

Asymptotic Analysis

- Runtime Analysis and Big Oh - $O(\cdot)$
- Complexity Classes and Curse of Exponential Time
- $\Omega(\cdot)$, $\Theta(\cdot)$, $o(\cdot)$, $\omega(\cdot)$ - Relational properties

IMDAD ULLAH KHAN

Comparing Algorithms

Given two algorithms for the same problem which one is “better”?

Which one has smaller runtime?

We can compare integers

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Can we compare functions?

$$n^2 + 2n < 3n^2$$

Function: List Representation

Let X and Y be two sets. A function f maps **each** element of X to **exactly one** element of Y

$$f : X \mapsto Y$$

- X is the domain of f
- Y is the codomain of f

$$f(x) = y$$

- y is the image of x
- x is the pre-image of y

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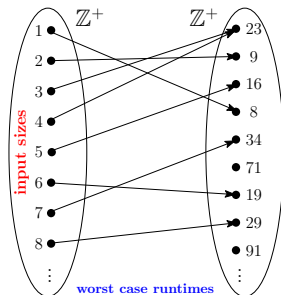
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Worstcase runtime of algorithms characterized as functions of input sizes



input sizes

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	...
8	9	23	23	16	19	34	29	...

worst case runtimes

Asymptotic Notation

- We use asymptotic analysis of functions to analyze algorithms running time
- Characterize running time for all inputs instances of a certain size (so worst-case) with just one runtime function
- Small inputs are not much of a problem, we want to learn behavior of an algorithm on large inputs

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Goal 2: Determine how the runtime **grows with increasing inputs**

- ▷ How the runtime changes when input size is doubled/tripled?

Asymptotic Analysis: Big Oh

Definition (Big Oh)

A function $g(n) \in O(f(n))$ if there exists constants $c > 0$ and $n_0 \geq 0$ such that

$$\forall n \geq n_0 \quad g(n) \leq c \cdot f(n)$$

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Provides the right framework for both our goals

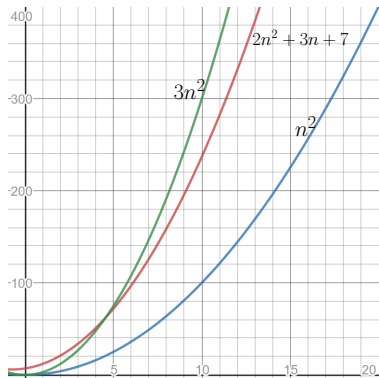
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$$2n^2 + 3n + 7 = O(n^2)$$

▷ $c = 3$ and $n_0 = 5$



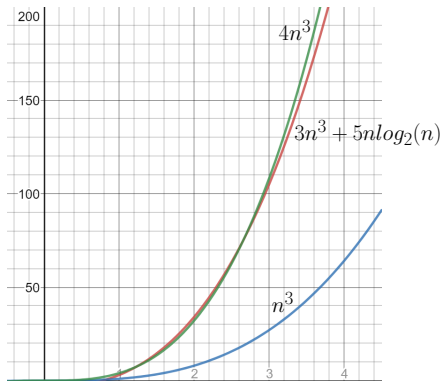
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$$\triangleright c = 4 \text{ and } n_0 = 3$$



Big Oh: Common Rules

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- Lower order terms are ignored
 - n^a dominates n^b if $a > b$
- Multiplicative constants are omitted
 - e.g. $7n^4 + 3n^3 + 10 = O(n^4)$
 - e.g. $3n^3 + 5n \log n = O(n^3)$

Big Oh: Common Rules

A function $g(n) \in O(f(n))$ if there exists constants $c > 0$ and $n_0 \geq 0$ such that

$$\forall n \geq n_0 \quad g(n) \leq c \cdot f(n)$$

$$\begin{aligned} f(n) &= pn^2 + qn + r \\ &\leq |p|n^2 + |q|n^2 + |r|n^2 \\ &= (|p| + |q| + |r|)n^2 \end{aligned}$$

This is true for all $n \geq 1$, hence with $c = (|p| + |q| + |r|)$ we get that $f(n) = O(n^2)$

