

Computer Science Department
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CSC 311: Design and Analysis of Algorithms¹
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Mathematical essentials

Limits

- $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x) = L \Rightarrow \forall \epsilon \exists \delta (\forall x : 0 < |x - c| < \delta \Rightarrow |f(x) - L| < \epsilon).$
- L'Hospital's rule:
$$\lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow c} g(x) = 0 \text{ OR } \pm \infty \Rightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{f'(x)}{g'(x)}.$$

Logarithms and exponents

- $a^b = c \Leftrightarrow \log_a c = b.$
- $a^{\log_a b} = b.$
- For any $a, b, x \in \mathbb{R}^+, \log_a b = \frac{\log_x b}{\log_x a}.$
- $\log(ab) = \log a + \log b.$
- $\log\left(\frac{a}{b}\right) = \log a - \log b.$
- $\log(x^a) = a \log x.$
- $x^a \cdot x^b = x^{a+b}.$

¹This is a summary of the material we cover from the textbook: *Introduction to the Design & Analysis of Algorithms*, A. Levitin, Second Edition, Pearson Addison-Wesley, 2006.

2. Mathematical essentials

- $\frac{x^a}{x^b} = x^{a-b}$.
- $(x^a)^b = (x^b)^a = x^{ab}$.
- $x^0 = 1$.

Summations

- $\sum_{i=1}^n i = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$.
- $\sum_{i=1}^n i^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}$.
- $\sum_{i=1}^n i^3 = \frac{n^2(n+1)^2}{4}$.
- $\sum_{i=a}^b r^i = \frac{r^{b+1} - r^a}{r - 1}, r \neq 1$.
- $\sum_{i=a}^{\infty} r^i = \frac{r^a}{1 - r}, r < 1$.

A special case for $a = 0$: $\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} r^i = \frac{1}{1 - r}, r < 1$.

Big-Oh notation

$O(g(n))$ is the set of all functions with a smaller or same order of growth as $g(n)$.
 $f(n) \in O(g(n)) \Leftrightarrow \exists c > 0, n_0 \geq 0 | f(n) \leq cg(n)$ for all $n \geq n_0$.

- $\sum_{i=0}^m a_i n^i \in O(n^m)$.

2. Mathematical essentials

- $f(n) \in O(g_1(n))$ and $h(n) \in O(g_2(n)) \Rightarrow f(n) + h(n) \in O(\text{MAX}(g_1(n), g_2(n)))$.
- $f(n) \in O(g_1(n))$ and $h(n) \in O(g_2(n)) \Rightarrow f(n) \cdot h(n) \in O(g_1(n) \cdot g_2(n))$.

Basic asymptotic classes:

1 (constant).

$\log n$ (logarithmic).

n (linear).

$n \log n$ (n-log-n).

n^2 (quadratic).

n^3 (cubic).

2^n (exponential).

$n!$ (factorial).