

## Answers to Recurrences and Asymptotic Complexity

1. Give the asymptotic solution to each recurrence, in terms of  $n$ , using  $\Theta$ ; except for the last one, problem 2i. For that problem, Use  $O$  instead of  $\Theta$ .

(a)  $F(n) = 4F\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + 5n^2$

$A = 4, B = 2, C = 2$ . The coefficient 5 has no asymptotic effect.  $\log_B A = 2 = C$ , and therefore

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

(b)  $f(n) = f(n-1) + n$

$$\frac{f(n) - f(n-1)}{1} = \frac{n}{1}$$

$$f'(n) = n$$

$$f(n) = \Theta(n^2)$$

(c)  $f(n) = f\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + f\left(\frac{n}{3}\right) + n$

Akra-Brazi.  $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 1, \beta_1 = 1/2, \beta_2 = 1/3, \gamma = 1$ .  $\alpha_1\beta_1^\gamma + \alpha_2\beta_2^\gamma = 5/6 < 1$   
Therefore

$$f(n) = \Theta(n^\gamma) = \Theta(n)$$

(d)  $f(n) = f(\sqrt{n}) + 1$

Substitution. Let  $m = \log n$  and  $g(m) = f(n)$ , then  $\log(\sqrt{n}) = \log n/2$ .

Substituting:  $g(m) = g(m/2) + 1$ . Using the Master theorem  $A = 1, B = 2, C = 0$  and thus  $\log_B A = C$ , hence  $f(n) = g(m) = \Theta(\log m) = \Theta(\log \log n)$ .

(e)  $f(n) = 2f(\sqrt{n}) + \log n$

Substitution. Let  $m = \log n$  and  $g(m) = f(n)$ , then  $\log(\sqrt{n}) = \log n/2$ .

Substituting:  $g(m) = 2g(m/2) + m, A = 2, B = 2, C = 1$ , and  $\log_B A = C$ . Thus

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

(f)  $g(n) = 2g(n-1) + 1$

Substitution. Let  $n = \log m, m = 2^n, g(n) = f(m)$ . Then  $n-1 = \log(m/2)$

Substituting:  $f(m) = 2f(m/2) + 1$ . Master theorem:  $A = 2, B = 2, C = 0, \log_B A = 1 > C$ , therefore

$$g(n) = f(m) = \Theta(m^{\log_B A}) = \Theta(m) = \Theta(2^n)$$

(g)  $G(n) = G(n-1) + \log n$

$$\frac{G(n) - G(n-1)}{1} = \log n$$

$$G'(n) = \log n$$

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

- (h)  $H(n) \leq 2H(\sqrt{n}) + 4$  Substitution:  $m = \log n$ ,  $G(m) = H(n)$ ,  $G(m/2) = H(\sqrt{n})$   
 Substituting:  $G(m) = 2G(m/2) + 4$  Using the Master theorem:  $A = B = 2$ ,  $C = 0$   
 The constant 4 is asymptotically irrelevant. Then  
 $G(m) = \Theta(m^{\log_B A}) = \Theta(m)$   
 $H(n) = G(m) = \Theta(m) = \Theta(\log n)$
- (i)  $K(n) = K(n - 2\sqrt{n} + 1) + n$ . Asymptotically, this recurrence is equivalent to  $K(n) = K(n - \sqrt{n}) + n$ , then  $\frac{K(n) - K(n - \sqrt{n})}{\sqrt{n}} + \sqrt{n}$ . HERE We get  $K'(n) = \sqrt{n}$ , thus  
 $K(n) = \Theta(n^{3/2})$
- (j)  $F(n) \leq F(\frac{n}{5}) + F(\frac{7n}{10}) + n$   
 This recurrence appears naturally in the median of medians algorithm. Akra-Brazi.  
 $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 1$ ,  $\beta_1 = 1/5$ ,  $\beta_2 = 7/10$ ,  $\gamma = 1$  and  $\alpha_1\beta_1^\gamma + \alpha_2\beta_2^\gamma = 9/10$  which is less than  $\gamma$ .  
 Thus  $F(n) = \Theta(n^\gamma) = \Theta(n)$ .
- (k)  $F(n) = 2F(\frac{2n}{3}) + F(\frac{n}{3}) + n$ . Akra Brazi.  
 $\alpha_1\beta_1^\gamma + \alpha_2\beta_2^\gamma = 5/3$  which is more than 1 We need to find a number  $\delta$  such that  
 $\alpha_1\beta_1^\delta + \alpha_2\beta_2^\delta = 1$  That number is  $\delta = 2$ , since  $2(2/3)^2 + (1/3)^2 = 1$ . Thus  
 $F(n) = \Theta(n^\delta) = \Theta(n^2)$ .
- (l)  $f(n) = 1 + f(\log n)$   
 This cannot be worked by any of the methods I've shown you. The answer is  
 $f(n) = \Theta(\log^* n)$ . I will explain the function  $\log^* n$  in class.

