

# [320] Complexity + Big O (Worksheet: Complexity Analysis)

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1

```
def search(L, target):  
    for x in L:  
        if x == target: #line A  
            return True  
    return False
```

*assume this is asked unless  
otherwise stated*

Let  $f(N)$  be the number of times line A executes, with  $N = \text{len}(L)$ . What is  $f(N)$  in each case?

**Worst Case** (target is at end of list):  $f(N) = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

**Best Case** (target is at beginning of list):  $f(N) = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

**Average Case** (target in middle of list):  $f(N) = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

---

A **step** is any unit of work with bounded execution time (it doesn't keep getting slower with growing input size).

We classify algorithm complexity by classifying the **order of growth** of a function  $f(N)$ , where  $f$  gives the number of steps the algorithm must perform for a given input size.

Big O definition: if  $f(N) \leq C * g(N)$  for large  $N$  values and some fixed constant  $C$ , then  $f(N) \in O(g(N))$

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**Average Case** (target in middle of list):

$$f(N) = \frac{N}{2} \in O(N)$$

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2

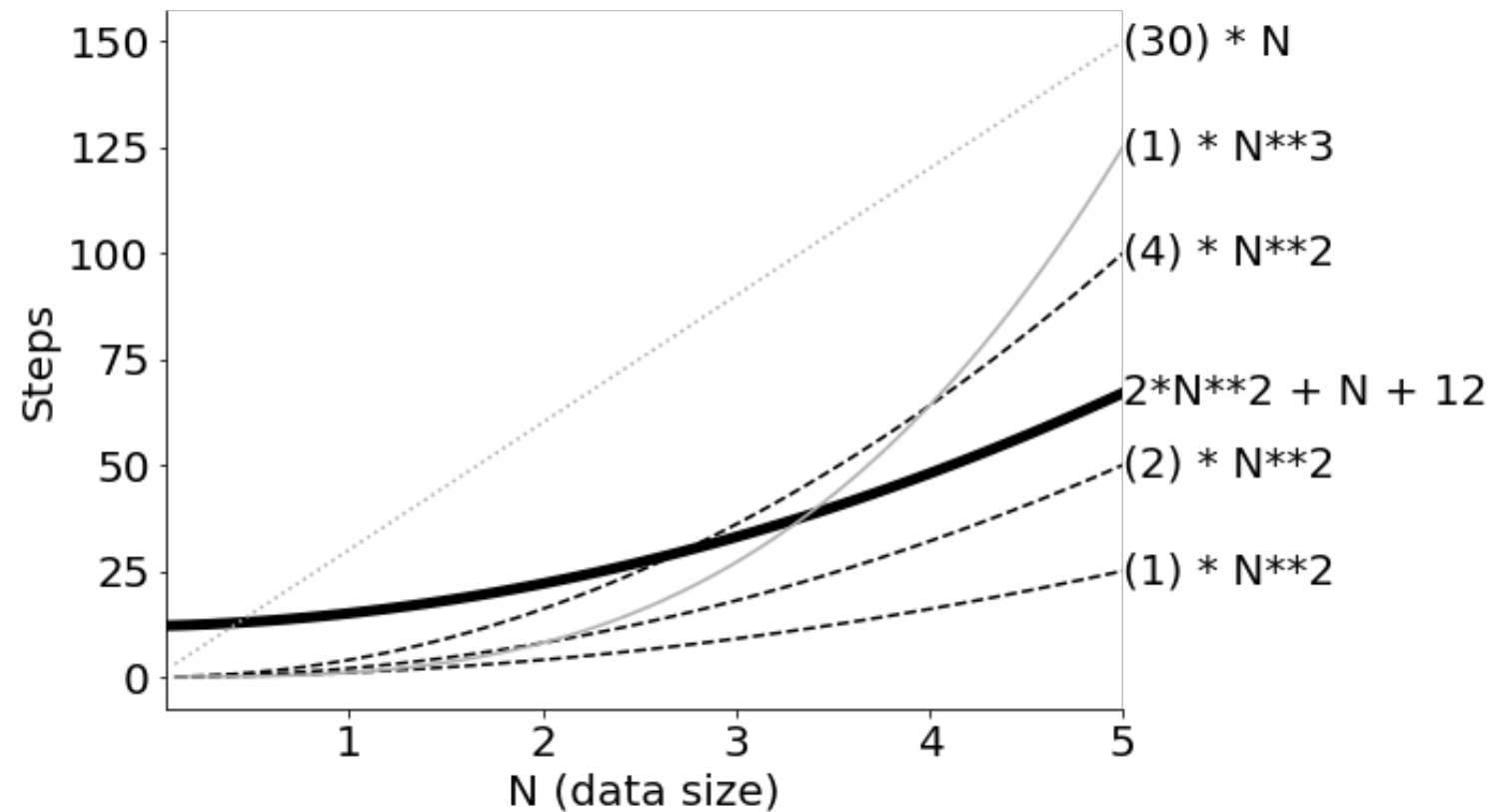
Let  $f(N) = 2N^2 + N + 12$

If we want to show  $f(N) \in O(N^3)$ ,  
what is a good lower bound on  $N$ ?  
Let's have  $C=1$ .

