CSCI 132: Basic Data Structures and Algorithms

Time Complexity, Big-O

Reese Pearsall Spring 2024

Announcements

No class on Friday

Program 2 due Friday March 8th

No Lab next week

Midterm Exam is a week from today

→ Review/Study Guide has been posted

How long will it take to finish building the house?

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The builder is unsure exactly when he will be done, but he offers the following answers in an enclosed envelope. You can only pick one.

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How long will it take to finish building the house?

The builder is unsure exactly when he will be done, but he offers the following answers in an enclosed envelope. You can only pick one.

The **fastest** time he has completed a house in the past

The **slowest** time he has completed a house in the past

How long will it take to finish building the house?

The builder is unsure exactly when he will be done, but he offers the following answers in an enclosed envelope. You can only pick one.

The **fastest** time he has completed a house in the past

The **slowest** time he has completed a house in the past

The **average** time it takes him to complete a house

How long will it take to finish building the house?

The builder is unsure exactly when he will be done, but he offers the following answers in an enclosed envelope. You can only pick one.

(We will also assume they won't break any records for fastest/slowest time)

The **fastest** time he has completed a house in the past

The **slowest** time he has completed a house in the past

The average time it takes him to complete a house

"Best case scenario"

"Worst case scenario"

Average

How long will it take to finish building the house?

The builder is unsure exactly when he will be done, but he offers the following answers in an enclosed envelope. You can only pick one.

The **slowest** time he has completed a house in the past

"Worst case scenario"

If we select this option, we are **guaranteed** a date that the house will be finished by

(The house might be empty for a few days, but that's much better than having to stay in a hotel until the house is ready)

There are a few ways we can measure running time:

1.

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Practical, but the hardware of the computer greatly affects the time needed

We need a way to measure running time that is independent from the hardware the computer has

There are a few ways we can measure running time:

- 1. Time (seconds, nanoseconds, minutes, days, etc)
- 2. Number of **operations** required to complete algorithm.

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- 1. Time (seconds, nanoseconds, minutes, days, etc)
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To measure the running time of an algorithm, we will count the number of operations the algorithm performs, and look at how these operations scale as the input increases

When we describe the running time of an algorithm, we will represent it using Big-O Notation

Assigning a value to a variable

int
$$N = 3$$
;

- Assigning a value to a variable
- Performing an arithmetic operation

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- Comparing two numbers/values

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- Comparing two numbers/values
- Accessing an element in an array (by index)

```
int N = 3;
a = a + 3 * 12
if(n >= i)
i = arr[3]
```

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- Performing an arithmetic operation
- Comparing two numbers/values
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- Assigning a value to a variable
- Performing an arithmetic operation
- Comparing two numbers/values
- Accessing an element in an array (by index)
- Returning from a method

```
int N = 3;
a = a + 3 * 12
if(n >= i)
i = arr[3]
return
```

- Assigning a value to a variable
- Performing an arithmetic operation
- Comparing two numbers/values
- Accessing an element in an array (by index)
- Returning from a method
- Printing out a value

```
int N = 3;
a = a + 3 * 12
if(n >= i)
i = arr[3]
return
System.out.println("Hi")
```

```
public int find_element_in_array(int[] array, int s) {
     for(int i = 0; i < array.length; i++) {</pre>
          if(array[i] == s) {
               return i;
     return -1;
```

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     for(int i = 0; i < array.length; i++) {</pre>
          if(array[i] == s) {
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```

The number of operations this algorithm executes varies because...

```
public int find_element_in_array(int[] array, int s) {
     for(int i = 0; i < array.length; i++) {</pre>
          if(array[i] == s) {
                return i;
     return -1;
```

The number of operations this algorithm executes varies S will be at different locations

```
public int find_element_in_array(int[] array, int s) {
     for(int i = 0; i < array.length; i++) {</pre>
          if(array[i] == s) {
               return i;
     return -1;
```

This is a **primitive operation**, lets count how many times this operation is executed given some input

```
public int find_element_in_array(int[] array, int s) {
     for(int i = 0; i < array.length; i++) {</pre>
          if(array[i] == s) {
               return i;
     return -1;
```

S = 5

4 6 3 5 1 8 2 9 7 2	4	6	6	3	5	1	8	2	9	7	10
---------------------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----

```
public int find_element_in_array(int[] array, int s) {
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$$S = 5$$

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```

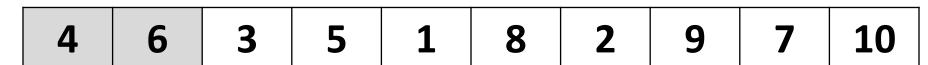
$$S = 5$$





```
public int find_element_in_array(int[] array, int s) {
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$$\mathbf{S} = 5$$





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public int find_element_in_array(int[] array, int s) {
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public int find_element_in_array(int[] array, int s) {
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public int find_element_in_array(int[] array, int s) {
     for(int i = 0; i < array.length; i++) {</pre>
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     return -1;
```



4 operations (5 operations including the return)

S = 5

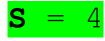
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     for(int i = 0; i < array.length; i++) {</pre>
          if(array[i] == s) {
               return i;
     return -1;
```

```
S = ???
```

