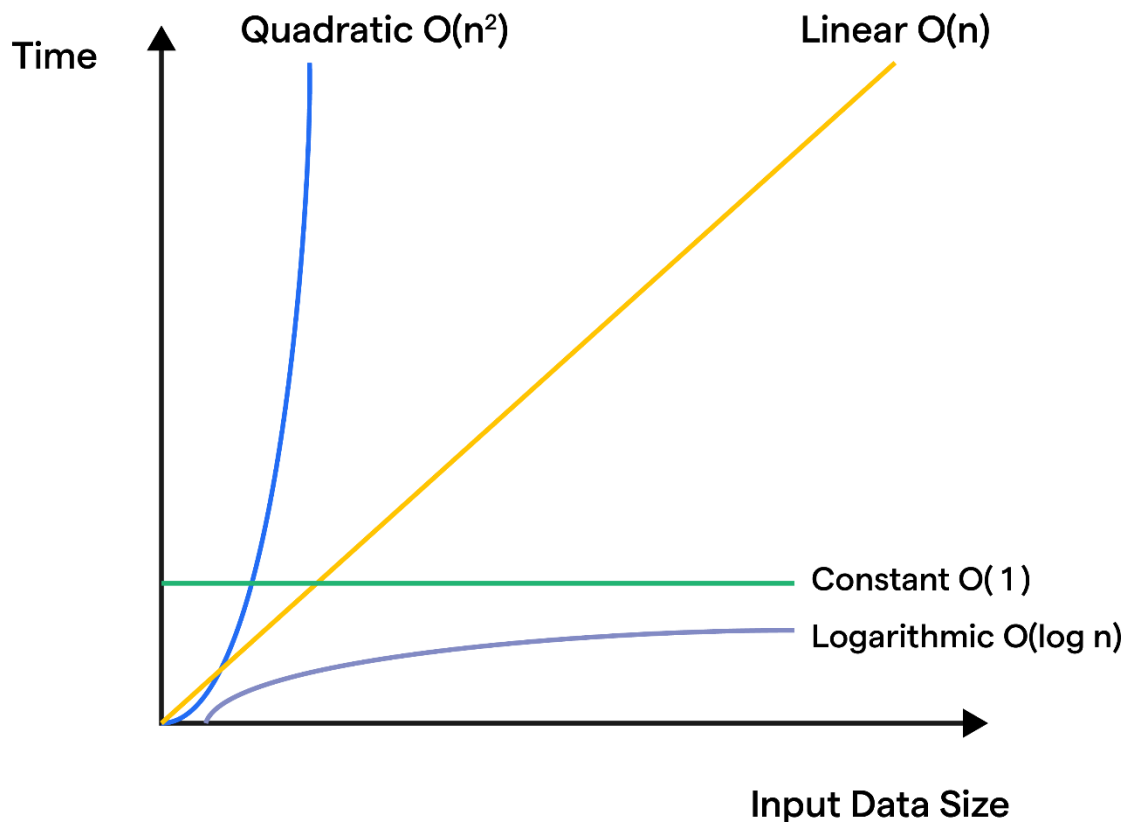


Time Complexity

Time Complexity



🖥️ When a single problem has multiple solutions, we need to analyze the algorithms

- Algorithm analysis helps us to determine the **efficiency** of different solutions in terms of **time** and space required.

- The goal is to identify the most **optimal solution** for a given problem.
-

Types of Algorithm Analysis:

1. Aposteriori Analysis:

- This is the **practical analysis** of an algorithm.
- Dependent on factors like **compiler optimization, processor speed, and data characteristics**.

Example:

- **Measuring runtime using tools like a stopwatch.**

2. **Apriori Analysis:**

- This is the **theoretical analysis** of an algorithm. Focuses on **mathematical estimations**. Independent of system hardware and software.
- Performed **before implementing** the algorithm.
- **Evaluates the algorithm based on input size and computational steps without executing it.**

Example:

- Count how many times a loop runs.
- Count the number of comparisons or assignments.

