

Asymptotic Notation

CSC165 Week 8 - Part 1

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$$y = 2x^2$$

Upper, Lower, and Tight Bounds on a Function

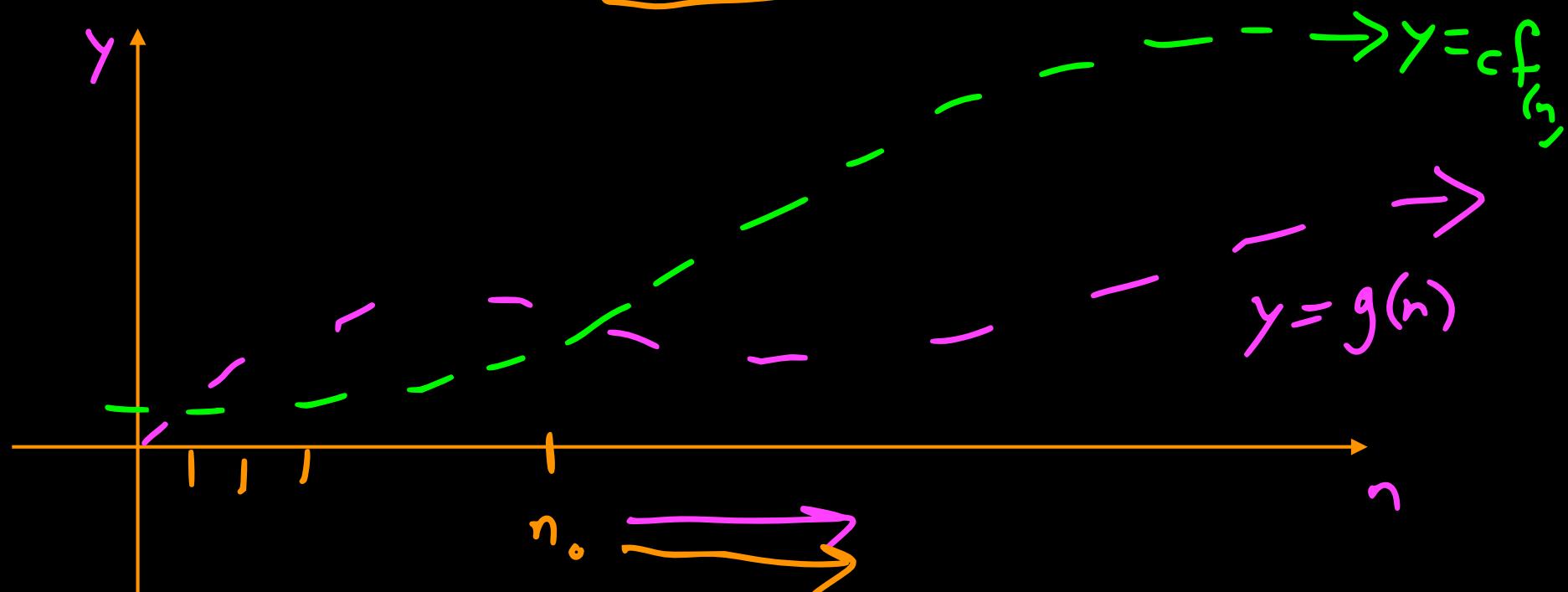


“Upper Bounds”

$$\mathcal{O}(f) = \{g \mid g : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{\geq 0}, \exists c, n_0 \in \mathbb{R}^+, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}, n \geq n_0 \Rightarrow g(n) \leq [c \cdot f(n)]\}.$$

“approximate number of steps”

“large input size”

