

Analyzing Algorithms Intro

Proof for Functions

Formal Definition of Big O: $f(n)$ is $O(g(n))$ iff there exist constants $c > 0$ and $n_0 > 1$ such that $f(n) \leq c \cdot g(n)$ for all $n \geq n_0$.

Meaning eventually (at a large input) $f(n)$ won't grow faster than any multiple of $g(n)$, basic the only thing that matters is the order of growth

Prove $3n + 5$ is $O(n)$:

Find C and n_0 such that $f(n) \leq C \cdot g(n)$ for $n \geq n_0$, in this case $g(n) = n$ (the order we're proving is $O(n)$)

$$3n + 5 \leq C \cdot n \text{ for } n \geq n_0$$

$$5 \leq C \cdot n - 3n$$

$$\frac{5}{n} \leq \frac{n(C-3)}{n}$$

$\frac{5}{n} \leq C-3 \rightarrow$ Analyze: since $\frac{5}{n}$ is a rational it will be ≤ 1 for $n=5$, for $C=4$, this inequality will be $\frac{5}{n} \leq 1$ for all $n \geq 5$
 $\therefore C=4, n_0=5$ $\therefore f(n)$ is $O(n)$

Prove $5n^2 + 3n$ is $O(n^2)$

$$5n^2 + 3n \leq C \cdot n^2 \text{ for all } n \geq n_0$$

$$3n \leq C \cdot n^2 - 5n^2$$

$$\frac{3n}{n^2} \leq \frac{n^2(C-5)}{n^2}$$

$$\frac{3}{n} \leq C-5$$

$\frac{3}{n} \leq C-5 \rightarrow$ Analyze: Holds for $n \geq 3$ and $C=6$. $n_0=3, C=6$

Proof for Algorithms

Using Symbolic Constants

Linear Search (L, n, k)

$i = 0$ $//C_1$

While ($i < n$) and ($L[i] \neq k$) $//C_2$

$i = i + 1$

if $i = n$ then return -1 $//C_3$

else return i

Step 1:

Assign symbolic constants to lines that execute in constant time

$i = 0 \rightarrow C_1$ (happens once)

while loop $\rightarrow C_2$ (constant time operations)

if $i = n \rightarrow C_3$ (happens once)

Step 2: count loop iterations for worst case

Worst case: k is not in list

loop conditions: $i < n \wedge L[i] \neq k$

Since k isn't found. Loop will iterate n times

Step 3: Calculate Runtime

$$C_1 = 1 \text{ time}$$

$$C_2 = n \text{ times}$$

$$C_3 = 1 \text{ time}$$

$$\therefore f(n) = C_1 + C_2 \cdot n + C_3$$

$$f(n) = (C_1 + C_3) + C_2 \cdot n$$

Dominant term: n

This algorithm has $O(n)$ runtime

Example 2: Nested Loop

NestedExample(n)

for $i=1$ to n : C_1

for $j=1$ to n : C_2

print(i, j) C_3

The outer loop will run n times

The inner loop will run n times for each time the outer loop runs

Meaning it will run $n \times n = n^2$ times

print executes n^2 times

$\therefore f(n) = n \cdot C_1 + n^2 \cdot C_2 + n^2 \cdot C_3 \rightarrow$ Order of growth is n^2 , algorithm runtime is $O(n^2)$

Example 3:

TriangleLoop(N)

for i=1 to n: C_1 Outer loop runs n times
for j=1 to i: C_2 inner loop runs $1+2+3+\dots+n$ times (1 more time each outer loop)
print(i,j) C_3 print is called $\frac{n(n+1)}{2}$ times

$$f(n) = C_1 \cdot n + C_2 \cdot \frac{n(n+1)}{2} + C_3 \cdot \frac{n(n+1)}{2} \rightarrow \text{This is } O(n^2)$$

Logarithmic Complexity:

BinarySearch(L, n, x)

left = 0
right = n-1

While left ≤ right: C_1
mid = left + right / 2
if L[mid] == x return mid
if L[mid] < x: left = mid + 1
if L[mid] > x: right = mid - 1
return -1

Worst case, x is not in the list

After each iteration, the number of elements will be halved, $n/2$

After 2: $n/4$

After k: $n/2^k$ (2^k = doubling for each iteration)

