

Workshop tips:

1. We can answer many of this week's questions using the limit test provided on The Asymptotic Cheat Sheet. An alternate representation that achieves the same result can be found on [Stack Overflow](#).
2. Below is the relationship between some of the common time complexities, in order of fastest to slowest.

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

If f is some complexity, then we can determine if f belongs to $O(g)$, $\Omega(g)$, or $\Theta(g)$ depending on whether g is to the right, left, or in the same position as f , respectively.

Exercise 1 Complexity Notation

10. Right or wrong?

(a) $n^2 + 10^6 n \in O(n^2)$

Right \rightarrow limit approaches 1 ($1 < \infty$).

(b) $n \log n \in O(n)$

Wrong \rightarrow limit approaches ∞ .

(c) $n \log n \in \Omega(n)$

True \rightarrow limit approaches ∞ .

(d) $\log n \in o(n)$

True \rightarrow limit approaches 0.

11. Prove Lemma 6

Lemma 6. *The following rules hold for \mathcal{O} -notation:*

$$cf(n) = \Theta(f(n)) \text{ for any positive constant } c \quad (2.6)$$

$$f(n) + g(n) = \Omega(f(n)) \quad (2.7)$$

$$f(n) + g(n) = \mathcal{O}(f(n)) \text{ if } g(n) = \mathcal{O}(f(n)) \quad (2.8)$$

$$\mathcal{O}(f(n)) \cdot \mathcal{O}(g(n)) = \mathcal{O}(f(n) \cdot g(n)) \quad (2.9)$$

=== Lemma 6: 2.6 ===

Prove:

$$c \cdot f(n) = \theta(f(n)), \text{ for any } c$$

Proof by limits:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} c \cdot f(n) / f(n)$$

$$= f(n) / f(n) \quad [\text{ignore constants}]$$

$$= 1$$

since limit equals a real number greater than 0, it is Big- θ

=== Lemma 6: 2.7 ===

Prove:

$$f(n) + g(n) = \Omega(f(n))$$

Proof by limits:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (f(n) + g(n)) / f(n) \geq 1$$

[ignore constants]
[since all $g(n)$ are positive,
the sum of any f and any g will be greater than any lone f]

since limit is at least 1, it is Big- Ω

=== Lemma 6: 2.8 ===

Given that: $g(n) = O(f(n))$

$$\Rightarrow g(n) = c \cdot f(n), \text{ for some } n \geq n_0$$

Proof by limits:

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (f(n) + c \cdot f(n)) / f(n) &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (1+c) \cdot f(n) / f(n) \\ &= (1+c) \cdot f(n) / f(n) \\ &= 1+c \end{aligned}$$

[ignore constants]

< ∞
therefore in Big- O .

=== Lemma 6: 2.9 ===

Prove:

$$O(f(n)) * O(g(n)) = O(f(n) \cdot g(n))$$

Process:

$$\begin{aligned} O(f(n)) * O(g(n)) &\leq c_1 \cdot f(n) * c_2 \cdot g(n) && \text{[definition of big-O]} \\ &\leq c_1 \cdot c_2 * f(n) \cdot g(n) \\ &\leq c_3 * f(n) \cdot g(n) \\ &= O(f(n) \cdot g(n)) \end{aligned}$$

Exercise 2 Complexity Notation

Is it true that if $f(n) = \Theta(g(n))$ and $g(n) = \Theta(h(n))$, then $h(n) = \Theta(f(n))$?

Given:

- $f = \Theta(g) \Rightarrow c_1 \cdot g \leq f \leq c_2 \cdot g$, where $c_1, c_2 > 0$, and $n > n_0$
- $g = \Theta(h) \Rightarrow c_3 \cdot h \leq g \leq c_4 \cdot h$, where $c_3, c_4 > 0$, and $n > n_0'$

Is $h = \Theta(f)$ correct?

First, define n : $n > \max(n_0, n_0')$

Now, RHS:

$$\begin{aligned} c_3 h &\leq g \leq f / c_1 \\ h &\leq f / c_1 c_3 \end{aligned}$$

And, LHS:

$$\begin{aligned} f / c_2 &\leq g \leq c_4 h \\ f / c_2 c_4 &\leq h \end{aligned}$$

Therefore:

$$\begin{aligned} f / c_2 c_4 &\leq h \leq f / c_1 c_3 \\ c_5 f &\leq h \leq c_6 f, \text{ where } c_5 = 1 / c_2 c_4, c_6 = 1 / c_1 c_3, n > \max(n_0, n_0') \\ \therefore h &= \Theta(f) \end{aligned}$$

Exercise 3 Complexity Notation

Is it true that if $f(n) = O(g(n))$ and $g(n) = O(h(n))$, then $h(n) = \Omega(f(n))$?

