

**Theorem 1.2:** If  $f(n) = a_m n^m + \dots + a_1 n + a_0$ , then  $f(n) = O(n^m)$ .  
( $f$  is non-negative)

**Proof:** **Claim:**  $f(n) \leq (|a_m| + |a_{m-1}| + \dots + |a_1| + |a_0|) n^m$ , for all  $m \geq 0$  and  $n \geq 0$ .

**Proof:** The proof will be by mathematical induction on  $m$ .

**Base Case:**  $m=0$ .  $f(n) = a_0$  R.H.S.  $|a_0| \cdot n^0 = |a_0|$ . It's a standard result by defn. that  $a_0 \leq |a_0|$ .  $\therefore$  Base Case holds.

**I.H:** Let, for some  $m=K$ ,  $(a_K n^K + a_{K-1} n^{K-1} + \dots + a_1 n + a_0) \leq (|a_K| + |a_{K-1}| + \dots + |a_1| + |a_0|) n^K$  holds.

**Induction Step:**  $m=K+1$ .  ~~$f(n) = (a_{K+1} n^{K+1} + a_K n^K + a_{K-1} n^{K-1} + \dots + a_1 n + a_0)$~~

$\leq (a_{K+1} n^{K+1} + (|a_K| + |a_{K-1}| + \dots + |a_1| + |a_0|) n^K)$  (By I.H.)

$\leq (a_{K+1} n^{K+1} + (|a_K| + |a_{K-1}| + \dots + |a_1| + |a_0|) n^{K+1})$  ( $\because n \geq 0$ )

$\leq (|a_{K+1}| + |a_K| + \dots + |a_1| + |a_0|) n^{K+1}$  (By defn.)

• We can give a ~~similar proof~~ ~~for  $(n+1)$~~ . From there, we can conclude that for all non-negative  $m, n$ , our inequality holds. We already can see that when  $n=0$ ,  $f(n)=0$  and R.H.S.  $=0$ .  $\therefore$  Base Case holds  $\square$

• The case when  $n \geq 0$  and  $m \leq 0$  can be proved similarly. The proof will be by mathematical induction on  $\boxed{m = -m}$ .

So,  $f(n) = O(n^m)$ .  $\square$

**Defn:** [Omega]  $f(n) = \Omega(g(n))$  (read as " $f$  of  $n$  is omega of  $g$  of  $n$ ") iff there exist positive constants  $c$  and  $n_0$  such that  $f(n) \geq c g(n)$  for all  $n, n \geq n_0$ .  $\square$

• As in the case of the "big oh" notation, there are several functions  $g(n)$  for which  $f(n) = \Omega(g(n))$ .  $g(n)$  is only a lower bound on  $f(n)$ . For the