



COMP SCI 2201-7201

Algorithm and Data Structure Analysis

Asymptotic Analysis

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**make
history.**



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- *Asymptotic analysis* or *Asymptotics* is the calculus of approximations
 - Approximation of functions by simpler functions
- The term "asymptotic" can also be used more broadly to describe situations where two things approach each other or become more similar, but never quite reach a point of perfect equality.

Example

$$f(n) = n^2 + 4n + 7$$

$$g(n) = n^2$$



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- All the below statements mean the same

$f(n)$ is "asymptotically similar" to $g(n)$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$

$f(n)$ is "asymptotically same" to $g(n)$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$

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$$f(n) \sim n^2$$



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$f(n)$ is "asymptotic" to $g(n)$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$

$$f(n) \sim n^2$$

\sim is an asymptotic notation used to convey the message that a function is asymptotically similar/same/equivalent/equal to another function

Asymptotic Notations

- A way to communicate the relationship between the behaviors of different functions
 - Usually, the relationship between the *growth rates* of different functions (in computer science)



Asymptotic Notations (Relation formulas)

$f(n) = O(g(n))$ $\exists c > 0, \exists n_0 > 0$ such that $\forall n \geq n_0$ $|f(n)| \leq cg(n)$ Asymptotic upper bound

$f(n) = \Omega(g(n))$ $\exists c > 0, \exists n_0 > 0$ such that $\forall n \geq n_0$ $|f(n)| \geq cg(n)$ Asymptotic lower bound

$f(n) = \Theta(g(n))$ $\exists c_1, c_2 > 0, \exists n_0 > 0$ such that $\forall n \geq n_0$ $c_1g(n) \leq |f(n)| \leq c_2g(n)$ Asymptotic tight bound

$f(n) = o(g(n))$ $\forall c > 0, \exists n_0 > 0$ such that $\forall n \geq n_0$ $|f(n)| \leq cg(n)$
upper bound that is not asymptotically tight

$f(n) = \omega(g(n))$ $\forall c > 0, \exists n_0 > 0$ such that $\forall n \geq n_0$ $|f(n)| \geq cg(n)$
lower bound that is not asymptotically tight

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

$f(n) = O(g(n))$ can also be written as $f(n) \in O(g(n))$

Asymptotic Notations (Limits)

$$f(n) = O(g(n)) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} \neq \infty$$

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

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

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

How to perform asymptotic analysis

- Identify the dominant term $f(n) = 3n^3 + 2n^2 + 5n + 7$



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- Identify the dominant term $f(n) = \underline{3n^3} + 2n^2 + 5n + 7$
- Drop the lower order terms $3n^3$
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- Identify the asymptotic notations

Analyze $f(n)$ and $g(n)$ using relation or limits formulas

How to perform asymptotic analysis

1. Using relation formulas

$$f(n) = 3n^3 + 2n^2 + 5n + 7 \quad g(n) = n^3$$

$$f(n) = O(g(n)) \quad \exists c > 0, \exists n_0 > 0 \text{ such that } \forall n \geq n_0 \quad |f(n)| \leq cg(n)$$

$$f(n) = \Omega(g(n)) \quad \exists c > 0, \exists n_0 > 0 \text{ such that } \forall n \geq n_0 \quad |f(n)| \geq cg(n)$$

$$f(n) = \Theta(g(n)) \quad \exists c_1, c_2 > 0, \exists n_0 > 0 \text{ such that } \forall n \geq n_0 \quad c_1 g(n) \leq |f(n)| \leq c_2 g(n)$$

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$$3n^3 + 2n^2 + 5n + 7 \leq 17n^3, \quad c = 17, n_0 = 1$$

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$$|f(n)| \geq cg(n) \quad \text{for a } c > 0 \text{ and } n_0 > 0$$

$$3n^3 + 2n^2 + 5n + 7 \geq 3n^3, \quad c = 3, n_0 = 1$$

$$f(n) = \Omega(n^3) \quad \text{YES}$$

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$$|f(n)| \leq cg(n) \quad \forall c > 0$$

$$3n^3 + 2n^2 + 5n + 7 \leq cn^3, \text{ not for all } c > 0$$

$$f(n) = o(n^3) \quad \text{NO}$$

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$$3n^3 + 2n^2 + 5n + 7 \geq 3n^3, \quad c = 3, n_0 = 1$$

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If a function $f(n)$ is both $O(g(n))$ and $\Omega(g(n))$, then $f(n)$ is also $\Theta(g(n))$



How to perform asymptotic analysis

1. Using limits formulas

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$$f(n) = O(g(n)) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} \neq \infty$$

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$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3n^3 + 2n^2 + 5n + 7}{n^3}$$

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$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3n^3 + 2n^2 + 5n + 7}{n^3} = \frac{\infty}{\infty} \quad \text{indeterminate form}$$

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To get out of indeterminate situation, take the first derivate and then apply the limits

Keep taking the derivative until you get out of the indeterminate situation

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L'Hôpital's rule for $\frac{\infty}{\infty}$ and $\frac{0}{0}$ indeterminate forms

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L'Hôpital's rule for $\frac{\infty}{\infty}$ and $\frac{0}{0}$ indeterminate forms

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{9n^2 + 4n + 5}{3n^2}$$

$$f(n) = O(g(n)) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} \neq \infty$$

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How to perform asymptotic analysis

1. Using limits formulas

$$f(n) = 3n^3 + 2n^2 + 5n + 7$$

$$g(n) = n^3$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3n^3 + 2n^2 + 5n + 7}{n^3} = \frac{\infty}{\infty} \quad \text{indeterminate form}$$

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L'Hôpital's rule for $\frac{\infty}{\infty}$ and $\frac{0}{0}$ indeterminate forms