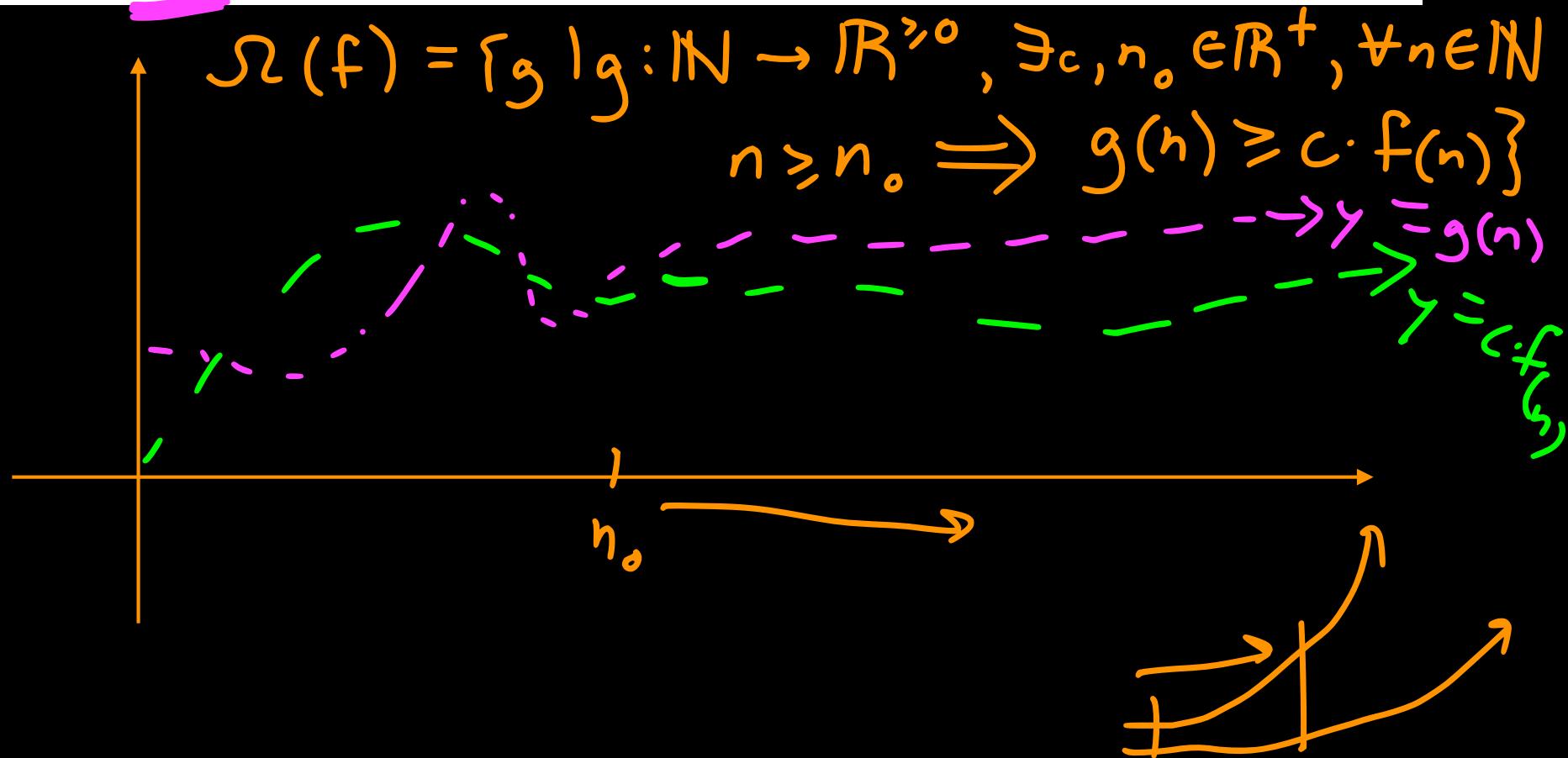


$$n + 10n = \underline{11n}$$

Upper, Lower, and Tight Bounds on a Function

“Lower Bounds”

