

CS 146 Midterm Exam 2

Name: _____

Grade:

The test will be open book, open notes, 75 minute time limit. Calculators allowed, but not computers. Please write your answers on the exam sheet. Ten problems, 10 points per problem. Partial credit given only when the problem has parts (a,b,c, etc.)

1. Analyzing recursive code using recurrence relations

MergeSort and linked lists. We studied MergeSort in the context of sorting an array. What if we want to sort a linked list? There appears to be a problem in that it costs $O(n)$ to find the middle of the list, while with an array that is $O(1)$. What is the asymptotic run time of MergeSort, when implemented for a linked list using an $O(n)$ search to find the midpoint of the list?

(a) Write a recurrence relation for the running time $T(n)$ of this algorithm.

(b) Solve this recurrence relation to give an explicit estimate for the worst-case run time. Use O -notation.

(c) Is this faster, slower, or the same speed (up to a constant factor) as MergeSort for arrays?

2. The following algorithm is a fast way of computing $x^n \bmod M$. (It is very important in cryptography.) M will be a fixed number; we are interested in the running time for large n .

```
int fastexp(int x, int n, int M)
{ if(n==0) return 1;
  if(n==1) return x;
  int y = fastexp(x,n/2,M);
  if(n % 2 == 0) return y*y;
  return y*y*x;
}
```

For example, to compute x^8 we compute x^4 and x^2 .

(a) Write a recurrence relation for the running time $T(n)$ of this algorithm.

