

# CS1DM3 DISCRETE MATH

CHAPTER 3 - ALGORITHMS

# 3.1 ALGORITHMS

INTRO

# DEFINITIONS

An **algorithm** is a finite sequence of mathematically rigorous instructions, typically used to solve a class of specific problems or to perform a computation.

**Pseudocode** is a description of the steps in an algorithm intended for human reading rather than machine control.

To gain insight into how an algorithm works it is useful to construct a **trace** that shows its steps when given specific input

# PROPERTIES OF ALGORITHMS

▶ <b>Input</b>	An algorithm has input values from a <i>(possibly empty)</i> specified set.
▶ <b>Output</b>	From each set of input values an algorithm produces output values, which are the solution to the problem, from a <i>(possibly empty)</i> specified set.
▶ <b>Definiteness</b>	The steps of an algorithm must be defined <b>precisely</b> .
▶ <b>Correctness</b>	An algorithm should produce the <b>correct</b> output values for each set of input values.
▶ <b>Finiteness</b>	An algorithm should produce the desired output <b>after a finite</b> (perhaps large) <b>number of steps</b> for any input in the set.
▶ <b>Effectiveness</b>	It must be possible to perform each step of an algorithm <b>exactly</b> and in a <b>finite amount of time</b> .
▶ <b>Generality.</b>	The procedure should be <b>applicable for all problems</b> of the desired form, not just for a particular set of input values

**sequentially checks each element** of the list until a match is found or the whole list has been searched

### ALGORITHM 2 The Linear Search Algorithm.

**procedure** *linear search*( $x$ : integer,  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$ : distinct integers)

$i := 1$

**while** ( $i \leq n$  and  $x \neq a_i$ )

$i := i + 1$

**if**  $i \leq n$  **then**  $location := i$

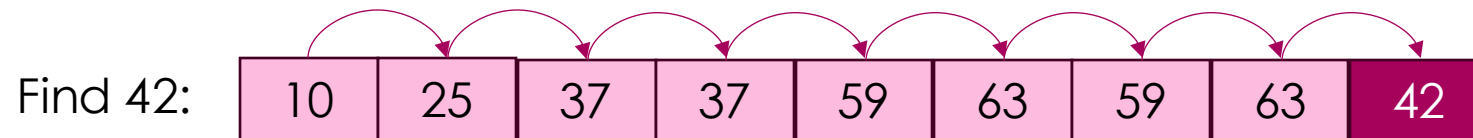
**else**  $location := 0$

**return**  $location$  { $location$  is the subscript of the term that equals  $x$ , or is 0 if  $x$  is not found}

**Worst-case**  $O(n)$

**Best-case**  $O(1)$

**Worst-case  
(Space)**  $O(1)$



Explanation of time complexity:  
p232, 3.3 Ex1 & 4

Check middle element of the sorted array.

If not found, check **middle element of the upper/lower half** that target must be within.

**Repeat** until target value is found – or determined not in array.

### ALGORITHM 3 The Binary Search Algorithm.

**procedure** *binary search* ( $x$ : integer,  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$ : increasing integers)

$i := 1$  { $i$  is left endpoint of search interval}

$j := n$  { $j$  is right endpoint of search interval}

**while**  $i < j$

$m := \lfloor (i + j) / 2 \rfloor$

**if**  $x > a_m$  **then**  $i := m + 1$

**else**  $j := m$

**if**  $x = a_i$  **then**  $location := i$

**else**  $location := 0$

**return**  $location$  { $location$  is the subscript  $i$  of the term  $a_i$  equal to  $x$ , or 0 if  $x$  is not found}

**Worst-case**  $O(\log n)$

**Best-case**  $O(1)$

**Worst-case  
(Space)**  $O(1)$

Explanation: p232,  
3.3 Ex2

Find 42:



Compare each element with next one, swapping if needed. Repeat.



