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- Does the time taken by an algorithm depend on the input size  $n$  alone?
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- And express that growth rate in terms of known simple functions —  
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- And express that growth rate in terms of known simple functions —  $T(n) \propto f(n)$
- Normally we consider the time / steps taken in the worst-case
- Other analysis include best-case and average-case

# The Notations

- Big-Oh notation provides a tight upper bound for how  $T(n)$  grows
  - For example, if  $T(n) = 5n^2 + 3n - 2$ , then it is  $O(n^2)$ , which means that  $T(n)$  grows like the function  $n^2$ , but not faster than that

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  - This notation is not widely used
- Big-Theta notation combines both
  - $T(n)$  is  $\Theta(f(n))$ , if  $f(n)$  is both upper bound and lower bound for  $T(n)$  (with different constants)
  - In other words, for any  $T(n)$  and  $f(n)$ ,  $T(n)$  is  $\Theta(f(n))$  if and only if  $T(n)$  is  $O(f(n))$  and  $T(n)$  is  $\Omega(f(n))$

# Big-Theta Theorem

## Theorem

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*As a special case, when  $d = 0$ ,  $T(n)$  is a constant and can be expressed as  $\Theta(1)$*

# Typical Growth Rates

- $O(1)$
- $O(\log n)$
- $O(\log^2 n)$
- $O(n)$
- $O(n \log n)$
- $O(n^2)$
- $O(n^3)$
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Logarithmic Time

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Logarithmic Time

Linear Time

Polynomial Time



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Constant Time

Logarithmic Time

Linear Time

Polynomial Time

Exponential Time

# Typical Growth Rates

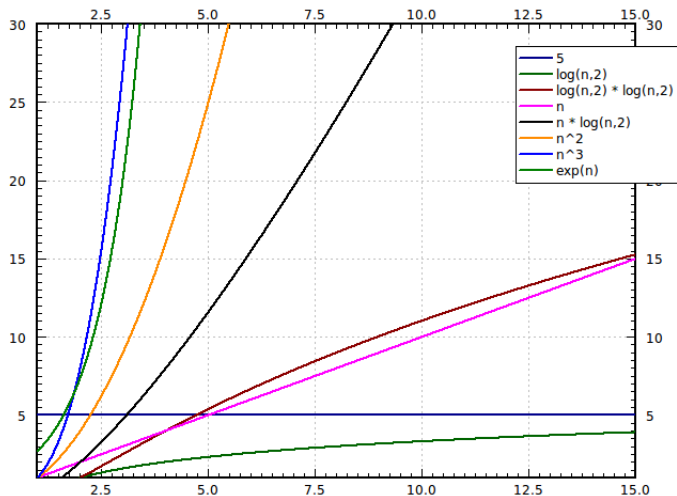


Figure: Typical Growth Rates

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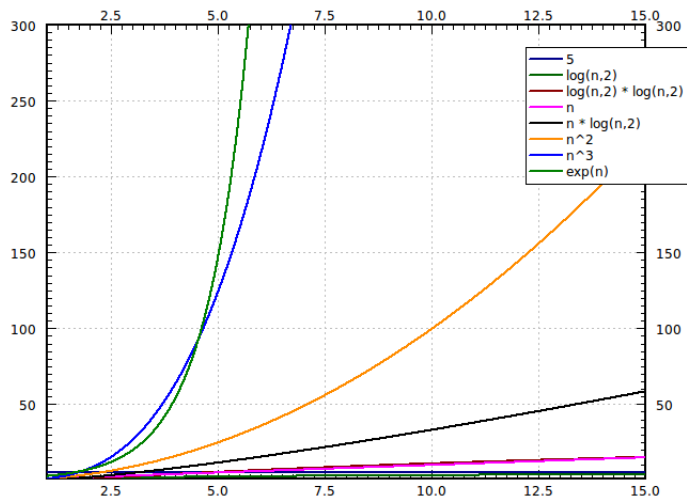


