

Carleton University  
Midterm COMP 3804

March 1, 2024

- All questions must be answered on the scantron sheet.
- Write your name and student number on the scantron sheet.
- You do not have to hand in this examination paper.
- Calculators are allowed.

**Marking scheme:** Each of the 17 questions is worth 1 mark.

Some useful facts:

1.  $1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + n = n(n + 1)/2$ .
2. for any real number  $x > 0$ ,  $x = 2^{\log x}$ .
3. For any real number  $x \neq 1$  and any integer  $k \geq 1$ ,

$$1 + x + x^2 + \dots + x^{k-1} = \frac{x^k - 1}{x - 1}.$$

4. For any real number  $0 < \alpha < 1$ ,

$$\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \alpha^i = \frac{1}{1 - \alpha}.$$

Master Theorem:

1. Let  $a \geq 1$ ,  $b > 1$ ,  $d \geq 0$ , and

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } n = 1, \\ a \cdot T(n/b) + \Theta(n^d) & \text{if } n \geq 2. \end{cases}$$

2. If  $d > \log_b a$ , then  $T(n) = \Theta(n^d)$ .
3. If  $d = \log_b a$ , then  $T(n) = \Theta(n^d \log n)$ .
4. If  $d < \log_b a$ , then  $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$ .

1. Recall that  $\mathbb{N} = \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$  denotes the set of all positive integers. Let  $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  and  $g : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  be two functions such that  $f(n) = O(g(n))$ . Is it true that, for any two such functions  $f$  and  $g$ ,

$$2^{f(n)} = O(2^{g(n)})?$$

- (a) This is true.
  - (b) This is not true.
2. Consider the recurrence

$$T(n) = \sqrt{n} + T(n/3).$$

Which of the following is true?

- (a)  $T(n) = \Theta(\sqrt{n})$ .
- (b)  $T(n) = \Theta(\sqrt{n} \log n)$ .
- (c)  $T(n) = \Theta(n)$ .
- (d)  $T(n) = \Theta(n \log n)$ .

3. Consider the recurrence

$$T(n) = n + T(n/31) + T(29n/31).$$

Which of the following is true?

- (a)  $T(n) = \Theta(n)$ .
- (b)  $T(n) = \Theta(n \log n)$ .
- (c)  $T(n) = \Theta(n^2)$ .
- (d) None of the above.

4. Consider the following recursive algorithm  $\text{POWER}(a, b)$ , which takes as input two integers  $a \geq 1$  and  $b \geq 1$ , and returns  $a^b$ :

