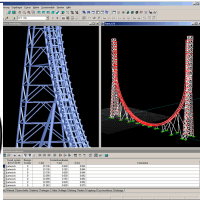


# Lecture 3 Complexity Analysis



EECS 281: Data Structures & Algorithms

## Metrics of Algorithm Complexity

Array of  $n$  items →

Best-case: 1 comparison  
Worst-case:  $n$  comparisons  
Average-case:  $n/2$  comparisons

Using a linear search over  $n$  items,  
how many comparisons will it take to find item  $x$ ?

- **Best-Case** ■
  - Least number of comparisons required, given ideal input
  - Analysis performed over inputs of a given size
  - Example: Data is found in the first place you look
- **Worst-Case** ●
  - Most number of comparisons required, given hard input
  - Analysis performed over inputs of a given size
  - Example: Data is found in the last place you could possibly look
- **Average-Case** ▲
  - Average number of comparisons required, given any input
  - Average performed over all possible inputs of a given size

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## What Affects Runtime?

- The algorithm
- Implementation details
  - Skills of the programmer
- CPU Speed / Memory Speed
- Compiler (Options used)
  - $g++ -g3$  (for debugging, highest level of information)
  - $g++ -O3$  (Optimization level 3 for speed) → for release
- Other programs running in parallel ☆ for release
- Amount of data processed (Input size)

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## Measuring & Using Input Size

- Number of bits
  - In an int, a double? (32? 64?)
- Number of items: what counts as an item?
  - Array of integers? One integer? One digit? ...
  - One string? Several strings? A char?
- Notation and terminology
  - $n$  Input size
  - $f(n)$  Maximum number of steps taken by an algorithm when input has size  $n$  ("f of n")
  - $O(f(n))$  Complexity class of  $f(n)$  ("Big-O of f of n")

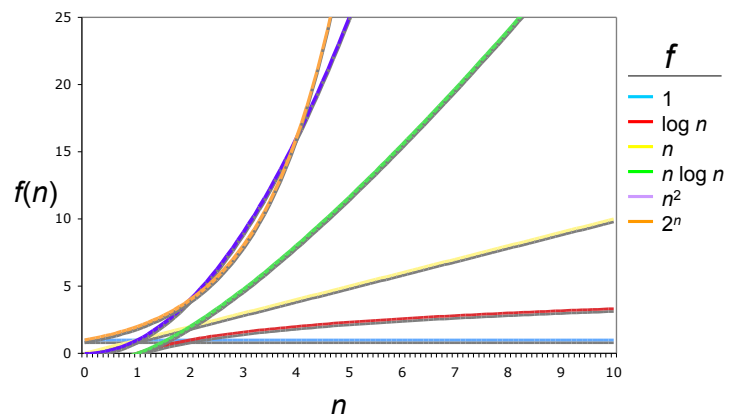
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## Common Orders of Functions

Notation	Name
$O(1)$	Constant
$O(\log n)$	Logarithmic
$O(n)$	Linear
$O(n \log n)$	Loglinear, Linearithmic
$O(n^2)$	Quadratic
$O(n^3), O(n^4), \dots$	Polynomial
$O(c^n)$	Exponential
$O(n!)$	Factorial
$O(2^{2^n})$	Doubly Exponential

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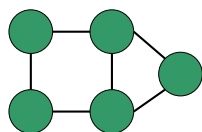
## Graphing $f(n)$ Runtimes



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## Input Size Example

Graph  $G = (V, E)$ :  
 $V = 5$  Vertices  
 $E = 6$  Edges



What should we measure?

- Vertices?
- Edges?
- Vertices and Edges?

Use  $V$  and  $E$  to determine which contributes more to the total number of steps

- Big-O examples:  $E \log V, EV, V^2 \log E$

When in doubt, measure  
input size in bits

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## From Analysis to Application

- Algorithm comparisons are independent of hardware, compilers and implementation tweaks
- Predict which algorithms will eventually be faster
  - For large enough inputs
  - $O(n^2)$  time algorithms will take longer than  $O(n)$  algorithms
- Constants can often be ignored because they do not affect asymptotic comparisons

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# Q: What counts as one step in a program?