Big Oh: Justification to ignore lower order terms

Let the runtime of algorithm \mathcal{A} be $T(n) := n^2 + 10n$

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Consider an input size of 10^9 , then

$$n^2 + 100n = 10^{18} + 10^{11} \quad \text{and} \quad n^2 = 10^{18}$$

$$\text{fractional error} = \frac{10^{11}}{10^{18}} = 10^{-7}$$

Goal 1: Determine the runtime of an algorithm on inputs of **large size**

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For $n = 10^9$, $T(n) = n^2 + 10n$ is only 0.00001% more than n^2

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Linear $f(n) = 5n$

$$n : 5n$$

$$2n : 2(5n)$$

$$3n : 3(5n)$$

$$4n : 4(5n)$$

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Quadratic $f(n) = 7n^2$

$$n : 7n^2$$

$$2n : 4(7n^2)$$

$$3n : 9(7n^2)$$

$$4n : 16(7n^2)$$

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Cubic $f(n) = 2n^3$

$$n : 2n^3$$

$$2n : 8(2n^3)$$

$$3n : 27(2n^3)$$

$$4n : 64(2n^3)$$

Since we are concerned with scalability of algorithm, the same growth factor is observed if we consider $f(n) = n$, $f(n) = n^2$, and $f(n) = n^3$

Non tightness of Big Oh

Note: $O(\cdot)$ expresses only an upper bound on growth rate of a function

- ▷ It does not necessarily give the exact growth rate of the function

For example, $f(n) = 3n^2 + 4n + 5 = O(n^2)$ it is also $O(n^3)$

Indeed, $f(n) \leq 12n^2$ and also $f(n) \leq 12n^3$

Big Oh: Finding the right constants

Let $g(n) = 7n + 4$ and $f(n) = n$

$$g(n) = O(f(n))$$

▷ take $c = 8$ and $n_0 = 4$, $7n + 4 \leq 8(n)$ whenever $n_0 \geq 4$,

1 To get c : We want $7n + 4 \leq cn$

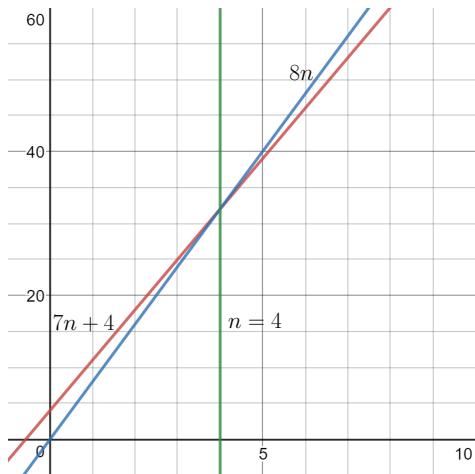
Solving the inequality for c , we get $c \geq \frac{7n}{n} + \frac{4}{n}$

For $n \geq 4$, $8 \geq 7 + \frac{4}{n}$

▷ Observe that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{7n+4}{n} \rightarrow 7$, but this ($c = 7$) would require n_0 to be approaching ∞ , so we take $c = 8$

2 To get n_0 : We want $7n + 4 \leq 8n$, this is true whenever $n \geq 4$

Big Oh: Finding the right constants



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Let $f(n) = 6n + 24$ and $h(n) = n^2$,

$$f(n) = O(h(n))$$

As $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{6n + 24}{n^2} \rightarrow 0$, so any $c > 0$ will work.