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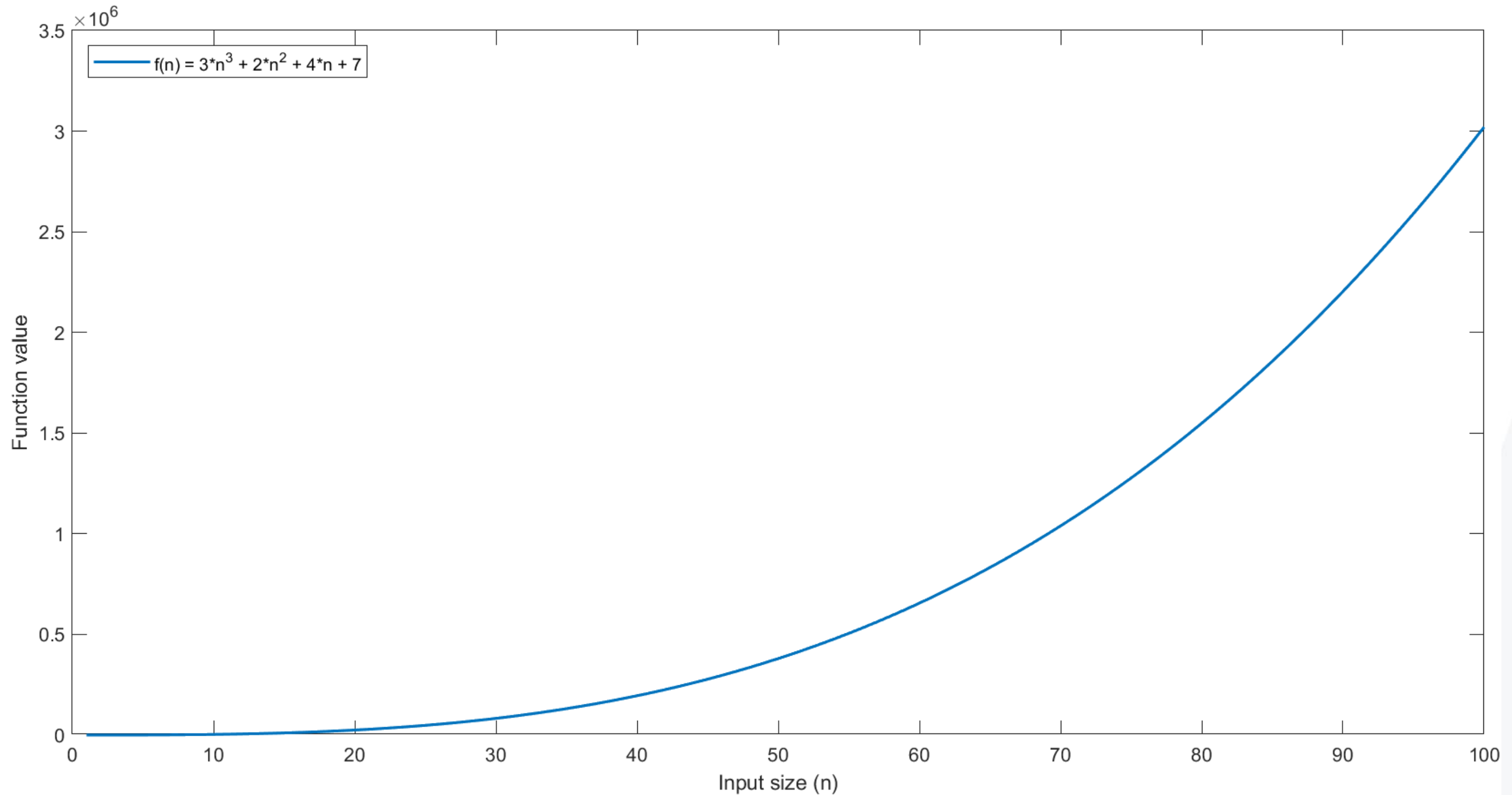
$$f(n) \sim g(n) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} = 1$$

