



CSCI203 - Algorithms and Data Structures

Introduction to Algorithms

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Learning Outcome:

By the end of this lecture, you will be able to:

- Describe what an algorithm is;
- Explain what is an algorithm analysis;
- Perform algorithm analysis to determine the running-time complexity of an algorithm;
- Clarify some important mathematical functions commonly used in algorithm running-time complexity.

Algorithm and Data Structure Introduction



- One of the objective of this module is to learn about the analysis of algorithm. This analysis will enable you to select the best algorithm to perform a given task.
- Algorithms can be analysed in terms of the following aspects:
 - The correctness, that is, whether the algorithm performs a specification task according to a given specification.
 - The ease of understanding; in other words, the objective of what the algorithm is to perform is well defined. The input and output are well specified.

- When executed, algorithms use processing and memory resources; they might also need bandwidth.
- Algorithms that perform their tasks correctly with the lowest resources consumption are naturally better candidates than those requiring more resources.

- In this module, we will focus on the computational resource consumption of algorithms. In particular, we will focus on processing and memory resources.
- Processing requirements are usually measured in terms of the number of operations the central processing unit must carry out to execute the algorithm.
- The number of operations is important because the lower the number of operations the faster the algorithm is going to be executed.

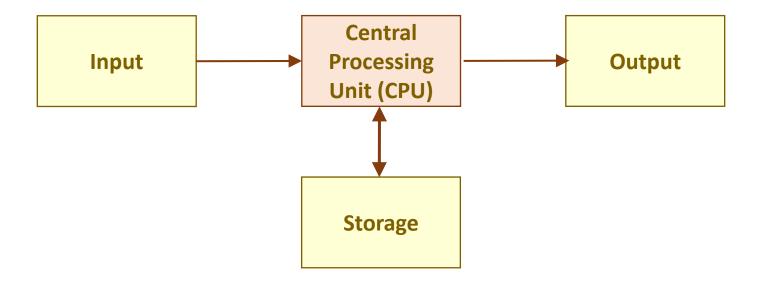
- Memory requirements are measured in terms of the number of memory positions required by the algorithms during its execution.
- Memory is also relevant because we have to make sure our algorithm requires an amount of memory that is well under the capacity of current computers.

A Simple RAM model

- Before we discuss how to perform the algorithm analysis, we will first look at a representation of the machine model on which we will be using it to execute our algorithm.
- Random Access Machine model, in short, the RAM model, is a simplified representation of reality of our modern day computer system. The model is simple enough to capture the aspects of the modern day computer that we need to analyse, but it is simple enough to allow us to do the analysis.

A Simple RAM model

• The model consists of an input unit, a central processing unit, an output unit, and a storage unit.



A Simple RAM model

• In this simplified RAM model, we have a central processing unit which can read and write data from the external environment. For example, the CPU can read data entered by a user using a keyboard, or it can display data on a screen. The CPU also has access to a storage unit, where it can write and read stored data.

Running time analysis assumptions

- Using this very simple model, we are going to estimate the running time of an algorithm according to the following four assumptions:
 - The machine has only one CPU, this means that instructions are executed sequentially
 - Each simple operation takes one unit of time.
 Simple operations include numerical operations such as addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division.

Running time analysis assumptions

- Other types of simple operations that take one time unit are
 - control instructions such as conditional branching, if else;
 - calling a function, (not executing the function itself, just calling it);
 - Writing or reading data from memory, and
 - Returning from a function.

Running time analysis assumptions

- Loop and functions are not considered as a simple operations. Hence, when we face a loop or a function in a code in our algorithm, we will have to go inside them and see how many simple operations they are made up of.
- Lastly, we assume that memory is unlimited, that is, we have as much memory as is needed in this model.
 (Note, in this simplified model, we do not consider memory hierarchy. In real computer, data that is stored in the cache memory is accessed much faster than data that is in the RAM memory. In turn, data in the RAM memory is accessed much faster than data stored in the hard disk.)

Memory consumption analysis assumptions

 When analysing memory consumption, we make only one assumption, that is, every simple variable, no matter its type, uses one memory position.

Getting Started Anagram



Anagram

 An anagram is a word or phrase formed by rearranging the letters of a different word or phrase, typically using all the original letters exactly once.

The following are examples of anagram:

RAIL SAFETY FAIRY TALES
CUSTOMERS STORE SCUM
SILENT LISTEN



http://www.enchantedlearning.com/english/anagram/numberofletters/5letters.shtml

Anagrams

Input: Two strings of characters

Output: True if the strings are anagrams on one another; False if they are not

We will consider two different algorithms to solve this problem

Algorithm 1

```
begin
    if string1 length != string2 length
        return False
    for all letters i in string1
        matched ← False
        for all letters j in string2
            if j is not marked and i = j
                 mark j
                 matched ← True
                 Break
                #exit inner loop
        if matched = False
            return False
    return True
e n d
```

Algorithm 2

```
begin
   if string1 length != string2 length
        return False
    character count array ← 0
   for all letters i in string1
        increment the number of occurrences of i #increment:
        add 1 to
   for all letters j in string2
        decrement the number of occurrences of j #decrement:
        subtract 1 from
   for all integers k in the array
        if k != 0
            return False
    return True
end
```

Which one of these two algorithms is better?

Need to analyse the running-time efficiency of the two algorithms. (One of the learning outcomes of this subject.)





Algorithm analysis

- To analyse an algorithm is to determine the amount of resources (such as time and storage) necessary to execute it
 - (Time or Space) Complexity in terms of function f(n). But why f(n)?
 - The running time of an algorithm typically grows with the input size. Hence the complexity of the algorithm is a function of n, that is f(n).

```
begin
   if string1 length != string2 length
       return False
   for all letters i in string1
       matched ← False
       for all letters j in string2
          if j is not marked and i = j
              mark j
              matched ← True
              Break
              #exit inner loop
       if matched = False
          return False
   return True
end
```

```
begin
   if string1 length != string2 length
       return False
   for all letters i in string1
       matched ← False
       for all letters j in string2
          if j is not marked and i = j
              mark j
              matched ← True
              Break
              #exit inner loop
       if matched = False
          return False
   return True
end
```

1	

```
begin
   if string1 length != string2 length
       return False
   for all letters i in string1
       matched ← False
       for all letters j in string2
          if j is not marked and i = j
              mark j
              matched ← True
              Break
              #exit inner loop
       if matched = False
          return False
   return True
end
```

1
a

```
begin
   if string1 length != string2 length
       return False
   for all letters i in string1
       matched ← False
       for all letters j in string2
          if j is not marked and i = j
              mark j
              matched ← True
              Break
              #exit inner loop
       if matched = False
          return False
   return True
end
```

1
а
n+1

```
begin
   if string1 length != string2 length
       return False
   for all letters i in string1
       matched ← False
       for all letters j in string2
          if j is not marked and i = j
              mark j
              matched ← True
              Break
              #exit inner loop
       if matched = False
          return False
   return True
end
```

1	
a	
n+1	
n	

```
begin
   if string1 length != string2 length
       return False
   for all letters i in string1
       matched ← False
       for all letters j in string2
          if j is not marked and i = j
              mark j
              matched ← True
              Break
              #exit inner loop
       if matched = False
          return False
   return True
end
```

1
a
n+1
n
$n \times (n+1)$

```
begin
   if string1 length != string2 length
       return False
   for all letters i in string1
       matched ← False
       for all letters j in string2
          if j is not marked and i = j
              mark j
              matched ← True
              Break
              #exit inner loop
       if matched = False
          return False
   return True
end
```

1
a
n+1
n
$n \times (n+1)$
$n \times n$

```
begin
   if string1 length != string2 length
       return False
   for all letters i in string1
       matched ← False
       for all letters j in string2
          if j is not marked and i = j
              mark j
              matched ← True
              Break
              #exit inner loop
       if matched = False
          return False
   return True
end
```

1
a
n+1
n
$n \times (n+1)$
$n \times n$
b

```
begin
   if string1 length != string2 length
       return False
   for all letters i in string1
       matched ← False
       for all letters j in string2
          if j is not marked and i = j
              mark j
              matched ← True
              Break
              #exit inner loop
       if matched = False
          return False
   return True
end
```

1
а
n+1
n
$n \times (n+1)$
$n \times n$
b
b

```
begin
   if string1 length != string2 length
       return False
   for all letters i in string1
       matched ← False
       for all letters j in string2
          if j is not marked and i = j
              mark j
              matched ← True
              Break
              #exit inner loop
       if matched = False
          return False
   return True
end
```

1
а
n+1
n
$n \times (n+1)$
$n \times n$
b
b
b

```
begin
   if string1 length != string2 length
       return False
   for all letters i in string1
       matched ← False
       for all letters j in string2
          if j is not marked and i = j
              mark j
              matched ← True
              Break
              #exit inner loop
       if matched = False
          return False
   return True
end
```

1
a
n+1
n
$n \times (n+1)$
$n \times n$
b
b
b
n

```
begin
   if string1 length != string2 length
       return False
   for all letters i in string1
       matched ← False
       for all letters j in string2
          if j is not marked and i = j
              mark j
              matched ← True
              Break
              #exit inner loop
       if matched = False
          return False
   return True
end
```

1
a
n+1
n
$n \times (n+1)$
$n \times n$
b
b
b
n
С

```
begin
   if string1 length != string2 length
       return False
   for all letters i in string1
       matched ← False
       for all letters j in string2
          if j is not marked and i = j
              mark j
              matched ← True
              Break
              #exit inner loop
       if matched = False
          return False
   return True
end
```

1
a
n+1
n
$n \times (n+1)$
$n \times n$
b
b
b
n
С
1

Sum up all those terms:

$$T(n) = 1 + a + (n + 1) + n + (n^2 + n) + (n^2) + b + b + b + n + c + 1$$

 $T(n) = 3 + a + 3b + c + 4n + 2n^2$
 $T(n) = 2n^2 + 4n + a + 3b + c + 3$

Where:

```
a = 0 or 1 (worst case is 0)

b = n (worst case is n), that is, when the two words form an anagram.

c = 0 or 1 (worst case is 0)
```

For a worst-case scenario, we let b = n, hence, we can rewrite the expression as $T(n) = 2n^2 + 7n + 3$.

