



Big O Simplification and Rules

Keywords/Questions:

Notes:

Rule 1: Always care about the worst case scenario

Rule 2: Remove Constants^{*1}

^{*1} We care about how the line moves as our inputs increase

Rule 3: Different inputs should have different variables.^{*2}

^{*2} $O(m+n)$, $O(m*n)$ → For nested steps
↳ Steps in order

Rule 4: Drop non-dominant Terms^{*3}

^{*3} We care about the most important term

Summary:

Rule 1:

What is the worst case in a loop? How far do we take the algorithm? What is the best?

Rule 2:

$$O(n^2 + 2) \Rightarrow O(n^2)$$

Rule 3:

function example(box) {

one loop

one loop

}

$$\Rightarrow O(a+b)$$

function example2(box) {

one loop {

next loop { }

}

$$\Rightarrow O(a \cdot b)$$

Rule 4:

$$O(n + n^2) \Rightarrow O(n^2)$$