

COMPLEXITY AND RECURSION

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COMPLEXITY



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$O()$ ("Big-O") notation—complexity of algorithm in terms of the size of the input

- $O(1)$ will execute in the same time regardless of input size

```
def o_1(input):  
    out = input[0] + 1  
    return out
```

- $O(n)$, the number of operations will grow linearly and in direct proportion to input size

```
def o_n(input):  
    for i in range(input):  
        input[i] += 1  
    return input
```

More Examples

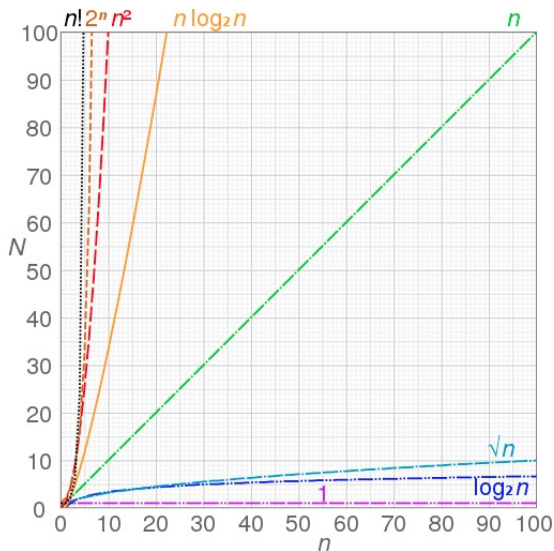
- $O(n^2)$ —growth is proportional to the square of the size of the input

```
def o_nsqr(input):  
    out = []  
    for i in range(input):  
        for j in range(input):  
            out.append(i + j)  
    return out
```

- $O(2^n)$ —growth is exponential, doubling with each addition to the input

```
def fib(input):  
    if input <= 1:  
        return input  
    return fib(input - 1) + fib(input - 2)
```

A Visual



SORTING ALGORITHMS

Insertion Sort

- Start with the element in the second position.
- Insert it to the appropriate position among the numbers to its left.
 - Check whether it is greater than the last element to its left.
 - If not, check the second to last element to its left.
 - ...
- Continue with the element in the third position.

Selection Sort

- Go over the unsorted list to find the minimum and place it as your first element of your sorted list.
- Repeat.

Bubble Sort

- Compare - swap stage
 - Compare the first two elements and swap them if necessary.
 - Compare the second and third elements and swap them if necessary.
 - Repeat until the end of the list.
- If you did any swaps in the first stage, repeat it with the first $n-1$ elements.
- Repeat.

RECURSION

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 - the base case
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- Function calls itself.
- You need to know:
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- The typical example:

$$n! = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } n = 0 \\ (n-1)! \times n & \text{if } n > 0 \end{cases}$$