

# Design and Analysis of Algorithms

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# Asymptotic Notation

- Running time of an algorithm as a function of input size  $n$  **for large  $n$** .
- Expressed using only the **highest-order term** in the expression for the exact running time.
- Describes behavior of function in the limit.
- Written using ***Asymptotic Notation***.

# Asymptotic Notation

- Put Functions in different classes and think of entire class
- Formal +Systematic
- Asymptotic notation is formal way to speak about functions and their classes
- Asymptotic Analysis is about classification of functions.

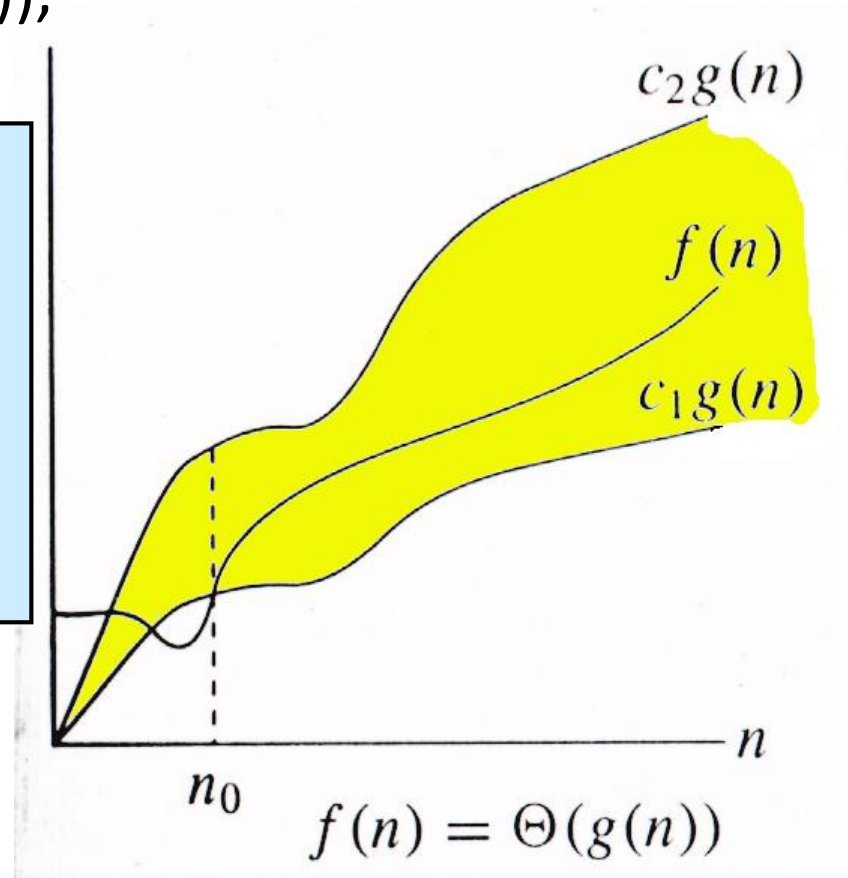
- $10n^3 + 5n^2 + 7$  (Cubic)
- $3n^3 + 2n^2 + 5$  (Cubic)
- Constant multiplier should be ignored
- Give more importance to behavior as  $n \rightarrow \infty$

# $\Theta$ -notation

For function  $g(n)$ , we define  $\Theta(g(n))$ , big-Theta of  $n$ , as the set:

$$\Theta(g(n)) = \{f(n) : \\ \exists \text{ positive constants } c_1, c_2, \text{ and } n_0, \\ \text{such that } \forall n \geq n_0, \\ \text{we have } 0 \leq c_1 g(n) \leq f(n) \leq c_2 g(n) \\ \}$$

*Intuitively:* Set of all functions that have the same *rate of growth* as  $g(n)$ .



$g(n)$  is an **asymptotically tight bound** for  $f(n)$ .

# Asymptotic Notation

## ***Asymptotic Notation***

- This is written as " $f(n) \in \Theta(g(n))$ "
- That is,  $f(n)$  and  $g(n)$  are *asymptotically equivalent*.
- This means that they have essentially the same growth rates for large  $n$ .

