

Asymptotic Notation

What is an asymptote? Asymptotic notation?

Big "oh" (Order of a f^n)

$f(n) = O(g(n)) \equiv f(n)$ is big oh of $g(n)$ iff $\exists c > 0$ and $\exists n_0 > 0$ such that $f(n) \leq c * g(n)$ for all $n > n_0$.

Examples:

$3n+2 = O(n)$ as $3n+2 \leq 4n$ for all $n > 2$.

$3n+3 = O(n)$ as $3n+3 \leq 4n$ for all $n > 3$.

$100n+6 = O(n)$ as $100n+6 \leq 101n$ for all $n > 6$.

$10n^2+4n+2 = O(n^2)$ as $10n^2+4n+2 \leq 11n^2$ for all $n > 5$.

$1000n^2+100n-6 = O(n^2)$ as $1000n^2+100n-6 \leq 1001n^2$ for all $n > 100$.

$6 \times 2^n + n^2 = O(2^n)$ as $6 \times 2^n + n^2 \leq 7 \times 2^n$ for all $n > 14$.

Also, see

$3n+3 = O(n^2)$ as $3n+3 \leq 3n^2$ for all $n > 2$.

$10n^2+4n+2 = O(n^4)$ as $10n^2+4n+2 \leq 10n^4$ for all $n > 2$.

But

$3n+2 \neq O(1)$ as $3n+2 \not\leq c$ for any c and all $n > n_0$,

similarly, $10n^2+4n+2 \neq O(n)$.

$O(1) \rightarrow$ constant; $O(n) \rightarrow$ linear; $O(n^2) \rightarrow$ quadratic; $O(n^3) \rightarrow$ cubic.
 $O(2^n) \rightarrow$ exponential etc.

Also $10 = O(1)$, but we don't study "O" of constants.

For sufficiently large n , $O(\log n)$ is faster than $O(n)$;

$O(n \log n)$ is faster than $O(n^2)$ but slower than $O(n)$;

$O(n^2)$ is faster than $O(2^n)$ but slower than $O(n)$.

$f(n) = O(g(n))$ only provides an upper bound for $f(n)$ for all $n > n_0$.
 But, it does not say how good the bound is.

See $n = O(2^n)$; $n = O(n^{2.5})$; $n = O(n^3)$ and so on.

To be useful, $g(n)$ must be as small as possible.

There is no such thing as $O(g(n)) = f(n)$.

Omega

$f(n) = \Omega(g(n))$ iff $\exists c > 0$ and $\exists n_0 > 0$ such that $f(n) \geq c \cdot g(n)$ for all $n \geq n_0$.

Examples:

$3n+2 = \Omega(n)$ as $3n+2 \geq 3n$ for all $n \geq 1$ (holds for $n > 0$ also, but we must find out $n_0 > 0$).

$3n+3 = \Omega(n)$ as $3n+3 \geq 3n$ for all $n \geq 1$.

$100n+6 = \Omega(n)$ as $100n+6 \geq 100n$ for all $n \geq 1$.

$10n^2+4n+2 = \Omega(n^2)$ as $10n^2+4n+2 \geq n^2$ for all $n \geq 1$.

$6 \cdot 2^n + n^2 = \Omega(2^n)$ as $6 \cdot 2^n + n^2 \geq 2^n$ for all $n \geq 1$.

Also, see

$$3n+3 = \Omega(1)$$

$$10n^2+4n+2 = \Omega(n)$$

$$10n^2+4n+2 = \Omega(1)$$

$$6 \cdot 2^n + n^2 = \Omega(n^{100})$$

$$6 \cdot 2^n + n^2 = \Omega(n^{50.2})$$

$$6 \cdot 2^n + n^2 = \Omega(n^2)$$

$f(n) = \Omega(g(n))$ only provides a lower bound for $f(n)$ for all $n \geq n_0$.

But it does not say how good the bound is.

To be useful, $g(n)$ must be as large as possible.

