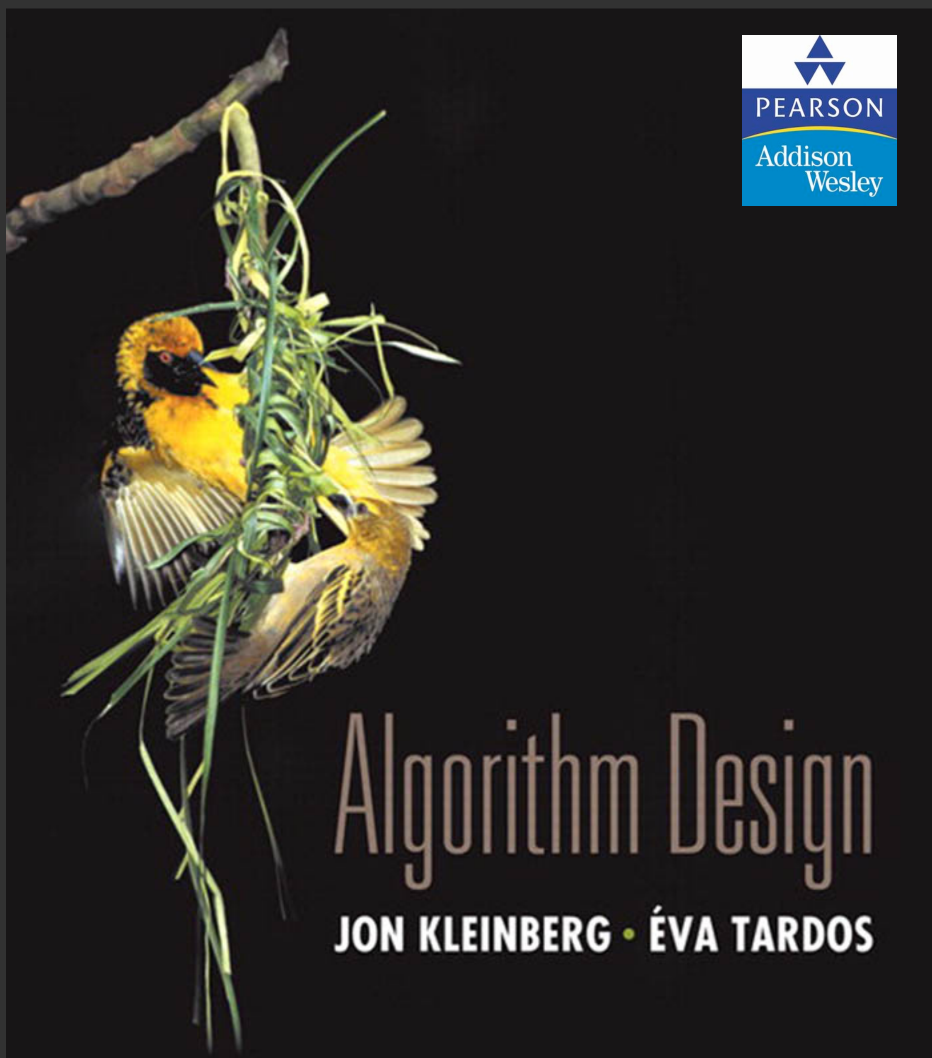
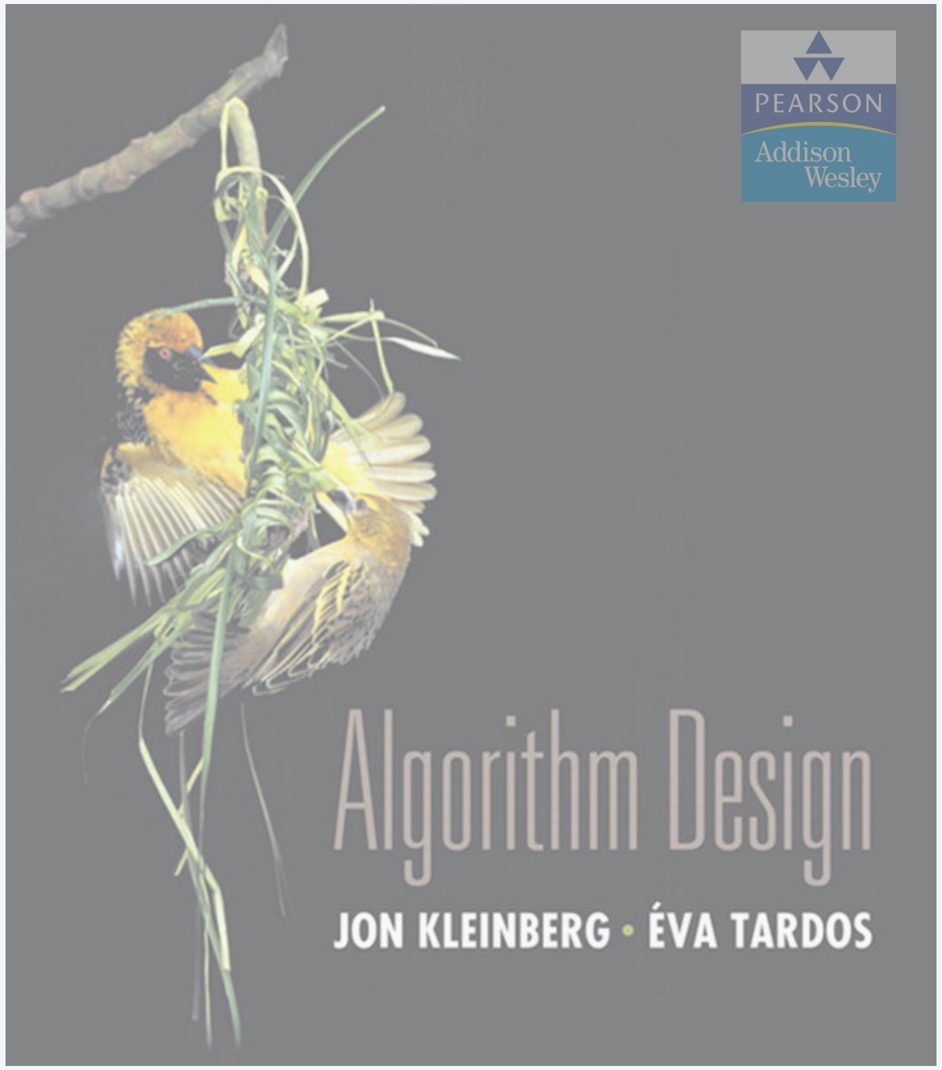