To show  $f(N) \in O(N^2)$ , do we pick 1,  
2, or 4 for the  $C$ ? After picking  $C$ ,  
what should we choose for  $N$ 's  
lower bound?

What is more informative to show?  
 $f(N) \in O(N^3)$  or  $f(N) \in O(N^2)$ ?

Somebody claims  $f(N) \in O(N)$ ,  
offering  $C=30$  and  $N>0$ . Suggest an  
 $N$  value to counter their claim.



2

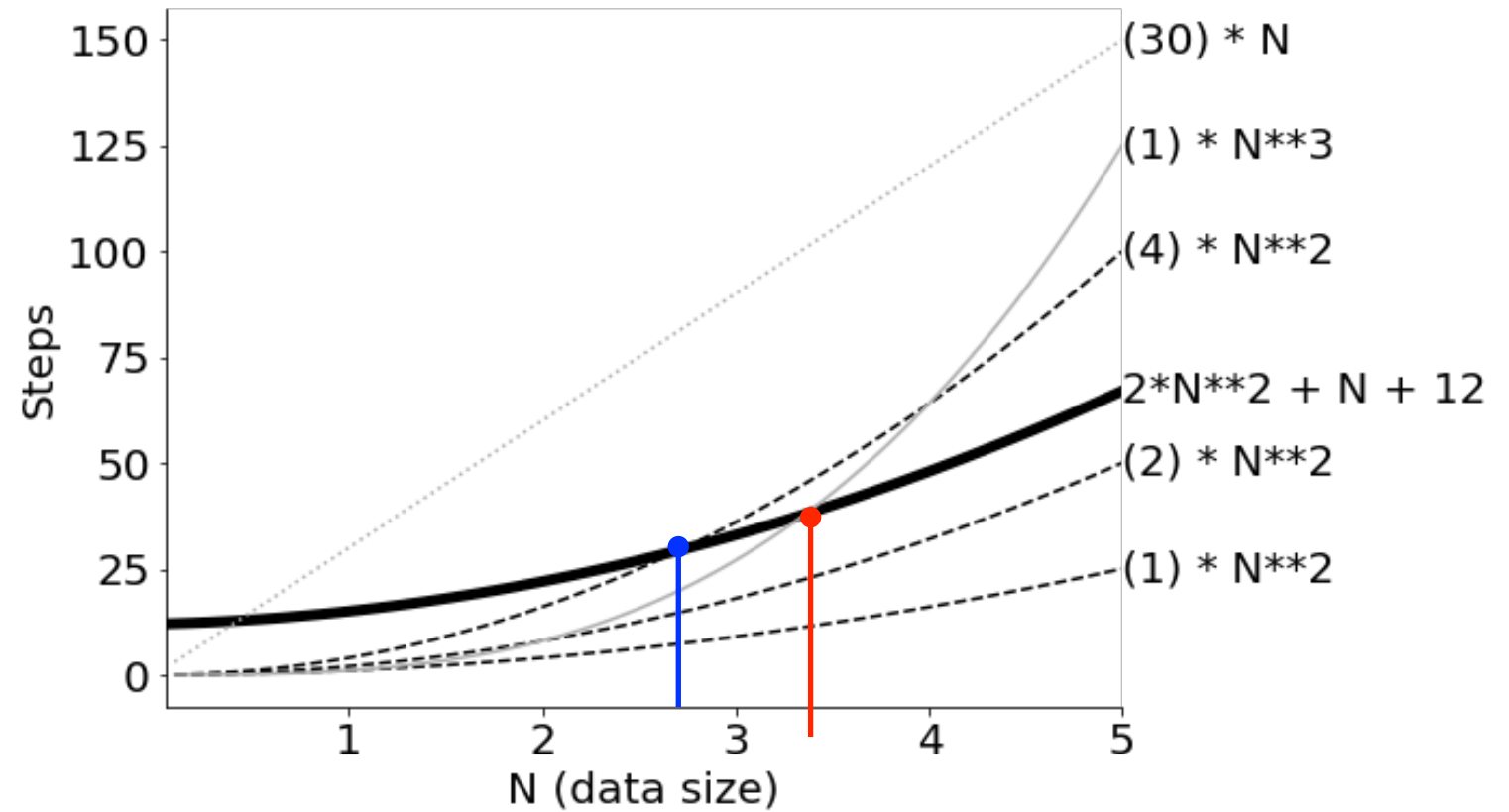
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Let's have  $C=1$ .  $N \geq 4$ .

