

Announcements

- EX02 due Friday night
- P1 Checkpoint 1 due Tuesday
 - Fill out **BOTH** checkpoint form AND gradescope

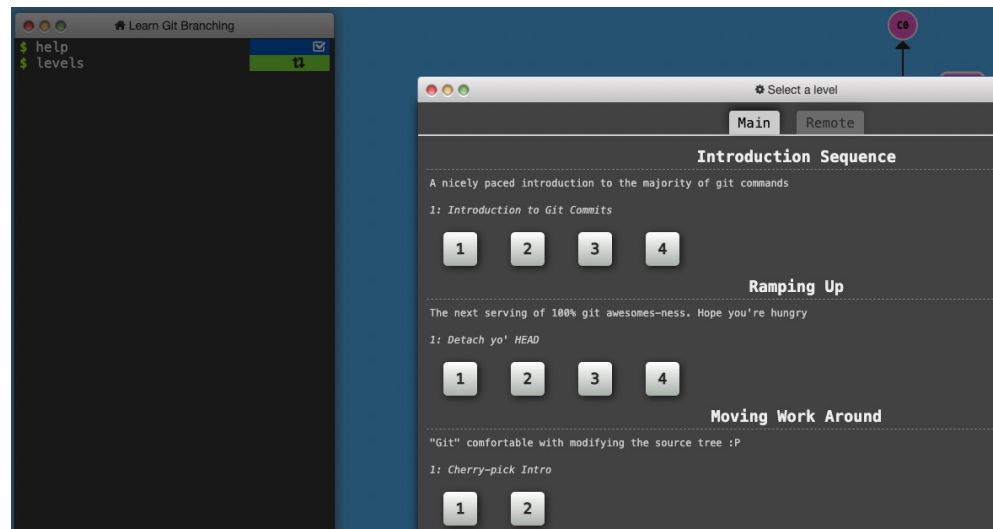
A word on checkpoints and projects

- Checkpoints are (somewhat) lenient
 - Don't expend all your energy staying up late if you can't find the bug
 - That being said, a strong signal that you are behind and need to spend extra time to catch up
 - Stay on top of things! Easier to catch the train then to catch it after it leaves
- Use the Ed board!
 - If possible, make questions public (can make anonymous)
- Read Javadoc
 - Read the comments in the repository!
 - IntelliJ has functionality to jump to the reference (the interface, implementation of method, etc. Super helpful!)



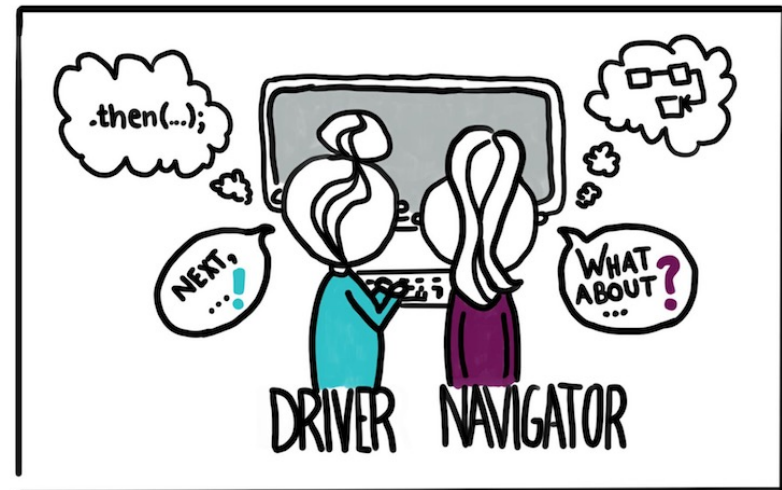
Git good at git

- Git is a really good resource
 - <https://learngitbranching.js.org/>
 - Make frequent commits and messages (helpful for debugging!)



Pair Programming

- Divide & Conquer
 - Boo :(
 - Good for algorithms, not so much for coding. Easy to miss subtle bugs... doubling your mistakes!
- Pair Programming
 - Yay :)
 - You are responsible for knowing your code!



Today

- Big-Oh Definition
 - And other friends
- Proofs
- Amortization

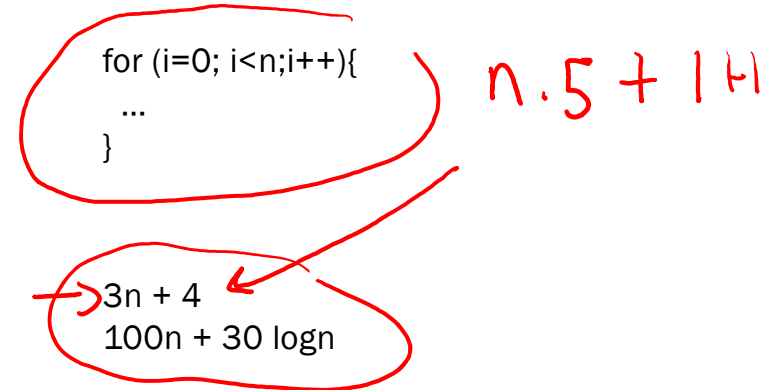
Recap:

1. Look at code and get a function of how long it runs based on input size

- Heuristic: counting operations!
- Too detailed, so... step 2...

