

Mathematics 2602

Quiz 4

Prof. Margalit

13 February 2013

1. Use the definition of Big O to show $x \ln x$ is $\mathcal{O}(x^2 + x)$.

$$\ln x < x$$

$$\text{so } x \ln x < x^2 < x^2 + x$$

$$\text{so can take } c=1, x_0=1:$$

$$x \ln x \leq 1 \cdot (x^2 + x) \quad x \geq x_0$$

Use the definition of Big O to show $n!$ is not $\mathcal{O}(3^n)$.

Proof by contradiction.

Suppose $\exists c \exists n_0$ so

$$n! \leq c 3^n \quad n \geq n_0$$

$$\text{or } n! / 3^n \leq c \quad n \geq n_0$$

This is a contradiction because

$$\frac{n!}{3^n} = \frac{n(n-1)(n-2) \cdots 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1}{\underbrace{3 \cdot 3 \cdot 3 \cdots 3 \cdot 3 \cdot 3}_{\geq 1}} \geq \frac{2}{27} n$$

$$\text{so } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n! / 3^n = \infty.$$