

# Growth of Functions

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## 3.1 Asymptotic notation

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a set

**$\Theta$ -notation:**  $f(n) = \Theta(g(n))$

$g(n)$  is an asymptotically tight bound for  $f(n)$ .

$\Theta(g(n)) = \{f(n) \mid \text{there exist positive constants } c_1, c_2, \text{ and } n_0 \text{ such that}$

$$0 \leq c_1 g(n) \leq f(n) \leq c_2 g(n)$$

for all  $n \geq n_0$

調小

調大

when  $n$  is sufficiently large

**Example:** Prove that  $3n^2 - 6n = \Theta(n^2)$ .

**Proof:** To do so, we have to determine  $c_1, c_2$ , and  $n_0$  such that

$$c_1 n^2 \leq 3n^2 - 6n \leq c_2 n^2 \quad (\text{for all } n > n_0)$$

dividing which by  $n^2$  yields

$$c_1 \leq 3 - 6/n \leq c_2$$

Clearly, by choosing  $c_1=2$ ,  $c_2=3$  and  $n_0=6$  we can verify that  $3n^2 - 6n = \Theta(n^2)$ . Q.E.D.  
There are many choices!

- $f(n) = \Theta(g(n))$  iff  $g(n) = \Theta(f(n))$ , Ex.  $n^2 = \Theta(3n^2 - 6n)$

**$O$ -notation:**  $f(n) = O(g(n))$

$g(n)$  is an asymptotically upper bound for  $f(n)$ .

$O(g(n)) = \{f(n) \mid \text{there exist positive constants } c \text{ and } n_0 \text{ such that}$

$$\underbrace{0 \leq f(n) \leq cg(n)}_{\text{調大}} \text{ for all } n \geq n_0\}$$

- $\Theta(g(n)) \subseteq O(g(n))$
- $f(n) = \Theta(g(n))$  implies  $f(n) = O(g(n))$
- $6n = O(n)$ ,  $6n = O(n^2)$
- "The running time is  $O(n^2)$ " means "the worst-case running time is  $O(n^2)$ ."

**$\Omega$ -notation:**  $f(n) = \Omega(g(n))$

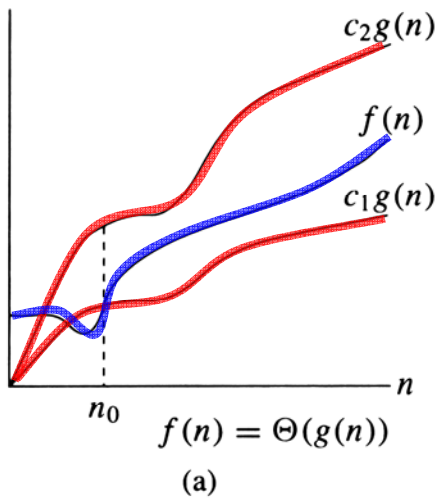
$g(n)$  is an asymptotically lower bound for  $f(n)$ .

$\Omega(g(n)) = \{f(n) \mid \text{there exists positive constants } c \text{ and } n_0 \text{ such that}$

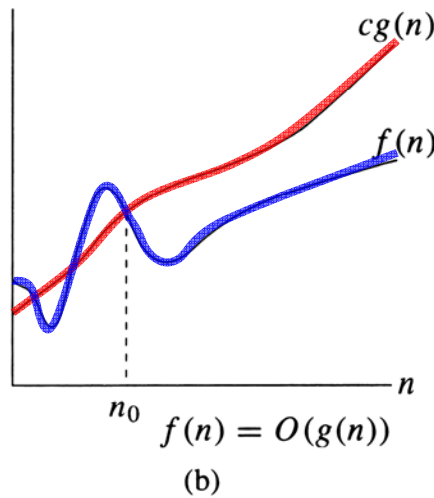
$$\underbrace{0 \leq cg(n) \leq f(n)}_{\text{調小}} \text{ for all } n \geq n_0\}$$

