

University of Nevada, Las Vegas Computer Science 477/677 Spring 2021

Answers to Assignment 2: Due Thursday February 4, 2021

Name: _____

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1. Each of these code fragments takes $O(n \log n)$ time, but not necessarily $\Theta(n \log n)$. Give the asymptotic complexity of each in terms of n , using Θ in each case.

(a)

```
for(int i = 1; i < n; i++)
  for(int j = 1; j < i; j = 2*j);
  cout << "Hello" << endl;
```

$$\int_{x=1}^n (\ln x) dx = x \ln x - x \Big|_{x=1}^n = \Theta(n \log n)$$

(b)

```
for(int i = 1; i < n; i++)
  for(int j = i; j < n; j = 2*j);
  cout << "Hello" << endl;
```

$$\int_{x=1}^n (\ln n - \ln x) dx = x \ln n - x \ln x + x \Big|_{x=1}^n = \Theta(n)$$

(c)

```
for(int i = 1; i < n; i=2*i)
  for(int j = 1; j < i; j++);
  cout << "Hello" << endl;
```

Let $k = \log_2 i$; then $2^k = i$.

```
for(int k = 0; i < log_2 n; k++)
  for(int j = 1; j < 2^k; j++);
  cout << "Hello" << endl;
```

Let x be the continuous analog of k and y the continuous analog of j .

$$\int_{x=0}^{\log_2 n} \int_{y=1}^{2^x} dy dx = \int_{x=0}^{\log_2 n} (2^x - 1) dx = \frac{2^x - x}{\ln 2} \Big|_0^{\log_2 n} = \frac{2^{\log_2 n} - 1}{\ln 2} = \frac{n - 1}{\ln 2} = \Theta(n)$$

(d)

```
for(int i = 1; i < n; i=2*i)
  for(int j = i; j < n; j++);
  cout << "Hello" << endl; cd /home/larmore/Dropbox/Courses/CS477/S21
```

Let $k = \log_2 i$; then $2^k = i$.

```
for(int k = 0; i < log_2 n; k++)
  for(int j = 2^k; j < n; j++);
  cout << "Hello" << endl;
```

Let x be the continuous analog of k and y the continuous analog of j .

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{x=0}^{\log_2 n} \int_{y=2^x}^n dy dx &= \int_{x=0}^{\log_2 n} (n - 2^x) dx = \left(nx - \frac{2^x}{\ln 2} \right) \Big|_{x=0}^{\log_2 n} \\ &= n \log_2 n - \frac{2^{\log_2 n} - 1}{\ln 2} = n \log_2 n - \frac{n - 1}{\ln 2} = \Theta(n \log n) \end{aligned}$$

```
(e) for(int i = n; i > 1; i=i/2)
    for(int j = i; j > 1; j--);
    cout << "Hello" << endl;
```

Same as (c). $\Theta(n)$

```
(f) for(int i = n; i > 1; i=i/2)
    for(int j = n; j > i; j--);
    cout << "Hello" << endl;
```

Same as (d). $\Theta(n \log n)$

2. These problems are harder than the ones above. Given the asymptotic complexity of each fragment in terms of n , using Θ .

```
(g) for(int i = 1; i < n; i=2*i)
    for(int j = 1; j < i; j=2*j);
    cout << "Hello" << endl;
```

Hint: Use substitution. Let $m = \log n$, $k = \log i$, $l = \log j$.

```
for(int k = 0; k < m; k++)
    for(int l = 0; l < k; l++)
        cout << "Hello" << endl;
```

$\Theta(m^2) = \Theta(\log^2 n)$

```
(h) for(int i = 2; i < n; i=i*i)
    cout << "Hello" << endl;
```

Hint: Use substitution. Let $m = \log n$, $k = \log i$.

Use the fact that $\log(x^y) = y \log x$

```
for(int k = 1; k < m; k=2*k)
    cout << "Hello" << endl;
```

$\Theta(\log m) = \Theta(\log \log n)$

```
(i) for(int i = 2; i < n; i=i*i)
    for(int j = 1; j < i; j = 2*j)
        cout << "Hello" << endl;
```

Hint: Use substitution. Let $m = \log n$, $k = \log i$, $l = \log j$.

```
for(int k = 1; k < m; k=2*k)
    for(int l = 0; l < k; l++)
```

$\Theta(m) = \Theta(\log n)$

```
(j) for(int i = n; i > 1; i = log i)
    cout << "Hello" << endl;
```

Use the substitution $m = \log^* n, k = \log^* i$

```
for(int k = m; k > 0; k--)
```

Added on February 5:

The recursive definition of $\log^* x$ for any real number x is: $\log^* x = 0$ if $x \leq 1$

$\log^* x = 1 + \log^*(\log x)$ if $x > 1$

Let i be the “old” value of i in the code, and \bar{i} the “new” value of i , namely $\log i$. Let k be the old value of k and \bar{k} the new value of k . Thus

$m = \log^* n$

$\bar{i} = \log i$

$k = \log^* i$

$\bar{k} = \log^* \bar{i}$

From the definition of \log^* we have:

$k = \log^* i = 1 + \log^* \log i = 1 + \log^* \bar{i} = 1 + \bar{k}$. Thus $\bar{k} = k - 1$, and the last parameter of the for statement is $k - 1$.