Theta

$f(n) = \Theta(g(n))$ iff $\exists c_1, c_2 > 0$ and $\exists n_0 > 0$ such that $c_1 g(n) \leq f(n) \leq c_2 g(n)$ for all $n \geq n_0$.

Examples:

$3n+2 = \Theta(n)$ as $3n+2 \geq 3n$ for all $n \geq 2$ and $3n+2 \leq 4n$ for all $n \geq 2$,
so $c_1 = 3, c_2 = 4, n_0 = 2$.

$$3n+3 = \Theta(n)$$

$$10n^2+4n+2 = \Theta(n^2)$$

$$6 \cdot 2^n + n^2 = \Theta(2^n)$$

But $3n+2 \neq \Theta(1), 3n+3 \neq \Theta(n^2), 10n^2+4n+2 \neq \Theta(n),$
 $6 \cdot 2^n + n^2 \neq \Theta(n^{100}).$

$f(n) = \Theta(g(n))$ provides both lower and upper bounds for $f(n)$.

We usually don't write $3n+3 = \Theta(3n)$ or $10n^2+4n+2 = \Theta(4n^2)$ or $6 \cdot 2^n + n^2 = \Theta(4 \cdot 2^n)$ although these are perfectly OK. The coefficients used in $g(n)$ are always 1.

So to say, $f(n) = O(g(n)) \Rightarrow kf(n) = O(g(n)), O(kg(n)) = O(g(n))$ etc.

Theorems

1. If $f(n) = a_m n^m + \dots + a_1 n + a_0$ then $f(n) = O(n^m)$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Proof: } f(n) &\leq \sum_{i=0}^m |a_i| n^i \\ &\leq n^m \sum_{i=0}^m |a_i| n^{i-m} \\ &\leq n^m \sum_{i=0}^m |a_i| \text{ as } n^{i-m} \leq 1 \\ \text{so, } f(n) &= O(n^m) \end{aligned}$$

2. If $f(n) = a_m n^m + \dots + a_1 n + a_0$ and $a_m > 0$ then $f(n) = \Theta(n^m)$

3. If $f(n) = a_m n^m + \dots + a_1 n + a_0$ and $a_m < 0$ then $f(n) = -\Omega(n^m)$

Properties

1. If $f_1(n) = O(g_1(n))$ and $f_2(n) = O(g_2(n))$ then $f_1(n) + f_2(n) = O(g_1(n) + g_2(n))$

If $f_1(n) = \Omega(g_1(n))$ and $f_2(n) = \Omega(g_2(n))$ then $f_1(n) + f_2(n) = \Omega(g_1(n) + g_2(n))$

2. If $f_1(n) = O(g_1(n))$ and $f_2(n) = O(g_2(n))$ then $f_1(n) + f_2(n) = O(\max\{g_1(n), g_2(n)\})$

If $f_1(n) = \Omega(g_1(n))$ and $f_2(n) = \Omega(g_2(n))$ then $f_1(n) + f_2(n) = \Omega(\min\{g_1(n), g_2(n)\})$

3. If $f_1(n) = O(g_1(n))$ and $f_2(n) = O(g_2(n))$ then $f_1(n) f_2(n) = O(g_1(n) g_2(n))$

If $f_1(n) = \Omega(g_1(n))$ and $f_2(n) = \Omega(g_2(n))$ then $f_1(n) f_2(n) = \Omega(g_1(n) g_2(n))$.