Algorithm 2:

```
begin
    if string1 length != string2 length
        return No
    character count array ← 0
    for all letters i in string1
        increment the number of occurrences of i
        #increment: add 1 to
   for all letters j in string2
        decrement the number of occurrences of j
        #decrement: subtract 1 from
    for all integers k in the array
        if k != 0
            return No
    return Yes
end
```

Algorithm 2: (1/13)

```
begin
   if string1 length != string2 length
      return No
   character count array ← 0
   for all letters i in string1
      increment the number of occurrences of i
      #increment: add 1 to
   for all letters j in string2
      decrement the number of occurrences of j
      #decrement: subtract 1 from
   for all integers k in the array
      if k! = 0
         return No
   return Yes
end
```

Algorithm 2: (2/13)

```
begin
   if string1 length != string2 length
      return No
   character count array ← 0
   for all letters i in string1
      increment the number of occurrences of i
      #increment: add 1 to
   for all letters j in string2
      decrement the number of occurrences of j
      #decrement: subtract 1 from
   for all integers k in the array
      if k! = 0
         return No
   return Yes
end
```

Algorithm 2: (3/13)

```
begin
   if string1 length != string2 length
      return No
   character count array ← 0
   for all letters i in string1
      increment the number of occurrences of i
      #increment: add 1 to
   for all letters j in string2
      decrement the number of occurrences of j
      #decrement: subtract 1 from
   for all integers k in the array
      if k! = 0
         return No
   return Yes
end
```

Algorithm 2: (4/13)

```
begin
   if string1 length != string2 length
      return No
   character count array ← 0
   for all letters i in string1
      increment the number of occurrences of i
      #increment: add 1 to
   for all letters j in string2
      decrement the number of occurrences of j
      #decrement: subtract 1 from
   for all integers k in the array
      if k! = 0
         return No
   return Yes
end
```

Algorithm 2: (5/13)

```
begin
   if string1 length != string2 length
      return No
                                                       1
   character count array ← 0
                                                      n+1
   for all letters i in string1
      increment the number of occurrences of i
      #increment: add 1 to
   for all letters j in string2
      decrement the number of occurrences of j
      #decrement: subtract 1 from
   for all integers k in the array
      if k! = 0
         return No
   return Yes
end
```

Algorithm 2: (6/13)

```
begin
   if string1 length != string2 length
      return No
   character count array ← 0
   for all letters i in string1
      increment the number of occurrences of i
      #increment: add 1 to
   for all letters j in string2
      decrement the number of occurrences of j
      #decrement: subtract 1 from
   for all integers k in the array
      if k! = 0
         return No
   return Yes
end
```

1
a
1
n+1
n

Algorithm 2: (7/13)

```
begin
   if string1 length != string2 length
      return No
   character count array ← 0
   for all letters i in string1
      increment the number of occurrences of i
      #increment: add 1 to
   for all letters j in string2
      decrement the number of occurrences of j
      #decrement: subtract 1 from
   for all integers k in the array
      if k! = 0
         return No
   return Yes
end
```

1
а
1
n+1
n
n+1

Algorithm 2: (8/13)

```
begin
   if string1 length != string2 length
      return No
   character count array ← 0
   for all letters i in string1
      increment the number of occurrences of i
      #increment: add 1 to
   for all letters j in string2
      decrement the number of occurrences of j
      #decrement: subtract 1 from
   for all integers k in the array
      if k! = 0
         return No
   return Yes
end
```

1
а
1
n+1
n
n+1
n

Algorithm 2: (9/13)

```
begin
   if string1 length != string2 length
      return No
   character count array ← 0
   for all letters i in string1
      increment the number of occurrences of i
      #increment: add 1 to
   for all letters j in string2
      decrement the number of occurrences of j
      #decrement: subtract 1 from
   for all integers k in the array
      if k! = 0
         return No
   return Yes
end
```

1
а
1
n+1
n
n+1
n
27

Algorithm 2: (10/13)

```
begin
   if string1 length != string2 length
                                                          \boldsymbol{a}
      return No
                                                          1
   character count array ← 0
   for all letters i in string1
      increment the number of occurrences of i
                                                          n.
      #increment: add 1 to
   for all letters j in string2
      decrement the number of occurrences of j
                                                          n.
      #decrement: subtract 1 from
   for all integers k in the array
      if k! = 0
          return No
   return Yes
end
```

Algorithm 2: (11/13)

```
begin
   if string1 length != string2 length
                                                          \boldsymbol{a}
      return No
                                                          1
   character count array ← 0
                                                         n+1
   for all letters i in string1
      increment the number of occurrences of i
                                                          n.
      #increment: add 1 to
   for all letters j in string2
                                                         n+1
      decrement the number of occurrences of j
                                                          n.
      #decrement: subtract 1 from
   for all integers k in the array
                                                          27
      if k! = 0
                                                          26
          return No
   return Yes
end
```

Algorithm 2: (12/13)

```
begin
   if string1 length != string2 length
      return No
   character count array ← 0
   for all letters i in string1
      increment the number of occurrences of i
      #increment: add 1 to
   for all letters j in string2
      decrement the number of occurrences of j
      #decrement: subtract 1 from
   for all integers k in the array
      if k! = 0
         return No
   return Yes
end
```

1
а
1
n+1
n
n+1
n
27
26
b
1

Algorithm 2: (13/13)

Sum up all those terms:

$$T(n) = 1 + a + 1 + (n + 1) + n + (n + 1) + n + 27 + 26 + b + 1$$

$$T(n) = 4n + 58 + a + b$$

T(n) = 4n + 58 (Worst case scenario)

Where:

 $a = 0 \ or \ 1$ (worst case is 0)

 $b = 0 \ or \ 1$ (worst case is 0)

Now what?

• From the analysis, we have:

Algorithm 1:

$$T(n) = 2n^2 + 7n + 3$$

Algorithm 2:

$$T(n) = 4n + 58$$

Which algorithm has a better running-time efficiency?



- If the length of the strings are small, e.g., 3
- Algorithm 1:

$$T(n) = 2n^2 + 7n + 3$$

 $T(3) = 2(3)^2 + 7(3) + 3$
 $= 18 + 21 + 3 = 42$ operation steps

Algorithm 2:

$$T(n) = 4n + 58$$

$$T(3) = 4(3) + 58 = 70$$
 operation steps

• Hence, we may conclude that Algorithm 1 is better than Algorithm 2 because Algorithm 1 takes 42 steps (operations) to complete the algorithm while Algorithm 2 takes 70 steps to do the same.

- Hence, we may conclude that Algorithm 1 is better than Algorithm 2 because Algorithm 1 takes 42 steps (operations) to complete the algorithm while Algorithm 2 takes 70 steps to do the same.
- But wait... is there a different, if the length of the string is larger? That is, what if the anagrams consists of, let's say 10-character words, or n=10.

- Hence, we may conclude that Algorithm 1 is better than Algorithm 2 because Algorithm 1 takes 42 steps (operations) to complete the algorithm while Algorithm 2 takes 70 steps to do the same.
- But wait... is there a different, if the length of the string is larger? That is, what if the anagrams consists of, let's say 10-character words, or n=10.

The answer is **may not be!**We will see with the next example.

- If the length of the strings is bigger, e.g., 10
- Algorithm 1:

$$T(n) = 2n^2 + 7n + 3$$

 $T(10) = 2(10)^2 + 7(10) + 3$
 $= 200 + 70 + 3 = 273$ operation steps

Algorithm 2:

$$T(n) = 4n + 58$$

$$T(10) = 4(10) + 58 = 98$$
 operation steps

• Hence, we conclude that Algorithm 2 is better than Algorithm 1 because Algorithm 2 takes 98 steps (operations) to complete the execution of the algorithm while Algorithm 1 takes 273 steps to do the same.

Huh... Why there is a contradicting conclusion?