#### ALGORITHM 4 The Bubble Sort.

```
procedure bubblesort( $a_1, \dots, a_n$  : real numbers with  $n \geq 2$ )  
  for  $i := 1$  to  $n - 1$   
    for  $j := 1$  to  $n - i$   
      if  $a_j > a_{j+1}$  then interchange  $a_j$  and  $a_{j+1}$   
  { $a_1, \dots, a_n$  is in increasing order}
```

6 5 3 1 8 7 2 4

**Worst-case**  
 $O(n^2)$  comparisons  
 $O(n^2)$  swaps

**Best-case**  
 $O(n)$  comparisons  
 $O(1)$  swaps

**Worst-case (Space)**  
 $O(n)$  total  
 $O(1)$  auxillary

Explanation: p232,  
3.3 Ex3&5

## ALGORITHM 5 The Insertion Sort.

**Removes** each element from array,  
**Find** its appropriate location within the sorted list,  
**insert** it there. Repeat.

**procedure** *insertion sort*( $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$ : real numbers with  $n \geq 2$ )

**for**  $j := 2$  **to**  $n$

$i := 1$

**while**  $a_j > a_i$

$i := i + 1$

$m := a_j$

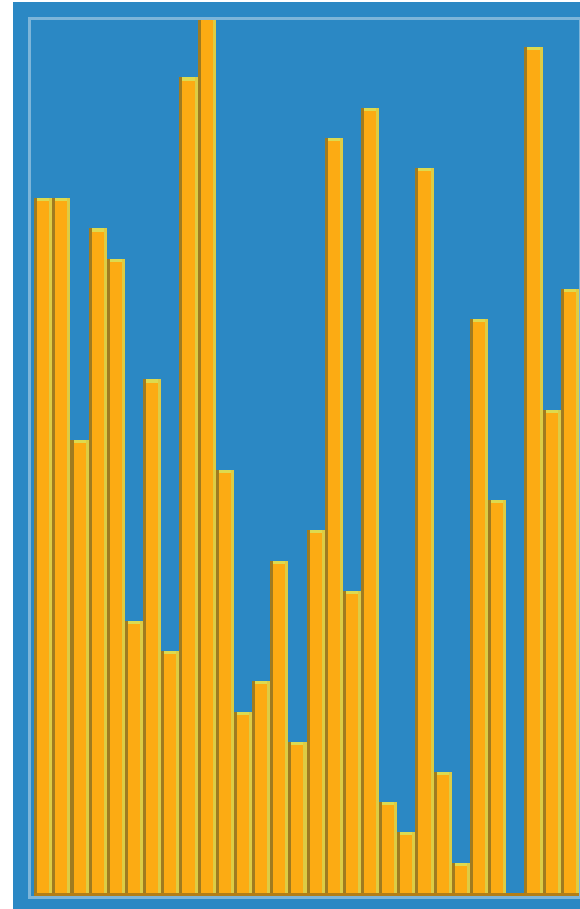
**for**  $k := 0$  **to**  $j - i - 1$

$a_{j-k} := a_{j-k-1}$

$a_i := m$

$\{a_1, \dots, a_n$  is in increasing order $\}$

6   5   3   1   8   7   2   4



**Worst-case**  $O(n^2)$   
comparisons &  
swaps

**Best-case**  $O(n)$   
comparisons  
 $O(1)$   
swaps

**Worst-case  
(Space)**  $O(n)$   
total  
 $O(1)$   
auxillary

Explanation: p232,  
3.3 Ex6



# PRACTICE PROBLEM

Identify **Big-O time complexity** of:

## ALGORITHM 6 Naive String Matcher.

```
procedure string match ( $n, m$ : positive integers,  $m \leq n$ ,  $t_1, t_2, \dots, t_n, p_1, p_2, \dots, p_m$ : characters)
  for  $s := 0$  to  $n - m$ 
     $j := 1$ 
    while ( $j \leq m$  and  $t_{s+j} = p_j$ )
       $j := j + 1$ 
    if  $j > m$  then print “ $s$  is a valid shift”
```

Check your answer by searching online or this wiki article:

[Naïve / Brute-Force String Matching algorithm](#)

# 3.2 GROWTH OF FUNCTIONS

BIG - O NOTATION

Sometimes written  $f(x) = O(g(x))$ . However, “=” does not represent a genuine equality.

