

# Formalizing...definitions

- $T(N) = O(f(N))$  if there are positive constants  $c$  and  $n_0$  such that  $T(N) \leq c f(N)$  when  $N \geq n_0$   
*upper*
- We say that  $T(N)$  is of the “order of  $f(N)$ ” or Big-Oh  $f(N)$  or just  $O(f(N))$
- In words, this means  $T(N)$  is of the order of  $f(N)$  if you can find a point  $n_0$  after which  $T(N)$  is smaller than a linearly scaled version of  $f(N)$ .  
Roughly speaking:
  - The point  $n_0$  helps ignore the additive constants
  - The factor  $c$  helps ignore the multiplicative constants
  - Focus is only on the dominating “N” term

# HOMework

(Deadline 17/01/2014)

Which of the following is/are true? Prove:

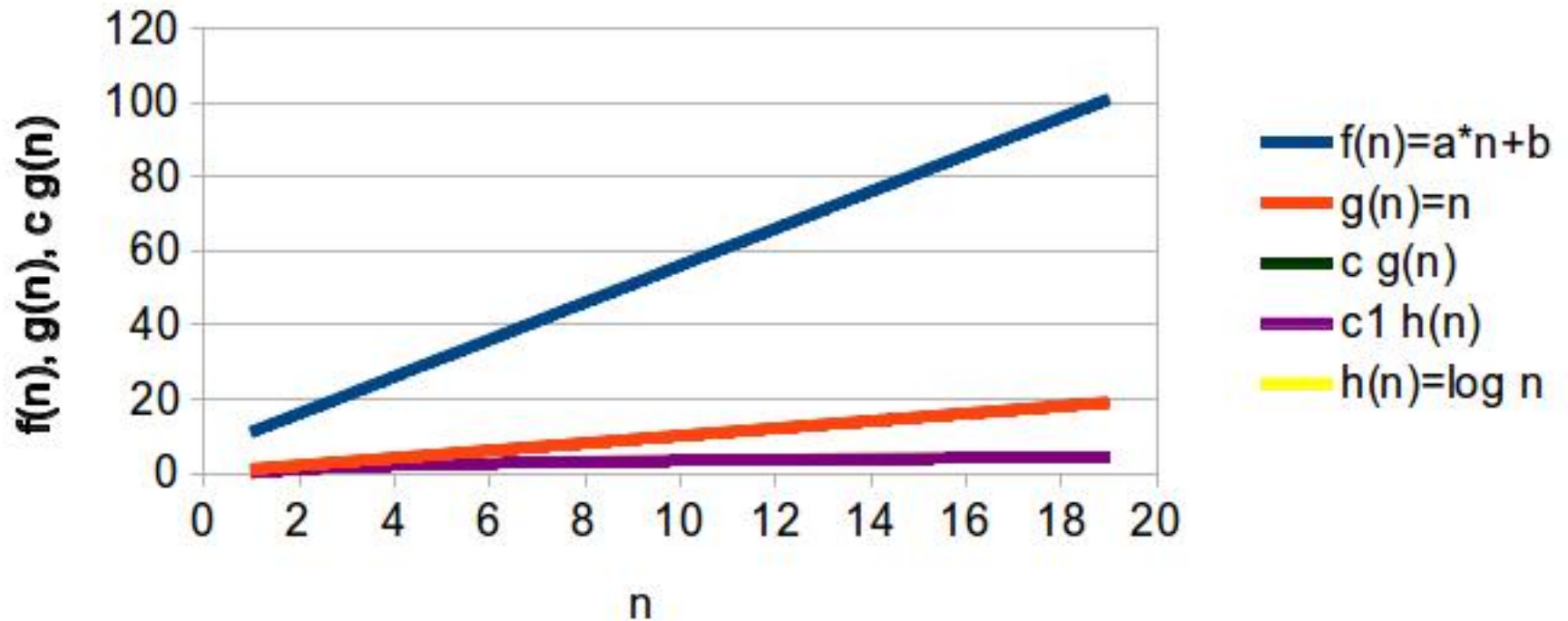
$$40N + 400 = O(2N + 1) : \text{Yes, } n_0=1, c=400$$
$$2N + 1 = O(40N + 400) : \text{Yes, } n_0=1, c=1$$

$$40N + 400 = O(40\log N + 400) : \text{No}$$
$$40\log N + 400 = O(40N + 400) : \text{Yes, } n_0=1, c=1$$

In general  $f = O(N^k) \quad \forall k \geq 1$   
For complexity, we are interested in smallest  $k$ .