- Different algorithms can have dramatically different performance
- The performance difference often depends greatly on the size of the data set
- Choosing the right algorithm for the job at hand is, hence, important!

- Different algorithms can have dramatically different performance.
- The performance difference often depends greatly on a couple of factors:
 - The size of the data set
 - The structure of the algorithm, e.g., the number of loop operations.

 Choosing the right algorithm for the job at hand is, hence, important!

 Choosing the right algorithm for the job at hand is, hence, important!

But if different data set and different algorithm structures produces different result or conclusion, how then can we know which algorithm is better (or algorithm performs better)?

- In comparing algorithms, in general, we consider the *asymptotic behaviour* of the two algorithms for large problem sizes, under worst-case. (We will discuss asymptotic behaviour and worst-case in a while.)
- Uses a high-level description of the algorithm (Pseudo-code) to estimate the running-time efficiency as a function of input size n.

 We have done an analysis. Had we, however, to undertake all the counting every time to analyse an algorithm, the task would be tedious and quickly become infeasible. We need some easier approach.





Complexity Analysis

Asymptotic behaviour

- In comparing algorithms, in general, we consider the *asymptotic behaviour* of the two algorithms for large problem sizes, under worst-case. (We will discuss asymptotic behaviour and worst-case in a while.)
- Uses a *high-level description of the algorithm* (Pseudo-code) to estimate the running-time efficiency as a function of input size n.

- Emphasize on the operation count's order of growth for large input sizes. (Note: the difference in running times on small inputs cannot really distinguish efficient algorithms from inefficient ones.)
- We want to know how the rate of growth in the number of operations performed by an algorithm as n grows, that is, the problem size grows.

What is asymptotic time complexity?

The **limiting behaviour** of the execution time of an algorithm when the **size of the problem goes to very big**.

• We typically ignore small values of n, since we are usually interested in estimating how slow the program (algorithm) will be on large inputs.

- A good rule of thumb is "the slower the asymptotic growth rate, the better the algorithm."
- **Growth rate** refers to how much more number of steps (operations) are required for an algorithm to complete its task as the number of data *n* gets bigger or increases.

 As seen from our earlier calculation on the number of steps performed by Algorithm 1 and Algorithm 2:

N	Algorithm 1	Algorithm 2
3	42	70
10	273	98

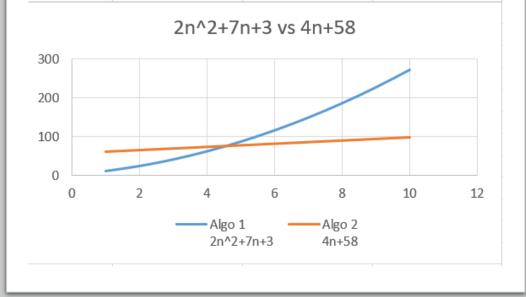
From the above-tabulated table, it is shown that the growth rate of Algorithm 1 is higher (or faster) than Algorithm 2. For an additional of 7 data, Algorithm 1 performs 231 additional operational steps while Algorithm 2 performs 28 additional operational steps.

The following table shown the various growth rate behaviour of function f(n) as n get bigger

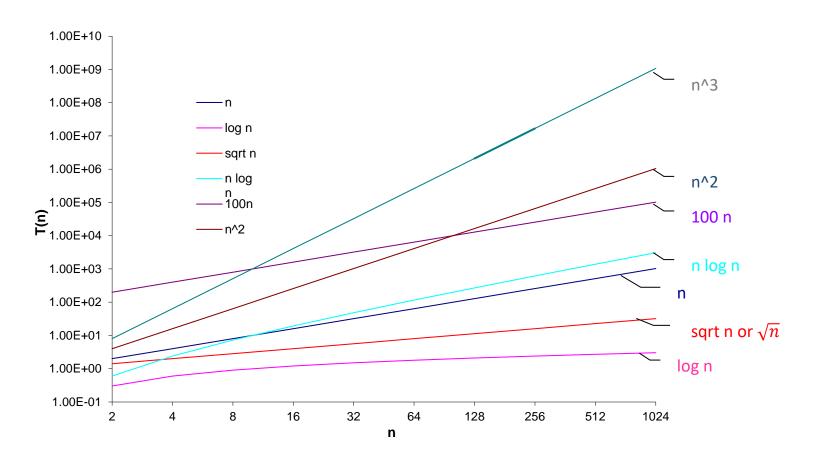
n	Log(n)	sqrt n	n	n log(n)	100n	n ²	n³	2 ⁿ	n!
1	0	1	1	0	100	1	1	2	1
		1.41421							
2	0.30103	4	2	0.60206	200	4	8	4	2
		1.73205							
3	0.477121	1	3	1.431364	300	9	27	8	6
4	0.60206	2	4	2.40824	400	16	64	16	24
		2.23606							
5	0.69897	8	5	3.49485	500	25	125	32	120
6	0.778151	2.44949	6	4.668908	600	36	216	64	720
		2.64575							
7	0.845098	1	7	5.915686	700	49	343	128	5040
		2.82842							
8	0.90309	7	8	7.22472	800	64	512	256	40320
9	0.954243	3	9	8.588183	900	81	729	512	362880
		3.16227							
10	1	8	10	10	1000	100	1000	1024	3628800

Comparison on the number of data and the number of operations performed by Algorithm 1 and Algorithm 2.

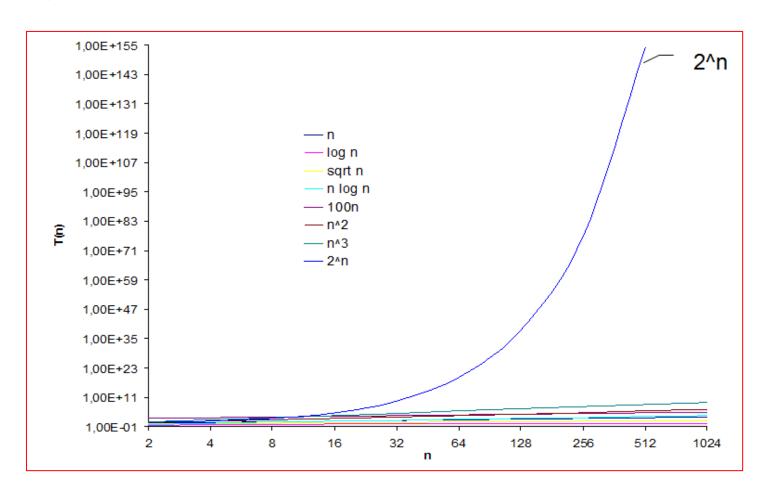
n	Algo 1 2n^2+7n+3	Algo 2 4n+58	$Ratio: \frac{Algo\ 1}{Algo\ 2}$
1	12	62	0.19
2	25	66	0.38
3	42	70	0.60
4	63	74	0.85
5	88	78	1.13
6	117	82	1.43
7	150	86	1.74
8	187	90	2.08
9	228	94	2.43
10	273	98	2.79



Classes of functions that are important for analysis of algorithms



Classes of functions that are important for analysis of algorithms



• If we look at the running-time efficiency of Algorithm 1 and Algorithm 2 that we obtained earlier, Algorithm 1 has a **quadratic** complexity and Algorithm 2 has a **linear** complexity.

Algorithm 1:

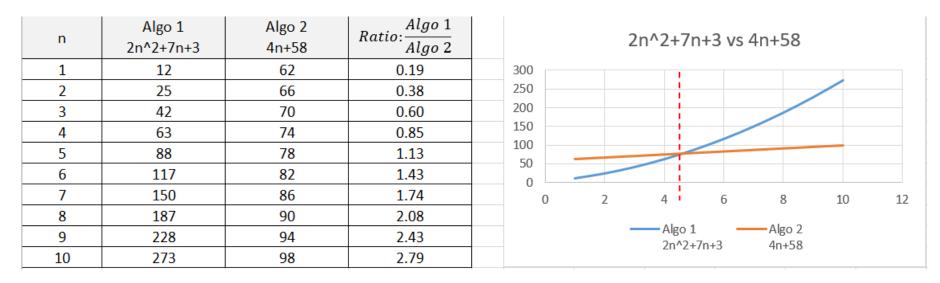
$$T(n) = 2n^2 + 7n + 3$$

Algorithm 2:
 $T(n) = 4n + 58$

- Instead of computing the running-time efficiency as what we did for Algorithm 1 and Algorithm 2, we can group algorithms into classes of functions, and based on the behaviour of the functions, we analyse and understand the complexity of the algorithm.
- We provide an abstract measure of this complexity by expressing it in terms of the problem size n.