## A: Primitive operations

- Variable assignment
- Arithmetic operation
- Comparison
- Array indexing or pointer reference
- Function call (not counting the data)
- Function return (not counting the data) ✗

Runtime of 1 step is independent on input

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## Counting Steps: Polynomial

```
1 int func1(int n) {
2   int sum = 0;
3   for (int i = 0; i < n; ++i) {
4     sum += i;
5   } // for
6   return sum;
7 } // func1()
```

```
1
2 1 step
3 2n + 2 steps
4 1 step (loop n times)
5
6 1 step
7
```

Total steps:  $3n + 4$

```
8 int func2(int n) {
9   int sum = 0;
10  for (int i = 0; i < n; ++i) {
11    for (int j = 0; j < n; ++j)
12      ++sum;
13  } // for i
14  for (int k = 0; k < n; ++k) {
15    --sum;
16  } // for k
17  return sum;
18 } // func2()
```

```
8
9 1 step
10 2n + 2 steps
11 2n + 2 steps (inside loop)
12 1 step (inside 2 loops)
13
14 2n + 2 steps
15 1 step (inside loop)
16
17 1 step
18
```

Total steps:  $3n^2 + 7n + 6$

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## Examples of $O(\log n)$ Time

```
1 uint32_t logB(uint32_t n) {
2   // find binary log, round up
3   uint32_t r = 0;
4   while (n > 1) {
5     n /= 2;
6     r++;
7   } // while
8   return r;
9 } // logB()
```

```
10 int *bsearch(int *lo, int *hi, int val) {
11   // find position of val between lo,hi
12   while (hi >= lo) {
13     int *mid = lo + (hi - lo) / 2;
14     if (*mid == val)
15       return mid;
16     else if (*mid > val)
17       hi = mid - 1;
18     else
19       lo = mid + 1;
20   } // while
21   return nullptr;
22 } // bsearch()
```

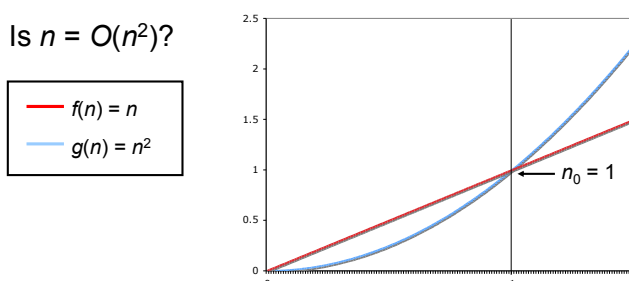
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## Big-O Definition

$f(n) = O(g(n))$  if and only if there are constants

$c > 0$   
 $n_0 \geq 0$  } such that  $f(n) \leq c * g(n)$  whenever  $n \geq n_0$

Is  $n = O(n^2)$ ?



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## Counting Steps: for Loop

- The basic form of a for-loop:  
for (initialization; test; update)
- The initialization is performed once (1)
- The test is performed every time the body of the loop runs, plus once for when the loop ends ( $n + 1$ )
- The update is performed every time the body of the loop runs ( $n$ )
- Total is  $2n + 2$  steps (used a lot next slide)

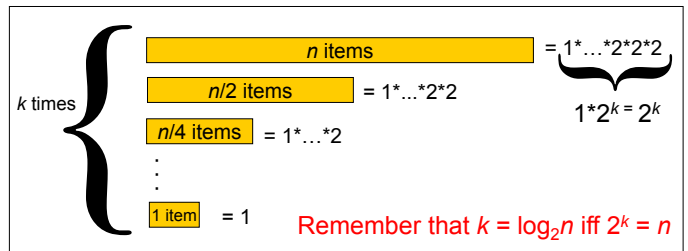
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## Counting Steps: Logarithmic

```
1 int func3(int n) {
2   int sum = 0;
3   for (int i = n; i > 1; i /= 2)
4     sum += i;
5
6   return sum;
7 } // func3()
```

```
1
2 1 step
3 (2 * ~log n) + 2 steps
4 1 step (loop ~log n times)
5
6 1 step
7
```

