

Asymptotic Upper/Lower/Tight Bound of Running Time

- Proof by Definition

Example 1 (Ex. 1.3.): Prove $20n^3 + 10n \log n + 5 = O(n^3)$.

Proof) Assume that the base of $\log = 2$.

Show that $20n^3 + 10n \log n + 5 \leq c \cdot n^3$ for a positive constant c and for any $n \geq n_0$.

1) Let's choose a reasonable value of positive constant c .

Since $20n^3 + 10n \log n + 5$ is an increasing function, $20 \cdot 1^3 + 10 \cdot \log 1 + 5 = 25 \leq c \cdot 1^3$ for $n = 1$.

For $n=2$, $20 \cdot 2^3 + 10 \cdot 2 \log 2 + 5 \leq c \cdot 2^3 \Leftrightarrow 25 \leq (c - 20) \cdot 2^3 \Leftrightarrow 25/8 \leq (c - 20) \Leftrightarrow 23.125 \leq c$

As n increases, the lower bound value of c decreases.

So, it's reasonable to choose $c = 25$.

2) Now, let's show that $20n^3 + 10n \log n + 5 \leq 25 \cdot n^3$ for $n \geq n_0$

$$20n^3 + 10n \log n + 5 \leq 25 \cdot n^3 \Leftrightarrow 10n \log n + 5 \leq 5n^3$$

For $n=1$, $10 \cdot 2 \log 1 + 5 \leq 5 \cdot 1^3 \Leftrightarrow 5 \leq 5$.

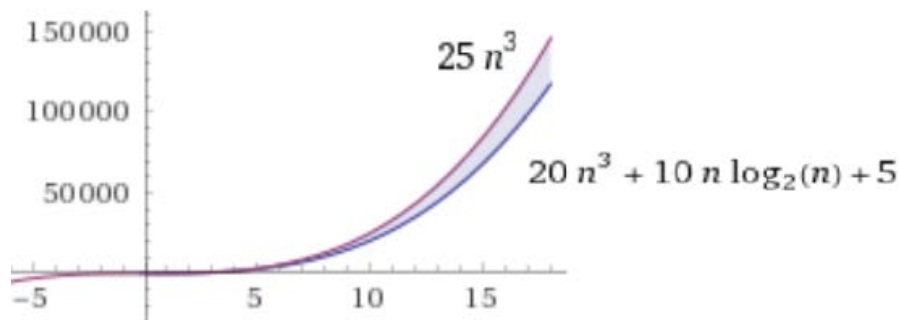
For $n=2$, $10 \cdot 2 \log 2 + 5 \leq 5 \cdot 2^3 \Leftrightarrow 25 \leq 5 \cdot 2^3 \Leftrightarrow 25 \leq 40$.

Similarly, for any $n \geq 3, 2, 1$, $20n^3 + 10n \log n + 5 \leq 25 \cdot n^3$

Thus, there exists a positive constant $c = 25$ and $n_0 = 1$ such that

$$20n^3 + 10n \log n + 5 \leq c \cdot n^3 \text{ for any } n \geq n_0.$$

Therefore, $20n^3 + 10n \log n + 5 = O(n^3)$.



Alternative Proof)

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{20n^3 + 10n \log n + 5}{n^3} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{60n^2 + 10n \cdot \frac{1}{n} + 10 \log n}{3n^2} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{120n + \frac{10}{n}}{6n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{120}{6} = 20 \text{ is a constant.}$$

$\uparrow \qquad \qquad \qquad \uparrow \qquad \qquad \qquad \uparrow$
 by L'Hôpital's rule.

Therefore, $20n^3 + 10n \log n + 5 = O(n^3)$.

Example 2: Prove $3n^2 - 3n + 1 = O(n^3)$

Proof)

Show that $3n^2 - 3n + 1 \leq c \cdot n^3$ for any $n \geq n_0$ for a positive constant c and for any $n \geq n_0$.

Let us find the positive constants c and n_0 such that $f(n) \leq cn^3$ for $n \geq n_0$.

1) Since $-3n + 1$ is a decreasing function, let's choose $c = 3$.

Then, $3n^2 - 3n + 1 \leq 3n^3 \Leftrightarrow 1 \leq 3n \Leftrightarrow 1/3 \leq n$.

2) From 1), $3n^2 - 3n + 1 \leq 3n^3$ for any $n \geq n_0 = 1$. As the graph show below, $3n^2 - 3n + 1 \leq 3n^3$ for any $n \geq 1$.

