

# COMP 250

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## INTRODUC TER SCIENCE

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Week 6-8: Asympt

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Giulia Alberini, Fall 2020

# WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO IN THIS VIDEO?



- Properties of Asymptotic notations

- Big-Omega,  $\Omega(\cdot)$

- Big-Theta,  $\Theta(\cdot)$

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# RULES OF BIG-OH

- Scaling
- Sum rule
- Product Rule
- Transitivity

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## SCALING

For all constant factors  $a > 0$ ,

if  $f(n)$  is  $O(g(n))$ , then  $a \cdot f(n)$  is also  $O(g(n))$ .

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(This rule is obvious if you understand the definition of big  $O$ )

## SCALING

For all constant factors  $a > 0$ ,  
if  $f(n)$  is  $O(g(n))$ , then  $a \cdot f(n)$  is also  $O(g(n))$ .

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*Proof:* By definition, if  $f(n) = O(g(n))$ ,  
there exist constants  $n_0$  and  $c$  such that, for all  $n$

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sitive

$$f(n) \leq c \cdot g(n).$$

Thus, ...?

## SCALING

For all constant factors  $a > 0$ ,

if  $f(n)$  is  $O(g(n))$ , then  $a \cdot f(n)$  is also  $O(g(n))$ .

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*Proof:* By definition, if  $f(n) = O(g(n))$

sitive

constants  $n_0$  and  $c$  such that, for all  $n$

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$$f(n) \leq c g(n).$$

Thus,

$$a \cdot f(n) \leq \underbrace{a c}_{\text{constant}} g(n)$$

This constant satisfies the definition that  $a \cdot f(n)$  is  $O(g(n))$

## SUM RULE

If  $f_1(n)$  is  $O(g(n))$  and  $f_2(n)$  is  $O(g(n))$ , then  $f_1(n) + f_2(n)$  is  $O(g(n))$ .

*Proof: ...*

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## SUM RULE

If  $f_1(n)$  is  $O(g(n))$  and  $f_2(n)$  is  $O(g(n))$ , then  $f_1(n) + f_2(n)$  is  $O(g(n))$ .

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*Proof:* Let  $n_1, c_1$  and  $n_2, c_2$

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$f_1(n) \leq c_1 g(n)$  for all  $n \geq n_1$  and  $f_2(n) \leq c_2 g(n)$  for all  $n \geq n_2$

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## SUM RULE

If  $f_1(n)$  is  $O(g(n))$  and  $f_2(n)$  is  $O(g(n))$ , then  $f_1(n) + f_2(n)$  is  $O(g(n))$ .

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*Proof:* Let  $n_1, c_1$  and  $n_2, c_2$

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$f_1(n) \leq c_1 g(n)$  for all  $n \geq n_1$  and  $f_2(n) \leq c_2 g(n)$  for all  $n \geq n_2$

Then,

$$f_1(n) + f_2(n) \leq \underbrace{(c_1 + c_2)}_{\text{These constants satisfy the big } O \text{ definition}} \underbrace{g(n)}_{\text{These constants satisfy the big } O \text{ definition}} \text{ for all } n \geq \max(n_1, n_2)$$

These constants satisfy the big  $O$  definition

## SUM RULE (MORE GENERAL)

If  $f_1(n)$  is  $O(g_1(n))$  and  $f_2(n)$  is  $O(g_2(n))$ ,

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Then  $f_1(n) + f_2(n)$  is  $O(\quad)$

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*Proof:* Try it!

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## PRODUCT RULE

If  $f_1(n)$  is  $O(g_1(n))$  and  $f_2(n)$  is  $O(g_2(n))$ , then  $f_1(n) * f_2(n)$  is  $O(g_1(n) * g_2(n))$ .

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*Proof: ...*

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## PRODUCT RULE

If  $f_1(n)$  is  $O(g_1(n))$  and  $f_2(n)$  is  $O(g_2(n))$ , then  $f_1(n) * f_2(n)$  is  $O(g_1(n) * g_2(n))$ .

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*Proof:* Let  $n_1, c_1$  and  $n_2, c_2$

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$f_1(n) \leq c_1 g_1(n)$  for all  $n \geq n_1$  and  $f_2(n) \leq c_2 g_2(n)$  for all  $n \geq n_2$

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## PRODUCT RULE

If  $f_1(n)$  is  $O(g_1(n))$  and  $f_2(n)$  is  $O(g_2(n))$ , then  $f_1(n) * f_2(n)$  is  $O(g_1(n) * g_2(n))$ .

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Proof: Let  $n_1, c_1$  and  $n_2, c_2$

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$f_1(n) \leq c_1 g_1(n)$  for all  $n \geq n_1$  and  $f_2(n) \leq c_2 g_2(n)$  for all  $n \geq n_2$

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Then,

$$f_1(n) * f_2(n) \leq \underbrace{c_1 c_2}_{\text{constants}} \underbrace{g_1(n) * g_2(n)}_{\text{product of functions}} \text{ for all } n \geq \max(n_1, n_2)$$

These constants satisfy the big  $O$  definition

## TRANSITIVITY RULE

If  $f(n)$  is  $O(g(n))$  and  $g(n)$  is  $O(h(n))$ , then... ?

