

## Types of Time Complexities

### 1. Omega ( $\Omega$ ) – Best Case

- What it means: Omega ( $\Omega$ ) describes the best-case scenario for an algorithm.
- In simple terms: It tells you the fastest an algorithm can run in the best circumstances.

### 2. Theta ( $\Theta$ ) – Average Case

- In simple terms: It tells you what to generally expect in terms of time complexity.

### 3. Big O ( $O$ ) - Worst Case

- What it means: Big O ( $O$ ) describes the worst-case scenario for an algorithm.
- In simple terms: It tells you the slowest an algorithm can run in the worst circumstances.

## Big O Basic Concepts:

### 1. $O(1)$ : Constant Time

- Doesn't depend on the size of the data set.
- Example: Accessing an array element by its index.

### 2. $O(\log n)$ : Logarithmic Time

- Splits the data in each step (divide and conquer).
- Example: Binary search.

### 3. $O(n)$ : Linear Time

- Directly proportional to the data set size.
- Example: Looping through an array.

### 4. $O(n \log n)$ : Linearithmic Time

- Splits and sorts or searches data.
- Example: Merge sort, quick sort.

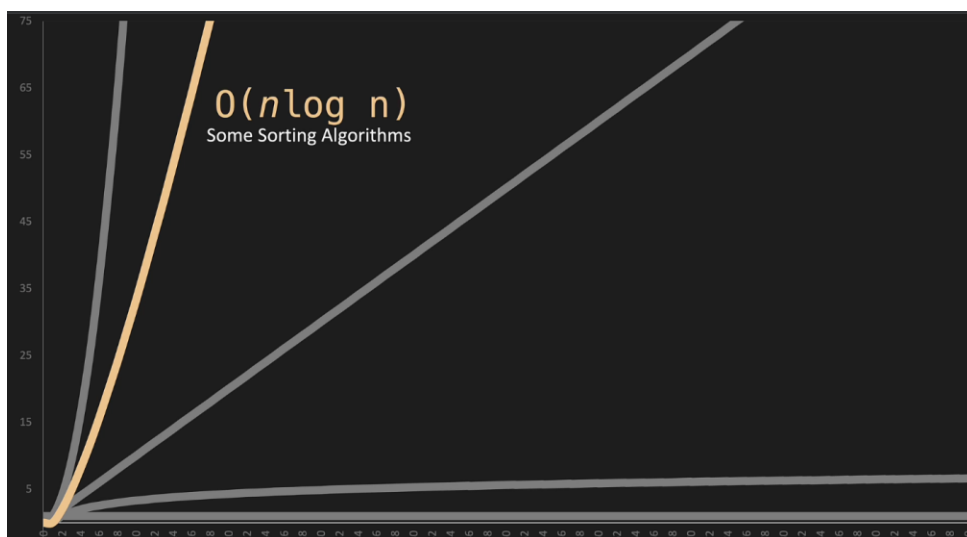
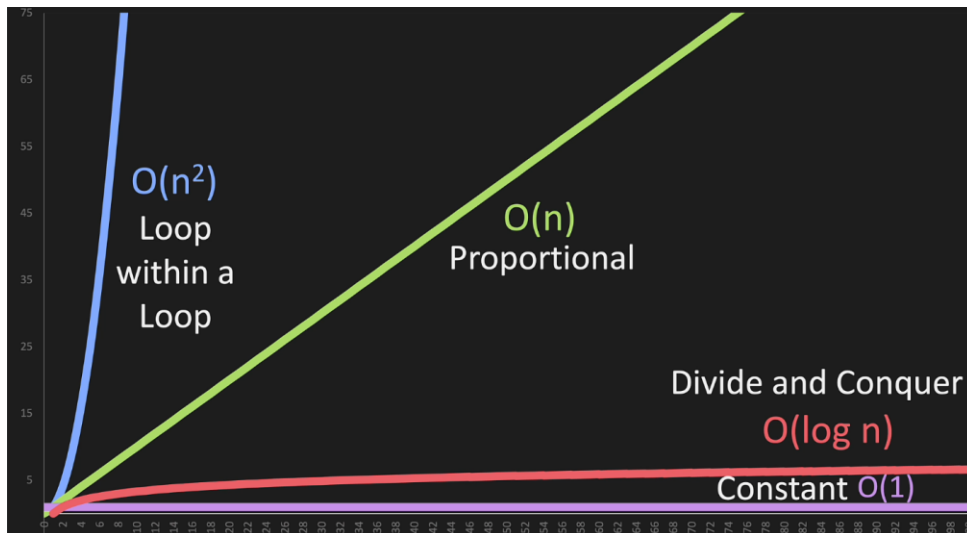
### 5. $O(n^2)$ : Polynomial Time

- Nested loops for each power of  $n$ .
- Example: Bubble sort ( $O(n^2)$ ).

## Other Concepts:

- Drop Non-Dominant Terms:** In  $O(n^2 + n)$ , focus on  $O(n^2)$  as it will dominate for large  $n$ .
- Drop Constants:**  $O(2n)$  simplifies to  $O(n)$
- Different Terms for inputs:** If there are 2 separate loops with different parameters  $\rightarrow O(n+m)$

Good reference: <https://www.bigocheatsheet.com/>



### Code for $O(n)$

1. `def print_items(n):`
2.     `# print_items accepts one argument 'n'. It will print`
3.     `# a sequence of numbers from 0 up to, but not including, 'n'.`
- 4.
5.     `for i in range(n):`
6.         `# A for loop is initiated with 'i' iterating over`
7.         `# the sequence of numbers produced by range(n).`
8.         `# For each iteration, 'i' takes the current number in`

9.       # the sequence from 0 up to but not including 'n'.
- 10.
11.       print(i)
12.       # Inside the loop, print(i) is called. This prints
13.       # the current value of 'i' to the console. This
14.       # action is performed 'n' times due to the for loop,
15.       # resulting in printing of numbers from 0 to 'n - 1'.

### Other possible solutions:

There are a few different ways the for loop in your **print\_items** function could be rewritten. Here are a few examples:

#### 1. Using a while loop instead of a for loop:

1.   def print\_items(n):
2.       i = 0
3.       while i < n:
4.           print(i)
5.       i += 1

#### 2. Using a for loop with an explicitly defined list:

1.   def print\_items(n):
2.       for i in list(range(n)):
3.           print(i)

#### 3. Using a for loop with iterator:

1.   def print\_items(n):
2.       for i in iter(range(n)):
3.           print(i)

#### 4. Using list comprehension

(though this isn't recommended if the goal is just to print the items, as it unnecessarily creates a list of **None** values):

1.   def print\_items(n):
2.       \_ = [print(i) for i in range(n)]

#### 5. Using the map function.

This method is also not recommended for printing purposes, as it's less readable and efficient than a simple loop, and it also unnecessarily creates a list of **None** values:

1. `def print_items(n):`
2.  `_ = list(map(print, range(n)))`

Each of these alternative solutions achieves the same result as the original function, but the simplest and most straightforward solution is the original for loop.

If there are 2 separate for loops

$O(n) + O(n)$

$O(n + n)$

$O(2n)$

$O(n)$

Lesson Learnt – Drop constants

**Code for  $O(n^2)$ :**

```
def print_items(n):  
    for i in range(n):  
        for j in range(n):  
            print(i,j)
```

**Code for  $O(1)$**

$n = 1$

$n + n$  (Single Operation, no matter how  $n$  grows)

Code for  $O(\log(n))$