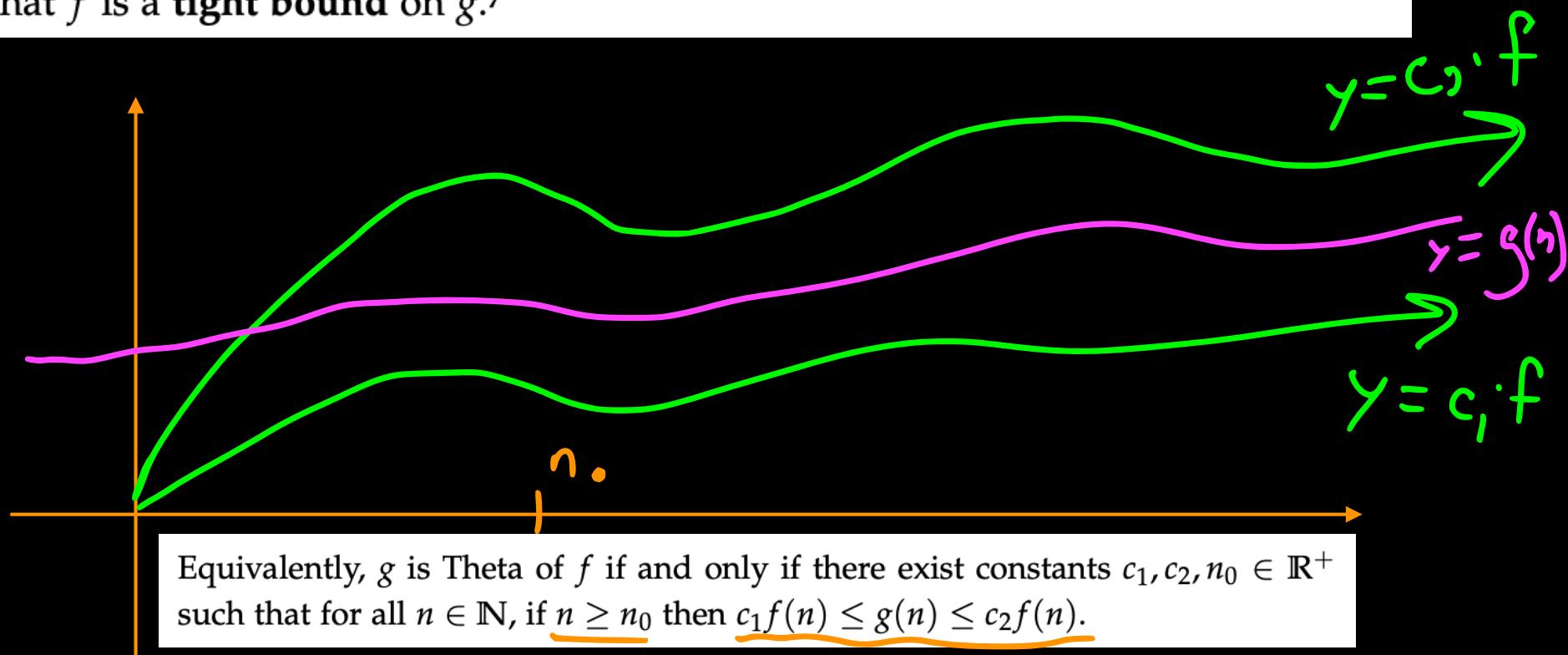
Definition 5.5. Let $f, g : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{\geq 0}$. We say that g is Omega of f if and only if there exist constants $c, n_0 \in \mathbb{R}^+$ such that for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, if $n \geq n_0$, then $g(n) \geq c \cdot f(n)$. In this case, we can also write $g \in \Omega(f)$.