ALGORITHM ANALYSIS

- *computational tractability*
- *asymptotic order of growth*
- *survey of common running times*



Algorithm Analysis

- *computational tractability*
- *asymptotic order of growth*
- *survey of common running times*

Brute force

Brute force. For many nontrivial problems, there is a natural brute-force search algorithm that checks every possible solution.

- Typically takes 2^n steps (or worse) for inputs of size n.
- Unacceptable in practice.

Polynomial running time

Desirable scaling property. When the input size doubles, the algorithm should slow down by at most some constant factor C.

Def. An algorithm is poly-time if the above scaling property holds.

There exist constants c > 0 and d > 0 such that, for every input of size n, the running time of the algorithm is bounded above by $c\,n^d$ primitive computational steps.

choose $C = 2^d$

Polynomial running time

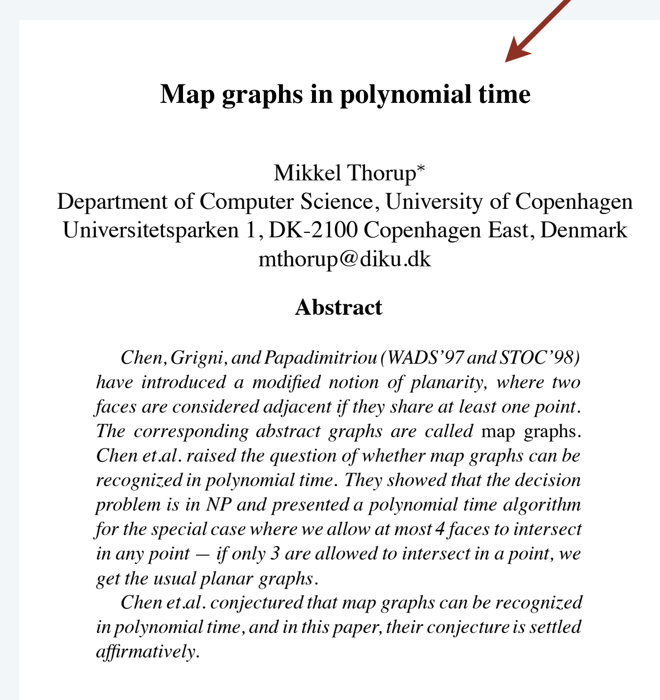
We say that an algorithm is efficient if it has a polynomial running time.

Theory. Definition is (relatively) insensitive to model of computation.

Practice. It really works!