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## TRANSITIVITY RULE

If  $f(n)$  is  $O(g(n))$  and  $g(n)$  is  $O(h(n))$ , then  $f(n)$  is  $O(h(n))$ .

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## TRANSITIVITY RULE

If  $f(n)$  is  $O(g(n))$  and  $g(n)$  is  $O(h(n))$ , then  $f(n)$  is  $O(h(n))$ .

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Proof: Let  $n_1, c_1$  and  $n_2$ ,

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$f(n) \leq c_1 g(n)$  for all  $n \geq n_1$  and  $g(n) \leq c_2 h(n)$  for all  $n \geq n_2$

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## TRANSITIVITY RULE

If  $f(n)$  is  $O(g(n))$  and  $g(n)$  is  $O(h(n))$ , then  $f(n)$  is  $O(h(n))$ .

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Proof: Let  $n_1, c_1$  and  $n_2,$

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$f(n) \leq c_1 g(n)$  for all  $n \geq n_1$  and  $g(n) \leq c_2 h(n)$  for all  $n \geq n_2$

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Then,

$$f(n) \leq \underbrace{c_1 c_2}_{\text{constant}} \underbrace{h(n)}_{\text{function}} \text{ for all } n \geq \max(n_1, n_2)$$

These constants satisfy the big  $O$  definition

# COMMON FUNCTIONS

Claim: each of the following holds for  $n$  sufficiently large

$$\underbrace{1 < \log_2 n < n}_{n \geq 3} \quad \underbrace{2^2 < 2^3 < \dots < 2^n < n!}_{n \geq 4}$$

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$$n^3 < 2^n \quad \text{for } n \geq 10$$

## COMMON FUNCTIONS

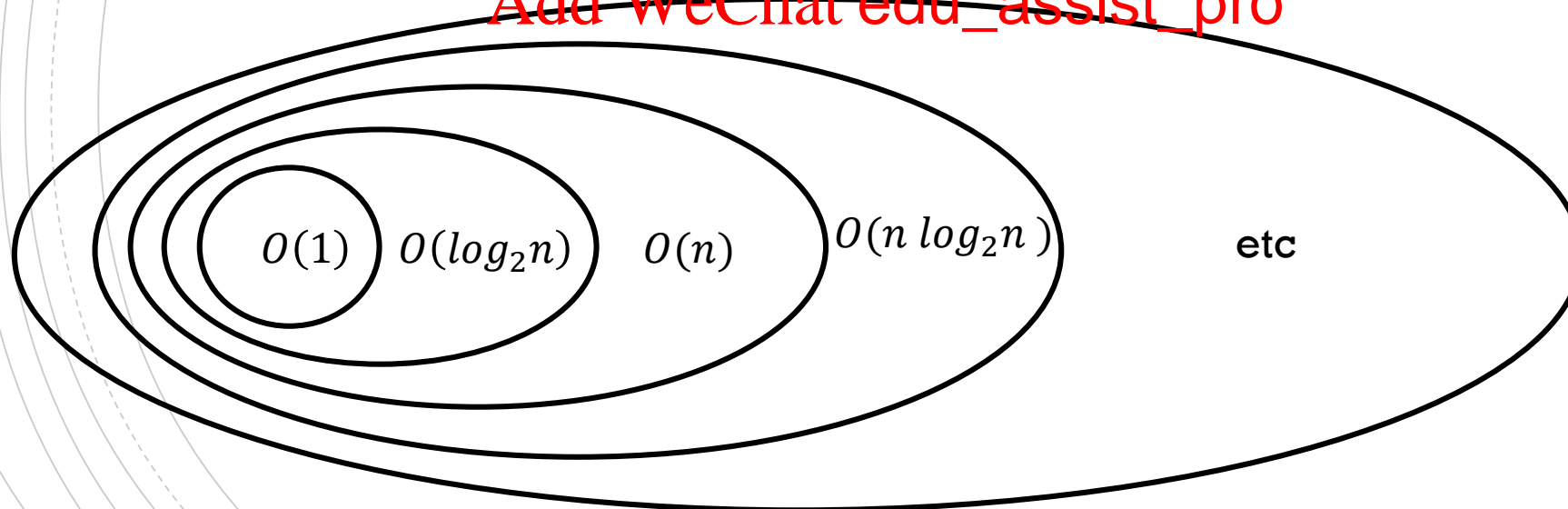
Each of the following holds for  $n$  sufficiently large:

$$1 < \log_2 n < n < n \log_2 n < n^2 < n^3 < \dots < 2^n < n!$$

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Thus we have the following st <https://eduassistpro.github.io/>