# Asymptotic Notation - Example

## ***Asymptotic Notation***

For example, functions like

- $4n^2$ ,
- $(8n^2 + 2n - 3)$ ,
- $(n^2/5 + \sqrt{n} - 10 \log n)$
- $n(n - 3)$

are all asymptotically equivalent. As  $n$  becomes large, the **dominant** (fastest growing) term is some constant times  $n^2$ .

# Asymptotic Notation - Example

## ***Asymptotic Notation - Example***

- Consider the function
$$f(n) = 8n^2 + 2n - 3$$
- Our informal rule of keeping the largest term and ignoring the constant suggests that
$$f(n) \in \Theta(n^2).$$
- Let's see why this bears out formally.



# Asymptotic Notation - Example

## ***Asymptotic Notation - Example***

We need to show two things for  
 $f(n) = 8n^2 + 2n - 3$

- **Lower bound:**  $f(n) = 8n^2 + 2n - 3$  grows asymptotically at least as fast as  $n^2$ ,
- **Upper bound:**  $f(n)$  grows no faster asymptotically than  $n^2$ ,

# Asymptotic Notation - Example

$$\leq c_1 g(n) \leq f(n) \leq c_2 g(n)$$

## ***Asymptotic Notation - Example***

**Lower bound:**  $f(n)$  grows asymptotically at least as fast as  $n^2$ .

- For this, need to show that there exist positive constants  $c_1$  and  $n_0$ , such that  $f(n) \geq c_1 n^2$  for all  $n \geq n_0$ .
- Consider the reasoning

$$\begin{aligned} f(n) &= 8n^2 + 2n - 3 \geq 8n^2 - 3 \\ &= 7n^2 + (n^2 - 3) \geq 7n^2 \end{aligned}$$

# Asymptotic Notation - Example

## ***Asymptotic Notation - Example***

- We implicitly assumed that  $2n \geq 0$  and  $n^2 - 3 \geq 0$
- These are not true for all  $n$  but if  $n \geq \sqrt{3}$ , then both are true.
- So select  $n_0 \geq \sqrt{3}$ .
- We then have  $f(n) \geq c_1 n^2$  for all  $n \geq n_0$ .

# Asymptotic Notation - Example

## ***Asymptotic Notation - Example***

**Upper bound:**  $f(n)$  grows asymptotically no faster than  $n^2$ .

- For this, we need to show that there exist positive constants  $c_2$  and  $n_0$ , such that  $f(n) \leq c_2 n^2$  for all  $n \geq n_0$ .

- Consider the reasoning

$$\begin{aligned} f(n) &= 8n^2 + 2n - 3 \leq 8n^2 + 2n \leq 8n^2 + 2n^2 \\ &= 10n^2 \end{aligned}$$

# Asymptotic Notation - Example

## ***Asymptotic Notation - Example***

- For this, we need to show that there exist positive constants  $c_2$  and  $n_0$ , such that  $f(n) \leq c_2 n^2$  for all  $n \geq n_0$ .
- Consider the reasoning
$$\begin{aligned} f(n) &= 8n^2 + 2n - 3 \leq 8n^2 + 2n \leq 8n^2 + 2n^2 \\ &= 10n^2 \end{aligned}$$
- Thus  $c_2 = 10$ .



# Asymptotic Notation - Example

## ***Asymptotic Notation - Example***

- We implicitly made the assumption that  $2n \leq 2n^2$ .
- This is not true for all  $n$  but it is true for all  $n \geq 1$
- So select  $n_0 \geq 1$ .
- We thus have

$$f(n) \leq c_2 n^2 \text{ for all } n \geq n_0 .$$

# Asymptotic Notation - Example

## ***Asymptotic Notation - Example***

- From lower bound we have  $n_0 \geq \sqrt{3}$
- From upper bound we have  $n_0 \geq 1$
- Combining the two, we let  $n_0$  be the larger of the two:  $n_0 \geq \sqrt{3}$ .