- The poly-time algorithms that people develop have both small constants and small exponents.
- Breaking through the exponential barrier of brute force typically exposes some crucial structure of the problem.

n^{120}



Map graphs in polynomial time

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Abstract

Chen, Grigni, and Papadimitriou (WADS'97 and STOC'98) have introduced a modified notion of planarity, where two faces are considered adjacent if they share at least one point. The corresponding abstract graphs are called map *graphs. Chen et.al. raised the question of whether map graphs can be recognized in polynomial time. They showed that the decision problem is in NP and presented a polynomial time algorithm for the special case where we allow at most 4 faces to intersect in any point — if only 3 are allowed to intersect in a point, we get the usual planar graphs.*

Chen et.al. conjectured that map graphs can be recognized in polynomial time, and in this paper, their conjecture is settled affirmatively.

Exceptions. Some poly-time algorithms in the wild have galactic constants and/or huge exponents.

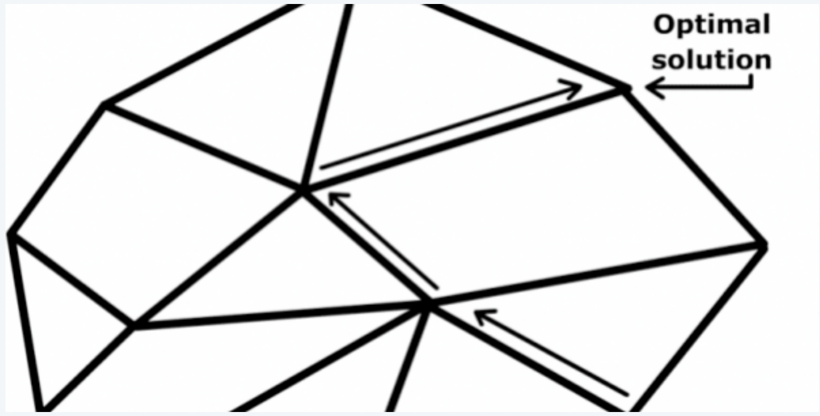
Q. Which would you prefer: $20\,n^{120}$ or $n^{1 + 0.02 \ln n}$?

Worst-case analysis

Worst case. Running time guarantee for any input of size n.

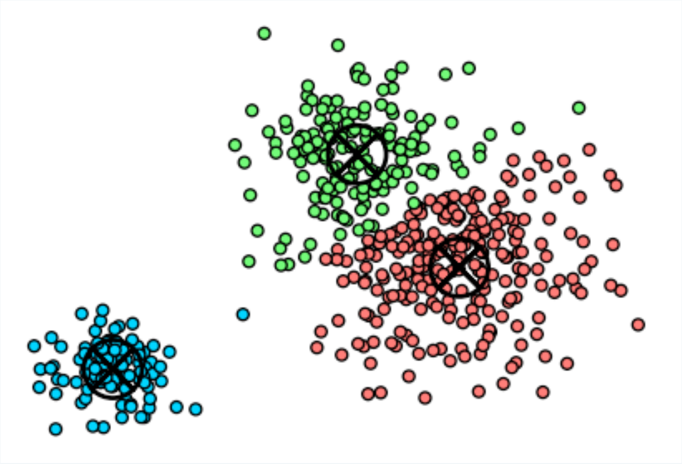
- Generally captures efficiency in practice.
- Draconian view, but hard to find effective alternative.

Exceptions. Some exponential-time algorithms are used widely in practice because the worst-case instances don't arise.