4 6 3 5 1 8 2 9 7 10	4	6	4	3	3 5	1	8	2	9	7	10
----------------------	---	---	---	---	-----	---	---	---	---	---	----

What is the best-case scenario for this algorithm (when would this have the shortest running time)?

```
public int find_element_in_array(int[] array, int s) {
     for(int i = 0; i < array.length; i++) {</pre>
          if(array[i] == s) {
               return i;
     return -1;
```



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          if(array[i] == s) {
               return i;
     return -1;
```

This algorithm finds the location (index) of an integer **S** in an array of size **N**

S = ?

4 6	3	5	1	8	2	9	7	10
-----	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----

What is the worst-case scenario for this algorithm (when would this have the longest running time)?

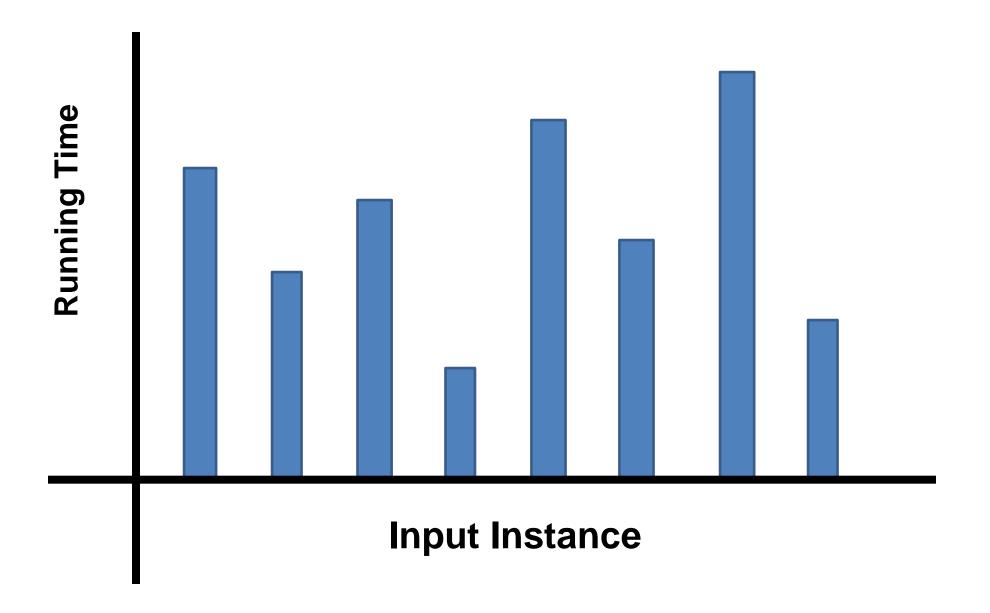
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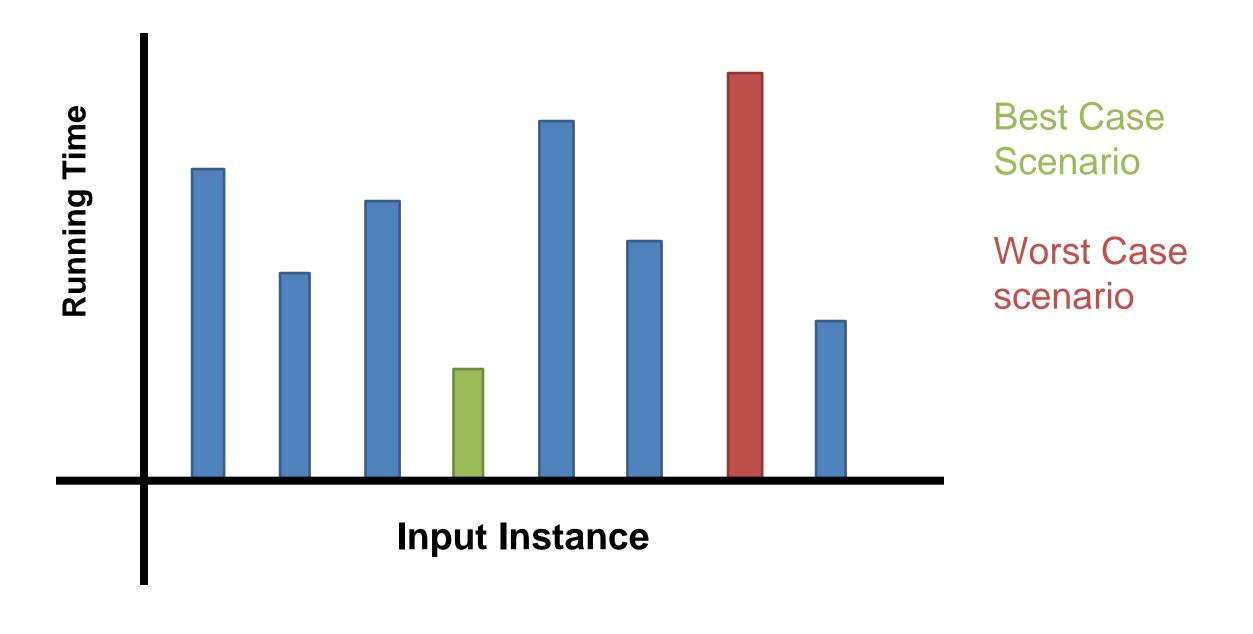