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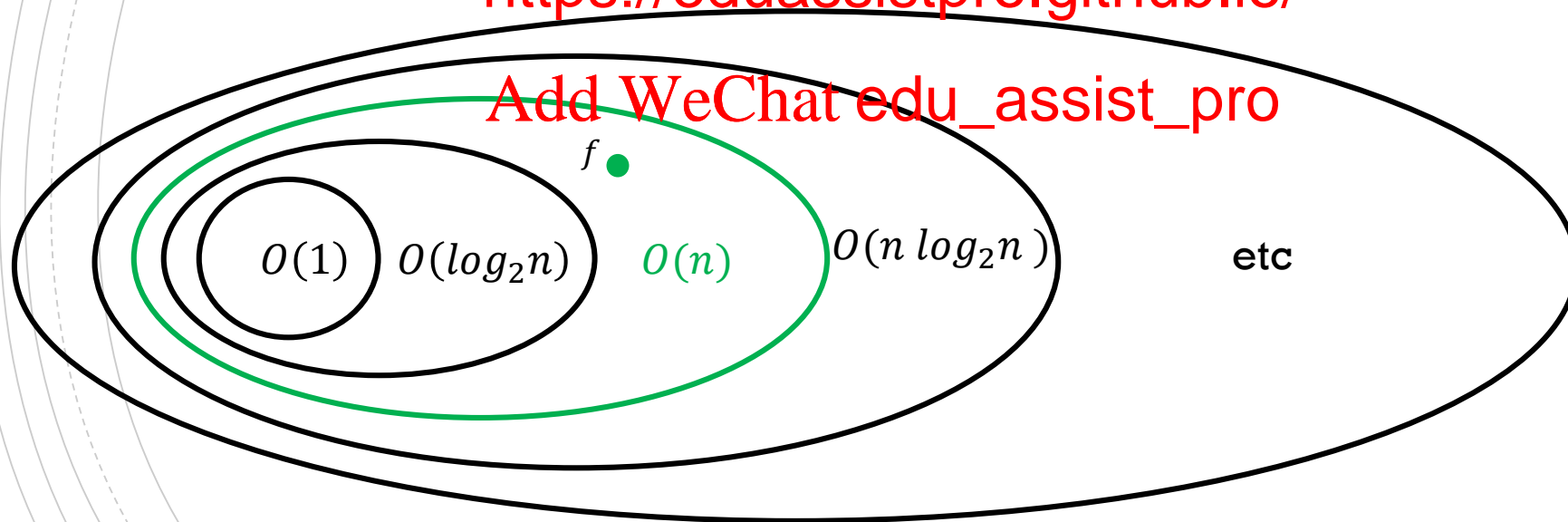
## BACK TO TIGHT BOUNDS

If we consider the function  $f(n) = 5n + 7$ , then the **tight upper bound** for  $f$  is  $O(n)$  and not  $O(n \log_2 n)$  for instance.

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## EXAMPLE

Using these claims/rules allow us to say, for example, that

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$f(n) = 3 \frac{\text{https://eduassistpro.github.io/}}{2}$  is  $O(n^2)$ .

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## GENERAL OBSERVATION

Never write  $O(3n)$ ,  $O(5 \log_2 n)$ , etc.

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Instead, write  $O(n)$ ,  $O(\log$  <https://eduassistpro.github.io/>

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Why? The set  $O(3n)$  is exactly the same set defined by  $O(n)$ , and so are the others.

It is still *technically* correct to write the above. We just don't do it to avoid dealing with constant factors.

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# ASYMPTOTIC LOWER BOUNDS

Sometimes we want to say that algorithms take *at least* a certain time to run as a function of the input size  $n$ .

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## PRELIMINARY DEFINITION (LOWER BOUND)