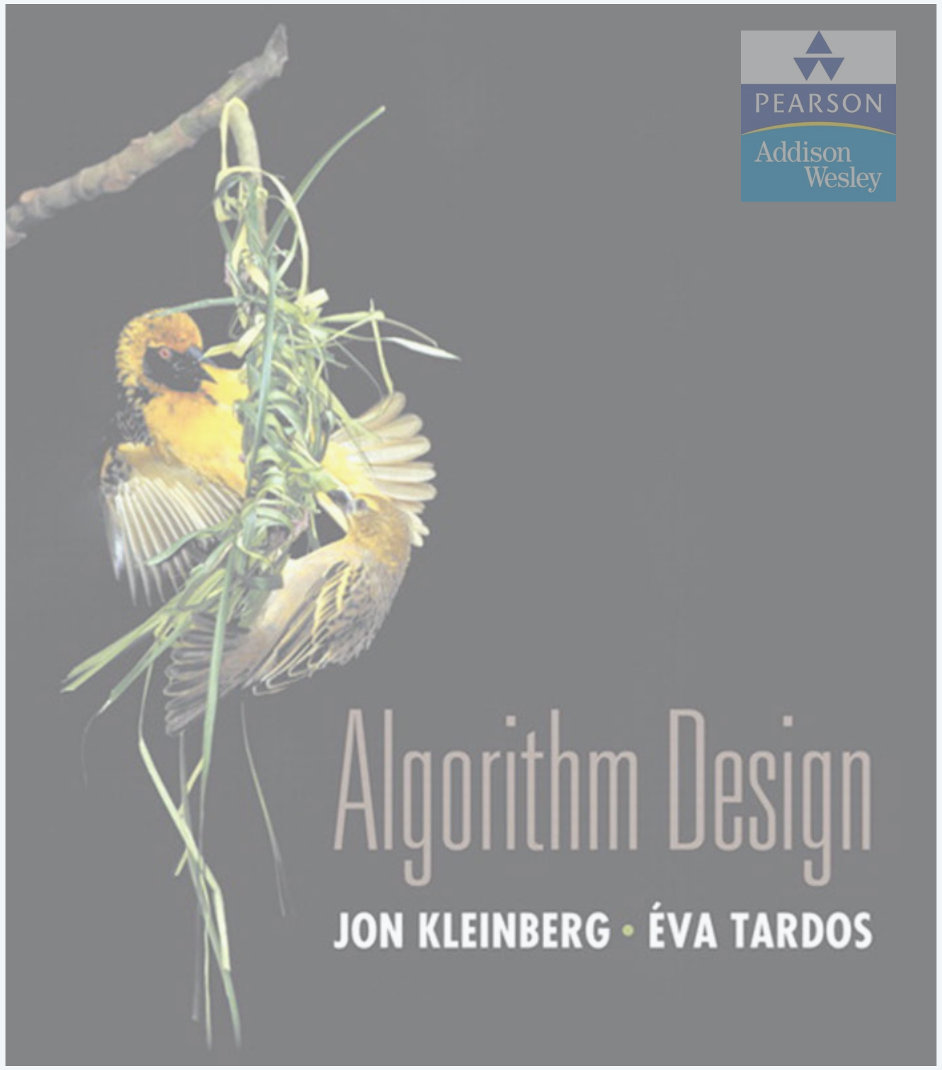


simplex algorithm

Linux grep



k-means algorithm

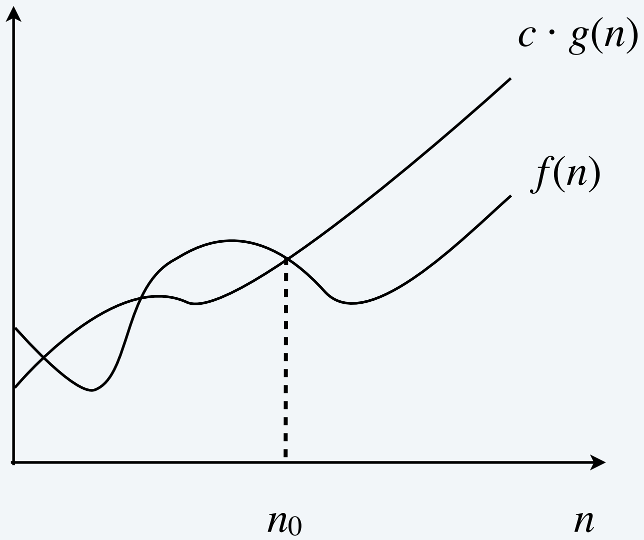


ALGORITHM ANALYSIS

- *computational tractability*
- *asymptotic order of growth*
- *survey of common running times*

Big O notation

Upper bounds. $f(n)$ is $O(g(n))$ if there exist constants $c > 0$ and $n_0 \geq 0$ such that $0 \leq f(n) \leq c \cdot g(n)$ for all $n \geq n_0$.



Ex. $f(n) = 32n^2 + 17n + 1$.

- $f(n)$ is $O(n^2)$. ⟵ choose $c = 50$, $n_0 = 1$
- $f(n)$ is neither $O(n)$ nor $O(n \log n)$.

Analysis of algorithms: quiz 1

Let $f(n) = 3n^2 + 17\, n \log_2 n + 1000$. Which of the following are true?

A. $f(n)$ is $O(n^2)$.

B. $f(n)$ is $O(n^3)$.

C. Both A and B.

D. Neither A nor B.

Big O notational abuses

One-way "equality." $O(g(n))$ is a set of functions, but computer scientists often write $f(n) = O(g(n))$ instead of $f(n) \in O(g(n))$.

Ex. Consider $g_1(n) = 5n^3$ and $g_2(n) = 3n^2$.

- We have $g_1(n) = O(n^3)$ and $g_2(n) = O(n^3)$.
- But, do not conclude $g_1(n) = g_2(n)$.

Domain and codomain. f and g and real-valued functions.

