

# **Data Structures**

## **Course Overview**

Instructor

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# Course Objectives

- To identify the different data structures including lists, linked lists, stacks, queues, trees, graphs and hash tables.
- To learn how the choice of data structure affects program performance.
- To study the relevant algorithms needed to handle different types of data structures.
- To learn how to estimate the complexity of different algorithms.
- To specify and implement various useful abstract data types (ADTs).

# Grading

- **50 marks for final exam**
- **20 marks for midterm exam**
- **30 for coursework (quizzes)**

# Textbooks

- <http://people.cs.vt.edu/~shaffer/Book/>

**The most recent version is Edition  
3.2.0.10, dated March 28, 2013.**



# What is an algorithm ?

- Definition (from **Wikipedia**)

“ ...a **finite** set of operations for accomplishing some task, **given an initial state**, will **terminate** in a corresponding recognizable **end-state**”

# What is an algorithm ?

- With reference to **Computer programs**, an algorithm is a **sequence of instructions** that solves a given problem
  - **Operates on data**
  - **Receives input values**
  - **Generates output values**
  - **Terminate after finite number of steps**

# What is an algorithm ?

The term “**algorithm**” comes from **Al-Khwarizmi**, a Persian mathematician of the IX century.

# Why algorithms are important?

- **Practical Reasons**

We need **efficient algorithms** for solving most practical problems.

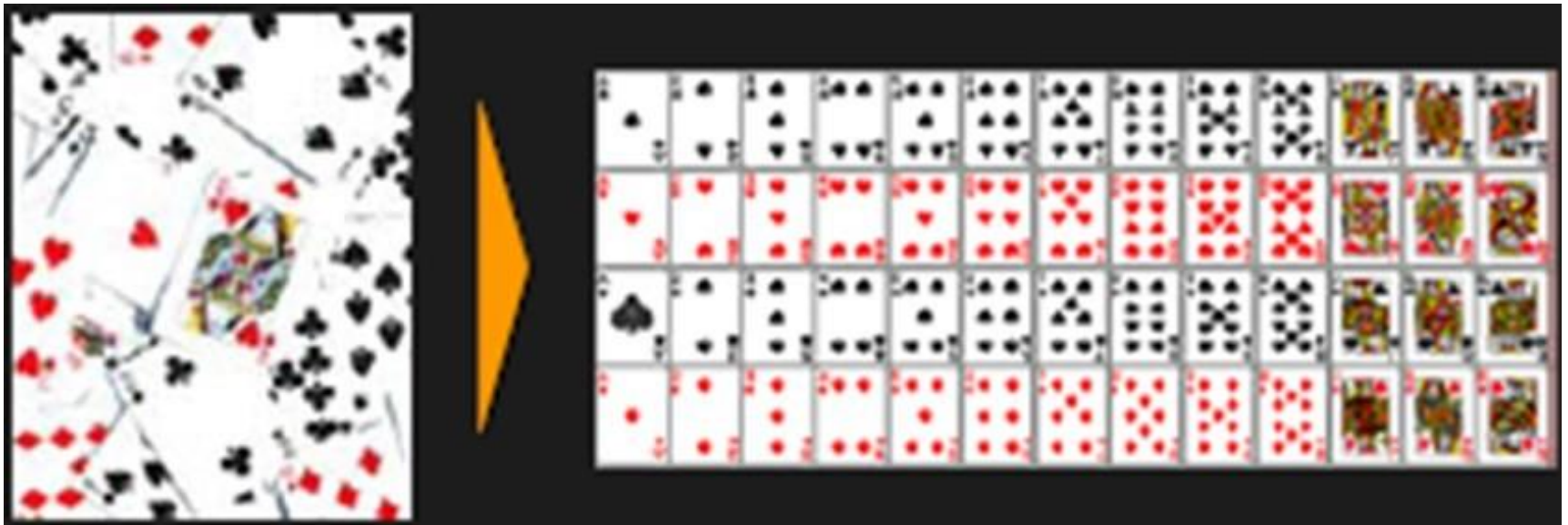
- **Technological Reasons**

Algorithms can be implemented as programs on computers



# Example of Algorithms

- Sorting a set of objects...



# Example of Algorithms

- Finding an item in a set of objects...



# Example of Algorithms

- Finding the shortest path between two destinations ...



# Data Structures

- Programs = Algorithms + Data structures

Data Structure is mainly concerned with finding the best representation or organization of data in the memory that leads to efficient processing

# Data Structures

- Programs = Algorithms + Data structures

Choice of data structure can affect the efficiency of an algorithm

e.g., accessing an element in a list.

# **Analysis of an Algorithm**

# Analysis of an algorithm

- It is extremely important to determine the expected **resources** required by an algorithm.
  - Execution Time
  - Amount of Memory
  - Other resources (disk usage, communication ports, software resources, etc.)

# Analysis of an algorithm

- Parameters affecting the analysis are:
  - The size of the input.
  - Input values
  - Other (execution model.....)



# Algorithm performance

- Of primary consideration when estimating an algorithm's performance is the number of **basic operations** required by the algorithm to process an input of a certain size.
- Size is often the number of inputs processed.
- A basic operation must have the property that its time to complete does not depend on the particular values of its operands.
- Adding or comparing two integer variables are examples of basic operations in most programming languages.

# Example 1

- The size of the problem is A.length
- The basic operation is to compare an integer's value to that of the largest value seen so far.
- It is reasonable to assume that it takes a fixed amount of time to do one such comparison, regardless of the value of the two integers or their positions in the array.

```
/** @return Position of largest value in array A */
static int largest(int[] A) {
    int currlarge = 0; // Holds largest element position
    for (int i=1; i<A.length; i++) // For each element
        if (A[currlarge] < A[i]) // if A[i] is larger
            currlarge = i; // remember its position
    return currlarge; // Return largest position
}
```

# Example 1

- Let  $n$  be the number of elements of the array.
- Let  $c$  be a constant time that is required to make a comparison operation which is our basic operation in this algorithm.
- Let  $T$  be the time required to run the algorithm, and we refer to this time by the function  $T(n)$ .
- We will always assume  $T(n)$  is a non-negative value.
- The total time to run the algorithm is therefore approximately  $c * n$ , i.e.  $cn$ .

$$T(n) = cn$$

## Example 2

- The running time of a statement that assigns the first value of an integer array to a variable is simply the time required to copy the value of the first array value.
- Let this constant time be  $c_1$ .
- then  $T(n) = c_1$

## Example3: Comparing Algorithm Efficiency

- Consider the following three Algorithms for computing  $1+2+\dots+n$ ,  $n > 0$