Total steps:  $(3 * \sim \log n) + 4 = O(\log n)$



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## Algorithm Exercise

How many multiplications, if size =  $n$ ?

```
1 // REQUIRES: in and out are arrays with size elements
2 // MODIFIES: out
3 // EFFECTS: out[i] = in[0] * ... * in[i-1] * in[i+1] * ... * in[size-1]
4 void f(int *out, const int *in, int size) {
5   for (int i = 0; i < size; ++i) {
6     out[i] = 1;
7     for (int j = 0; j < size; ++j) {
8       if (i != j)
9         out[i] *= in[j];
10    } // for j
11  } // for i
12 } // f()
```

in[0]	in[1]	in[2]
3	1	2

out[0]	out[1]	out[2]
2	6	3

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## Big-O: Sufficient (but not necessary) Condition

If  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} \right) = d < \infty$  then  $f(n)$  is  $O(g(n))$

$\log_2 n = O(2n)$ ?  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{\log n}{2n} \right) = \frac{\infty}{\infty}$

$f(n) = \log_2 n$   
 $g(n) = 2n$   
 $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{1}{2n} \right) = 0 = d < \infty$   
: Use L'Hôpital's Rule  
:  $\log_2 n = O(2n) \checkmark$

$\sin\left(\frac{n}{100}\right) = O(100)$ ?

$f(n) = \sin\left(\frac{n}{100}\right)$   
 $g(n) = 100$   
 $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{\sin\left(\frac{n}{100}\right)}{100} \right) = \frac{\sin\left(\frac{n}{100}\right)}{100}$   
: Condition does not hold, but it is true that  $f(n) = O(g(n))$

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## Log Identities

Identity	Example
$\log_a(xy) = \log_a x + \log_a y$	$\log_2(3 \cdot 4)$
$\log_a\left(\frac{x}{y}\right) = \log_a x - \log_a y$	$\log_2(4/3)$
$\log_a(x^r) = r \log_a x$	$\log_2 x^3$
$\log_a\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) = -\log_a x$	$\log_2 1/3$
$\log_a x = \frac{\log x}{\log a} = \frac{\ln x}{\ln a}$	$\log_2 1024$
$\log_a a = 1$	
$\log_a 1 = 0$	

## Power Identities

Identity	Example
$a^{(m+n)} = a^m \cdot a^n$	$2^{2+3}$
$a^{(m-n)} = \frac{a^m}{a^n}$	$2^{3-2}$
$(a^m)^n = a^{mn}$	$(2^2)^3$
$a^{-n} = \frac{1}{a^n}$	$2^{-4}$
$a^{-1} = \frac{1}{a}$	
$a^0 = 1$	
$a^1 = a$	

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## Exercise

True or False?

- $10^{100} = O(1)$  ✓
- $3n^4 + 45n^3 = O(n^4)$  ✓
- $3^n = O(2^n)$  ✗
- $2^n = O(3^n)$  ✓
- $45 \log(n) + 45n = O(\log(n))$  ✗
- $\log(n^2) = O(\log(n))$  ✓
- $[\log(n)]^2 = O(\log(n))$  ✗

Can you?

