Number Theory II Fall 2008

Assignment 4 (cont.)

Exercise 1. Interpret, and then verify, the following equalities. Throughout, g(x) and h(x) denote positive-valued functions.

- a. $O(g(x)) + O(h(x)) = O(\max\{g(x), h(x)\}).$
- b. g(x)O(h(x)) = O(g(x)h(x)) = O(g(x))O(h(x)).
- c. O(O(g(x))) = O(g(x)).

Exercise 2.

a. Let f(x) and g(x) be polynomials with real coefficients of degrees m and n, respectively. Prove that

$$\lim_{x \to \infty} \frac{f(x)x^{n-m}}{g(x)}$$

exists and is nonzero.

b. Prove that

$$\frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = O\left(x^{m-n}\right)$$

for all sufficiently large x. What does the implied constant depend on?

Exercise 3.

a. Let $k, \epsilon > 0$. Prove that

$$\left(\log x\right)^k = O\left(x^\epsilon\right)$$

for all sufficiently large x. Does the implied constant depend on k or ϵ ?

b. Let f(x) be a polynomial with real coefficients. Prove that for any $\epsilon > 0$

$$f\left(\log x\right) = O\left(x^{\epsilon}\right)$$

for all sufficiently large x. What does the implied constant depend on?

Exercise 4. Suppose that f(x) and g(x) are continuous for $x \ge 1$, that g(x) > 0, and that f(x) = O(g(x)) for all sufficiently large x. Prove that f(x) = O(g(x)) for all $x \ge 1$, but that the implied constant will depend on f(x) and g(x). [*Hint:* A continuous function on a closed interval attains its maximum and minimum values.]