2. Write the asymptotic time complexity for each code fragment,

In each case, I will solve an equivalent integral.

- (a) 

```
for (int i=1; i < n; i++)
  for (int j=i; j > 0; j--)
    cout << "hello world" << endl;
```

$$\int_1^n \int_0^x dydx = \int_0^n xdx = \Theta(n^2)$$

- (b) 

```
for (int i=1; i < n; i++)
  for (int j=1; j < i; j++)
    cout << "hello world" << endl;
```

$$\int_1^n \int_1^x dydx = \int_1^n xdx = \Theta(n^2)$$

- (c) 

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

 Substitution:  $k = \log i$ ,  $m = \log n$ ,  $\log(2 * i) = k + 1$ ,  

$$\int_0^m \int_1^{2^x} dydx = \int_0^m 2^x dx = 2^m = n$$
 Answer:  $\Theta(n)$

(d) 

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

Substitution:  $k = \log j$

```
for (int i=1; i < n; i++)
    for (int k=0; k < log i; k++)
        cout << "hello world" << endl;
```

$$\int_1^n \int_1^{\log x} dy dx = \int_1^n \log x dx = \Theta(n \log n)$$

(e) 

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

Substitution:  $k = \log j$ ,  $m = \log n$

```
for (int i=1; i < n; i++)
    for (int k=log i; k < m; k++)
        cout << "hello world" << endl;
```

$$\int_1^n \int_{\log x}^m dy dx = \int_1^n (m - \log x) dx = \int_1^n (\log n - \log x) dx = \Theta(n \log n - n \log n + n) = \Theta(n)$$

(f) 

```
for (int i=2; i < n; i = i*i)
    cout << "hello world" << endl;
```

Substitution:  $j = \log i$ ,  $m = \log n$

```
for (int j=1; j < m; j = 2*j)
    cout << "hello world" << endl;
```

Substitution:  $k = \log j$ ,  $p = \log m$

```
for (int k=0; k < p; k = k+1)
    cout << "hello world" << endl;
```

$$\int_0^p dx = p = \log m = \log \log n \text{ Answer } \Theta(\log \log n)$$

(g) 

```
for (int i=1; i*i < n; i++)
    cout << "hello world" << endl;
```

Substitution:  $n = m^2$ .

```
for (int i=1; i*i < m*m; i++)
    cout << "hello world" << endl;
```

```
for (int i=1; i < m; i++)
    cout << "hello world" << endl;
```

Answer:  $\Theta(m) = \Theta(\sqrt{n})$

(h) 

```
for (int i=n; i > 1; i = i/2)
  for (int j=1; j < i; j=2*j)
    cout << "hello world" << endl;
```

 Substitution:  $k = \log i$ ,  $m = \log n$ ,  $p = \log j$

```
for (int k=m; k > 0; k = k-1)
  for (int p=0; p < k; p=p+1)
    cout << "hello world" << endl;
```

$$\int_0^m \int_0^x dydx = \int_0^m x dydx = \Theta(m^2) = \Theta(\log^2 n)$$

(i) For this problem, `george` is a function which returns an integer. You have no idea what that integer will be.

```
int m = n;
while(m > 0){
  int g = george(m);
  if (g > 0) m = m - g;
  else m = m - 1;
  cout << "hello world" << endl;
}
```

You can verify that  $m$  decreases by at least 1 at each iteration, thus the asymptotic time complexity is  $O(n)$ .