# Understanding Big-Oh

$f(n)$  is order of  $g(n)$



$a=5$ ,  $b=6$ ,  $c=7$ ,  $c_1=40$

Refer to spreadsheet

# Other definitions

$O$  = asymptotic upper bnd  
 $\Omega$  = " lower

- $T(N) = \Omega(f(N))$  if there are positive constants  $c$  and  $n_0$  such that  $T(N) \geq c f(N)$  when  $N \geq n_0$ .  
*lower bound*

- Growth rate of  $T(N)$  is more than of  $g(N)$   $\{N^2 = \Omega(N)\}$

- $T(N) = \Theta(f(N))$  if  $T(N) = O(f(N))$  and  $T(N) = \Omega(f(N))$ .  
*tight upper & lower bnd*

- Growth rates of  $T(N)$  and  $f(N)$  are same  $\{aN+b = \Theta(N)\}$

- $T(N) = o(f(N))$  if for all <sup>positive</sup> constants  $c$  there is an  $n_0$  such that  $T(N) < c f(N)$  when  $N > n_0$ .  
*strict upper bound*

- Growth rate of  $T(N)$  is strictly less than of  $f(N)$   $\{N = o(N^2)\}$

Q: If  $f(N) = O(f'(N))$ ,  
is  $f'(N) = \Omega(f(N))$ ?

Ans: If  $\forall N \geq n_0 \quad f(N) \leq c f'(N)$

then  $\forall N \geq n_0 \quad f'(N) \geq \frac{1}{c} f(N)$

positive

Q: Why is definition of  $\Omega$  that

$$f(N) \neq \Omega(f'(N)) \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \forall c, \exists n_0 \text{ s.t. } \forall N \geq n_0 \\ f(N) < c f'(N) \end{array} \right. \quad (a)$$

H/w: Reflect

& NOT

$$\exists n_0 \& c > 0 \text{ s.t. } \forall N \geq n_0$$

$$f(N) < c f'(N)$$

? Ans: (b) does NOT exclude  $f(N) = \Omega(f'(N))$  ( & therefore NOT  $f(N) = \Theta(f'(N))$  ) BUT (a) excludes both  $f(N) = \Omega(f'(N))$  &  $f(N) = \Theta(f'(N))$

# ...more on definitions

- $T(N) = \Omega(f(N))$ 
  - $f(N)$  is  $O(T(N))$
- $T(N) = \Theta(f(N))$ 
  - A “tighter” proof – generally done in advanced analysis
- $T(N) = o(f(N))$  : What is the real difference from big-Oh?
  - If  $T(N)$  is  $O(f(N))$ , it may still be  $\Theta(f(N))$  also
  - But if  $T(N)$  is  $o(f(N))$  it will not be  $\Theta(f(N))$

# Examples (of functions)

- $2N+3$  is  $O(N)$ 
  - $T(N) = 2N+3$ ,  $f(N) = N$
  - For  $c=6$ ,  $n_0=1$ ,  $T(N) < c f(N)$  for  $n \geq n_0$
- Note that  $2N+3$  is also  $O(N^2)$ ,  $O(N^3)$  etc, but by convention we always state the lowest order when we talk about order of complexity of algorithms
- $f(N)$  is also  $O(T(N))$  ( $c=1$ ,  $n_0=1$ )
- So  $T(N)$  is  $\Theta(f(N))$

(Similar to homework problem)



# Examples

- $4N^2 + N + 5$  is conventionally described as  $O(N^2)$  although it is also  $O(N^2 + N)$ 
  - Lower order terms usually not mentioned
- $5N + 3 \log N \sim O(N)$
- (We don't do formal proofs of finding  $c$  and  $n_0$  – just write the order intuitively, based on dominating term)

Idea: drop  $N$  in  $N^2 + N$  :  $N = o(N^2)$   
drop  $\log N$  in  $N + \log N$  :  $\log N = o(N)$

Can there be a more efficient search algo than A or B? Ans: Yes  
interpolation search

For an interpolation search to be practical, two assumptions must be satisfied:

1. Each access must be very expensive compared to a typical instruction. For example, the array might be on a disk instead of in memory, and each comparison requires a disk access.

2. The data must not only be sorted, it must also be fairly uniformly distributed. For example, a phone book is fairly uniformly distributed. If the input items are { 1, 2, 4, 8, 16, }, the distribution is not uniform

Key difference from binary search:  
Search for "next" instead of "mid"

Replace: (a)  $mid = \frac{high - low}{2}$

with:

(b)  $next = low + \left[ \frac{x - a[low]}{a[high] - a[low]} * (high - low - 1) \right]$

Diagram illustrating the formula for (b):

- An arrow points from the text "value being searched" to the variable  $x$  in the numerator of the fraction.
- A red arrow points from the denominator  $a[high] - a[low]$  to the array  $a$  in the diagram below.

PRO: Works well  $\rightarrow$  Assuming uniform distribution  
in  $\underbrace{low \dots a \dots high}_x$

CON: (b) involves floating point operations unlike (a) and is therefore much more expensive.