Asymptotic Notations:

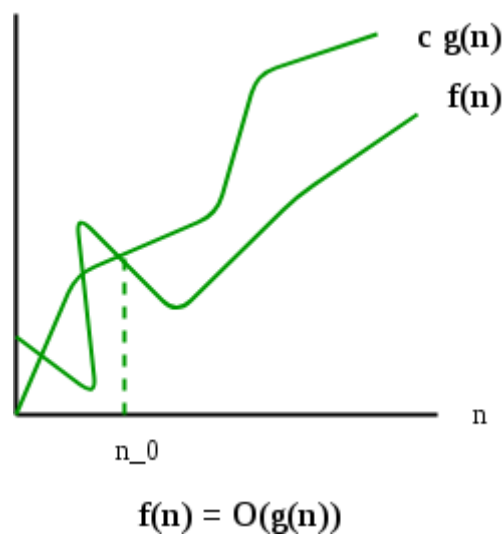
Asymptotic Notations **are mathematical tools used to analyze the performance of algorithms by understanding how their efficiency changes as the input size grows.**

1. Big-O Notation (O):

- Describes the **upper bound** of the time complexity.
- Represents the **worst-case scenario**.
- Example: $O(n)$, $O(n^2)$, $O(\log n)$.

Represents the **maximum time** required for an algorithm.

Example: A loop that runs n times has time complexity $O(n)$.



Mathematical Definition:

$$f(n) = O(g(n))$$

If there **exist positive constants** c and n_0
such that $0 \leq f(n) \leq cg(n)$ for all $n \geq n_0$

Example:

Let $f(n) = 3n + 2$ and $g(n) = n$.

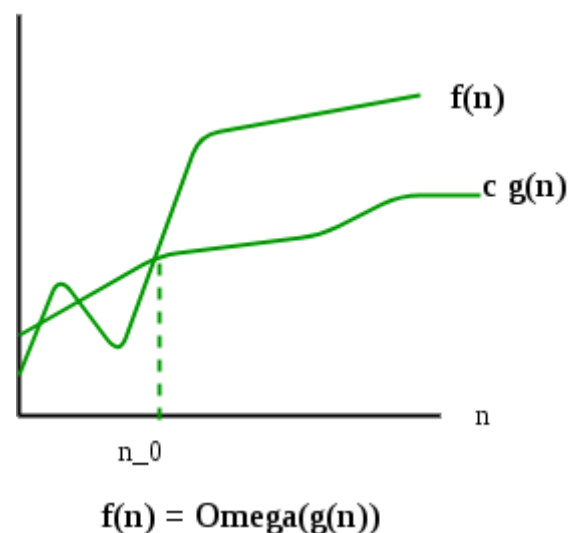
- $f(n) = 3n + 2 \leq 4n$ for $n \geq 2$.
- Here, $c = 4$ and $n_0 = 2$.
- Thus, $f(n) \in O(n)$.



2. Omega (Ω):

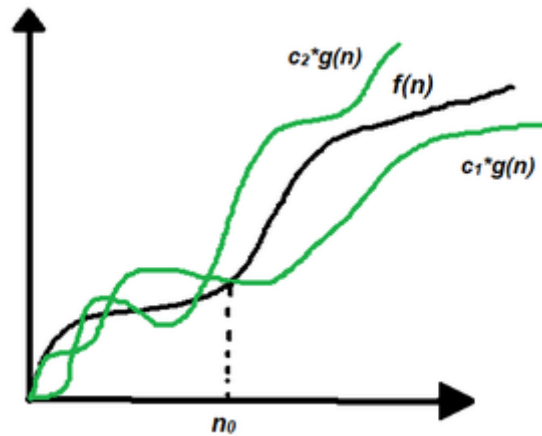
- Describes the **lower bound** of the time complexity.
- Represents the **best-case scenario**.
- **Example:** $\Omega(n)$, $\Omega(\log n)$.

Represents the **minimum time** required for an algorithm.



3. Theta (Θ):

- Describes the **tight bound** of the time complexity.
- Represents the **average-case scenario**.
- **Example:** $\Theta(n)$, $\Theta(\log n)$.



Represents the **average-case time** of an algorithm.