2. Group it into a Big Oh set of functions

- asymptotic behavior
- Informally: “Drop” coefficients, lower-order terms
- Formally: Find c and n_0



$O(1)$	$O(n)$	$O(n^2)$
	$3n + 4$	$3n + 4$

What you can drop

- Eliminate coefficients because we don't have units anyway
 - $3n^2$ versus $5n^2$ doesn't mean anything when we cannot count operations very accurately
- Eliminate low-order terms because they have vanishingly small impact as n grows
- Do NOT ignore constants that are not multipliers
 - n^3 is not $O(n^2)$
 - 3^n is not $O(2^n)$

(This all follows from the formal definition) (We can prove it!)

Big Oh: Common Categories

fastest

From fastest to slowest

- $O(1)$ constant (same as $O(k)$ for constant k)
- $O(\log n)$ logarithmic
- $O(n)$ linear
- $O(n \log n)$ "n log n"
- $O(n^2)$ quadratic
- $O(n^3)$ cubic
- $O(n^k)$ polynomial (where k is any constant > 1)
- $O(k^n)$ exponential (where k is any constant > 1)

$\log \log(n)$

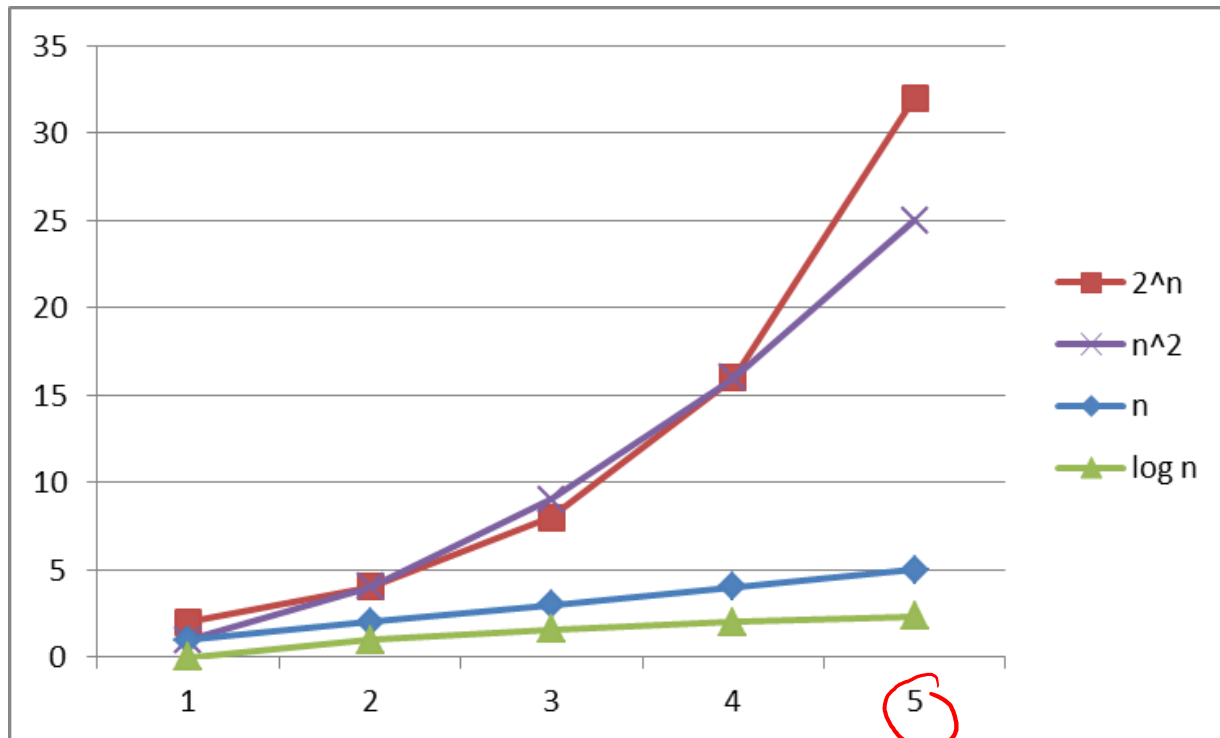
$\log^2(n)$
 $\log^c(n)$

Note: Don't write $O(5n)$ instead of $O(n)$ - same thing!
It's like writing 6/2 instead of 3. Looks weird