# Example-1 (analyzing programs)

```
for (n = 0; n <= N - 1; n++)  
for (m = n+1; m <= N - 1; m++) {  
    temp = A[n][m];  
    A[n][m] = A[m][n];  
    A[m][n] = temp;  
}
```

Constant time  
execution

Only need to figure  
out how many times  
this is executed

1. At  $n=0$ , loop executed  $N-1$  times
2. At  $n=1$ ,  $N-2$  times...

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Total: } & N-1 + N-2 + N-3 \dots + 1 = \\ & = (N-1) * N / 2 = (N^2 - N) / 2 \sim O(N^2)\end{aligned}$$

## Example-2 (analyzing programs)

```
bool whatDoIDo(int a[], int arraysize) {
```

```
    int *b,j,i, m, n;
```

```
    m = a[0];
```

```
    n = a[0];
```

```
    b = new int[arraysize];
```

```
    b[0] = 0;
```

```
    for (i=1; i < arraysize; i++) {
```

```
        if (m < a[i] ) m = a[i];
```

```
        if (n > a[i] ) n = a[i];
```

```
        b[i] = 0;
```

```
    }
```

```
    if ( (m - n + 1) == arraysize ) {
```

```
        for (i=0; i < arraysize; i++) {
```

```
            j=a[i];
```

```
            if (!b[j-n])
```

```
                b[j-n] ++;
```

```
            else {
```

```
                return false;
```

```
            }
```

```
        }
```

```
    }
```

```
    else
```

```
        return false;
```

```
    return true;
```

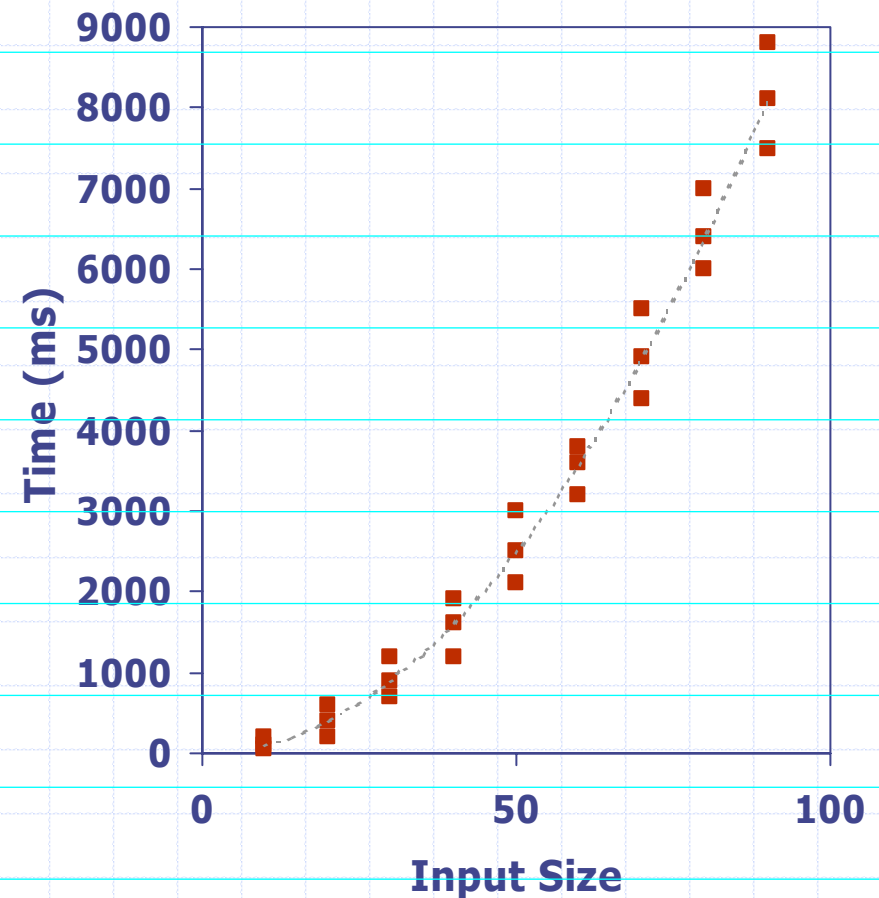
```
}
```

Let arraysize=N, running  
time is  $O(N)$

Revisiting concepts

# Experimental Studies

- ◆ Write a program implementing the algorithm
- ◆ Run the program with inputs of varying size and composition
- ◆ Use a method like `System.currentTimeMillis()` to get an accurate measure of the actual running time
- ◆ Plot the results



# Limitations of Experiments

- ◆ It is necessary to implement the algorithm, which may be difficult
- ◆ Results may not be indicative of the running time on other inputs not included in the experiment.
- ◆ In order to compare two algorithms, the same hardware and software environments must be used





# Theoretical Analysis



- ◆ Uses a high-level description of the algorithm instead of an implementation
- ◆ Characterizes running time as a function of the input size,  $n$ .
- ◆ Takes into account all possible inputs
- ◆ Allows us to evaluate the speed of an algorithm independent of the hardware/software environment