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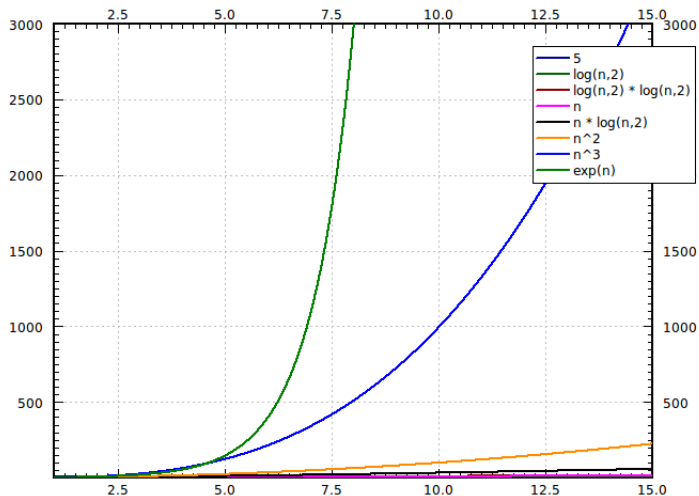


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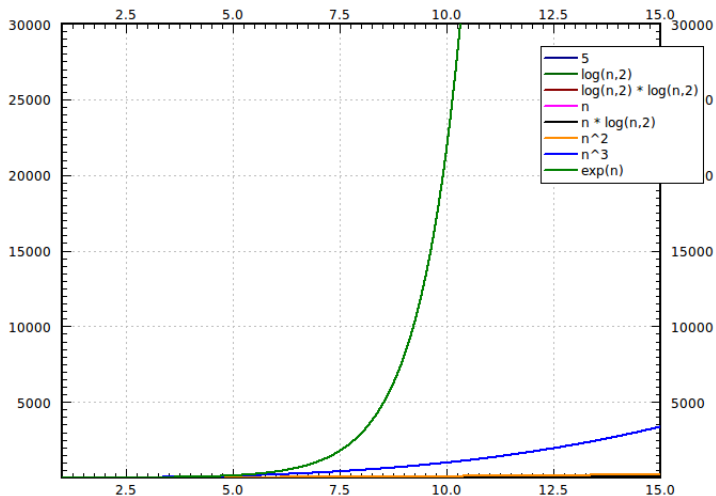


Figure: Typical Growth Rates

## NOTE

Algorithms with exponential complexities are practically intractable!

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- Is it possible to empirically verify if the running time of an algorithm is  $O(f(n))$ ?

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- Now find the ratio  $\frac{T(n)}{f(n)}$ , for those different values on  $n$ .



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- $f(n)$  is a tight bound if this ratio converges to a positive constant
- If the ratio converges to 0, then  $f(n)$  is an over-estimate
- $f(n)$  is an under-estimation, if this ratio diverges.

# Simple Recurrence

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long factorial(long n)
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    if ( n < 2 ) return 1;
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- How do we obtain  $T(n)$  in this case?

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} d & n \leq 1 \\ T(n-1) + c & n > 1 \end{cases}$$

- This is a simple recurrence equation.

# Solving recurrences: Expansion Method

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- The objective is to represent  $T(n)$  directly in terms of the base case  $T(1)$ . This is achieved when  $i = n - 1$

$$T(n) = T(n - (n - 1)) + (n - 1)c$$

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$$\begin{aligned}T(n) &= T(1) + (n-1)c \\ &= d + (n-1)c\end{aligned}$$

- It is obvious that this  $T(n)$  is  $\Theta(n)$

## Another Example: Insertion Sort

```
void IsortList(List l)
{
    Position p = Begin(l);

    if ( p == End(l) ) return;

    ElementType head = Retrieve(p, l);

    Delete(p, l);

    IsortList(l);

    InsertOrder(head, l);

    return;
}
```

## Another Example: Insertion Sort

```
void InsertOrder(ElementType ele , List l)
{
    Position p = Begin(l);

    while ( p != End(l) ) {
        if ( ele <= Retrieve(p, l) ) break;
        else p = Advance(p);
    }

    Insert(ele , p, l);

    return;
}
```