# Asymptotic Notation - Example

## ***Asymptotic Notation - Example***

- In conclusion, if we let  $c_1 = 7$ ,  $c_2 = 10$  and  $n_0 \geq \sqrt{3}$ , we have

$$7n^2 \leq 8n^2 + 2n - 3 \leq 10n^2$$

for all  $n \geq \sqrt{3}$

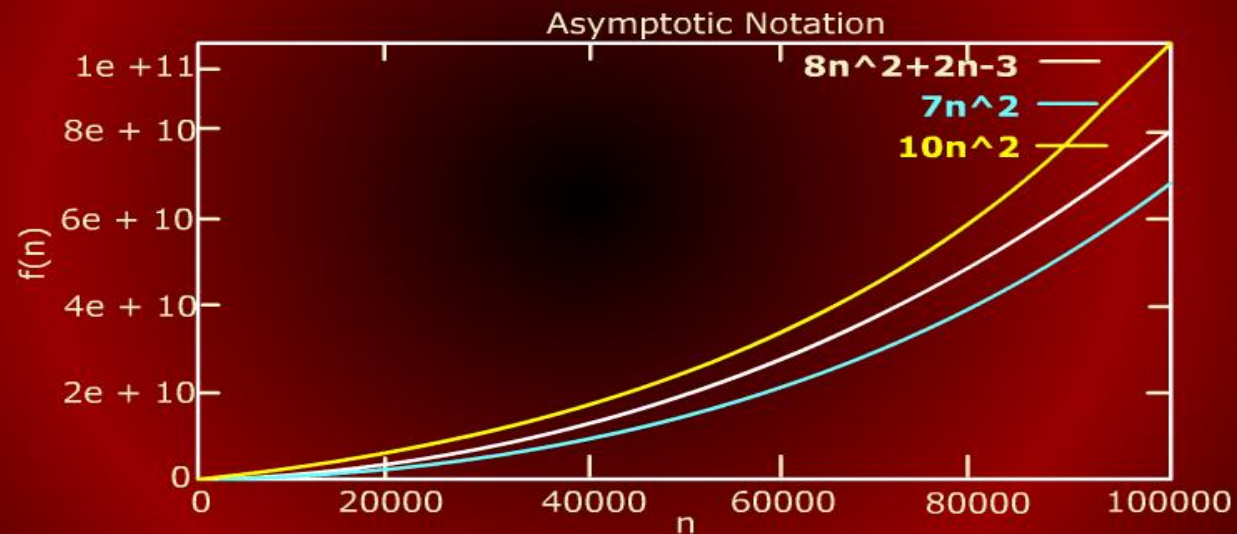
- We have thus established

$$0 \leq c_1 g(n) \leq f(n) \leq c_2 g(n)$$

for all  $n \geq n_0$ .



# Asymptotic Notation - Example



# Asymptotic Notation - Example

## ***Asymptotic Notation - Example***

- We have established that  $f(n) \in n^2$ .
- Let's show why  $f(n)$  is **not** in some other asymptotic class.
- First, let's show that  $f(n) \notin \Theta(n)$ .

# Asymptotic Notation - Example

## ***Asymptotic Notation - Example***

show that  $f(n) \notin \Theta(n)$ .

- If this were true, we would have had to satisfy both the upper and lower bounds.
- The lower bound is satisfied because  $f(n) = 8n^2 + 2n - 3$  does grow at least as fast asymptotically as  $n$ .

# Asymptotic Notation - Example

## ***Asymptotic Notation - Example***

- The lower bound is satisfied because  $f(n) = 8n^2 + 2n - 3$  does grow at least as fast asymptotically as  $n$ .
- But the upper bound is false. Upper bounds requires that there exist positive constants  $c_2$  and  $n_0$  such that  $f(n) \leq c_2n$  for all  $n \geq n_0$ .

# Asymptotic Notation - Example

## ***Asymptotic Notation - Example***

- Informally we know that  $f(n) = 8n^2 + 2n - 3$  will eventually exceed  $c_2n$  no matter how large we make  $c_2$ .
- To see this, suppose we assume that constants  $c_2$  and  $n_0$  did exist such that  $8n^2 + 2n - 3 \leq c_2n$  for all  $n \geq n_0$



# Asymptotic Notation - Example

## ***Asymptotic Notation - Example***

- If we divide both sides by  $n$ , we have

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( 8n + 2 - \frac{3}{n} \right) \leq c_2.$$

- It is easy to see that in the limit, the left side tends to  $\infty$ .
- So, no matter how large  $c_2$  is, the statement is violated. Thus  $f(n) \notin \Theta(n)$ .