Algorithm A	
sum = 0 for i = 1 to n sum = sum + i	

# Example: Comparing Algorithm Efficiency

- Consider the following three Algorithms for computing  $1+2+\dots+n$ ,  $n > 0$

Algorithm A	Algorithm B	
sum = 0 for i =1 to n sum = sum +i	sum = 0 for i = 1 to n {for j =n to i sum = sum +1 }	

# Example: Comparing Algorithm Efficiency

- Consider the following three Algorithms for computing  $1+2+\dots+n$ ,  $n > 0$

Algorithm A	Algorithm B	Algorithm C
sum = 0 for i = 1 to n sum = sum + i	sum = 0 for i = 1 to n {for j = n to i sum = sum + 1 }	sum = $n * (n + 1) / 2$

# Example: Comparing Algorithm Efficiency

- Consider the following three Algorithms for computing  $1+2+\dots+n$ ,  $n > 0$

Algorithm A	Algorithm B	Algorithm C
sum = 0 for i = 1 to n sum = sum + i	sum = 0 for i = 1 to n {for j = n to i sum = sum + 1 }	sum = $n * (n + 1) / 2$

- The number of operations required in each algorithm is

	Alg. A	Alg. B	Alg. C
Assignments	$n + 1$	$1 + n(n + 1)/2$	1
Additions	$n$	$n(n + 1)/2$	1
Multiplications			1
Divisions			1
Total	$2n + 1$	$n^2 + n + 1$	4



# Complexity analysis: **Definitions**

**Complexity** = cost in terms of

- **Execution time**  $T(n)$  “**Time Complexity**” refers to the amount of time needed to solve a problem instance
- **Required Storage**  $S(n)$  “**Space Complexity**” refers to the amount of memory needed to solve a problem instance

$n$  is the size of the input

Example: For a sorting algorithm

$n$  is the number of elements in the set

# Complexity analysis: **Assumptions**

- **Complexity analysis** Must be **independent** of the type of computer.
- **Asymptotic complexity**

We are interested in values of  **$n \rightarrow \infty$**

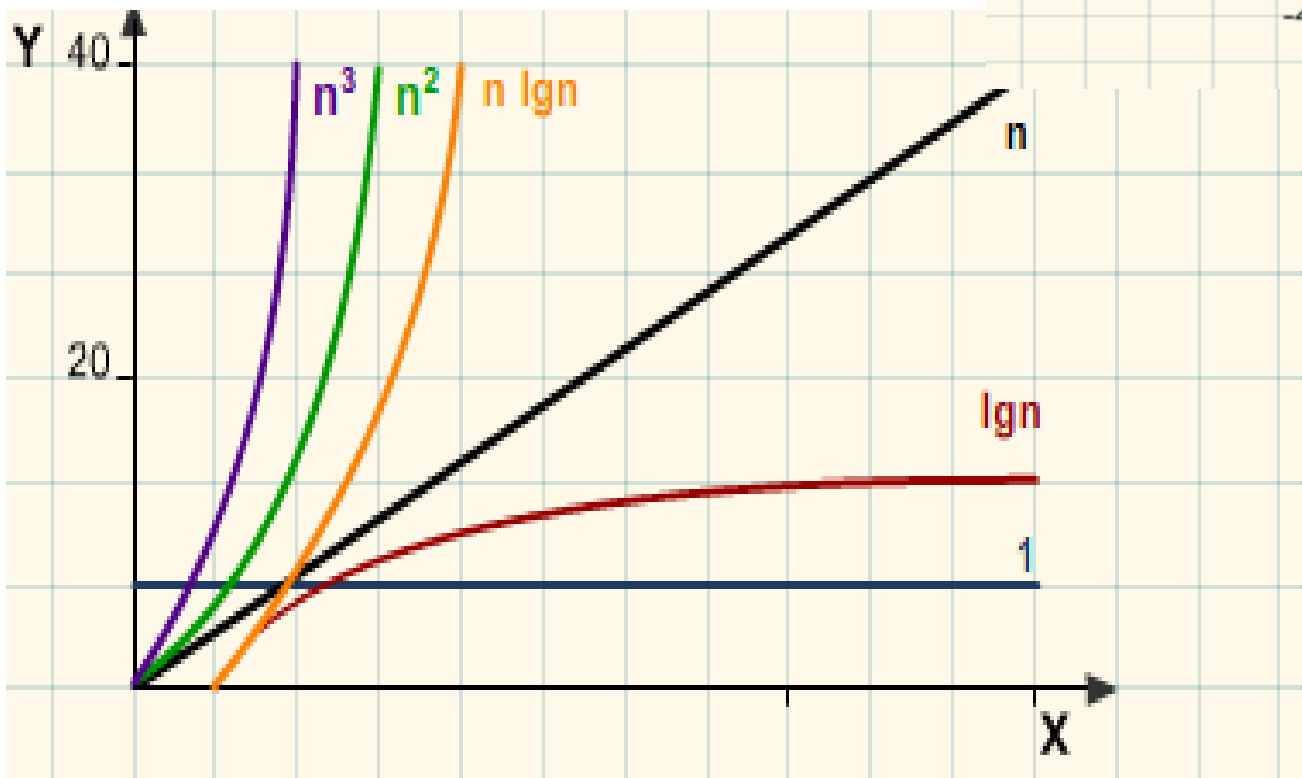
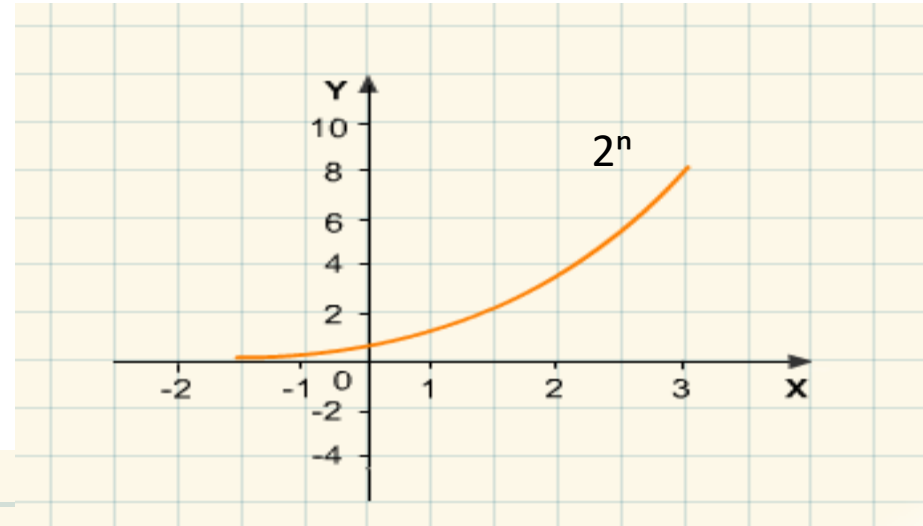
# Rate of Growth

