

### 0. Big-Oh Proofs

For each of the following, prove that  $f \in \mathcal{O}(g)$ .

(a)  $f(n) = 7n$   $g(n) = \frac{n}{10}$

**Solution:**

Recall that  $f \in \mathcal{O}(g)$  is true if and only if there exists some constant  $c$  and some constant  $n_0 > 0$  such that for all  $n \geq n_0$ , the expression  $f(n) \leq c \cdot g(n)$  is true by definition of Big- $\mathcal{O}$ .

Now, we choose  $c = 70$ ,  $n_0 = 1$ . We must now show that  $f(n) \leq 70 \cdot g(n)$  is true for all  $n \geq 1$ .

By chaining inequalities together, we see that if  $n \geq 1$ , then  $f(n) = 7n \leq 70 * \frac{n}{10} = cg(n)$ . This proves the claim, so we conclude that  $f(n) \in \mathcal{O}(g(n))$

(b)  $f(n) = 1000$   $g(n) = 3n^3$

**Solution:**

We follow the same approach as above.

We choose  $c = 1$ ,  $n_0 = 1000$ , and so must show that  $1000 \leq 1 \cdot 3n^3$  for all  $n \geq 1000$ .

Now, note that for all  $n \geq 1000$  the inequalities  $1000 \leq n$ ,  $n \leq n^3$ , and  $n^3 \leq 3n^3$  are always true.

By chaining the inequalities together, we see that  $f(n) = 1000 \leq n \leq n^3 \leq 3n^3 = c \cdot g(n)$  for all  $n \geq 1000$  and so conclude that  $f \in \mathcal{O}(g)$  is true.

(c)  $f(n) = 7n^2 + 3n$   $g(n) = n^4$

**Solution:**

We choose  $c = 14$ ,  $n_0 = 1$ . Then, note that  $f(n) = 7n^2 + 3n \leq 7(n^4 + n^4) \leq 14n^4 = c \cdot g(n)$  for all  $n \geq 1$ . So, we conclude that  $f \in \mathcal{O}(g)$  is true.

(As before, we construct and chain inequalities to establish a relationship between  $f$  and  $g$ ).

(d)  $f(n) = n + 2n \lg n$   $g(n) = n \lg n$

**Solution:**

Choose  $c = 3$ ,  $n_0 = 2$ . Then, note that  $f(n) = n + 2n \lg n \leq n \lg n + 2n \lg n = 3n \lg n = c \cdot g(n)$  for all  $n \geq 2$ . So, we conclude that  $f \in \mathcal{O}(g)$  is true.

# 1. Is Your Program Running? Better Catch It!

For each of the following, determine the tight  $\Theta(\cdot)$  bound for the worst-case runtime in terms of the free variables of the code snippets.

(a)

```
1 int x = 0
2 for (int i = n; i >= 0; i--) {
3     if ((i % 3) == 0) {
4         break
5     }
6     else {
7         x += n
8     }
9 }
```

## Solution:

This is  $\Theta(1)$  because exactly one of  $n$ ,  $n - 1$ , or  $n - 2$  will be divisible by three for all possible values of  $n$ . So, the loop runs at most 3 times.

(b)

```
1 int x = 0
2 for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {
3     for (int j = 0; j < (n * n / 3); j++) {
4         x += j
5     }
6 }
```

## Solution:

We can model the worst-case runtime as:  $\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \sum_{j=0}^{n^2/3-1} 1$ . This simplifies to:  $\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \sum_{j=0}^{n^2/3-1} 1 = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \frac{n^2}{3} = n \left( \frac{n^2}{3} \right) = \frac{n^3}{3}$ . So, the worst-case runtime is  $\Theta(n^3)$ .

(c)

```
1 int x = 0
2 for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {
3     for (int j = 0; j < i; j++) {
4         x += j
5     }
6 }
```

## Solution:

We can model the worst case runtime as  $\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \sum_{j=0}^{i-1} 1$  which simplifies to  $\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} i = \left( \frac{n(n-1)}{2} \right)$ . So, the worst-case runtime is  $\Theta(n^2)$

(d)

```
1 int x = 0
2 for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {
3     if (n < 100000) {
4         for (int j = 0; j < i * i * n; j++) {
5             x += 1
6         }
7     } else {
8         x += 1
9     }
10 }
```

## Solution:

Recall that when computing the asymptotic complexity, we only care about the behavior as the input goes to infinity. Once  $n$  is large enough, we will only execute the second branch of the if statement, which means the runtime of the code can be modeled as  $\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} 1 = n$ . So, the worst-case runtime is  $\Theta(n)$ .