Thus, there exists a positive constant $c = 3$ and $n_0 = 1$ such that

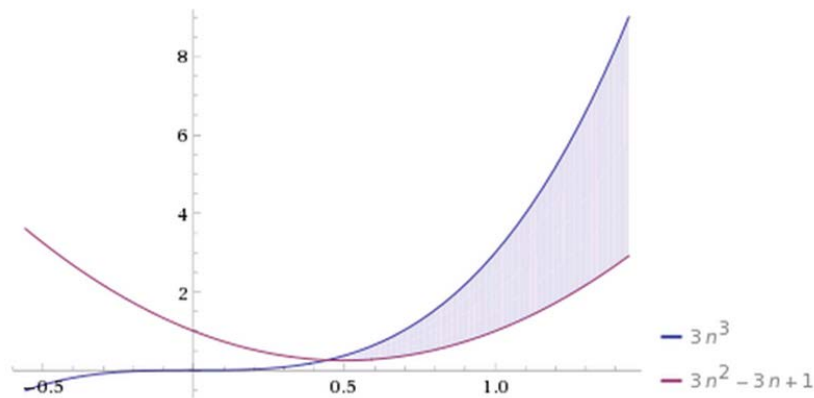
$$3n^2 - 3n + 1 \leq c \cdot n^3 \text{ for any } n \geq n_0.$$

Therefore, $3n^2 - 3n + 1 = O(n^3)$.

Input:

$$3n^3 \geq 3n^2 - 3n + 1$$

Inequality plot:



Alternative Proof)

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3n^2 - 3n + 1}{n^3} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{6n - 3}{3n^2} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{6}{6n} = 0 \text{ is a constant.}$$

Therefore, $3n^2 - 3n + 1 = O(n^3)$. Note that $3n^2 - 3n + 1 = o(n^3)$.

Example 3 (Ex. 1.4): Prove $3 \log n + \log \log n = O(\log n)$

Proof) Show that $3 \log n + \log \log n \leq c \cdot \log n$ for any $n \geq n_0$ for $c > 0$ and for any $n \geq n_0$.
Let us find the positive constants c and n_0 such that $f(n) 3 \log n + \log \log n \leq c \log n$ for $n \geq n_0$.

1) Since $\log n < n$ for any $n \geq 1$, $\log \log n < \log n$ for any $n \geq 1$ after applying log function to both side. Then, $3 \log n + \log \log n < 3 \log n + \log n = 4 \log n$.

So, let's choose $c = 4$

2) From 1), $3 \log n + \log \log n \leq 4 \log n$ for any $n \geq n_0 = 1$.

Thus, there exists a positive constant $c = 3$ and $n_0 = 1$ such that

$$3 \log n + \log \log n \leq c \cdot \log n \text{ for any } n \geq n_0 \text{ for } c > 0 \text{ and for any } n \geq n_0.$$

Therefore, $3 \log n + \log \log n = O(\log n)$

Alternative Proof)

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3 \log n + \log \log n}{\log n} = 3 \text{ is a constant.}$$

Therefore, $5n \log n + 2n = \Omega(n \log n)$

Example 4 (Ex. 1.5): Prove $2^{100} = O(1)$

Proof) Show that $2^{100} \leq c \cdot 1$ for any $n \geq n_0$ for $c > 0$ and for any $n \geq n_0$.

Let us find the positive constants c and n_0 such that $2^{100} \leq c \cdot 1$ for $n \geq n_0$.

1) Since 2^{100} is a fixed constant value, let's choose $c = 2^{101}$. Then, $2^{100} \leq 2^{101} \cdot 1$.

2) From 1), $2^{100} \leq 2^{101} \cdot 1$ regardless n or for any $n \geq n_0 = 1$.

Thus, there exists a positive constant $c = 2^{101}$ and $n_0 = 1$ such that

$$2^{100} \leq c \cdot 1 \text{ for } c > 0 \text{ and for any } n \geq n_0.$$

Therefore, $2^{100} = O(1)$

Alternative Proof) $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2^{100}}{1} = 2^{100}$ is a constant.

So, $2^{100} = O(1)$

Example 5 (Ex. 1.8): Prove $2n^3 + 4n^2 \log n = O(n^3)$

Proof) Assume that the base of log is 2.