Time Complexity	Name	Example
1	Constant	Adding an element to the front of a linked list
$\log n$	Logarithmic	Finding an element in a sorted array
$n$	Linear	Finding an element in a unsorted array
$n \log n$	Linear Logarithmic	Sorting $n$ items by 'Divide and Conquer'
$n^2$	Quadratic	Shortest path between 2 nodes in a graph
$n^3$	Cubic	Matrix Multiplication
$2^n$	Exponential	The Towers of Hanoi problem

# Rate of Growth

	<i>constant</i>	<i>logarithmic</i>	<i>linear</i>	<i>N-log-N</i>	<i>quadratic</i>	<i>cubic</i>	<i>exponential</i>
<i>n</i>	<b><math>O(1)</math></b>	<b><math>O(\log n)</math></b>	<b><math>O(n)</math></b>	<b><math>O(n \log n)</math></b>	<b><math>O(n^2)</math></b>	<b><math>O(n^3)</math></b>	<b><math>O(2^n)</math></b>
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2
2	1	1	2	2	4	8	4
4	1	2	4	8	16	64	16
8	1	3	8	24	64	512	256
16	1	4	16	64	256	4,096	65536
32	1	5	32	160	1,024	32,768	4,294,967,296
64	1	6	64	384	4,069	262,144	$1.84 \times 10^{19}$

# Seven functions used in analysis of algorithms



# Complexity analysis and algorithms

- **Evaluation of the efficiency of algorithms is essential !**

Not Just algorithms ...

But efficient algorithms ...

# Asymptotic notation

# Asymptotic notation

- Three standard notations:  $O$ ,  $\Omega$ ,  $\theta$

$O$ ,  $\Omega$  provides a loose bound (upper and lower respectively)

$\theta$  Provides a tight bound.

- $O$ ,  $\Omega$ ,  $\theta$  identify classes of functions

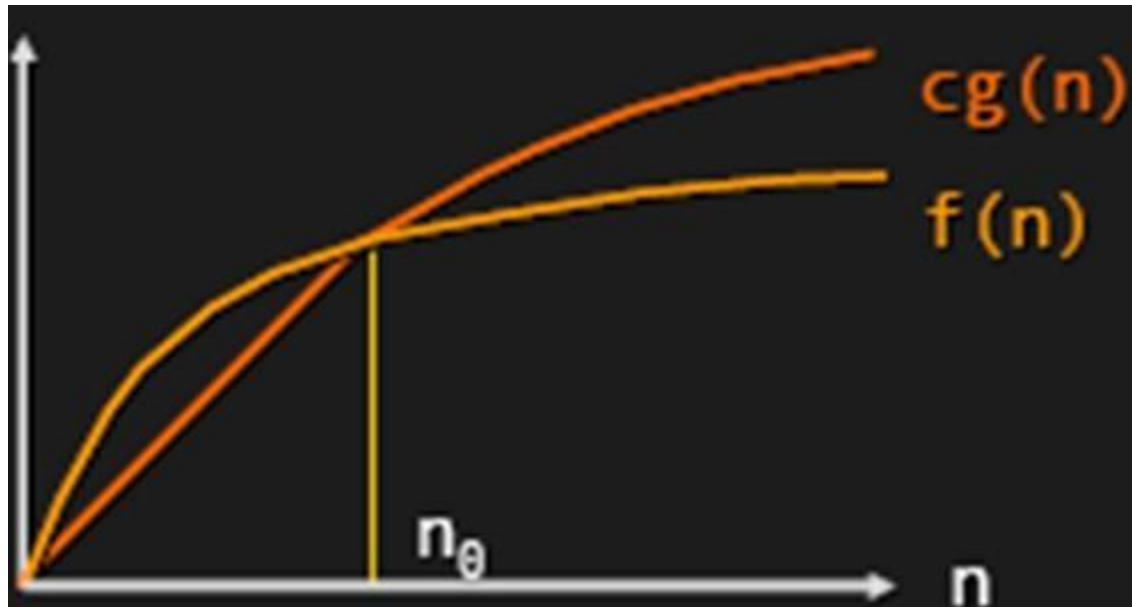
Notation:  $T(n)=f(n)= O(g(n))$



# O Notation (“Big-O”)

## Definition

$f(n) = O(g(n))$  if  $c > 0$  and  $n_0 \geq 0$  such that  
 $f(n) \leq c \cdot g(n) \quad \forall n \geq n_0$



# O Notation (“Big-O”)

- The **O** notation does not always provide a tight bound

Example:  $f(n)=O(n^2)$

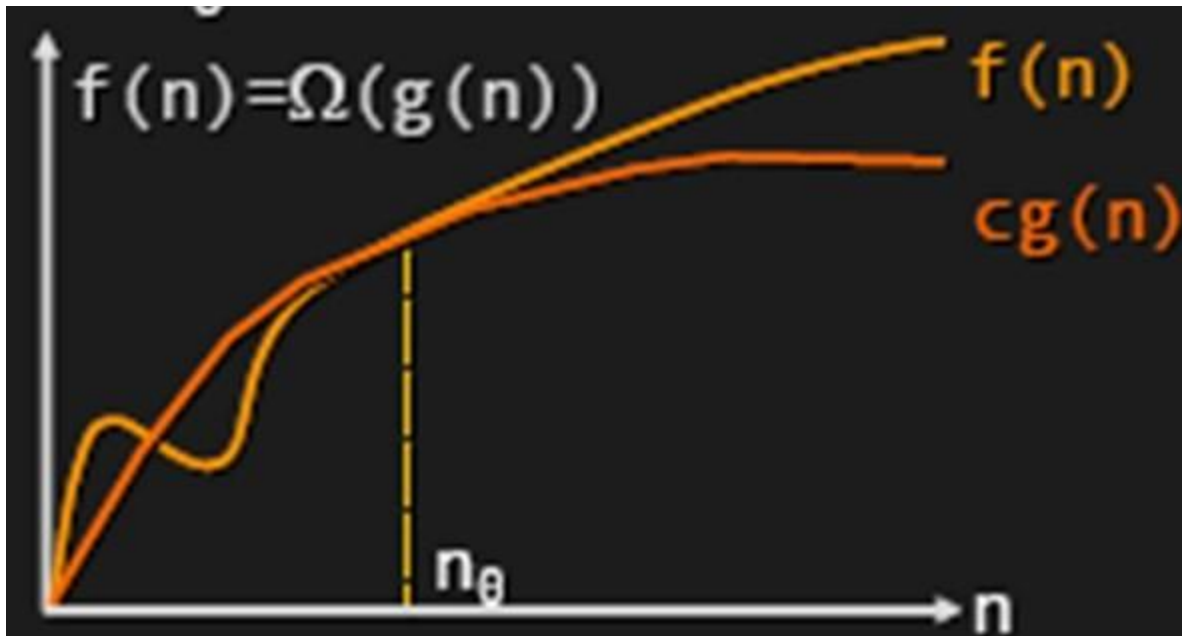
After some value of  $n$ ,  $f(n)$  is bounded by  $n^2$  but  $f(n)$  is bounded also by  $O(n^3)$ .

