

1 Written Exercises

1. Consider the following classes of functions:

- $O(n)$
- $O(\log(n))$
- $O(n^2)$
- $O(1)$
- $O(2^n)$
- $O(n^3)$
- $O(n \cdot \log(n))$

Say each of the above functions maps from input size n to the *approximated* algorithm running time. Sort, from left to right, the above classes of functions from the cheapest to the most expensive.

Caution: You will lose **all** marks if the order is not completely correct.

Solution: $O(1)$ $O(\log(n))$ $O(n)$ $O(n \cdot \log(n))$ $O(n^2)$ $O(n^3)$ $O(2^n)$

[of 10 marks]

2. Consider the following statements:

- (A) $3n + 7$ is $O(n \cdot \log(n))$
- (B) $3n + 7$ is $O(n)$
- (C) $3n + 7$ is $O(1)$
- (D) $3n + 7$ is $O(2^n)$
- (E) $3n + 7$ is $O(\log(n))$
- (F) $3n + 7$ is $O(n^2)$

(a) Which of the above statement or statements are *correct*?

Solution: Statements **A B D F**

[of 10 marks]

(b) Among the above statement or statements that are *correct*, which one is the most *accurate*?

Solution: Statement **B**

[of 5 marks]

(c) Justify your answer to the previous question. That is, clearly explain why it is more *accurate* than all other *correct* statements.

Solution: The highest power of n in $3n + 7$ is one. So Statement B is the most accurate by saying that $3n + 7$ is $O(n)$. The class $O(n)$ is strictly contained by $O(n \cdot \log(n))$, which is strictly contained by $O(n^2)$, which is strictly contained by $O(2^n)$.

[of 10 marks]

3. In order to prove that $f(n) = 4n^3 - 5n^2 + 59 + n^4 + 9n$ is $O(n^4)$, you need to choose values for two constants: constant c as a factor for n^4 and constant n_0 as some starting value of n .

(a) Write down the precise condition for which c and n_0 must satisfy in order for the proof to succeed. **Hint:** Your answer should involve n^4 , $f(n)$, c , and n_0 .

Solution:

$$c \cdot n^4 \geq f(n) \quad \text{for } n \geq n_0$$

[of 5 marks]

(b) Give values of c and n_0 that will complete the proof.

Solution: Choose $c = 78$ and $n_0 = 1$.

[of 5 marks]

4. Consider the following Java program:

```

1 void prog(int[] a, int n)
2   for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {
3     for (int j = i; j < n; j++) {
4       for (int k = j; k > 0; k--) {
5         System.out.println(i * j + k);
6       }
7     }
8   }

```

Determine the **most accurate** asymptotic upper bound of the above program, using the big-Oh notation. You **must** show in detail how you determine the bound. Without a convincing derivation process, you will only receive partial marks.

Solution:

- Line 5 is a primitive operation that requires some constant running time: $O(1)$. Therefore, the overall running time can be determined by the number of times this print statement is executed: this can be determined by changes of the loop counters i , j , and k .
- From Line 2, we know that the body of the outer loop will run n times.
- From Line 3, we know that:

- 1st iteration of outer-most loop where $i = 0$, body of the middle loop runs with:
 - * $j = 0$: the inner loop does not run [0 iteration]
 - * $j = 1$: the inner loop runs with $k = 1$ [1 iteration]
 - * $j = 2$: the inner loop runs with $k = 2, 1$ [2 iterations]
 - * $j = 3$: the inner loop runs with $k = 3, 2, 1$ [3 iterations]
 - ...
 - * $j = n - 1$: the inner loop runs with $k = n - 1, n - 2, \dots, 1$ [$n - 1$ iterations]

Subtotal # of iterations when $i = 0$: $\frac{(0+(n-1)) \times (n-0)}{2}$

- 2nd iteration of outer-most loop where $i = 1$, body of the middle loop runs with:
 - * $j = 1$: the inner loop runs with $k = 1$ [1 iteration]
 - * $j = 2$: the inner loop runs with $k = 2, 1$ [2 iterations]
 - * $j = 3$: the inner loop runs with $k = 3, 2, 1$ [3 iterations]
 - ...
 - * $j = n - 1$: the inner loop runs with $k = n - 1, n - 2, \dots, 1$ [$n - 1$ iterations]