- A linear algorithm (Algorithm 2: T(n) = 4n + 58) is always asymptotically better than a quadratic algorithm (Algorithm 1: $T(n) = 2n^2 + 7n + 3$).
- This is because there is always some n at which the magnitude of $(2n^2 + 7n + 3)$ overtakes (4n + 58).

n	Algo 1 2n^2+7n+3	Algo 2 4n+58	$Ratio: \frac{Algo\ 1}{Algo\ 2}$	2n^2+7n+3 vs 4n+58
1	12	62	0.19	300
2	25	66	0.38	250
3	42	70	0.60	200
4	63	74	0.85	150
5	88	78	1.13	100
6	117	82	1.43	0
7	150	86	1.74	0 2 4 6 8 10 12
8	187	90	2.08	
9	228	94	2.43	—— Algo 1 —— Algo 2 2n^2+7n+3 4n+58
10	273	98	2.79	211 2 171113 411130

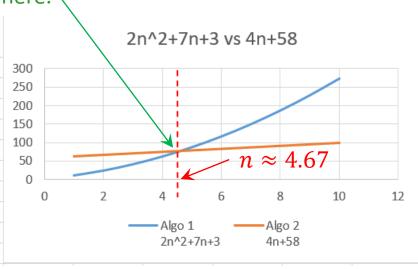


Quadratic vs Linear

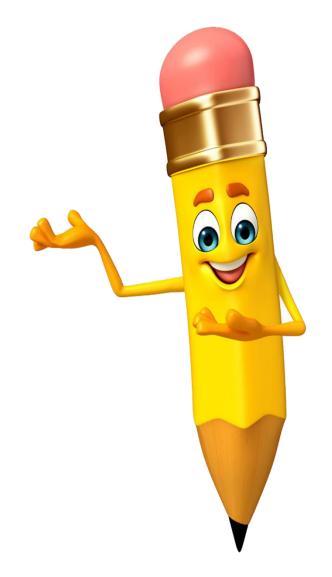
We conclude that asymptotic behaviour has shown that the slower (lower) the growth rate as n (the number of data to be processed) increases, the better the performance of the algorithm.

$$T(n) = 2n^2 + 7n + 3$$
 (Algo 1)
overtakes $T(n) = 4n + 58$ (Algo 2)
here. \setminus

n	Algo 1 2n^2+7n+3	Algo 2 4n+58	$Ratio: \frac{Algo\ 1}{Algo\ 2}$
1	12	62	0.19
2	25	66	0.38
3	42	70	0.60
4	63	74	0.85
5	88	78	1.13
6	117	82	1.43
7	150	86	1.74
8	187	90	2.08
9	228	94	2.43
10	273	98	2.79



Best-case, Averagecase, and Worstcase



Worst-case, Best-case, and Average-case Efficiencies

- We understand the rule of thumb "the slower the asymptotic growth rate, the better the algorithm."
- However, this is often not the whole story.
- We have heard of the term worst case scenario in our earlier analysis of the two algorithms.
- We will use examples to explain what is worst-case, best-case and average case efficiencies mean next in order to have a better/clearer understanding of algorithm complexity.

Given an array with the following content:



 What is the first number in the array?, and how many operation(s) need to be done to obtain the value?

5	3	4	1	2	0	8	6	7	9
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

- What is the first number in the array?, and how many operation(s) need to be done to obtain the value?
- Of course the value is 5, and the number of operation to produce this output is **one**.

5	3	4	1	2	0	8	6	7	9

- What is the first number in the array?, and how many operation(s) need to be done to obtain the value?
- Of course the value is 5, and the number of operation to produce this output is one.
- What happen if the content of the array is different?

5	3	4	1	2	0	8	6	7	9

- What is the first number in the array?, and how many operation(s) need to be done to obtain the value?
- Of course the value is 5, and the number of operation to produce this output is **one**.
- What happen if the content of the array is different?
- It does not matter, the number of operation to produce the output is still one.

- In this example, the number of operations performed to obtain the required result is always 1, regardless of the data. This behaviour is known as **best-case scenario** of running-time efficiency of an algorithm.
- The **best-case** efficiency of an algorithm is its efficiency for the best-case input of size n, which is an input of size n for which the algorithm runs the fastest (least number of operations performed) among all possible inputs of that size.

Note: The best case does not mean the smallest input; it means with the input of size n for which the algorithm runs the fastest.

Problem 2 (worst-case efficiency)



- In which array location the number 18 can be found?
- Of course none of the 10 locations contain the number 18.
- In this case, one way to find out if the number 18 exists in the array is by comparing (checking) the content of the array from the first element until the last element, in this case n (the size of the data set.)

Problem 2 (worst-case efficiency)

- The running-time efficiency of the algorithm used to solve problem 2 is known as worst-case efficiency. (Unsuccessful search of an item from an arrays of n elements using sequential search.)
- The worst-case efficiency of an algorithm is its efficiency for the worst-case input of size n, that is, an input (or inputs) of size n for which the algorithm runs the longest among all possible inputs of that size.

Problem 2 (worst-case efficiency)

- The running-time efficiency of the algorithm used to solve problem 2 is known as worst-case efficiency.
- The worst-case efficiency of an algorithm is its efficiency for the worst-case input of size n, which is an input (or inputs) of size n for which the algorithm runs the longest among all possible inputs of that size.

The term 'longest' here means the most (largest) number of operations perform to obtain the result. The worst case does not mean the number of operations equals to the number of data n.



- In which array location the number 8 can be found?
- By checking the element one-by-one from the beginning until we finally find the number 8 in location 6.
- But what happen if the content of the array changes?
- The algorithm will not change, that is, we still check the element one-by-one from the beginning until we find the number we want.

- Of course the number that we want to find can be in any location of the array.
- The running-time efficiency of the algorithm used to solve problem 3 is known as average-case efficiency.
- The analysis of average-case efficiency is generally harder than best-case and worst-case efficiencies, since it involves probabilistic component and often requires assumptions about the distribution of inputs.

- In determining the average-case efficiency of an algorithm, the standard assumptions are that:
 - 1. The probability of a successful search is equal to p, where $0 \le p \le 1$.
 - 2. The probability of a successful search for every numbers in the array is the same, that is, all numbers in the array have an equal chance of successfully found.

- The average number of key comparison $\mathcal{C}_{avg}(n)$ is as follows:
 - In the case of successful search, the probability of the first match occurring in the i^{th} position of the list is $\frac{p}{n}$ for every i, and the number of comparisons made by the algorithm, in such a situation, is obviously i.
 - In the case of unsuccessful search, the number of comparisons will be n with the probability of such a search being (1-p).

• Hence,

$$C_{avg}(n) = \left[1 \times \frac{p}{n} + 2 \times \frac{p}{n} + \dots + i \times \frac{p}{n} + \dots + n \times \frac{p}{n}\right] + n \times (1 - p)$$

$$= \frac{p}{n} \left[1 + 2 + \dots + i + \dots + n\right] + n(1 - p)$$

$$= \frac{p}{n} \left(\frac{n \times (n + 1)}{2}\right) + n(1 - p)$$

$$= \frac{p(n + 1)}{2} + n(1 - p)$$

• The average-case efficiency of an algorithm is its efficiency for the average-case input of size n, which is an input (or inputs) of size n for which the algorithm will inspect, on average, $C_{avg}(n) = \frac{p(n+1)}{2} + n(1-p)$ number of key comparisons.

$$C_{avg}(n) = \frac{p(n+1)}{2} + n(1-p)$$

When p=1 (the search must be successful), $C_{avg}(n) = \frac{(n+1)}{2}$. When p=0 (the search must be unsuccessful), $C_{avg}(n) = n$.

Will the **best-case** run-time complexity and the **worst-case** run-time complexity of an algorithm be the same?

Will the **best-case** run-time complexity and the **worst-case** run-time complexity of an algorithm be the same?

So far we have seen examples on the best-case, worst-case, and average-case. In all the three examples, the best-case, worst-case, and average-case complexity is affected by the content of the data.

Problem 4 (Finding Maximum)

 One example of an algorithm whose running times growth only changes with the input data size and not with the content of the data is **find maximum**.

```
Function \max(A)
\max = A[0]
for \ 0 \le i < n
if \ (A[i] > \max)
\max = A[i]
return \ \max
```

Problem 4 (Finding Maximum)

```
Function \max(A)
\max = A[0]
for \ 0 \le i < n
if \ (A[i] > \max)
\max = A[i]
return \ \max
```

 This algorithm returns the position of the element with the highest value in the array A.

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
9	6	8	2	3	7	5	1	Max = 9
0	1	2	3	4	_	_	_	
· ·	_	2	5	4	5	6	7	

Problem 4 (Finding Maximum)

- With the example finding maximum above, the algorithm always execute n number of times regardless of whether the maximum values is in the first position, somewhere in the middle, or in the last position.
- In this case, the worst-case and the best case running time of the algorithm is the same.

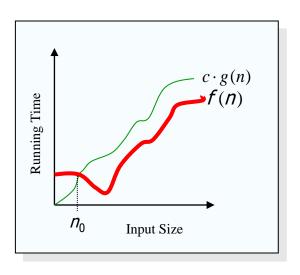


Complexity Analysis Asymptotic Notation (ΟΩΘ)

Asymptotic Notation

- Now that we have known how to analyse and determine the running-time efficiency of algorithms, how do we compare and ranks algorithm based on order of complexity (asymptotically)?
- There are three standard order of complexity measures in common use:
 - Big Oh (*0*)
 - Big Omega (Ω)
 - Big Theta (Θ)

- We use big-O notation to asymptotically bound the growth of a running-time of a function (f(n)) to **lower** or **same** order of growth of another function (g(n)) within a constant factor.
- From the run-time expression that we obtained during the analysis, we plot the expression as a function of n.

