

Examples of Analysis of Loops

In the notes below, we will analyze the runtime of functions written in pseudocode.

1.

```
Func1( $n$ )
1  $x \leftarrow 0$ ;
2 for  $i \leftarrow 1$  to  $n$  do
3    $x \leftarrow x + i$ ;
4    $x \leftarrow x - 1$ ;
5 end
6 return ( $x$ );
```

In example 1, lines 1, 3, 4, and 6 take constant time. Since what we are really interested in is the runtime for very large values of n , we'll ignore the execution time for lines 1 and 6, since each will only execute once regardless of the value of n . Each pass through the for-loop takes constant time c . Since the for-loop executes n times in total, the total execution time is cn . Therefore, the function is $\Theta(n)$.

We will find it helpful to use summation notation to analyze more complicated functions with nested loops. Here is how we would use a summation to analyze the function above:

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

2.

```
Func2( $n$ )
1  $x \leftarrow 0$ ;
2 for  $i \leftarrow 1$  to  $n$  do
3   for  $j \leftarrow 1$  to  $n$  do
4      $x \leftarrow x + (i - j)$ ;
5   end
6 end
7 return ( $x$ );
```

Line 4 takes constant time c . Thus we can model this function as follows. Note that the inner summation represents the inner for-loop and the outer summation represents the outer for-loop.

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

We will simplify the nested summation below by starting with the inner summation.

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

3.

```

Func3(n)
1  x ← 0;
2  for i ← 6 to n do
3    for j ← 1 to 2n do
4      | x ← x + (i - j);
5    end
6  end
7  return (x);

```

Analysis:

$$\sum_{i=6}^n \sum_{j=1}^{2n} c = \sum_{i=6}^n 2nc = (n-5)2nc = \Theta(n^2)$$

4.

```

Func4(n)
1  x ← 0;
2  for i ← 1 to n do
3    for j ← 1 to i do
4      | x ← x + (i - j);
5    end
6  end
7  return (x);

```

Analysis:

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^i c = \sum_{i=1}^n ci = c \sum_{i=1}^n i = c \frac{n(n+1)}{2} = \Theta(n^2)$$

5.

```

Func5(n)
1  x ← 0;
2  for i ← 1 to n do
3    for j ← 1 to ⌊√n⌋ do
4      | x ← x + (i - j);
5    end
6  end
7  return (x);

```

Analysis:

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^{\lfloor \sqrt{n} \rfloor} c = \sum_{i=1}^n c \lfloor \sqrt{n} \rfloor = cn \lfloor \sqrt{n} \rfloor \approx cn \times n^{1/2} = \Theta(n^{3/2})$$

6.

```

Func6(n)
1  x ← 0;
2  for i ← 1 to n do
3      for j ← 1 to ⌊√i⌋ do
4          x ← x + (i - j);
5      end
6  end
7  return (x);

```

Analysis:

The running time is:

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^{\lfloor \sqrt{i} \rfloor} c = \sum_{i=1}^n c \lfloor \sqrt{i} \rfloor \approx \sum_{i=1}^n c \sqrt{i} = c \sum_{i=1}^n \sqrt{i}$$

We will analyze $\sum_{i=1}^n \sqrt{i}$ by using upper and lower bounds:

We will first find an upper bound. Since the root function is increasing,

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \sqrt{i} = \sqrt{1} + \sqrt{2} + \sqrt{3} + \cdots + \sqrt{n} \quad (1)$$

$$< \underbrace{\sqrt{n} + \sqrt{n} + \sqrt{n} + \cdots + \sqrt{n}}_{n \text{ terms}} \quad (2)$$

$$= n\sqrt{n} \quad (3)$$

Therefore $c_1 n\sqrt{n}$ is an upper bound on the summation.

Next, we will find a lower bound, we will do this by throwing away the lower half of the terms, and then decreasing the argument of each term to $\frac{n}{2}$.

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \sqrt{i} = \sqrt{1} + \sqrt{2} + \sqrt{3} + \cdots + \sqrt{n} \quad (4)$$

$$> \underbrace{\sqrt{\frac{n}{2}} + 1 + \sqrt{\frac{n}{2}} + 2 + \cdots + \sqrt{n}}_{\frac{n}{2} \text{ terms}} \quad (5)$$

$$> \underbrace{\sqrt{\frac{n}{2}} + \sqrt{\frac{n}{2}} + \sqrt{\frac{n}{2}} + \cdots + \sqrt{\frac{n}{2}}}_{\frac{n}{2} \text{ terms}} \quad (6)$$

$$= \frac{n}{2} \sqrt{\frac{n}{2}} \quad (7)$$

$$= \frac{n}{2\sqrt{2}} \sqrt{n} \quad (8)$$

Therefore: Therefore $c_2 n\sqrt{n}$ is lower bound on the summation.