**Objective:** is to find the tightest upper bound

# $\Omega$ Notation (“Big-**omega**”)

## Definition

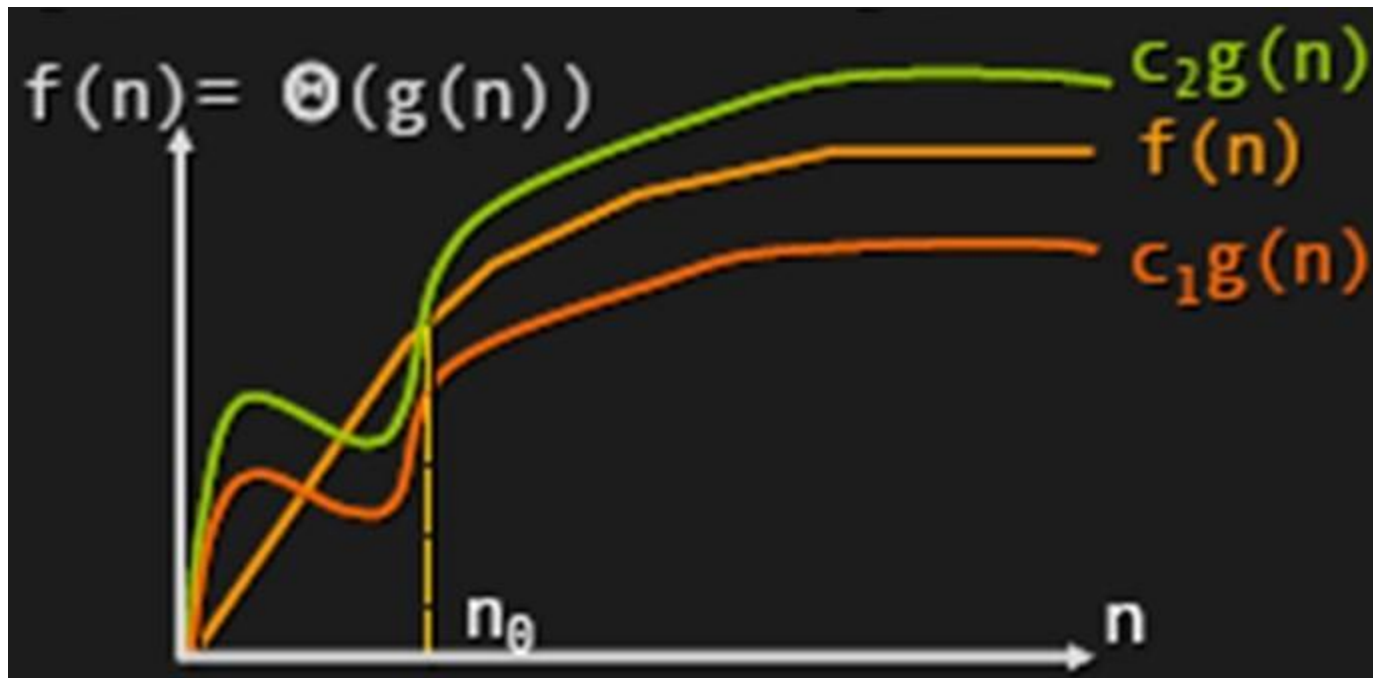
$f(n) = \Omega(g(n))$  if  $c > 0$  and  $n_0 \geq 0$  such that  
 $f(n) \geq c \cdot g(n) \quad \forall n \geq n_0$



# $\Theta$ Notation (“Big-Theta”)

## Definition

$f(n) = \Theta(g(n))$  if  $c_1, c_2 > 0$  and  $n_0 \geq 0$  such that  
 $c_1 \cdot g(n) \leq f(n) \leq c_2 \cdot g(n) \quad \forall n \geq n_0$



# $\Theta$ Notation (“Big-Theta”)

- $f(n)=\Theta(g(n))$  then it must hold that

$$f(n)=O(g(n))$$

And

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

# Asymptotic notation: **summary**

- $O$  provides a **loose upper** bound
- $\Omega$  provides a **loose lower** bound
- $\Theta$  provides a **tight** bound

# $O, \Omega, \theta$ Notations: Examples

- Example 1:

Prove that  $T(n)=3n+2$  is an element of  $O(n)$

solution

To get  $T(n) = O(n)$ , we need to verify that  $T(n) \leq c.n$

At  $c=4$  and  $n_0=2$ .  $T(n)=3n+2 \leq 4.n$  for  $n_0 \geq 2$

# $O, \Omega, \theta$ Notations: Examples

- Example 2:

Prove that  $T(n)=3n+2$  is an element of  $\Omega(n)$

solution

To get  $T(n) = \Omega(n)$ , we need to verify that  **$T(n) \geq c.n$**

At  $c=3$  and  $n_0=1$ .  **$T(n)=3n+2 \geq 3.n$**  for  $n_0$ .



# $O, \Omega, \theta$ Notations: Examples

- Example 3:

Prove that  $T(n)=3n+2$  is an element of  $\theta(n)$

solution

To get  $T(n) = \theta(n)$ , we need to verify that

$$c_1 \cdot n \leq \mathbf{T(n)} \leq c_2 \cdot n$$

At  $c_1=3$  ,  $c_2=4$ ,  $n_0 \geq 2$ ,

$$\mathbf{3n} \leq \mathbf{3n+2} \leq \mathbf{4n} \text{ for } \forall n_0 \geq 2.$$

# $O, \Omega, \theta$ Notations: Examples

- Example 4:  $T(n) = 10n^2 + 4n + 2$ ,  $T(n) = O(n^2)$  ?

Solution, YES

To get  $T(n) = O(n^2)$ , we need to verify that

$$T(n) \leq c \cdot n^2$$

At  $c=11$  and  $n_0=5$ .  $T(n) = 10n^2 + 4n + 2 \leq 11n^2$  for  
 $n_0 \geq 5$

# O, $\Omega$ , $\Theta$ Notations: Examples

- Example 5:  $T(n) = 10n^2 + 4n + 2$ ,  $T(n) = \Omega(n^2)$  ?