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Algorithm  $\text{POWER}(a, b)$ :  
if  $b = 1$   
then return  $a$   
else  $c = a^2$ ;  
     $\text{ANSWER} = \text{POWER}(c, \lfloor b/2 \rfloor)$ ;  
    if  $b$  is even  
    then return  $\text{ANSWER}$   
    else return  $a \cdot \text{ANSWER}$   
    endif  
endif
```

Assume that each multiplication, division, and floor-operation in this algorithm takes  $O(1)$  time. What is the running time of algorithm  $\text{POWER}(a, b)$ ?

- (a)  $T(n) = \Theta(\log(a + b))$ .  
(b)  $T(n) = \Theta(\log(ab))$ .  
(c)  $T(n) = \Theta(\log a)$ .  
(d)  $T(n) = \Theta(\log b)$ .
5. You are given  $m$  sorted arrays  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_m$ , each of length  $n$ . Consider the following algorithm that merges these arrays into one single sorted array of length  $mn$ :
- $B = \text{MERGE}(A_1, A_2)$ , where  $\text{MERGE}$  is the algorithm from class that merges the two sorted arrays  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  into one sorted array  $B$ .
  - For  $i = 3, 4, \dots, m$ ,  $B = \text{MERGE}(B, A_i)$ .

What is the running time of this algorithm?

- (a)  $\Theta(mn)$ .  
(b)  $\Theta(mn \log(mn))$ .  
(c)  $\Theta(m^2n)$ .  
(d)  $\Theta(mn^2)$ .

6. You are given  $m$  sorted arrays  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_m$ , each of length  $n$ . Assume that  $m$  is a power of two. Consider the following algorithm MERGEMANYARRAYS that merges these arrays into one single sorted array of length  $mn$ :

**Base case:** If  $m = 1$ , then there is nothing to do.

**Non-base case:** If  $m \geq 2$ :

- For each  $i = 1, 2, \dots, m/2$ , run the MERGE algorithm from class on the two arrays  $A_{2i-1}$  and  $A_{2i}$ , resulting in a sorted array  $B_i$  of length  $2n$ .
- Recursively run the algorithm MERGEMANYARRAYS on the sorted arrays  $B_1, B_2, \dots, B_{m/2}$ .

Let  $T(m, n)$  denote the running time of this algorithm. Which of the following is correct?

- (a)  $T(m, n) = \Theta(mn) + T(m/2, n)$ .
- (b)  $T(m, n) = \Theta(mn) + T(m/2, 2n)$ .
- (c)  $T(m, n) = \Theta(m + n) + T(m/2, n)$ .
- (d)  $T(m, n) = \Theta(m + n) + T(m/2, 2n)$ .

7. Professor Uriah Heap has designed a new data structure that stores any sequence of numbers, and supports the following two operations:

- **Insert( $x$ ):** Add the number  $x$  to the data structure. This operation takes  $\Theta(\sqrt{n})$  time, where  $n$  is the current number of elements.
- **ExtractMin:** Delete, and return, the smallest element stored in the data structure. This operation takes  $\Theta(\log n)$  time, where  $n$  is the current number of elements.

You use Professor Heap's data structure (and nothing else) to design a sorting algorithm. What is the running time of this sorting algorithm on an input of  $n$  numbers?

- (a)  $\Theta(n \log n)$ .
- (b)  $\Theta(n^{3/2})$ .
- (c)  $\Theta(n^2)$ .
- (d) None of the above.

8. Let  $S$  be a set of  $n$  distinct numbers. Assume this set  $S$  is stored in a min-heap  $A[1 \dots n]$ . How much time does it take to use this heap to find the largest number of  $S$ ?

- (a)  $\Theta(1)$ .
- (b)  $\Theta(\log n)$ .
- (c)  $\Theta(n)$ .
- (d)  $\Theta(n \log n)$ .

9. Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a connected undirected graph, and let  $n = |V|$ . What are the minimum and maximum number of edges that this graph can have?
- (a) 1 and  $n^2$ .
  - (b)  $n$  and  $n(n - 1)/2$ .
  - (c)  $n - 1$  and  $n^2$ .
  - (d)  $n - 1$  and  $n(n - 1)/2$ .
10. Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a directed graph that is given using adjacency lists: Each vertex  $u$  has a list  $\text{OUT}(u)$  storing all edges  $(u, v)$  going out of  $u$ . What is the running time of the fastest algorithm that computes, for each vertex  $v$ , a list  $\text{IN}(v)$  of all edges  $(u, v)$  going into  $v$ ?
- (a)  $\Theta(|V| + |E|)$ .
  - (b)  $\Theta(|V| \log |V| + |E|)$ .
  - (c)  $\Theta(|V| + |E| \log |E|)$ .
  - (d)  $\Theta((|V| + |E|) \log |V|)$ .
11. Let  $G = (V, E)$  be an undirected graph with  $n = |V|$  vertices, and assume that the vertex set is stored in an array  $V[1 \dots n]$ . For each  $i$ , let  $v_i = V[i]$ . Is it possible to give each edge  $\{v_i, v_j\}$  a direction (i.e., replace it by exactly one of  $(v_i, v_j)$  and  $(v_j, v_i)$ ) such that the resulting directed graph is acyclic?
- (a) This is not possible.
  - (b) This is possible.
12. Let  $G = (V, E)$  be an undirected graph, and assume that this graph is stored using the adjacency matrix. What is the running time of the fastest depth-first search algorithm for this graph?
- (a)  $\Theta(|V| + |E|)$ .
  - (b)  $\Theta(|V|^2 + |E|^2)$ .
  - (c)  $\Theta(|V|^2)$ .
  - (d)  $\Theta(|E|^2)$ .

13. Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a directed acyclic graph, and let  $s$  and  $t$  be two distinct vertices of  $V$ . What is the running time of the fastest algorithm that computes the number of directed paths in  $G$  from  $s$  to  $t$ ?
- (a)  $\Theta(|V| \cdot |E|)$ .
  - (b)  $\Theta((|V| + |E|) \log |V|)$ .
  - (c)  $\Theta(|V| + |E|)$ .
  - (d)  $\Theta(|E|)$ .
14. Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a directed graph. We run depth-first search on  $G$ , i.e, algorithm  $\text{DFS}(G)$ . Recall that this classifies each edge of  $E$  as a tree edge, forward edge, back edge, or cross edge. Let  $(u, v)$  be an edge of  $E$  that is not classified as a tree edge. Is the following true or false? It is possible to run algorithm  $\text{DFS}(G)$ , where vertices and edges are processed in a different order, such that  $(u, v)$  is classified as a tree edge.
- (a) True.
  - (b) False.
15. Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a directed graph. We run depth-first search on  $G$ , i.e, algorithm  $\text{DFS}(G)$ . Is the following true or false? If the graph  $G$  has a directed cycle that contains a forward edge, then  $G$  also contains a directed cycle that does not contain a forward edge.
- (a) True.
  - (b) False.
16. Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a directed acyclic graph and, for each edge  $(u, v)$  in  $E$ , let  $\text{wt}(u, v)$  denote its positive weight. Let  $s$  be a source vertex, and for each vertex  $v$ , let  $\delta_{\max}(s, v)$  be the weight of a *longest* path in  $G$  from  $s$  to  $v$ . What is the running time of the fastest algorithm that computes  $\delta_{\max}(s, v)$  for all vertices  $v$ ?
- (a) Since there can be exponentially many paths from  $s$  to some vertex  $v$ , the running time must be at least exponential.
  - (b)  $\Theta((|V| + |E|) \log |V|)$ .
  - (c)  $\Theta(|E| + |V| \log |V|)$ .
  - (d)  $\Theta(|V| + |E|)$ .

17. After this midterm, you go to a Karaoke Bar and sing the following randomized and recursive song  $\text{AWESOMEST}(n)$ , which takes as input an integer  $n \geq 1$ :

**Algorithm**  $\text{AWESOMEST}(n)$ :  
sing the following line  $n$  times:  
*COMP 3804 is the awesomest course I have ever taken*;  
**if**  $n \geq 2$   
**then** let  $k$  be a uniformly random element in  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ ;  
     $\text{AWESOMEST}(k)$   
**endif**

What is the expected number of times you sing *COMP 3804 is the awesomest course I have ever taken*?

- (a)  $\Theta(n)$ .
- (b)  $\Theta(n \log n)$ .
- (c)  $\Theta(n^2)$ .
- (d) None of the above.