Upper, Lower, and Tight Bounds on a Function

“Tight Bounds”

Definition 5.6. Let $f, g : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{\geq 0}$. We say that g is Theta of f if and only if g is both Big-O of f and Omega of f . In this case, we can write $g \in \Theta(f)$, and say that f is a **tight bound** on g .⁷



$$\exists c_1, c_2, n_0 \in \mathbb{R}^+, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$$

Upper, Lower, and Tight Bounds on a Function



$$\mathcal{O}(f) = \{g \mid g : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{\geq 0}, \exists c, n_0 \in \mathbb{R}^+, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}, n \geq n_0 \Rightarrow g(n) \leq c \cdot f(n)\}.$$

Definition 5.5. Let $f, g : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{\geq 0}$. We say that g is **Omega of f** if and only if there exist constants $c, n_0 \in \mathbb{R}^+$ such that for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, if $n \geq n_0$, then $g(n) \geq c \cdot f(n)$. In this case, we can also write $g \in \Omega(f)$.

$$\rightarrow \Omega(f) = \{g \dots\}$$

Definition 5.6. Let $f, g : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{\geq 0}$. We say that g is **Theta of f** if and only if g is both Big-O of f and Omega of f . In this case, we can write $g \in \Theta(f)$, and say that f is a **tight bound** on g .⁷

$$g \in \Theta(f) \iff g \in \mathcal{O}(f) \wedge g \in \Omega(f)$$



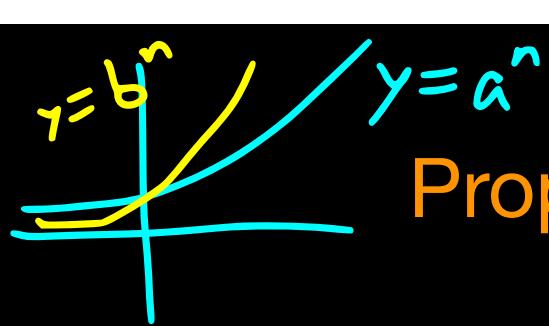
Example: $an+b \in \mathcal{O}(n^2)$



Example: $an+b \notin \Omega(n^2)$







Properties of Elementary Functions

Theorem 5.1. For all $a, b \in \mathbb{R}^+$, the following statements are true:

1. If $a > 1$ and $b > 1$, then $\log_a n \in \Theta(\log_b n)$.
2. If $a < b$, then $n^a \in \mathcal{O}(n^b)$ and $n^a \notin \Omega(n^b)$.
3. If $a < b$, then $a^n \in \mathcal{O}(b^n)$ and $a^n \notin \Omega(b^n)$.
4. If $a > 1$, then $1 \in \mathcal{O}(\log_a n)$ and $1 \notin \Omega(\log_a n)$.
5. $\log_a n \in \mathcal{O}(n^b)$ and $\log_a n \notin \Omega(n^b)$.
6. If $b > 1$, then $n^a \in \mathcal{O}(b^n)$ and $n^a \notin \Omega(b^n)$.

$$\log_a n = \frac{\log n}{\log a}$$

$\log_a n$ is not bound above, and $b^n \notin \mathcal{O}(n^a)$

- Also, $\forall a, b \in \mathbb{R}^+$, $\log_b(n) \in \mathcal{O}(a^n)$ and $a^n \notin \mathcal{O}(\log_b(n))$



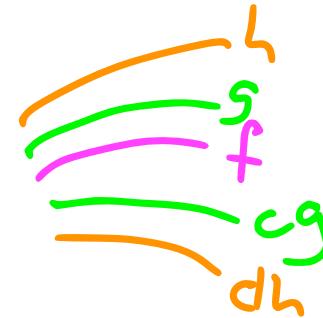
Properties of Elementary Functions

Theorem 5.2. For all $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{\geq 0}$, $f \in \Theta(f)$. $f \in O(f), f \in \Omega(f)$

Theorem 5.3. For all $f, g : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{\geq 0}$, $g \in O(f)$ if and only if $f \in \Omega(g)$.

