

Chapter 10-3 – Run-Time Analysis 3 & The Seven functions

The Seven Functions used in this semester

1. The Constant Function

- The simplest function we can think of is the constant function.
 $f(n) = c$, for some fixed constant c , such $c = 5$, $c = 27$, or $c = 2^{10}$.
- For any argument n , the constant function $f(n)$ assigns the value c . That is, it doesn't matter what the value of n is, $f(n)$ is always be equal to the constant value c .

2. The Logarithm Function

$$f(n) = \log_b n, \text{ for some constant } b > 1.$$

This function is defined as follows:

$$x = \log_b n \quad \text{if and only if} \quad b^x = n.$$

By definition, $\log_b 1 = 0$. The value b is known as the base of the algorithm.

- Logarithm Rules

1. Inverse properties: $\log_a a^x = x$ and $a^{(\log_a x)} = x$

2. Product: $\log_a (xy) = \log_a x + \log_a y$

3. Quotient: $\log_a \left(\frac{x}{y} \right) = \log_a x - \log_a y$

4. Power: $\log_a (x^p) = p \log_a x$

5. Change of base formula: $\log_a x = \frac{\log_b x}{\log_b a}$

3. The Linear Function

$$f(n) = n.$$

Given an input n , the linear function f assigns the value n itself.

4. The N- Log-N Function

$$f(n) = n \log n.$$

The function assigns to an input n the value of n times the logarithm base 2 of n .

This function grows a little faster than the linear function and a lot slower than the quadratic function.

5. The Quadratic Function

$$f(n) = n^2.$$

▫ Given an input value n , the function f assigns the product of n with itself.

▫ For any integer $n \geq 1$, we have

$$\sum_{i=1}^n i = 1 + 2 + 3 + \cdots + n = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$$

6. The Cubic Function and Other Polynomials

$$f(n) = n^3.$$

▫ The cubic function assigns to an input value n the product of n with itself three times.

▫ Polynomials

A **polynomial function** is a function of the form

$$f(n) = a_n x^n + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \cdots + a_2 x^2 + a_1 x + a_0$$

where $a_n, a_{n-1}, \cdots, a_2, a_1, a_0$ are constants, called the **coefficients** of the polynomial, and $a_n \neq 0$. Integer n , which indicates the highest power in the polynomial, is called the **degree** of the polynomial.

7. The Exponential Function

$$f(n) = b^n,$$

where b is a positive constant, called the base and the argument n is the exponent.

▫ That is, function $f(n)$ assigns to the input argument n the value obtained by multiplying the base b by itself n times.

▫ In algorithm analysis, the most common base for the exponential function is $b = 2$.

▫ Geometric Sums

For any integer $n \geq 0$ and any real number a such that $a > 0$ and $a \neq 1$, consider the summation

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{i=0}^n a^i &= 1 + a + a^2 + a^3 + \dots + a^n \\ &= \frac{a^{n+1} - 1}{a - 1} \quad (\text{if } a \neq 1) \\ \sum_{i=0}^n 2^i &= 2^{n+1} - 1\end{aligned}$$

Comparing Growth Rates

Input size (n)	Constant Function $f(n) = 1$	Logarithmic Function $f(n) = \log n$	Linear Function $f(n) = n$	n-log-n function $f(n) = n \log n$	Quadratic Function $f(n) = n^2$	Cubic Function $f(n) = n^3$	Exponential Function $f(n) = 2^n$
$n = 2$							
$n = 2^2$							
$n = 2^3$							
$n = 2^4$							
$n = 2^{10}$							

Comparing Big O Functions