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

7.

```
Func7( $n$ )  
1  $x \leftarrow 0$ ;  
2  $i \leftarrow 1$ ;  
3 while ( $i < n$ ) do  
4   |  $x \leftarrow 2x$ ;  
5   |  $i \leftarrow i + 1$ ;  
6 end  
7 return ( $x$ );
```

Analysis: The while-loop executes n times, doing constant work each time, so the runtime is $\Theta(n)$.

8.

```
Func8( $n$ )  
1  $x \leftarrow 0$ ;  
2  $i \leftarrow 8$ ;  
3 while ( $i < n$ ) do  
4   |  $x \leftarrow 2x$ ;  
5   |  $i \leftarrow i + 1$ ;  
6 end  
7 return ( $x$ );
```

Analysis: Analysis: The while-loop executes $n - 7$ times, doing constant work each time, so the runtime is $\Theta(n)$.

Note that starting the loop at a constant other than 1 doesn't change the asymptotic runtime.

9.

```

Func9(n)
1 x ← 0;
2 i ← 1;
3 while (i < n) do
4   | x ← 2x;
5   | i ← i + 3;
6 end
7 return (x);

```

Analysis: Now we are incrementing i by 3 each time through the loop, so the loop should iterate about a third as many times as it did in the previous problem. We can see this by creating a table:

Iteration Number	value of i
0	1
1	$1 + 3$
2	$1 + 3*2$
3	$1 + 3 * 3$
...	...
k	$1 + 3 * k$

The loop will terminate when the value of i (which is $1 + 3k$) is greater than n . That is:

$$1 + 3k > n$$

Solving for k , this is when $k > \frac{n-1}{3}$, so the loop terminates when k is about $\frac{n}{3}$. In other words there are about $\frac{n}{3}$ iterations of the loop. Each iteration takes constant time c , so the total time is about $\frac{n}{3}c$, which is $\Theta(n)$.

10.

```

Func10(n)
1 x ← 0;
2 i ← 1;
3 while (i < n) do
4   | x ← 2x;
5   | i ← 2i;
6 end
7 return (x);

```

Analysis: Now we are doubling i each time through the loop. We will use a table again:

Iteration Number	value of i
0	1
1	2
2	2^2
3	2^3
...	...
k	2^k

The loop will terminate when the value of i (which is 2^k) is greater than n . To make the math easier we will solve for when they are equal:

$$2^k = n$$

Solving for k , this is when $k \approx \log_2(n)$, so now the loop terminates after about $\log_2(n)$ iterations. Since constant work is done in each iteration the runtime is now $\Theta(\log_2(n))$.

11.

```

Func11( $n$ )
1  $x \leftarrow 0$ ;
2  $i \leftarrow 42$ ;
3 while ( $i < n$ ) do
4    $x \leftarrow 2x$ ;
5    $i \leftarrow 3i$ ;
6 end
7 return ( $x$ );

```

Analysis:

Iteration Number	value of i
0	42
1	42×3
2	42×3^2
3	42×3^3
\dots	\dots
k	42×3^k

The loop will terminate when the value of i (which is 42×3^k) is greater than n . To make the math easier we will solve for when they are equal:

$$42 * 3^k = n$$

Solving for k , this is when $k = \log_3(\frac{n}{42})$, . Since constant work is done in each iteration the runtime is $\Theta(\log_3(n))$.

Give the asymptotic running time of each the following functions in Θ notation. Justify your answer. (Show your work.)