This algorithm finds the location (index) of an integer ${f S}$ in an array of size ${f N}$

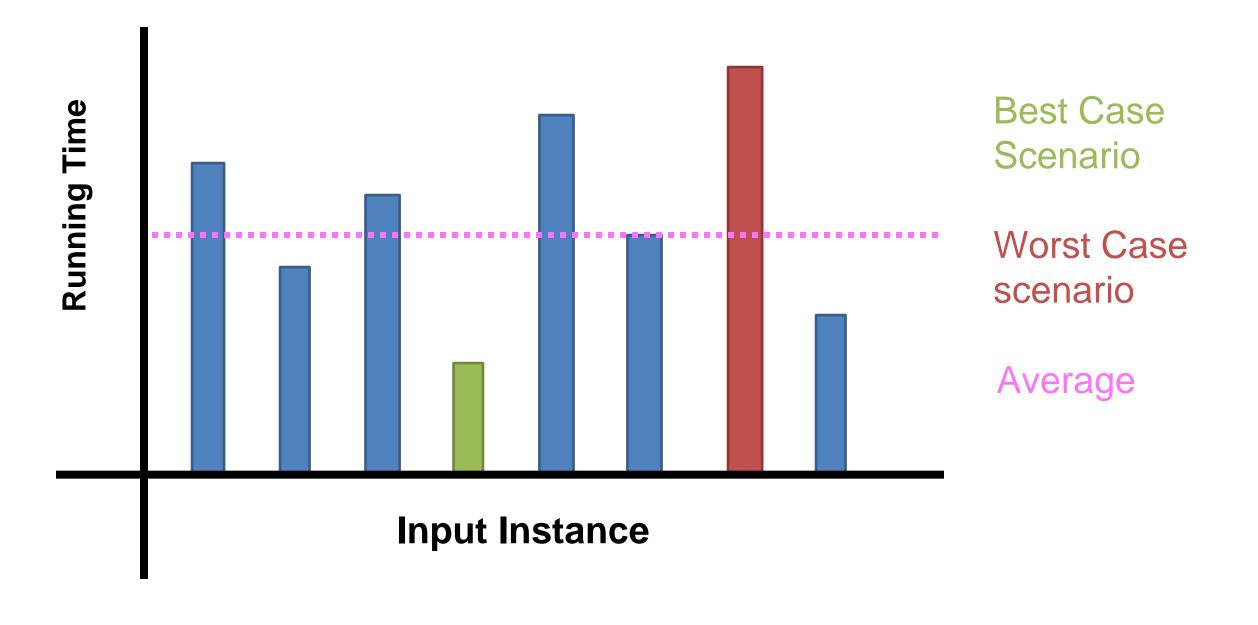


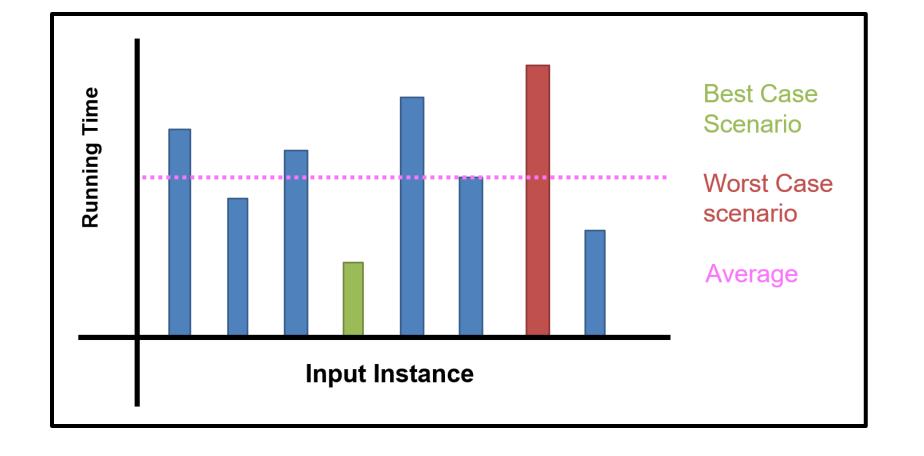
4 6 3 5 1 8	3 2 9 7 10
-------------	------------

What is the worst-case scenario for this algorithm (when would this have the longest running time)?









In computer science (and this class in particular), we will be focusing on stating running time in terms of **worst-case scenario**

```
public int find_element_in_array(int[] array, int s) {
    for(int i = 0; i < array.length; i++) {
        if(array[i] == s) {
            return i;
        }
     }
    return -1;
}</pre>
```

To compute the running time of this algorithm, we will go line-by-line and state the running time of each operation (worst-case scenario)

At the end, add everything up to get the total running time