Best, Worst, and Average Cases:

1. Best Case:

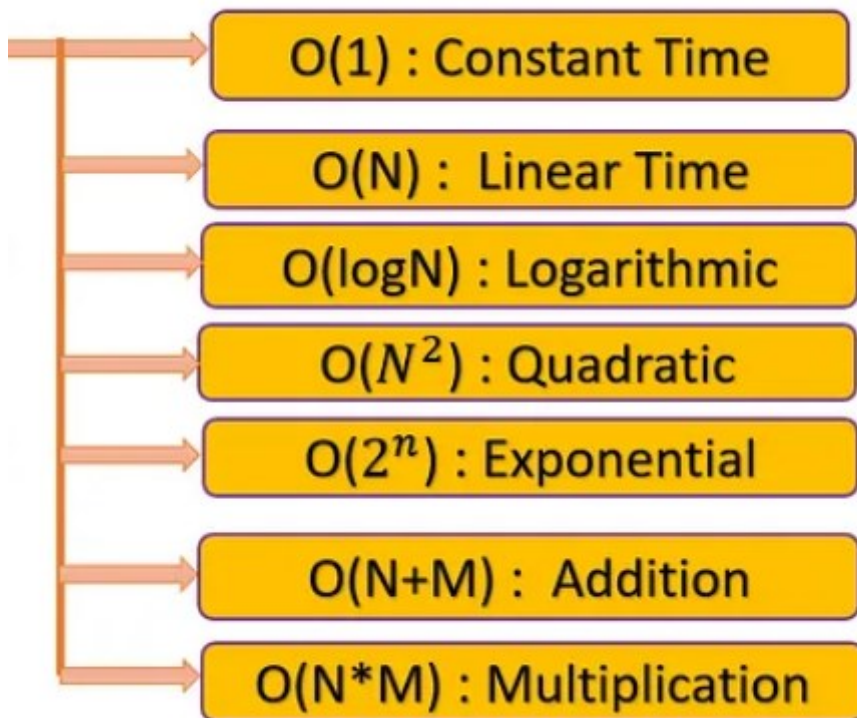
- The scenario where the algorithm performs the **minimum number of operations**.
- Represented using Ω notation.

2. Worst Case:

- The scenario where the algorithm performs the **maximum number of operations**.
- Represented using O notation.

3. Average Case:

- Consider **all possible inputs** the algorithm can handle.
 - Find the **time it takes for the algorithm to complete** for each input.
 - Compute the **average time** across all inputs.
 - Represented using Θ notation.
-



$O(1)$ - Constant Time

- The runtime doesn't depend on the input size.
- **Example:** Accessing an element in an array.

$O(\log n)$ - Logarithmic Time

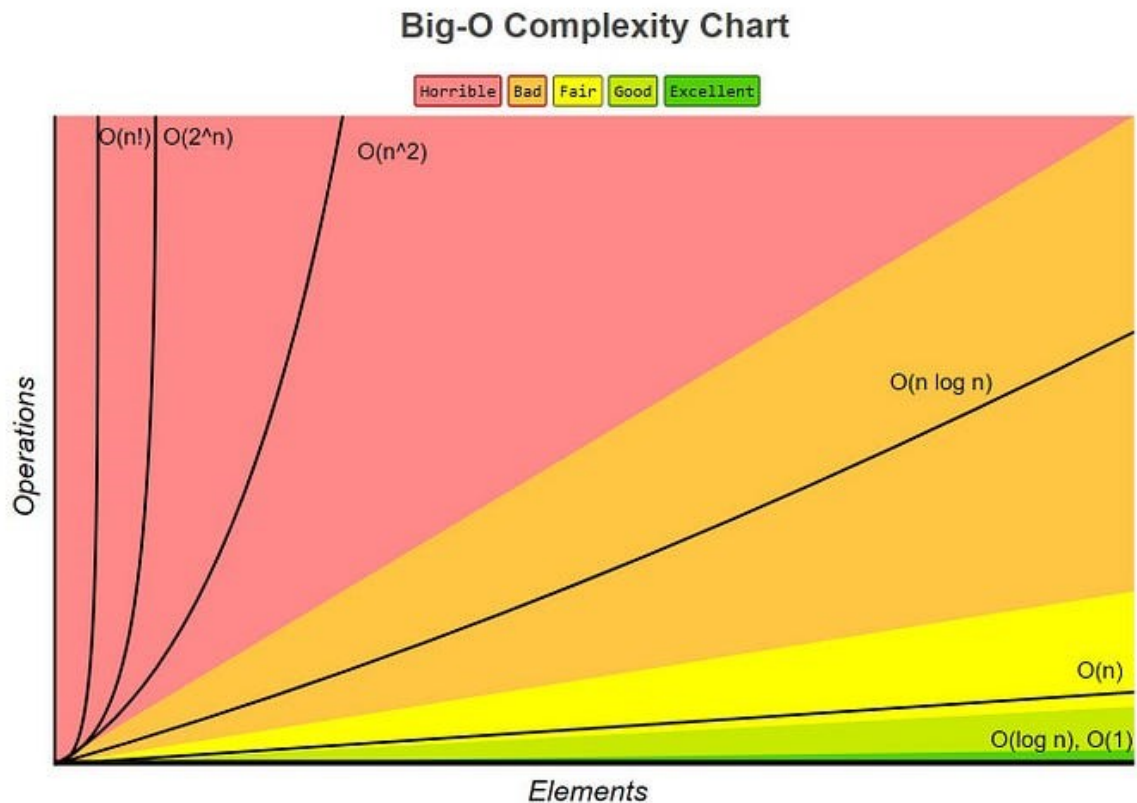
- The runtime grows slowly as input size increases.
- **Example:** Binary search.

