

This problem sheet is about computational complexity [1].

1. Determine the number of comparisons made by Bubble sort on the following inputs.

- (a)  $[3, 2, 1]$
- (b)  $[4, 3, 2, 1]$
- (c)  $[5, 4, 3, 2, 1]$
- (d)  $[6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1]$
- (e)  $[20, 19, 18, \dots, 3, 2, 1]$
- (f)  $[3, 4, 5, 2, 1]$
- (g)  $[4, 5, 1, 2, 3]$

**Solution:**

- (a)  $2 + 1 = 3$
- (b)  $3 + 2 + 1 = 6$
- (c)  $4 + 3 + 2 + 1 = 10$
- (d)  $5 + 4 + 3 + 2 + 1 = 15$
- (e)  $6 + 4 + 3 + 2 + 1 = 21$
- (f)  $(20 \times 19) \div 2 = 190$
- (g)  $4 + 3 + 2 + 1 = 10$
- (h)  $5 + 4 + 3 = 12$ , using the fact that if no swaps are made in one pass then the list is sorted.

2. Classify the following as polynomial, exponential, or logarithmic expressions.

- (a)  $3n + 1$
- (b)  $n^2 + 2n + 1$
- (c)  $\log_b(a)$
- (d)  $10^n$
- (e)  $2^n + n^2$
- (f)  $n \log_n$
- (g)  $n^n$

**Solution:**

- (a) Polynomial (linear).
- (b) Polynomial.
- (c) Logarithmic.
- (d) Exponential.
- (e) Ambiguous.
- (f) Ambiguous.
- (g) Ambiguous.
- (h) Exponential.

3. Explain what the P computational complexity class is, and give an example of a problem known to be in P.
4. Explain what PRIMES is.

**Solution:**

$$PRIMES = \{2, 3, 5, 7, 11, \dots\}$$

PRIMES is the set of all prime numbers, and is a subset of the natural numbers.

5. Describe two different algorithms the check if a number is a prime. The algorithms should accept a single positive integer as input, and output true if the number is prime and false otherwise.
6. Determine which of the following are in PRIMES (without Google).
  - (a) 2
  - (b) 3
  - (c) 4
  - (d) 10
  - (e) 11
  - (f) 13,109
  - (g) 100,827
  - (h) 102,203

**Solution:**

- (a) Yes
- (b) Yes
- (c) No
- (d) No
- (e) Yes
- (f) Yes
- (g) No
- (h) Yes

7. Explain what a decision problem is, and how decision problems relate to Turing machines.

**Solution:** As in notes.

8. Explain the decision problem related to PRIMES.
9. Explain the concept of complexity in terms of Turing machines.
10. Explain why if we can solve decision problem  $A$  in polynomial time, and we can convert decision problem  $B$  to problem  $A$  in polynomial time, then we can solve problem  $B$  in polynomial time too.

**References**

- [1] Michael Sipser. *Introduction to the Theory of Computation*. International Thomson Publishing, 3rd edition, 1996.