# Pseudocode (§3.2)

- ◆ High-level description of an algorithm
- ◆ More structured than English prose
- ◆ Less detailed than a program
- ◆ Preferred notation for describing algorithms
- ◆ Hides program design issues

Example: find max element of an array

**Algorithm** *arrayMax*( $A, n$ )

**Input** array  $A$  of  $n$  integers

**Output** maximum element of  $A$

*currentMax*  $\leftarrow A[0]$

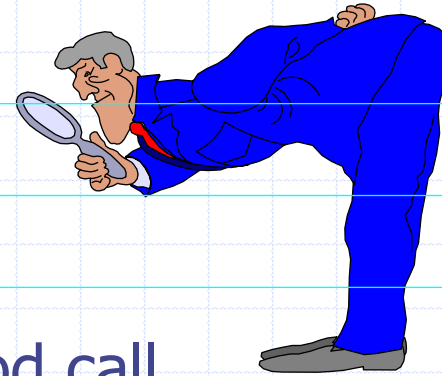
**for**  $i \leftarrow 1$  **to**  $n - 1$  **do**

**if**  $A[i] > \textit{currentMax}$  **then**

*currentMax*  $\leftarrow A[i]$

**return** *currentMax*

# Pseudocode Details



## ◆ Control flow

- **if ... then ... [else ...]**
- **while ... do ...**
- **repeat ... until ...**
- **for ... do ...**
- Indentation replaces braces

## ◆ Method declaration

**Algorithm** *method* (*arg* [, *arg*...])

**Input** ...

**Output** ...

## ◆ Method call

*var.method* (*arg* [, *arg*...])

## ◆ Return value

**return** *expression*

## ◆ Expressions

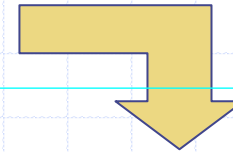
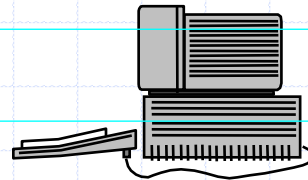
← Assignment  
(like = in Java)

= Equality testing  
(like == in Java)

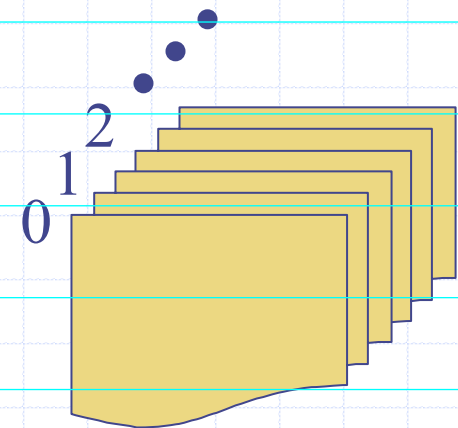
*n*<sup>2</sup> Superscripts and other  
mathematical  
formatting allowed

# The Random Access Machine (RAM) Model

## ◆ A CPU



- ◆ An potentially unbounded bank of **memory** cells, each of which can hold an arbitrary number or character



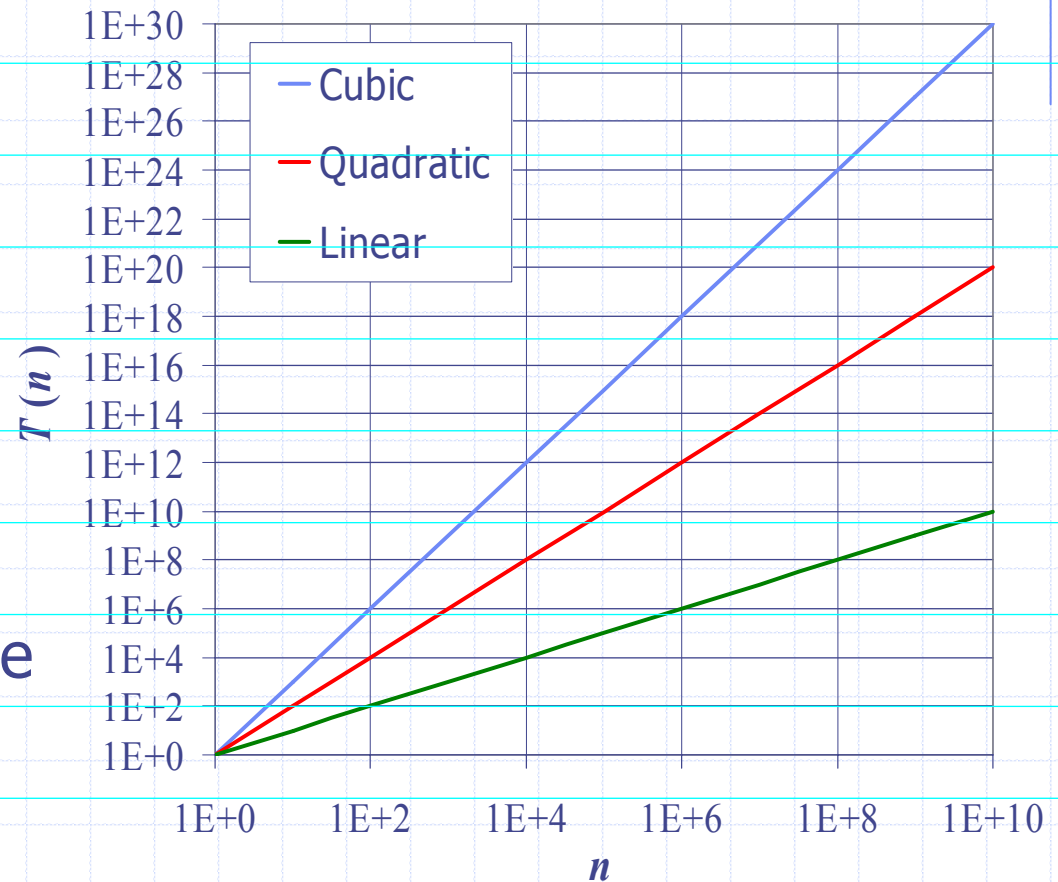
- ◆ Memory cells are numbered and accessing any cell in memory takes unit time.