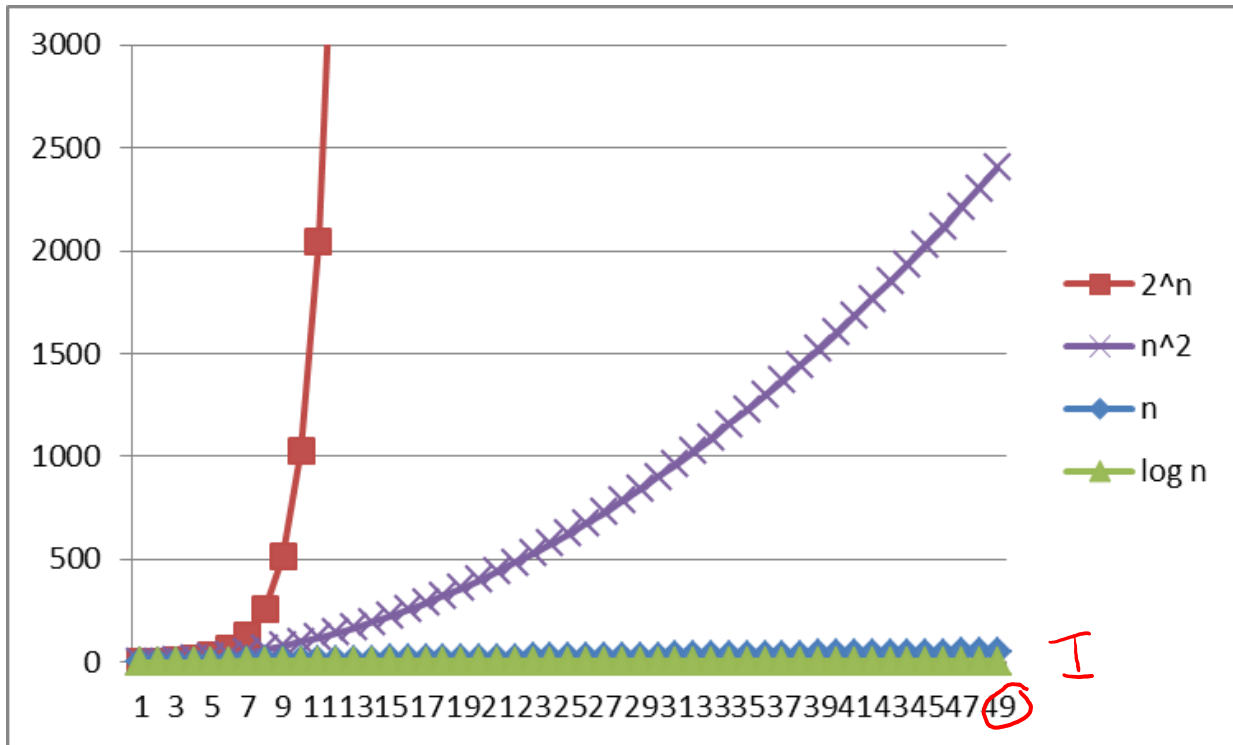
slowest

Usage note: "exponential" does not mean "grows really fast", it means "grows at rate proportional to k^n for some $k > 1$ "

Big Oh: Common Categories



Big Oh: Common Categories





True or false?

1. $4+3n$ is in $O(n)$

True $c=7 n_0=1$

2. $n+2\log n$ is in $O(\log n)$

False

3. $\log n+2$ is in $O(1)$

False

4. n^{50} is in $O(1.1^n)$

True

Notes:

- Do NOT ignore constants that are not multipliers:
 - n^3 is $O(n^2)$: FALSE
 - 3^n is $O(2^n)$: FALSE
- When in doubt, refer to the definition

More asymptotic analysis

Upper bound: $O(f(n))$

$g(n)$ is in $O(f(n))$ if there exist constants c and n_0 such that
 $g(n) \leq c f(n)$ for all $n \geq n_0$

Lower bound: $\Omega(f(n))$

$g(n)$ is in $\Omega(f(n))$ if there exist constants c and n_0 such that
 $g(n) \geq c f(n)$ for all $n \geq n_0$

Tight bound: $\theta(f(n))$

$g(n)$ is in $\theta(f(n))$ if it is in $O(f(n))$ and it is in $\Omega(f(n))$

Regarding use of terms

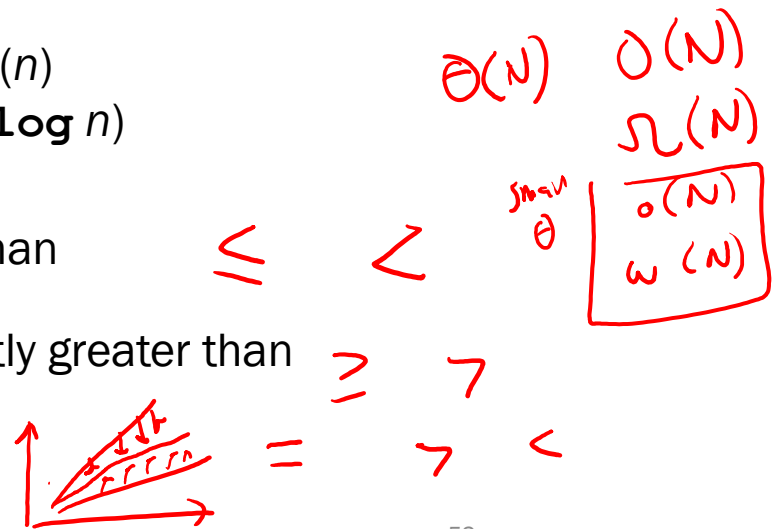
A common error is to say $O(f(n))$ when you mean $\theta(f(n))$

