

Homework 1

CS 331

Due Thursday, January 24

General rules:

- For full credit, you must justify your work; if it is not obvious, a proof should be provided.
- Collaboration is encouraged, but you must write up the solutions on your own and acknowledge your collaborators at the top of your solutions.

1. Recursive time bounds: give a big-O bound for $T(n)$ given each of the following recursive formulas:

(a) $T(n) = 3T(n/4) + n \log n$

(b) $T(n) = 5T(n/4) + n$

(c) $T(n) = 2T(n/2) + \sqrt{n}$

(d) $T(n) = 4T(n/2) + n^2$

with the base case $T(n) = O(1)$ for constant n . You may make use of the master theorem.

2. [Exercise 0.2 of <http://jeffe.cs.illinois.edu/teaching/algorithms/>]

Recall the songs “99 Bottles of Beer on the Wall” and “The 12 Days of Christmas”. If you are not familiar with those songs, refer to the chapter of their Wikipedia pages. The text of the book chapter states that “ n Bottles of Beer on the Wall” takes $\Theta(n)$ time to sing, while “The n Days of Christmas” takes $\Theta(n^2)$ time to sing.

Careful readers might complain that this analysis of songs like “ n Bottles of Beer on the Wall” or “The n Days of Christmas” is overly simplistic, because larger numbers take longer to sing than shorter numbers. More generally, because there are only so many words of a given length, larger sets of words necessarily contain longer words. We can more accurately estimate singing time by counting the number of syllables sung, rather than the number of words.

- (a) How would you sing an arbitrary, very large integer n ? How many seconds does it take to sing, in big-Oh notation?
- (b) How long does it take to sing the song “ n Bottles of Beer on the Wall”?
- (c) How long does it take to sing the song “The n Days of Christmas”?

Express your answers in the form $O(f(n))$ for some function f .