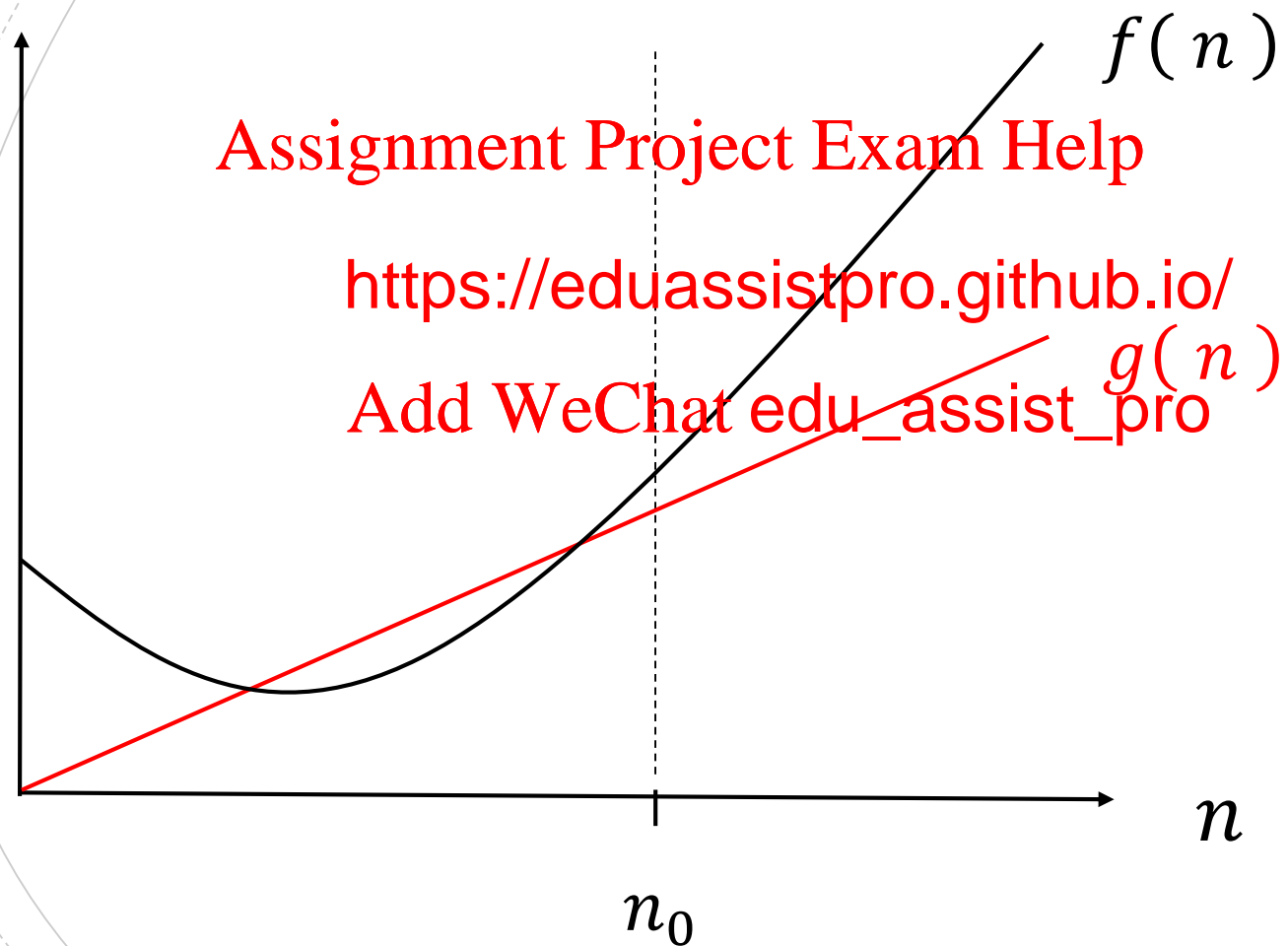
$f(n)$  is asymptotically bounded below by  $g(n)$  if there exists an  $n_0$  such that, for all  $n \geq n_0$ ,

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Add WeChat  $f(n) \geq g(n)$  edu\_assist\_pro

Note: As with big  $O$ , the constant  $n_0$  is not unique. If the definition works for some  $n_0$  then it will work for larger  $n_0$  too.

## GRAPHICALLY



## EXAMPLE

**Claim:**  $f(n) = \frac{n(n-1)}{2}$  is asymptotically bounded below by  $g(n) = \frac{n^2}{4}$ .

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**To prove:** show that there exists  $n_0$  such that  $\frac{n(n-1)}{2} \geq \frac{n^2}{4}$  for all  $n \geq n_0$ .

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## EXAMPLE

**Claim:**  $f(n) = \frac{n(n-1)}{2}$  is asymptotically bounded below by  $g(n) = \frac{n^2}{4}$ .

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**Proof:**  $\frac{n(n-1)}{2} \geq \frac{n^2}{4}$

$$\Leftrightarrow 2n(n-1) \geq n^2$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 2n^2 - 2n \geq n^2$$

$$\Leftrightarrow n^2 \geq 2n$$

$$\Leftrightarrow n \geq 2$$

So, we can use  $n_0 = 2$ .

