

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
 Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
 6.001—Structure and Interpretation of Computer Programs
 Spring Semester, 1999

Recitation – Wednesday, February 10

1. More Special Forms

The special form **begin** has the following form. It evaluates each one of the expressions in turn. The value of the begin expression is the value of the last expression.

```
(begin <expr1> <expr2> ... <exprN>)
```

Example: (begin (+ 5 3) (- x 5) (* 9 9))

Wait a second... Why do we need this?

The special form **cond** has the following form. Conditional expressions are evaluated as follows. **<pred1>** is evaluated, and if that value is not **#f**, then the value of the cond clause is the value of **<expr1>**. If **<pred1>** evaluates to **#f**, then **<pred2>** is evaluated, etc.. If all of the predicates are **#f**, then the else expression **<exprE>** is evaluated and returned.

```
(cond (<pred1> <expr1>)
      (<pred2> <expr2>)
      ...
      (<predN> <exprN>)
      (else   <exprE>))
```

Example: (define (sign x)
 (cond ((> x 0) 1)
 (< x 0) -1)
 (else 0))

2. Iterative vs Recursive Processes

Consider the following functions similar to those presented in lecture.

```
(define (mul2 n m)
  (define (iter count ans)
    (if (= count 0)
        ans
        (iter (- count 1) (+ m ans))))
  (iter n 0))
```

```
(define (mul3 n m)
  (cond ((= n 0) 0)
        ((even? n)
         (double (mul3 (halve n) m)))
        (else
         (+ m (mul3 (- n 1) m)))))
```

Now write a procedure **mul4** that computes **m*n** in $\theta(\log n)$ time in $\theta(1)$ space.

```
(define (mul4 m n)
```

```
)
```

3. More Iterative vs Recursive Processes

Consider the following two procedures.

```
(define (count-down x by)
  (cond ((< x 0) #t)
        (else (print x)
                (count-down (- x by) by))))

(define (count-up x by)
  (cond ((< x 0) #t)
        (else (count-up (- x by) by)
                (print x))))
```

What happens for each of

\Rightarrow (count-down 11 3)

\Rightarrow (count-up 11 3)

Write a function count-up-2 which performs the same way as count-up, but is an iterative process.

```
(define (count-up-2 x by)
```

```
)
```

4. Orders of Growth

Why should we care?

Name	θ notation	n = 2	n = 10	n = 100
Constant	$\theta(1)$	1	1	1
Logarithmic	$\theta(\log n)$	1	3.33	6.66
Linear	$\theta(n)$	2	10	100
Quadratic	$\theta(n^2)$	4	100	10,000
Exponential	$\theta(2^n)$	4	1024	$\approx 1.26 \times 10^{30}$

At 1 billion operations per second (current state of the art), if you were to run an exponential time algorithm in the lab on a data set of size $n = 100$, you would be waiting for approximately 4×10^{11} centuries for the code to finish running!

Formal Definition

Let R be some resource (e.g. space or time) used by a computation, and suppose R is a function of the size n of a problem. The amount of resources consumed will be $R(n)$. We say $R(n)$ has order of growth $\Theta(f(n))$ written $R(n) = \Theta(f(n))$ if there is some constant k_1 and k_2 independent of n such that

$$k_1 f(n) \leq R(n) \leq k_2 f(n)$$

for sufficiently large n .

5. Order of Growth Examples

For the following functions R , find the simplest and slowest growing function f for which $R(n) = \Theta(f(n))$.

(a) $R(n) = 6$

(b) $R(n) = n^2 + 3$

(c) $R(n) = 6n^3 + 3n^2 + 7n + 100$

(d) $R(n) = 5 \cdot \log(n^6)$

(e) $R(n) = 2^{3n+7}$

What are the Orders of Growth (space and time) for the procedures listed below?

<code>(define (fact1 n)</code>	Time =
<code>(if (= n 1)</code>	Space =
<code>1</code>	
<code>(* n (factorial (- n 1)))))</code>	

<code>(define (fact2 n)</code>	Time =
<code>(define (helper cur k)</code>	Space =
<code>(if (= k 1)</code>	
<code>cur</code>	
<code>(helper (* cur k) (- k 1)))))</code>	
<code>(helper 1 n))</code>	

<code>(define (fib1 n)</code>	Time =
<code>(cond ((= n 0) 0)</code>	Space =
<code>((= n 1) 1)</code>	
<code>(else (+ (fib1 (- n 1))</code>	
<code>(fib1 (- n 2))))))</code>	

<code>(define (fib2 n)</code>	Time =
<code>(define (fib-iter a b count)</code>	Space =
<code>(if (= count 0)</code>	
<code>b</code>	
<code>(fib-iter (+ a b) a (- count 1)))))</code>	
<code>(fib-iter 1 0 n))</code>	