

University of Nevada, Las Vegas Computer Science 477/677 Spring 2020

Practice Examination for April 30, 2020

Updated Sat Apr 25 12:12:28 PDT 2020

The entire practice examination is 340 points.

The current closure order extends to April 30.

1. True or False. [5 points each] T = true, F = false, and O = open, meaning that the answer is not known to science at this time.
  - (a) **F** Computers are so fast today that complexity theory is only of theoretical, but not practical, interest.
  - (b) **O** If a problem can be worked in  $O(n)$  time by a single processor, then it can be worked in polylogarithmic time, that is,  $O(\log^k n)$  time for some constant  $k$ , if polynomially many processors are used.
  - (c) **T** The asymptotic space complexity of a program cannot exceed its asymptotic time complexity.
2. (10 points each) Find the asymptotic final value of `kount` for each of these code fragments in terms of  $n$ .  $\Theta(n)$ ,  $\Theta(n^2)$ ,  $\Theta(n \log n)$ ,  $\Theta(\log^* n)$ ,  $\Theta(\log \log n)$ ,  $\Theta(\sqrt{n})$ , In each case, I will give an equivalent integral.

- (a) `int kount = 0;`  
`for(int i = 0; i < n; i++)`  
`for(int j = i; j > 0; j--)`  
`kount++;`

$$\int_{x=0}^n \int_{y=0}^x dy dx = \int_{x=0}^n y \Big|_{y=0}^x dx = \int_{x=0}^n x dx = \left. \frac{x^2}{2} \right|_0^n = \frac{n^2}{2} = \Theta(n^2)$$

- (b) `int kount = 0;`  
`for(int i = 1; i < n*n; i = 2*i)`  
`kount++;`

Substituting  $\ell = \log i$  we can write:

- `int kount = 0;`  
`for(int j = 0; j < 2*log n; \ell++)`  
`kount++;`

$$\int_{y=0}^{2 \log n} dy = y \Big|_0^{2 \log n} = 2 \log n = \Theta(\log n)$$

- (c) `int kount = 0;`  
`for(int i = 0; i*i < n; i++)`  
`kount++;`

Substituting  $n = m^2$  we obtain:

```

int kount = 0;
for(int i = 0; i*i < m*m; i++)
    kount++;

```

Note that  $i^2 < m^2$  if and only if  $i < m$ , since  $i, m$  are positive integers:

```

int kount = 0;
for(int i = 0; i < m; i++)
    kount++;

```

$$\int_{x=0}^m dx = x \Big|_{x=0}^m = m = \sqrt{n} = \Theta(\sqrt{n})$$

```

(d) int kount = 0;
for(int i = 1; i < n; i = 2*i)
    for(int j = 0; j < i; j++)
        kount++;

```

Let  $k = \log_2 i$ . We obtain

```

int kount = 0;
for(int k = 0; k < log2(n); i = 2*i)
    for(int j = 0; j < 2^k; j++)
        kount++;

```

Recall that the the antiderivative of  $e^x$  is  $e^x$ , and the ant-derivative of  $K^x$  is  $K^x \ln K$  for any positive constant  $K$ . Recall also that  $\ln 2$  is a constant. We have:  $\int_{z=0}^{\log_2 n} \int_{y=0}^{2^z} dydz = \int_{z=0}^{\log_2 n} y \Big|_{y=0}^{2^z} dz =$

$$\int_{z=0}^{\log_2 n} 2^z dz = 2^z \ln 2 \Big|_{z=0}^{\log_2 n} = n \ln 2 - \ln 2 = \Theta(n)$$

```

(e) int kount = 0;
for(int i = 1; i < n; i = 2*i)
    for(int j = i; j < n; j++)
        kount++;

```

Let  $k = \log_2 i$ . We obtain

```

int kount = 0;
for(int k = 0; k < log2(i) ; k++)
    for(int j = 2^k; j < n; j++)
        kount++;

```

We have:

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{z=0}^{\log_2 n} \int_{y=2^z}^n dydz &= \int_{z=0}^{\log_2 n} y \Big|_{y=2^z}^{y=n} dz = \int_{z=0}^{\log_2 n} (n - 2^z) dz \\ &= nz - 2^z \ln 2 \Big|_{z=0}^{z=\log_2 n} = n \log_2 n - (n - 1) \ln 2 = \Theta(n \log n) \end{aligned}$$

```

(f) int kount = 0;
for(int i = n; i > 0; i = log(i))
    kount++;

