2 - n) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=0}^{n-2} (i^2) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=0}^{n-2} (i) - n \sum_{i=0}^{n-2} (i) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} (n - 1)(n^2 - n) + \frac{1}{2} \frac{(n - 2)(n - 1)(2n - 3)}{6} + \left(\frac{1}{2} - n\right) \frac{(n - 2)(n - 1)}{2} \\ &\quad \text{(since } \sum_{i=1}^n i^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}\text{)} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} (n - 1) \left[ (n^2 - n) + \frac{1}{6} (n - 2)(2n - 3) + \left(\frac{1}{2} - n\right)(n - 2) \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{2} (n - 1) \left( \frac{1}{3}n + \frac{1}{3}n^2 \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{6} (n^3 - n) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the total number of steps of this algorithm is at least  $\frac{1}{6}(n^3 - n)$ , which is  $\Omega(n^3)$

So the total number of steps is  $\Theta(n^3)$

- b) Let  $RT_{func}(x)$  be the running time of executing  $func(x)$   
 $g$  is an upper bound on  $BC_{func}(n)$  iff  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}, \exists x \in \mathcal{I}_n, RT_{func}(x) \leq g(n)$



$h$  is a lower bound on  $BC_{func}(n)$  iff  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}, \forall x \in \mathcal{I}_n, RT_{func}(x) \geq h(n)$

### Part 1: Find lower bound

Let  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  since the precondition is that `lst` is a non-empty list of integers and  $n = \text{len}(\text{lst})$ .

For a fixed iteration  $i$  in loop 1, and fixed iteration  $j$  in loop 2, loop 3:

- has  $j - i$  iterations ( $k = i, \dots, j - 1$ )
- each iteration takes 1 step at least (when “`if lst[j] - lst[k] < d`” evaluates to False)
- total number of steps at least is  $(j - i)$

For a fixed iteration  $i$  in loop 1, loop 2:

- has  $n - i - 1$  iterations ( $j = i + 1, \dots, n - 1$ )
- each iteration takes at least  $(j - i)$  steps
- total number of steps at least is:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j=i+1}^{n-1} (j - i) &= \sum_{j=i+1}^{n-1} j - \sum_{j=i+1}^{n-1} i \\ &= \frac{(n - i - 1)(n - i)}{2} \end{aligned}$$

For a fixed iteration  $i$  in loop 1, loop 4:

- has  $n - i - 1$  iterations ( $j = i + 1, \dots, n - 1$ )
- each iteration takes 1 step
- total number of steps is  $n - i - 1$

For a fixed iteration  $i$  in loop 1, in the case where the `if` condition in line 5 of the code evaluates to True, loop 2 and loop 4 will run, therefore the total number of steps at least is:

$$\frac{(n - i - 1)(n - i)}{2} + (n - i - 1) = \frac{1}{2}(n - i - 1)(n - i + 2)$$

For a fixed iteration  $i$  in loop 1, loop 5:

- has at least 0 iterations, when `lst[j] > 0` evaluates to False for all  $j$  ( $j = i + 1, \dots, n - 1$ )
- total number of steps at least is 0

For a fixed iteration  $i$  in loop 1, in the case where the `if` condition in line 5 of the code evaluates to False, the `else` block starting from line 13 of the code will execute,  $j = i + 1$  takes 1 step, then loop 5 will run, which has a total number of steps at least 0. Therefore, the total number of steps when the `else` block executes is at least 1.

Since 1 has a lower order than  $\frac{1}{2}(n-i-1)(n-i+2)$ , for a fixed iteration  $i$  in loop 1, the total number of steps at least is 1.

Loop 1:

- has  $(n-1)$  iterations ( $i = 0, 1, \dots, n-2$ )
- each iteration takes at least 1 step
- total number of steps at least is:

$$\sum_{i=0}^{n-2} 1 = n-1$$

Therefore, the total number of steps of this algorithm is at least  $n-1$ , which is  $\Omega(n)$

## Part 2: Find upper bound

Let  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$

Let `len(lst) = n`, and let `lst = [-2n+1, -2n+3, -2n+5, ..., -1]`,

i.e.,  $\forall i \text{ in range}(n), \text{lst}[i] = -2n + (2i+1)$ , so the `if` condition in line 5 of the code evaluates to False for every element in the `lst`.

Therefore, loop 2, loop 3 and loop 4 will never execute.

Therefore, the `else` block starting from line 13 will execute, and `j=i+1` takes 1 step.

Since every element in the `lst` is also negative, loop 5 will never execute.

Therefore, for a fixed iteration  $i$  in loop 1, there is 1 step.

So Loop 1:

- has  $n-1$  iterations ( $i = 0, 1, \dots, n-2$ )
- each iteration takes 1 step
- total number of steps is  $n-1$

Therefore, the total number of steps of this algorithm is  $\mathcal{O}(n)$ .

So the total number of steps is  $\Theta(n)$ .