

[Get started](#)[Open in app](#)

Manish Sakariya

[Follow](#)

8 Followers

[About](#)

Time Complexity Examples



Manish Sakariya · Apr 29, 2019 · 4 min read

Example 1: $O(n)$ Simple Loop

```
5 public static void main(String[] args) {  
6     int n=100;  
7     for(int i=0;i<n;i++) {  
8         System.out.println(i);  
9     }  
10  
11 }  
12
```

Example 2: $O(n^2)$ Nested Loop

```
4  
5 public static void main(String[] args) {  
6     int n=100;  
7     for(int i=0;i<n;i++) {  
8         for(int j=0;j<n;j++) {  
9             System.out.println(i);  
10        }  
11    }  
12 }
```

Example 3: $O(n^2)$ Consecutive Statements.



```
5 public static void main(String[] args) {  
6     int n=100;  
7     for(int m=0;m<n;m++) {  
8         System.out.println(m);  
9     }  
10    for(int i=0;i<n;i++) {  
11        for(int j=0;j<n;j++) {  
12            System.out.println(i);  
13        }  
14    }  
15 }  
16 }
```

Example 4: $O(n)$ with if-else loop.

time complexity of if statement is $O(1)$ and else is $O(n)$. as $O(n) > O(1)$ time complexity of this program is $O(n)$

```
5 public static void main(String[] args) {  
6     int n = 100;  
7     int length = 10;  
8     if (length < 10) {  
9         System.out.println("not enough length");  
10    } else {  
11        for (int m = 0; m < n; m++) {  
12            System.out.println(m);  
13        }  
14    }  
15 }  
16 }  
17 }  
18 }
```

Example 5: $O(\log n)$ logarithmic complexity

```
5 public static void main(String[] args) {  
6     int n = 100;
```



```

9      }
10     }
11

```

Iteration	Value of M
1	n
2	n/2
3	n/2 ²
4	n/2 ³
.	.
.	.
k	n/2 ^k

loop will run k times so that $m > 1$.

$m > 1$; putting value of m for as $n/2^k$

$$n/2^k > 1$$

$$2^k > n$$

$$k > \log n$$

Example 6: $O(\sqrt{n})$

```

5 public static void main(String[] args) {
6     int n=100;
7     int i=1,s=1;
8     while(s<=n) {
9         i++;
10        s=s+i;
11        System.out.println("*");
12    }
13 }
14
15 }
16

```



1	1	1+1
2	2	1+1+2
3	3	1+1+2+3
4	4	1+1+2+3+4
.	.	.
.	.	.
k	k	1+1+2+3+4+...+k

number of time the loop will run is k

so $1+2+3+..+k > n$ (that's when loop breaks)

$$k(k+1)/2 > n$$

$$k^2 + k > n$$

$$k^2 > n \text{ (ignoring } k \text{ as } k^2 > k)$$

$$k > \sqrt{n}$$

so time complexity of program is \sqrt{n}

Example 7: $O(\sqrt{n})$

```

4
5 public static void main(String[] args) {
6     int n=100;
7     for(int i=1;i*i<=n;i++) {
8         System.out.println("*");
9     }
10 }
11

```

let's say loop runs k times

so $k^2 > n$ (to break the condition)

$$k > \sqrt{n}$$



Example 8: $O(n \log n)$

```
4
5 public static void main(String[] args) {
6     int n = 100;
7     for (int i = n / 2; i <= n; i++) {
8         for (int j = 1; j + n / 2 < n; j++) {
9             for (int k = 1; k <= n; k = k * 2) {
10                 System.out.println("*");
11             }
12         }
13     }
14 }
15
16 }
17
```

first loop will run $n/2$ times

second loop will run $n/2$ times as $j + n/2 < n$ is the condition. so $n/2$ is already added to the iterator so only $n/2$ times loop will run.

third loop : $2^k > n$ (iteration wise $2^0, 2^1, 2^2, \dots, 2^k$)

$k > \log n$

so time complexity is $n/2 * n/2 * \log n$

so $n^2 \log n$ is the time complexity.