```
public int find_element_in_array(int[] array, int s) {
    for(int i = 0; i < array.length; i++) {
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            return i;
        }
    }
    return -1;
}</pre>
```

Worse case scenario, this for loop will run N times (N = size of the array)

```
public int find_element_in_array(int[] array, int s) {
    for(int i = 0; i < array.length; i++) {
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        }
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```

```
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    for(int i = 0; i < array.length; i++) {
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            return i;
        }
    }
    return -1;
}</pre>
```

This is a primitive operation, so it will always run in constant time

```
public int find_element_in_array(int[] array, int s) {
    for(int i = 0; i < array.length; i++) {
        if(array[i] == s) {
            return i;
        }
    }
    return -1;
}</pre>
```

```
public int find_element_in_array(int[] array, int s) {
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```

Total Running Time =

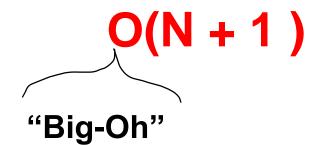
Total Running Time = N * 1 + 1



The if statement is inside the for loop, so we must multiply it by N (number of time the for loop runs)

Total Running Time = N + 1

Total Running Time = N + 1



Big-O = Running Time in terms of worst-case scenario

Total Running Time = N + 1

Big O Formal Definition

Let f(n) and g(n) be functions mapping positive integers to positive real numbers f(n) is O(g(n)) if there is a real constant c > 0 and an integer constant $n_0 \ge 1$ such that

$$f(n) \le c \cdot g(n)$$
, for all $n \ge n_0$

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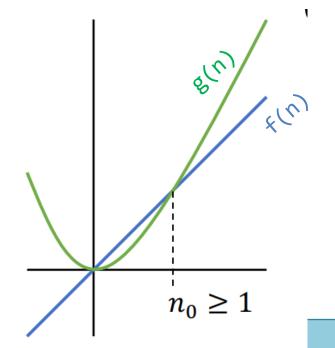
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Past a certain spot, g(n) dominates f(n) within a multiplicative constant



$$\forall n \ge 1, n^2 \ge n$$
$$\Rightarrow n \in O(n^2)$$

 \mathbf{O} -notation provides an upper bound on some function f(n)

Notation used to describe the running time of an algorithm in terms of worse case scenario

Traits of Big-O-Notation:

In Big-O, we can drop non-dominant factors

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$$x^2 + x + 10$$

When X is really *really big*, these factors don't contribute very much at all

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$$x^2 + x + 10 \in O(x^2)$$

When X is really *really big*, these factors don't contribute very much at all

x² is the dominating factor, so we can drop everything else

Notation used to describe the running time of an algorithm in terms of worse case scenario

Traits of Big-O-Notation:

In Big-O, we can drop non-dominant factors

$$x^2 + x + 10 \in O(x^2)$$

When X is really *really big*, these factors don't contribute very much at all

$$x^2 + x + 10 = O(x^2)$$

Quick warning on notation

Notation used to describe the running time of an algorithm in terms of worse case scenario

Traits of Big-O-Notation:

In Big-O, we can drop non-dominant factors

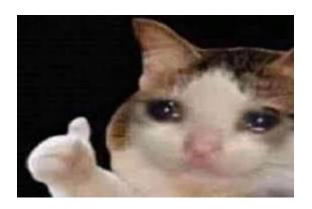
????

```
public int find_element_in_array(int[] array, int s) {
   if(array[i] == s) {
         return i;
  return -1;
```

Total Running Time = N + 1 O(N + 1) where N = Size of Array O(N) where N = Size of Array

"do you understand it now?"





```
int[] newArray = new int[myArray.length + 1];
for(int i = 0; i < myArray.length; i++) {
    newArray[i] = myArray[i];
}
int new_value = 4;
newArray[myArray.length] = new_value;
myArray = newArray;</pre>
```

Create a new array that is one spot larger

Fill new array with contents of old array

Add new value to array and update reference variable

What is the running time of this algorithm?

Algorithm Analysis: Adding value to an Array/ArrayList

```
int[] newArray = new int[myArray.length + 1];
for(int i = 0; i < myArray.length; i++) {
    newArray[i] = myArray[i];
}
int new_value = 4;
newArray[myArray.length] = new_value;
myArray = newArray;</pre>
```

Create a new array that is one spot larger

Fill new array with contents of old array

Add new value to array and update reference variable

What is the running time of this algorithm?

We will find the time complexity for each operation!

