

# CS 240E

## Personal Notes

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# Chapter 1: Algorithm Analysis

## How to "Solve" a Problem

💡 When solving a problem, we should

- Write down exactly what the problem is;

eg Sorting Problem  
→ given  $n$  numbers in an array,  
put them in sorted order

- Describe the idea;

eg Insertion Sort



Idea: repeatedly move one item into the correct space of the sorted part.

- Give a detailed description; usually pseudocode.

eg Insertion Sort:

```
for i=1, ..., n-1
  j=i
  while j>0 and A[j-1]>A[j]
    swap A[j] and A[j-1]
  j--
```

- Argue the correctness of the algorithm.  
→ In particular, try to point out loop invariants & variants.

- Argue the run-time of the program.  
→ We want a theoretical bound.  
(using asymptotic notation).

To do this, we count the # of primitive operations.

## PRIMITIVE OPERATIONS

💡 In our computer model,

- our computer has memory cells
- all cells are equal
- all cells are big enough to store our numbers

💡 Then, "primitive operations" are  $+$ ,  $-$ ,  $*$ ,  $\div$ , load & following references.

💡 We also assume each primitive operation takes the same amount of time to run.

## ASYMPTOTIC NOTATION

### BIG-O NOTATION: $O(f(n))$

💡 We say that " $f(n) \in O(g(n))$ " if there exist  $c>0$ ,  $n_0>0$  s.t.

$$|f(n)| \leq c|g(n)| \quad \forall n \geq n_0.$$

eg  $f(n) = 75n + 500$  &  $g(n) = 5n^2$ ,  
 $c=1$  &  $n_0=20$

💡 Usually, " $n$ " represents input size.

### SHOW $2n^2 + 3n + 11 \in O(n^2)$

💡 To show the above, we need to find  $c, n_0$  such that  $0 \leq 2n^2 + 3n + 11 \leq cn^2 \quad \forall n \geq n_0$ .

Sol<sup>n</sup>. Consider  $n_0=1$ . Then

$$1 \leq n \Rightarrow 1 \leq n^2 \Rightarrow 11 \leq 11n^2$$

$$1 \leq n \Rightarrow n \leq n^2 \Rightarrow 3n \leq 3n^2$$

$$(+)$$

$$\Rightarrow 2n^2 + 3n + 11 \leq 11n^2 + 3n^2 + 3n^2 = 16n^2$$

Hence  $c=16$  &  $n_0=1$ , so  $2n^2 + 3n + 11 \in O(n^2)$ .  $\square$

### $\Omega$ -NOTATION (BIG OMEGA): $f(n) \in \Omega(g(n))$

💡 We say " $f(n) \in \Omega(g(n))$ " if there exist  $c>0$ ,  $n_0>0$  such that

$$c|g(n)| \leq |f(n)| \quad \forall n \geq n_0.$$

### $\Theta$ -NOTATION (BIG THETA): $f(n) \in \Theta(g(n))$

💡 We say " $f(n) \in \Theta(g(n))$ " if there exist  $c_1, c_2>0$ ,  $n_0>0$  such that

$$c_1|g(n)| \leq |f(n)| \leq c_2|g(n)|.$$

💡 Note that

$$f(n) \in \Theta(g(n)) \Leftrightarrow f(n) \in O(g(n)) \text{ \& } f(n) \in \Omega(g(n)).$$

### $o$ -NOTATION (SMALL $o$ ): $f(n) \in o(g(n))$

💡 We say " $f(n) \in o(g(n))$ " if for any  $c>0$ , there exists some  $n_0>0$  such that

$$|f(n)| < c|g(n)| \quad \forall n \geq n_0.$$

💡 If  $f(n) \in o(g(n))$ , we say  $f(n)$  is "asymptotically strictly smaller" than  $g(n)$ .

### $\omega$ -NOTATION (SMALL OMEGA): $f(n) \in \omega(g(n))$

💡 We say  $f(n) \in \omega(g(n))$  if for all  $c>0$ , there exists some  $n_0>0$  such that

$$0 \leq c|g(n)| < |f(n)| \quad \forall n \geq n_0.$$

# FINDING RUNTIME OF A PROGRAM

To evaluate the run-time of a program, given its pseudocode, we do the following:

- 1 Annotate any primitive operations with just " $\Theta(1)$ ";
- 2 For any loops, find the worst-case bound for how many times it will execute;
- 3 Calculate the big-O run time of the program;
- 4 Argue this bound is tight (ie show program is also in  $\Omega(g(n))$ , so runtime  $\in \Theta(g(n))$ .)

eg insertion sort

```
for i=1, ..., n-1
  j=i
  while j>0 and A[j-1]>A[j]
    swap A[j] and A[j-1]
  j--
```

Then, let  $c$  be a const s.t. the upper bounds all the times needed to execute one line.

So runtime  $\leq n \cdot n \cdot c = c \cdot n^2 \in O(n^2)$ .

Next, consider the worst case of insertion sort.

10 9 8 7 6 ... 0

For each  $A[i]$ , we need  $i-1$  swaps.

So

$$\text{runtime} \geq \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} (i-1) = \frac{(n-2)(n-1)}{2} \in \Omega(n^2),$$

and so runtime  $\in \Theta(n^2)$ .

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} = L < \infty \Rightarrow f(n) \in O(g(n))$$

<< LIMIT RULE I >> (LI.1(2))

Let  $f(n), g(n)$  be such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} = L < \infty$ . Then necessarily  $f(n) \in O(g(n))$ .

