AE2ADS: Algorithms Data Structures and Efficiency

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Big-Oh

Let $f(n)$ and $g(n)$ be functions mapping positive integers to positive real numbers.

We say that $f(n)$ is $O(g(n))$, if there exist a real constant $c > 0$ and an integer constant $n_0 \geq 1$ such that for every $n \geq n_0$, $f(n) \leq cg(n)$.

Exercise 1

Prove that:

- 5 is $O(1)$
- 6 is $O(n)$
- $2n + 3$ is $O(n)$
- $3 \log n$ is $O(n)$
- $\frac{1}{n}$ is $O(1)$

Exercise 2

Prove that:

- $100n + 1000$ is $O(n)$
- $n^2 + 8n - 6$ is $O(n^2)$
- $n \log n$ is $O(n^2)$
- $(\log n)^2$ is $O(n \log n)$
- n^3 is $O(2^n)$

Multiplication Rule for Big-Oh

Let $d(n), f(n), e(n), g(n)$ be functions mapping positive integers to positive real numbers.

Show that if $d(n)$ is $O(f(n))$ and $e(n)$ is $O(g(n))$, then $d(n)e(n)$ is $O(f(n)g(n))$.

Big-Oh Rules: Drop smaller terms

Let $f(n), h(n)$ be functions mapping positive integers to positive real numbers. Show that if $f(n) = (1 + h(n))$ with $h(n) \to 0$ as $n \to \infty$, then $f(n)$ is $O(1)$.

Big-Oh Rules: Drop smaller terms

Show that if $f(n) = (1 + h(n))$ with $h(n) \to 0$ as $n \to \infty$, then $f(n)$ is $O(1)$.

Proof (sketch):

- $h(n) \to 0$ as $n \to \infty$ means that for large enough n then $h(n)$ will become arbitrarily close to 0.
- Hence, there exists n_0 such that
$$h(n) \leq 1 \text{ for all } n \geq n_0$$
- Hence, $f(n) \leq 2$ for all $n \geq n_0$.
- Therefore, $f(n)$ is $O(1)$.

Exercise 3

What is big-Oh of each of the following functions? Apply the big-Oh rules to justify your answer.

1. $f(n) = n^2 + n$
2. $f(n) = n^2 + 2^n$
3. $f(n) = (n \log n) + n^2$

Exercise 4

What is big-Oh of each of the following functions? Apply the big-Oh rules to justify your answer.

1. $f(n) = 5n^2 + 1000n + 10000$
2. $f(n) = 6n^2 + 2^n/1000$
3. $f(n) = (10000n \log n) + n^2$

Exercise 5

Order the following functions by asymptotic growth rate.

$$4n(\log n) + 2n, 2^{20}, 2^{\log n}$$

$$3n + 100\log n\ , 4n, 2^n$$

$$n^2 + 10n, n^3, n(\log n)$$

More Exercises

M. T. Goodrich, R. Tamassia and M. H. Goldwasser, *Data Structures and Algorithms in Java*, 6th Edition, 2014.

- Chapter 4. Analysis Tools