

## Arrays (dynamic array/list)

Given `n = arr.length`,

- Add or remove element at the end:  $O(1)$  [amortized](#)
- Add or remove element from arbitrary index:  $O(n)$
- Access or modify element at arbitrary index:  $O(1)$
- Check if element exists:  $O(n)$
- Two pointers:  $O(n \cdot k)$ , where  $k$  is the work done at each iteration, includes sliding window
- Building a prefix sum:  $O(n)$
- Finding the sum of a subarray given a prefix sum:  $O(1)$

## Strings (immutable)

Given `n = s.length`,

- Add or remove character:  $O(n)$
- Access element at arbitrary index:  $O(1)$
- Concatenation between two strings:  $O(n+m)$ , where  $m$  is the length of the other string
- Create substring:  $O(m)$ , where  $m$  is the length of the substring
- Two pointers:  $O(n \cdot k)$ , where  $k$  is the work done at each iteration, includes sliding window
- Building a string from joining an array, string builder, etc.:  $O(n)$

## Linked Lists

Given  $n$  as the number of nodes in the linked list,

- Add or remove element given pointer before add/removal location:  $O(1)$
- Add or remove element given pointer at add/removal location:  $O(1)$  if doubly linked
- Add or remove element at arbitrary position without pointer:  $O(n)$
- Access element at arbitrary position without pointer:  $O(n)$
- Check if element exists:  $O(n)$
- Reverse between position  $i$  and  $j$ :  $O(j-i)$
- Detect a cycle:  $O(n)$  using fast-slow pointers or hash map

## Hash table/dictionary

Given  $n = \text{dic.length}$ ,

- Add or remove key-value pair:  $O(1)$
- Check if key exists:  $O(1)$
- Check if value exists:  $O(n)$
- Access or modify value associated with key:  $O(1)$
- Iterate over all keys, values, or both:  $O(n)$

Note: the  $O(1)$  operations are constant relative to  $n$ . In reality, the hashing algorithm might be expensive. For example, if your keys are strings, then it will cost  $O(m)$  where  $m$  is the length of the string. The operations only take constant time relative to the size of the hash map.

## Set

Given  $n = \text{set.length}$ ,

- Add or remove element:  $O(1)$
- Check if element exists:  $O(1)$

The above note applies here as well.

## Stack

Stack operations are dependent on their implementation. A stack is only required to support pop and push. If implemented with a dynamic array:

Given `n = stack.length`,

- Push element:  $O(1)$
- Pop element:  $O(1)$
- Peek (see element at top of stack):  $O(1)$
- Access or modify element at arbitrary index:  $O(1)$
- Check if element exists:  $O(n)$

## Queue

Queue operations are dependent on their implementation. A queue is only required to support dequeue and enqueue. If implemented with a doubly linked list:

Given `n = queue.length`,

- Enqueue element:  $O(1)$
- Dequeue element:  $O(1)$
- Peek (see element at front of queue):  $O(1)$
- Access or modify element at arbitrary index:  $O(n)$
- Check if element exists:  $O(n)$

Note: most programming languages implement queues in a more sophisticated manner than a simple doubly linked list. Depending on implementation, accessing elements by index may be faster than  $O(n)$ , or  $O(n)$  but with a significant constant divisor.

### Binary tree problems (DFS/BFS)

Given  $n$  as the number of nodes in the tree,

Most algorithms will run in  $O(n \cdot k)$  time, where  $k$  is the work done at each node, usually  $O(1)$ . This is just a general rule and not always the case. We are assuming here that BFS is implemented with an efficient queue.

### Binary search tree

Given  $n$  as the number of nodes in the tree,

- Add or remove element:  $O(n)$  worst case,  $O(\log n)$  average case
- Check if element exists:  $O(n)$  worst case,  $O(\log n)$  average case

The average case is when the tree is well balanced - each depth is close to full. The worst case is when the tree is just a straight line.

### Heap/Priority Queue

Given  $n = \text{heap.length}$  and talking about min heaps,

- Add an element:  $O(\log n)$
- Delete the minimum element:  $O(\log n)$
- Find the minimum element:  $O(1)$
- Check if element exists:  $O(n)$

### Binary search

Binary search runs in  $O(\log n)$  in the worst case, where  $n$  is the size of your initial search space.

## Miscellaneous

- Sorting:  $(n \cdot \log n)$ , where  $n$  is the size of the data being sorted
- DFS and BFS on a graph:  $O(n \cdot k + e)$ , where  $n$  is the number of nodes,  $e$  is the number of edges, if each node is handled in  $O(1)$  other than iterating over edges
- DFS and BFS space complexity: typically  $O(n)$ , but if it's in a graph, might be  $O(n + e)$  to store the graph
- Dynamic programming time complexity:  $O(n \cdot k)$ , where  $n$  is the number of states and  $k$  is the work done at each state
- Dynamic programming space complexity:  $O(n)$ , where  $n$  is the number of states