- People often say $O()$ to mean a tight bound
- Say we have $f(n)=n$; we could say $f(n)$ is in $O(n)$, which is true, but only conveys the upper-bound
- Since $f(n)=n$ is also $O(n^5)$, it's tempting to say "this algorithm is exactly $O(n)$ "
- Somewhat incomplete; instead say it is $\theta(n)$
- That means that it is not, for example $O(\log n)$

Less common notation:

- "little-oh": like "big-Oh" but strictly less than
 - Example: sum is $o(n^2)$ but not $o(n)$
- "little-omega": like "big-Omega" but strictly greater than
 - Example: sum is $\omega(\log n)$ but not $\omega(n)$

~~little theta?~~



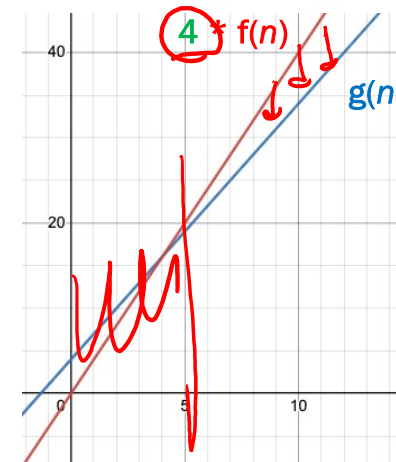
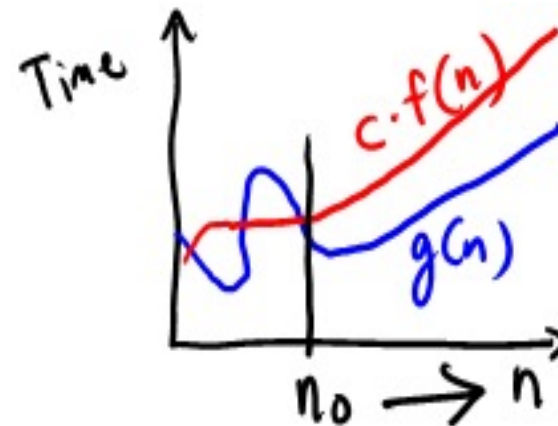
(Previously) Formally Big-Oh

Definition: $g(n)$ is in $O(f(n))$ iff there exist positive constants c and n_0 such that

$$g(n) \leq c f(n) \text{ for all } n \geq n_0$$

Note: $n_0 \geq 1$ (and a natural number) and $c > 0$

Example: Let $g(n) = 3n + 4$ and $f(n) = n$
 $c = 4$ and $n_0 = 5$ is one possibility



(NOW) Formally Big-Omega

Definition: $g(n)$ is in $\Omega(f(n))$ iff there exist positive constants c and n_0 such that

$$g(n) \geq c f(n) \text{ for all } n \geq n_0$$

Note: $n_0 \geq 1$ (and a natural number) and $c > 0$

Example: Let $g(n) = 3n + 4$ and $f(n) = n$

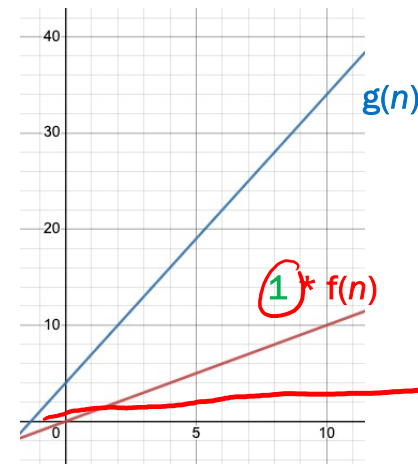
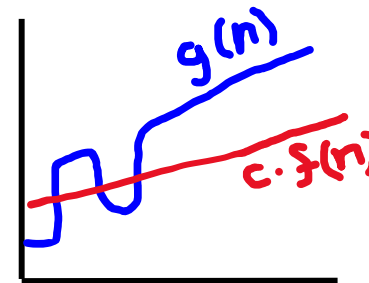
$c=1$ and $n_0=1$ is one possibility

$$c=1 \quad n_0=1$$

$$c=0.5$$

$$3n+4 \geq 3n$$

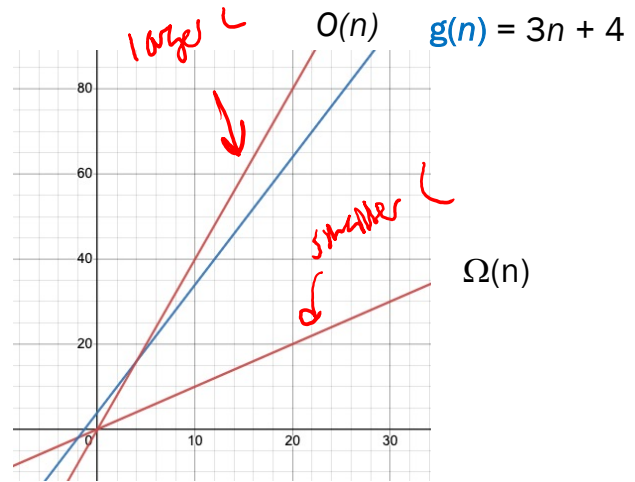
Now red is on bottom!