```

(g) 

```
int kount = 0;
for(int i = 0; i < n*n; i = i+2*sqrt(i)+1)
    kount++;
```

Hint: Use the substitution  $i = j^2$ . Note that  $i + 2\sqrt{i} + 1 = (\sqrt{i} + 1)^2$ .

```
int kount = 0;
for(int j = 0; j*j < n*n; j++)
    kount++;
```

Of course,  $j^2 < n^2$  if and only if  $j < n$ . Thus we have:

```
int kount = 0;
for(int j = 0; j < n; j++)
    kount++;
```

Hence  $\text{kount} = \Theta(n)$ .

(h) Deleted.

(i) Deleted.

(j) 

```
int kount = 0;
for(int i = 2; i < n; i = i*i)
    kount++;
```

Let  $j = \log_2 i$

```
int kount = 0;
for(int j = 1; j < log2(n); j = 2*j)
    kount++;
```

Let  $k = \log_2 j$

```
int kount = 0;
for(int k = 0; k < log2(log2(n)); k++)
    kount++;
```

Hence  $\text{kount} = \Theta(\log \log n)$ .

(k) 

```
int kount = 0;
for(int i = 1; i < n; i++)
    for(int j = i; j < n; j=2*j)
        kount++;
```

Let  $k = j/i$ , which is always a power of 2. Initially,  $k = 1$ , and it doubles at each iteration of the inner loop, and it's bounded above by  $n/i$ . Let  $u = \log_2 k$ , which is always an integer. Initially,  $u = 0$ , it increments by 1 at each iteration of the inner loop, and it's bounded above by  $\log_2(n/i) = \log_2 n - \log_2 i$ .

```
int kount = 0;
for(int i = 1; i < n; i++)
    for(int k = 1; j < n/i; k=2*k)
        kount++;
```

```

int kount = 0;
for(int i = 1; i < n; i++)
  for(int u = 0; u < log2(n)-log2(i);u++)
    kount++;

```

$\log_2 x = \ln x / \ln 2$ , hence the antiderivative of  $\log_2 x$  is  $\frac{\ln x - x}{\ln 2} = x \log_2 x - \frac{x}{\ln 2}$

The final value of `kount` is approximately

$$\int_{x=1}^n \int_{w=0}^{\log_2 n - \log_2 x} dw dx = \int_{x=1}^n (\log_2 n - \log_2 x) dx = \left( x \log_2 n - x \log_2 x + \frac{x}{\ln 2} \right) \Big|_{x=1}^n = \frac{n-1}{\ln 2} - \log_2 n = \Theta(n)$$

3. (10 points each) Find the asymptotic complexity of  $F(n)$  for each recurrence, expressed using  $\Theta$  if possible,  $\Omega$  or  $O$  otherwise.

For these problems use the master theorem.

- (a)  $F(n) \leq F(n/2) + n$        $O(n)$
- (b)  $F(n) = 2F(n/2) + n$        $\Theta(n \log n)$
- (c)  $F(n) = 4F(n/2) + n$        $\Theta(n^2)$
- (d)  $F(n) \geq F(n/2) + 1$        $\Omega(\log n)$
- (e)  $F(n) = 2F(n/4) + \sqrt{n}$        $\Theta(\sqrt{n} \log n)$

For these problems, use the anti-derivative method.

- (f)  $F(n) = F(n-1) + n$        $\Theta(n^2)$
- (g)  $F(n) = F(n-2) + n^2$        $\Theta(n^3)$
- (h)  $F(n) = F(n-\sqrt{n}) + n$