$$f(n) = o(n^3) \quad \text{NO}$$

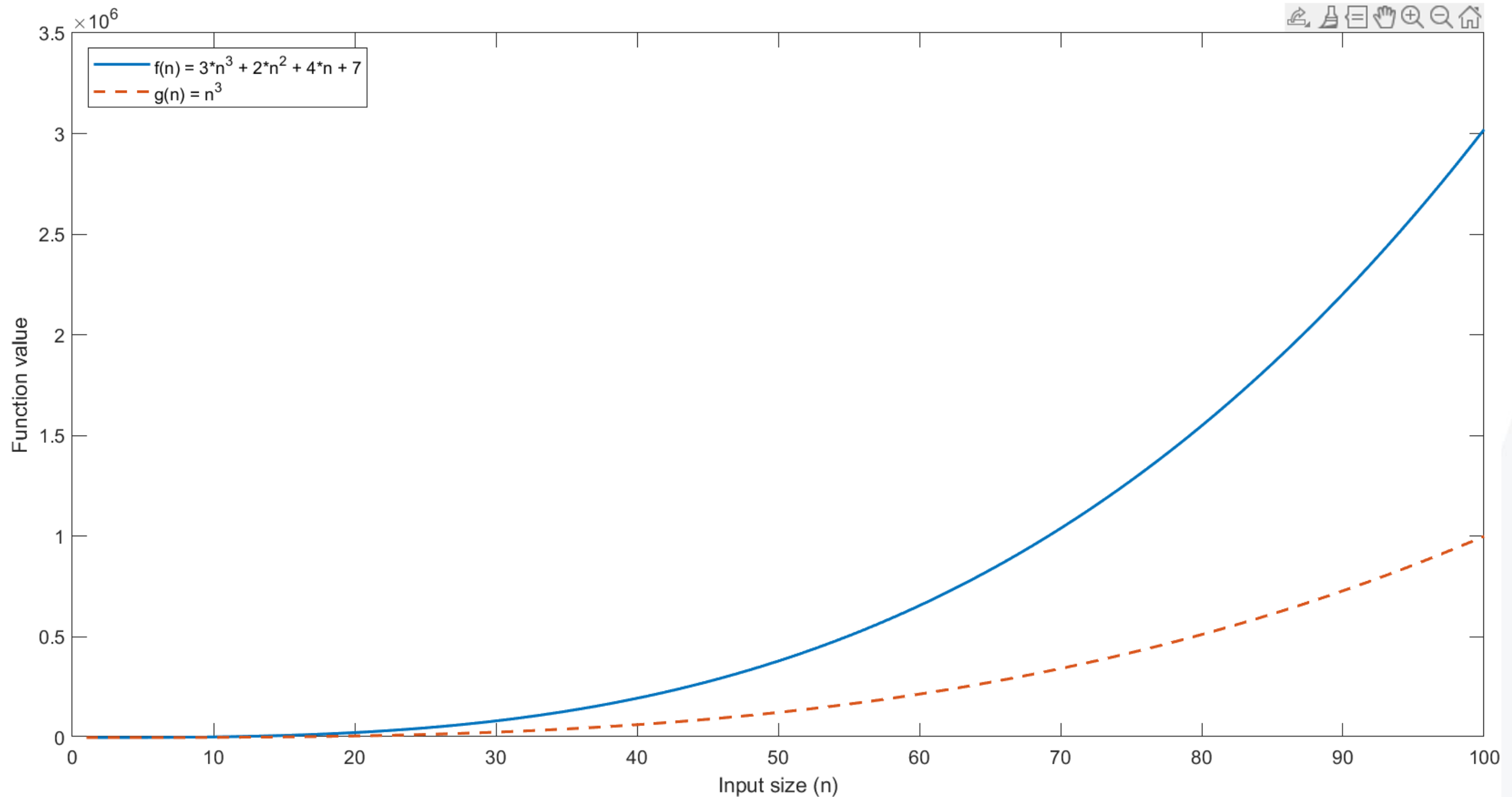
$$f(n) = \omega(n^3) \quad \text{NO}$$



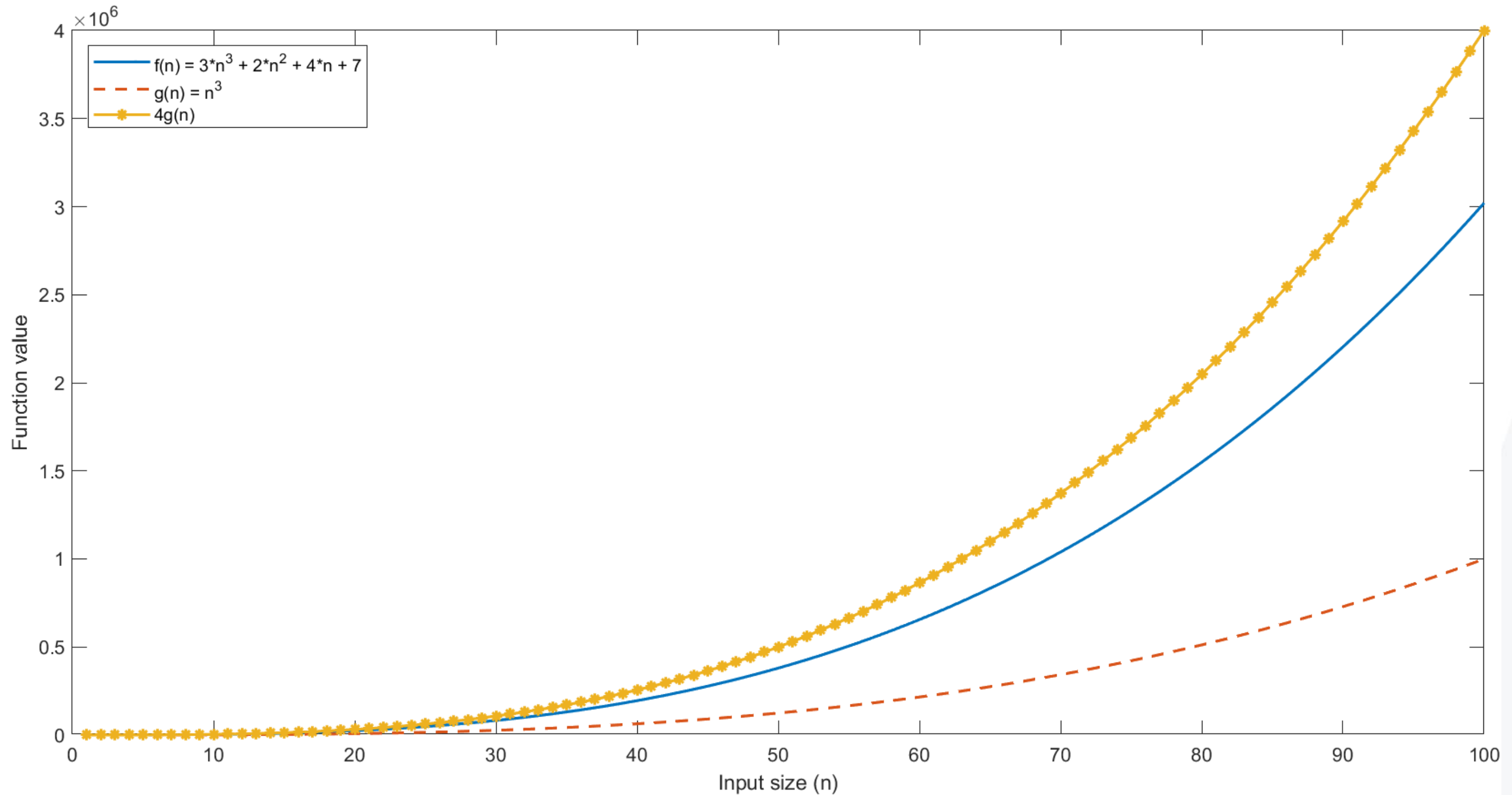
Visual inspection (O)