End Added Text

The solution is $\Theta(m) = \Theta(\log^* n)$ where \log^* is the *iterated logarithm*. For any positive real number x , $\log^* x$ is the number of times the logarithm function must be iteratively applied before the result is less than or equal to 1.

We use the base 2 logarithm. In that case, the iterated algorithm is sometimes written as \lg^* .

i. What is $\log^* 65536$? Answer: 4.

ii. What is $\log^* 65537$? Answer: 5.

iii. Let N be the number of baryons in the visible universe. (Neutrons and protons are baryons.) What is $\log^* N$? Answer: 5.

iv. It has been seriously conjectured that the radius of the entire universe is 10^{100} times the radius of the visible universe! If that is true, what is \log^* of the number of baryons in the universe? Answer 5.

\log^* grows very slowly. However, it is not the slowest growing unbounded function that regularly arises in complexity theory. That honor goes to the inverse Ackermann function.

```
(k) for(int i = 2; i < n; i = i*i)
    for(int j = 0; j < i; j++)
        cout << "Hello" << endl;
```

In my opinion, this is the hardest problem in this assignment. The time complexity of the code is O of one function of n and Ω of a different function of n , but is not Θ of any of the “usual” functions of n . Give both the O and the Ω answers, both of which are “usual” functions.¹

Answer: The time complexity both $O(n)$ and $\Omega(\sqrt{n})$.

¹By *usual functions* I mean the functions we have discussed so far in class, which include polynomials, logarithms, iterated logarithms, powers of logarithms, roots, and even the iterated logarithm \log^* .

The outer loop iterates $O(\log \log n)$ times. For each value of i used during the outer loop, the inner loop iterates I times. Those values of i are numbers of the form 2^{2^k} for integers $k \geq 0$. That is,

$$2^{2^0} = 2,$$

$$2^{2^1} = 2^2 = 4,$$

$$2^{2^2} = 4^2 = 16,$$

$$2^{2^3} = 16^2 = 256,$$

$$2^{2^4} = 256^2 = 65536,$$

$$2^{2^5} = 65536^2 = 4294967296.$$

Since i increases rapidly, the time complexity of the code is dominated by the largest value of i generated in the outer loop, which is the largest value of 2^{2^k} less than n . Let's call that value I . For example, if $4 < n \leq 16$, $I = 4$; if $16 < n \leq 256$, $I = 16$; and if $256 < n \leq 65536$, $I = 256$; and so forth. Note that $I < n \leq I^2$, which implies that $\sqrt{n} \leq I < n$. The time complexity of the code is $\Theta(I)$, and we obtain our result.

3. Solve each of the following recurrences, giving the answer as Θ of a function of n .

(l) $F(n) = F(n/2) + n^2$

Master theorem: $A = 1, B = 2, C = 2$: Note that $A < B^C$.

Thus $F(n) = \Theta(n^C) = \Theta(n^2)$

(m) $F(n) = F(n/3) + 1$

Master theorem: $A = 1, B = 3, C = 0$: Note that $A = B^C$.

Thus $F(n) = \Theta(n^C \log n) = \Theta(\log n)$

(n) $F(n) = 16F(n/4) + n^2$

Master theorem: $A = 16, B = 4, C = 2$. Note that $A = B^C$.

Thus $F(n) = \Theta(n^C \log n) = \Theta(n^2 \log n)$

(o) $F(n) = F(n - 1) + n^5$

Anti-derivative method: $\frac{F(n) - F(n - 1)}{1} = n^5$

$F'(n) = \Theta(n^5)$

$F(n) = \Theta(n^6)$

(p) $F(n) = F(n - \log n) + \log n$

Anti-derivative method: $\frac{F(n) - F(n - \log n)}{\log n} = \frac{\log n}{\log n}$

$F'(n) = \Theta(1)$

$F(n) = \Theta(n)$

(q) $F(n) = 16F(n/4) + n$

Master theorem: $A = 16, B = 4, C = 1$. Note that $A > B^C$, and that $\log_B A = 2$.

Thus $F(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_B A}) = \Theta(n^2)$.