Exercise:

1. draw a line from each of the three functions in the center to the best big Ω value on the left and the best big O value on the right:

$\Omega(1/n)$
 $\Omega(1)$
 $\Omega(\log \log n)$
 $\Omega(\log^2 n)$
 $\Omega(\sqrt[3]{n})$
 $\Omega(n/\log n)$
 $\Omega(n)$
 $\Omega(n^{1.00001})$
 $\Omega(n^2/\log^2 n)$
 $\Omega(n^2/\log n)$
 $\Omega(n^2)$
 $\Omega(n^{3/2})$
 $\Omega(2^n)$

$1/(\log n)$
 $7n^5 - 3n + 2$
 3^n

$O(1/n)$
 $O(1)$
 $O(\log \log n)$
 $O(\log^2 n)$
 $O(\sqrt[3]{n})$
 $O(n/\log n)$
 $O(n)$
 $O(n^{1.00001})$
 $O(n^2/\log^2 n)$
 $O(n^2/\log n)$
 $O(n^2)$
 $O(n^{3/2})$
 $O(2^n)$

2. For each of the following pairs of functions $f(n)$ and $g(n)$, either $f(n) = O(g(n))$ or $g(n) = O(f(n))$ must not both. Determine which is the case.
- (i) $f(n) = (n^2 - n)/2$, $g(n) = 6n$
 - (ii) $f(n) = n + 2\sqrt{n}$, $g(n) = n^2$
 - (iii) $f(n) = n + \log n$, $g(n) = n\sqrt{n}$
 - (iv) $f(n) = n^2 + 3n + 4$, $g(n) = n^3$
 - (v) $f(n) = n \log n$, $g(n) = n\sqrt{n}/2$
 - (vi) $f(n) = n + \log n$, $g(n) = \sqrt{n}$

3. True or false?

(i) $n^2 = O(n^3)$ (ii) $n^3 = O(n^2)$ (iii) $2n^2 + 1 = O(n)$

(iv) $n \log n = O(n\sqrt{n})$ (v) $\sqrt{n} = O(\log n)$ (vi) $\log n = O(\sqrt{n})$

4. For each of the following pairs of functions $f(n)$ and $g(n)$, state whether $f(n) = O(g(n))$, $f(n) = \Omega(g(n))$, $f(n) = \Theta(g(n))$ or none of the other: *

5. Prove that $\lceil \log n \rceil = O(n)$

By looking at $\lceil \log n \rceil$ for small values of $n \geq 1$:

$n=1, \lceil \log n \rceil \leq n$

$n=2, \lceil \log n \rceil \leq n$

$n=3, \lceil \log n \rceil \leq n$

The proof is by induction on n .

Suppose that $\lceil \log(n-1) \rceil \leq n-1$

Then $\lceil \log n \rceil \leq \lceil \log(n-1) \rceil + 1$
 $\leq (n-1) + 1$
 $= n$

Hence, $c=1$, and $n_0=1$.

6. Prove that $n^2 - 3n - 18 = O(n)$

7. Prove that $n^3 - 3n^2 - n + 1 = \Theta(n^3)$

8. Prove that $n = O(2^n)$

9. Prove that $(n+1)^2 = O(n^2)$

We need to find a constant c such that $(n+1)^2 \leq cn^2$,

i.e, $n^2 + 2n + 1 \leq cn^2$

or $(c-1)n^2 - 2n - 1 \geq 0$

Take $c=4$.

The roots of $3n^2 - 2n - 1$ are $(2 \pm \sqrt{4+12})/2 = \{-1/3, 1\}$.

The second root gives us n_0 .

\therefore For all $n \geq 1$, $(n+1)^2 \leq 4n^2$, so $(n+1)^2 = O(n^2)$

10. Prove that $3n \lfloor \log n \rfloor = O(n^2)$

* $f(n) = n^2 + 3n + 4$, $g(n) = 6n + 7$;

$f(n) = \sqrt{n}$, $g(n) = \log(n+3)$;

$f(n) = n\sqrt{n}$, $g(n) = n^2 - n$.

Correctness of Algorithms

1. Prove that the following algorithm for the addition of natural numbers is correct.

float f: add(y, z) { // Return y+z, where y, z ∈ N

x = 0; c = 0; d = 1;

while (y > 0) ∨ (z > 0) ∨ (c > 0) {

a = y mod 2; b = z mod 2;

if a ⊕ b ⊕ c then x = x + d;

c = (a ∧ b) ∨ (b ∧ c) ∨ (c ∧ a);

d = 2d; y = ⌊y/2⌋;

z = ⌊z/2⌋;

} return x;

}

- We see $2\lfloor n/2 \rfloor + (n \bmod 2) = n$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$
- We claim that if $y, z \in \mathbb{N}$ then add(y, z) returns the value $y+z$
- For each of the identifiers, use a subscript i to denote the value of the identifier after the i^{th} iteration of the while loop, for $i \geq 0$, with $i=0$ meaning the time immediately before the while loop is entered and immediately after the while statement.