# DEFINITIONS

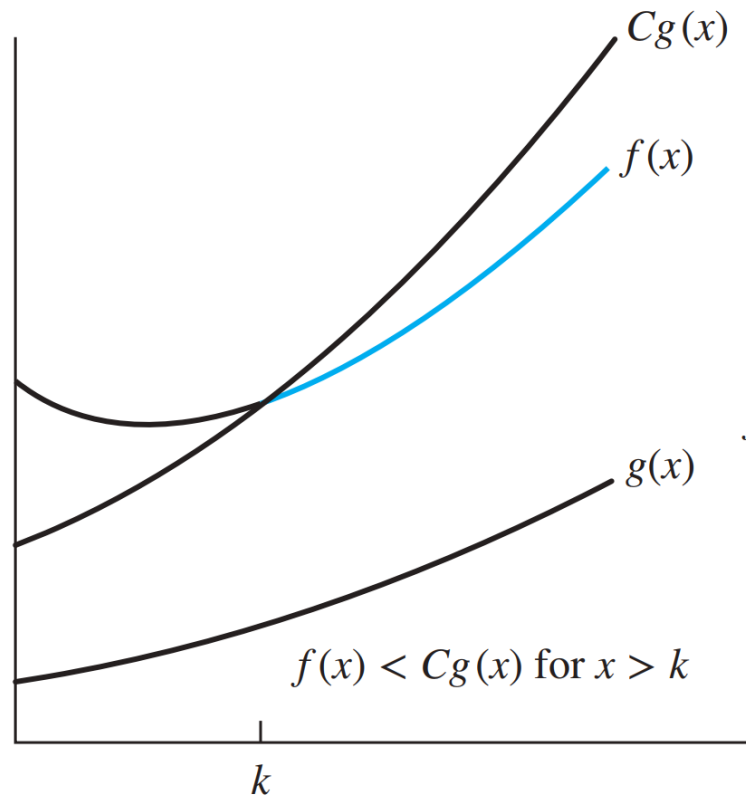
Let  $f$  and  $g$  be functions from the set of integers or real numbers to the set of real numbers.

We say that  $f(x)$  is  **$O(g(x))$** , read as “*big-oh*”, if there are constants  $C$  and  $k$ , whenever  $x > k$  such that:

$$|f(x)| \leq C|g(x)|$$

“witnesses”

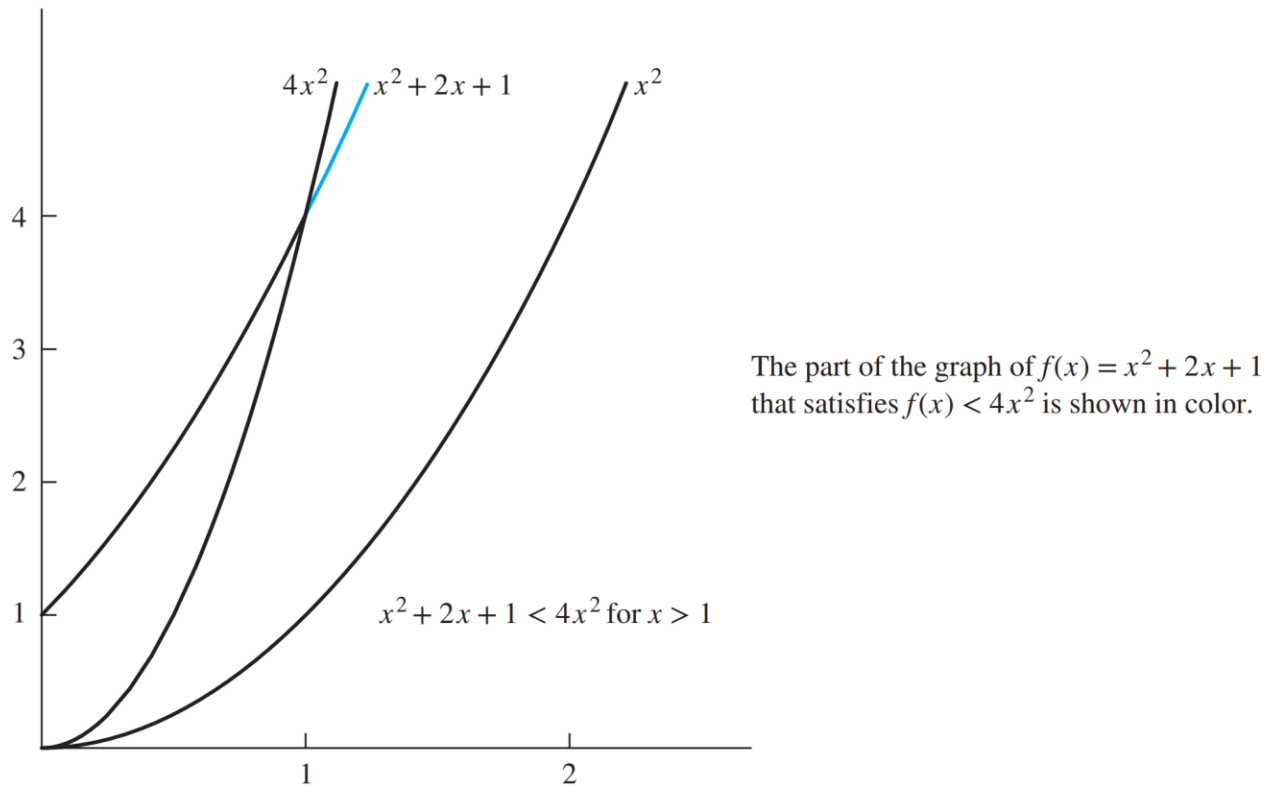
This says  $f(x)$  grows **slower** than some **fixed multiple** of  $g(x)$  as  $x$  grows without bound.



