## **Big O Basic Concepts:**

- O(1): Constant Time
  - Doesn't depend on the size of the data set.
  - Example: Accessing an array element by its index.
- O(log n): Logarithmic Time
  - Splits the data in each step (divide and conquer).
  - Example: Binary search.
- O(n): Linear Time
  - Directly proportional to the data set size.
  - Example: Looping through an array.
- O(n log n): Linearithmic Time
  - Splits and sorts or searches data.
  - Example: Merge sort, quick sort.
- O(n²): Polynomial Time
  - Nested loops for each power of n.
  - Example: Bubble sort (O(n²)).

### Omega $(\Omega)$ – Best Case

- What it means: Omega  $(\Omega)$  describes the best-case scenario for an algorithm.
- **In simple terms:** It tells you the fastest an algorithm can run in the best circumstances.

### Theta (O) - Average Case

• In simple terms: It tells you what to generally expect in terms of time complexity.

### Big O (O) - Worst Case

- What it means: Big O (O) describes the worst-case scenario for an algorithm.
- **In simple terms:** It tells you the slowest an algorithm can run in the worst circumstances.

# **Useful Tips**

- Drop Non-Dominant Terms
  - In  $O(n^2 + n)$ , focus on  $O(n^2)$  as it will dominate for large n.
- Drop Constants
  - O(2n) simplifies to O(n).