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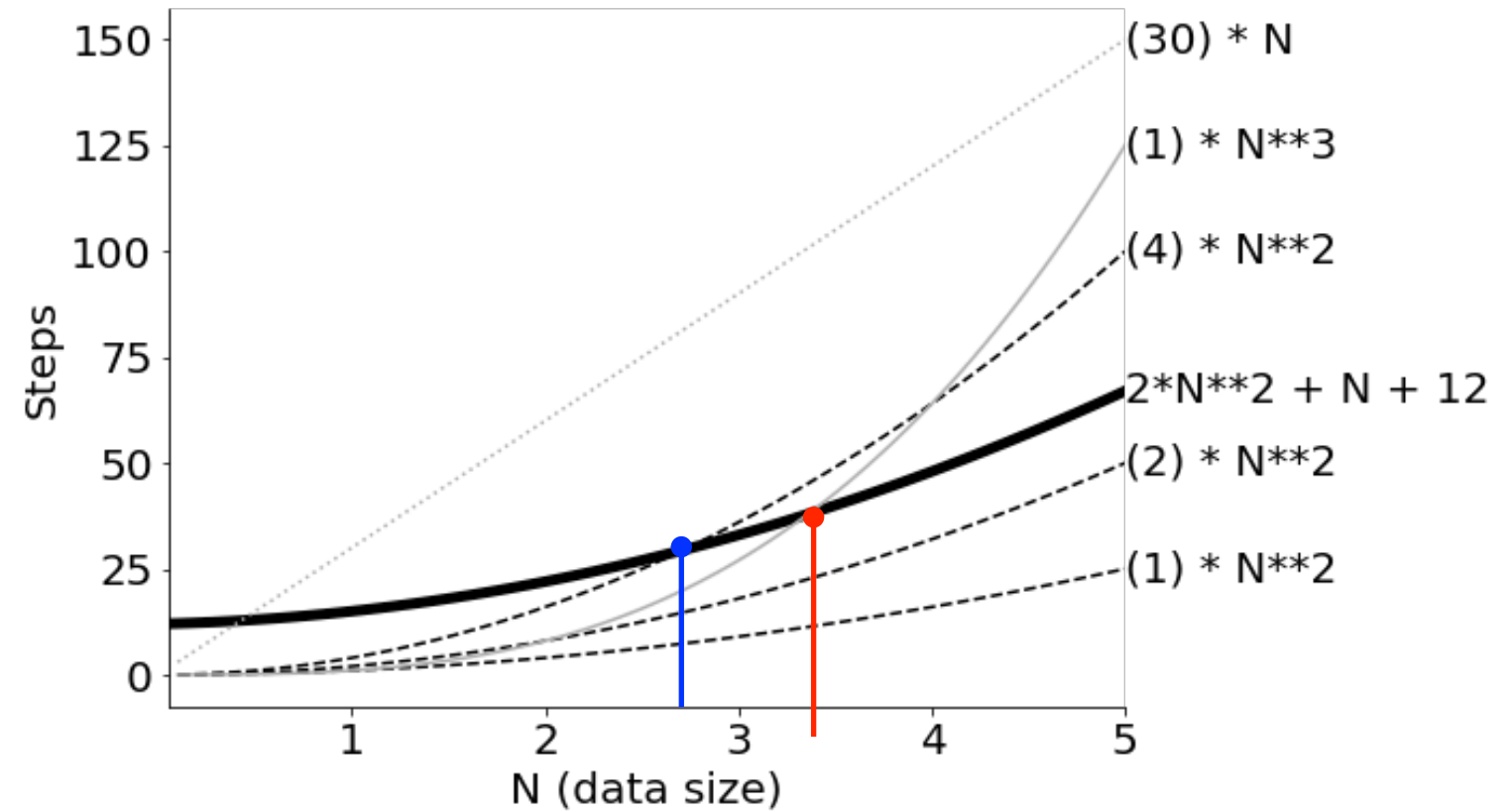
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