

# 1. Homework

Due **1/21/04** before class

## 1. Palindrome checker (7 points)

A palindrome is a string whose first half equals its last half reversed. So for example “4456544” or “hannah” or “abcdcba” are palindromes.

Write an algorithm which checks if a given string is a palindrome, and analyze its runtime. Please give a formal problem description (what are the input and output?), an informal and a formal description of the algorithm, a proof of correctness (using a loop invariant), and its runtime analysis.

## 2. Code snippets (6 points)

For each of the code snippets below give their big-Oh runtime depending on  $n$ . Make your bound as tight as possible. Justify your answers.

### (a) (2 points)

```
for(j=1; j<=n; j=j*7){
  for(i=n; i>=1; i=i/2){
    print('hello');
  }
}
```

### (b) (2 points)

```
for(j=5; j<=n; j=j*j){
  print('hello');
}
```

### (c) (2 points)

```
for(i=1; i<=n*n; i+=1){
  for(j=1; j<=i; j++){
    print('no');
  }
}
```

## 3. Theta (2 points)

Prove the following, using only the definitions of  $O$  and  $\Theta$ :

$f(n) \in \Theta(g(n))$  if and only if  $f(n) \in O(g(n))$  and  $g(n) \in O(f(n))$

## 4. Little-oh (2 points)

Is  $n + 13n^2 \in o(n^2)$  true? Justify your answer.

5. **Big-Oh ranking (13 points)**

Rank the following functions by order of growth, i.e., find an arrangement  $f_1, f_2, \dots$  of the functions satisfying  $f_1 \in O(f_2)$ ,  $f_2 \in O(f_3), \dots$ . Partition your list into equivalence classes such that  $f$  and  $g$  are in the same class if and only if  $f = \Theta(g)$ . For every two functions  $f_i, f_j$  that are adjacent in your ordering, prove shortly why  $f_i \in O(f_j)$  holds. And if  $f$  and  $g$  are in the same class, prove that  $f = \Theta(g)$ .

$$n^2, n!, n^3, 2^{2^n}, \log \log n, \log n, 1, 4^{\log n}, n, 2^n, n \log n, 2^{n+1}, (3/2)^n, \sqrt{n}$$

Bear in mind that in some cases it might be useful to show  $f(n) \in o(g(n))$ , since  $o(g(n)) \subset O(g(n))$ . If you try to show that  $f(n) \in o(g(n))$ , then it might be useful to apply the rule of l'Hôpital which states that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f'(n)}{g'(n)}$$

if the limits exist; where  $f'(n)$  and  $g'(n)$  are the derivatives of  $f$  and  $g$ , respectively.