- $f(n) = \Theta(g(n))$  iff  $(f(n) = O(g(n)))$  &  $(f(n) = \Omega(g(n)))$

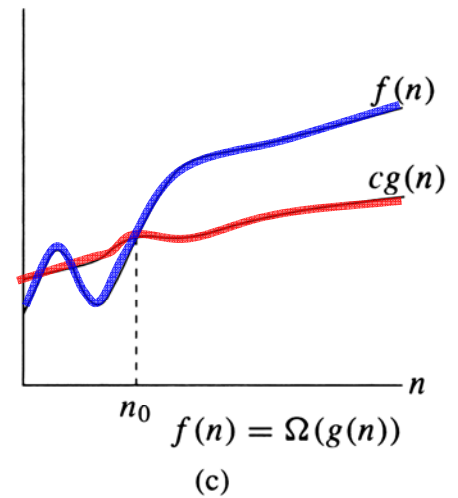
3-3x



tight bound



upper bound



lower bound

3-3v

$$o(g(n)) = O(g(n)) \setminus \Theta(g(n)) ???$$

**o-notation:**  $f(n) = o(g(n))$  (little-oh of  $g$  of  $n$ )

$o(g(n)) = \{f(n) \mid \text{for (any) positive constant } c, \text{ there exists a constant } n_0 > 0 \text{ such that}$

$$0 \leq f(n) < cg(n)$$

for all  $n \geq n_0\}$

任意小

- $2n = o(n^2)$ , but  $2n^2 \neq o(n^2)$ .
- $f(n) = o(g(n))$  can also be defined as

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} = 0.$$

**$\omega$ -notation:**  $f(n) = \omega(g(n))$  (little-omega of  $g$  of  $n$ )

$\omega(g(n)) = \{f(n) \mid \text{for (any) positive constant } c, \text{ there exists a constant } n_0 > 0 \text{ such that}$

$$0 \leq cg(n) < f(n) \quad \text{for all } n \geq n_0\}$$

任意大

- $2n^2 = \omega(n)$ , but  $2n^2 \neq \omega(n^2)$ .
- $f(n) = \omega(g(n))$  iff  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} = \infty$ .

## Comparison of functions

- |               |          |          |          |        |     |
|---------------|----------|----------|----------|--------|-----|
| functions:    | $\omega$ | $\Omega$ | $\Theta$ | $O$    | $o$ |
| real numbers: | $>$      | $\geq$   | $=$      | $\leq$ | $<$ |

- Transitivity, Reflexivity, Symmetry, Transpose 3-4x  
Symmetry

- Any two real numbers can be compared.  
(trichotomy) But, not any two functions can be compared.

Example:  $f(n)=n$  and  $g(n)=n^{1+\sin n}$

**Homework: Problems 3-2, 3-3, 3-4.** (a)~(d) 3-4y

$\lg^* n = k$        $\underbrace{\lg \lg \dots \lg n}_k \leq 1$

# Appendix A: Summation formulas

$$\sum_{k=1}^n (ca_k + b_k) = c \sum_{k=1}^n a_k + \sum_{k=1}^n b_k$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^n k = \frac{1 + 2 + \dots + n}{2} n(n+1) = \Theta(n^2)$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^n x^k = \frac{x^0 + x^1 + x^2 + \dots + x^n}{x-1} = (x^{n+1} - 1)/(x - 1)$$

$$\underline{H_n = \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{k} = \log_e n + O(1)} = O(\lg n) \quad \text{(Harmonic series)}$$

$\log_e n = \int_1^n \frac{1}{x} dx$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} x^k = \frac{1}{1-x} \quad (|x| < 1) \Rightarrow \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} kx^k = \frac{x}{(1-x)^2} \quad (|x| < 1)$$

(differentiating and then multiplying by x)

$$\sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{1}{k(k+1)} = \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \left( \frac{1}{k} - \frac{1}{k+1} \right) = 1 - \frac{1}{n}$$

$$\lg \prod_{k=1}^n a_k = \sum_{k=1}^n \lg a_k$$

$$* \lfloor \lfloor n/a \rfloor / b \rfloor = \lfloor n/ab \rfloor \quad * \lceil \lceil n/a \rceil / b \rceil = \lceil n/ab \rceil$$

$$* \lg_a b = (\lg_c b) / (\lg_c a) \quad * a^{\lg_c b} = b^{\lg_c a}$$