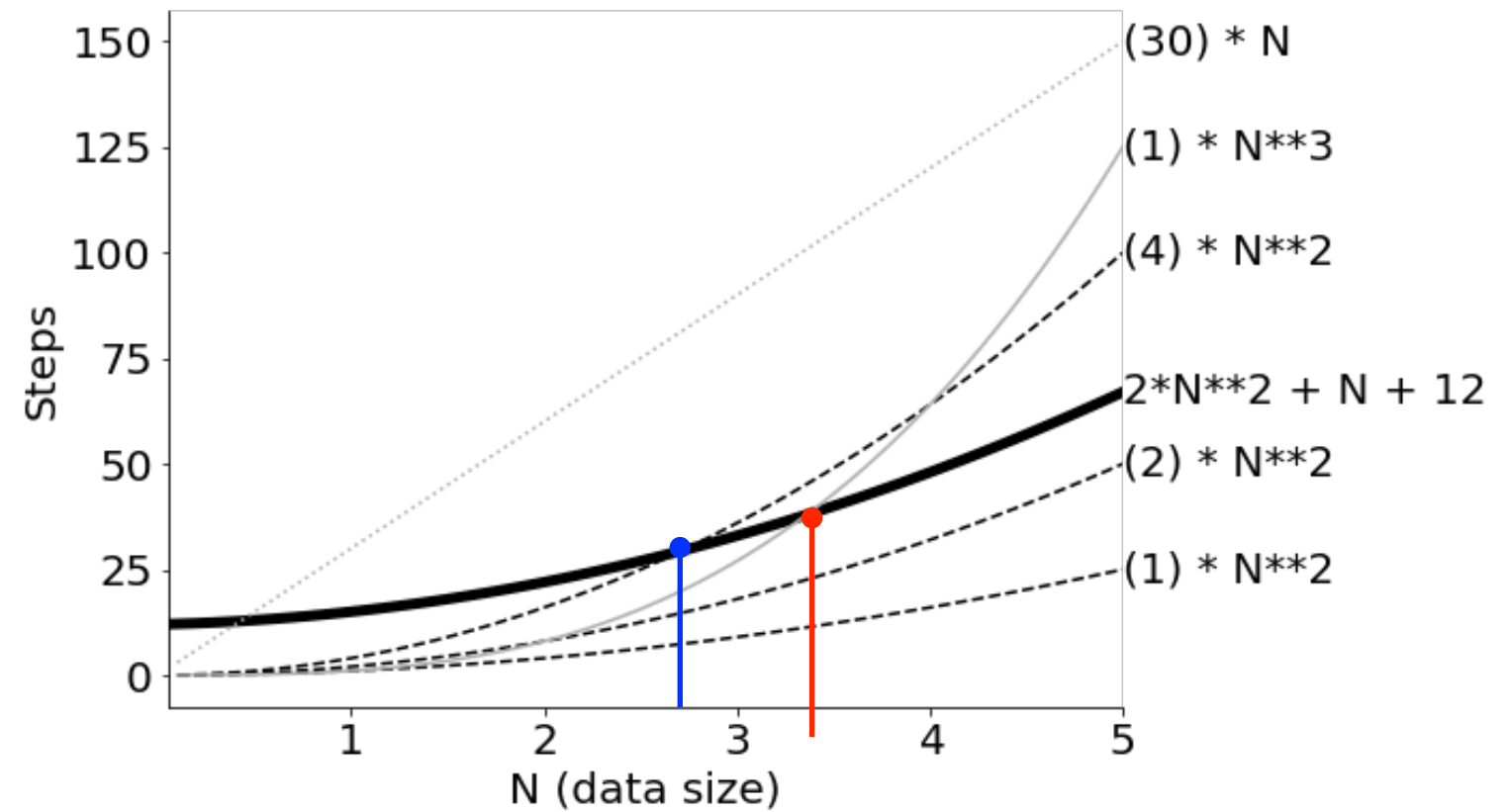
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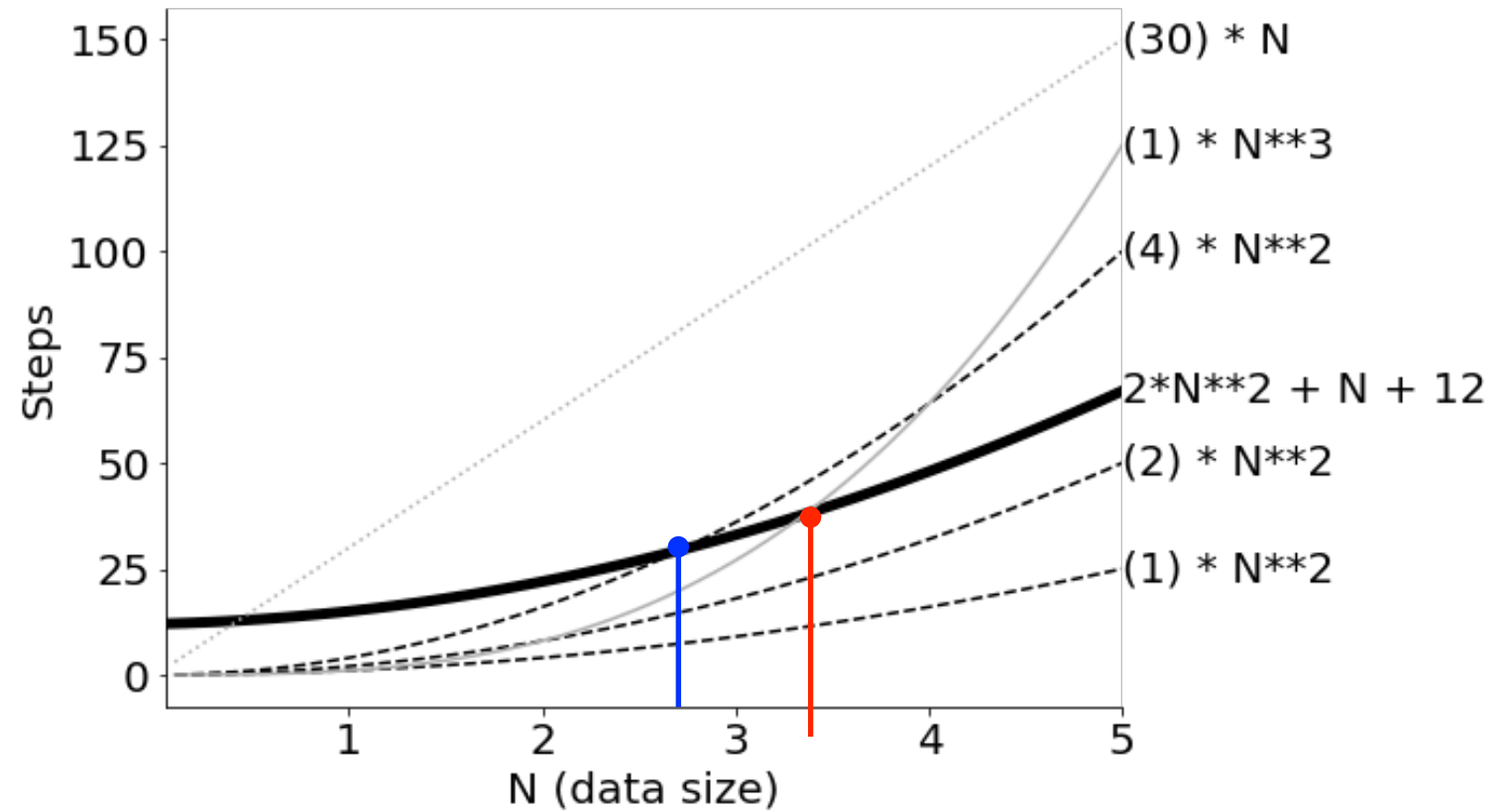
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