- The domain is typically the natural numbers: $\mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{R}$.
- Sometimes we extend to the reals: $\mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \to \mathbb{R}$.
- Or restrict to a subset.

input size, recurrence relations

plotting, limits, calculus

Bottom line. OK to abuse notation in this way; not OK to misuse it.

Big O notation: properties

Reflexivity. f is $O(f)$.

Constants. If f is $O(g)$ and $c > 0$, then $c\,f$ is $O(g)$.

Products. If f_1 is $O(g_1)$ and f_2 is $O(g_2)$, then $f_1 f_2$ is $O(g_1 g_2)$.

Pf.

- $\exists\ c_1 > 0$ and $n_1 \geq 0$ such that $0 \leq f_1(n) \leq c_1 \cdot g_1(n)$ for all $n \geq n_1$.
- $\exists\ c_2 > 0$ and $n_2 \geq 0$ such that $0 \leq f_2(n) \leq c_2 \cdot g_2(n)$ for all $n \geq n_2$.
- Then, $0 \leq f_1(n) \cdot f_2(n) \leq \underbrace{c_1 \cdot c_2}_{c} \cdot g_1(n) \cdot g_2(n)$ for all $n \geq \underbrace{\max\{ n_1, n_2 \}}_{n_0}$. ▪

Sums. If f_1 is $O(g_1)$ and f_2 is $O(g_2)$, then $f_1 + f_2$ is $O(\max\{g_1, g_2\})$.

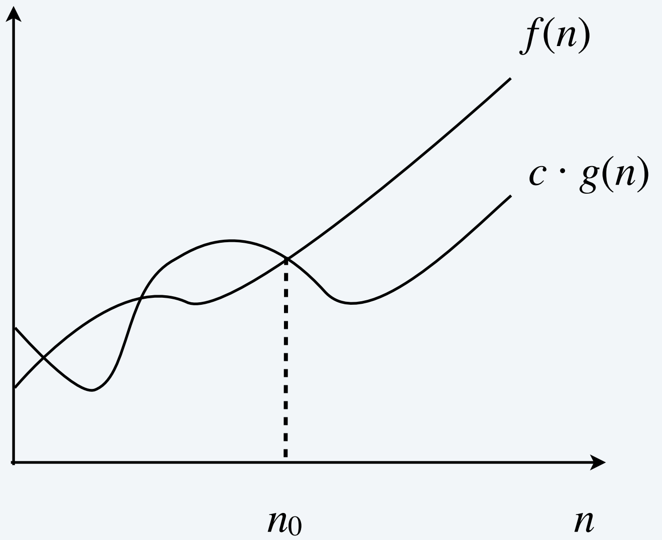
ignore lower-order terms

Transitivity. If f is $O(g)$ and g is $O(h)$, then f is $O(h)$.

Ex. $f(n) = 5n^3 + 3n^2 + n + 1234$ is $O(n^3)$.

Big Omega notation

Lower bounds. $f(n)$ is $\Omega(g(n))$ if there exist constants $c > 0$ and $n_0 \geq 0$ such that $f(n) \geq c \cdot g(n) \geq 0$ for all $n \geq n_0$.



Ex. $f(n) = 32n^2 + 17n + 1$.

- $f(n)$ is both $\Omega(n^2)$ and $\Omega(n)$. ← choose $c = 32$, $n_0 = 1$
- $f(n)$ is not $\Omega(n^3)$.

Typical usage. Any compare-based sorting algorithm requires $\Omega(n \log n)$ compares in the worst case.

Vacuous statement. Any compare-based sorting algorithm requires at least $O(n \log n)$ compares in the worst case.

Which is an equivalent definition of big Omega notation?

A. $f(n)$ is $\Omega(g(n))$ iff $g(n)$ is $O(f(n))$.

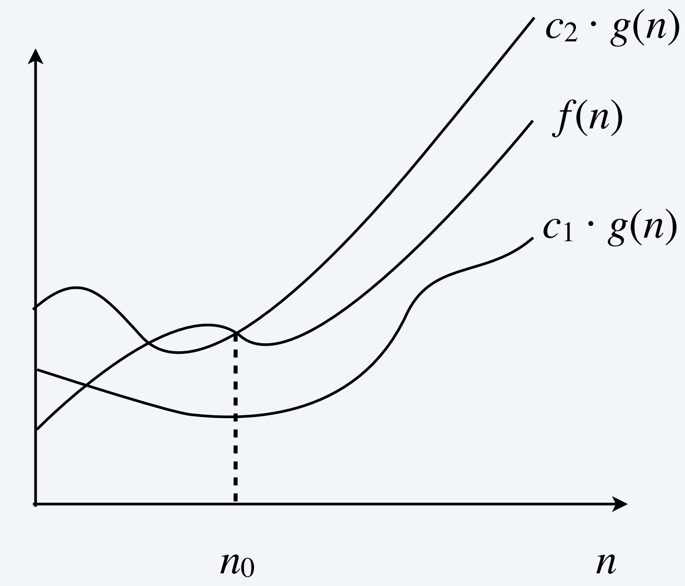
B. $f(n)$ is $\Omega(g(n))$ iff there exist constants $c > 0$ such that $f(n) \ \geq \ c \cdot g(n) \ \geq \ 0$ for infinitely many n.