Theorem 5.4. For all $f, g, h : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{\geq 0}$:

- If $f \in O(g)$ and $g \in O(h)$, then $f \in O(h)$.
- If $f \in \Omega(g)$ and $g \in \Omega(h)$, then $f \in \Omega(h)$.
- If $f \in \Theta(g)$ and $g \in \Theta(h)$, then $f \in \Theta(h)$.¹⁰



$$g \leq cf$$

$$f \geq \frac{1}{c}g$$

$$\begin{aligned} f &= f \\ \Leftrightarrow f &\geq f \\ f &\leq f \end{aligned}$$

Properties of Elementary Functions

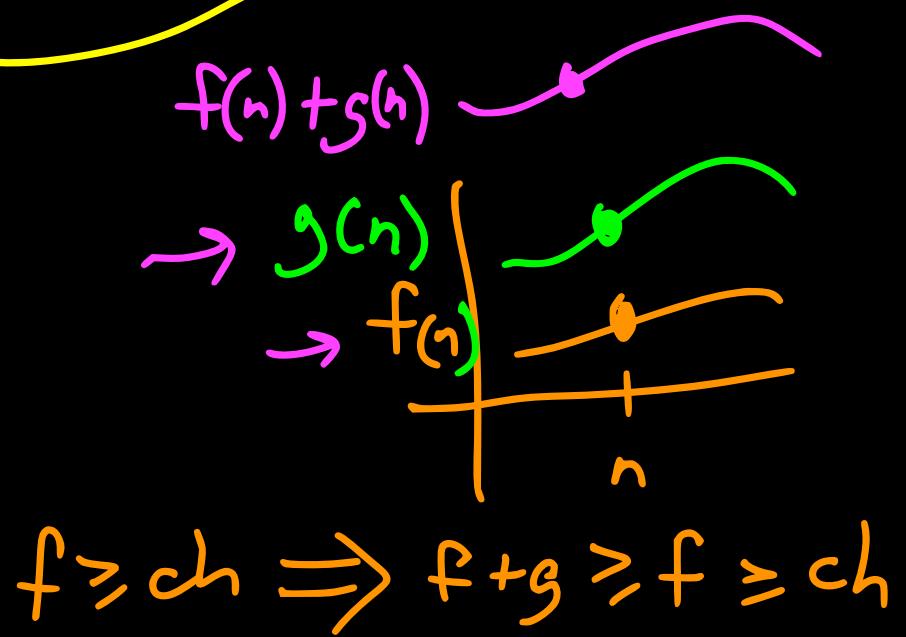
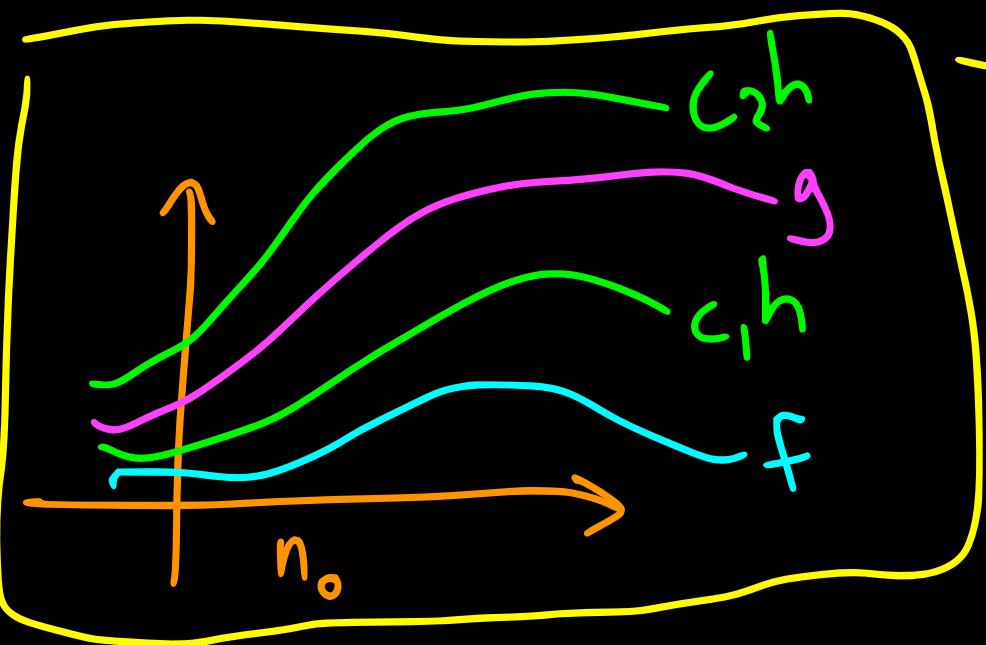
Definition 5.7. Let $f, g : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{\geq 0}$. We can define the **sum** of f and g as the function $f + g : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{\geq 0}$ such that