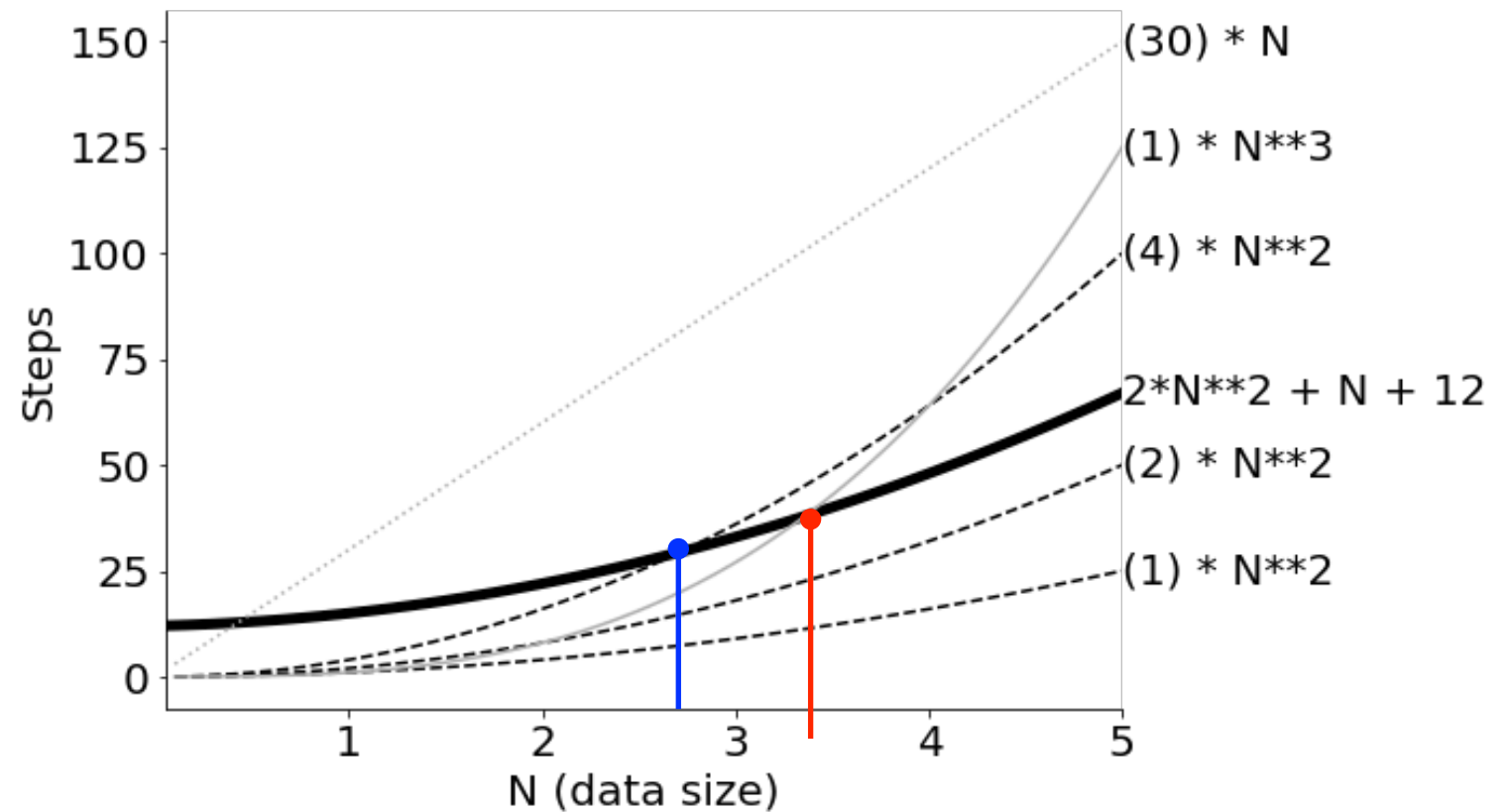
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$f(N) \in O(N^2)$  (tighter upper bound)