C. Both A and B.

D. Neither A nor B.

Big Theta notation

Tight bounds. $f(n)$ is $\Theta(g(n))$ if there exist constants $c_1 > 0$, $c_2 > 0$, and $n_0 \geq 0$ such that $0 \leq c_1 \cdot g(n) \leq f(n) \leq c_2 \cdot g(n)$ for all $n \geq n_0$.



Ex. $f(n) = 32n^2 + 17n + 1$.

- $f(n)$ is $\Theta(n^2)$. ⟵ choose $c_1 = 32$, $c_2 = 50$, $n_0 = 1$
- $f(n)$ is neither $\Theta(n)$ nor $\Theta(n^3)$.

Typical usage. Mergesort makes $\Theta(n \log n)$ compares to sort n elements.

between $\frac{1}{2}\, n \log_2 n$
and $n \log_2 n$

Which is an equivalent definition of big Theta notation?

A. $f(n)$ is $\Theta(g(n))$ iff $f(n)$ is both $O(g(n))$ and $\Omega(g(n))$.

B. $f(n)$ is $\Theta(g(n))$ iff $\lim_{n\to\infty} \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} = c$ for some constant $0 < c < \infty$.

C. Both A and B.

D. Neither A nor B.

Asymptotic bounds and limits

Proposition. If $\lim_{n \to \infty} \dfrac{f(n)}{g(n)} = c$ for some constant $0 < c < \infty$ then $f(n)$ is $\Theta(g(n))$.

Pf.

- By definition of the limit, for any $\varepsilon > 0$, there exists n_0 such that

$$c - \epsilon \;\leq\; \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} \;\leq\; c + \epsilon$$

  for all $n \geq n_0$.
- Choose $\varepsilon = \frac{1}{2} c > 0$.
- Multiplying by $g(n)$ yields $1/2\, c \cdot g(n) \leq f(n) \leq 3/2\, c \cdot g(n)$ for all $n \geq n_0$.
- Thus, $f(n)$ is $\Theta(g(n))$ by definition, with $c_1 = 1/2\, c$ and $c_2 = 3/2\, c$. ▪

Proposition. If $\lim_{n \to \infty} \dfrac{f(n)}{g(n)} = 0$, then $f(n)$ is $O(g(n))$ but not $\Omega(g(n))$.

Proposition. If $\lim_{n \to \infty} \dfrac{f(n)}{g(n)} = \infty$, then $f(n)$ is $\Omega(g(n))$ but not $O(g(n))$.