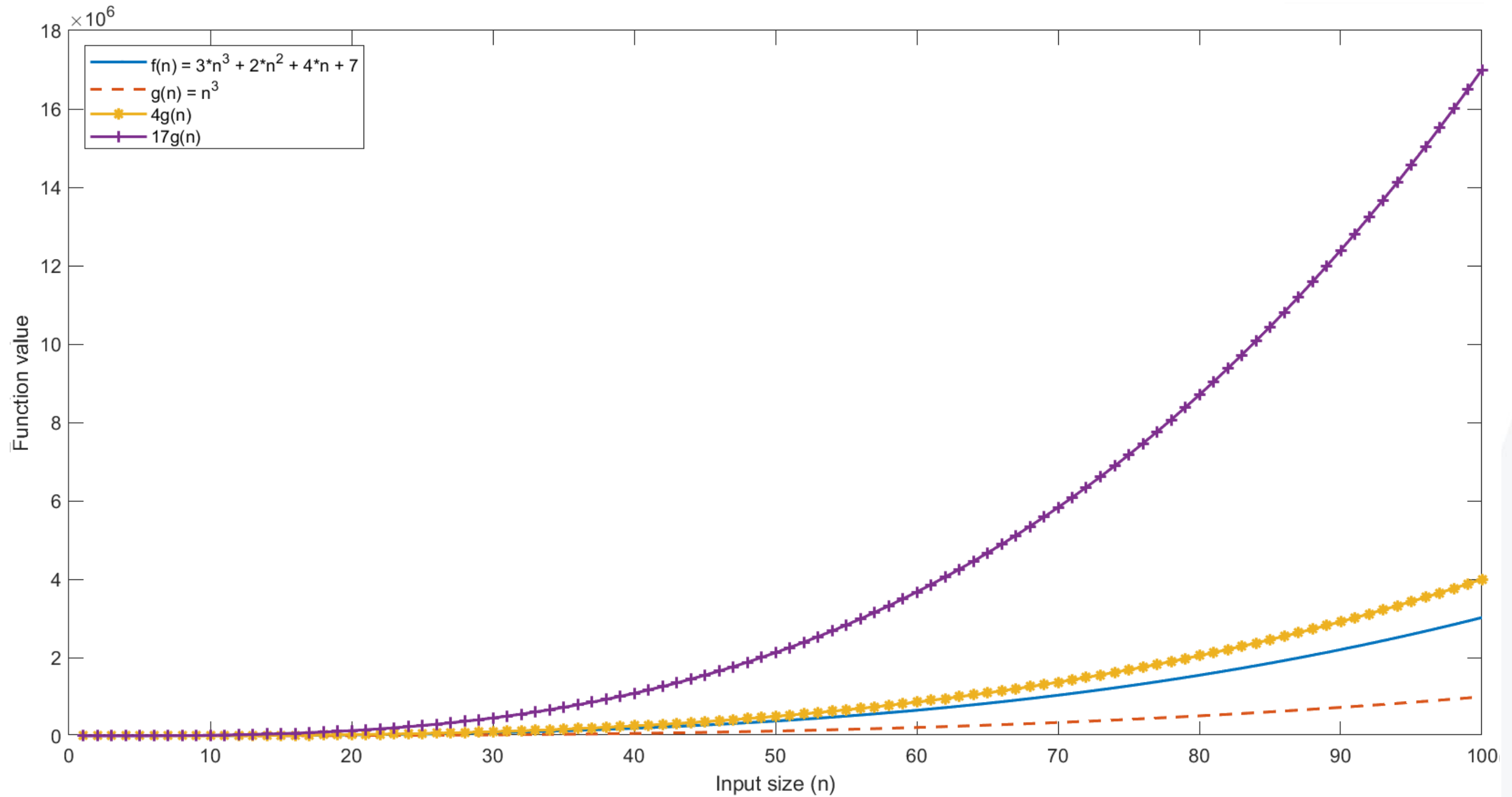
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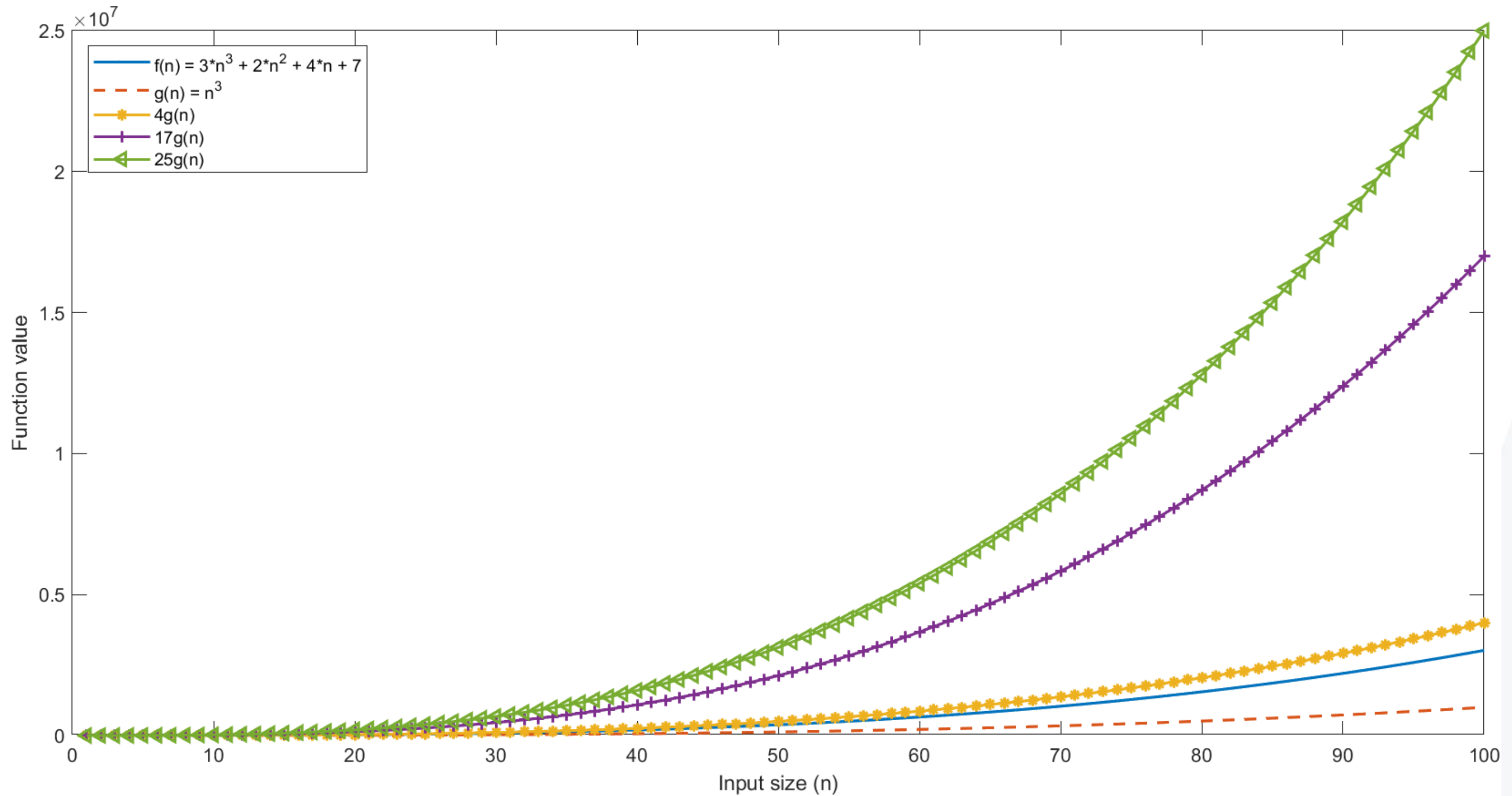
Visual inspection (O)