- By inspection

$$a_{j+1} = y_j \bmod 2$$

$$b_{j+1} = z_j \bmod 2$$

$$y_{j+1} = \lfloor y_j / 2 \rfloor$$

$$z_{j+1} = \lfloor z_j / 2 \rfloor$$

$$d_{j+1} = 2d_j$$

- $c_{j+1} \in \{0, 1\}$ iff at least two of a_{j+1} , b_{j+1} and c_j are 1

$$\therefore c_{j+1} = \lfloor (a_{j+1} + b_{j+1} + c_j) / 2 \rfloor$$

- Also, d is added into x only when an odd number of a , b and c are 1.

$$\therefore x_{j+1} = x_j + d_j \left((a_{j+1} + b_{j+1} + c_j) \bmod 2 \right)$$

- We now prove $(y_j + z_j + c_j)d_j + x_j = y_0 + z_0$.

It is called the loop invariant.

- The proof is by induction on j .

- When $j=0$, it's trivial since $c_0=0$, $d_0=1$ and $x_0=0$.

- Now assuming $(y_j + z_j + c_j)d_j + x_j = y_0 + z_0$,

$$\text{we see } (y_{j+1} + z_{j+1} + c_{j+1})d_{j+1} + x_{j+1}$$

$$= (\lfloor y_j/2 \rfloor + \lfloor z_j/2 \rfloor + \lfloor (y_j \bmod 2 + z_j \bmod 2 + c_j)/2 \rfloor)2d_j$$

$$+ x_j + d_j((y_j \bmod 2 + z_j \bmod 2 + c_j) \bmod 2)$$

$$= (\lfloor y_j/2 \rfloor + \lfloor z_j/2 \rfloor)2d_j + x_j + d_j(y_j \bmod 2 + z_j \bmod 2 + c_j)$$

$$= (y_j + z_j + c_j)d_j + x_j$$

$$= y_0 + z_0, \text{ an invariant!}$$

- We now use it to show that the algorithm is correct. For that, we need to prove that the algorithm terminates with x containing the sum of y and z .

- By inspection, the values of y and z are ~~half~~ halved (rounding, if they are odd) on every iteration of the loop. Therefore, they will eventually both be zero and stay that way. At the first point at which $y=z=0$, either c will equal zero or c will be assigned zero on the next iteration of the loop. Thus, eventually $y=z=c=0$ at which point the loop terminates.

Now, we prove that x has the correct value on termination.

Suppose, the loop terminates after t iterations, $t \geq 0$.

- By the loop invariant $(y_t + z_t + c_t)d_t + x_t = y_0 + z_0$. Since, $y_t = z_t = c_t = 0$, we see $x_t = y_0 + z_0$.

- Thus the algorithm terminates with x containing the sum of the initial values of y and z , as required.

2. Prove that the following algorithm for swapping two numbers is correct.

```
void fn swap(x, y) { // Swap x and y
```

```
    x = x + y;
```

```
    y = x - y;
```

```
    x = x - y;
```

```
}
```


3. Computing x^n where x is a real number and $n \geq 0$ an integer.

First algorithm:

power = x ;
for $i = 1$ to $n-1$ power = $x * \text{power}$;

Second algorithm:

If n is an integral power of 2, i.e. $n = 2^k$ for some integer k .

power = x ;
for $i = 1$ to k power = power²

Third algorithm:

when n is not an integral power of 2.