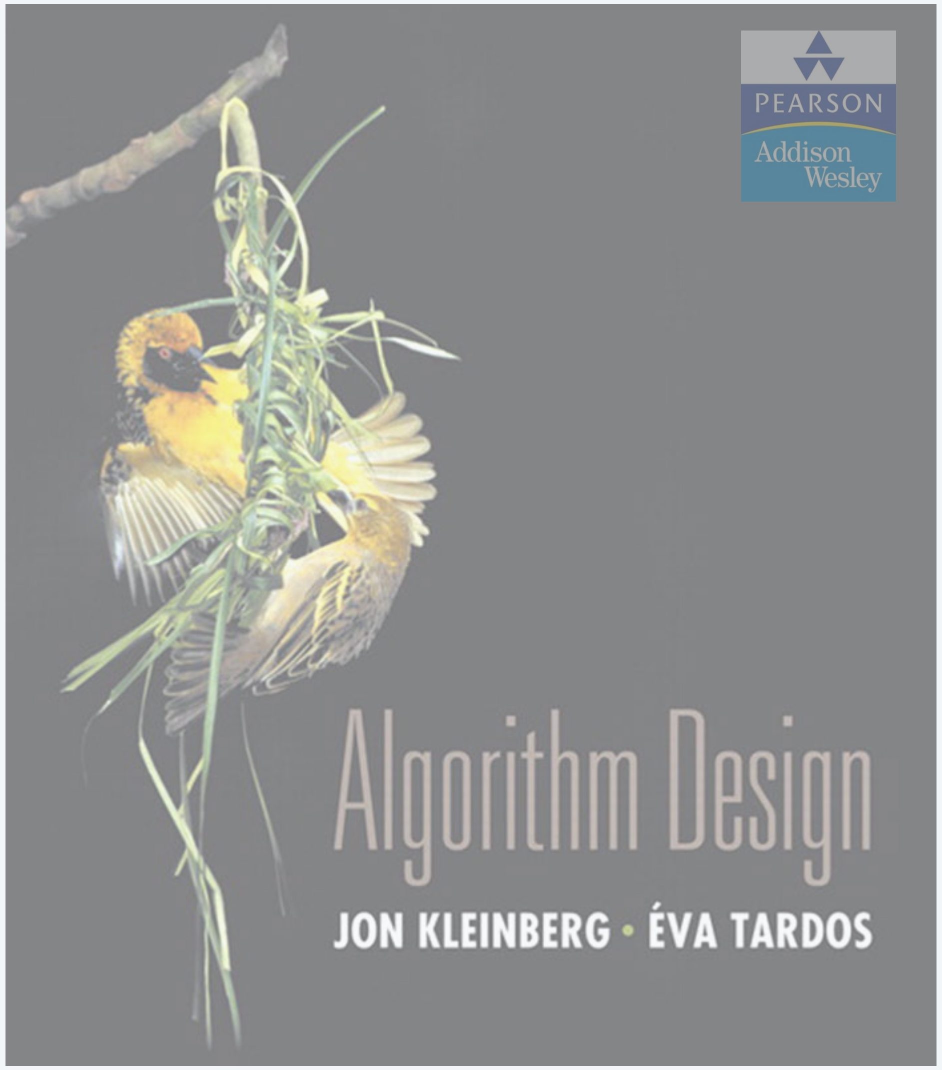
Big O notation with multiple variables

Upper bounds. $f(m, n)$ is $O(g(m, n))$ if there exist constants $c > 0$, $m_0 \geq 0$, and $n_0 \geq 0$ such that $f(m, n) \leq c \cdot g(m, n)$ for all $n \geq n_0$ and $m \geq m_0$.

Ex. $f(m, n) = 32mn^2 + 17mn + 32n^3$.

- $f(m, n)$ is both $O(mn^2 + n^3)$ and $O(mn^3)$.
- $f(m, n)$ is neither $O(n^3)$ nor $O(mn^2)$.

Typical usage. Breadth-first search takes $O(m + n)$ time to find a shortest path from s to t in a digraph with n nodes and m edges.



ALGORITHM ANALYSIS

- *computational tractability*
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- *survey of common running times*

Constant time

Constant time. Running time is $O(1)$.

bounded by a constant,
which does not depend on input size n

Examples.

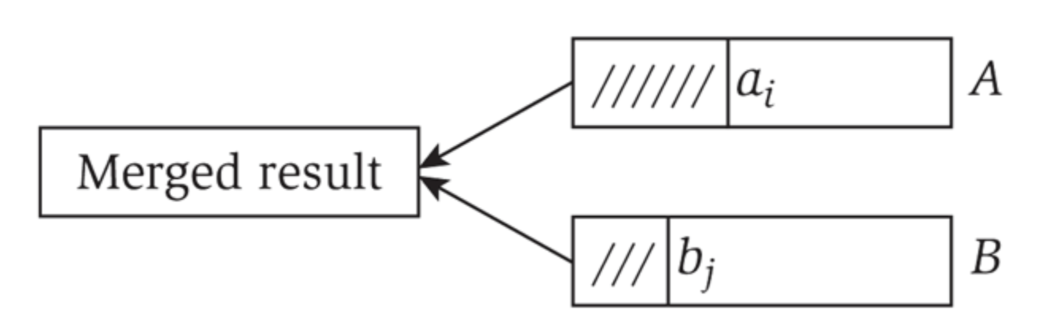
- Conditional branch.
- Arithmetic/logic operation.
- Declare/initialize a variable.
- Follow a link in a linked list.
- Access element i in an array.
- Compare/exchange two elements in an array.
- ...

Linear time

Linear time. Running time is $O(n)$.

Merge two sorted lists. Combine two sorted linked lists $A = a_1, a_2, \ldots, a_n$ and $B = b_1, b_2, \ldots, b_n$ into a sorted whole.

$O(n)$ algorithm. Merge in mergesort.



$i \leftarrow 1;\ j \leftarrow 1.$

WHILE (both lists are nonempty)

  IF ($a_i \le b_j$) append a_i to output list and increment i.

  ELSE append b_j to output list and increment j.

Append remaining elements from nonempty list to output list.