1.

```

  Func1(n)
  1 s ← 0;
  2 for i ← 3 to n2 do
  3   | for j ← 7 to 2i⌊log5(i)⌋ do
  4   |   | s ← s + i - j;
  5   | end
  6 end
  7 return (s);

```

Solution:

We can model the running-time $T(n)$ of the two loops with the following summation:

$$T(n) = \sum_{i=3}^{n^2} \sum_{j=7}^{2i \log_5 i} c$$

The inner summation evaluates to $c(2i \log_5(i) - 6)$. The dominant term is $2i \log_5(i)$, so we will evaluate the following summation:

$$\sum_{i=3}^{n^2} 2i \log_5(i)$$

Upper Bound:

$$\sum_{i=3}^{n^2} 2i \log_5(i) \leq \sum_{i=1}^{n^2} 2i \log_5(i) \leq \sum_{i=1}^{n^2} 2n^2 \log_5(n^2) = n^2 \times 2n^2 \log_5(n^2) = 2n^4 \log_5(n^2)$$

Therefore,

$$\sum_{i=3}^{n^2} 2i \log_5(i) = O(n^4 \log(n))$$

Lower Bound:

$$\sum_{i=3}^{n^2} 2i \log_5(i) \geq \sum_{i=n^2/2+1}^{n^2} 2i \log_5(i) \geq \sum_{i=n^2/2+1}^{n^2} 2(n^2/2) \log_5(n^2/2) = (n^2/2) 2(n^2/2) \log_5(n^2/2)$$

Therefore,

$$\sum_{i=3}^{n^2} 2i \log_5(i) = \Omega(n^4 \log(n))$$

Since $T(n) = O(n^4 \log_2(n))$ and $T(n) = \Omega(n^4 \log_2(n))$, we conclude that $T(n) = \Theta(n^4 \log_2(n))$.

2.

```

    Func2(n)
1  s ← 0;
2  for i ← 3 to ⌊√n⌋ do
3      j ← i3;
4      while (j ≥ i) do
5          s ← s + i - j;
6          j ← j - 4;
7      end
8  end
9  return (s);

```

/* Note: Subtraction */

Inner while loop (steps 3-7) iterates $(i^3 - i)/4$ times and takes ci^3 time.

Running time is:

$$T(n) = \sum_{i=3}^{\sqrt{n}} ci^3$$

Upper Bound:

$$\sum_{i=3}^{\sqrt{n}} ci^3 \leq \sum_{i=1}^{\sqrt{n}} c(i)^3 \leq \sum_{i=1}^{\sqrt{n}} c(\sqrt{n})^3 = \sqrt{n}cn^{1.5} = cn^2$$

Therefore,

$$\sum_{i=3}^{\sqrt{n}} ci^3 = O(n^2)$$

Lower Bound:

$$\sum_{i=3}^{\sqrt{n}} ci^3 \geq \sum_{i=\sqrt{n}/2+1}^{\sqrt{n}} c(i)^3 \geq \sum_{i=\sqrt{n}/2+1}^{\sqrt{n}} c(\sqrt{n}/2)^3 = \sqrt{n}/2cn^{1.5}/8$$

Therefore,

$$\sum_{i=3}^{\sqrt{n}} ci^3 = \Omega(n^2)$$

Since $T(n) = O(n^2)$ and $T(n) = \Omega(n^2)$, we conclude that $T(n) = \Theta(n^2)$.

3.

```

    Func3(n)
1  s ← 0;
2  i ← n;
3  while (i < 5n3) do
4      j ← 3n3;
5      while (j > 18) do
6          s ← s + i - j;
7          j ← ⌊j/4⌋ ;
8      end
9      i ← 4 * i ;
10 end
11 return (s);

```

/ Note: Division */*

/ Note: Multiplication */*

Solution:

At the end of the k 'th iteration of the inner while loop (steps 4-8), variable j equals $3n^3/4^k$. Inner while loop terminates when:

$$\begin{aligned}
 3n^3/4^k &= 18, \text{ or} \\
 3n^3/18 &= 4^k, \text{ or} \\
 k &= \log_4(3n^3/18) = 3\log_4(n) + \log_4(3/18).
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus the inner while loop takes $c\log_2(n)$ times for some constant c .

At the end of the k 'th iteration of the outer while loop, variable i equals $n4^k$. Outer while loop terminates when:

$$\begin{aligned}
 n4^k &= 5n^3, \text{ or} \\
 4^k &= 5n^3/n = 5n^2, \text{ or} \\
 k &= \log_4(5n^2) = 2\log_4(n) + \log_4(5).
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus the outer while loop takes $c_2\log_2(n)$ times for some constant c_2 .

Since the running time of the inner while loop does not depend upon the running time of the outer while loop, the total running time is $(c\log_2(n) * c_2\log_2(n)) = \Theta((\log_2(n))^2)$.