$O(\sqrt{n})$ - Square Root Time

- Grows faster than **$O(\log n)$** , but slower than **$O(n)$** .
- **Example:**

$O(n)$ - Linear Time

- Runtime grows directly with input size.
- **Example:** Traversing an array.



$O(n \log n)$ - Linearithmic Time

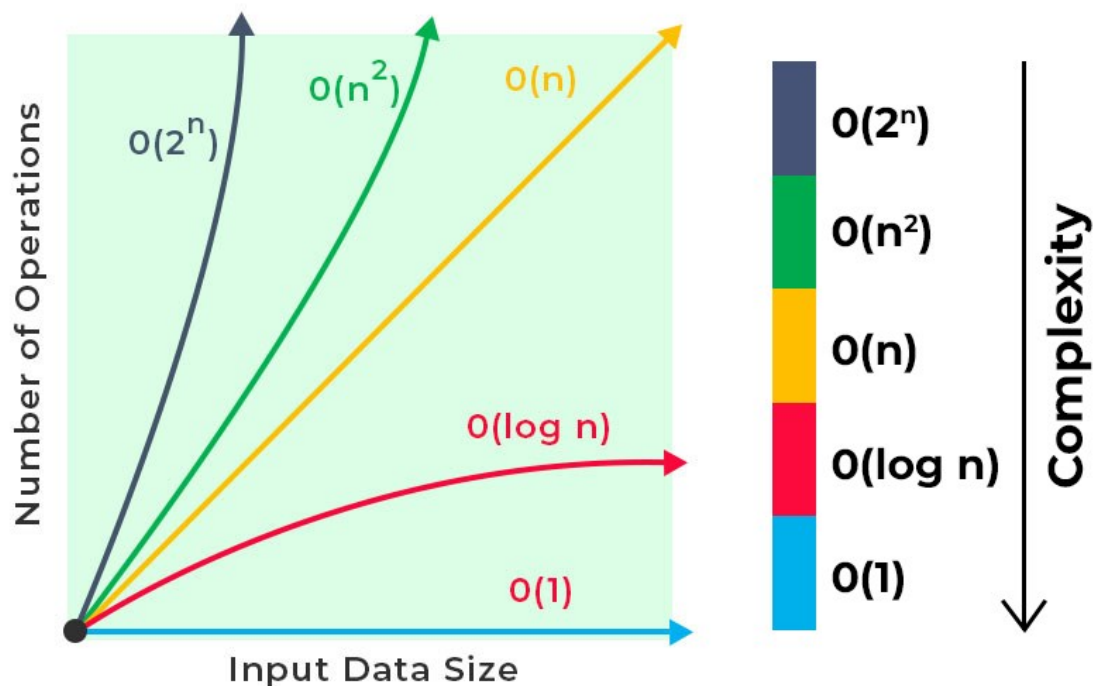
- Common in divide-and-conquer algorithms like Merge Sort or Quick Sort.

$O(n^2)$ - Quadratic Time

- Runtime grows proportional to the square of the input size (nested loops).
- Example: Bubble sort or comparing all pairs in an array.

$O(n^3)$ - Cubic Time

- Runtime grows **proportional to the cube of the input size** (triple nested loops).
- **Example: Matrix multiplication.**



$O(2^n)$ - Exponential Time

- Runtime doubles with each additional input.
- **Example: Solving the Traveling Salesman Problem using brute force.**

$O(n!)$ – Factorial Time

- Runtime grows extremely fast (all possible permutations).
- **Example:** Solving the N-Queens problem using brute force.

Growth Hierarchy (Smallest to Largest):

$O(1) < O(\log n) < O(n) < O(n^2) < O(n \log n) < O(n^3) < O(2^n) < O(n!)$