Formally Big-Theta *if & only if*

Definition: $g(n)$ is in $\theta(f(n))$ iff $g(n)$ is in $O(f(n))$ and it is in $\Omega(f(n))$
 Equivalently: iff there exist positive constants c and n_0 such that
 $c_1 f(n) \leq g(n) \leq c_2 f(n)$ for all $n \geq n_0$

O Ω
 n_0 n_0
 ~~~~~  
 $\max(n_0, n_0)$



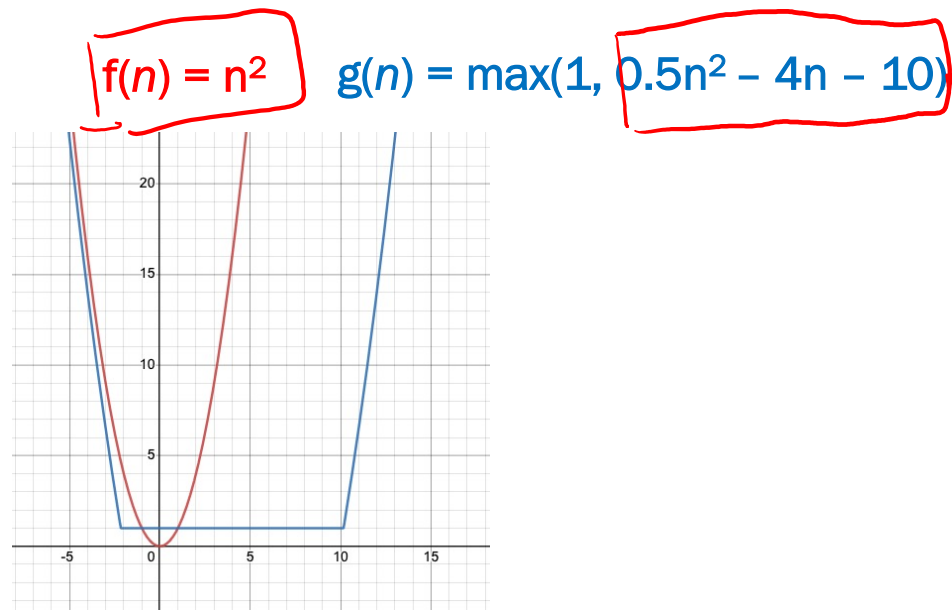
Notice:  $c$  (and  $n_0$ ) constants can be different for proving  $O$  and  $\Omega$



## Another example of Big Omega


Can we pick  $c \geq 0.5$ ?

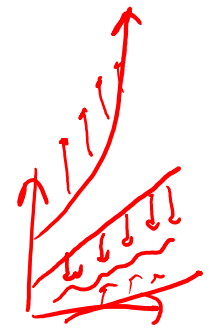
- <https://www.desmos.com/calculator/kmlqfe0lie>



# Big-O, Big-Theta, Big-Omega Relationships

If a function is in Big-Theta, what does it mean for its membership in Big-O and Big-Omega? Vice versa?

| Mystery Function                                                                  | Big-O                               | Big-Theta     | Big-Omega                                      |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------|------------------------------------------------|
|  | $O(N^4)$                            | $\Theta(N^4)$ | $\Omega(N^4)$                                  |
|                                                                                   | $O(N^3)$                            | $\Theta(N^3)$ | $\Omega(N^3)$                                  |
|                                                                                   | $O(N)$                              | ??            | ?? but it must be equal to or less than $O(N)$ |
|                                                                                   | must be equal to or less than $N^2$ | ??            | $\Omega(N^2)$                                  |



## Big-O, Big-Theta, Big-Omega Relationships

If a function is in Big-Theta, what does it mean for its membership in Big-O and Big-Omega? Vice versa?

| Mystery Function | Big-O                    | Big-Theta     | Big-Omega                       |
|------------------|--------------------------|---------------|---------------------------------|
|                  | $O(N^4)$                 | $\Theta(N^4)$ | $\Omega(N^4)$                   |
|                  | $O(N^3)$                 | $\Theta(N^3)$ | $\Omega(N^3)$                   |
|                  | $O(N)$                   | ??            | ??, but cannot be $\Omega(N^2)$ |
|                  | ??, but cannot be $O(N)$ | ??            | $\Omega(N^2)$                   |

$\leq$   $\geq$

## Theta, Oh, Omega != Worst-Case, Best-Case

- These are independent!
  - We can analyze for both best-case and worst-case for all three

Example: what is the asymptotic analysis for Omega and Theta

Find an integer in a *sorted* array