Let's say after k iterations there is 1 element left $\frac{n}{2^k} = 1$.

$$\begin{aligned} (2^k) \frac{n}{2^k} &= 1 (2^k) \\ &= n = 2^k \\ &= \log_2(n) = k \end{aligned}$$

The value of k (number of loop iterations) is $\log_2(n)$.

$$f(n) = C_1 \log_2(n) \rightarrow O(\log n)$$

Recurrence

Step 1 Define Cost function:

$f(n)$ = number of primitive operations an algorithm does in the worst case for input size n

Using Binary Search example (recursive version)

Worst Case: x not in array

Base case for recursion: when search area is empty: if first > last return 1

Write this as $f(0) = C_1$ (when $n=0$, a constant C_1 amount of work occurs)

Step 2 Cost when $n > 0$

When search space isn't empty the algorithm:

1. compute mid
2. perform array comparisons
3. call recursion on half the array

This is all constant work. Call it all C_2

→ This represents a recursive call where the input is halved. (Using $n-1$ here for precision, compared to the previous proof)

$$f(n) = C_2 + f((n-1)/2) \text{ for } n > 0$$

Step 3 Unroll

Substitute it into itself

$$f(n) = C_2 + f\left(\frac{n-1}{2}\right) \quad \text{replace } n \text{ with } \frac{n-1}{2}$$

$$f\left(\frac{n-1}{2}\right) = C_2 + C_2 + f\left(\frac{(n-1)/2 - 1}{2}\right) \quad \text{Each substitution represents a recursive call using } C_2 \text{ amount of constant work, so add } C_2 \text{ each time}$$

Combine constants and simplify

$$f\left(\frac{n-1}{2}\right) = 2C_2 + f\left(\frac{n-1-2}{2^2}\right) \quad \left(\frac{(n-1-2)}{2^2}\right) - 1 \Rightarrow \frac{(n-1-2-2^2)}{2^2} \Rightarrow \frac{(n-1-2-2^2)}{2^3}$$

Substitute Again

$$f\left(\frac{n-1-2}{2^2}\right) = 2C_2 + C_2 + f\left(\frac{(n-1-2-2^2)}{2^3}\right)$$

$$f\left(\frac{n-1-2}{2^2}\right) = 3C_2 + f\left(\frac{n-1-2-2^2}{2^3}\right)$$

$$\hookrightarrow \text{Identify Pattern: } f\left(\frac{n-2^0-2^1-2^2}{2^3}\right) \text{ After 3 Subs}$$

$$\rightarrow \text{Simplify geometric series: } 1 + 2 + 2^2 + 2^3 + \dots + 2^{k-1}$$

$$\text{Common ratio: } r = \frac{2}{1} = 2 \\ \text{first term: } a = 1$$

$$\text{Use } a \cdot \frac{r^k - 1}{r - 1}$$

$$\text{Derive formula for sum: } S = 1 + 2 + 2^2 + 2^3 + \dots + 2^{k-1}$$

$$\text{Multiply both sides by } r: 2S = 2 + 2^2 + 2^3 + \dots + 2^{k-1}$$

$$\text{Subtract } 2S - S: (2 + 2^2 + 2^3 + \dots + 2^k) - (1 + 2 + 2^2 + 2^3 + \dots + 2^{k-1})$$

$$\text{Every term cancels except: } 2^k - 1$$

$$\therefore f(k) = kC_2 + f\left(\frac{n - (2^k - 1)}{2^k}\right)$$

Recursion stops in worst case when search space ≤ 1

$$(2^k) \frac{n - (2^k - 1)}{2^k} \leq 1 \quad (2^k)$$

$$= n - (2^k - 1) \leq 2^k$$

$$= n - 2^k + 1 \leq 2^k$$

$$= n + 1 \leq 2^k + 2^k$$

$$= n + 1 \leq 2^{k+1}$$

$$= \log_2(n+1) \leq k+1$$

$$= \log_2(n+1) - 1 \leq k$$

$$k = \log_2(n+1) - 1 \rightarrow \text{disregard constants}$$

$$k = \log(n)$$

$\therefore k$ is the point where recursion ends, thus the worst case run time of this algorithm is $O(\log n)$