Somebody claims  $f(N) \in O(N)$ , offering  $C=30$  and  $N>0$ . Suggest an  $N$  value to counter their claim.

Assume  $N = 20$ . and  $2N^2 + N + 12 \leq 30N$ .



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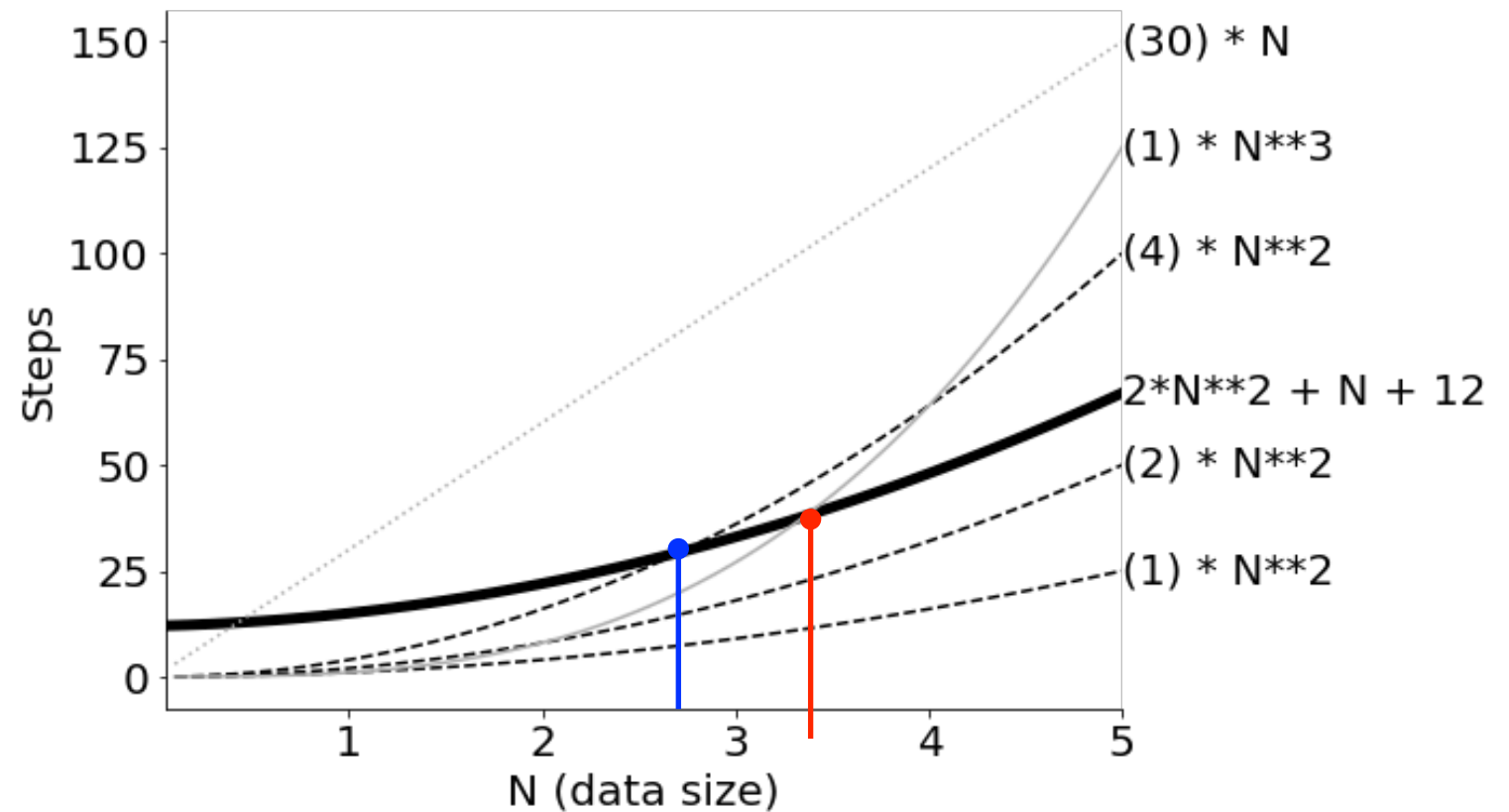
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Assume  $N = 20$ . and  
 $2N^2 + N + 12 \leq 30N$ .

However,  $800 + 20 + 12 \not\leq 600$ .