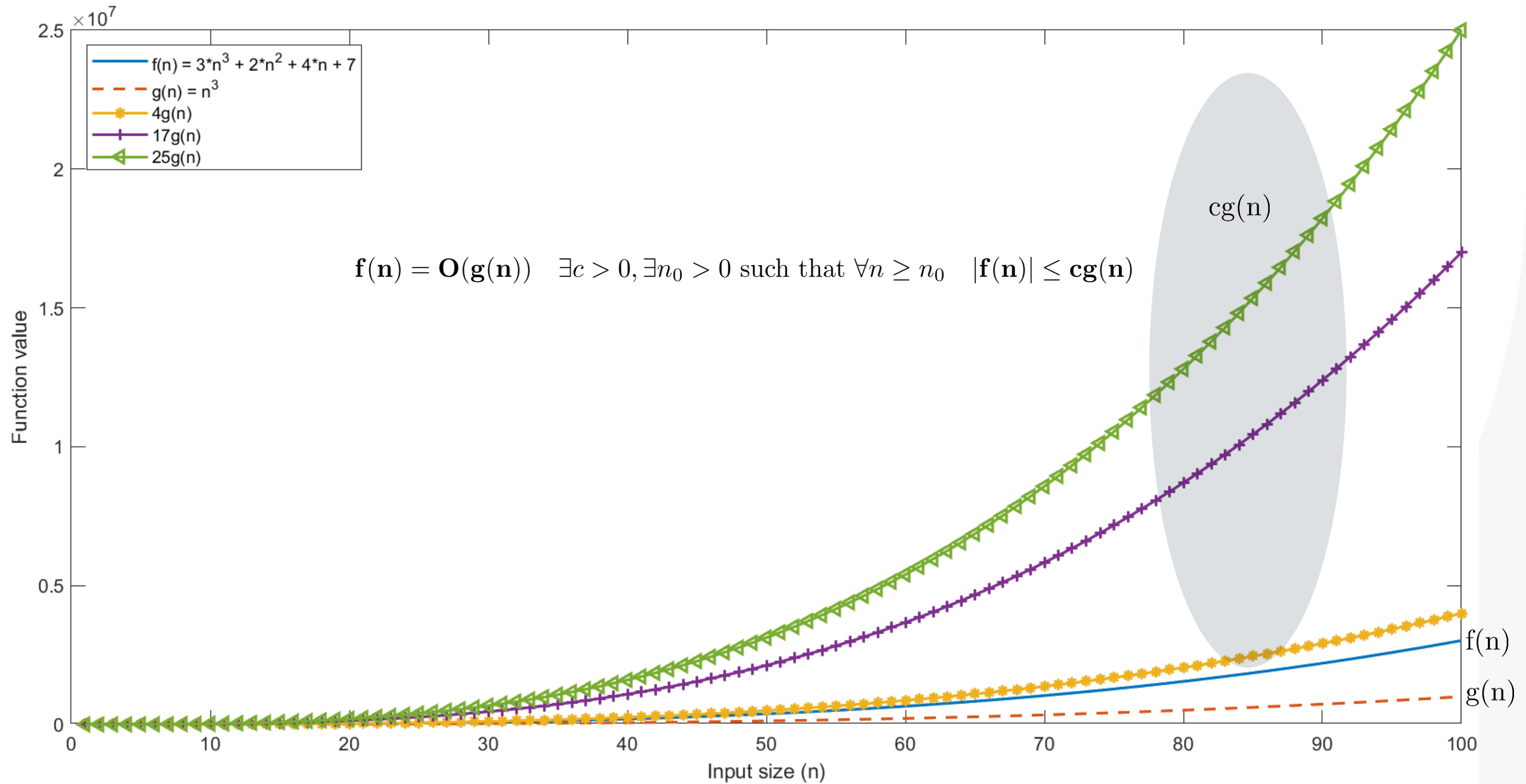
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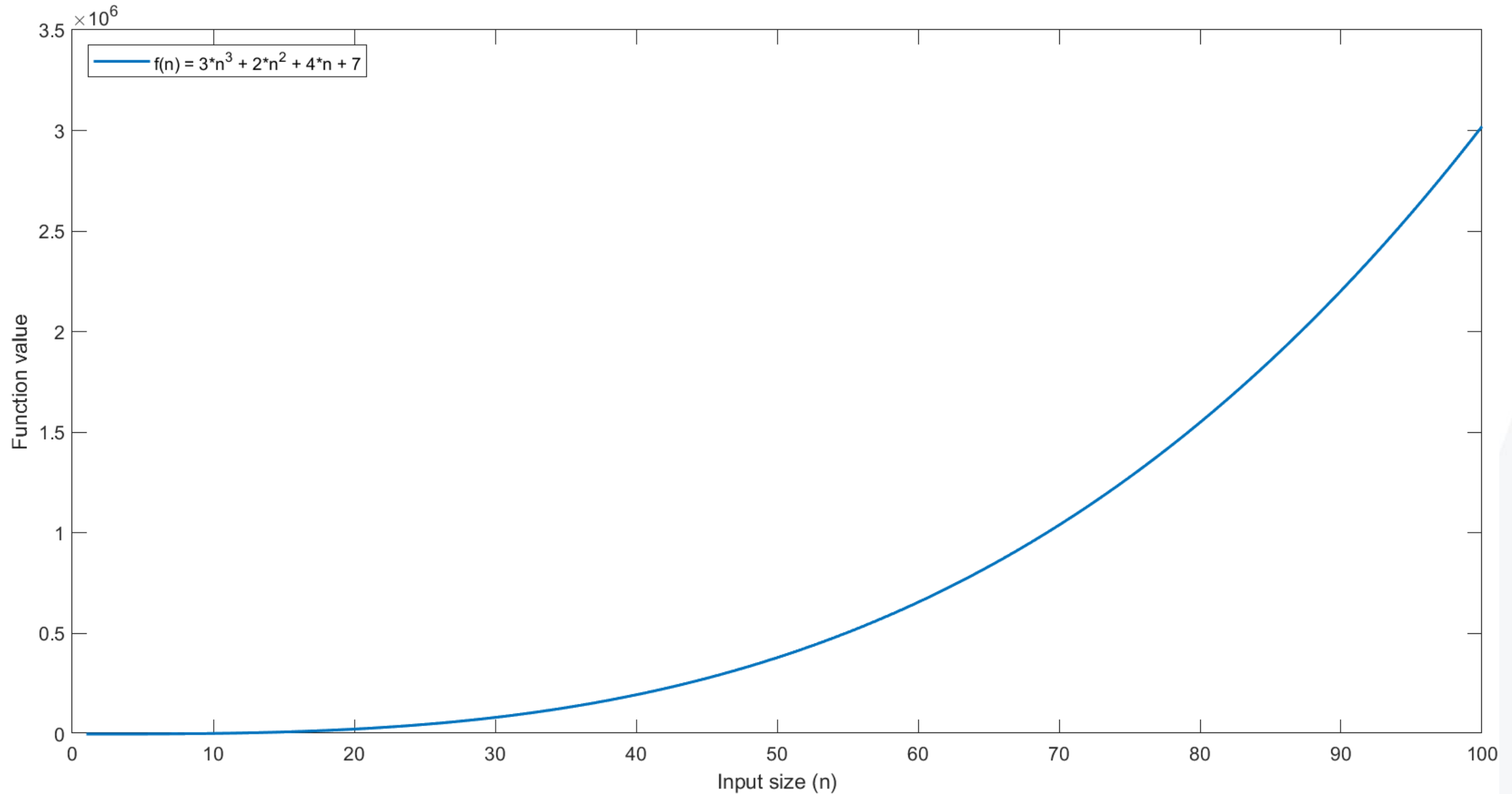
Visual inspection (O)



