

Time Complexity: is a measure of time for execution of an algorithm, commonly denoted by '**big-o notation**'.

Constant TC: $O(1)$.

An operation/algorithm is independent of the size of the input and can be carried out in linear time. Example, push, pop, `std::vector<T>::at(index)`,

```
const int const_size = 100;
int index = 10;
int item = array[ index ];
for( int i = 0 ; i < const_size ; ++i ) {
    std::cout << array[ i ];
}
```

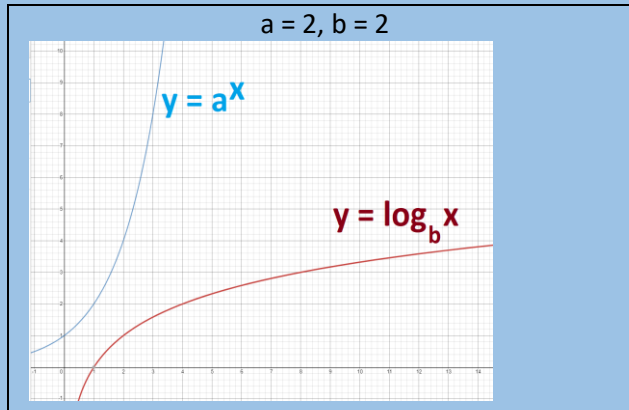
Logarithmic TC: $O(\log n)$.

Know,

$[\log_a x = y]$ means $[a^y = x]$

Example, binary-search,

In C++ STL, search on associative containers (`set`, `map`, `multimap`, `multiset`) is guaranteed to be $O(\log n)$.



All Complexities in 1 Diagram

X axis: Number of elements ----- Y axis: Time taken

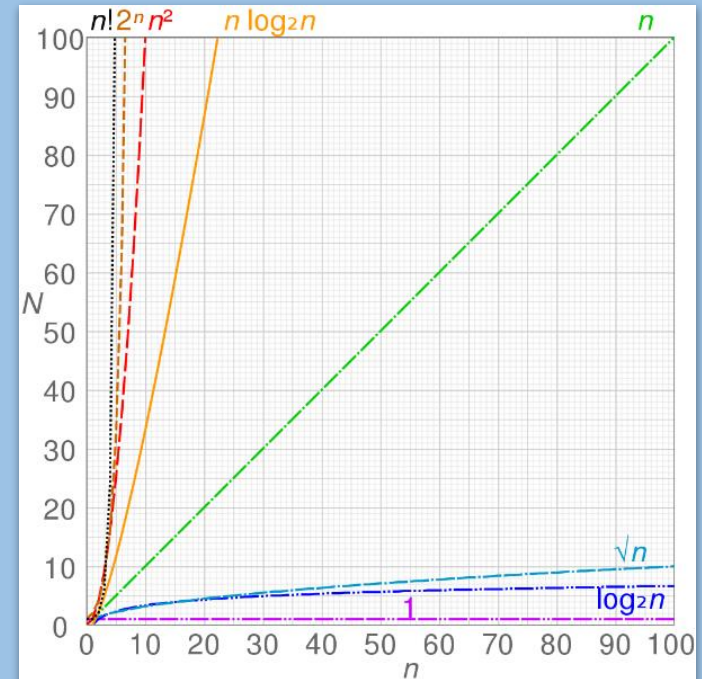


Image Source: Wikipedia

Linear TC: $O(n)$

Running time increases at most linearly with the size of the input. Examples, Sum of all elements in 1D array, Linear search, Compare pair of strings.

```
for( const auto & item : container ) {
    std::cout << item;
}
```

Linearithmic TC: $O(n \log n)$

Example, Merge sort, Quick sort

Quadratic TC: $O(n^2)$

These algorithms' performance is directly proportional to squared size of input data.

Example, Bubble sort,

```
for( const auto & a : container ) {
    for( const auto & b : container ) {
        std::cout << a + b;
    }
}
```

Polynomial Array TC: $O(n^k)$

- **Cubic TC: $O(n^3)$** Example, naïve multiplication of two $n \times n$ matrices

Exponential TC: $O(2^n)$

Examples, Finding all the subsets, Traveling Salesman problem