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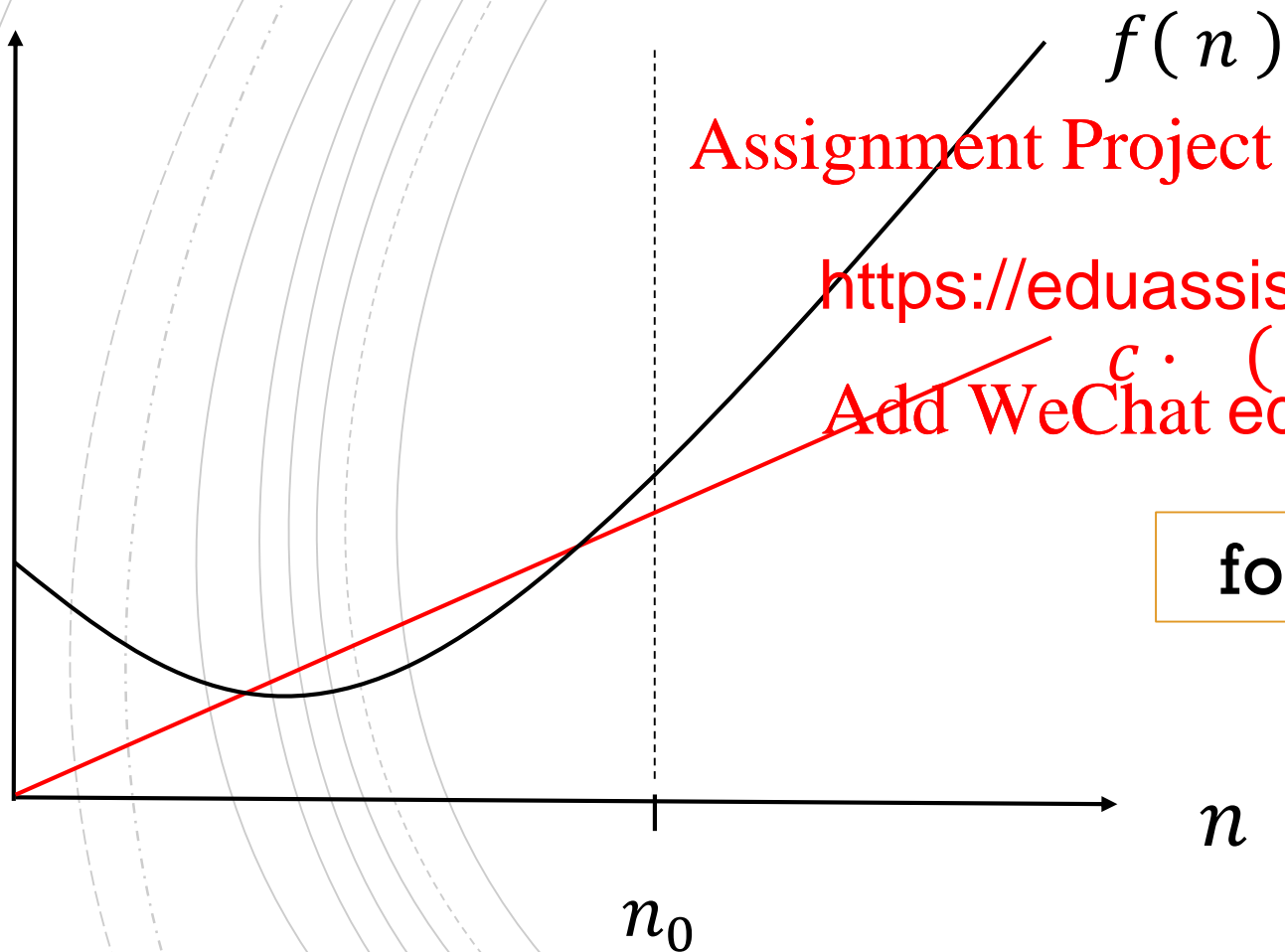
## FORMAL DEFINITION OF BIG OMEGA ( $\Omega$ )

Given a function  $g(n)$ , we denote by  $\Omega(g(n))$  (“big-omega of  $g$  of  $n$ ”) the following set of functions:

$$\Omega(g(n)) = \{f(n) : \text{there exist positive } c \text{ and } n_0 \text{ such that } f(n) \geq cg(n) \text{ for } n \geq n_0\}$$

We use the  $\Omega$ -notation to describe an **asymptotic lower bound**.

## GRAPHICALLY



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

## EXAMPLE

**Claim:**  $f(n) = \frac{n(n-1)}{2}$  is  $\Omega(n^2)$ .

*Proof(1):* Use  $c = \frac{1}{4}$  and the de

$$\frac{n(n-1)}{2} \geq \frac{n^2}{4}$$

$\Leftrightarrow :$

$$\Leftrightarrow n \geq 2$$

So, we can take  $n_0 = 2$  and  $c = \frac{1}{4}$

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## EXAMPLE

**Claim:**  $f(n) = \frac{n(n-1)}{2}$  is  $\Omega(n^2)$ .

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*Proof (2):* Let's try  $c = \frac{1}{3}$

$$\frac{n(n-1)}{2} \geq \frac{n^2}{3}$$

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$$\Leftrightarrow 3n(n-1) \geq 2n^2$$

$$\Leftrightarrow n^2 \geq 3n$$

$$\Leftrightarrow n \geq 3$$

So, we can take  $n_0 = 3$  and  $c = \frac{1}{3}$



## BACK TO INSERTION SORT

At the beginning of last lecture we found the function describing the best-case running time for insertion sort.