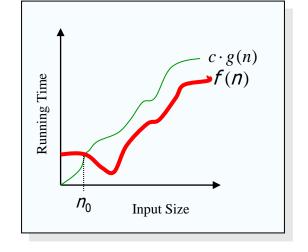


 In the diagram shown here, the horizontal axis represents the input data size, and the vertical axis represents the computational requirements of an algorithm.

• Our aim is to find a function g of n that acts as an upper bound for f of n.

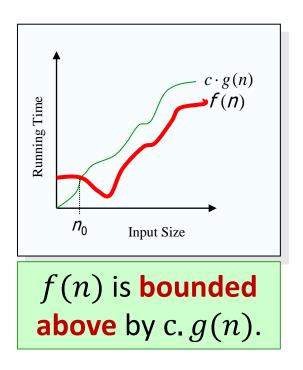
• It does not matter that g of n is less than f of n for the lower values of n. What is important is that for large values of n, g of n is always equal to or higher

than f of n.



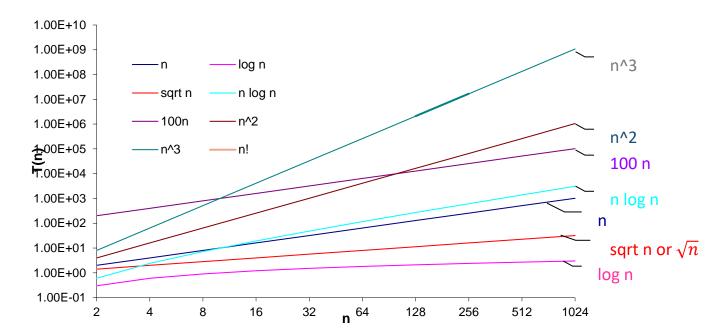
Formal definition:

Given non-negative functions f(n) and g(n), we say that $f(n) \in O(g(n))$, if there exists an integer n_0 and a constant c > 0 such that $f(n) \le cg(n)$ for all integers $n \ge n_0$.



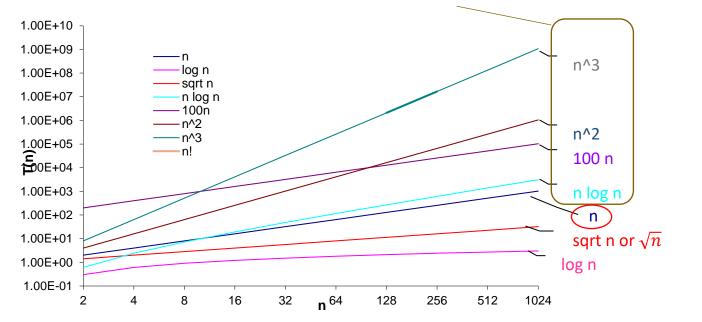
 $f(n) \in O(g(n))$: f(n) is of order at most g(n) or f(n) is Big-O of g(n).

• By now, you might have already realized that there is a set of functions that can act as an upper bound for f(n).



• By now, you might have already realized that there is a set of functions that can act as an upper bound for f(n).

f(n) is $O(n \lg n)$, O(100n), $O(n^2)$, and $O(n^3)$.



Examples:

- $n \in O(n^2)$
- $100n + 5 \in O(n^2)$
- $\bullet \, \frac{1}{2} n(n-1) \in \mathcal{O}(n^2)$

Example: $n \in O(n^2)$

Proof:

We need to find n_0 and c such that

 $f(n) \le cg(n)$ for all $n \ge n_0$.

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We need to find n_0 and c such that $f(n) \le cg(n)$ for all $n \ge n_0$.

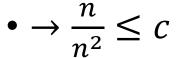
- Let f(n) = n, and $g(n) = n^2$.
- We have: $n \le cn^2$
- $\bullet \to \frac{n}{n^2} \le C$
- $\rightarrow \frac{1}{n} \le C$

Example: $n \in O(n^2)$

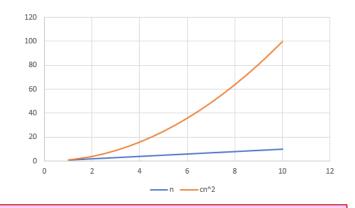
Proof:

We need to find n_0 and c such that $f(n) \le cg(n)$ for all $n \ge n_0$.

- Let f(n) = n, and $g(n) = n^2$.
- We have: $n \le cn^2$



$$\bullet \to \frac{1}{n} \le c$$



Pick $n_0 = 1$ and c = 1 and the inequality stands for all value of $n \ge n_0$ and c = 1. Hence, the statement $n \in O(n^2)$ is true. The proof completes.

Example: $100n + 5 \in O(n^2)$

Proof:

We need to find n_0 and c such that

 $f(n) \le cg(n)$ for all $n \ge n_0$.

 $\frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$

Example: $100n + 5 \in O(n^2)$

Proof:

We need to find n_0 and c such that

$$f(n) \le cg(n)$$
 for all $n \ge n_0$.

- Let f(n) = 100n + 5 and $g(n) = n^2$.
- $\rightarrow 100n + 5 \le cn^2$
- $\rightarrow cn^2 100n \ge 5$

 $\frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$

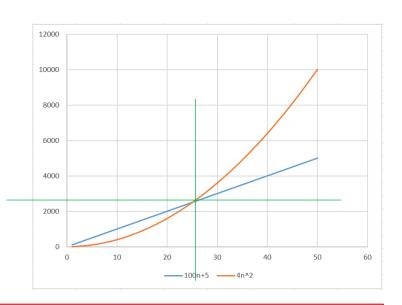
Example: $100n + 5 \in O(n^2)$

Proof:

We need to find n_0 and c such that

$$f(n) \le cg(n)$$
 for all $n \ge n_0$.

- Let f(n) = 100n + 5 and $g(n) = n^2$.
- $\rightarrow 100n + 5 \le cn^2$
- $\rightarrow cn^2 100n \ge 5$



Pick $n_0 \approx 25.05$ and c = 4 and the inequality stands for all value of $n \ge n_0$ and c = 4. Hence, the statement $100n + 5 \in O(n^2)$ is true. The proof completes

Example: $\frac{1}{2}n(n-1) \in O(n^2)$

Proof:

We need to find n_0 and c such that

 $f(n) \le cg(n)$ for all $n \ge n_0$.

Example: $\frac{1}{2}n(n-1) \in O(n^2)$

Proof:

We need to find n_0 and c such that

$$f(n) \le cg(n)$$
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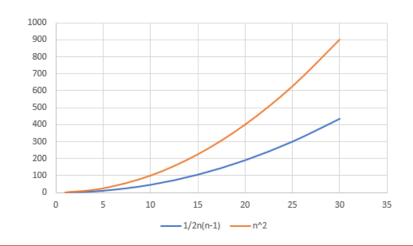
- Let $f(n) = \frac{1}{2}n(n-1)$ and $g(n) = n^2$.
- $\frac{1}{2}n(n-1) \le cn^2$
- $\bullet \ \frac{1}{2}n^2 \frac{1}{2}n \le cn^2$
- $cn^2 \frac{1}{2}n^2 + \frac{1}{2}n \ge 0$
- $\left(c \frac{1}{2}\right)n^2 + \frac{1}{2}n \ge 0$

Example: $\frac{1}{2}n(n-1) \in O(n^2)$

Proof:

We need to find n_0 and c such that $f(n) \le cg(n)$ for all $n \ge n_0$.

- Let $f(n) = \frac{1}{2}n(n-1)$ and $g(n) = n^2$.
- $\frac{1}{2}n(n-1) \le cn^2$
- $\bullet \ \frac{1}{2}n^2 \frac{1}{2}n \le cn^2$
- $cn^2 \frac{1}{2}n^2 + \frac{1}{2}n \ge 0$
- $\bullet \left(c \frac{1}{2}\right)n^2 + \frac{1}{2}n \ge 0$

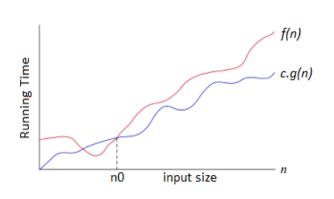


Pick $n_0=1$ and c=1 and the inequality stands for all values of $n\geq n_0$ and c=1. Hence, the statement $\frac{1}{2}n(n-1)\in O(n^2)$ is valid. Proof completes.

Note: The value of c must be greater or equal to 0.5. This is to ensure we are working with a positive (non-negative) functions.

Big-Ω (Big Omega)

• We use big- Ω notation to asymptotically bound the growth of a running-time of a function to **higher** or **same** order of growth of another function within a constant factor.

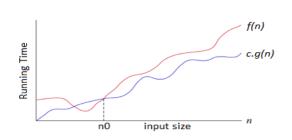


 If you were able to understand the Big O notation, understanding the Big Omega notation should be easy, because it is analogous to the Big O notation.