```
int[] newArray = new int[myArray.length + 1];

for(int i = 0; i < myArray.length; i++) {
    newArray[i] = myArray[i];
}

int new_value = 4;
newArray[myArray.length] = new_value;
myArray = newArray;</pre>
```

Total Running Time =

Total Running Time = n

Total Running Time = n + n

Total Running Time = n + n * 1

Total Running Time = n + n * 1

When do we add? When do multiply?

Sequential Operations = Add Nested Operations (in a loop) = Multiply

Total Running Time = n + n * 1

Total Running Time = n + n * 1 + 1

Total Running Time = n + n * 1 + 1 + 1

```
int[] newArray = new int[myArray.length + 1]; O(n)
for(int i = 0; i < myArray.length; i++) {
    newArray[i] = myArray[i];
}
int new_value = 4; O(1)
newArray[myArray.length] = new_value; O(1)
myArray = newArray; O(1)</pre>
```

Total Running Time = n + n * 1 + 1 + 1 + 1

```
myArray = newArray; ( O(1)
Total Running Time = n + n * 1 + 1 + 1 + 1
      = 2n + 3
```

Total Running Time =
$$n + n * 1 + 1 + 1 + 1$$

= $2n + 3$

O(2n) where n is the size of the array

Big-O

Notation used to describe the running time of an algorithm in terms of worse case scenario

Traits of Big-O-Notation:

In Big-O, we can drop non-dominant factors

In Big-O, we can drop multiplicative constants

myArray = newArray; O(1)

```
int[] newArray = new int[myArray.length + 1]; O(n)
for(int i = 0; i < myArray.length; i++) { O(n)
    newArray[i] = myArray[i]; O(1)
}
int new_value = 4; O(1)
newArray[myArray.length] = new_value; O(1)</pre>
```

When we write algorithms, we should still be *aware of* these coefficients

Total Running Time =
$$n + n * 1 + 1 + 1 + 1$$

= $2n + 3$



O(2n) where n is the size of the array $\rightarrow O(n)$ where n is the size of the array

```
public void addToBack(Node newNode) {
     if(head == null) {
          head = newNode;
    else {
         Node current = head;
         while(current.getNext() != null) {
             current = current.getNext();
         current.setNext(newNode);
```

What is the running time of this algorithm?

```
public void addToBack(Node newNode) {
     if(head == null) {
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    else {
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         current.setNext(newNode);
```

Total Running Time = 1 + 1 + n

```
public void addToBack(Node newNode) {
     if(head == null) {
          head = newNode;
     else {
          Node current = head;
              le(current.getNext() != null) {
  current = current.getNext();
  O(1)
         while(current.getNext() != null) {
         current.setNext(newNode);
```

Total Running Time = 1 + 1 + n * 1

```
public void addToBack(Node newNode) {
     if(head == null) {
          head = newNode;
     else {
          Node current = head;
         while(current.getNext() != null) {
    current = current.getNext();
}
O(n)
         current.setNext(newNode);
```

Total Running Time = 1 + 1 + n * 1 + 1

```
public void addToBack(Node newNode) {
     if(head == null) {
          head = newNode;
     else {
          Node current = head;
         while(current.getNext() != null) {
    current = current.getNext();
    O(1)
         current.setNext(newNode);
```

Total Running Time =
$$1 + 1 + n * 1 + 1$$

= $n + 3$

```
public void addToBack(Node newNode) {
     if(head == null) {
          head = newNode;
     else {
         Node current = head; O(1)
         while(current.getNext() != null) {
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         current.setNext(newNode);
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public void addToBack(Node newNode) {
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          Node current = head; O(1)
          while(current.getNext() != null) {
    current = current.getNext();
}
O(n)
          current.setNext(newNode);
O(1)
```

Total Running Time =
$$1 + 1 + n * 1 + 1$$

= $n + 3$
 $\in O(n)$ where n is the number of nodes in the LL

```
public void addToBack(Node newNode) {
     if(head == null) {
    head = newNode;
}
     else {
          Node current = head; O(1)
          while(current.getNext() != null) {
    current = current.getNext();
}
O(n)
          current.setNext(newNode);
O(1)
```

"Worst case scenario, we have to go through all the nodes in the LL to add something at the end"

∈ O(n) where n is the number of nodes in the LL

```
public void addToBack(Node newNode) {
     if(head == null && tail == null) {
          head = newNode;
          tail = newNode;
    else {
          tail.setNext(newNode);
          tail = newNode;
```

What is the running time of this algorithm?

```
public void addToBack(Node newNode) {
     if(head == null && tail == null) {
          head = newNode;
                                                    0(1)
          tail = newNode;
     else {
          tail.setNext(newNode);
          tail = newNode;
```

```
public void addToBack(Node newNode) {
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          head = newNode;
                                                   0(1)
         tail = newNode;
     else {
                                           O(1)
          tail.setNext(newNode);
          tail = newNode;
```

```
public void addToBack(Node newNode) {
     if(head == null && tail == null) {
          head = newNode;
         tail = newNode;
    else {
         tail.setNext(newNode);
         tail = newNode;
```

Total Running Time = 1 + 1 + 1

```
public void addToBack(Node newNode) {
     if(head == null && tail == null) {
          head = newNode;
          tail = newNode;
     else {
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```

Total Running Time = 1 + 1 + 1

∈ O(1)

"The number of operations required for this algorithm is the same no matter the input"