# Seven Important Functions (§3.3)

◆ Seven functions that often appear in algorithm analysis:

- Constant  $\approx 1$
- Logarithmic  $\approx \log n$
- Linear  $\approx n$
- N-Log-N  $\approx n \log n$
- Quadratic  $\approx n^2$
- Cubic  $\approx n^3$
- Exponential  $\approx 2^n$

◆ In a log-log chart, the slope of the line corresponds to the growth rate of the function



# Primitive Operations



- ◆ Basic computations performed by an algorithm
- ◆ Identifiable in pseudocode
- ◆ Largely independent from the programming language
- ◆ Exact definition not important (we will see why later)
- ◆ Assumed to take a constant amount of time in the RAM model

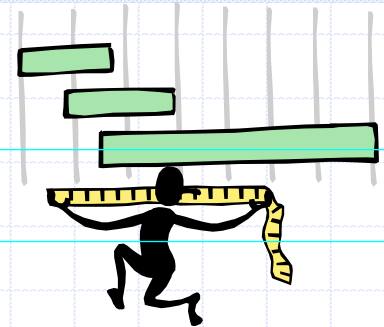
- ◆ Examples:
  - Evaluating an expression
  - Assigning a value to a variable
  - Indexing into an array
  - Calling a method
  - Returning from a method

# Counting Primitive Operations (§3.4)

- ◆ By inspecting the pseudocode, we can determine the maximum number of primitive operations executed by an algorithm, as a function of the input size

Algorithm <i>arrayMax</i> ( <i>A</i> , <i>n</i> )	# operations
<i>currentMax</i> $\leftarrow A[0]$	2
for <i>i</i> $\leftarrow 1$ to <i>n</i> - 1 do	$2n$
if <i>A</i> [ <i>i</i> ] > <i>currentMax</i> then	$2(n - 1)$
<i>currentMax</i> $\leftarrow A[i]$	$2(n - 1)$
{ increment counter <i>i</i> }	$2(n - 1)$
return <i>currentMax</i>	1
Total	$8n - 2$

# Estimating Running Time



◆ Algorithm *arrayMax* executes  $8n - 2$  primitive operations in the worst case. Define:

$a$  = Time taken by the fastest primitive operation

$b$  = Time taken by the slowest primitive operation

◆ Let  $T(n)$  be worst-case time of *arrayMax*. Then

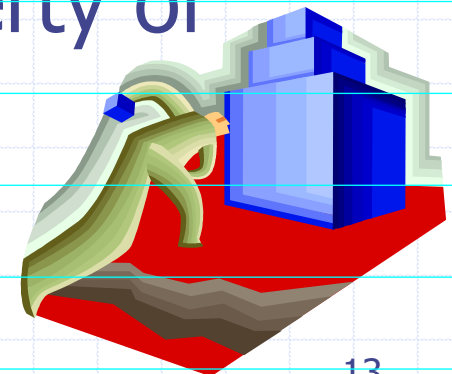
$$a(8n - 2) \leq T(n) \leq b(8n - 2)$$

◆ Hence, the running time  $T(n)$  is bounded by two linear functions



# Growth Rate of Running Time

- ◆ Changing the hardware/ software environment
  - Affects  $T(n)$  by a constant factor, but
  - Does not alter the growth rate of  $T(n)$
- ◆ The linear growth rate of the running time  $T(n)$  is an intrinsic property of algorithm *arrayMax*



