

user@machine: \$

asymptotic\_notation

--verbose --cheat-sheet

> The 5 Notations

Not.	Meaning	Like
$\Theta$	Tight bound	$a = b$
$O$	Upper bound	$a \leq b$
$\Omega$	Lower bound	$a \geq b$
$o$	Strict upper	$a < b$
$\omega$	Strict lower	$a > b$

> Definitions

>>  $\Theta(g(n))$

$\exists c_1, c_2, n_0 > 0 :$

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

$\forall n \geq n_0$

>>  $O(g(n))$

$\exists c, n_0 > 0 :$

$0 \leq f(n) \leq c \cdot g(n)$

$\forall n \geq n_0$

>>  $\Omega(g(n))$

$\exists c, n_0 > 0 :$

$0 \leq c \cdot g(n) \leq f(n)$

$\forall n \geq n_0$

>>  $o(g(n))$

$\forall c > 0, \exists n_0 :$

$0 \leq f(n) < c \cdot g(n)$

OR:  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} = 0$

>>  $\omega(g(n))$

$\forall c > 0, \exists n_0 :$

$0 \leq c \cdot g(n) < f(n)$

OR:  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} = \infty$

> Key Theorems

[Th 3.1]  $f = \Theta(g) \iff f = O(g) \text{ AND } f = \Omega(g)$

[Poly]  $p(n) = \sum_{i=0}^d a_i n^i \implies p(n) = \Theta(n^d)$

[Transpose]  $f(n) = O(g(n)) \iff g(n) = \Omega(f(n))$

> Growth Hierarchy

$O(1) < O(\lg n) < O(\sqrt{n}) < O(n)$

$< O(n \lg n) < O(n^2) < O(n^3)$

$< O(2^n) < O(n!)$

> Complexity Reference

Class	Example
$O(1)$	Array access
$O(\lg n)$	Binary search
$O(n)$	Linear search
$O(n \lg n)$	Merge/Heap sort
$O(n^2)$	Bubble/Insert sort
$O(2^n)$	Subset gen
$O(n!)$	Permutations

> Properties

[Transitivity]

$f = \Theta(g), g = \Theta(h) \implies f = \Theta(h)$

[Reflexivity]

$f(n) = \Theta(f(n))$

[Symmetry]

$f(n) = \Theta(g(n)) \iff g(n) = \Theta(f(n))$

> Critical Limits

[Exp vs Poly]

$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^b}{a^n} = 0 \text{ } (a > 1)$

$\implies n^b = o(a^n)$

[Poly vs Log]

$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\lg^b n}{n^a} = 0 \text{ } (a > 0)$

$\implies \lg^b n = o(n^a)$

[Factorial]

$n! = \omega(2^n), \text{ } n! = o(n^n)$

> Logarithms

$\lg n = \log_2 n, \text{ } \ln n = \log_e n$

Identities:

$a = b^{\log_b a}$

$\log(ab) = \log a + \log b$

$\log(a^k) = k \log a$

$\log_b a = \frac{\log a}{\log b}$

$\log(1/a) = -\log a$

> Exponentials

$a^0 = 1, \text{ } a^1 = a, \text{ } a^{-1} = 1/a$

$(a^m)^n = a^{mn}, \text{ } a^m a^n = a^{m+n}$

[Natural exp]

$e^x \geq 1 + x$

$e^x = 1 + x + \Theta(x^2) \text{ as } x \rightarrow 0$

> Factorials

$n! = 1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdots n$

[Stirling]

$n! \approx \sqrt{2\pi n} (n/e)^n$

[Log factorial]

$\lg(n!) = \Theta(n \lg n)$

### > Floor/Ceiling

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$\lfloor x \rfloor :: \max \text{ int } \leq x$

$\lceil x \rceil :: \min \text{ int } \geq x$

$x - 1 < \lfloor x \rfloor \leq x \leq \lceil x \rceil < x + 1$

### > Modular Arithmetic

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$a \bmod n = a - n \lfloor a/n \rfloor$

$0 \leq a \bmod n < n$

$a \equiv b \pmod{n} \iff n \mid (b - a)$

### > Sequences

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[Fibonacci]

$F_0 = 0, F_1 = 1, F_i = F_{i-1} + F_{i-2}$

$F_i \approx \phi^i / \sqrt{5}$  where  $\phi \approx 1.618$

[Iterated Log]

$\lg^* n$  : grows very slowly.

$2, 4, 16, 65536 \rightarrow 1, 2, 3, 4$

### > Loop Analysis

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Single loop:  $O(n)$

Nested (both n):  $O(n^2)$

Dependent:  $\sum i \rightarrow O(n^2)$

Halving:  $n = n/2 \rightarrow O(\lg n)$

Tree recursion:  $O(n \lg n)$

### > Summation

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$\sum_{i=1}^n 1 = n$

$\sum_{i=1}^n i = \Theta(n^2)$

$\sum_{i=1}^n i^2 = \Theta(n^3)$

$\sum_{i=0}^n a^i = \frac{a^{n+1} - 1}{a - 1}$

### > Practical Limits

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*Max n for 1 sec:*

$O(n) \rightarrow 10^8$

$O(n \lg n) \rightarrow 10^7$

$O(n^2) \rightarrow 10^4$

$O(n^3) \rightarrow 500$

$O(2^n) \rightarrow 25$

$O(n!) \rightarrow 11$

### > Quick Rules

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Polynomials: Drop lower terms

Nested loops: Multiply

Sequential: Add (Take Max)

Recursive: Master Thm

### > Common Mistakes

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[ERR] "at least  $O(n)$ "

[ERR]  $2^n$  vs  $n^2$

[ERR] Counting input in space

### > Space Complexity

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Count only aux space.

Recursion:  $O(\text{depth})$

### > Master Theorem

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$T(n) = aT(n/b) + f(n)$

$c_{crit} = \log_b a$

[Case 1]  $f(n)$  small

$\implies T(n) = \Theta(n^{c_{crit}})$

[Case 2]  $f(n)$  equal

$\implies T(n) = \Theta(n^{c_{crit}} \lg n)$

[Case 3]  $f(n)$  large

$\implies T(n) = \Theta(f(n))$

### > Proving Bounds

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[Theta] Find  $c_1, c_2, n_0$

[Big-O] Find  $c, n_0$  OR limit  $< \infty$

[Omega] Find  $c, n_0$  OR limit  $> 0$