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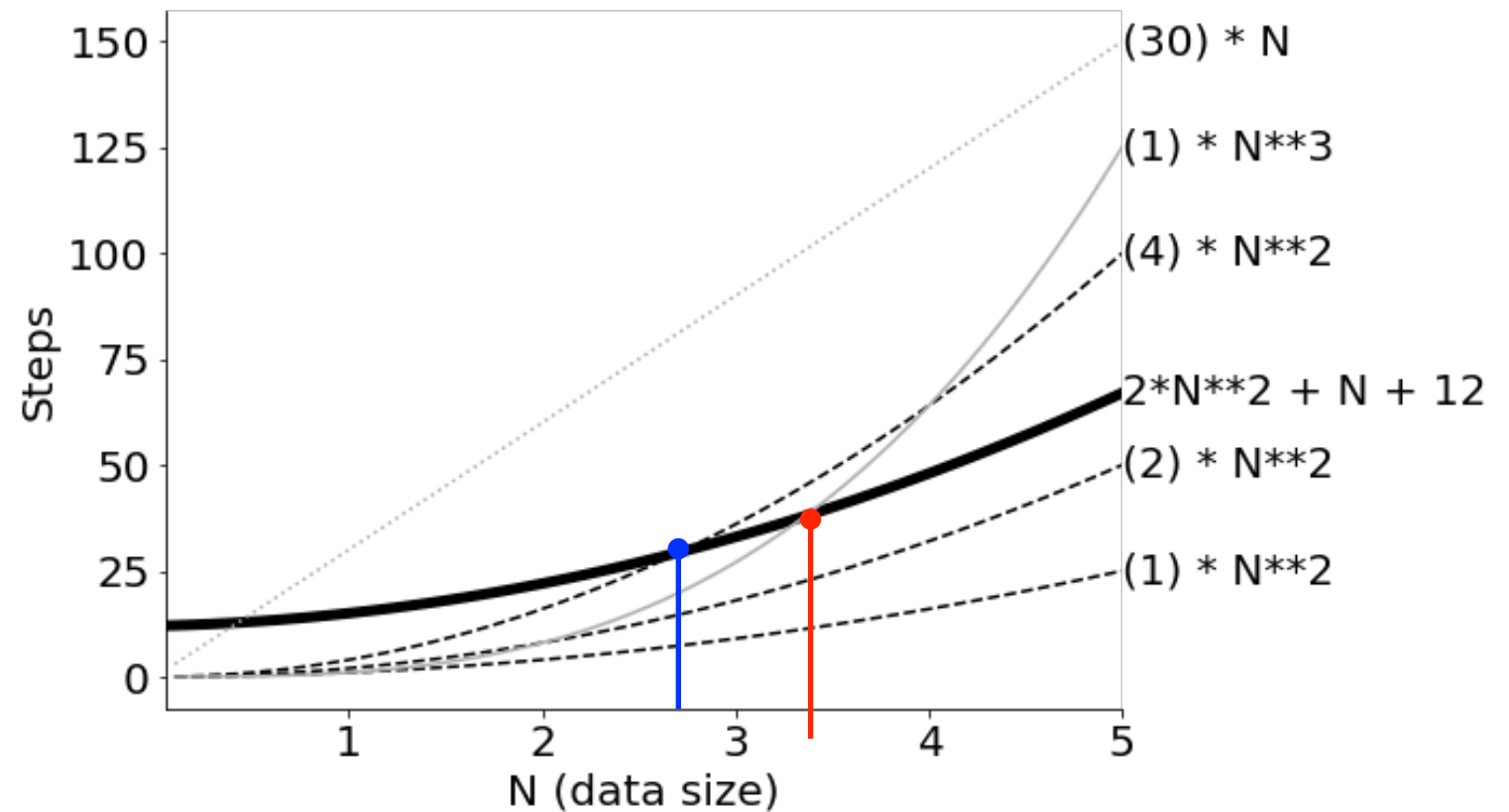
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Assume  $N = 20$ . and  
 $2N^2 + N + 12 \leq 30N$ .  
 However,  $800 + 20 + 12 \not\leq 600$ .  
 Therefore, the suggest value of  
 $N = 20$ .



3

```
nums = [...]
```

```
first100sum = 0
```

```
for x in nums[:100]:  
    first100sum += x  
print(first100sum)
```

If we increase the size of nums from 20 items to 100 items, the code will probably take \_\_\_\_\_ times longer to run.

If we increase the size of nums from 100 to 1000, will the code take longer? Yes / No

The complexity of the code is  $O(\text{_____})$ , with  $N=\text{len}(\text{nums})$ .

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If we increase the size of nums from 100 to 1000, will the code take longer? Yes / No

No

The complexity of the code is  $O(\text{_____})$ , with  $N=\text{len}(\text{nums})$ .

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If we increase the size of nums from 100 to 1000, will the code take longer? Yes / No  
**No**

The complexity of the code is  $O(\mathbf{1})$ , with  $N=\text{len}(\text{nums})$ .

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Each of the following list operations are either  $O(1)$  or  $O(N)$ , where  $N$  is  $\text{len}(L)$ . Circle those you think are  $O(N)$ .

`L.insert(0, x)`      `L.pop(0)`      `x = L[0]`      `x = max(L)`      `x = len(L)`

`L.append(x)`      `L.pop(-1)`      `L2.extend(L)`      `x = sum(L)`      `found = x in L`

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```
L = [...]  
for x in L:  
    avg = sum(L) / len(L)  
    if x > 2*avg:  
        print("outlier", x)
```

What is the big O complexity?

Is there a way to optimize the code?

```
L = [...]  
for x in L: N+1 steps  
    avg = sum(L) / len(L)  
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$$O((N + 1)N) = O(N^2 + N)$$

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What is the big O complexity?

$$\mathbf{O((N + 1)N) = O(N^2 + N) = O(N^2)}$$

Is there a way to optimize the code?

Calculate **avg** outside the loop.

6

```
A = [...]
```

```
B = [...]
```

```
for x in A:  
    for y in B:  
        print(x*y)
```

how would you define the variable(s) to describe the size of the input data?

The complexity of code is

$O(\rule{1cm}{0.4pt})$



6

```
A = [...]    len(A) = M  
B = [...]
```

```
for x in A:  
    for y in B:  
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A = [...]     $\text{len}(A) = M$   
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for x in A:  
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how would you define the variable(s) to describe the size of the input data?

$\text{len}(A) = M$  and  $\text{len}(B) = N$

The complexity of code is

$O(\rule{1.5cm}{0.4pt})$

```
A = [...]    len(A) = M  
B = [...]    len(B) = N  
  
for x in A: M+1 steps  
    for y in B:  
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how would you define the variable(s) to describe the size of the input data?