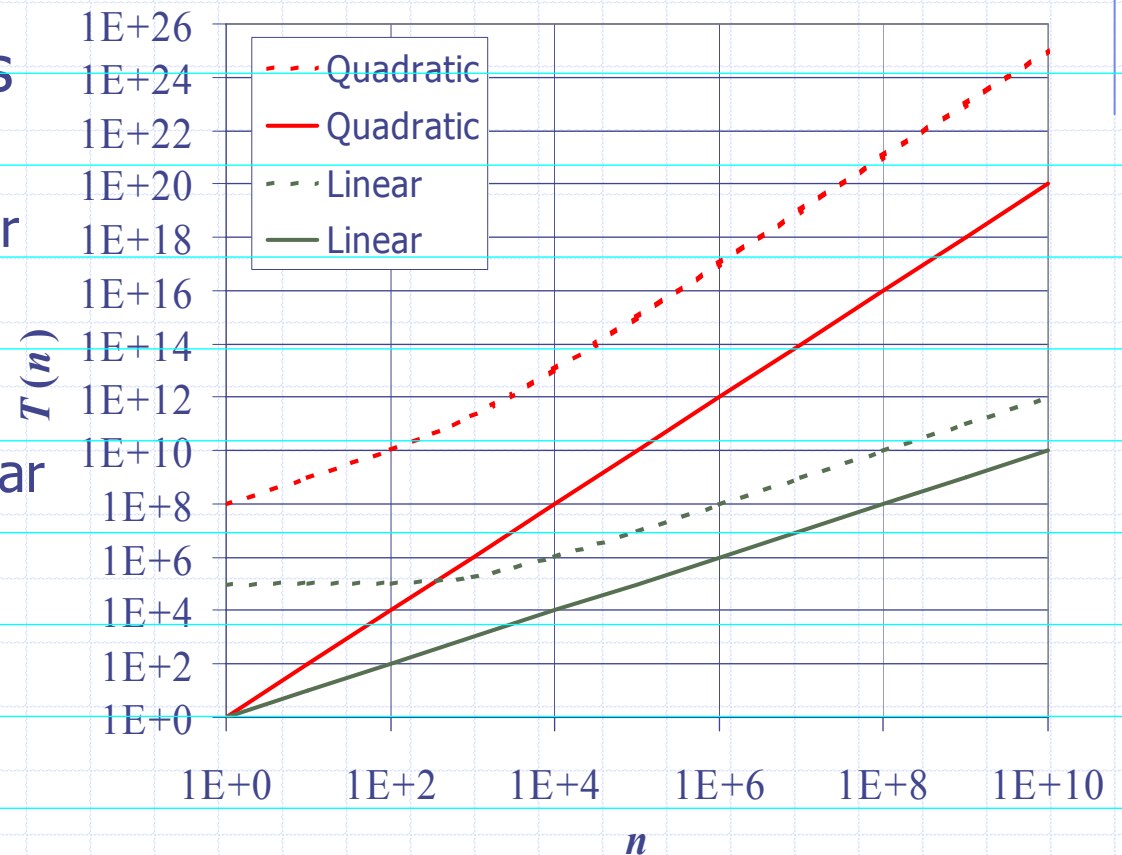
# Constant Factors

◆ The growth rate is not affected by

- constant factors or
- lower-order terms

◆ Examples

- $10^2n + 10^5$  is a linear function
- $10^5n^2 + 10^8n$  is a quadratic function