# Asymptotic Notation - Example

## ***Asymptotic Notation - Example***

Let's show that  $f(n) \notin \Theta(n^3)$ .

- The idea would be to show that the lower bound  $f(n) \geq c_1 n^3$  for all  $n \geq n_0$  is **violated**.
- ( $c_1$  and  $n_0$  are positive constants).
- Informally we know this to be true because any cubic function will overtake a quadratic.

# Asymptotic Notation - Example

## ***Asymptotic Notation - Example***

- If we divide both sides by  $n^3$ :

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{8}{n} + \frac{2}{n^2} - \frac{3}{n^3} \right) \geq c_1$$

- The left side tends to 0. The only way to satisfy this is to set  $c_1 = 0$ .
- But by hypothesis,  $c_1$  is positive.
- This means that  $f(n) \notin \Theta(n^3)$ .



# $\Theta$ -notation

- $f(n) = 10n^3 + 5n^2 + 17 \in \Theta(g(n^3))$ ,
- $f_2(n) = 2n^3 + 3n^2 + 79 \in \Theta(g(n^3))$ ,
- Proof :
- $10n^3 \leq f(n) \leq (10 + 5 + 17)n^3$
- $C_1 = 10, C_2 = 32$
- $C_1 n^3 \leq f(n) \leq C_2 n^3 \quad n \geq 1$

# $\Theta$ -notation

- $f(n) = 10n^3 + n \cdot \log n \in \Theta(g(n^3))$

- Proof :

- $10n^3 \leq f(n) \leq (10 + 1)n^3$

- $C_1 = 10, C_2 = 11$

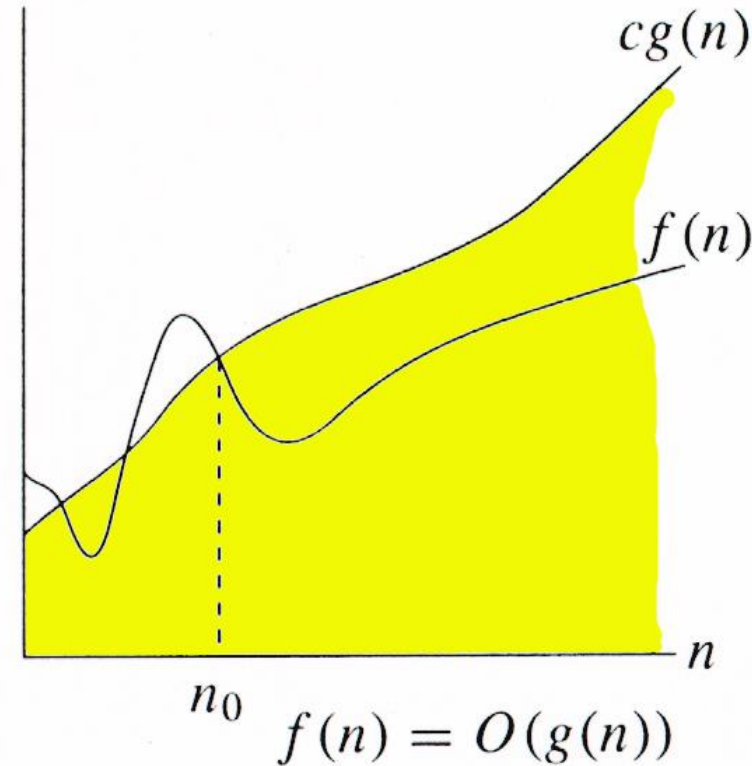
- $C_1 n^3 \leq f(n) \leq C_2 n^3$

# O-notation

For function  $g(n)$ , we define  $O(g(n))$ , big-O of  $n$ , as the set:

$$O(g(n)) = \{f(n) : \\ \exists \text{ positive constants } c \text{ and } n_0, \text{ such} \\ \text{that } \forall n \geq n_0, \\ \text{we have } 0 \leq f(n) \leq cg(n) \}$$

*Intuitively*: Set of all functions whose *rate of growth* is the same as or lower than that of  $g(n)$ .