Solution, YES

To get  $T(n) = \Omega(n^2)$ , we need to verify that

$$T(n) \geq c \cdot n^2$$

At  $c=1$  and  $n_0=1$ .  $T(n) = 10n^2 + 4n + 2 \geq 1n$  for  $\forall n_0$

# O, Ω, θ Notations: Examples

- Example 6:  $T(n) = 10n^2 + 4n + 2$ ,  $T(n) = \theta(n^2)$  ?

Solution, YES

To get  $T(n) = \theta(n^2)$ , we need to verify that

$$c_1 \cdot n^2 \leq T(n) \leq c_2 \cdot n^2$$

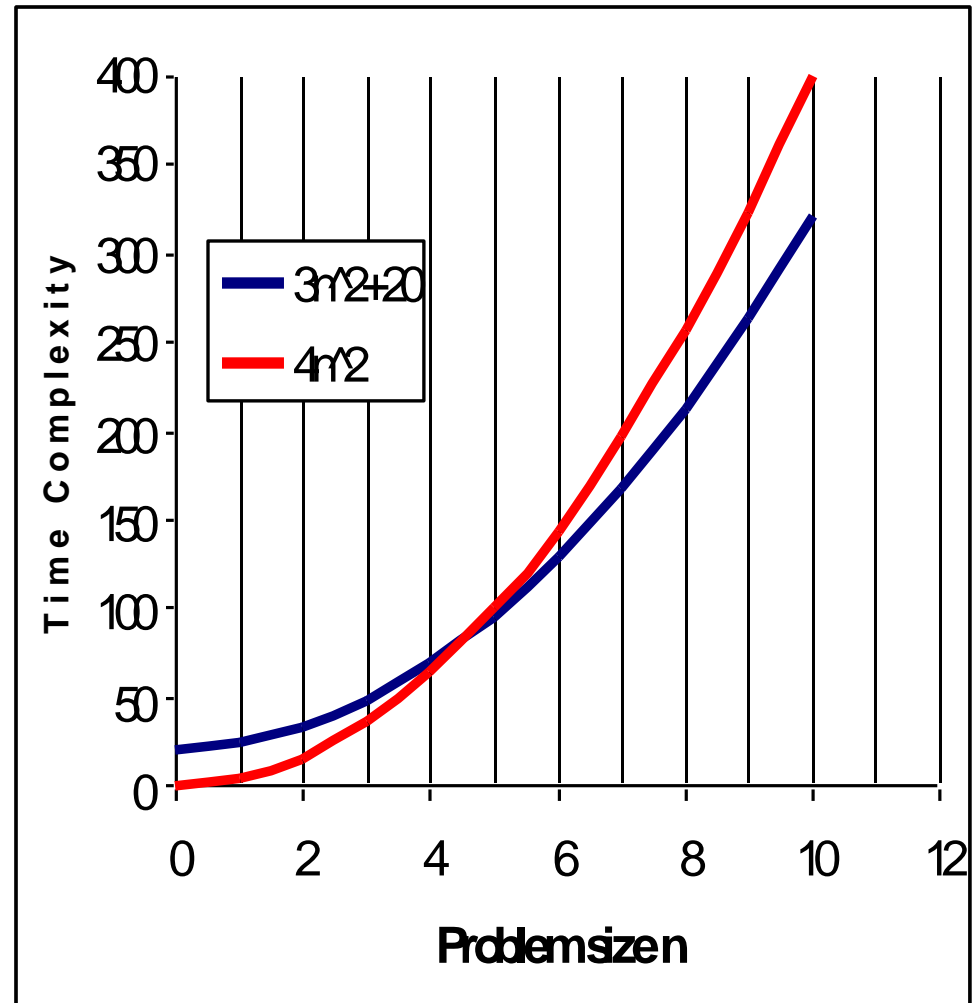
At  $c_1 = 5$ ,  $c_2 = 12$ ,  $n_0 = 2$ ,

$$5n^2 \leq 10n^2 + 4n + 2 \leq 12n^2 \text{ for } \forall n_0 \geq 2.$$

# $O, \Omega, \theta$ Notations: Examples

## Example 7:

- Show that  $f(n)=3n^2+20$  has  $O(n^2)$ 
  - We need to find two real numbers  $n_0 > 0$  and  $c > 0$  where the inequality  $0 \leq 3n^2+20 \leq cn^2$  is fulfilled
  - Let  $n_0=5$  and  $c=4$ 
    - ➔  $0 \leq 3n^2+20 \leq 4n^2$
    - ➔  $3n^2+20 \in O(n^2)$



# $O, \Omega, \Theta$ Notations: Examples

$$T(n) = 1 + (n+1) + n + 1$$

Example 8:

- What is the Big-Oh of multiplying two arrays of size  $n$ ?

$$= 2n + 3$$

$$= O(n)$$

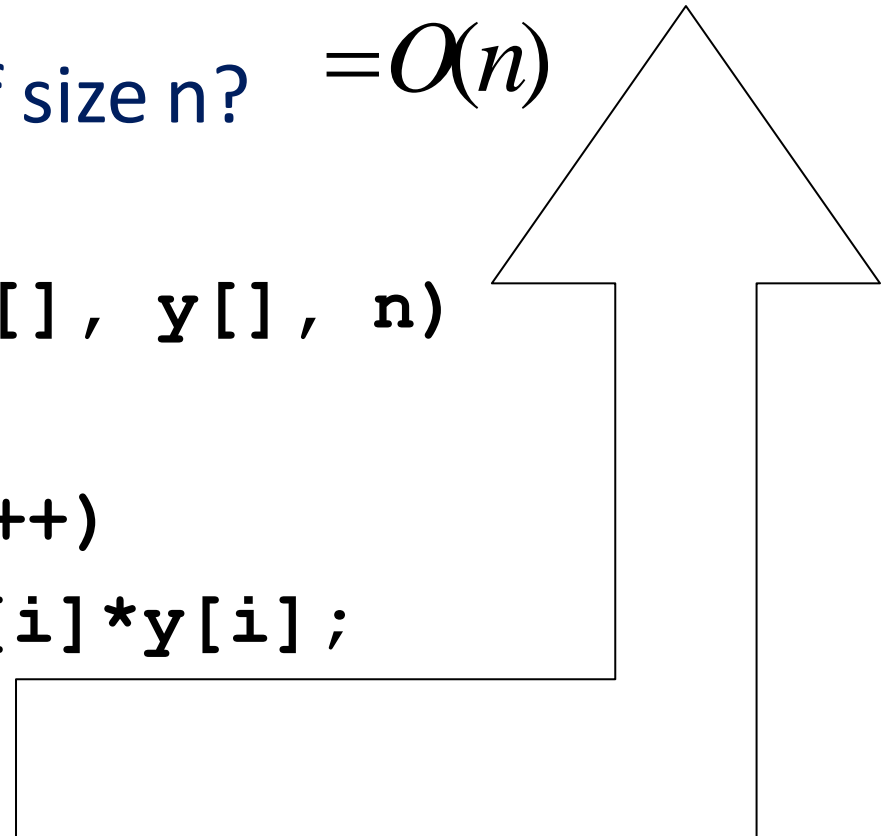
Algorithm multiply ( $x[], y[], n$ )