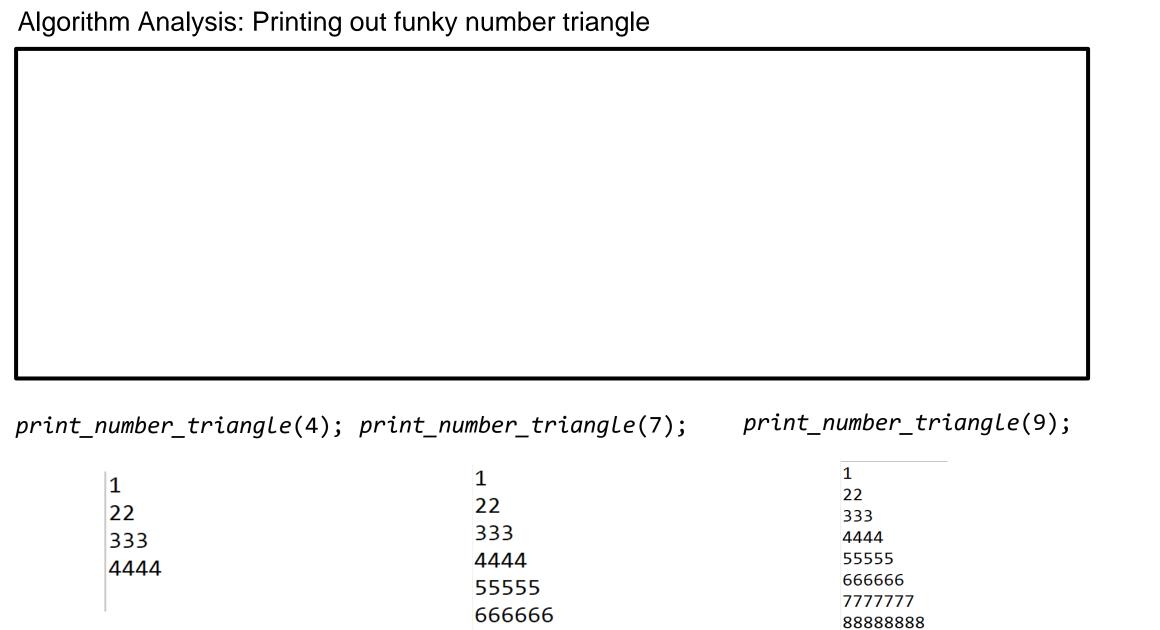
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```

Total Running Time = 1 + 1 + 1

∈ O(1)

"The number of operations required for this algorithm is the same no matter the input"

3,000,000 Nodes = 3 operations, 10 Nodes = 3 operations



```
public static void print_number_triangle(int n) {
    for(int i = 1; i < n + 1; i++) {
        for(int j = 0; j < i; j++) {
            System.out.print(i);
        }
        System.out.println();
    }
}</pre>
```

```
print_number_triangle(9);
print_number_triangle(4); print_number_triangle(7);
        1
                                                                     22
                                      22
        22
                                                                     333
                                      333
                                                                     4444
        333
                                                                     55555
                                      4444
       4444
                                                                     666666
                                      55555
                                                                     777777
                                      666666
                                                                     8888888
                                      777777
                                                                     99999999
```

```
public static void print_number_triangle(int n) {
    for(int i = 1; i < n + 1; i++) {
        for(int j = 0; j < i; j++) {
            System.out.print(i);
        }
        System.out.println();
    }
}</pre>
```

```
public static void print_number_triangle(int n) {
    for(int i = 1; i < n + 1; i++) {
        for(int j = 0; j < i; j++) {
            System.out.print(i);
        }
        System.out.println();
    }
}</pre>
```

```
Total Running Time = N * ((N * 1) * 1)
```

Algorithm Analysis: Printing out funky number triangle

Total Running Time =
$$N * ((N * 1) * 1)$$

= N^2

Algorithm Analysis: Printing out funky number triangle

Total Running Time =
$$N * ((N * 1) * 1)$$

= N^2

```
public int find_element_in_array(int[] array, int s) {
     for(int i = 0; i < array.length; i++) {</pre>
            System.out.println(array[i]);
            System.out.println(array[i]);
            System.out.println(array[i]);
            System.out.println(array[i]);
            System.out.println(array[i]);
     return -1;
```

```
public int find_element_in_array(int[] array, int s) {
   System.out.println(array[i]);
                              O(1)
        System.out.println(array[i]);
                              O(1)
        System.out.println(array[i]);
                              O(1)
        System.out.println(array[i]); O(1)
   return -1; O(1)
```

```
public int find element_in_array(int[] array, int s) {
   System.out.println(array[i]);
                               O(1)
        System.out.println(array[i]);
                               O(1)
        System.out.println(array[i]);
                               O(1)
        System.out.println(array[i]);
                               0(1)
   return -1; O(1)
```

```
Total Running Time: n * 5
O(5n)
n = | length of array |
```

```
public int find element_in_array(int[] array, int s) {
    System.out.println(array[i]);
                                     O(1)
         System.out.println(array[i]);
                                     O(1)
         System.out.println(array[i]);
                                     O(1)
         System.out.println(array[i]);
                                     O(1)
         System.out.println(array[i]);
                                     0(1)
    return -1; O(1)
```