Subtotal # of iterations when $i = 1$: $\frac{(1+(n-1)) \times (n-1)}{2}$

- 3rd iteration of outer-most loop where $i = 2$, body of the middle loop runs with:
 - * $j = 2$: the inner loop runs with $k = 2, 1$ [2 iterations]
 - * $j = 3$: the inner loop runs with $k = 3, 2, 1$ [3 iterations]
 - ...
 - * $j = n - 1$: the inner loop runs with $k = n - 1, n - 2, \dots, 1$ [$n - 1$ iterations]

Subtotal # of iterations when $i = 2$: $\frac{(2+(n-1)) \times (n-2)}{2}$

- n^{th} iteration of outer-most loop where $i = n - 1$, body of the middle loop runs with:
 - * $j = n - 1$: the inner loop runs with $k = n - 1, n - 2, \dots, 1$ [$n - 1$ iterations]

Subtotal # of iterations when $i = n - 1$: $\frac{((n-1)+(n-1)) \times (n-(n-1))}{2}$

- Adding the above subtotal numbers of iterations:

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

- To obtain the asymptotic upper bound, we drop multiplicative constants and lower terms:

$$O\left(\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} n^2\right) = O(n \cdot n^2) = O(n^3)$$

- Therefore, the running time of the above algorithm is $O(n^3)$.

[of 15 marks]

5. Consider the following Java code:

```
1 boolean isSorted(int[] a) {
2     return isSortedHelper(a, 0, a.length - 1);
3 }
4 boolean isSortedHelper(int[] a, int from, int to) {
5     if (from > to) {
6         return true;
7     }
8     else if (from == to) {
9         return true;
10    }
11    else {
12        return a[from] <= a[from + 1]
13            && isSortedHelper(a, from + 1, to);
14    }
15 }
```

Prove, via mathematical induction, that the method `isSorted` method above correctly returns `true` if the array `a` is sorted in a non-descending order; and `false` otherwise.

Solution:

We first prove that the recursive helper method `isSortedHelper` (Line 4 – Line 15) is correct (i.e., is the subarray $\{a[\text{from}], a[\text{from} + 1], \dots, a[\text{to}]\}$ sorted).

1. Base Cases

- (a) **Concept:** In an empty array, there is no witness (i.e., adjacent numbers that are not sorted) \therefore result is `true`.
- (b) **Link to Code:** **Lines 5 – 7 (or just Line 6)** of the above code does this.
- (c) **Concept:** In an array of size 1, the only one element is automatically sorted.
- (d) **Link to Code:** **Lines 8 – 10 (or just Line 9)** of the above code does this.

2. Inductive Cases

- (a) **Inductive Hypothesis (I.H.):** The recursive call `isSortedHelper(a, from + 1, to)` returns `true` if $a[\text{from} + 1], a[\text{from} + 2], \dots, a[\text{to}]$ are sorted in a non-descending order; `false` otherwise.
- (b) **Concept:** `isSortedHelper(a, from, to)` should return `true` if:
 - 1) $a[\text{from}] \leq a[\text{from} + 1]$; `and`
 - 2) the subarray $\{a[\text{from} + 1], \dots, a[\text{to}]\}$ is sorted.
- (c) **Link to I.H.:** By I.H., condition **2)** is satisfied.
- (d) **Link to Code:** **Line 12** in the above code does condition **1)**.
 \therefore **Lines 12 – Line 13** perform a correct combination.

3. Given that the recursive helper method `isSortedHelper` (Line 4 – Line 15) is correct, we now argue that the method `isSorted` (Line 1 – Line 3) is correct.

- (a) **Concept:** `isSorted(a)` is correct by invoking `isSortedHelper(a, 0, a.length - 1)`, examining the entire array.
- (b) **Link to Code:** **Line 2** of the above code does this.

[of 20 marks]