Instead of looking for functions that act as an upper bound for the running time of algorithm, we will be looking for functions that act as a lower bound.

Formal definition:

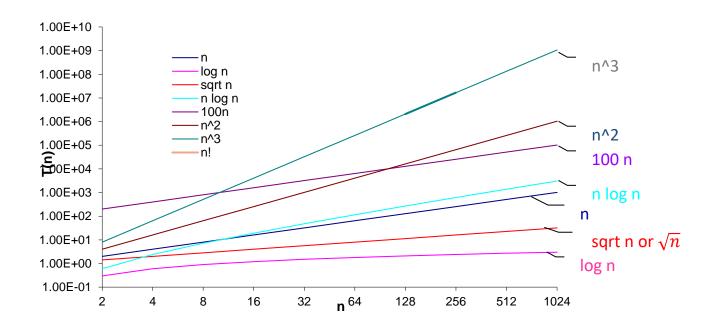
Given non-negative functions f(n) and g(n), we say that $f(n) \in \Omega(g(n))$, if there exists an integer n_0 and a constant c > 0 such that $f(n) \ge cg(n)$ for all integers $n \ge n_0$.



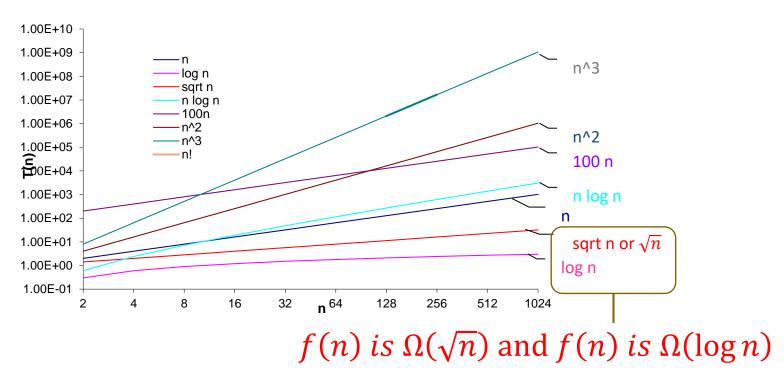
f(n) is bounded below by c. g(n).

 $f(n) \in \Omega(g(n))$: f(n) is of order at least g(n) or f(n) is Big- Ω of g(n).

• Contrary to the Big O, there is a set of functions that can act as an lower bound for f(n).



• Contrary to the Big O, there is a set of functions that can act as an lower bound for f(n).



Examples:

- $7n^2 + n \in \Omega(n^2)$
- $8n + 128 \in \Omega(n)$
- $n^3 \in \Omega(n^2)$

I will show the proof for the first and second examples. I leave third example for you to practice.

Example: $7n^2 + n \in \Omega(n^2)$

Proof:

We need to find n_0 and c such that

 $f(n) \ge cg(n)$ for all $n \ge n_0$.

Example: $7n^2 + n \in \Omega(n^2)$

Proof:

We need to find n_0 and c such that

$$f(n) \ge cg(n)$$
 for all $n \ge n_0$.

- Let $f(n) = 7n^2 + n$, and $g(n) = n^2$.
- $\rightarrow 7n^2 + n \ge cn^2$
- $\rightarrow 7n^2 cn^2 + n \ge 0$

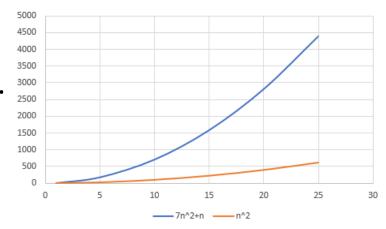
Example: $7n^2 + n \in \Omega(n^2)$

Proof:

We need to find n_0 and c such that

$$f(n) \ge cg(n)$$
 for all $n \ge n_0$.

- Let $f(n) = 7n^2 + n$, and $g(n) = n^2$.
- $\rightarrow 7n^2 + n \ge cn^2$
- $\rightarrow 7n^2 cn^2 + n \ge 0$



Pick $n_0 = 1$ and c = 1 and the inequality stands for all values of $n \ge n_0$ and c = 1. Hence, the statement $7n^2 + n \in \Omega(n^2)$ is valid. The proof completes.

Example: $8n + 128 \in \Omega(n)$

Proof:

We need to find n_0 and c such that

 $f(n) \ge cg(n)$ for all $n \ge n_0$.

Example: $8n + 128 \in \Omega(n)$

Proof:

We need to find n_0 and c such that

$$f(n) \ge cg(n)$$
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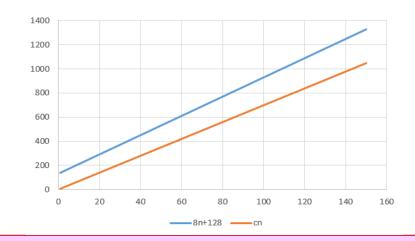
- Let f(n) = 8n + 128, and g(n) = n.
- $\rightarrow 8n + 128 \ge cn$
- $\rightarrow 8n cn + 128 \ge 0$
- $\rightarrow (8-c)n + 128 \ge 0$

Example: $8n + 128 \in \Omega(n)$

Proof:

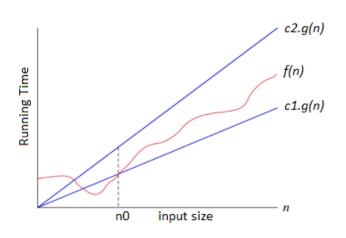
We need to find n_0 and c such that $f(n) \ge cg(n)$ for all $n \ge n_0$.

- Let f(n) = 8n + 128, and g(n) = n.
- $\leftrightarrow 8n + 128 \ge cn$
- $\leftrightarrow 8n cn + 128 \ge 0$
- \leftrightarrow $(8-c)n+128 \ge 0$



Pick $n_0=1$ and c=7 and the inequality stands for all values of $n\geq n_0$ and c=7. Hence, the statement $8n+128\in \Omega(n)$ is valid. The proof completes.

- We use big-Θ notation to asymptotically bound the growth of a running time to within constant factors above and below or the same order of growth of another function within the bound.
- One drawback of the Big O and Big Ω
 notations is that they refer to a set of functions.
- Theta notation finds a single function that acts simultaneously as an upper- and a lowerbound for our running time function or memory space function, which has a more meaningful representation.

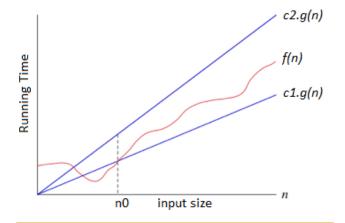


With Theta notation, our aim is to find a function g(n) that acts simultaneously as an upper and a lower bound for f(n), depending on the value of the constant it is multiplied by.

Hence, if g(n) is multiplied by c1, it acts as a lower bound for f(n). But if g(n) is multiplied by c2, and c2 is greater than c1, then it acts as an upper bound for f(n).

Formal definition:

Given non-negative functions f(n) and g(n), we say that $f(n) \in \Theta(g(n))$, if there exists an integer n_0 and a constant c > 0 such that $c_1g(n) \le f(n) \le c_2g(n)$ for all integers $n \ge n_0$.



f(n) is bounded below by c_1 . g(n) and above by c_2 . g(n).

$$f(n) \in \Theta(g(n))$$
: $f(n)$ is of **tightly ordered** by $g(n)$ or $f(n)$ is Big- Θ of $g(n)$ if $f(n) = O(g(n))$ and $f(n) = \Omega(g(n))$.

Examples:

- $\frac{1}{2}n(n-1) \in \Theta(n^2)$
- $60n^2 + 50n + 1 \in \Theta(n^2)$
- $2n + 3 \lg n \in \Theta(n)$

Example: $\frac{1}{2}n(n-1) \in \Theta(n^2)$

Proof:

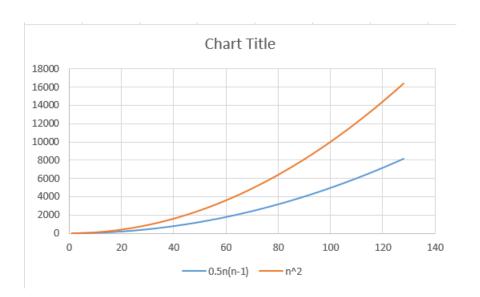
We need to find n_0 and c such that

$$f(n) \ge c_1 g(n)$$
 and $f(n) \le c_2 g(n)$ for all $n \ge n_0$.