```
// requires array is sorted
// returns whether k is in array
boolean find(int[] arr, int k){
    for(int i=0; i < arr.length; ++i)
        if(arr[i] == k)
            return true;
    return false;
}
```

Best case: 6 "ish" operations =  $O(1)$

$\text{find}(\text{sorted})$

$\Omega(1)$   $\Theta(1)$

Worst case: 5 "ish" \* (arr.length) =  $O(N)$

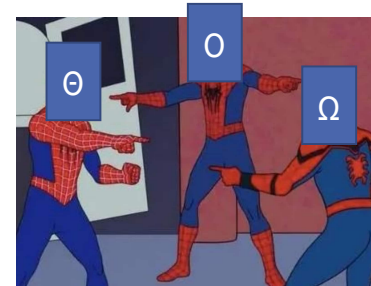
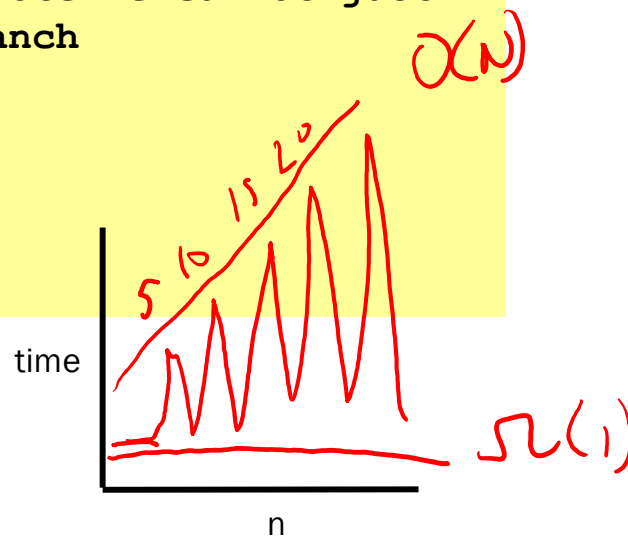
$\text{find}(\text{not in array})$

$\Omega(N)$   $\Theta(N)$

# When are Oh and Omega (and theta) different?

- When doing worst-case analysis on code, **tight** Oh and **tight** Omega are *often* the same. When are they different?