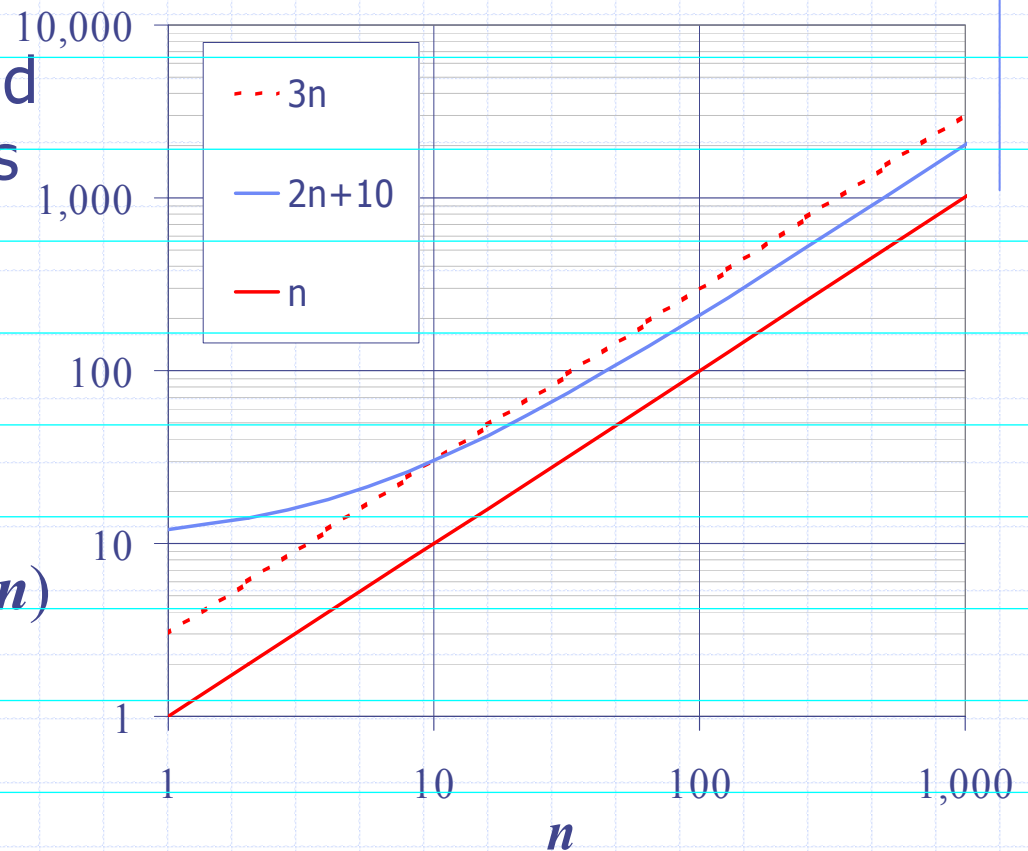
# Big-Oh Notation (§3.4)

◆ Given functions  $f(n)$  and  $g(n)$ , we say that  $f(n)$  is  $O(g(n))$  if there are positive constants  $c$  and  $n_0$  such that

$$f(n) \leq cg(n) \text{ for } n \geq n_0$$

◆ Example:  $2n + 10$  is  $O(n)$

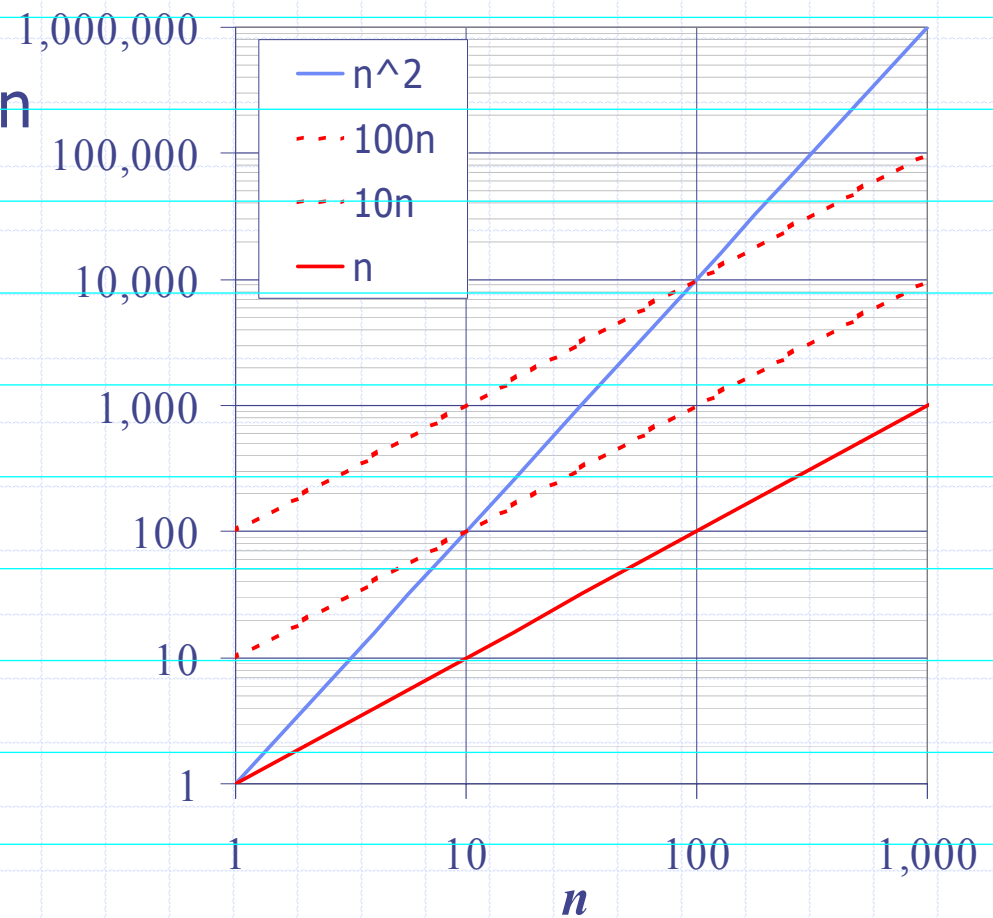
- $2n + 10 \leq cn$
- $(c - 2)n \geq 10$
- $n \geq 10/(c - 2)$
- Pick  $c = 3$  and  $n_0 = 10$