- Let $f(n) = \frac{1}{2}n(n-1)$, and $g(n) = n^2$.
- First we prove that $f(n) \in O(g(n))$
- Then we prove that $f(n) \in \Omega(g(n))$

- Prove that $f(n) \in O(g(n))$
- $\rightarrow f(n) \le cg(n)$
- $\rightarrow \frac{1}{2}n(n-1) \le cn^2$
- $\bullet \to \frac{1}{2}n^2 \frac{1}{2}n \le cn^2$
- $\rightarrow cn^2 \frac{1}{2}n^2 + \frac{1}{2}n \ge 0$

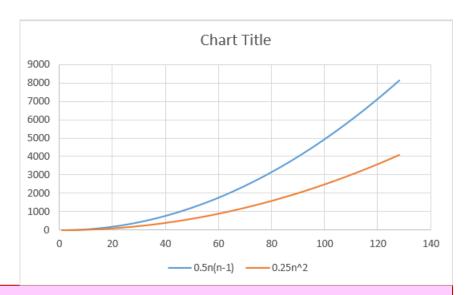
- Prove that $f(n) \in O(g(n))$
- $\rightarrow f(n) \le cg(n)$
- $\rightarrow \frac{1}{2}n(n-1) \le cn^2$
- $\bullet \to \frac{1}{2}n^2 \frac{1}{2}n \le cn^2$
- $\rightarrow cn^2 \frac{1}{2}n^2 + \frac{1}{2}n \ge 0$
- $\rightarrow \left(c \frac{1}{2}\right)n^2 + \frac{1}{2}n \ge 0$



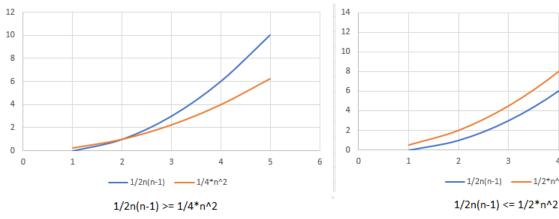
Pick $n_0 = 1$ and c = 1 and the inequality stands for all value of $n \ge n_0$ and c = 1. Hence, the proof completes.

- Prove that $f(n) \in \Omega(g(n))$
- $\rightarrow f(n) \ge cg(n)$
- $\rightarrow \frac{1}{2}n(n-1) \ge cn^2$
- $\bullet \to \frac{1}{2}n^2 \frac{1}{2}n \ge cn^2$
- $\rightarrow \frac{1}{2}n^2 cn^2 \frac{1}{2}n \ge 0$

- Prove that $f(n) \in \Omega(g(n))$
- \leftrightarrow $f(n) \ge cg(n)$
- $\leftrightarrow \frac{1}{2}n(n-1) \ge cn^2$
- $\bullet \leftrightarrow \frac{1}{2}n^2 \frac{1}{2}n \ge cn^2$
- $\bullet \longleftrightarrow \frac{1}{2}n^2 cn^2 \frac{1}{2}n \ge 0$
- $\rightarrow \left(\frac{1}{2} c\right)n^2 \frac{1}{2}n \ge 0$

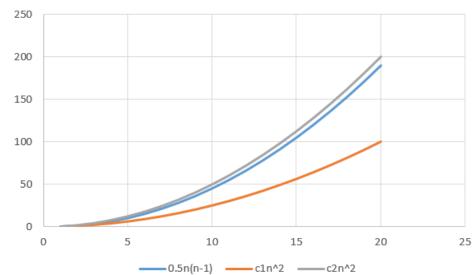


Pick $n_0 = 2$ and $c = \frac{1}{4}$ and the inequality stands for all values of $n \ge n_0$ and $c = \frac{1}{4}$. Hence the statement $f(n) \in \Omega(g(n))$ is valid. The proof completes.



$$\frac{1}{2}n(n-1) \in \Theta(n^2)$$

Hence, $f(n) \in \Omega(g(n))$ for some constant $c_1 = \frac{1}{4}$ and $n_0 = 2$; and $f(n) \in O(g(n))$ for some constant $c_2 = \frac{1}{2}$ and $n_0 = 1$.



Example: $60n^2 + 50n + 1 \in \Theta(n^2)$

Proof:

We need to find n_0 and c such that

$$f(n) \ge c_1 g(n)$$
 and $f(n) \le c_2 g(n)$ for all $n \ge n_0$.

• Let $f(n) = 60n^2 + 50n + 1$, and $g(n) = n^2$.

Example: $2n + 3 \lg n \in \Theta(n)$

Proof:

We need to find n_0 and c such that

$$f(n) \ge c_1 g(n)$$
 and $f(n) \le c_2 g(n)$ for all $n \ge n_0$.

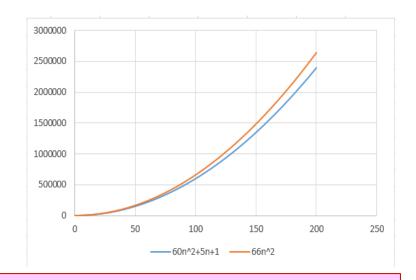
- Let f(n) = 8n + 128, and g(n) = n.
- First we prove that $f(n) \in O(g(n))$
- Then we prove that $f(n) \in \Omega(g(n))$

- Prove that $f(n) \in O(g(n))$
- $\rightarrow f(n) \le cg(n)$

•
$$\rightarrow 60n^2 + 5n + 1 \le cn^2$$

•
$$\rightarrow 60n^2 - cn^2 + 5n + 1 \le 0$$

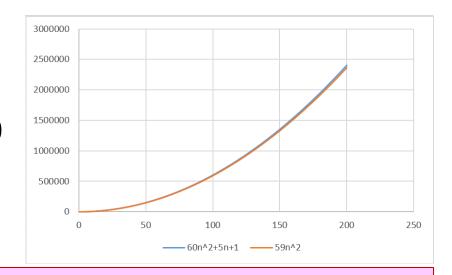
•
$$\rightarrow (60 - c)n^2 + 5n + 1 \le 0$$



Pick $n_0 = 1$ and c = 66 and the inequality stands for all values of $n \ge n_0$ and c = 66. Hence, the statement $60n^2 + 50n + 1 \in \Theta(n^2)$ is true. The proof completes.

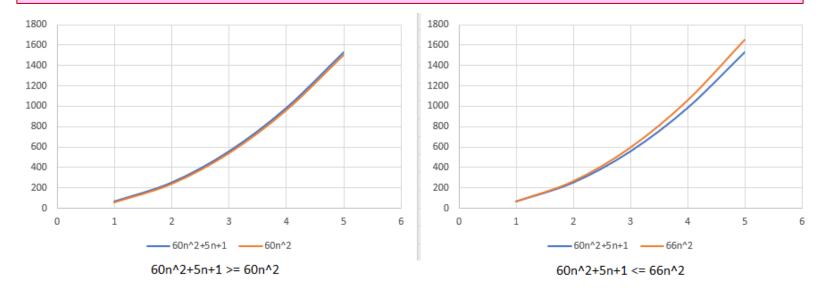
$$\frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

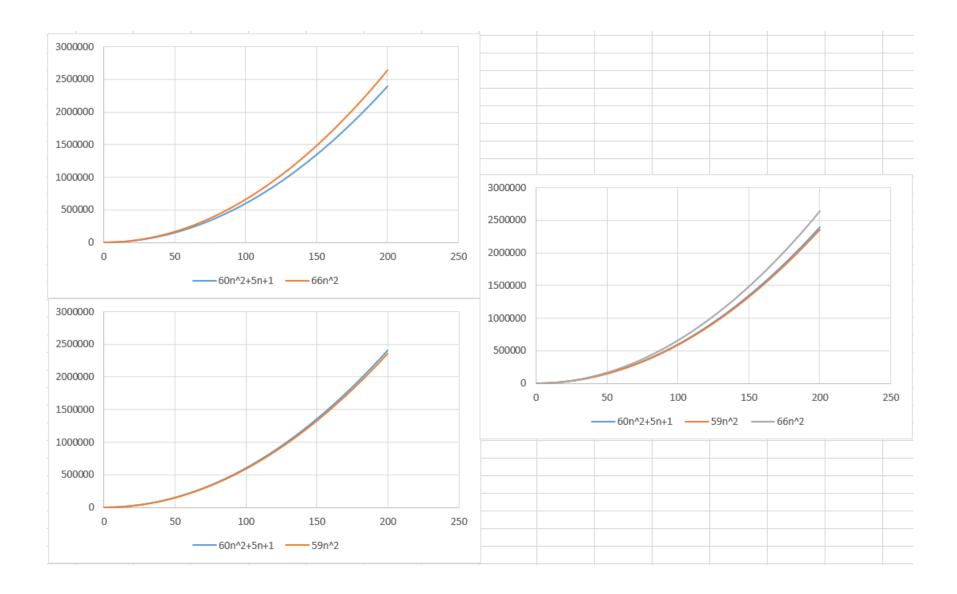
- Prove that $f(n) \in \Omega(g(n))$
- $\leftrightarrow f(n) \ge cg(n)$
- $\leftrightarrow 60n^2 + 5n + 1 \ge cn^2$
- $\bullet \leftrightarrow 60n^2 cn^2 + 5n + 1 \ge 0$
- $\rightarrow (60 c)n^2 + 5n + 1 \ge 0$



Pick $n_0 = 1$ and c = 59 and the inequality stands for all values of $n > n_0$ and c = 59. Hence, the statement $60n^2 + 50n + 1 \in \Theta(n^2)$ is valid. The proof completes.