$sum \leftarrow 0;$

    for ( $i=0; i < n; i++$ )

$sum \leftarrow sum + x[i] * y[i];$

    return sum;



# **Properties of Asymptotic notations**

# Properties of Asymptotic notations

- Transitivity

$$f(n)=\theta(g(n)) \quad \text{and} \quad g(n) = \theta(h(n))$$

Then

$$f(n) = \theta(h(n))$$



# Properties of Asymptotic notations

- Transitivity

$$f(n)=O(g(n)) \quad \text{and} \quad g(n) = O(h(n))$$

Then

$$f(n) = O(h(n))$$

# Properties of Asymptotic notations

- Transitivity

$$f(n)=\Omega(g(n)) \quad \text{and} \quad g(n) = \Omega(h(n))$$

Then

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

# Properties of Asymptotic notations

- Symmetry

$$f(n)=\theta(g(n)) \iff g(n) = \theta(f(n))$$

- Transpose Symmetry

$$f(n)=O(g(n)) \implies g(n) = \Omega(f(n))$$

# Properties of Asymptotic notations

- Reflexivity

$$f(n) = \theta(f(n))$$

$$f(n) = O(f(n))$$

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

# Properties of Asymptotic notations

- Sum and Maximum

$$f_1(n) + f_2(n) + \dots + f_m(n)$$



$$\theta(\max(f_1(n) + f_2(n) + \dots + f_m(n)))$$

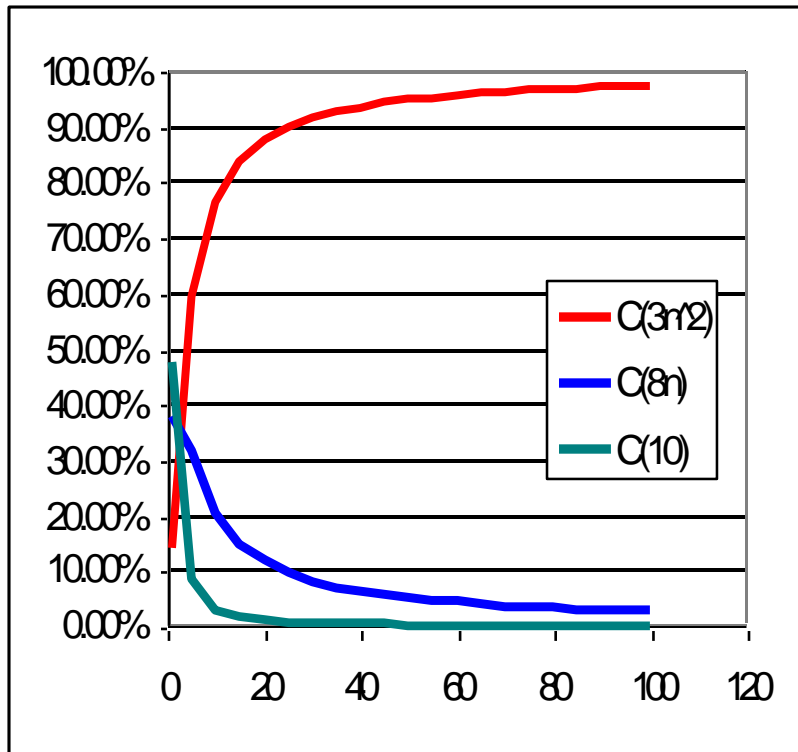
Example:

$$3n^2 + n + 7 = \theta(3n^2) = \theta(n^2)$$

# Example

- Assume the actual time complexity of an algorithm is  $T(n) = 3n^2 + 8n + 10$ , what is the approximate time complexity of that algorithm?
  - Since  $T(n)$  is getting bigger (i.e. monotonically increasing) by increasing the problem size  $n$ , we can study the contribution of each term;  $3n^2$ ,  $8n$ , and  $10$ , on the increase of  $T(n)$

# Experiment#1



**As problem size  $n$  increases,  
the contribution of  $3n^2$  term  
increases and other terms  
decrease!**

$n$	$3 \cdot n^2$	$8 \cdot n$	10	$T(n)$	$C(3n^2)$	$C(8n)$	$C(10)$
1	3	8	10	21	14.29%	38.10%	47.62%
5	75	40	10	126	59.52%	31.75%	8.73%
10	300	80	10	392	76.53%	20.41%	3.06%
15	675	120	10	808	83.54%	14.85%	1.61%
20	1200	160	10	1374	87.34%	11.64%	1.02%
25	1875	200	10	2090	89.71%	9.57%	0.72%
30	2700	240	10	2956	91.34%	8.12%	0.54%
35	3675	280	10	3972	92.52%	7.05%	0.43%
40	4800	320	10	5138	93.42%	6.23%	0.35%
45	6075	360	10	6454	94.13%	5.58%	0.29%
50	7500	400	10	7920	94.70%	5.05%	0.25%
55	9075	440	10	9536	95.17%	4.61%	0.22%
60	10800	480	10	11302	95.56%	4.25%	0.19%
65	12675	520	10	13218	95.89%	3.93%	0.17%
70	14700	560	10	15284	96.18%	3.66%	0.16%
75	16875	600	10	17500	96.43%	3.43%	0.14%
80	19200	640	10	19866	96.65%	3.22%	0.13%
85	21675	680	10	22382	96.84%	3.04%	0.12%
90	24300	720	10	25048	97.01%	2.87%	0.11%
95	27075	760	10	27864	97.17%	2.73%	0.10%
100	30000	800	10	30830	97.31%	2.59%	0.10%

