

2009 Paper 1 Question 2

Foundations of Computer Science

- (a) Write brief notes on top-down merge sort, contrasting it with insertion sort. State its worst-case and average-case complexity, with brief justification. (There is no need to present ML code.) [5 marks]
- (b) Write brief notes on preorder, inorder and postorder tree traversal. Present efficient code for one of them and state, with justification, its worst-case complexity. [5 marks]
- (c) The binary search tree t_1 is *superseded by* t_2 provided every (key, value) entry in t_1 is also present in t_2 . Code an ML function to determine whether one binary search tree is superseded by another. Express its cost in terms of n_1 and n_2 , the numbers of entries in t_1 and t_2 , respectively. For full credit, the worst-case cost should be no worse than $O(n_1 + n_2)$. [10 marks]

All code must be explained clearly. You may assume that any necessary ML data structures or functions are available.