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$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= T(n-1) + cn \\ T(n-1) &= T(n-2) + c(n-1) & T(n) &= T(1) + c(2 + 3 + \dots + n) \\ &\vdots \\ T(2) &= T(1) + 2c \end{aligned}$$

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- This arises, for example, in the divide and conquer algorithms such as mergesort
- The input is divided into two halves and both the halves are solved independently
- Then both the solutions are merged in linear time to get the overall solution

# Yet Another Example — Expansion

- Let's first try the expansion method

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$$\begin{aligned}T(n) &= 2T(n/2) + n & n > 1 \\&= 2[2T(n/4) + n/2] + n & n > 2 \\&= 2^2T(n/2^2) + 2n & n > 2\end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{aligned}T(n) &= 2T(n/2) + n & n > 1 \\&= 2[2T(n/4) + n/2] + n & n > 2 \\&= 2^2 T(n/2^2) + 2n & n > 2 \\&= 2^2 [2T(n/2^3) + n/2^2] + 2n & n > 2^2 \\&= 2^3 T(n/2^3) + 3n & n > 2^2 \\&\quad \vdots \\&= 2^i T(n/2^i) + in & n > 2^{i-1}\end{aligned}$$

- When  $i = \log n$

$$T(n) = nT(1) + n \log n$$

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$$T(n) = nT(1) + n \log n$$

- $nO(1) + O(n \log n)$
- $O(n) + O(n \log n)$
- $O(n \log n)$

# Yet Another Example — Telescoping

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$O(n \log n)$

# Slightly Complicated Example

- Let us consider the following recurrence equation (where  $T(1)$  is a constant):

$$T(n) = \frac{2}{n} \left( \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} T(j) \right) + cn$$

# Slightly Complicated Example

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$$T(n) = \frac{2}{n} \left( \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} T(j) \right) + cn$$

$$n T(n) = 2 \left( \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} T(j) \right) + cn^2$$

$$(n-1) T(n-1) = 2 \left( \sum_{j=0}^{n-2} T(j) \right) + c(n-1)^2$$

---

$$n T(n) - (n-1) T(n-1) = 2 T(n-1) + 2cn - c$$

$$n T(n) = (n+1) T(n-1) + 2cn$$

Now, to telescope divide by  $n(n+1)$

$$\frac{T(n)}{n+1} = \frac{T(n-1)}{n} + \frac{2c}{n+1}$$

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$$\begin{aligned}\frac{T(n)}{n+1} &= \frac{T(n-1)}{n} + \frac{2c}{n+1} \\ \frac{T(n-1)}{n} &= \frac{T(n-2)}{n-1} + \frac{2c}{n} \\ \frac{T(n-2)}{n-1} &= \frac{T(n-3)}{n-2} + \frac{2c}{n-1} \\ &\vdots \\ \frac{T(2)}{3} &= \frac{T(1)}{2} + \frac{2c}{3}\end{aligned}$$

---

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

$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{O(\log n)}$

$$\frac{T(n)}{n+1} = O(\log n)$$
$$T(n) = O(n \log n)$$

# Master Theorem

- Let  $T(n) = aT(n/b) + f(n)$ , where  $a \geq 1$  and  $b > 1$

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- If  $f(n)$  is linear time, then  $T(n)$  is  $\Theta(n^{\log_b a} \log n)$
- If  $f(n)$  is more than linear time, then  $T(n)$  is  $\Theta(f(n))$

A algorithm whose execution time,  $f(n)$ , grows slower than the size of the problem,  $n$ , but only gives an approximate or probably correct answer.

# Summary

- Time / Space complexity of an algorithm are expressed in notations such as Big-Oh and Big-Theta
- These notations bring out the growth rate of time / space wrt the size of the input
- These notations enable us to avoid exact calculations of number of “basic steps” or memory space required — overall growth rate can be estimated based on growth rates of components
- Complexity of recursive algorithms can be analyzed through the corresponding recurrence equations
- Recurrences may be solved by expansion method, telescopic sum method, or by solving corresponding characteristic equations
- It is also possible to perform empirical ratio analysis to determine / verify time complexity of an algorithm