

Asymptotics

EXAMPLE: INSERTION-SORT

INSERTION-SORT(A, n)

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In-place Algorithm

A sorting algorithm sorts **in-place** if only a constant number of elements of the input array are ever stored outside the array.

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Correctness

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Invariant (**Loop Invariant**)

At the start of each iteration of the for loop (lines 1-8), the sub-array $A[1...i-1]$ is sorted.

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At the start of each iteration of the for loop (lines 1-8), the sub-array $A[1...i-1]$ is sorted.

We use **Loop Invariant** to show correctness.

Loop Invariant (3 aspects)

- Initialization

- ✓ It is true prior to the first iteration of the loop.

- Maintenance

- ✓

- Termination

- ✓

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- Termination

- ✓ When the loop terminates, the invariant gives us a useful property that helps show that the algorithm is correct.

Loop Invariant (3 aspects)

- Initialization

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x



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- × Consists of $A[1]$

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- × moving $A[i-1]$, $A[i-2]$, and so on, one position to its right, until it finds the proper position for $A[i]$ (lines 4–7),

- × The subarray $A[1..i]$ then consists of the elements originally in $A[1..i]$ but in sorted order.

- × $i=i+1$ for the next iteration of the “for” loop preserves the loop invariant.

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- Termination

- ✓ When the loop terminates, the invariant gives us a useful property that helps show that the algorithm is correct.
- × The condition causing the for loop to terminate is that $i = n+1$.

Invariant (**Loop Invariant**)

At the start of each iteration of the for loop of lines 1-8, the sub-array $A[1...i-1]$ is sorted.

Analyzing time complexity

Exercise: For each function $f(n)$ and time t in the following table, determine the largest size n of a problem that can be solved in time t , assuming that the algorithm to solve the problem takes $f(n)$ microseconds.

	1 second (10^6 us)	1 minute ($6 \cdot 10^7$ us)	1 hour ($3.6 \cdot 10^9$ us)	1 day ($8.64 \cdot 10^9$ us)
$\log n$				
n				
$n \log n$				
n^2				
n^3				
2^n				
$n!$				

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n^2	$\sim 1,000$			
n^3	~ 100			
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$n!$	~ 9			

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2^n	~ 19			~ 36
$n!$	~ 9			~ 16

Asymptotics

- Refers to the behavior of mathematical functions, algorithms, or models as inputs become large.
- Describes the efficiency of algorithms.

This tells you how algorithms scale as the problem size increases.

Functions

-

$n \log n$ n^2

$n^2 \log n$ $n \log n$

n^2 $n^2 \log n$

O -notation

O-notation

O-notation characterizes an ***upper bound*** on the asymptotic behavior of a function: it says that a function grows ***no faster*** than a certain rate. This rate is based on the highest order term.

For example:

$100n^2 + 1000n + 50$ is $O(?)$,

What is the highest order term?

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Question: $100n^2 + 1000n + 50$ is $O(n^3)$?

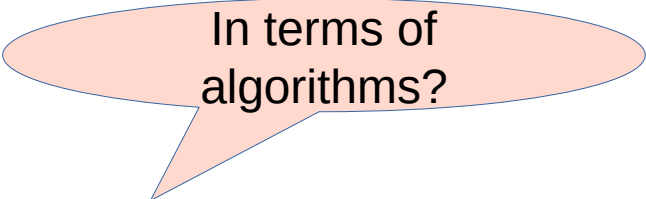
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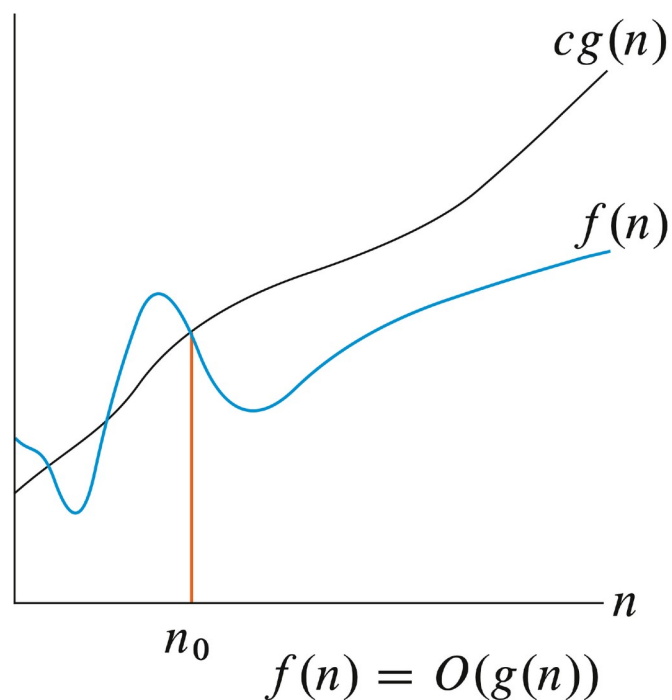
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In terms of algorithms?

