Theoretical Computer Science II

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Exercise Sheet 13

Due: February 3, 2010

Exercise 13.1 (Runtime, 2 marks)

You have implemented an algorithm that needs exactely $f(n)$ steps to terminate, where n is the size of the input. Assume that on your machine each step takes $1\mu s$.
For which maximal input size does your algorithm terminate within *one* day? Which input size can it maximally process in 10 days? Answer these (two!) questions for the following runtimes:

(a) $f(n) = n$

(b) $f(n) = n \log n$
(this question is optional, so you do not need to answer it to receive full marks.)

(c) $f(n) = n^2$

(d) $f(n) = n^2 + n$

(e) $f(n) = n^3$

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

Exercise 13.2 (Big-O, 2 + 1 marks)

Consider the Turing machine below. The input alphabet is $\Sigma = \mathbb{N} = \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$. The operator $|w|$ denotes the length of the string w, the relation $<$ is the smaller relation on the natural numbers.

M = "On input string w":
for $i = 1$ to $|w|$
    for $j = |w|$ downto $i + 1$
        if $w_j < w_{j-1}$
            swap w_j and w_{j-1}
        endif
    endfor
endfor

Assume that the runtime of a swap and of a comparison of two natural numbers is constant.

(a) What is the smallest integer k such that the runtime of the Turing machine M is in $O(|w|^k)$? Justify your answer.

(b) What does M compute (i.e. what is written on the tape when M halts)?

Exercise 13.3 (Big-O, 2 + 3 marks)

Prove the following statements using the definition of Big-O:

(a) $f(x) = 4x^3 + 2x - 4 \in O(x^3)$

(b) $g(n) = n \log n \notin O(n)$