Move the first term on the left to the right, then divide both sides by  $\sqrt{n}$

$$\frac{F(n) - F(n - \sqrt{n})}{\sqrt{n}} = \sqrt{n}$$

$$F'(n) = \Theta(\sqrt{n})$$

$$F(n) = \Theta\left(n^{\frac{3}{2}}\right)$$

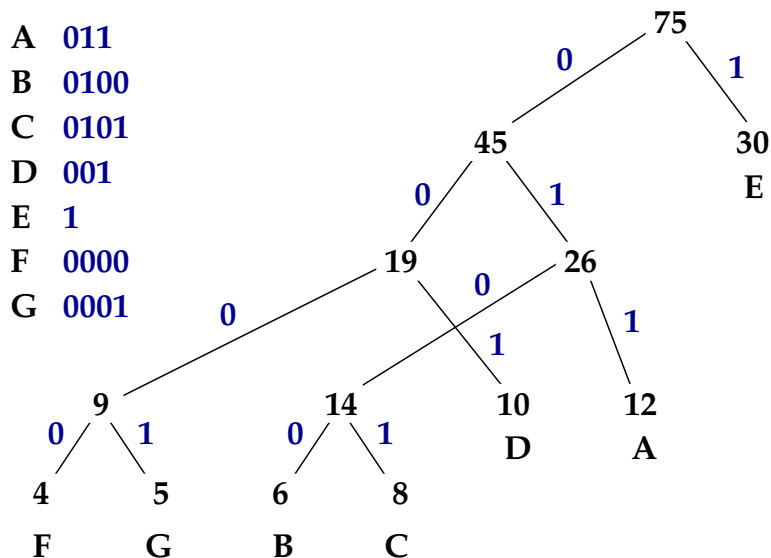
For these problems, use the generalized master theorem.

- (i)  $F(n) = F(n/3) + F(n/4) + F(n/5) + n$        $\Theta(n)$  because  $\frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{5} < 1$
- (j)  $F(n) = 2F(n/4) + F(n/2) + n$        $\Theta(n \log n)$  because  $2\left(\frac{1}{4}\right) + \frac{1}{2} = 1$
- (k)  $F(n) = F(3n/5) + F(4n/5) + n$        $\Theta(n^2)$  because  $\left(\frac{3}{5}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{4}{5}\right)^2 = 1$
- (l)  $F(n) = F(3n/5) + F(4n/5) + n^2$        $\Theta(n^2 \log n)$  because  $\left(\frac{3}{5}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{4}{5}\right)^2 = 1$

- (m)  $F(n) = 2F(2n/3) + F(n/3) + 1$        $\Theta(n^2)$  because  $2(\frac{2}{3})^2 + (\frac{1}{3})^2 = 1$   
 (n)  $F(n) \leq F(n/5) + F(7n/10) + n$        $O(n)$  because  $\frac{1}{5} + \frac{7}{10} < 1$

4. [20 points] Find an optimal prefix-free code for the alphabet {A, B, C, D, E, F, G} with the following frequency distribution.

A	12
B	6
C	8
D	10
E	30
F	4
G	5



This answer is not unique, but the code strings for any optimal code have the same lengths.

5. [20 points] Consider a array of  $n$  numbers. The sum of those numbers can be computed in logarithmic time by using  $n$  processors working in parallel.

Suppose that the numbers in the array are:

1, 2, 9, 0, 5, 7, 2, 8, 6, 3, 4, 1, 5, 9, 5, 6.

Walk through the parallel algorithm which finds the sum using  $n$  processors. At each level, show the intermediate results. Your diagram should clearly indicate each time two numbers are combined into one number.

**1 2 9 0 5 7 2 8 6 3 4 1 5 9 5 6**  
**3 9 12 10 9 5 14 11**  
**12 22 14 25**  
**34 39**  
**73**

With  $n$  processors, the problem can be worked in  $O(\log n)$  time. Initially, we have 16 numbers in the example. In the first phase, 8 processors combine them in pairs, obtaining 8 numbers. In the next phase, 4 processors combine those in pairs, obtaining 4 numbers. In the next phase, 2 processors combine those in pairs, obtaining 2 numbers. In the final phase, one processor combines those to find the overall sum. There are four phases, and each phase can be worked in  $O(1)$  time. Note that  $\log_2(16) = 4$ .

6. [20 points] Let  $A$  be an array of  $n$  numbers. Consider the problem of finding the maximum sum of any contiguous subarray. For example, if the items of  $A$  are -3, 2, 4, -5, 3, 2, -1, 4, the contiguous array with

the maximum sum is 2, 4 -5, 3, 2, -1, 4; If the items of  $A$  are -5, 3, -2, 4, 6, -8, 1, -3, 5 then the answer is 3, -2, 4, 6. There are at four known algorithms for this problem:

We write  $S[i, j] = \sum_{k=i}^j A[k]$ . The problem is to find  $\max_{1 \leq i \leq j \leq n} S[i, j]$ .