for $c = 1$, we want

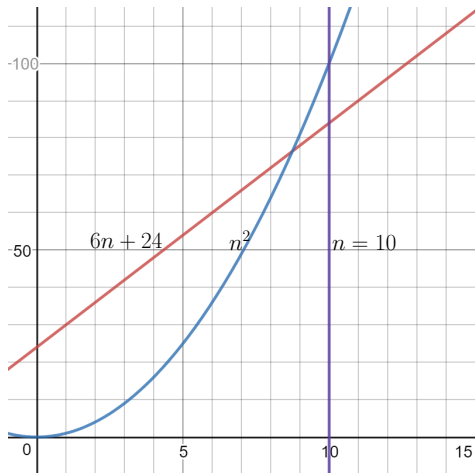
$$6n + 24 \leq 1 \cdot n^2$$

which is true whenever $n \geq 10$

So we choose $c = 1$ and $n_0 = 10$

More examples in lecture notes and problem set

Big Oh: Finding the right constants

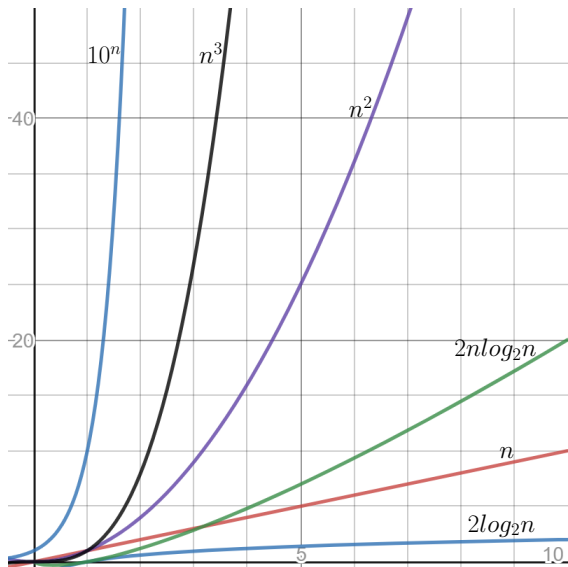


Asymptotic-Complexity Classes

Class Name	Class Symbol	Example
Constant	$O(1)$	Comparison of two integers
Logarithmic	$O(\log(n))$	Binary Search, Exponentiation
Linear	$O(n)$	Linear Search
Log-Linear	$O(n \log(n))$	Merge Sort
Quadratic	$O(n^2)$	Integer multiplications
Cubic	$O(n^3)$	Matrix multiplication
Polynomial	$O(n^a), a \in \mathbb{R}$	
Exponential	$O(a^n), a \in \mathbb{R}$	Print all subsets
Factorial	$O(n!)$	Print all permutations

$$n! \gg 2^n \gg n^3 \gg n^2 \gg n \log n \gg n \gg \log n \gg 1$$

Growth Rates of Functions



Big Oh: Why does it make sense?

Runtimes of algorithms of different runtime for input size n (on 1GHz PC). Assume that each operation takes 1 ns

n	$O(\log n)$	$O(n)$	$O(n \log n)$	$O(n^2)$	$O(2^n)$	$O(n!)$
10	$0.003\mu s$	$0.01\mu s$	$0.033\mu s$	$0.1\mu s$	$1\mu s$	$3.63ms$
20	$0.004\mu s$	$0.02\mu s$	$0.086\mu s$	$0.4\mu s$	$1ms$	$77.1 yrs$
30	$0.005\mu s$	$0.03\mu s$	$0.147\mu s$	$0.9\mu s$	$1sec$	$8 \cdot 10^{15} yrs$
40	$0.005\mu s$	$0.04\mu s$	$0.213\mu s$	$1.6\mu s$	$18.3min$	very long
50	$0.006\mu s$	$0.05\mu s$	$0.282\mu s$	$2.5\mu s$	$13 days$	very long
100	$0.007\mu s$	$0.10\mu s$	$0.644\mu s$	$10\mu s$	$4 \cdot 10^{13} yrs$	very long
10^3	$0.010\mu s$	$1.00\mu s$	$9.966\mu s$	$1ms$	very long	very long
10^4	$0.013\mu s$	$10\mu s$	$130\mu s$	$100ms$	very long	very long
10^5	$0.017\mu s$	$0.10ms$	$1.67ms$	$10sec$	very long	very long
10^6	$0.020\mu s$	$1ms$	$19.93ms$	$16.7min$	very long	very long
10^7	$0.023\mu s$	$0.01sec$	$0.23sec$	$1.16 days$	very long	very long
10^8	$0.027\mu s$	$0.10sec$	$2.66sec$	$115.7 days$	very long	very long
10^9	$0.030\mu s$	$1sec$	$29.90sec$	$31.7 yrs$	very long	very long