Given:

- $f = O(g) \Rightarrow f \leq c_1 * g$, where $c_1 > 0$, and $n > n_0$ [1]
- $g = O(h) \Rightarrow g \leq c_2 * h$, where $c_2 > 0$, and $n > n_0'$ [2]

Is $h = \Omega(f)$ correct?

Again, let's define n : $n > \max(n_0, n_0')$

$$f \leq c_1 * g \leq c_1 * (c_2 * h) \quad [\text{chain 1 and 2}]$$

$$\frac{1}{c_1} f \leq g \leq c_2 h \quad [\text{divide all by } c_1]$$

$$\frac{1}{c_1 c_2} f \leq h \quad [\text{ignore middle, and isolate } h]$$

$$c_3 f \leq h, \text{ where } c_3 = \frac{1}{c_1 c_2}, n > \max(n_0, n_0')$$

$$\therefore h = \Omega(f)$$

Exercise 4 Complexity Notation

Is it true that a $\Theta(n^2)$ algorithm always takes longer to run than a $\Theta(\log n)$ algorithm?

No, for two reasons:

1. When we have a small n , then the terms other than the fastest growing terms are significant and cannot be ignored.
2. Different programming languages and computer architecture can also affect how long an algorithm runs for.

We can only say that the n^2 algorithm will *always* take longer when all other factors are constant or ignored – which is a big reason as to why we use Big-O notation – and again, requires n to exceed a threshold n_0 .

Exercise 5 Complexity Notation

For each pair of functions given below, point out the asymptotic relationships that apply:
 $f = O(g)$, $f = \Theta(g)$, $f = \Omega(g)$.

- $f(n) = \sqrt{n}$ and $g(n) = \log(n)$
- $f(n) = 1$ and $g(n) = 2$
- $f(n) = 1000 \cdot 2^n$ and $g(n) = 3^n$
- $f(n) = 4^{n+4}$ and $g(n) = 2^{2n+2}$
- $f(n) = 5n \log(n)$ and $g(n) = n \log(5n)$
- $f(n) = n!$ and $g(n) = (n+1)!$

To solve these we can either graph them or use the limit test, however that adds unnecessary steps, instead we can use tip #2.

- $f = \Omega(g)$ "f grows at least as fast as g"
- $f = \Theta(g)$ (limit=.5) "f grows at the same rate as g"
- $f = O(g)$ "f grows no faster than g"
- $f = \Theta(g)$ (limit=64) "f grows at the same rate as g"
- $f = \Theta(g)$ (limit= 5) "f grows at the same rate as g"
- $f = O(g)$ "f grows no faster than g"

Exercise 6 Complexity Notation

Prove that $n^k = o(c^n)$ for any integer k and any $c > 1$.

PROVE: $n^k = o(c^n)$

GOAL: Show that for all $c_1 > 0$, there exists a n_0 such that $n \geq n_0$ and $n^k \leq c_1 \cdot c^n$

Let $c_1 > 1$, $c > 0$, and k be constants.

Let's start by ASSUMING the statement is true.

$n^k = o(c^n)$

	$n^k \leq c_1 \cdot c^n$	$c_1 > 0$ & $n > n_0$	[definition of little-o]
IFF	$\log[c](n^k) \leq \log[c](c_1 \cdot c^n)$		[log base c both sides]
IFF	$\log[c](n^k) \leq \log[c](c_1) + \log[c](c^n)$		[log(AB) = log(A) + log(B)]
IFF	$k \cdot \log[c](n) \leq \log[c](c_1) + n \cdot \logc$		[log(A^n) = n * log(A)]
IFF	$k \cdot \log[c](n) \leq \log[c](c_1) + n$		[logA = 1]
IFF	$k \cdot \log[c](n) - \log[c](c_1) \leq n$		

Now let's swap n with n_0 :

$n_0 \geq k \cdot \log[c](n_0) - \log[c](c_1)$

This tells us how to find n_0 . Remember for little-o we need EVERY $c_1 > 0$ to have an appropriate threshold (n_0) to hold true (this is different than big-o).

From this we can see that no matter what c_1 is, we will be able to find an appropriate threshold. And we can only get this if our original assumption was true, meaning the mathematical form is correct. And if that's correct, the big-O notation must also be correct.

Test this proof using limits:

$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^k / c^n = \{\text{small}\} / \{\text{massive}\} = 0$