let $n = d_k d_{k-1} \dots d_1 d_0$ in binary

$$\text{So, } n = \sum_{i=0}^k d_i 2^i$$

$$\text{Then, } x^n = x^{\sum_{i=0}^k d_i 2^i} = x^{d_0} * (x^2)^{d_1} * (x^4)^{d_2} * \dots * (x^{2^k})^{d_k}$$

For example x^{101} .

$$\text{So, } n = 101 = 1100101$$

$$\text{Then } x^{101} = x^1 * (x^2)^0 * (x^4)^1 * (x^8)^0 * (x^{16})^0 * (x^{32})^1 * (x^{64})^1$$

Also observe that $d_0 = n \bmod 2$ and
 $\lfloor n/2 \rfloor = d_k d_{k-1} \dots d_1$ in binary

Hence the algorithm

```

float power(float x, int n) {
    float product, psequence;
    product = 1;
    psequence = x;
    while (n) {
        if ((n % 2) == 1) product = product * psequence;
        n = n / 2;
        psequence = psequence * psequence;
    }
    return product;
}

```

Use the loop invariant

$$p_2, x_j^{n_j} = x_0^{n_0}$$

$$p_2 = \text{product}$$

9/12

Analysis of Algorithms

```

function m(n) {
    s = 0;           1
    for i = 1 to n-1 2
        for j = i+1 to n 3
            for k = 1 to j 4
                s = s + 1; 5
    return s;        6
}
    
```

The for-loop on lines 4-5 has the same effect as $s = s + j$.
 \therefore the for-loop on lines 3-5 has the following effect:

for $j = i+1$ to n
 $s = s + j$,

equivalently,

$$s = s + \sum_{j=i+1}^n j$$

$$\text{Now, } \sum_{j=i+1}^n j = \sum_{j=1}^n j - \sum_{j=1}^i j = \frac{n(n+1)}{2} - \frac{i(i+1)}{2}$$

\therefore The for-loop on lines 2-5 has the following effect:
 for $i = 1$ to $n-1$

$$s = s + \frac{n(n+1)}{2} - \frac{i(i+1)}{2}$$

$$\text{equivalently, } s = s + \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \left(\frac{n(n+1)}{2} - \frac{i(i+1)}{2} \right)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \left(\frac{n(n+1)}{2} - \frac{i(i+1)}{2} \right) &= \frac{n(n-1)(n+1)}{2} - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} i^2 - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} i \\ &= \frac{(n-1)n(n+1)}{2} - \frac{n(n-1)(2n-1)}{12} - \frac{n(n-1)}{4} = n(n^2-1)/3. \end{aligned}$$

The for-loop that begins on line 2 is executed for $O(n)$ iterations. The for-loop that begins on line 3 is executed for $O(n)$ iterations. The for-loop that begins on line 4 is executed for $O(n)$ iterations. Line 1 and 5 take $O(1)$ time.

Therefore, the function $m(n)$ runs in time $O(n^3)$.

Is this also $\Omega(n^3)$?

Is this also $\Theta(n^3)$?

Analyze the addition algorithm of natural numbers

float fn add(y, z) { // Return $y+z$ where $y, z \in \mathbb{N}$

```
x = 0; e = 0; d = 1;
while (y > 0) ∨ (z > 0) ∨ (e > 0) {
    a = y mod 2; b = z mod 2;
    if  $a \oplus b \oplus e$  then  $x = x + d$ ;
    e =  $(a \wedge b) \vee (b \wedge e) \vee (e \wedge a)$ ;
    d =  $2d$ ; y =  $\lfloor y/2 \rfloor$ ;
    z =  $\lfloor z/2 \rfloor$ ;
}
return x;
}
```

Find the exact number of additions in

if $a \oplus b \oplus e$ then $x = x + d$

and then put a big-O around it.

Analyze the iterative algorithm for Fibonacci numbers

function fib(n) { // Return the nth Fibonacci number

if (n == 0) return 0

else {

last = 0; current = 1;

for i = 2 to n {

temp = last + current;

last = current;

current = temp;

}

}

}