Hence, $f(n) \in \Omega(g(n))$ for some constant c = 60 and $n_0 = 1$; and $f(n) \in O(g(n))$ for some constant c = 66 and $n_0 = 1$.





Example: $2n + 3 \lg n \in \Theta(n)$

Proof:

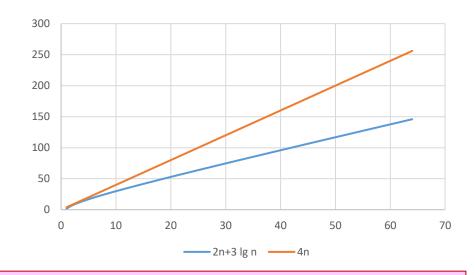
We need to find n_0 and c such that

 $f(n) \ge c_1 g(n)$ and $f(n) \le c_2 g(n)$ for all $n \ge n_0$.

- Let $f(n) = 2n + 3 \lg n$, and g(n) = n.
- First we prove that $f(n) \in O(g(n))$
- Then we prove that $f(n) \in \Omega(g(n))$

- First prove that $f(n) \in O(g(n))$
- $\rightarrow f(n) \le cg(n)$
- $\rightarrow 2n + 3 \lg n \le cn$
- $\rightarrow 2n cn + 3 \lg n \le 0$
- \rightarrow $(2-c)n+3\lg n \leq 0$

Note: In this module, I will use $\log_2 n$ or $\lg n$ to mean logarithm to the base of 2. If you see $\log n$, look at the context to interpret the base.



Pick $n_0 = 1$ and c = 4 and the inequality stands for any value of $n > n_0$ and c = 4. Hence the statement $f(n) \in O(g(n))$ is valid. The proof completes.

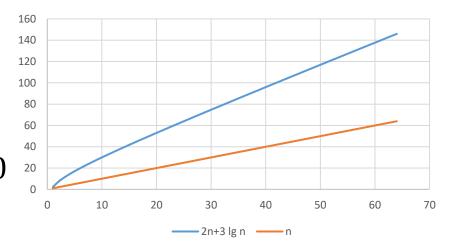
• Then prove that $f(n) \in \Omega(g(n))$

•
$$\rightarrow f(n) \ge cg(n)$$

•
$$\rightarrow 2n + 3 \lg n \ge cn$$

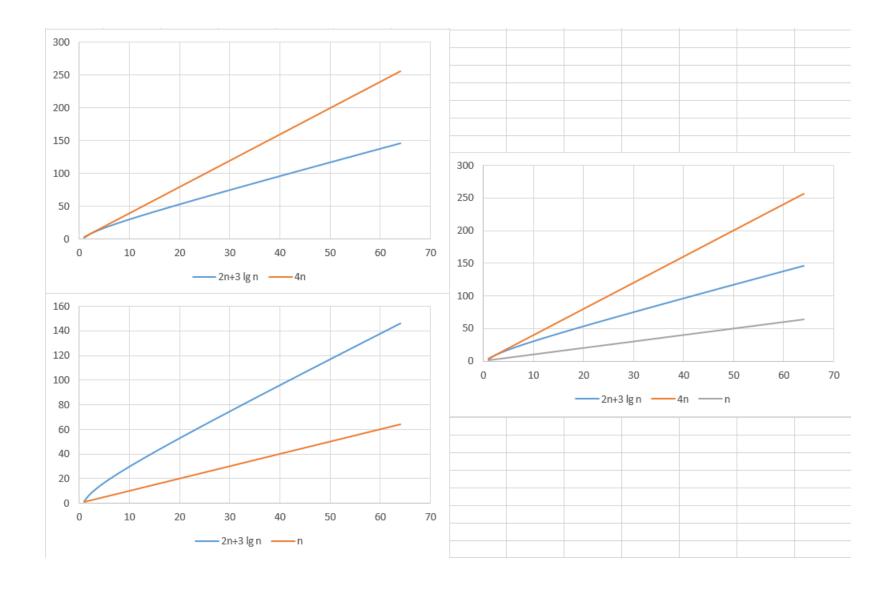
•
$$\rightarrow 2n - cn + 3 \lg n \ge 0$$

•
$$\rightarrow$$
 $(2-c)n+3\lg n \ge 0$

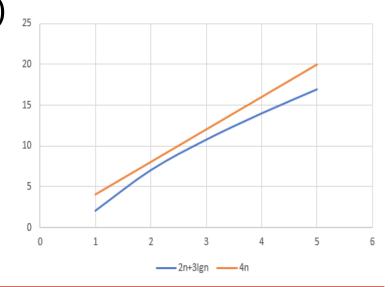


Pick $n_0 = 1$ and c = 1 and the inequality stands for all values of $n \ge n_0$. Hence the statement $f(n) \in \Omega(g(n))$ is valid. The proof completes.

• Hence, $f(n) \in \Omega(g(n))$ for some constant c = 1 and $n_0 = 1$; and $f(n) \in O(g(n))$ for some constant c = 4 and $n_0 = 1$.

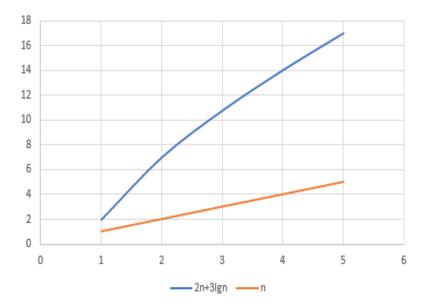


- Prove that $f(n) \in O(g(n))$
- \leftrightarrow $f(n) \le cg(n)$
- $\leftrightarrow 2n + 3 \lg n \le cn$
- $\leftrightarrow 2n cn + 3 \lg n \le 0$



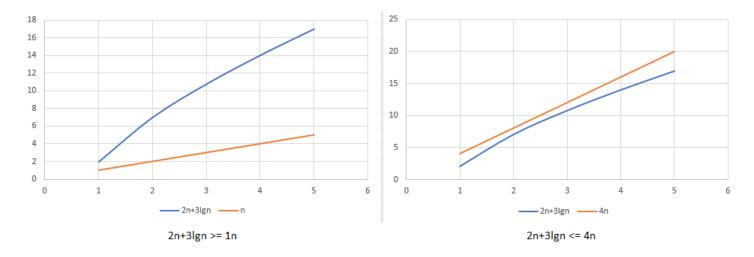
Pick $n_0 = 1$ and c = 4 and the inequality stands. Hence, the proof completes.

- Prove that $f(n) \in \Omega(g(n))$
- \leftrightarrow $f(n) \ge cg(n)$
- $\leftrightarrow 2n + 3 \lg n \ge cn$
- $\leftrightarrow 2n cn + 3 \lg n \ge 0$



Pick $n_0 = 1$ and c = 1 and the inequality stands. Hence, the proof completes.

• Hence, $f(n) \in \Omega(g(n))$ for some constant c=1 and $n_0=1$; and $f(n) \in O(g(n))$ for some constant c=4 and $n_0=1$.



• Suppose we know that $f_1(n) \in O(g_1(n))$ and $f_2(n) \in O(g_2(n))$, what can we say about the asymptotic behaviour of the sum of $f_1(n)$ and $f_2(n)$?

Example:

Consider the functions
$$f_1(n) = n^3 + n^2 + n + 1 \in O(n^3)$$
 and $f_2(n) = n^2 + n + 1 \in O(n^2)$.

$$f_1(n) = n^3 + n^2 + n + 1$$

$$f_2(n) = n^2 + n + 1$$

$$f_1(n) + f_2(n) = n^3 + 2n^2 + 2n + 2$$

Hence, the asymptotic behaviour of the sum $f_1(n) + f_2(n)$ is $O(n^3)$

• Suppose we know that $f_1(n) \in O(g_1(n))$ and $f_2(n) \in O(g_2(n))$. What can we say about the asymptotic behaviour of thee product of $f_1(n)$ and $f_2(n)$?

Example:

Consider the functions $f_1(n) = n^3 + n^2 + n + 1 \in O(n^3)$ and $f_2(n) = n^2 + n + 1 \in O(n^2)$.

The asymptotic behaviour of the product $f_1(n) \times f_2(n)$ is $O(n^3 \times n^2) = O(n^5)$.

As an exercise, what is the asymptotic behaviour of the division $\frac{f_1(n)}{f_2(n)}$?

General plan for algorithm analysis

- Decide on parameter *n* indicating input size
- Identify algorithm's basic operation
- Determine worst case for input of size n
- May also need to determine the average and best cases
- Set up a sum expressing the number of times the algorithm's basic operation is executed
- Simplify the sum using standard formulas and rules to determine big-Oh of the algorithm's running time

Asymptotic rules

- If f(n) is a polynomial of degree d, then f(n) is $O(n^d)$, that is,
 - Drop lower-order terms
 - Drop constant factors
- Use the smallest possible class of functions
 - Say "100n is O(n)" instead of "100n is $O(n^2)$ "
- Use the simplest expression of the class
 - Say "3n + 5 is O(n)" instead of "3n + 5 is O(3n)"