$g(n)$  is an **asymptotic upper bound** for  $f(n)$ .

$$f(n) = \Theta(g(n)) \Rightarrow f(n) = O(g(n)).$$

$$\Theta(g(n)) \subset O(g(n)).$$

# Examples

$O(g(n)) = \{f(n) : \exists \text{ positive constants } c \text{ and } n_0, \text{ such that } \forall n \geq n_0, \text{ we have } 0 \leq f(n) \leq cg(n) \}$

- Any linear *function*  $an + b$  is in  $O(n^2)$ . How?
- Show that  $3n^3 = O(n^4)$  for appropriate  $c$  and  $n_0$ .

Informally,  $O(g(n))$  is the set of all functions with a lower or same order of growth as  $g(n)$  (to within a constant multiple, as  $n$  goes to infinity). Thus, to give a few examples, the following assertions are all true:

$$n \in O(n^2), \quad 100n + 5 \in O(n^2), \quad \frac{1}{2}n(n-1) \in O(n^2).$$

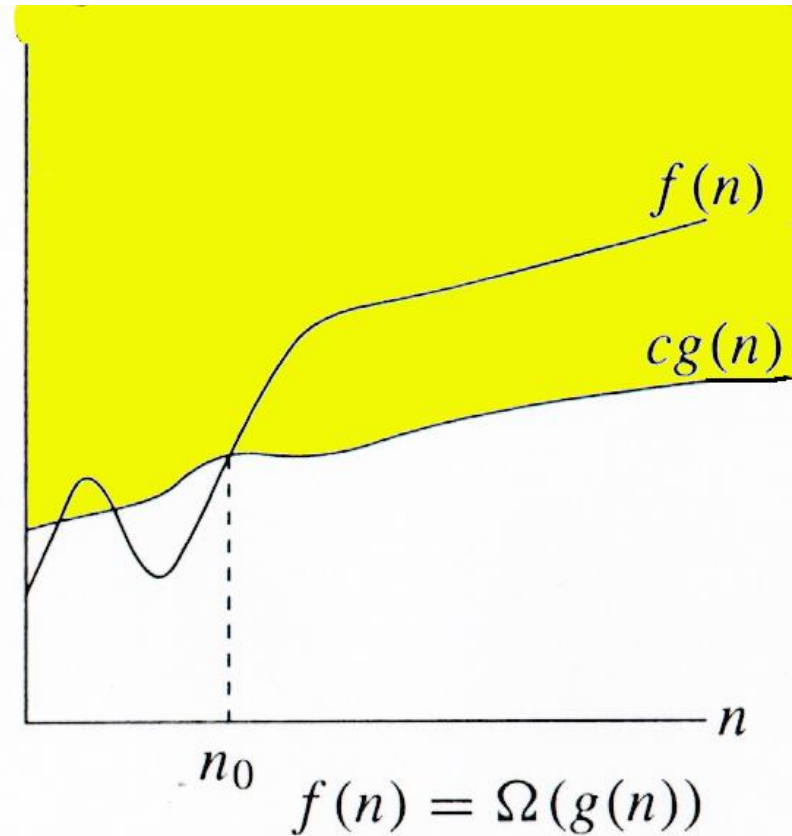
$$n^3 \notin O(n^2), \quad 0.00001n^3 \notin O(n^2), \quad n^4 + n + 1 \notin O(n^2).$$

# $\Omega$ -notation

For function  $g(n)$ , we define  $\Omega(g(n))$ , big-Omega of  $n$ , as the set:

$\Omega(g(n)) = \{f(n) :$   
 $\exists$  positive constants  $c$  and  $n_0$ , such  
that  $\forall n \geq n_0$ ,  
we have  $0 \leq cg(n) \leq f(n)\}$

*Intuitively:* Set of all functions whose *rate of growth* is the same as or higher than that of  $g(n)$ .



$g(n)$  is an **asymptotic lower bound** for  $f(n)$ .