Example 9: $O(n \log^2 n)$

```
public static void main(String[] args) {
    int n = 100;
    for (int i = n / 2; i <= n; i++) {
        for (int j = 1; j < n; j = j * 2) {
            for (int k = 1; k <= n; k = k * 2) {
                System.out.println("*");
            }
        }
    }
}
```



first loop will run $n/2$ times

second and third loop as per above example will run $\log n$ times

so time complexity = $n/2 * \log n * \log n = O(n \log^2 n)$

Example 10: $O(n)$ with break statement

```

6      public static void main(String[] args) {
7          int n = 100;
8          for (int i = 1; i <= n; i++) {
9              for (int j = 1; j < n; j++) {
10                 System.out.println("*");
11                 break;
12             }
13         }
14     }

```

first loop will run N times

second will break out after every first iteration. so it will run 1 time

so time complexity is $O(n)$ instead of $O(n^2)$

Example 11: $O(n \log n)$

```

6      public static void main(String[] args) {
7          int n = 100;
8          for (int i = 1; i <= n; i++) {
9              for (int j = 1; j < n; j = j + i) {
10                 System.out.println("*");
11                 break;
12             }
13         }
14     }
15

```

i=1	i=2	i=3	i=n
.....		



j=2	j=3	j=4		
j=3	j=5	j=7		
j=4	j=7	j=10		
.				
.				
n	n/2	n/3	1



so $n + n/2 + n/3 + \dots + 1$ times total loop will run

$$n(1 + 1/2 + 1/3 + 1/4 + \dots) = n \log n$$

so time complexity is $n \log n$.

Example 12: $O(n^2)$

```

5 public static void main(String[] args) {
7     int n = 100;
8     for (int i = 1; i <= n/3; i++) {
9         for (int j = 1; j < n; j=j+4) {
10             System.out.println("*");
11             break;
12         }
13     }
14 }

```

outer loop will run $n/3$ times

inner loop will run $n/4$ times

so total time complexity is $(n/3) * (n/4) = n^2/12 = O(n^2)$

Example 13: $O(\log^2 n)$

```

6 public static void main(String[] args) {

```



```
10     j = n;
11     while (j > 0) {
12         j = j / 2;
13     }
14     i = i * 2;
15 }
16
17 }
18
```

outer loop will run $\log n$ times [$2^k > n$]

inner loop will run $\log n$ times [$n/2^k > 1$]

so total time complexity = $\log n * \log n = \log^2 n$

Example 14: $O(n^5)$

```
6     public static void main(String[] args) {
7         int n = 100;
8         for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {
9             for (int j = 1; j < i * i; j++) {
10                 if (i % j == 0) {
11                     for (int k = 0; k < j; k++) {
12                         System.out.println("*");
13                     }
14                 }
15             }
16         }
17     }
18 }
```

first loop will run n times

second loop will run n^2 times [$1, 2^2, 3^2, \dots, n^2$]

third loop will run n^2 time [$1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + \dots + n$]

total time complexity = $n * n^2 * n^2 = O(n^5)$



```
int count = 0;
for (int i = N; i > 0; i /= 2) {
    for (int j = 0; j < i; j++) {
        count += 1;
    }
}
```

loop will run $N + N/2 + N/4 + \dots + N/2^n$

$$= N(1 + 1/2 + 1/4 + \dots + 1/2^n)$$

$$= N(1 + 1)$$

$$= 2N = O(n)$$

sum of the series for reference

$$[S_n = 1/2 + 1/4 + \dots + 1/2^n$$

$$2S_n = 2/2 + 2/4 + 2/8 + \dots + 2/2^n$$

$$2S_n = 1 + 1/2 + 1/4 + \dots + 1/2^{n-1}$$

$$2S_n = 1 + S_n - 1/2^n$$

$$S_n = 1 - 1/2^n$$

$$S_n = 1 \text{ (when } n = \infty \text{)}$$

Example 16: $O(\log n)$

```
int gcd(int n, int m) {
    if (n % m == 0) return m;
```



```
        n = n%m;  
        swap(n, m);  
    }  
    return n;  
}
```

Fibonacci : 0, 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21, 34, 55, 89, 144, ..

lets take gcd of 8 and 5 (it is two Fibonacci numbers)

$\text{gcd}(8, 5) \Rightarrow \text{gcd}(5, 8\%5) \Rightarrow \text{gcd}(5, 3) \Rightarrow \text{gcd}(3, 5\%3) \Rightarrow$

$\text{gcd}(3, 2) \Rightarrow \text{gcd}(2, 1) \Rightarrow \text{gcd}(1, 1) \Rightarrow \text{gcd}(1, 0)$

look at the second argument in the gcd function.

it is 5, 3, 2, 1, 1, 0 in recursive calls.

it is following Fibonacci series pattern.

why we have taken gcd of Fibonacci numbers?

because it takes maximum number of steps.

so time complexity of gcd algo = time complexity of fib series

hence time complexity is $O(\log n)$

Get started

Open in app



[About](#) [Help](#) [Legal](#)

Get the Medium app