(e)

```
1 int x = 0
2 for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {
3     if (i % 5 == 0) {
4         for (int j = 0; j < n; j++) {
5             if (i == j) {
6                 for (int k = 0; k < n; k++) {
7                     x += i * j * k
8                 }
9             }
10        }
11    }
12 }
```

### Solution:

We know the runtime of the outer-most loop is  $\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} (?)$ , where  $(?)$  is the (currently unknown) runtime of the middle and inner-most loops. We also know the

middle loop by itself has a runtime of  $\sum_{j=0}^{n-1} (?)$  and runs only a fifth of the time. Therefore, we can refine our

model to  $\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \frac{1}{5} \left( \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} (?) \right)$ .

Now, note that the inner-most if statement is true exactly only once per each iteration of the middle loop. So, we can refine our model of the runtime

to  $\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \frac{1}{5} \left( \left( \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} 1 \right) + \left( \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} 1 \right) \right)$  which simplifies to

$\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \frac{2n}{5} = \frac{2n^2}{5}$ . Therefore, the worst- case asymptotic runtime will be  $\Theta(n^2)$ .

## 2. Asymptotics Analysis

Consider the following method which finds the number of unique Strings within a given array of length  $n$ .

```
1 int numUnique(String[] values) {
2     boolean[] visited = new boolean[values.length]
3     for (int i = 0; i < values.length; i++) {
4         visited[i] = false
5     }
6     int out = 0
7     for (int i = 0; i < values.length; i++) {
8         if (!visited[i]) {
9             out += 1
10            for (int j = i; j < values.length; j++) {
11                if (values[i].equals(values[j])) {
12                    visited[j] = true
13                }
14            }
15        }
16    }
17    return out;
18 }
```

Determine the tight  $\mathcal{O}(\cdot)$ ,  $\Omega(\cdot)$ , and  $\Theta(\cdot)$  bounds of each function below. If there is no  $\Theta(\cdot)$  bound, explain why. Start by (1) constructing an equation that models each function then (2) simplifying and finding a closed form.

(a)  $f(n)$  = the worst-case runtime of numUnique

### Solution:

In the worst case, the array will contain entirely unique strings and so must run the inner loop  $n$  times.

So,  $f(n) = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} 1 + \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \sum_{j=i}^{n-1} 1 = n + \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$  which means  $f \in \mathcal{O}(n^2)$ ,  $f \in \Omega(n^2)$ , and  $f \in \Theta(n^2)$ .

(b)  $g(n)$  = the best-case runtime of `numUnique`

**Solution:**

In the best case, the array will contain the exact same string repeated  $n$  times, causing the inner loop to run only once.

$$\text{So, } g(n) = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} 1 + \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} 1 + \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} 1 = 3n \text{ which means } g \in \mathcal{O}(n), g \in \Omega(n), \text{ and } g \in \Theta(n).$$

(c)  $h(n)$  = the amount of memory used by `numUnique` (the space complexity)

**Solution:**

`numUnique` will create a boolean array of length  $n$  and allocate a few extra variables, which take up a constant and therefore negligible amount of memory.

So,  $h(n) = n + k$  (where  $k$  is some constant) which means  $h \in \mathcal{O}(n)$ ,  $h \in \Omega(n)$ , and  $h \in \Theta(n)$ .

### 3. Oh Snap!

For each question below, explain what's wrong with the provided answer. The problem might be the reasoning, the conclusion, or both!

(a) Determine the tight  $\Theta(\cdot)$  bound for the worst-case runtime of the following piece of code:

```
1 public static int waddup(int n) {
2     if (n > 10000) {
3         return n
4     } else {
5         for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {
6             System.out.println("It's dat boi!")
7         }
8         return 0
9     }
10 }
```

**Bad answer:** The runtime of this function is  $\mathcal{O}(n)$ , because when searching for an upper bound, we always analyze the code branch with the highest runtime. We see the first branch is  $\mathcal{O}(1)$ , but the second branch is  $\mathcal{O}(n)$ .