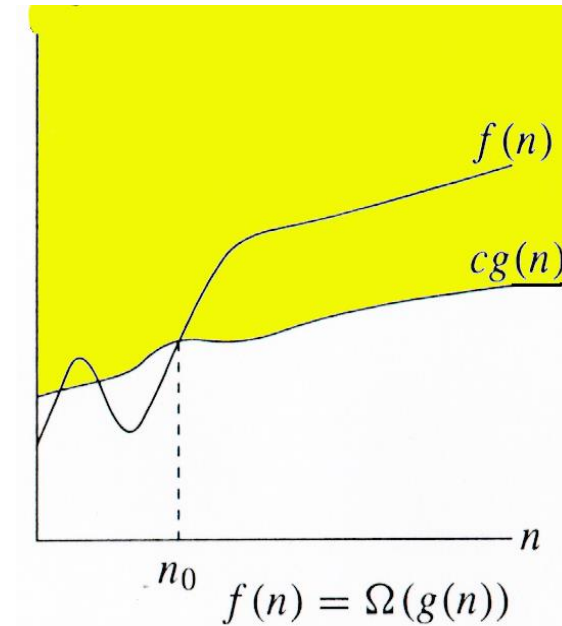
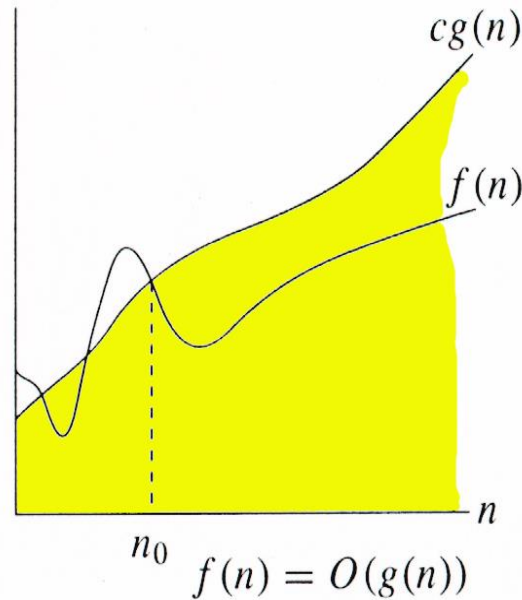
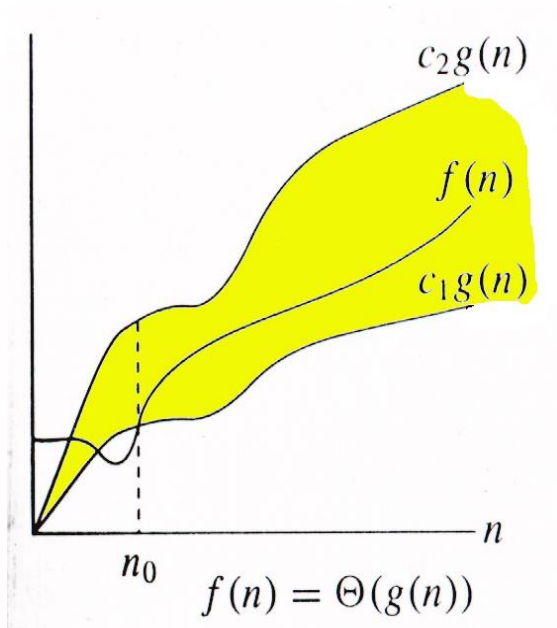
$$f(n) = \Theta(g(n)) \Rightarrow f(n) = \Omega(g(n)).$$

$$\Theta(g(n)) \subset \Omega(g(n)).$$

The second notation,  $\Omega(g(n))$ , stands for the set of all functions with a higher or same order of growth as  $g(n)$  (to within a constant multiple, as  $n$  goes to infinity). For example,

$$n^3 \in \Omega(n^2), \quad \frac{1}{2}n(n-1) \in \Omega(n^2), \quad \text{but } 100n + 5 \notin \Omega(n^2).$$

