

1. Time and Space Analysis of Algorithms

1.1 Asymptotic Notation

1. Asymptotic Notation 1

1.1.1 Big (oh)

→ used to represent exact or upper bound of growth i.e. Worst Time

→ Definition:

$$f(n) = O(g(n)) \text{ iff}$$

there exist constants C and n_0

$$\therefore f(n) \leq C g(n) \text{ for all } n \geq n_0$$

Example $f(n) = 2n + 3$

This term comes from having one value above the highest term
 $\rightarrow 2n + 3 \rightarrow 2n + 3n = 3n$

Sol This can be written as $2n + 3 \leq 3n$
where $C = 3$ $g(n) = n$

$$\text{now } 2n + 3 \leq 3n$$

$$\Rightarrow 3 \leq n$$

$$\therefore \text{we get } n_0 = 3$$

here $f(n)$ = Actual Time and space used by the Algorithm

$g(n)$ = A simplified function representing growth rate

C = A constant multiplier

n_0 = A threshold input size for which the inequality holds

Direct way-

1. Ignore lower order terms
2. Ignore leading term constant

eg: $3n^2 + 5n + 6 \Rightarrow O(n^2)$

$$3n + 10n \log n + 3 \Rightarrow O(n \log n)$$

$$10n^3 + 40n + 10 \Rightarrow O(n^3)$$

Big O notation for multiple variable

$$100n^2 + 1000m + n \Rightarrow O(n^2 + m)$$

$$1000n^2 + 200mn + 30m + 20n \Rightarrow O(m^2 + mn)$$

1.1.2 Omega Notation (Ω)

→ used to describe best case or lower bound performance of an Algorithm.
or min time

Definition

A function $f(n)$ is said to be
$$f(n) = \Omega(g(n))$$

if there exist constants $c > 0$ and n_0

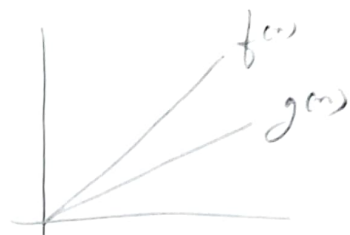
\therefore for all $n > n_0$, $f(n) \geq c \cdot g(n)$

where $f(n)$: Actual time or space complexity

$g(n)$: function representing the lower bound

c : constant multiplier

n_0 : threshold input size from which the inequality holds



Examples : $f(n) = 2n + 3$

$$\Rightarrow 2n + 3 \geq \frac{1}{2}n$$

$$\Rightarrow -3 \leq n$$

$$\text{or } n_0 \geq 0$$

$$\therefore c = 1 \quad n_0 = 0$$

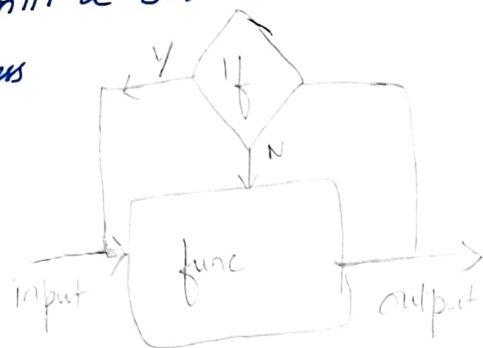
$$c \cdot g(n)$$

$$c = 1 \quad n = 0$$

derived from $2 - 1 = 1$
 $\Rightarrow 1$ less

4. Recursion

Definition: A function that calls itself, usually with a simpler input each time until a base case is reached which stops the process



Recursive function rely on call STACK to store info on active function calls

- each time a function calls itself, a new frame is added to the stack
- when the base case is reached, recursive calls start returning and the stack begins to unwind
- if a proper base case isn't provided, we get a stack overflow error

A good way to visualize Recursion is by using a stack trace

eg: a func to print numbers N to 1

sof

func(5)

└ 5

• func(4)

└ 4

func(3)

└ 3

func(2)

└ 2

func(1)

└ 1

└ x

$\therefore n = 5$

here func($n-1$)
└ Print(n)
func($n-2$)

Application of Recursion

1. Many Algorithms are based on Recursion
eg: Dynamic Programming
Backtracking
Divide & Conquer

2. Many Problem inherently require Recursion
eg: Tower of Hanoi
Graph Traversal

3. Real world Examples

1. Traversing file Systems
2. Parsing Nested Data Structures

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Iteration vs Recursion

Definition

Concept

Method

flow Control

End point

Recursion

func calls itself

func stack

Base case

Iteration

uses loops

loop ctrl var

loop termination Condition

- Recursion Breaks the problem into sub problems
- Iteration solves the problem by repeatedly executing a block of code

every Recursive func can be converted into Iterative but the Reverse ~~is~~ can be done, but may not always be useful

(Recursion adds Function Call Overhead, which increases CPU time & memory)

When to Use Which ?

Use Recursion When

- 1) Problem has recursive nature
eg: Trees
- 2) You need cleaner, simpler logic
- 3) Divide & conquer Algo

Use Iteration When

- 1) Task involves repeated Action
- 2) Performance is critical
- 3) Linear process like summing a list

Mnemonic

Recursion thinks like a Mathematician

Iteration works like a Machine

Tail Recursion

tail Recursion is a special kind of Recursion where:

recursive call is the Last Operation before returning the result, with no further computation needed Afterwards

eg:

```
func (int n)
{
  if (n == 0)
    return ;
  func (n-1);
  print (n);
}
```

Not Tail Recursive

accumulator
↓

```
func (int n, int k)
{
  if (n == 0)
    return
  print (k)
  func (n-1, k+1)
}
```

Tail Recursive

Some languages support TCO or Tail call optimization where the compiler:

- 1) Reuses current func stack frame instead of creating a new one
- 2) Avoids stack overflow

eg: ✓ JS, Scala, Java (Not supported but can be simulated)

X Python