Proof. We know  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} = L$ .

$$\Rightarrow \forall \epsilon > 0: \exists n_\epsilon \text{ s.t. } \left| \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} - L \right| < \epsilon \quad \forall n \geq n_\epsilon.$$

We want to show

$$\exists c > 0, \exists n_0 \Rightarrow \forall n \geq n_0, f(n) \leq c \cdot g(n).$$

Choose  $\epsilon = 1$ . Then there exists a  $n_1$  s.t.

$$\forall n \geq n_1, \left| \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} - L \right| \leq 1.$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} - L \leq \left| \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} - L \right| \leq 1.$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} \leq L + 1$$

$$\Leftrightarrow f(n) \leq L \cdot g(n) + g(n) \quad (\text{since } g(n) > 0)$$

Choose  $c = L + 1$ . Note  $f(n), g(n) > 0$ , so  $L + 1 > 0$ , and since  $L < \infty$ , thus  $c < \infty$ .

Now, for all  $n \geq n_1$ ,  $f(n) \leq c \cdot g(n)$ , and so  $f(n) \in O(g(n))$ .  $\square$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} = 0 \Leftrightarrow f(n) \in o(g(n))$$

<< LIMIT RULE II >> (LI.1(1))

Let  $f(n), g(n)$ . Then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} = 0$  iff  $f(n) \in o(g(n))$ .

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} = L > 0 \Rightarrow f(n) \in \Omega(g(n))$$

<< LIMIT RULE III >> (LI.1(3))

Let  $f(n), g(n)$  such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} = L > 0$ .

Then necessarily  $f(n) \in \Omega(g(n))$ .

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} = \infty \Rightarrow f(n) \in \omega(g(n))$$

<< LIMIT RULE IV >> (LI.1(4))

Let  $f(n), g(n)$  such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} = \infty$ .

Then necessarily  $f(n) \in \omega(g(n))$ .

# OTHER LIMIT RULES

The following are corollaries of the limit rules:

- 1  $f(n) \in O(f(n))$  } (Identity)
- 2  $K \cdot f(n) \in O(f(n)) \quad \forall K \in \mathbb{R}$  } (Constant multiplication)
- 3  $f(n) \in O(g(n)), g(n) \in O(h(n))$   
 $\Rightarrow f(n) \in O(h(n))$  } (Transitivity)
- 4  $f(n) \in \Omega(g(n)), g(n) \in \Omega(h(n))$   
 $\Rightarrow f(n) \in \Omega(h(n))$  }
- 5  $f(n) \in O(g(n)), g(n) \leq h(n) \quad \forall n \geq N$   
 $\Rightarrow f(n) \in O(h(n))$  } (Dominance)
- 6  $f(n) \in \Omega(g(n)), g(n) \geq h(n) \quad \forall n \geq N$   
 $\Rightarrow f(n) \in \Omega(h(n))$  }
- 7  $f_1(n) \in O(g_1(n)), f_2(n) \in O(g_2(n))$   
 $\Rightarrow f_1(n) + f_2(n) \in O(g_1(n) + g_2(n))$  } (Addition)
- 8  $f_1(n) \in \Omega(g_1(n)), f_2(n) \in \Omega(g_2(n))$   
 $\Rightarrow f_1(n) + f_2(n) \in \Omega(g_1(n) + g_2(n))$  }
- 9  $h(n) \in O(f(n) + g(n))$   
 $\Rightarrow h(n) \in O(\max(f(n), g(n)))$  } (Maximum-rule for  $O$ )
- 10  $h(n) \in \Omega(f(n) + g(n))$   
 $\Rightarrow h(n) \in \Omega(\max(f(n), g(n)))$  } (Maximum-rule for  $\Omega$ )

$$f(n) \in P_d(\mathbb{R}) \Rightarrow f(n) \in \Theta(n^d) \quad \text{<< POLYNOMIAL RULE >>}$$

Let  $f(n) \in P_d(\mathbb{R})$ , ie of the form  $f(n) = c_0 + c_1 n + \dots + c_d n^d$ .

Then necessarily  $f(n) \in \Theta(n^d)$ .

$$b > 1; \log_b(n) \in \Theta(\log n) \quad \text{<< LOG RULE I >>}$$

Let  $b > 1$ . Then necessarily  $\log_b(n) \in \Theta(\log n)$ .

Proof. Note

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log_b(n)}{\log n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{\log(n)}{\log(b)}}{\log(n)} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\log(b)} > 0.$$

So by Limit Rules 1 & 3,  $\log_b(n) \in \Theta(\log n)$ .  $\square$

$$c, d > 0; \log^c n \in o(n^d) \quad \text{<< LOG RULE II >>}$$

Let  $c, d > 0$ . Then necessarily  $\log^c n \in o(n^d)$ .

where  $\log^c n \equiv (\log n)^c$ .

Proof. See that

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln^k n}{n} &\stackrel{L'H}{=} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{k \ln^{k-1}(n) \cdot \frac{1}{n}}{1} \\ &\stackrel{L'H}{=} \dots \\ &\stackrel{L'H}{=} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{k!}{n} = 0, \end{aligned}$$

so  $\ln^k n \in o(n)$ .

Fix  $c, d > 0$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln^c n}{n^d} &= \left( \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln^c n}{n^{\frac{c}{d}}} \right)^d \\ &\leq \left( \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln^c n}{n^{\frac{c}{d}}} \right)^d \\ &= 0^d = 0. \end{aligned}$$

As  $\log^c n = \left(\frac{1}{\ln 2}\right)^c \ln^c n$ , then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log^c n}{n^d} = \left(\frac{1}{\ln 2}\right)^c \cdot 0 = 0$ .

Proof follows from the limit rule.  $\square$

\*convention:  
"log" = "log<sub>2</sub>".