*len(A) = M* and *len(B) = N*

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O(\_\_\_\_\_)

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for x in A: M+1 steps
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$\text{len}(A) = M$  and  $\text{len}(B) = N$

The complexity of code is

$$O((M+1)(N+1)) = O(MN + M + N + 1) = O(MN)$$

```
s1 = tuple("...") # could be any string
s2 = tuple("...")
```

**# version A**

```
import itertools
```

```
matches = False
```

```
for p in itertools.permutations(s1):
```

```
    if p == s2:
```

```
        matches = True
```

**# version B**

```
s1 = sorted(s1)
```

```
s2 = sorted(s2)
```

```
matches = (s1 == s2)
```

assumed sorted is  $O(N \log N)$

what is the complexity of version A?  $O(\rule{1cm}{0.4pt})$

what is the complexity of version B?  $O(\rule{1cm}{0.4pt})$

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s1 = tuple("...") # could be any string  len(s1) = N  
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```
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s2 = tuple("...")    len(s2) = N
```

For Example,  $s1 = (A, B, C)$ , then permutations of  $s1$  are

```
ABC  BCA
ACB  CAB
BAC  CBA
```

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        matches = True
```

**# version B**

```
s1 = sorted(s1)
```

```
s2 = sorted(s2)
```

```
matches = (s1 == s2)
```

assumed sorted is  $O(N \log N)$

what is the complexity of version A?  $O(\rule{1cm}{0.4pt})$

what is the complexity of version B?  $O(\rule{1cm}{0.4pt})$

```
s1 = tuple("...") # could be any string   len(s1) = N
s2 = tuple("...")   len(s2) = N
```

For Example,  $s1 = (A, B, C)$ , then permutations of  $s1$  are

```
ABC  BCA
ACB  CAB
BAC  CBA
```

**# version A**

```
import itertools
```

```
matches = False
```

```
for p in itertools.permutations(s1): N! steps
```

```
    if p == s2:
```

```
        matches = True
```

**# version B**

```
s1 = sorted(s1)
```

```
s2 = sorted(s2)
```

```
matches = (s1 == s2)
```

assumed sorted is  $O(N \log N)$

what is the complexity of version A?  $O(\rule{1cm}{0.4pt})$

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```
matches = False
```

```
for p in itertools.permutations(s1): N! steps
```

```
    if p == s2: N steps
```

```
        matches = True
```

**# version B**

```
s1 = sorted(s1)
```

```
s2 = sorted(s2)
```

```
matches = (s1 == s2)
```

assumed sorted is  $O(N \log N)$

what is the complexity of version A?  $O(\rule{1cm}{0.4pt})$

what is the complexity of version B?  $O(\rule{1cm}{0.4pt})$

```
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ACB  CAB
BAC  CBA
```

**# version A**

```
import itertools
```

```
matches = False
```

```
for p in itertools.permutations(s1): N! steps
```

```
    if p == s2: N steps
```

```
        matches = True
```

**# version B**

```
s1 = sorted(s1)
```

```
s2 = sorted(s2)
```

```
matches = (s1 == s2)
```

assumed sorted is  $O(N \log N)$

what is the complexity of version A?  $O(N * N!)$

what is the complexity of version B?  $O(\rule{1cm}{0.4pt})$

```
s1 = tuple("...") # could be any string     $len(s1) = N$ 
s2 = tuple("...")     $len(s2) = N$ 
```

For Example,  $s1 = (A, B, C)$ , then permutations of  $s1$  are

```
ABC  BCA
ACB  CAB
BAC  CBA
```

**# version A**

```
import itertools
```

```
matches = False
```

```
for p in itertools.permutations(s1):  $N!$  steps
```

```
    if p == s2:  $N$  steps
```

```
        matches = True
```

**# version B**

```
s1 = sorted(s1)     $N \log N$ 
```

```
s2 = sorted(s2)     $N \log N$ 
```

```
matches = (s1 == s2)
```

Example, merge sort, quick sort

assumed sorted is  $O(N \log N)$

what is the complexity of version A?  $O(N * N!)$

what is the complexity of version B?  $O(\text{_____})$

```
s1 = tuple("...") # could be any string     $len(s1) = N$ 
s2 = tuple("...")     $len(s2) = N$ 
```

For Example,  $s1 = (A, B, C)$ , then permutations of  $s1$  are

```
ABC  BCA
ACB  CAB
BAC  CBA
```

**# version A**

```
import itertools
```

```
matches = False
```

```
for p in itertools.permutations(s1):  $N!$  steps
```

```
    if p == s2:  $N$  steps
```

```
        matches = True
```

**# version B**

```
s1 = sorted(s1)     $N \log N$ 
```

```
s2 = sorted(s2)     $N \log N$ 
```

```
matches = (s1 == s2)
```

Example, merge sort, quick sort

assumed sorted is  $O(N \log N)$

what is the complexity of version A?  $O(N * N!)$

what is the complexity of version B?  $O(2N \log N) = O(N \log N)$