The part of the graph of  $f(x)$  that satisfies  $f(x) < Cg(x)$  is shown in color.

**FIGURE 2** The function  $f(x)$  is  $O(g(x))$ .

Note that in Example 1 we have two functions,  $f(x) = x^2 + 2x + 1$  and  $g(x) = x^2$ , such that  $f(x)$  is  $O(g(x))$  and  $g(x)$  is  $O(f(x))$ —the latter fact following from the inequality  $x^2 \leq x^2 + 2x + 1$ , which holds for all nonnegative real numbers  $x$ . We say that two functions



**FIGURE 1** The function  $x^2 + 2x + 1$  is  $O(x^2)$ .

# EXAMPLE

Show that  $7x^2$  is  $O(x^3)$ .

**Solution:**

When  $x > 7$ , by multiplying both sides by  $x^2$ , we have  $7x^2 < x^3$ .

Take  $C = 1$  and  $k = 7$  as witnesses to establish:

$$\text{Whenever } x > 7 \text{ such that } |7x^2| \leq 1 \cdot |x^3|$$

Alternatively, when  $x > 1$ , we have  $7x^2 < 7x^3$ , so  $C = 7$  and  $k = 1$  are also witnesses.



Time / Space used

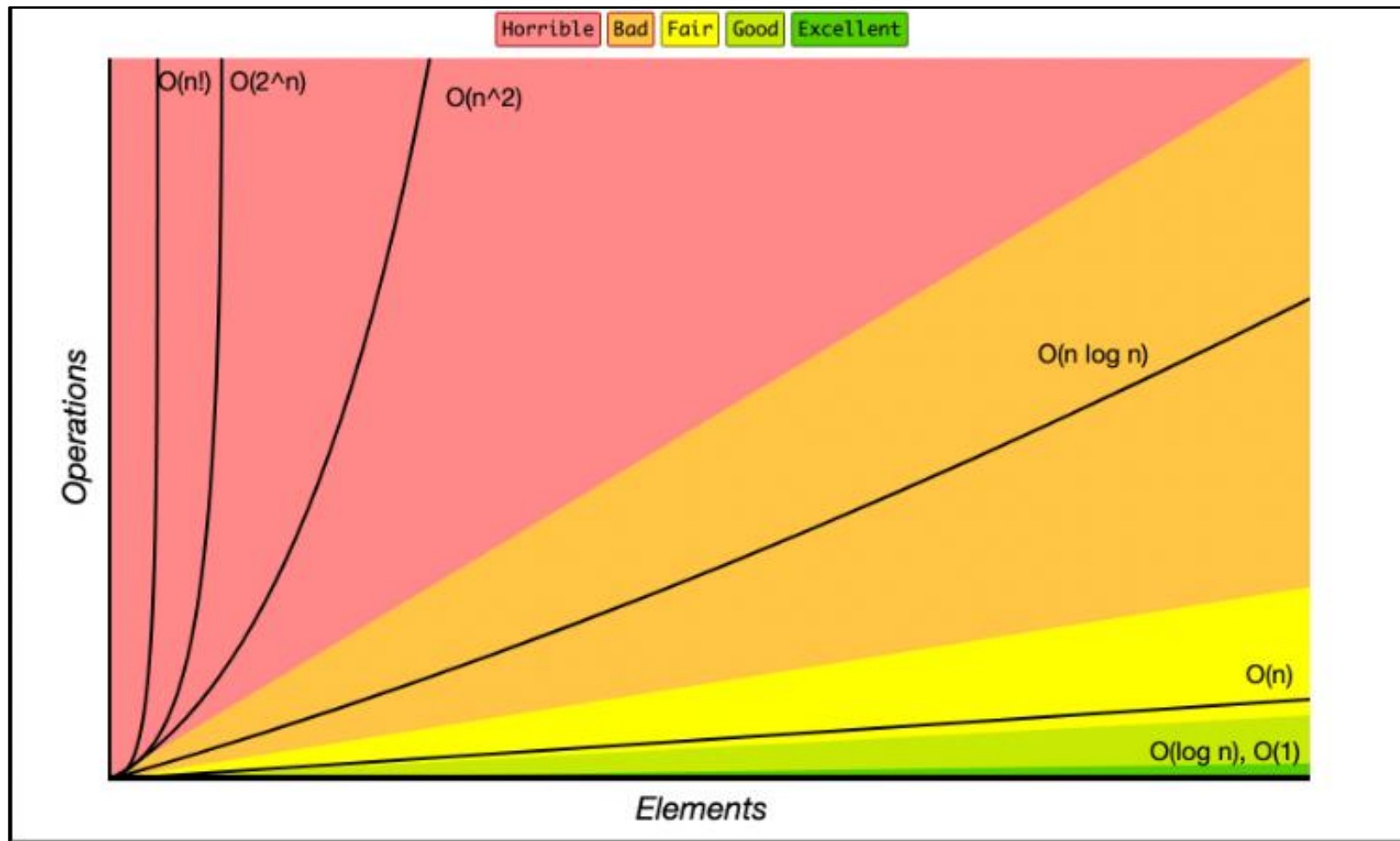
$O(n!)$   
 $O(2^n)$   
 $O(n^2)$   
**TERRIBLE**