```
// toggle function, note we cannot just  
// analyze slower branch  
if (n % 5 == 0) {  
  // linear work  
} else {  
  // constant work  
}
```



# Today

- Big-Oh Definition
- Proofs
- Amortization

# Proof Mistake: Backwards Reasoning

- Careful to not assume something is true and work backwards
  - Backwards reasoning only shows “consistency” NOT “truth”
- We need to start with something true and work towards the statement that we want to show is true
  - *The last statement should be our claim!* ✖

Example | Claim: Show that  $4 \geq 5$

$$\begin{aligned} &4 \geq 5 \\ &4.0 \geq 5.0 \quad \text{multiply by } 0 \\ &\boxed{0 \geq 0} \quad \checkmark \quad \text{false!} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &0 \geq 0 \quad \text{true} \\ &0/0 \geq 0/0 \quad \text{divide by } 0? \\ &4 \geq 5 \end{aligned}$$

## Big-Oh Proofs

There is likely some “scratch work” – the insight isn’t explained in the final proof

- You just say “consider”

But don’t try to skip the scratch work when drafting your big-O proofs!

- But it won’t necessarily appear in your final version



## Example

Let's show:  $10n^2 + 15n$  is in  $O(n^2)$

$$\text{Let } c = 25, n_0 = 1$$

$$10n^2 + 15n \leq 10n^2 + 15n^2 \quad \text{since } n \geq 1$$

$$\leq 25n^2$$

$$\leq c n^2$$

which is exactly what the def of Big Oh is

Scratch work:

$$10n^2 + 15n$$

$$25n^2 \leq 25n^2$$

$$n_0 = 1$$

## Example

Let's show:  $10n^2 + 15n$  is in  $O(n^2)$

Proof:

Let  $c = 25$  and  $n_0=1$

$$\begin{aligned} 10n^2 + 15n &\leq 10n^2 + 15n^2 && \text{since } n \geq 1 \\ &\leq 25n^2 && \text{addition} \end{aligned}$$

Which is exactly what we wanted to show from the definition of Big-Oh.

## COUNTER Example

Let's show:  $10n^2 + 15n$  is in  $O(n^2)$

**BAD:**

$$10n^2 + 15n \leq 25n^2$$

$$15n \leq 15n^2 \quad \text{subtract } 10n^2$$

$$n \leq n^2 \quad \text{divide by } 15$$

$$1 \leq n \quad \text{divide by } n, \text{ tada (WRONG)}$$

So, we can choose  $c = 25$  and  $n_0 = 1$  and thus we have shown it is in  $O(n^2)$

**AGAIN, START WITH TRUE STATEMENT and END AT OUR GOAL CLAIM!**

## Proving NOT in Big Oh

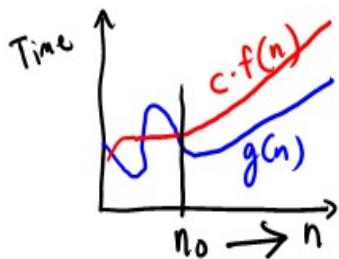
- Prove the negation is true
- Prove by contradiction
  - Assume true, prove impossible

# Negating Big-Oh

Definition:  $g(n)$  is in  $O(f(n))$  iff there exist positive constants  $c$  and  $n_0$  such that

$$g(n) \leq c f(n) \text{ for all } n \geq n_0$$

$$\exists c, n_0 \forall n \geq n_0 \quad g(n) \leq c \cdot f(n)$$

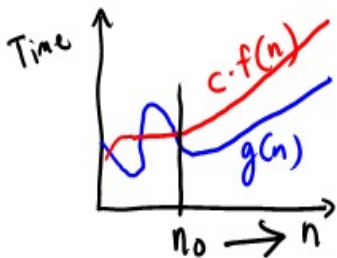


## Negating Big-Oh

Definition:  $g(n)$  is in  $O(f(n))$  iff there exist positive constants  $c$  and  $n_0$  such that

$$g(n) \leq c f(n) \text{ for all } n \geq n_0$$

$$\exists c, n_0 \forall n \geq n_0 g(n) \leq c \cdot f(n)$$



$$\forall c, n_0 \exists n \geq n_0 g(n) > c \cdot f(n)$$

For any  $c$  or  $n_0$  that you pick, there is a valid  $n$  where our function  $g(n)$  exceeds the Big Oh function  $f(n)$

## Proving NOT in Big Oh Example: Prove Negation

Let's show:  $10n^2$  is NOT  $O(n)$

Not in Big Oh:

$$\forall c, n_0 \exists n \geq n_0 \quad g(n) > c \cdot f(n)$$

For any  $c$  or  $n_0$  that you pick, there is a valid  $n$  where our function  $g(n)$  exceeds the Big Oh function  $f(n)$

## Proving NOT in Big Oh Example: Prove Negation

Let's show:  $10n^2$  is NOT  $O(n)$

Scratch work:

Need to find an  $n$

$$10n^2 > cn$$

$$10n > c$$

$$n > c/10$$

Proof:

Let  $n = \max(c/10+1, n_0)$

$$n > c/10 \quad \text{from def}$$

$$10n > c \quad \text{math}$$

$$10n^2 > cn \quad \text{multiply both sides by } n \text{ (positive)}$$

Which is exactly the inequality that we wanted to show. Since  $c$  and  $n_0$  are arbitrary, we have shown this for all  $c$  and  $n_0$  and shown that it is not in Big Oh of  $O(n)$ .

Not in Big Oh:

$$\forall c, n_0 \exists n \geq n_0 \quad g(n) > c \cdot f(n)$$

For any  $c$  or  $n_0$  that you pick, there is a valid  $n$  where **our function  $g(n)$**  exceeds the **Big Oh function  $f(n)$**



## Proving NOT in Big Oh Example: Contradiction

Show:  $10n^2$  is NOT  $O(n)$

For sake of contradiction, assume that  $10n^2$  is  $O(n)$

$10n^2 \leq cn$  for some  $c$  and all  $n \geq n_0$  (*definition*)

$10n \leq c$             divide by  $n$  (positive)

$n \leq c/10$         divide by 10

But this is true for all  $n \geq n_0$  so  $n = \max(c/10+1, n_0)$   
contradicts the last statement. Since  $c$  and  $n_0$  are arbitrary, and by  
contradiction we have shown that  $10n^2$  is NOT  $O(n)$

# Today

- Big-Oh Definition
- Proofs
- Amortization

# Amortization

How much does housing cost per day in Seattle?

Well, it depends on the day.

The day rent is due, it's \$1200.

Other days of the month, it's free.

# Amortization

Amortization is an **accounting trick**. It's a way to reflect the fact that the "first of the month" is really responsible for the other days of the week, and each day should be assigned it's "fair share."

# Amortization

Amortized:

It costs \$1200/month, and we pay one day of the 30 in a month

Cost per day is  $1200/30 = 40$

“What does my daily pay need to be to afford housing?”

Un-amortized:

On the first it costs \$1200  