# Big-Oh Example

◆ Example: the function  $n^2$  is not  $O(n)$

- $n^2 \leq cn$
- $n \leq c$
- The above inequality cannot be satisfied since  $c$  must be a constant



# More Big-Oh Examples



## ◆ $7n-2$

$7n-2$  is  $O(n)$

need  $c > 0$  and  $n_0 \geq 1$  such that  $7n-2 \leq c \cdot n$  for  $n \geq n_0$

this is true for  $c = 7$  and  $n_0 = 1$

## ■ $3n^3 + 20n^2 + 5$

$3n^3 + 20n^2 + 5$  is  $O(n^3)$

need  $c > 0$  and  $n_0 \geq 1$  such that  $3n^3 + 20n^2 + 5 \leq c \cdot n^3$  for  $n \geq n_0$

this is true for  $c = 4$  and  $n_0 = 21$

## ■ $3 \log n + 5$

$3 \log n + 5$  is  $O(\log n)$

need  $c > 0$  and  $n_0 \geq 1$  such that  $3 \log n + 5 \leq c \cdot \log n$  for  $n \geq n_0$

this is true for  $c = 8$  and  $n_0 = 2$

# Big-Oh and Growth Rate

- ◆ The big-Oh notation gives an upper bound on the growth rate of a function
- ◆ The statement " $f(n)$  is  $O(g(n))$ " means that the growth rate of  $f(n)$  is no more than the growth rate of  $g(n)$
- ◆ We can use the big-Oh notation to rank functions according to their growth rate

	$f(n)$ is $O(g(n))$	$g(n)$ is $O(f(n))$
$g(n)$ grows more	Yes	No
$f(n)$ grows more	No	Yes
Same growth	Yes	Yes

# Big-Oh Rules



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

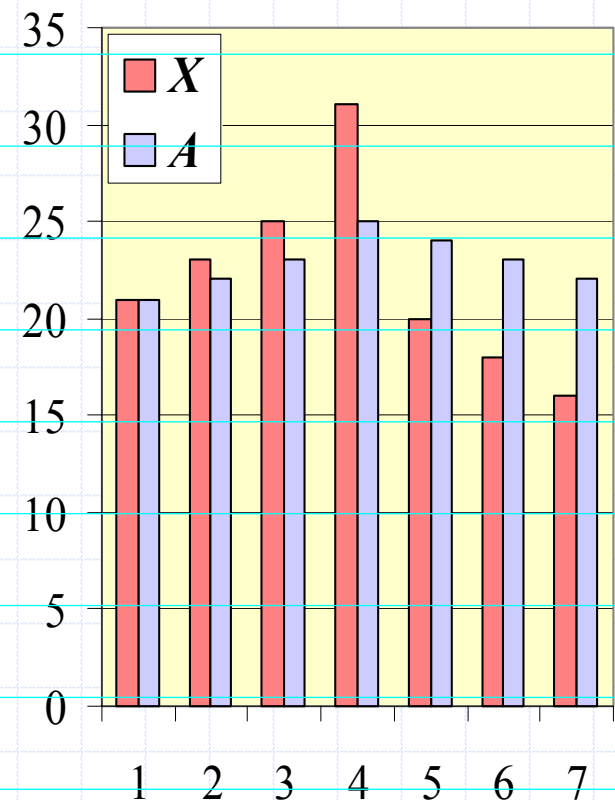
# Asymptotic Algorithm Analysis

- ◆ The asymptotic analysis of an algorithm determines the running time in big-Oh notation
- ◆ To perform the asymptotic analysis
  - We find the worst-case number of primitive operations executed as a function of the input size
  - We express this function with big-Oh notation
- ◆ Example:
  - We determine that algorithm *arrayMax* executes at most  $8n - 2$  primitive operations
  - We say that algorithm *arrayMax* “runs in  $O(n)$  time”
- ◆ Since constant factors and lower-order terms are eventually dropped anyhow, we can disregard them when counting primitive operations



# Computing Prefix Averages

- ◆ We further illustrate asymptotic analysis with two algorithms for prefix averages
- ◆ The  $i$ -th prefix average of an array  $X$  is average of the first  $(i + 1)$  elements of  $X$ :  
$$A[i] = (X[0] + X[1] + \dots + X[i]) / (i + 1)$$
- ◆ Computing the array  $A$  of prefix averages of another array  $X$  has applications to financial analysis



**HOMEWORK (DEADLINE 22nd  
JAN 2014):**

**Present two algorithms for  
computing the array  $A$  of prefix  
averages of another array  $X$   
(problem discussed on the  
previous slide). Analyse the  
running time of each algorithm.**