$$\forall n \in \mathbb{N}, (f + g)(n) = \underline{f(n)} + g(n).$$

Theorem 5.5. For all $f, g, h : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{\geq 0}$, the following hold:

1. If $f \in \mathcal{O}(h)$ and $g \in \mathcal{O}(h)$, then $f + g \in \mathcal{O}(h)$.
2. If $f \in \Omega(h)$, then $f + g \in \Omega(h)$.
3. If $f \in \Theta(h)$ and $g \in \mathcal{O}(h)$, then $f + g \in \Theta(h)$.

$$\begin{aligned} f &\leq c_1 h, \quad g \leq c_2 h \\ f + g &\leq c_1 h + c_2 h \\ &= (c_1 + c_2) h \end{aligned}$$



Example: $g \in \mathcal{O}(f) \implies f+g \in \Theta(f)$ ↪





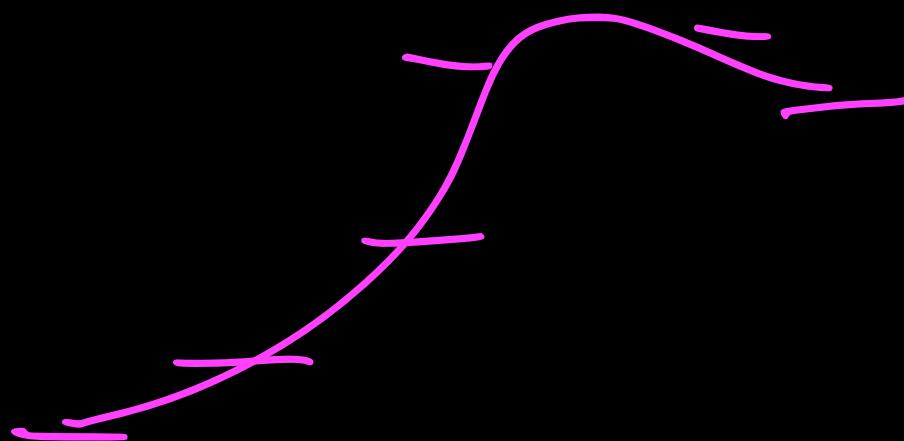
Properties of Elementary Functions

Theorem 5.6. For all $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{\geq 0}$ and all $a \in \mathbb{R}^+$, $a \cdot f \in \Theta(f)$. 

 **Theorem 5.7.** For all $f_1, f_2, g_1, g_2 : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{\geq 0}$, if $\underline{g_1 \in \mathcal{O}(f_1)}$ and $\underline{g_2 \in \mathcal{O}(f_2)}$, then $\underline{(g_1 \cdot g_2) \in \mathcal{O}(f_1 \cdot f_2)}$. Moreover, the statement is still true if you replace Big-O with Omega, or if you replace Big-O with Theta.

Theorem 5.8. For all $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{\geq 0}$, if $f(n)$ is eventually greater than or equal to 1, then $\lfloor f \rfloor \in \Theta(f)$ and $\lceil f \rceil \in \Theta(f)$. 

$$(a \geq c) \wedge (b \geq d) \Rightarrow (ab \geq cd)$$



Example: $\forall a \in \mathbb{R}, af \in \Theta(f)$ ↪

Moral of the story:

1. “Ignore lower order terms”
2. “Ignore constant factors”