#### Solution:

The tightest upper bound is  $\mathcal{O}(1)$ , not  $\mathcal{O}(n)$ . Picking the code branch with the highest runtime is not necessarily the correct thing to do – instead, we must consider what the runtime is as the input grows towards by infinity.

In this case, we can see the first branch will be executed for when  $n > 10000$ , so we consider only that branch when computing the asymptotic complexity.

(b) Determine the tight  $\Theta(\cdot)$  worst-case runtime of the following piece of code:

```
1 public static void trick(int n) {
2     for (int i = 1; i < Math.pow(2, n); i *= 2) {
3         for (int j = 0; j < n; j++) {
4             System.out.println("(" + i + ", " + j + ")")
5         }
6     }
7 }
```

**Bad answer:** The runtime of this function is  $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$ , because the outer loop is conditioned on an expression with  $n$  and so is the inner loop.

#### Solution:

While the runtime is  $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$ , the explanation is incorrect. In particular, it glosses over the fact that we are iterating from 0 to  $2^n - 1$  in the outer loop.

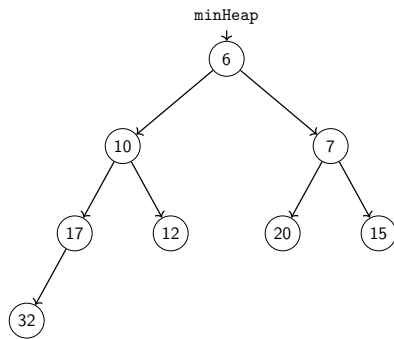
A more precise explanation should explain that while the outer loop terminates when  $i = 2^n$ , we are also multiplying  $i$  by 2 per each iteration. This means the outer loop does  $\lg(2^n)$  iterations, which is just equivalent to  $n$ .

The inner loop does  $\sum_{j=0}^{n-1} 1 = n$  iterations, so we conclude the overall runtime is  $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$ .

## 4. Look Before You Heap

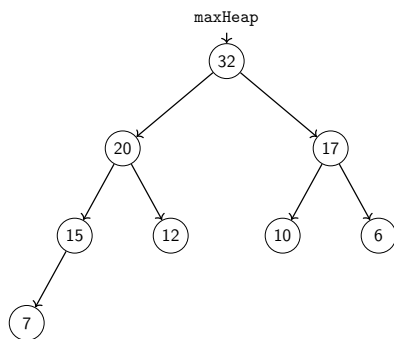
(a) Insert 10, 7, 15, 17, 12, 20, 6, 32 into a *min heap*.

**Solution:**



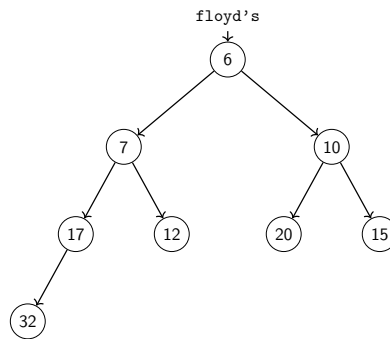
(b) Now, insert the same values into a *max heap*.

**Solution:**



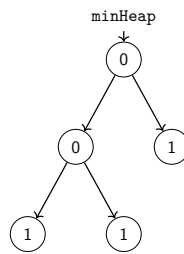
(c) Now, insert 10, 7, 15, 17, 12, 20, 6, 32 into a *min heap*, but use Floyd's buildHeap algorithm.

**Solution:**



(d) Insert 1, 0, 1, 1, 0 into a *min heap*.

**Solution:**



## 5. $\mathcal{O}$ My God!

Recall the definition of  $f \in \Omega(g)$  is as follows:

$$\exists(c, n_0 > 0). \forall(n \geq n_0). f(n) \geq cg(n)$$

Prove that  $4n^2 + n^5 \in \Omega(n)$ .

**Solution:**

Choose  $c = \frac{1}{100}$  and  $n_0 = 1$ .

Then, since  $n \geq 1$ ,  $4n^2 + n^5 \geq \frac{4n}{500} + \frac{n}{500} = \frac{n}{100}$ .