

## Big O Basic Concepts:

- **$O(1)$ :** Constant Time
  - Doesn't depend on the size of the data set.
  - Example: Accessing an array element by its index.
- **$O(\log n)$ :** Logarithmic Time
  - Splits the data in each step (divide and conquer).
  - Example: Binary search.
- **$O(n)$ :** Linear Time
  - Directly proportional to the data set size.
  - Example: Looping through an array.
- **$O(n \log n)$ :** Linearithmic Time
  - Splits and sorts or searches data.
  - Example: Merge sort, quick sort.
- **$O(n^2)$ :** Polynomial Time
  - Nested loops for each power of  $n$ .
  - Example: Bubble sort ( $O(n^2)$ ).

## Omega ( $\Omega$ ) - Lower Bound

- **What it means:** Omega ( $\Omega$ ) describes the best-case scenario for an algorithm.
- **In simple terms:** It tells you the fastest an algorithm can run in the best circumstances.

## Theta ( $\Theta$ ) - Tight Bound

- **In simple terms:** It tells you what to generally expect in terms of time complexity.

## Big O ( $O$ ) - Upper Bound (Worst Case)

- **What it means:** Big O ( $O$ ) describes the worst-case scenario for an algorithm.
- **In simple terms:** It tells you the slowest an algorithm can run in the worst circumstances.

## Useful Tips

- **Best Case, Average Case, Worst Case**
  - Consider all scenarios when analyzing.
- **Drop Non-Dominant Terms**
  - In  $O(n^2 + n)$ , focus on  $O(n^2)$  as it will dominate for large  $n$ .
- **Drop Constants**
  - $O(2n)$  simplifies to  $O(n)$ .