(a) An exhaustive algorithm which takes  $O(n^3)$  time.

Compute  $S[i, j]$  for all  $i, j$  and select the largest. There are  $\Theta(n^2)$  choices of  $i, j$  and it takes  $O(n)$  time to compute each one. Thus, this method takes  $O(n^3)$  time.

(b) A slightly more intelligent algorithm which takes  $O(n^2)$  time. Note that  $S[i, j] + A[j+1] = S[i, j+1]$ . Using this equation, for each  $i$ , we can compute  $S[i, j]$  for all  $j \geq i$  in  $O(n)$  time. Thus, we compute all  $S[i, j]$  in  $O(n^2)$  time.

Since the number of values of  $S$  is  $\Theta(n^2)$ , any algorithm faster than that will have to avoid computing all  $S[i, j]$ .

(c) A rather clever divide and conquer algorithm, which takes  $O(n \log n)$  time.

I will skip the explanation of this one.

(d) A sophisticated dynamic programming algorithm which takes  $O(n)$  time.

Define  $M[k] = \max \{S[i, j] : i \leq j \leq k\}$ , Define  $N[k] = \max \{S[i, k] : i \leq k\}$ . Our dynamic algorithm has the following structure:

```
for(k = 1; kn; k++)
{
    Compute N[k];
    Compute M[k];
}
return M[n];
```

It is possible to compute both  $N[k]$ , and then  $M[k]$  in  $O(1)$  time. Here is the pseudo-code.

```
N[1] = A[1];
M[1] = A[1];
for(int k = 2; k <= n; k++)
{
    N[k] = max{A[k], N[k-1]+A[k]};
    M[k] = max{N[k], M[k-1]};
}
return M[n];
```

Do you see how it works?

7. [20 points] The *distance* between two vertices  $x, y$  of a connected unweighted graph is defined to be the minimum number of edges of a path from  $x$  to  $y$ . The *diameter* of such a graph is defined to be the maximum distance between any two vertices.

Suppose you are given a connected undirected graph  $G$  with  $n$  vertices and  $m$  edges, where  $n$  is one billion and  $m$  is approximately  $10n$ , and no vertex has degree more than 100. (Think of the internet.) Your job is to find the diameter of  $G$ .

(a) How long would that take if you use the Floyd-Warshall Algorithm?

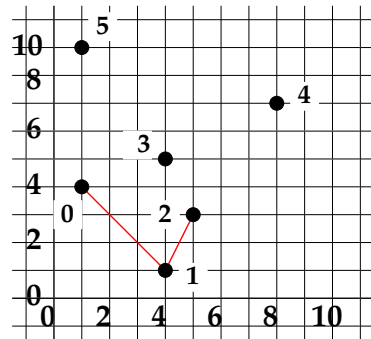
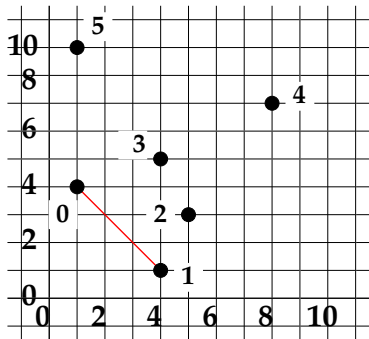
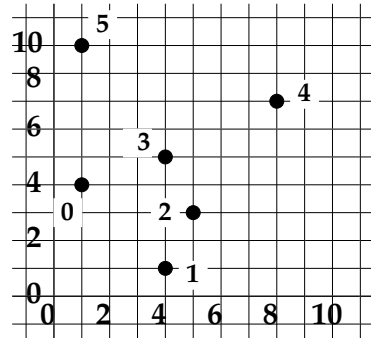
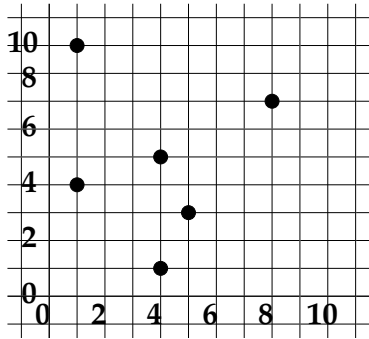
$O(n^3)$ . That would be approximately  $10^{27}$  steps.