Every other day, it costs \$0

“How much do I need to keep in my bank account, so it doesn't get overdrawn?”

## Array Insertion Example

What's the worst case for insert into an array-based queue?

- $O(n)$  when we need to resize,  $O(1)$  otherwise

Is  $O(n)$  a good description of the worst-case behavior?

# Amortization

Amortized:

It takes  $O(n)$  time to resize once, after  $n-1$  calls that take  $O(1)$  time

Cost per operation is  
$$\frac{O(n) + [n-1]O(1)}{n} = O(1)$$

“What will happen when I do many insertions in a row?”

Un-amortized:

The resize takes  $O(n)$  time. That’s the worst case that could happen.

”How long might one (unlucky) user need to wait on a single insertion?”

## Why double size?

The most common strategy for increasing array size is doubling. Why not just increase the size by 10,000 each time we fill up?

Let's say we did  $n$  insertions:

Costs of the unlucky insertions:

Costs of the other insertions:

Amortized insert cost:



## Why double size?

The most common strategy for increasing array size is doubling. Why not just increase the size by 10,000 each time we fill up?

Let's say we did  $n$  insertions:

Costs of the unlucky insertions:

$$\sum_{i=0}^{n/10,000} 10,000i \approx 10,000 \cdot \frac{n^2}{10,000^2} = O(n^2)$$

Costs of the other insertions:

$$O(1) * n = O(n)$$

Amortized insert cost:

$$O\left(\frac{n^2 + n}{n}\right) = O(n)$$

Way worse than  $O(1)$  with doubling!

# Notes on Amortization

- Depends on the question you are asking
- Can customize your “rent pay-day” algorithm to the use-case
  - Pay all on one day?
  - Pay in 3 easy payments of 99.99?
- See Weiss chapter 11

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## What we are (often) analyzing in 332

- The most common thing to do is give an  $O$  or  $\theta$  bound to the worst-case running time of an algorithm
- Example: True statements about binary-search algorithm
  - Common:  $\theta(\log n)$  running-time in the worst-case
  - Less common:  $\theta(1)$  in the best-case (item is in the middle)
  - Less common: Algorithm is  $\Omega(\log \log n)$  in the worst-case (it is not really, really, really fast asymptotically)
  - Less common (but very good to know): the find-in-sorted-array *problem* is  $\Omega(\log n)$  in the worst-case
    - No algorithm can do better (without parallelism)

## Problem vs. Algorithm Analysis

A *problem* cannot be  $O(f(n))$  since you can always find a slower algorithm, so instead you can say ***there exists*** an algorithm that solves the problem in  $O(f(n))$

A *problem* can be  $\Omega(f(n))$  which means that we cannot find an algorithm that solves the problem any faster!

## Other things to analyze

- Space instead of time
  - Remember we can often use space to gain time
- Average case
  - Sometimes only if you assume something about the distribution of inputs
    - See CSE312 and STAT391
  - Sometimes uses randomization in the algorithm
    - Will see an example with sorting; also see CSE312
- Sometimes an *amortized guarantee*

### Sample Exam Questions:

Assume domain and co-domain of all functions are the natural numbers  
(1, 2, 3...)

Decide: Always True      Sometimes True      Never True

1.  $f(n)$  is in  $O(f(n)^2)$
2.  $f(n)$  is in  $\Theta(f(n))$
3.  $f(n) + g(n)$  is in  $\Theta(\max(f(n), g(n)))$
4.  $f(n) * n$  is in  $O(f(n)^2)$

1.  $f(n)$  is in  $O(f(n)^2)$                       AT    ST    NT

2.  $f(n)$  is in  $\Theta(f(n))$                       AT    ST    NT

3.  $f(n) + g(n)$  is in  $\Theta(\max(f(n), g(n)))$                       AT    ST    NT

4.  $f(n) * n$  is in  $O(f(n)^2)$                       AT    ST    NT

# Summary

Analysis can be about:

- The problem or the algorithm (usually algorithm)
- Time or space (usually time)
  - Or power or dollars or ...
- Best-, worst-, or average-case (usually worst)
- Upper-, lower-, or tight-bound (usually upper or tight)
- Amortized or un-amortized



# Big-Oh Caveats

- Asymptotic complexity (Big-Oh) focuses on behavior for large  $n$  and is independent of any computer / coding trick
  - But you can “abuse” it to be misled about trade-offs
  - Example:  $n^{1/10}$  vs.  $\log n$ 
    - Asymptotically  $n^{1/10}$  grows more quickly
    - But the “cross-over” point is around  $5 * 10^{17}$
    - So if you have input size less than  $2^{58}$ , prefer  $n^{1/10}$
- Comparing  $O()$  for small  $n$  values can be misleading
  - Quicksort:  $O(n \log n)$  (expected)
  - Insertion Sort:  $O(n^2)$  (expected)
  - Yet in reality Insertion Sort is faster for small  $n$ 's
  - We'll learn about these sorts later

## Addendum: Timing vs. Big-Oh?

- At the core of CS is a backbone of theory & mathematics
  - Examine the algorithm itself, mathematically, not the implementation
  - Reason about performance as a function of  $n$
  - Be able to mathematically prove things about performance
- Yet, timing has its place
  - In the real world, we do want to know whether implementation A runs faster than implementation B on data set C
  - Ex: Benchmarking graphics cards
- Evaluating an algorithm? Use asymptotic analysis
- Evaluating an implementation of hardware/software? Timing can be useful