

Nested loops when each nested loop begins at the current value of the enclosing loop's loop index:

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| int x = 0; | O(1) |
| for (int a = 0; a < n; a++) | int a = 0: O(1); |
| | a < n: O(N + 1); |
| | a++: O(N) |
| | jump to loop start: O(N) |
| { | |
| x += a; | O(N) |
| for (int b = a; b < n; b++) | int b = a: O(N); |
| | b < n: O(N(N+1)/2 + N); |
| | b++: O(N(N+1)/2) |
| | jump to loop start: O(N(N+1)/2) |
| { | |
| x += b; | O(N(N+1)/2) |
| for (int c = b; c < n; c++) | int c = b: O(N(N+1)/2); |
| | c < n: O(N(N+1)(N+2)/6 + N(N+1)/2); |
| | c++: O(N(N+1)(N+2)/6) |
| | jump to loop start: O(N(N+1)(N+2)/6) |
| { | |
| x += c; | O(N(N+1)(N+2)/6) |
| for (int d = c; d < n; d++) | int d = c: O(N(N+1)(N+2)/6) |
| | d < n: O(N(N+1)(N+2)(N+3)/24 + |
| | N(N+1)(N+2)/6) |
| | d++: O(N(N+1)(N+2)(N+3)/24) |
| | jump to loop start: |
| | O(N(N+1)(N+2)(N+3)/24) |
| { | |
| x += d | O(N(N+1)(N+2)(N+3)/24) |
| } | |
| } | |
| } | |

An example of the above loops where each loop begins at 0 and iterates to N – 1 is shown on the next page.

Nested loops when each nested loop begins at 0 and iterates from 0 to N - 1:

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| <pre>int x = 0; for (int a = 0; a < n; a++) { x += a; for (int b = 0; b < n; b++) { x += b; for (int c = 0; c < n; c++) { x += c; for (int d = 0; d < n; d++) { x += d; } } } }</pre> | <pre>O(1) int a = 0: O(1); a < n: O(N + 1); a++: O(N) jump to loop start: O(N) O(N) int b = a: O(N); b < n: O(N² + N); b++: O(N²) jump to loop start: O(N²) O(N²) int c = b: O(N²); c < n: O(N³ + N²); c++: O(N³) jump to loop start: O(N³) O(N³) int d = c: O(N³) d < n: O(N⁴) + O(N³) d++: O(N⁴) jump to loop start: O(N⁴) O(N⁴)</pre> |
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