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where  $a$ , and  $b$  are some constants,  $a$

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**Claim:**  $T_{best}(n)$  is  $\Omega(n)$

## $T_{best}(n)$ IS $\Omega(n)$ – PROOF

**Claim:**  $T_{best}(n)$  is  $\Omega(n)$

**Proof:**  $T_{best}(n) = an + b$

$$\geq an + \text{https://eduassistpro.github.io/}$$
$$= (a + b)n \text{ Add WeChat edu\_assist\_pro}$$

So we can take  $c = a + b$  (which is positive since it is equal to  $T_{best}(1)$ ) and  $n_0 = 1$ .

## OBSERVATION ON BEST-CASE LOWER BOUNDS

- Since  $\Omega$ -notation describes a lower bound, when we use it to bound the best-case running time, we have a lower bound on the running time for every input.

That is,

Since  $T(n) \geq T_{best}(n)$ , if  $T_{best}(n) = \Omega(g(n))$  then  $T(n) = \Omega(g(n))$

# INSERTION SORT

What do we know about the running time of insertion sort up to know?

- We computed  $T(n)$ ,  $T_{best}(n)$ , and  $T_{worst}(n)$
- We have proved that  $T_{worst}(n)$  is  $O(n^2)$ , and  $T_{best}(n)$  is  $\Omega(n)$
- Therefore,  $T(n)$  is both  $O(n^2)$  and  $\Omega(n)$ .

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TRY IT!

Prove that the scaling, sum, product, and transitivity rules all hold for big Omega also.

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## BACK TO THE COMMON FUNCTIONS

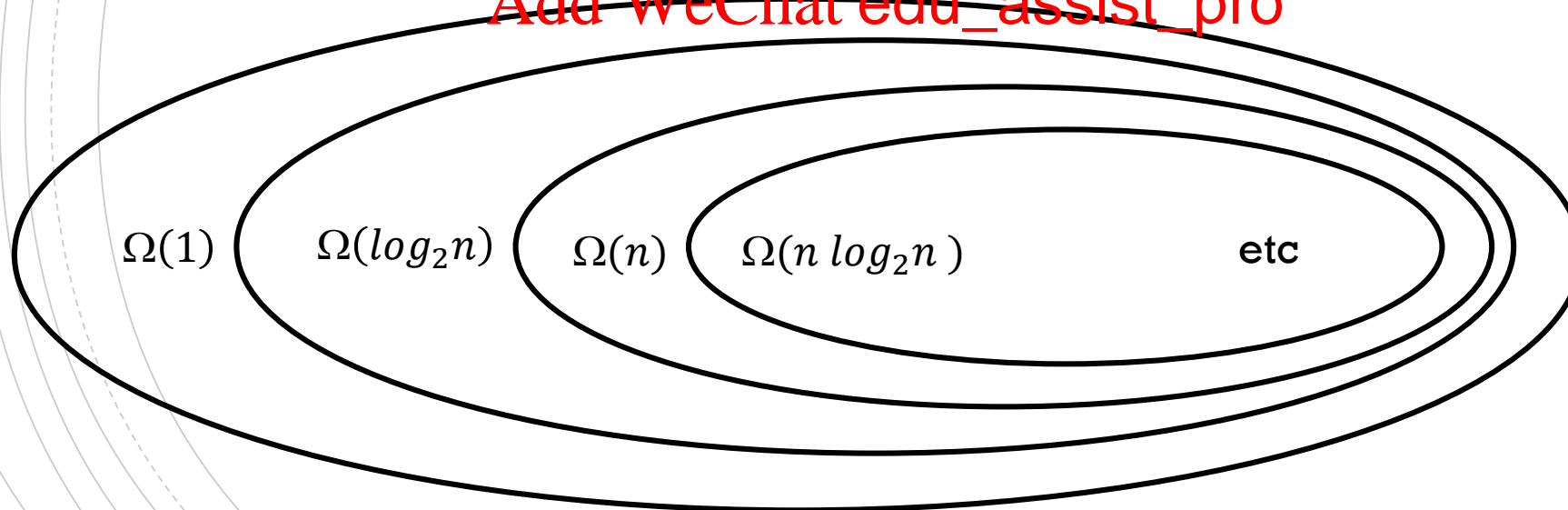
Each of the following holds for  $n$  sufficiently large:

$$1 < \log_2 n < n < n \log_2 n < n^2 < n^3 < \dots < 2^n < n!$$

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Thus we have the following st <https://eduassistpro.github.io/>

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## FORMAL DEFINITION OF BIG THETA ( $\Theta$ )

Given a function  $g(n)$ , we denote by  $\Theta(g(n))$  (“big-theta of  $g$  of  $n$ ”) the following set of functions