Total Running Time: n * 5 O(5n) n = | length of array |

To find an element in an array, we traverse the length of the array **five times**?

```
public int find element_in_array(int[] array, int s) {
    System.out.println(array[i]);
                                     O(1)
         System.out.println(array[i]);
                                     O(1)
         System.out.println(array[i]);
                                     O(1)
         System.out.println(array[i]);
                                     O(1)
         System.out.println(array[i]);
                                     0(1)
    return -1; O(1)
```

Total Running Time: n * 5 O(5n) n = | length of array |

To find an element in an array, we traverse the length of the array **five times**?

no

```
public int find element in array(int[] array, int s) {
    System.out.println(array[i]);
         System.out.println(array[i]);
                                      O(1)
         System.out.println(array[i]);
         System.out.println(array[i]);
         System.out.println(array[i]);
    return -1; O(1)
```

Total Running Time: n

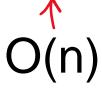
O(n) n = | length of array | To find an element in an array, we traverse the length of the array **once**

When calculating the **asymptotic running time/big O notation/time complexity/running time** the thing we need to pay attention to is the amount of looping

```
public int print_array(int[] array) {
    for(int i = 0; i < array.length; i++) {
        System.out.println(array[i]);
    }
}</pre>
```

```
public int print_array(int[] array) {
     for(int i = 0; i < array.length; i++) {</pre>
             System.out.println(array[i]);
      for(int i = 0; i < array.length; i++) {</pre>
             System.out.println(array[i]);
      for(int i = 0; i < array.length; i++) {</pre>
             System.out.println(array[i]);
      for(int i = 0; i < array.length; i++) {</pre>
             System.out.println(array[i]);
      for(int i = 0; i < array.length; i++) {</pre>
             System.out.println(array[i]);
      for(int i = 0; i < array.length; i++) {</pre>
            System.out.println(array[i]);
```

```
public int print_array(int[] array) {
    for(int i = 0; i < array.length; i++) {
        System.out.println(array[i]);
    }
}</pre>
```



$$O(n + n + n + ... + n + n + n)$$

```
public int print_array(int[] array) {
     for(int i = 0; i < array.length; i++) {</pre>
             System.out.println(array[i]);
      for(int i = 0; i < array.length; i++) {</pre>
             System.out.println(array[i]);
      for(int i = 0; i < array.length; i++) {</pre>
             System.out.println(array[i]);
      for(int i = 0; i < array.length; i++) {</pre>
             System.out.println(array[i]);
      for(int i = 0; i < array.length; i++) {</pre>
             System.out.println(array[i]);
      for(int i = 0; i < array.length; i++) {</pre>
             System.out.println(array[i]);
```

```
public int print_array(int[] array) {
    for(int i = 0; i < array.length; i++) {
        System.out.println(array[i]);
    }
}</pre>
```

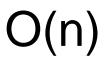
^ O(n)

O(500n)

```
public int print_array(int[] array) {
     for(int i = 0; i < array.length; i++) {</pre>
             System.out.println(array[i]);
      for(int i = 0; i < array.length; i++) {</pre>
             System.out.println(array[i]);
      for(int i = 0; i < array.length; i++) {</pre>
             System.out.println(array[i]);
      for(int i = 0; i < array.length; i++) {</pre>
             System.out.println(array[i]);
      for(int i = 0; i < array.length; i++) {</pre>
             System.out.println(array[i]);
      for(int i = 0; i < array.length; i++) {</pre>
             System.out.println(array[i]);
```

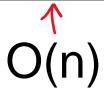
```
public int print_array(int[] array) {
    for(int i = 0; i < array.length; i++) {
        System.out.println(array[i]);
    }
}</pre>
```

^ O(n)

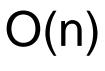


```
public int print_array(int[] array) {
     for(int i = 0; i < array.length; i++) {</pre>
             System.out.println(array[i]);
      for(int i = 0; i < array.length; i++) {</pre>
             System.out.println(array[i]);
      for(int i = 0; i < array.length; i++) {</pre>
             System.out.println(array[i]);
      for(int i = 0; i < array.length; i++) {</pre>
             System.out.println(array[i]);
      for(int i = 0; i < array.length; i++) {</pre>
             System.out.println(array[i]);
      for(int i = 0; i < array.length; i++) {</pre>
             System.out.println(array[i]);
```

```
public int print_array(int[] array) {
    for(int i = 0; i < array.length; i++) {
        System.out.println(array[i]);
    }
}</pre>
```



