

COP 3502 Study Group Sheet: Algorithm Analysis Solutions

1) For an $O(n^3)$ algorithm, one data set with $n = 3$ takes 54 seconds. How long will it take for a data set with $n = 5$?

Solution

Let $T(n)$ be the function for the run time of the algorithm. Then, $T(n) = cn^3$ for some constant c .

$$\begin{aligned} T(3) &= c3^3 = 54 \\ 27c &= 54, \text{ so } c = 2 \end{aligned}$$

$$T(5) = c5^3 = 2(125) = 250 \text{ seconds.}$$

2) For an $O(2^n)$ algorithm, a friend tells you that it took 17 seconds to run on her data set on a $O(2^n)$ algorithm. You run the same program, on the same machine, and your data set with $n = 7$ takes 68 seconds. What size was her data set?

Solution

Let $T(n)$ be the function for the run time of the algorithm. Then, $T(n) = c2^n$ for some constant c .

$$\begin{aligned} T(7) &= c2^7 = 68 \\ 128c &= 68, \text{ so } c = 68/128 = 17/32. \end{aligned}$$

$$T(n) = c2^n = 17(2^n)/32 = 17, \text{ so } 2^n = 32 \text{ and } n = 5.$$

3) For an $O(N^k)$ algorithm, where k is a positive integer, an instance of size M takes 32 seconds to run. Suppose you run an instance of size $2M$ and find that it takes 512 seconds to run. What is the value of k ?

Solution

Let $T(n)$ be the function for the run time of the algorithm. Then, $T(n) = cn^k$ for some constant c .

$$T(m) = cm^k = 32$$

$$\begin{aligned} T(2m) &= c(2m)^k = c2^k m^k = 512, \text{ but since } cm^k = 32, \text{ substituting, we have:} \\ 32(2^k) &= 512 \\ 2^k &= 16 \\ k &= 4 \end{aligned}$$

4) Assume that an $O(\log_2 N)$ algorithm runs for 10 milliseconds when the input size (N) is 32. What is input size makes the algorithm run for 14 milliseconds?

Solution

Let $T(n)$ be the function for the run time of the algorithm. Then, $T(n) = c \log_2 n$ for some constant c .

$$T(32) = c \log_2 32 = 10$$
$$5c = 10, \text{ so } c = 2$$

$$T(n) = 2 \log_2 n = 14, \text{ so } \log_2 n = 7 \text{ and } n = 2^7 = 128.$$

5)

```
int function5(int A[], int B[], int n) {  
  
    int i, j, sum = 0;  
    for (i=0; i<n; i++)  
        for (j=0; j<n; j++)  
            if (A[i] == B[j])  
                sum++;  
    return sum;  
}
```

Solution

The if statement gets executed n^2 times. Namely, it get executed for each ordered pair (i,j) , ranging from $(0,0)$ to $(n-1,n-1)$. This is the portion that dominates the code, so this function runs in $O(n^2)$ time.

6)

```
int function6(int A[], int B[], int n) {  
    int i=0, j=0;  
  
    while (i < n) {  
        while (j < n && A[i] > B[j]) j++;  
        i++;  
    }  
    return j;  
}
```

Solution

This one's tricky! On initial observation, we might think that we have two nested loops that could each run n times. But, on closer inspection, we see that j can only be incremented n times and i can only be incremented n times and each loop iteration must have one or the other increment. Thus, at most, $2n$ steps can run before both loops exit. Thus, the run time is $O(n)$.

7)

```
int function4(int A[], int B[], int n) {
    int i=0,j;

    while (i < n) {
        j=0;
        while (j < n && A[i] > B[j]) j++;
        i++;
    }
    return j;
}
```

Solution

The key difference here is that j is reset to 0 each time, so that inner loop really can run n times every single time. This changes our run-time to $O(n^2)$, since that j++ statement can run $n \times n = n^2$ times.

8)

```
void function8(int n) {

    while (n > 0) {
        printf("%d\n", n);
        n = n/2;
    }
}
```

Solution

Each loop iteration, n is divided by 2 and we stop the step after $n = 1$ (because of integer division). After k loop iterations, the value of n is $\text{oldn}/2^k$, where oldn represents the original value of n. Thus, we must have $n/2^k = 1$. Our goal is to find k, the number of iterations this code runs. Multiplying, we get $2^k = n$. solving, by definition of log, we have $k = \log_2 n$. Thus, the run-time is $O(\lg n)$.

9)

```
int function8(int n) {  
    int i,j;  
    for (i=0; i<n; i++)  
        for (j=0; j<n; j++)  
            if (j == 1)  
                break;  
    return j;  
}
```

Solution

The j loop never runs more than twice for each value of i, because it gets stopped at $j = 1$. Thus, the total number of times it runs is at most $2 \times n$. Thus, the function runs in $O(n)$ time.