

1 |  $\sim$ 

Given functions  $f(n)$  and  $g(n)$ , if:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} \right) = 1 \quad (1)$$

we say that  $f \sim g$ .

That – the relationship between  $f$  and  $g$  grows in a similar fashion as  $n$  increases. For instance:

- $f(n) = n + 1$
- $g(n) = n + 2$

Therefore:

$$f \sim g = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n+1}{n+2} = 1 \quad (2)$$

The  $\sim$  operator is *commutative* ( $f \sim g \Rightarrow g \sim f$ ) and *transitive* ( $f \sim g, g \sim h \Rightarrow f \sim h$ ).

2 |  $o(n)$ 

Given two functions  $f(n)$ ,  $g(n)$ , if their relationship shows:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} = 0 \quad (3)$$

we can write it as

$$f = o(g) \quad (4)$$

This tells us that if  $n$  becomes very large,  $g$  becomes much larger than  $f$ .  $f$  does not grow nearly as fast as  $g$ .

The operation is *not* commutative, but is *transitive* ( $f = o(g), g = o(h) \Rightarrow f = o(h)$ )

3 |  $O(n)$ 

Given two functions  $f(n)$ ,  $g(n)$ .

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} < \infty \quad (5)$$

that the relationship between  $f(n)$  and  $g(n)$  is countable as  $n$  trends to infinity.

We can also say that, given  $n$ ,  $n_0$ , and some  $c$  which  $\forall n, n > n_0$ , there is:

$$|f(n)| < |cg(n)| \quad (6)$$

This tells us that  $f(n)$  does not grow much much faster than  $g(n)$ .

Therefore:

- If  $f \sim g$ ,  $f = O(g)$  (as they grow together,  $f$  is not much faster)
- If  $f = o(g)$ ,  $f = O(g)$  (as  $f$  does not grow at all,  $f$  is not faster)

## 4 | $\theta(n)$

$f = \theta(g)$  IFF  $f = O(g)$  and  $g = O(f)$ , its essentially  $\sim$  but without the strict requirement of a 1:1 ratio.

## 5 | $\omega(n)$ and $\Omega(n)$

The inverses of  $O$  and  $o$ :

- $f(n) = O(g(n)) \Rightarrow g(n) = \omega(f(n))$
- $f(n) = o(g(n)) \Rightarrow g(n) = \Omega(f(n))$