O-notation

$O(g(n)) = \{f(n) : \text{there exist positive constants } c \text{ and } n_0 \text{ such that}$
 $0 \leq f(n) \leq cg(n) \text{ for all } n \geq n_0\}.$



$g(n)$ is an *asymptotic upper bound* for $f(n)$.

If $f(n) \in O(g(n))$, we write $f(n) = O(g(n))$

O -notation

Is $2n^2 = O(n^3)$?

O-notation

Example

$2n^2 = O(n^3)$, with $c = 1$ and $n_0 = 2$.

Examples of functions in $O(n^2)$:

$$n^2$$

$$n^2 + n$$

$$n^2 + 1000n$$

$$1000n^2 + 1000n$$

Also,

$$n$$

$$n/1000$$

$$n^{1.99999}$$

$$n^2 / \lg \lg \lg n$$

Ω -notation

Ω -notation

Ω -notation characterizes a ***lower bound*** on the asymptotic behavior of a function.

For example:

$100n^2 + 1000n + 50$ is $\Omega(?)$, since the highest order term is $100n^2$, and it grows at least as fast as ?.

Ω -notation

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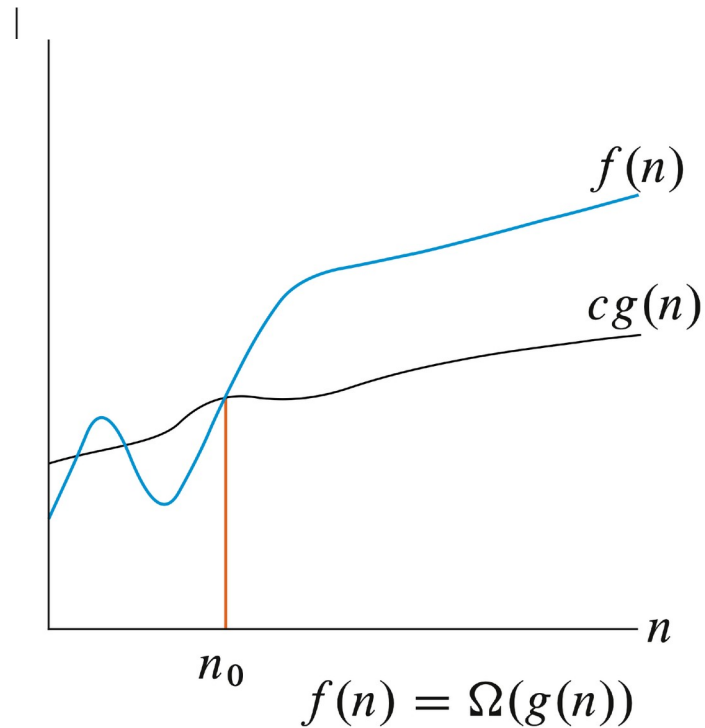
$100n^2 + 1000n + 50$ is $\Omega(n^2)$, since the highest order term is $100n^2$, and it grows at least as fast as n^2 .

Question: $100n^2 + 1000n + 50$ is $\Omega(n)$?

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$g(n)$ is an *asymptotic lower bound* for $f(n)$.

Ω -notation

Is $2n^2 = \Omega(n^3)$?

Ω -notation

Example

$\sqrt{n} = \Omega(\lg n)$, with $c = 1$ and $n_0 = 16$.

Examples of functions in $\Omega(n^2)$:

$$n^2$$

$$n^2 + n$$

$$n^2 - n$$

$$1000n^2 + 1000n$$

$$1000n^2 - 1000n$$

Also,

$$n^3$$

$$n^{2.00001}$$

$$n^2 \lg \lg \lg n$$

$$2^{2^n}$$

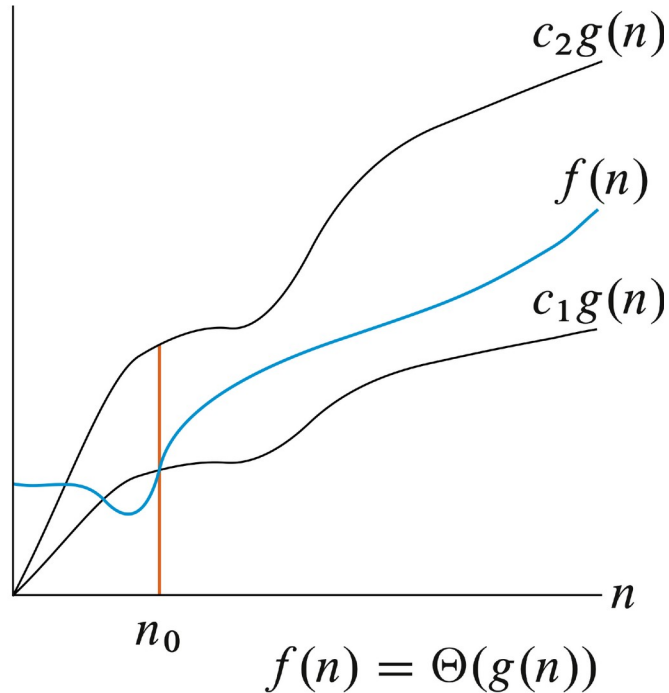
Θ -notation

Θ -notation characterizes a *tight bound* on the asymptotic behavior of a function: it says that a function grows *precisely* at a certain rate, again based on the highest-order term.