$O(n \log n)$  Bad

$O(n)$  Fair

$O(\log n)$  Good

$O(1)$  Best



**BIG O COMPLEXITY**



Time / Space used

$O(n!)$   
 $O(2^n)$   
 $O(n^2)$

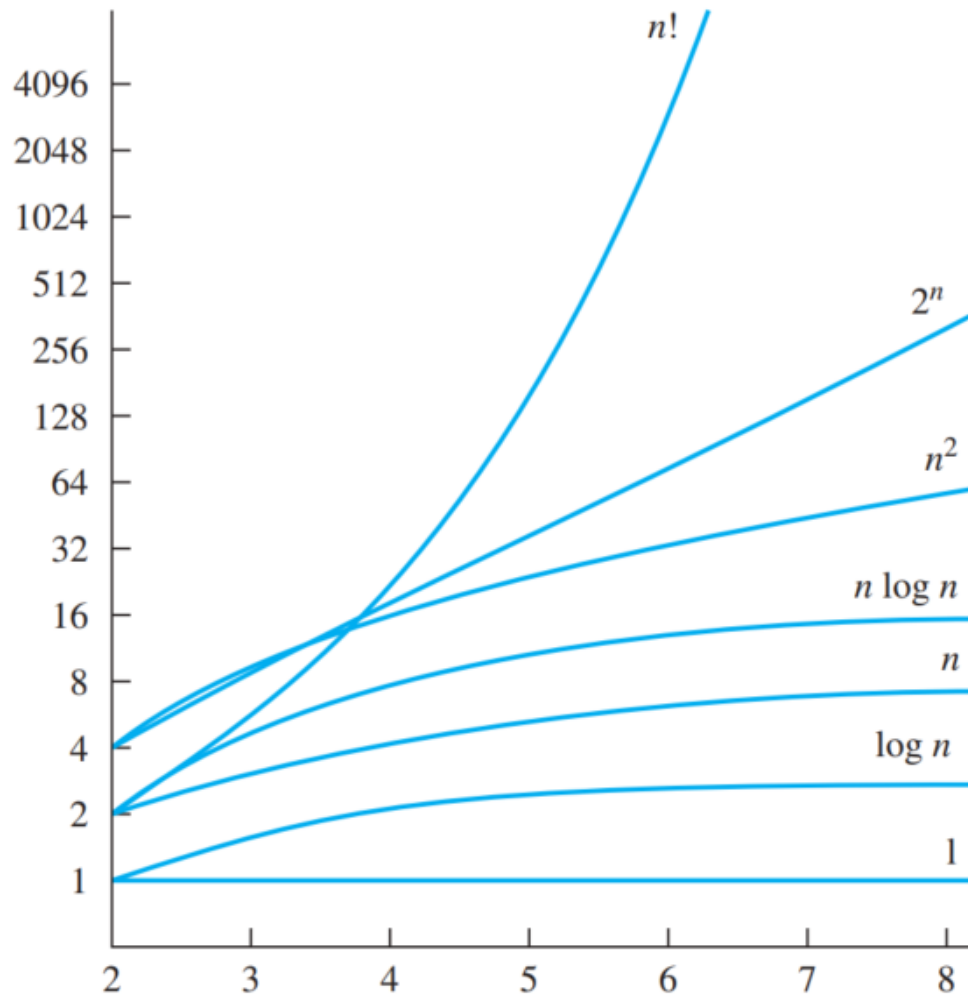
**TERRIBLE**

$O(n \log n)$  Bad

$O(n)$  Fair

$O(\log n)$  Good

$O(1)$  Best



**BIG O COMPLEXITY**



# DEFINITIONS

Let  $f$  and  $g$  be functions from the set of integers or real numbers to the set of real numbers.

We say that  $f(x)$  is  $\Omega(g(x))$ , read as “*big-omega*”,

if there are constants  $C$  and  $k$ , with  $C > 0$  such that:

$$|f(x)| \geq C|g(x)|$$

$$f(x) = \Omega(g(x)) \text{ if and only if } g(x) = O(f(x))$$

$$C_1|g(x)| \leq |f(x)| \leq C_2|g(x)|$$

# DEFINITIONS

Let  $f$  and  $g$  be functions from the set of integers or real numbers to the set of real numbers.

We say that  $f(x)$  is  $\Theta(g(x))$ , read as “*big-theta*”,

if  $g(x) = O(f(x))$  and  $f(x) = \Omega(g(x))$ .

If  $f(x) = \Theta(g(x))$ , we say that  $f(x)$  is of order  $g(x)$ ,  
and that  $f(x)$  and  $g(x)$  are of the same order.

From the definition of big- $O$  notation, there are constants  $C_1$ ,  $C_2$ ,  $k_1$ , and  $k_2$  such that

$$|f_1(x)| \leq C_1 |g_1(x)| \quad \text{when } x > k_1, \text{ and } |f_2(x)| \leq C_2 |g_2(x)| \quad \text{when } x > k_2.$$

To estimate the sum of  $f_1(x)$  and  $f_2(x)$ , note that

$$\begin{aligned} |(f_1 + f_2)(x)| &= |f_1(x) + f_2(x)| \\ &\leq |f_1(x)| + |f_2(x)| \quad \text{using the triangle inequality } |a + b| \leq |a| + |b|. \end{aligned}$$