# Experiment#1

- **Observation:**

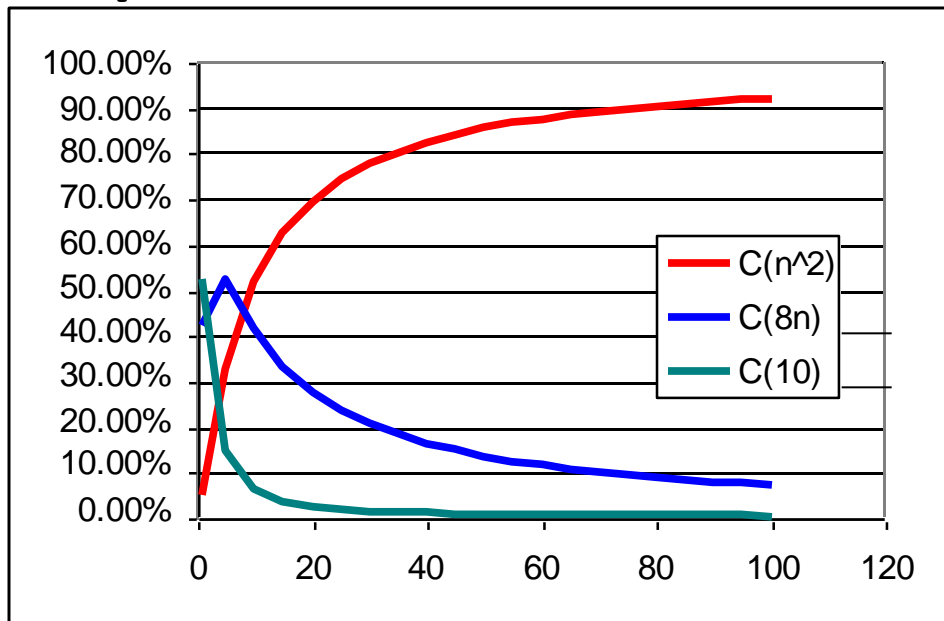
- As  $n \rightarrow \infty$  the term  $3n^2$  dominates (i.e. approaches 100%) while the other terms decrease (i.e. approaches 0%)

- **Conclusion:**

- We can ignore the lower degree terms from the complexity function as  $n \rightarrow \infty$
  - This leads to the first approximation of the previous complexity function to  $T(n) \approx 3n^2$
- Now how about the coefficient 3?



# Experiment#2



If we ignore the coefficient of the highest degree term, it still dominates the other two terms as **n** is getting bigger

<i>n</i>	<i>C</i> ( <i>n</i> <sup>2</sup> )	<i>C</i> (8 <i>n</i> )	<i>C</i> (10)
1	5.26%	42.11%	52.63%
5	32.89%	52.63%	14.47%
10	52.08%	41.67%	6.25%
15	62.85%	33.52%	3.63%
20	69.69%	27.87%	2.44%
25	74.40%	23.81%	1.79%
30	77.85%	20.76%	1.38%
35	80.49%	18.40%	1.12%
40	82.56%	16.51%	0.93%
45	84.23%	14.98%	0.79%
50	85.62%	13.70%	0.68%
55	86.78%	12.62%	0.60%
60	87.76%	11.70%	0.54%
65	88.61%	10.91%	0.48%
70	89.35%	10.21%	0.44%
75	90.00%	9.60%	0.40%
80	90.57%	9.06%	0.37%
85	91.09%	8.57%	0.34%
90	91.55%	8.14%	0.32%
95	91.96%	7.74%	0.30%
100	92.34%	7.39%	0.28%

# Experiment#2

- **Observation:**

- Ignoring the coefficient of the highest degree term does not affect the contribution of that term on the growth of the complexity function  $T(n)$ , i.e. it still dominates the other two terms as long as  $n \rightarrow \infty$

- **Conclusion:**

- As  $n \rightarrow \infty$  we can simply drop the coefficient of the highest degree term since it is still dominating the other terms in the complexity function and therefore  $T(n) \approx n^2$

# Example

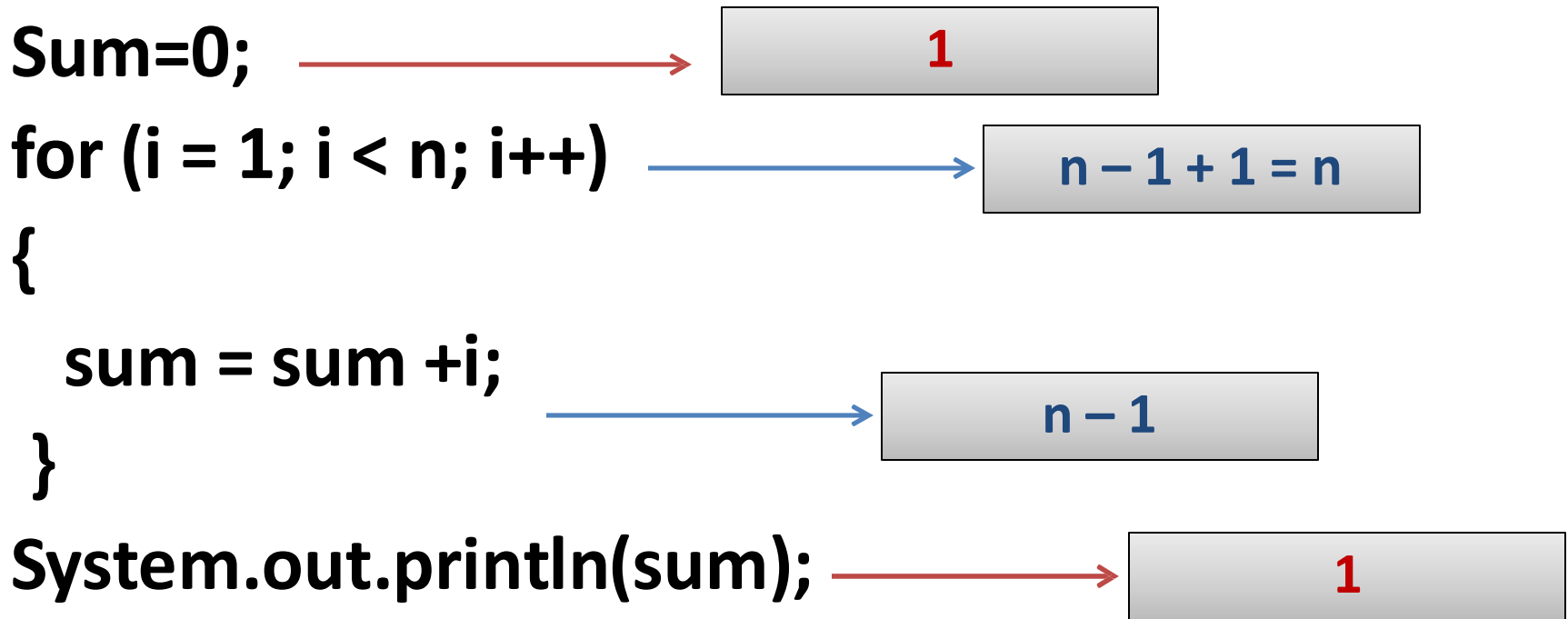
- It is required to run **3** independent algorithms A1, A2, and A3 simultaneously in a parallel system with 3 processors, what is the overall complexity when A1 has  $O(9n^3 + 4)$ , A2 has  $O(10n^2 + 3n + 2)$ , and A3 has  $O(2n^4 + n - 1)$ ?