Even though one algorithm does much more work than another, they still have the same asymptotic running time



```
public int print_array(int[] array) {
     for(int i = 0; i < array.length; i++) {</pre>
             System.out.println(array[i]);
      for(int i = 0; i < array.length; i++) {</pre>
             System.out.println(array[i]);
      for(int i = 0; i < array.length; i++) {</pre>
             System.out.println(array[i]);
      for(int i = 0; i < array.length; i++) {</pre>
             System.out.println(array[i]);
      for(int i = 0; i < array.length; i++) {</pre>
             System.out.println(array[i]);
      for(int i = 0; i < array.length; i++) {</pre>
             System.out.println(array[i]);
```

```
public int print_array(int[] array) {
    for(int i = 0; i < array.length; i++)
{
        System.out.println(array[i]);
    }
}</pre>
```

```
public int print_array(int[] array) {
    for(int i = 0; i < array.length; i++)
{
        System.out.println(array[i]);
    }
}</pre>
```

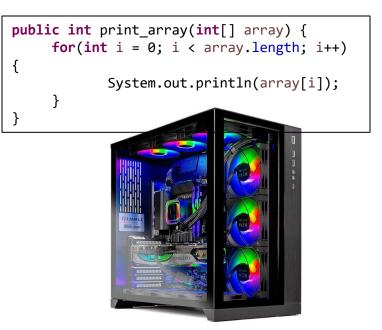
```
public int print_array(int[] array) {
    for(int i = 0; i < array.length; i++)
{
        System.out.println(array[i]);
    }
}</pre>
```

???

```
public int print_array(int[] array) {
     for(int i = 0; i < array.length; i++)</pre>
            System.out.println(array[i]);
                   O(n)
```

```
public int print_array(int[] array) {
    for(int i = 0; i < array.length; i++)
{
        System.out.println(array[i]);
    }
}</pre>
```

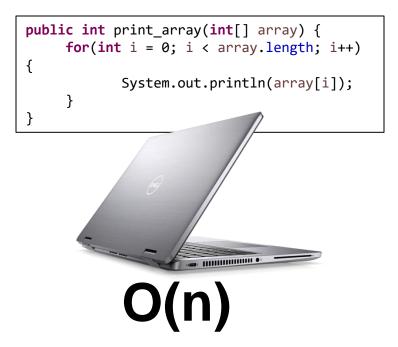
???



O(n)

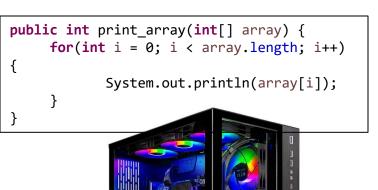
```
public int print_array(int[] array) {
    for(int i = 0; i < array.length; i++)
{
        System.out.println(array[i]);
}</pre>
```

???



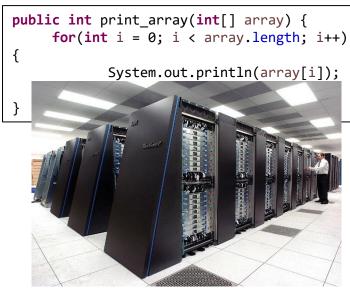
```
public int print_array(int[] array) {
    for(int i = 0; i < array.length; i++)
{
        System.out.println(array[i]);
    }
}</pre>
```

O(n)



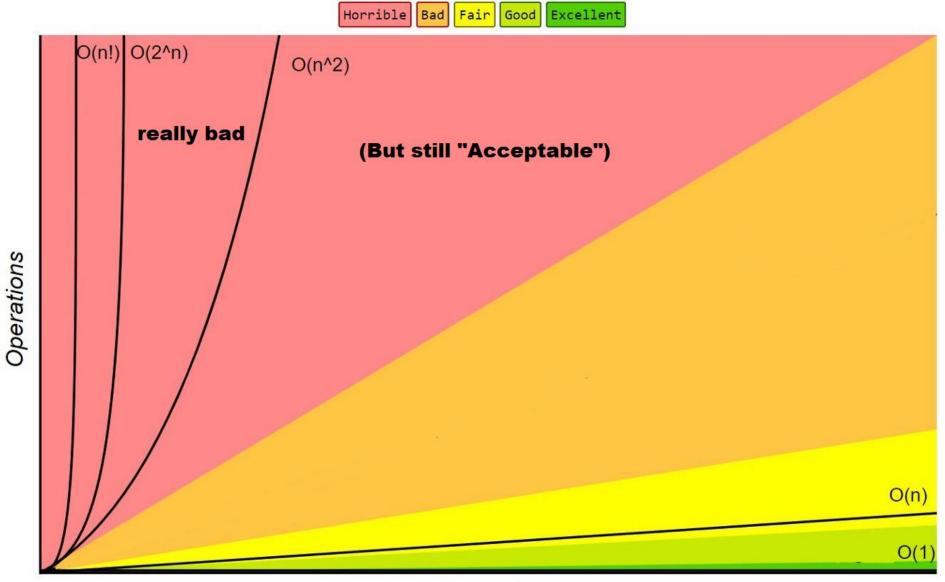
O(n)

The same algorithm will have the same asymptotic running time no matter what the computer's hardware is



O(n)

Big-O Complexity Chart



Elements

Big-O Complexity Chart