When  $x$  is greater than both  $k_1$  and  $k_2$ , it follows from the inequalities for  $|f_1(x)|$  and  $|f_2(x)|$  that

$$\begin{aligned} |f_1(x)| + |f_2(x)| &\leq C_1 |g_1(x)| + C_2 |g_2(x)| \\ &\leq C_1 |g(x)| + C_2 |g(x)| \\ &= (C_1 + C_2) |g(x)| \\ &= C |g(x)|, \end{aligned}$$

where  $C = C_1 + C_2$  and  $g(x) = \max(|g_1(x)|, |g_2(x)|)$ . [Here  $\max(a, b)$  denotes the maximum, or larger, of  $a$  and  $b$ .]

This inequality shows that  $|(f_1 + f_2)(x)| \leq C |g(x)|$  whenever  $x > k$ , where  $k = \max(k_1, k_2)$ .

Suppose  $f_1(x) = O(g_1(x))$ ,  $f_2(x) = O(g_2(x))$ . Then

$$(f_1 + f_2)(x) = O(g(x))$$

where  $\forall x, g(x) = (\max(|g_1(x)|, |g_2(x)|))$ .

Suppose that  $f_1(x)$  and  $f_2(x)$  are both  $O(g(x))$ . Then

$$(f_1 + f_2)(x) = O(g(x))$$

Suppose that  $f_1(x) = O(g_1(x))$ ,  $f_2(x) = O(g_2(x))$ . Then

$$(f_1 f_2)(x) \text{ is } O(g_1(x) g_2(x)).$$


# EXAMPLE

Give a big- $O$  estimate for  $f(x) = (x + 1) \log(x^2 + 1) + 3x^2$ .

*Solution:* First, a big- $O$  estimate for  $(x + 1) \log(x^2 + 1)$  will be found. Note that  $(x + 1)$  is  $O(x)$ . Furthermore,  $x^2 + 1 \leq 2x^2$  when  $x > 1$ . Hence,

$$\log(x^2 + 1) \leq \log(2x^2) = \log 2 + \log x^2 = \log 2 + 2 \log x \leq 3 \log x,$$

if  $x > 2$ . This shows that  $\log(x^2 + 1)$  is  $O(\log x)$ .

From Theorem 3 it follows that  $(x + 1) \log(x^2 + 1)$  is  $O(x \log x)$ . Because  $3x^2$  is  $O(x^2)$ , Theorem 2 tells us that  $f(x)$  is  $O(\max(x \log x, x^2))$ . Because  $x \log x \leq x^2$ , for  $x > 1$ , it follows that  $f(x)$  is  $O(x^2)$ . 

# 3.3 COMPLEXITY OF FUNCTIONS

BIG - O NOTATION

**TABLE 1** Commonly Used Terminology for the Complexity of Algorithms.

<i>Complexity</i>	<i>Terminology</i>
$\Theta(1)$	Constant complexity
$\Theta(\log n)$	Logarithmic complexity
$\Theta(n)$	Linear complexity
$\Theta(n \log n)$	Linearithmic complexity
$\Theta(n^b)$	Polynomial complexity
$\Theta(b^n)$ , where $b > 1$	Exponential complexity
$\Theta(n!)$	Factorial complexity

# PRACTICE PROBLEMS

Explain **Best**, **Worst**, and **Average** *Big-Oh* **time complexities** of these Algorithms:

- ☐ Find max element in a finite set of integers (3.1 Alg1, Solution: 3.3 Ex1)
- ☐ Linear Search (3.1 Alg2, Solution: 3.3Ex2, Ex4)
- ☐ Binary Search (3.1 Alg3, Solution: 3.3Ex3)
- ☐ Bubble Sort (3.1 Alg4, Solution: 3.3Ex5)
- ☐ Insertion Sort (3.1 Alg5, Solution 3.3Ex6)
- ☐ **Matrix Multiplication (3.3Alg1, Solution 3.3Ex7)**
- ☐ **Brute-Force Alg for Closest Pair of Points (3.3Alg3, Solution 3.3Ex8)**



# DEFINITIONS

- algorithmic paradigm
- tractable,

# P VS NP PROBLEM