Logarithmic time

Logarithmic time. Running time is $O(\log n)$.

Search in a sorted array. Given a sorted array A of n distinct integers and an integer x, find index of x in array.

$O(\log n)$ algorithm. Binary search.

remaining elements

- Invariant: If x is in the array, then x is in $A[lo \mathinner{..} hi]$.
- After k iterations of WHILE loop, $(hi - lo + 1) \le n / 2^k \Rightarrow k \le 1 + \log_2 n$.

```
lo ← 1; hi ← n.
WHILE (lo ≤ hi)
    mid ← ⌊(lo + hi) / 2⌋.
    IF      (x < A[mid])  hi ← mid − 1.
    ELSE IF (x > A[mid])  lo ← mid + 1.
    ELSE  RETURN mid.
RETURN −1.
```

Linearithmic time

Linearithmic time. Running time is $O(n \log n)$.

Sorting. Given an array of n elements, rearrange them in ascending order.

$O(n \log n)$ algorithm. Mergesort.

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
M	E	R	G	E	S	O	R	T	E	X	A	M	P	L	E
E	M	R	G	E	S	O	R	T	E	X	A	M	P	L	E
E	M	G	R	E	S	O	R	T	E	X	A	M	P	L	E
E	G	M	R	E	S	O	R	T	E	X	A	M	P	L	E
E	G	M	R	E	S	O	R	T	E	X	A	M	P	L	E
E	G	M	R	E	S	O	R	T	E	X	A	M	P	L	E
E	G	M	R	E	O	R	S	T	E	X	A	M	P	L	E
E	E	G	M	O	R	R	S	T	E	X	A	M	P	L	E
E	E	G	M	O	R	R	S	E	T	X	A	M	P	L	E
E	E	G	M	O	R	R	S	E	T	A	X	M	P	L	E
E	E	G	M	O	R	R	S	A	E	T	X	M	P	L	E
E	E	G	M	O	R	R	S	A	E	T	X	M	P	L	E
E	E	G	M	O	R	R	S	A	E	T	X	M	P	E	L
E	E	G	M	O	R	R	S	A	E	T	X	E	L	M	P
E	E	G	M	O	R	R	S	A	E	E	L	M	P	T	X
A	E	E	E	E	G	L	M	M	O	P	R	R	S	T	X

Quadratic time

Quadratic time. Running time is $O(n^2)$.

Closest pair of points. Given a list of n points in the plane $(x_1, y_1), \ldots, (x_n, y_n)$, find the pair that is closest to each other.

$O(n^2)$ algorithm. Enumerate all pairs of points (with $i < j$).

```
min ← ∞.
FOR i = 1 TO n
    FOR j = i + 1 TO n
        d ← (x_i − x_j)^2 + (y_i − y_j)^2.
        IF (d < min)
            min ← d.
```

Remark. $\Omega(n^2)$ seems inevitable, but this is just an illusion. [see §5.4]

Cubic time

Cubic time. Running time is $O(n^3)$.

3-SUM. Given an array of n distinct integers, find three that sum to 0.

$O(n^3)$ algorithm. Enumerate all triples (with $i < j < k$).

```
FOR i = 1 TO n
    FOR j = i + 1 TO n
        FOR k = j + 1 TO n
        IF (a_i + a_j + a_k = 0)
            RETURN (a_i, a_j, a_k).
```

Polynomial time

Polynomial time. Running time is $O(n^k)$ for some constant $k > 0$.

Independent set of size k. Given a graph, find k nodes such that no two are joined by an edge.

k is a constant

$O(n^k)$ algorithm. Enumerate all subsets of k nodes.

```
FOREACH subset S of k nodes:
    Check whether S is an independent set.
    IF (S is an independent set)
        RETURN S.
```

- Check whether S is an independent set of size k takes $O(k^2)$ time.
- Number of k-element subsets = $\binom{n}{k} = \frac{n(n-1)(n-2)\times\cdots\times(n-k+1)}{k(k-1)(k-2)\times\cdots\times 1} \le \frac{n^k}{k!}$
- $O(k^2\, n^k / k!) = O(n^k)$.

poly-time for $k = 17$,
but not practical

Exponential time

Exponential time. Running time is $O(2^{n^k})$ for some constant $k > 0$.

Independent set. Given a graph, find independent set of max cardinality.

$O(n^2 2^n)$ algorithm. Enumerate all subsets.

$S^* \leftarrow \varnothing$.

FOREACH subset S of nodes:

  Check whether S is an independent set.

  IF (S is an independent set and $|S| > |S^*|$)

    $S^* \leftarrow S$.

RETURN S^*.