Find  $f(n)$  and  $g(n)$ , such that  $f(n) \neq O(g(n))$  and  $g(n) \neq O(f(n))$

$$f(x) = \sin x$$

$$g(x) = \cos x$$

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## Big-O, Big-Theta, and Big-Omega

	Big-O (O)	Big-Theta ( $\Theta$ )	Big-Omega ( $\Omega$ )
Defines	Asymptotic upper bound	Asymptotic tight bound	Asymptotic lower bound
Definition	$f(n) = O(g(n))$ if and only if there exists an integer $n_0$ and a real number $c$ such that for all $n \geq n_0$ , $f(n) \leq c \cdot g(n)$	$f(n) = \Theta(g(n))$ if and only if there exists an integer $n_0$ and real constants $c_1$ and $c_2$ such that for all $n \geq n_0$ : $c_1 \cdot g(n) \leq f(n) \leq c_2 \cdot g(n)$	$f(n) = \Omega(g(n))$ if and only if there exists an integer $n_0$ and a real number $c$ such that for all $n \geq n_0$ , $f(n) \geq c \cdot g(n)$
Mathematical Definition	$\exists n_0 \in \mathbb{Z} \exists c \in \mathbb{R} : \forall n \geq n_0, f(n) \leq c \cdot g(n)$	$\Theta(f(n)) = O(f(n)) \cap \Omega(f(n))$	$\exists n_0 \in \mathbb{Z} \exists c \in \mathbb{R} : \forall n \geq n_0, f(n) \geq c \cdot g(n)$
$f_1(n) = 2n + 1$	$O(n)$ or $O(n^2)$ or $O(n^3)$ ...	$\Theta(n)$	$\Omega(n)$ or $\Omega(1)$
$f_2(n) = n^2 + n + 5$	$O(n^2)$ or $O(n^3)$ ...	$\Theta(n^2)$	$\Omega(n^2)$ or $\Omega(n)$ or $\Omega(1)$

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## Amortized Complexity

- Considers the average cost of one operation over a sequence of operations
  - Best/Worst/Average-case only consider operations independently
  - Different from average-case complexity!
- Average case complexity is ONE event that is representative of all possible events
- Amortized complexity is an average of a sequence of events that ALL occur
- Key to understanding expandable arrays and STL vectors, priority queues, and hash tables

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## Cell Phone Bill Example

- Pay \$100 once per month, each call and text has no added cost (unlimited plan)
- If you make 1000 calls/texts during the month, each one effectively costs \$0.10
  - This is the "sequence of events that all occur"
- The rate at which money leaves your pocket is very "spiky"
- But each call or text appears to have basically a constant cost: the *amortized* cost per text is  $O(1)$

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## Common Amortized Complexity

Analyze the asymptotic runtime complexity of the push operation for a stack implemented using an array/vector

Method	Implementation
push(object)	1. If needed, allocate a bigger array and copy data 2. Add new element at top_ptr, increment top_ptr

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## Exercise

Analyze the asymptotic runtime complexity of the push operation for a stack implemented using an array/vector

Amortized  $\Theta(1)$

Assume vector is filled with  $n$  elements

Double vector size ( $1 + \Theta(n)$ ) steps

$\Theta(1)$  push  $n$  times until full

Amortized cost:  $\frac{(1 + \Theta(n)) + n \cdot \Theta(1)}{n \text{ push operations}} = \Theta(1)$

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# Container Growth Options

## 1. Constant Growth

- When container fills, increase size by  $c$
- Amortized cost:  $\frac{(1 + \Theta(n)) + c * \Theta(1)}{c \text{ push operations}} = \Theta(n)$
- Amortized linear

## 2. Linear Growth

- When container fills, increase size by  $n$
- Amortized cost:  $\frac{(1 + \Theta(n)) + n * \Theta(1)}{n \text{ push operations}} = \Theta(1)$
- Amortized constant

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## Two $O(\log n)$ solutions

- Two groups:  $\log_2(n) = O(\log_3 n)$  ✓
- Three groups:  $\log_3(n) = O(\log_2 n)$  ✓
- True or False? Why?

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## Exercise



- You have  $n$  billiard balls. All have equal weight, except for one which is heavier. Find the heavy ball using only a balance.
- Describe an  $O(n^2)$  algorithm → -11-11 balance
- Describe an  $O(n)$  algorithm → -11-11 balance
- Describe an  $O(\log n)$  algorithm → -11-11 balance
- Describe another  $O(\log n)$  algorithm

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