# Relations Between $\Theta$ , $O$ , $\Omega$





**TABLE 2.2** Basic asymptotic efficiency classes

Class	Name	Comments
1	<i>constant</i>	Short of best-case efficiencies, very few reasonable examples can be given since an algorithm's running time typically goes to infinity when its input size grows infinitely large.
$\log n$	<i>logarithmic</i>	Typically, a result of cutting a problem's size by a constant factor on each iteration of the algorithm (see Section 4.4). Note that a logarithmic algorithm cannot take into account all its input or even a fixed fraction of it: any algorithm that does so will have at least linear running time.
$n$	<i>linear</i>	Algorithms that scan a list of size $n$ (e.g., sequential search) belong to this class.
$n \log n$	<i>linearithmic</i>	Many divide-and-conquer algorithms (see Chapter 5), including mergesort and quicksort in the average case, fall into this category.
$n^2$	<i>quadratic</i>	Typically, characterizes efficiency of algorithms with two embedded loops (see the next section). Elementary sorting algorithms and certain operations on $n \times n$ matrices are standard examples.
$n^3$	<i>cubic</i>	Typically, characterizes efficiency of algorithms with three embedded loops (see the next section). Several nontrivial algorithms from linear algebra fall into this class.
$2^n$	<i>exponential</i>	Typical for algorithms that generate all subsets of an $n$ -element set. Often, the term "exponential" is used in a broader sense to include this and larger orders of growth as well.
$n!$	<i>factorial</i>	Typical for algorithms that generate all permutations of an $n$ -element set.

# $o$ -notation

For a given function  $g(n)$ , the set little- $o$ :

$$o(g(n)) = \{f(n): \forall c > 0, \exists n_0 > 0 \text{ such that} \\ \forall n \geq n_0, \text{ we have } 0 \leq f(n) < cg(n)\}.$$

# $\omega$ -notation

For a given function  $g(n)$ , the set little-omega:

$$\omega(g(n)) = \{f(n): \forall c > 0, \exists n_0 > 0 \text{ such that} \\ \forall n \geq n_0, \text{ we have } 0 \leq cg(n) < f(n)\}.$$

# Relations Between $\Theta$ , $\Omega$ , $O$

**Theorem** : For any two functions  $g(n)$  and  $f(n)$ ,  
 $f(n) = \Theta(g(n))$  iff  
 $f(n) = O(g(n))$  and  $f(n) = \Omega(g(n))$ .

- I.e.,  $\Theta(g(n)) = O(g(n)) \cap \Omega(g(n))$
- In practice, asymptotically tight bounds are obtained from asymptotic upper and lower bounds.

# Properties

- **Transitivity**

$$f(n) = \Theta(g(n)) \ \& \ g(n) = \Theta(h(n)) \Rightarrow f(n) = \Theta(h(n))$$

$$f(n) = O(g(n)) \ \& \ g(n) = O(h(n)) \Rightarrow f(n) = O(h(n))$$

$$f(n) = \Omega(g(n)) \ \& \ g(n) = \Omega(h(n)) \Rightarrow f(n) = \Omega(h(n))$$

$$f(n) = o(g(n)) \ \& \ g(n) = o(h(n)) \Rightarrow f(n) = o(h(n))$$

$$f(n) = \omega(g(n)) \ \& \ g(n) = \omega(h(n)) \Rightarrow f(n) = \omega(h(n))$$

- **Complementarity**

$$f(n) = O(g(n)) \text{ iff } g(n) = \Omega(f(n))$$

$$f(n) = o(g(n)) \text{ iff } g(n) = \omega(f(n))$$

# Monotonicity

- $f(n)$  is
  - **monotonically increasing** if  $m \leq n \Rightarrow f(m) \leq f(n)$ .
  - **monotonically decreasing** if  $m \geq n \Rightarrow f(m) \geq f(n)$ .
  - **strictly increasing** if  $m < n \Rightarrow f(m) < f(n)$ .
  - **strictly decreasing** if  $m > n \Rightarrow f(m) > f(n)$ .

# Exponentials

- **Useful Identities:**

$$a^{-1} = \frac{1}{a}$$

$$(a^m)^n = a^{mn}$$

$$a^m a^n = a^{m+n}$$