Let's prove it using the properties of big-Oh in Theorem 1.7.

$\log n = O(n)$ since $n > \log n$ for any $n > 0$.

Since $4n^2 \log n = 4n^2 \times \log n$, $4n^2 \log n = O(n^2)O(n) = O(n^3)$ by Rule 3 in Thm. 1.7

Since $2n^3 = O(n^3)$, $2n^3 + 4n^2 \log n = O(n^3) + O(n^3) = \max(O(n^3), O(n^3)) = O(n^3)$.

Therefore, $2n^3 + 4n^2 \log n = O(n^3)$.

Example 6 (Ex. 1.6'): Prove $5n \log n + 2n = \Omega(n \log n)$

Proof) Assume that the base of log is 2.

Show that $5n \log n + 2n \geq c \cdot n \log n$ for any $n \geq n_0$ for $c > 0$ and for any $n \geq n_0$.

Let us find the positive constants c and n_0 such that $5n \log n + 2n \geq c \cdot n \log n$ for $n \geq n_0$.

1) Since $5n \log n + 2n$ is an increasing function and $5n \log n \geq n \log n$ for any n it's reasonable to choose $c = 1$. Then, $5n \log n + 2n \geq n \log n$ for any n .

2) From 1), $5n \log n + 2n \geq n \log n$ for any $n \geq n_0 = 1$.

Thus, there exists a positive constant $c = 1$ and $n_0 = 1$ such that

$$5n \log n + 2n \geq n \log n \text{ for } c > 0 \text{ and for any } n \geq n_0.$$

Therefore, $5n \log n + 2n = \Omega(n \log n)$

Alternative Proof

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n \log n}{5n \log n + 2n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^{\frac{1}{n} + \log n}}{5n^{\frac{1}{n} + 5 \log n + 2}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1 + \log n}{7 + 5 \log n} = \frac{1/n}{5/n} = \frac{1}{5} \text{ is a constant.}$$

Therefore, $5n \log n + 2n = \Omega(n \log n)$

Example 7 (Ex. 1.6''): Prove that $5n \log n + 2n = \Theta(n \log n)$.

Proof) Assume that the base of log is 2.

Prove it both for $5n \log n + 2n = O(n \log n)$ and for $5n \log n + 2n = \Omega(n \log n)$.

Since $5n \log n + 2n = \Omega(n \log n)$ was proven above, let's prove $5n \log n + 2n = O(n \log n)$.

Show that $5n \log n + 2n \leq c \cdot n \log n$ for any $n \geq n_0$ for $c > 0$ and for any $n \geq n_0$.

Let us find the positive constants c and n_0 such that $5n \log n + 2n \leq c \cdot n \log n$ for $n \geq n_0$.

1) To decide c :

$$\text{When } n=2, 5n \log n + 2n \leq c \cdot n \log n \Leftrightarrow 5 \cdot 2 \log 2 + 2 \cdot 2 \leq c \cdot 2 \cdot \log 2 \Leftrightarrow 14 \leq 2c \Leftrightarrow 7 \leq c.$$

$$\text{When } n=4, 5n \log n + 2n \leq c \cdot n \log n \Leftrightarrow 5 \cdot 4 \log 4 + 2 \cdot 4 \leq c \cdot 4 \cdot \log 4 \Leftrightarrow 48 \leq 8c \Leftrightarrow 6 \leq c.$$

etc.

So, it's reasonable to choose $c = 7$. Then, $5n \log n + 2n \leq 7n \log n$ for any n .

2) From 1), $5n \log n + 2n \leq 7n \log n \Leftrightarrow 2n \leq 2n \log n \Leftrightarrow 1 \leq \log n$ for any $n \geq n_0 = 2$.

Thus, there exists a positive constant $c = 7$ and $n_0 = 2$ such that

$$5n \log n + 2n \leq 7n \log n \text{ for } c > 0 \text{ and for any } n \geq n_0.$$

Hence, $5n \log n + 2n = O(n \log n)$.

Since both $5n \log n + 2n = O(n \log n)$ and $5n \log n + 2n = \Omega(n \log n)$,

$$n \log n \leq 5n \log n + 2n \leq 7n \log n \quad \text{for } c_1 = 1 \text{ and } c_2 = 7 \text{ for any } n \geq n_0 = 2.$$

$$5n \log n + 2n = \Theta(n \log n). \quad \text{Q.E.D.}$$