If a function is both $O(g(n))$ and $\Omega(g(n))$, then a function is $\Theta(g(n))$.

Θ -notation

$\Theta(g(n)) = \{f(n) : \text{there exist positive constants } c_1, c_2, \text{ and } n_0 \text{ such that}$
 $0 \leq c_1 g(n) \leq f(n) \leq c_2 g(n) \text{ for all } n \geq n_0\}.$



$g(n)$ is an *asymptotically tight bound* for $f(n)$.

Θ -notation

Is $n^2/2 - 3n = \Theta(n^3)$?

Θ -notation

Is $n^2/2 - 2n = \Theta(n^2)$?

Θ -notation

Is $n^2/2 - 2n = \Theta(n^2)$?

Example

$n^2/2 - 2n = \Theta(n^2)$, with $c_1 = 1/4$, $c_2 = 1/2$, and $n_0 = 8$.

Theorem

$f(n) = \Theta(g(n))$ if and only if $f = O(g(n))$ and $f = \Omega(g(n))$.

Leading constants and low-order terms don't matter.

Important points

Important points (constants)

$$f(n) = 100n^2, g(n) = n^2;$$

- Both are $O(n^2)$ (in asymptotic analysis).
- When analyzing algorithms or functions for large inputs, we care more about how fast something grows rather than the exact value.
- The shape of the growth (quadratic) dominates, not the size of the constant.

Constants do not matter!!!

Important points (constants)

$$f(n) = 3n, g(n) = 100n;$$

- Both grow **linearly** ($O(n)$), even though one is faster in practice. As $n \rightarrow \infty$, they behave similarly in shape, so the constant difference becomes less meaningful.

Constants do not matter!!!

Important points (constants)

$$f(n) = 100n, g(n) = n^2;$$

- Even though $f(n)$ is worse for small n , it scales much better than $g(n)$ as n increases.
- So, we say $f(n) = O(n)$, $g(n) = O(n^2)$, which shows $f(n)$ is asymptotically better.

Removing constants allows for easier comparison between algorithms.

Important points (constants)

$$f(n) \leq 4n + 12 \log n + 57;$$

- We simplify to $f(n) = O(n)$
- Constants clutter notation without adding insight in asymptotic contexts.

This keeps the analysis clear and general.

ASMPOTIC NOTATION IN EQUATIONS

When on right-hand side:

stands for some anonymous function in the set .

$2n^2 + 3n + 1 = 2n^2 + \Theta(n)$ means $2n^2 + 3n + 1 = 2n^2 + f(n)$ for some $f(n) \in \Theta(n)$. In particular, $f(n) = 3n + 1$.

When on left-hand side:

No matter how the anonymous functions are chosen on the left-hand side, there is a way to choose the anonymous functions on the right-hand side to make the equation valid.

Interpret $2n^2 + \Theta(n) = \Theta(n^2)$ as meaning *for all* functions $f(n) \in \Theta(n)$, there exists a function $g(n) \in \Theta(n^2)$ such that $2n^2 + f(n) = g(n)$.

ASMPOTIC NOTATION IN EQUATIONS

(continued)

Can chain together:

$$\begin{aligned} 2n^2 + 3n + 1 &= 2n^2 + \Theta(n) \\ &= \Theta(n^2) . \end{aligned}$$

Interpretation:

- First equation: There exists $f(n) \in \Theta(n)$ such that $2n^2 + 3n + 1 = 2n^2 + f(n)$.
- Second equation: For all $g(n) \in \Theta(n)$ (such as the $f(n)$ used to make the first equation hold), there exists $h(n) \in \Theta(n^2)$ such that $2n^2 + g(n) = h(n)$.

CHAPTER 3 OVERVIEW

Goals

- A way to describe behavior of functions in the limit. We're studying asymptotic efficiency.
- Describe growth of functions.
- Focus on what's important by abstracting away low-order terms and constant factors.
- How we indicate running times of algorithms.
- A way to compare “sizes” of functions:

O	\approx	\leq
Ω	\approx	\geq
Θ	\approx	$=$
o	\approx	$<$
ω	\approx	$>$