# Solution

- The overall complexity will be biased to the algorithm **A3** which has **largest** complexity.

$$\text{i.e., } T(n) = O(2n^4 + n - 1) = \mathbf{O(n^4)}$$

# Example - Find the time complexity?

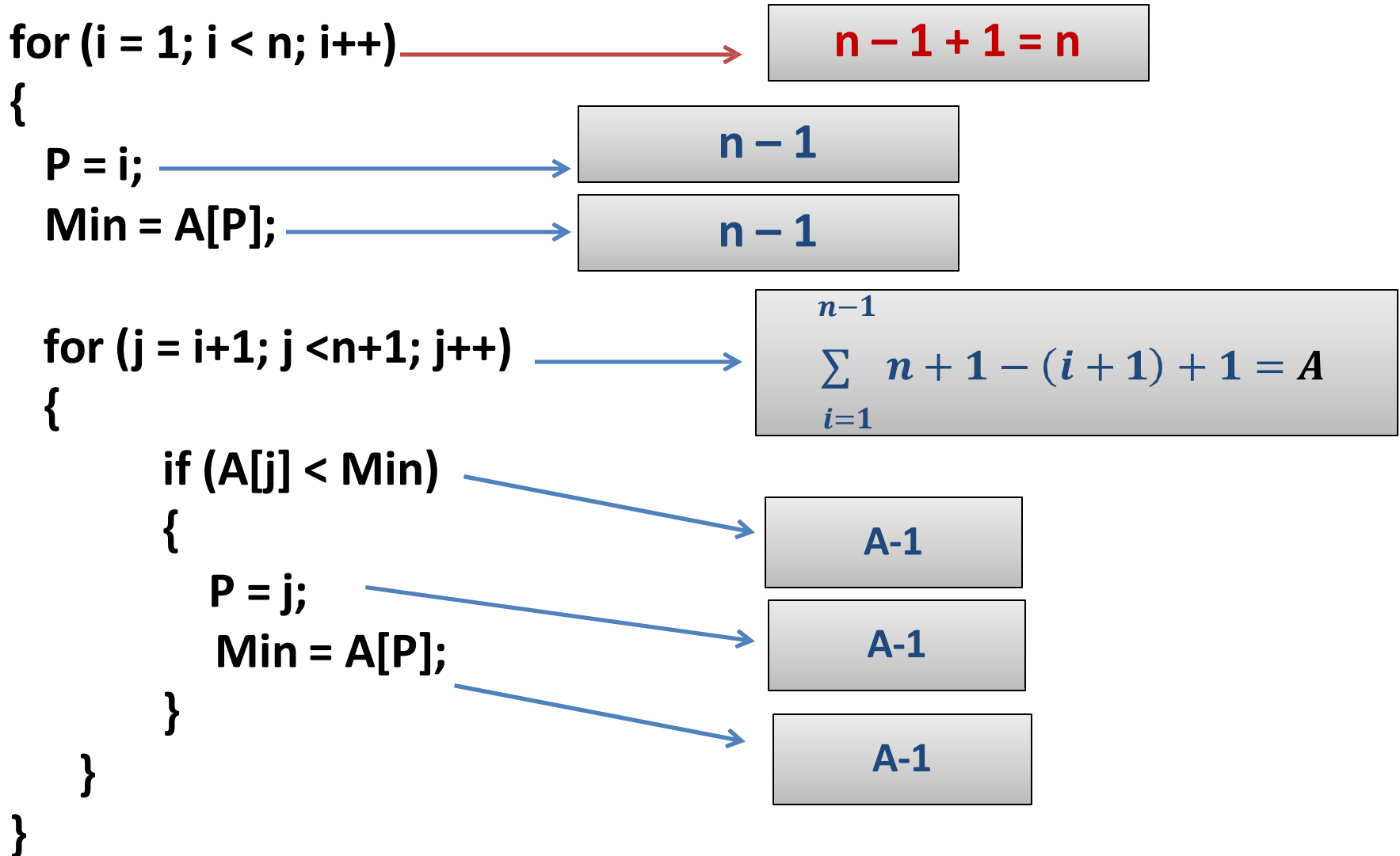


Then,  $T(n) = 1 + n + n - 1 + 1 = 2n + 1 = O(n)$

## Example - Find the time complexity?

```
for (i = 1; i < n; i++)  
{  
    P = i;  
    Min = A[P];  
    for (j = i+1; j <= n; j++)  
    {  
        if (A[j] < Min)  
        {  
            P = j;  
            Min = A[P];  
        }  
        A[P] = A[i];  
        A[i] = Min;  
    }  
}
```

# Example - Find the time complexity?



- $A = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} n + 1 - (i + 1) + 1$
- $A = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} n - i + 1 = n + (n - 1) + \cdots + 3 + 2$
- $A = n + (n - 1) + \cdots + 3 + 2 =$   
 $\frac{(n-1)}{2} [2 * 2 - (n - 1 - 1) * 1] = \frac{(n-1)(n+2)}{2}$
- $A = \frac{(n-1)(n+2)}{2} = \frac{n^2 - 4n - 2}{2}$



- The Overall Complexity =  **$T(n)$**
- $T(n) = n + (n - 1) + (n - 1) + A + (A - 1) + (A - 1) + (A - 1)$
- $T(n) = 3n - 2 + 4A - 3 = 3n + 4A - 5$
- $T(n) = 3n + 4 * \frac{(n^2 - 4n - 2)}{2} - 5$
- $T(n) = 3n + 2n^2 - 8n - 4 - 5$
- $T(n) = 2n^2 - 5n - 9 \longrightarrow T(n) = O(n^2)$

# **Series & Summations**

# Some useful series

- Arithmetic series

$$\sum_{k=1}^n k = 1 + 2 + \dots + n = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$$

- Geometric series

$$\sum_{k=0}^n x^k = 1 + x + x^2 + \dots + x^n = \frac{x^{n+1} - 1}{x - 1}$$

$$(x \neq 1)$$

- Special case (at  $x < 1$ )

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} x^k = \frac{1}{1-x}$$

# Some useful series

- Harmonic series

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{k} = 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \dots + \frac{1}{n} \approx \ln n$$

- Other useful series

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \lg k \approx n \lg n$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^n k^p = 1^p + 2^p + \dots + n^p \approx \frac{1}{p+1} n^{p+1}$$