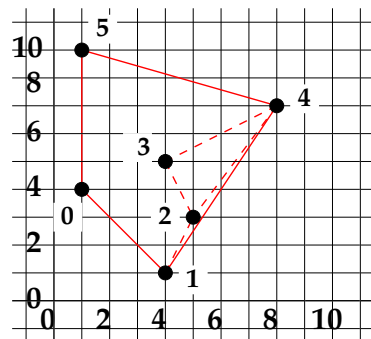
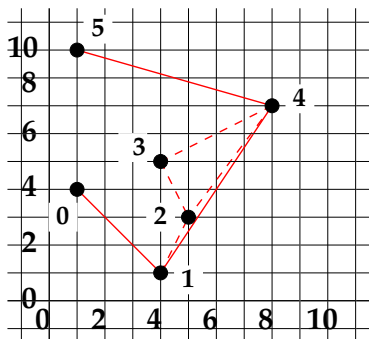
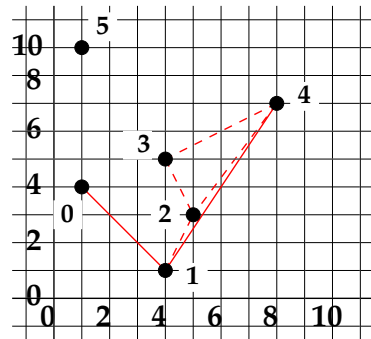
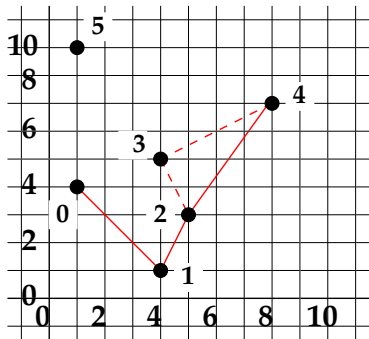
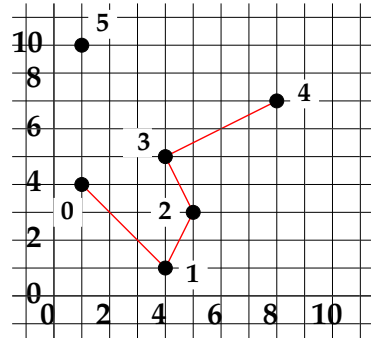
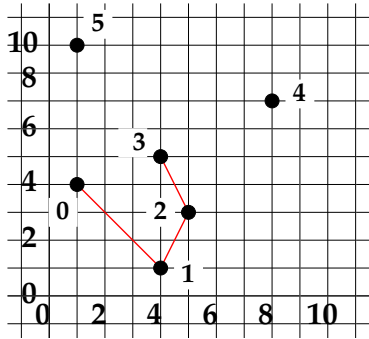
(b) Describe the algorithm you would recommend.

One idea is, for each vertex  $v$ , to use breadth first search to find the vertex farthest from  $v$ . This would take  $O(nm)$  time, about  $10^{19}$  steps.

(c) Can your computation be efficiently parallelized if you have a parallel machine with a billion processors? If you have  $p$  processors, for  $p \leq n$ . assign each processor a set of  $n/p$  vertices, and have it use breadth first search to find the farthest vertex from each of those. Thus the problem can be solved in  $O(m)$  time using  $n$  processors, or  $O(mn/p)$  time using  $p \leq n$  processors.

8. Use Graham scan to find the convex hull of the set of dots in the figure below. Use the point (1,4) as the pivot.





9. Fill in the blanks. [5 points each blank]

- (a) The items in a priority queue represent **unfulfilled obligations**.
- (b) If a hash table has  $n$  places and there are  $n$  data items, What is the approximate percentage of places that will hold more than one item? **26** or **27** (Within 1 percentage point.)

If  $n$  is large, the probability that there are exactly  $k$  items in a given place is approximately  $\frac{1}{k!e}$  which is  $\frac{1}{e}$  if  $k = 0$  or  $k = 1$ . Thus the probability that there are 2 or more items is  $1 - \frac{2}{e} \approx 0.264$

More generally, if there are  $n$  items placed randomly in a hash table of size  $m$ , the average number of items in a place is  $n/m$ , and the probability that a given place will have exactly  $k$  items is approximately  $\frac{(n/m)^k}{k! e^{n/m}}$