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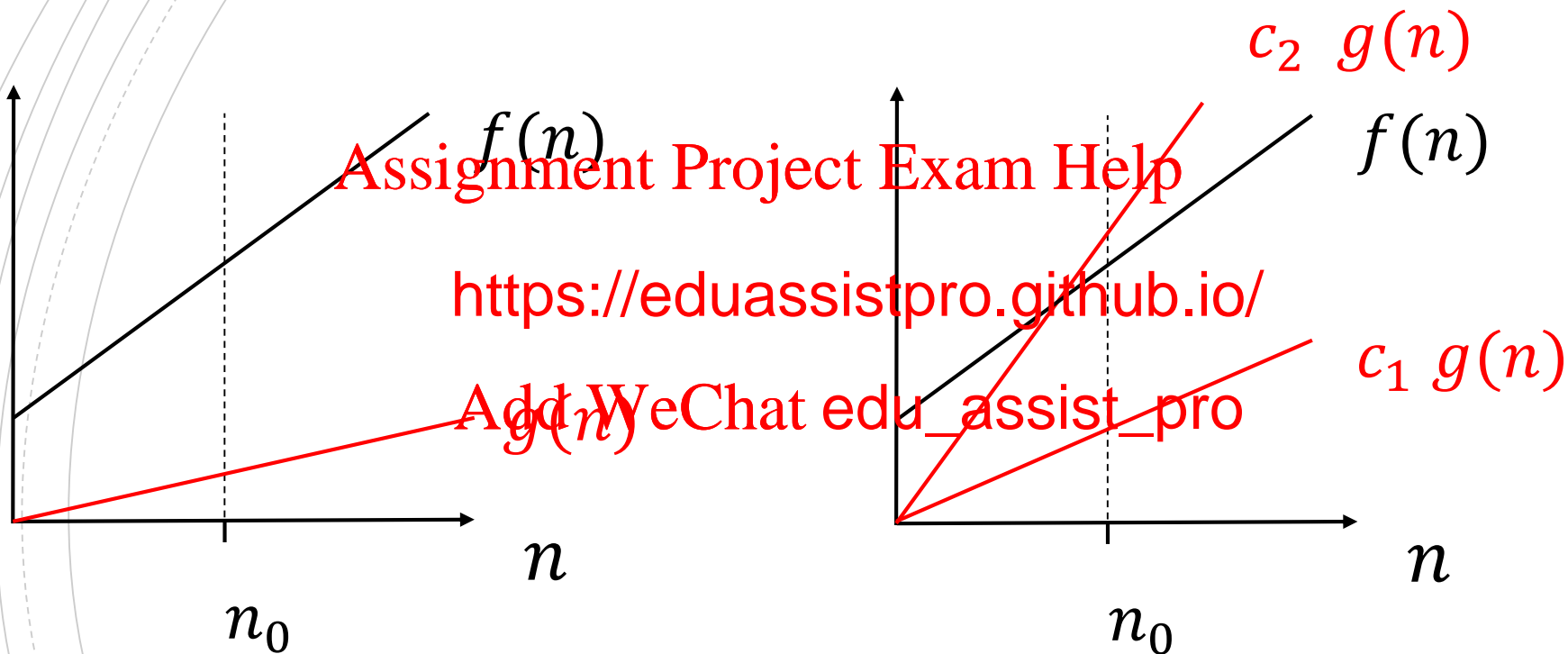
$$\Theta(g(n)) = \{f(n): \text{there exist positive } c_1, c_2 \text{ and } n_0 \text{ such that } c_1g(n) \leq f(n) \leq c_2g(n) \text{ for } n \geq n_0\}$$

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We use the  $\Theta$ -notation to describe an **asymptotic tight bound**.



## GRAPHICALLY



$$f(n) \text{ is } \Theta(g(n)).$$

## EXAMPLE

**Claim:**  $f(n) = \frac{1}{2}n^2 - 3n$  is  $\Theta(n^2)$ .

*Proof:* We need to find 3 posit

uch that

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$c_1 n^2 \leq \frac{1}{2} n^2 -$   
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for all  $n \geq n_0$ .

## EXAMPLE

**Claim:**  $f(n) = \frac{1}{2}n^2 - 3n$  is  $\Theta(n^2)$ .

*Proof:* We need to find 3 positive constants  $c_1, c_2$ , and  $n$  such that

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$c_1 n^2 \leq \frac{1}{2}n^2 -$   
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for all  $n \geq n_0$ .

Dividing by  $n^2$  we get

$$c_1 \leq \frac{1}{2} - \frac{3}{n} \leq c_2$$

The right hand inequality holds for all  $n \geq 1$  if we chose any  $c_2 \geq \frac{1}{2}$ .

The left hand inequality holds for all  $n \geq 7$  if we chose any  $c_1 \leq \frac{1}{14}$ .

## EXAMPLE

**Claim:**  $f(n) = \frac{1}{2}n^2 - 3n$  is  $\Theta(n^2)$ .

*Proof:* We need to find 3 positive constants  $c_1, c_2$  and  $n_0$  such that

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uch that

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$c_1 n^2 \leq \frac{1}{2}n^2 - 3n \leq c_2 n^2$   
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for all  $n \geq n_0$ .