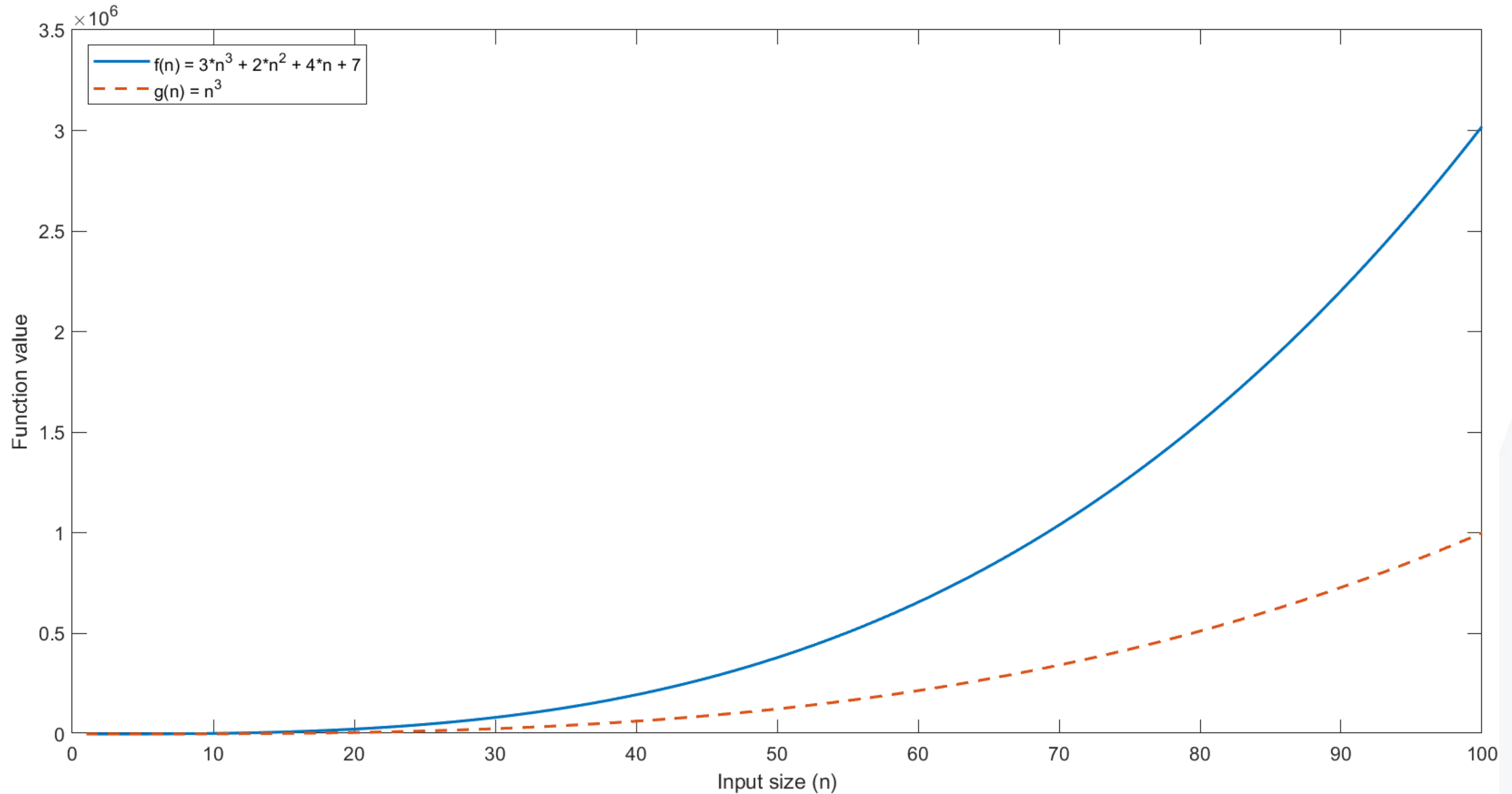
Visual inspection (O)