The right hand inequality holds for all  $n \geq 1$  if we chose any  $c_2 \geq \frac{1}{2}$ .

The left hand inequality holds for all  $n \geq 7$  if we chose any  $c_1 \leq \frac{1}{14}$ .

Pick  $n_0 = 7, c_1 = 1/14, c_2 = 1/2$ .

## DEFINITION OF BIG THETA ( $\Theta$ )

Let  $f(n)$  and  $g(n)$  be two functions of  $n \geq 0$ .

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We say  $f(n)$  is  $\Theta(g(n))$  if there exist positive constants

$n_0$ ,  $c_1$ ,  $c_2$  such that for all  $n \geq n_0$

$$c_1 g(n) \leq f(n) \leq c_2 g(n)$$

$f(n)$  is  $O(g(n))$

## DEFINITION OF BIG THETA ( $\Theta$ )

Let  $f(n)$  and  $g(n)$  be two functions of  $n \geq 0$ .

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We say  $f(n)$  is  $\Theta(g(n))$  if there exist positive constants

$n_0$ ,  $c_1$ ,  $c_2$  such that for all  $n \geq n_0$

$$c_1 g(n) \leq f(n) \leq c_2 g(n)$$

$f(n)$  is  $\Omega(g(n))$

## THEOREM

For any two functions  $f(n)$  and  $g(n)$ ,

$$f(n) = \Theta(g(n))$$

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if and only if

$$f(n) = \Omega(g(n))$$

## EXAMPLE 2

**Claim:**  $f(n) = 4 + 17 \log_2 n + 3n + 9n \log_2 n + \frac{n(n-1)}{2}$  is  $\Theta(n^2)$ .

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*Proof:*

$$\frac{n^2}{4} \leq f(n) \leq \left(4 + 1 + \frac{1}{2}\right) n^2$$

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In general, you want to set  $c_1$  to be a value that is slightly smaller than the coefficient of the highest-order term and  $c_2$  to be a value that is slightly larger.



## DOES A TIGHT BOUND ALWAYS EXIST?

For every  $f(n)$ , does there exist a “simple”  $g(n)$  such that  $f(n)$  is  $\Theta(g(n))$  ?

No, as this contrived example shows:

Let  $f(n) = \begin{cases} n, & n \text{ is odd} \\ n^2, & n \text{ is even} \end{cases}$

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$f(n)$  is  $O(n^2)$ , but  $f(n)$  is *not*  $O(n)$ .

$f(n)$  is  $\Omega(n)$ , but  $f(n)$  is *not*  $\Omega(n^2)$ .

## DOES A TIGHT BOUND ALWAYS EXIST?

We can also think about the function representing the running time of insertion sort.

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$T_{best}(n) \in \Theta(n)$  and  $T_{worst}(n) \in \Theta(n^2)$

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$\Rightarrow T(n) \in O(n^2), T(n) \in \Omega(n)$

AND

$T(n) \notin \Theta(n), T(n) \notin \Theta(n^2)$

Note that it is improper to say that  $T(n)$  is  $O(n^2)$  (for instance), since for even  $n$ , the actual running time varies, depending on the particular input. When we say that, what we mean is that there exists a function  $f(n)$  which is  $O(n^2)$  and  $T$  is bounded above by  $f$ , no matter the particular input of size  $n$ .

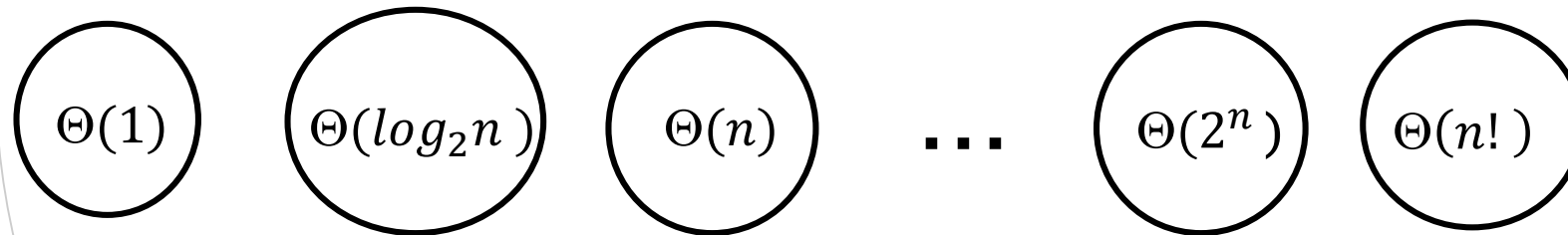
## SETS OF $\Theta()$ FUNCTIONS

Each of the following holds for  $n$  sufficiently large:

$$1 < \log_2 n < n < n \log_2 n < n^2 < n^3 < \dots < 2^n < n!$$

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# Coming Soon

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In the next

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