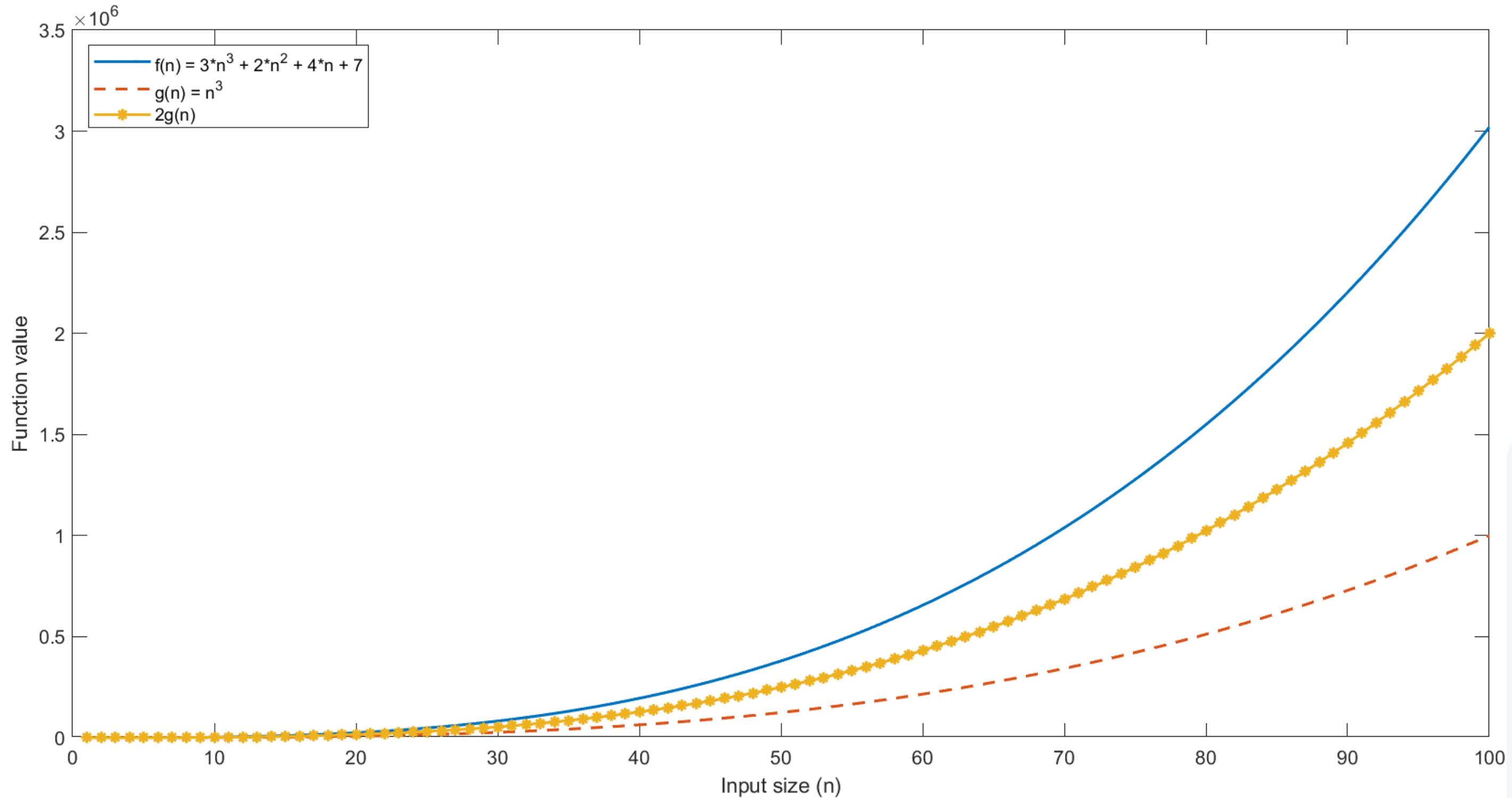
Visual inspection Ω



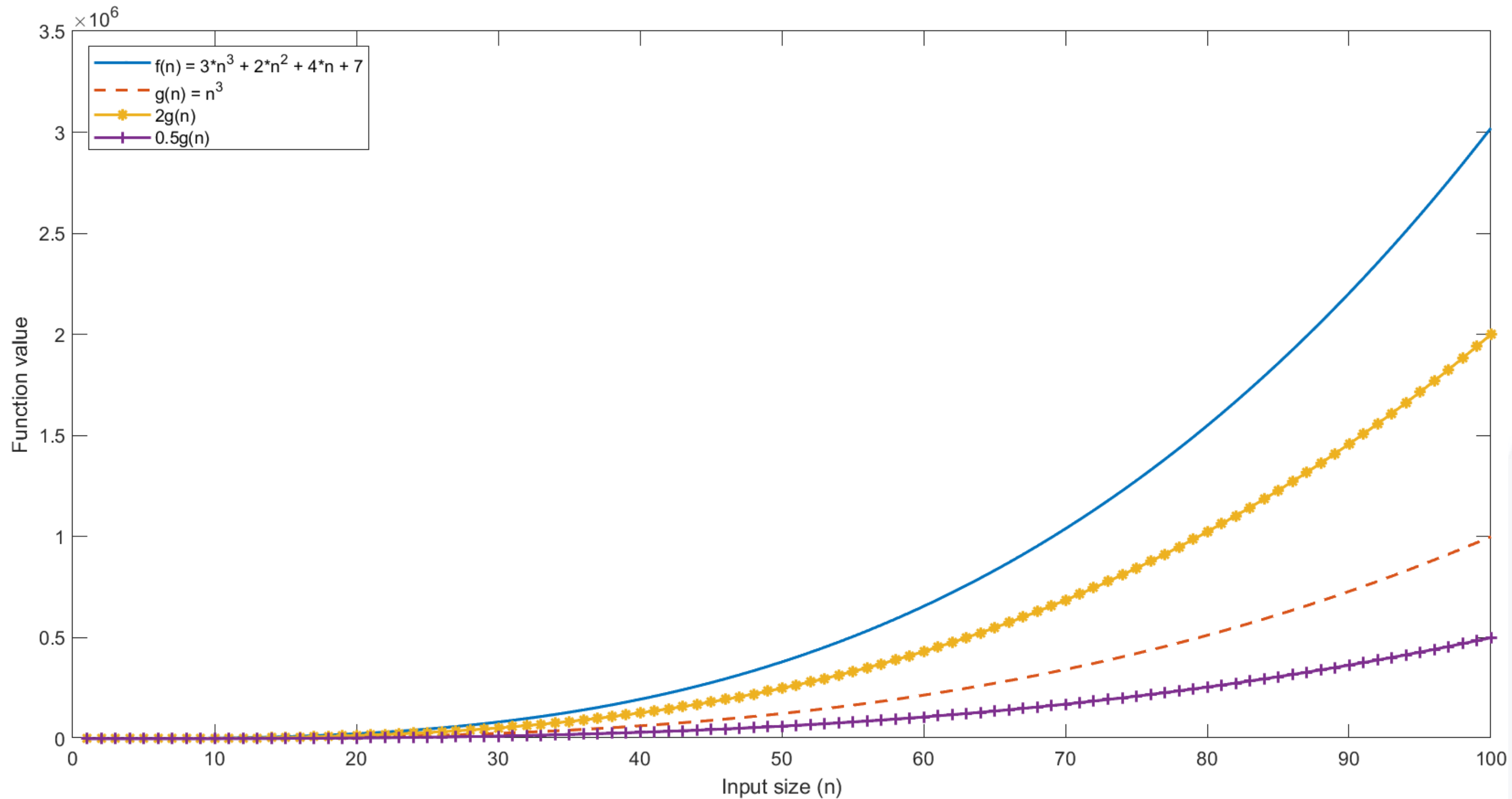
Visual inspection Ω



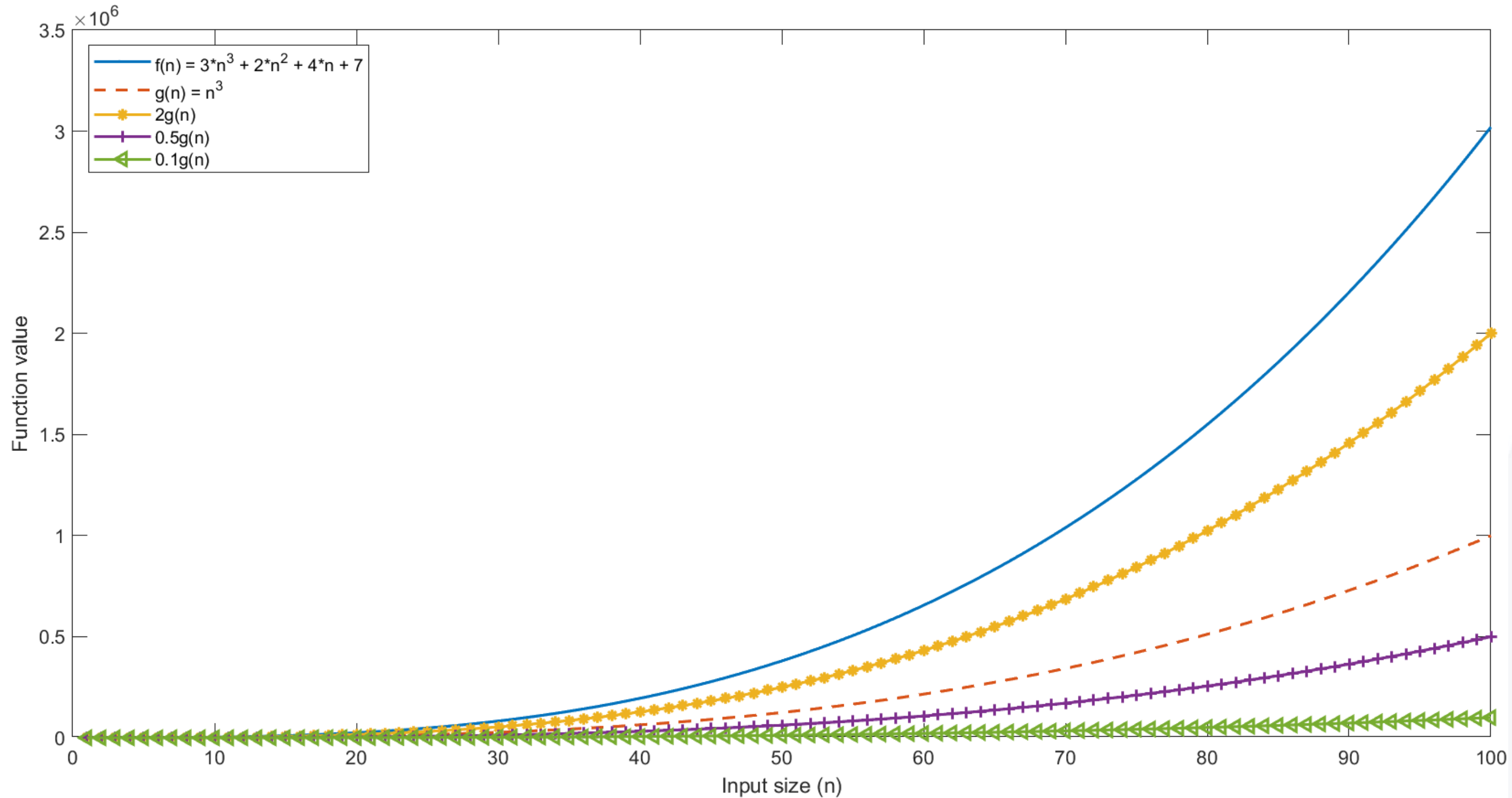
Visual inspection Ω



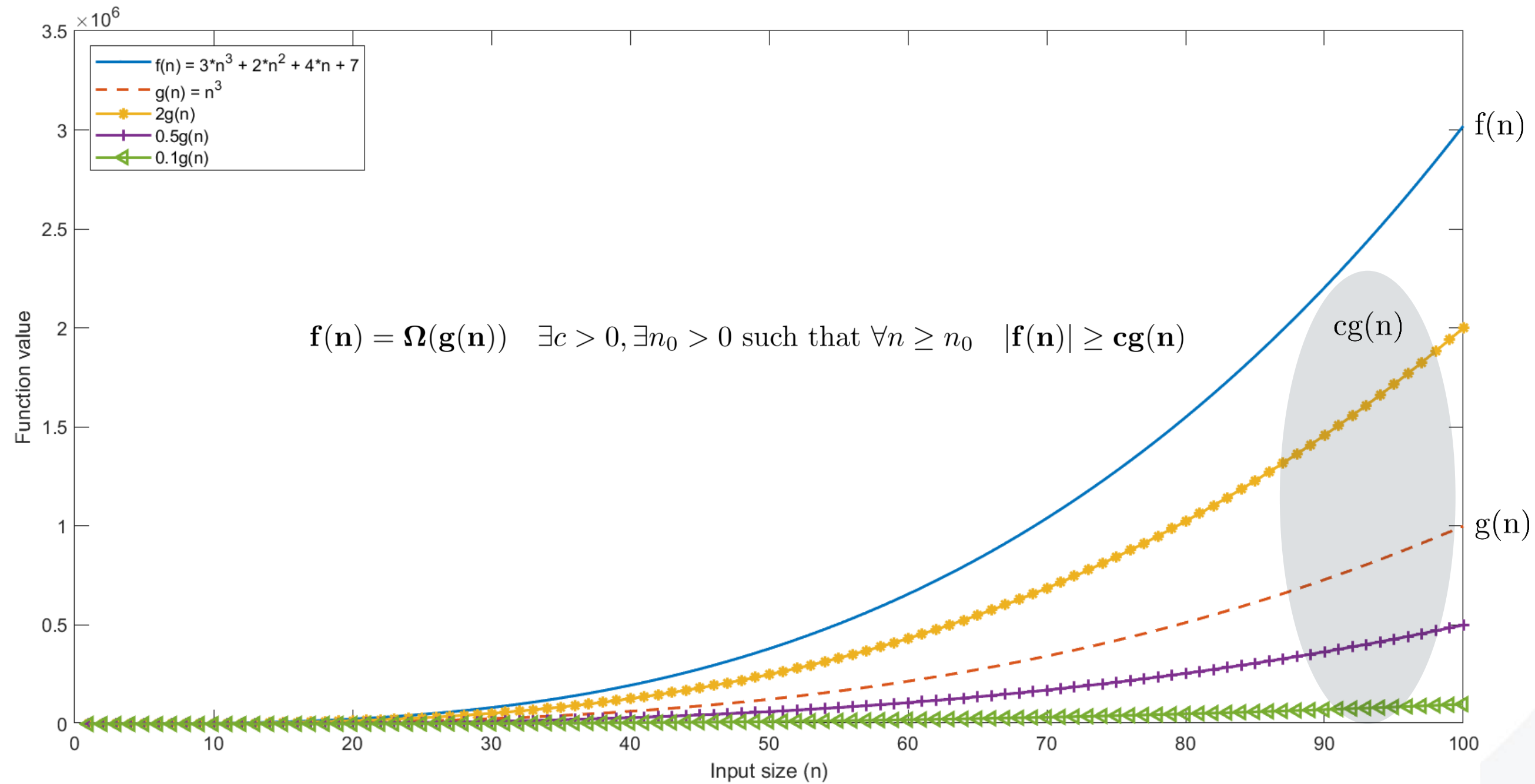
Visual inspection Ω



Visual inspection Ω



Visual inspection Ω



Visual Inspection

$$f(n) = 3n^3 + 2n^2 + 5n + 7$$

$$1 < \log(n) < \sqrt{n} < n < n\log(n) < n^2 < \dots < n^3 < \dots < 2^n < e^n < \dots < n^n$$



Visual Inspection

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O

Visual Inspection

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While it is mathematically correct to say that $f(n) = O(2^n)$ or even $f(n) = O(n^n)$, it does not capture the growth rate in a useful way



Visual Inspection

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Ω O

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In general, the most useful asymptotic notation is one that accurately captures the dominant term or terms of the function, e.g. the smallest upper bound or the largest lower bound.

Example

$$f(n) = \sqrt{6n^3 + 7n^2 + 5n + 5}$$

$$f(n) = \mathbf{O}(g(n)) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} \neq \infty$$

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Example

$$f(n) = n^3 \log_2 n$$

$$g(n) = 3n \log_8 n$$

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Example

$$f(n) = 8^n$$

$$g(n) = 4^n$$

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