

# Asymptotic Analysis

CSE 373  
Data Structures & Algorithms  
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Spring 2010

## Today's Outline

- **Announcements**
  - Assignment #1 due Thurs, April 8 at 11:45pm
- **Asymptotic Analysis**

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## Exercise

2	3	5	16	37	50	73	75	126
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```
bool ArrayFind(int array[], int n, int key){  
    // Insert your algorithm here
```

*What algorithm would you choose to implement this code snippet?*

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## Analyzing Code

<b>Basic Java operations</b>	Constant time
<b>Consecutive statements</b>	Sum of times
<b>Conditionals</b>	Larger branch plus test
<b>Loops</b>	Sum of iterations
<b>Function calls</b>	Cost of function body
<b>Recursive functions</b>	Solve recurrence relation

*Analyze your code!*

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## Linear Search Analysis

```
bool LinearArrayFind(int array[],  
    int n,  
    int key ) {  
    for( int i = 0; i < n; i++ ) {  
        if( array[i] == key )  
            // Found it!  
            return true;  
    }  
    return false;  
}
```

Best Case:

Worst Case:

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## Binary Search Analysis

```
bool BinArrayFind( int array[], int low,  
    int high, int key ) {  
    // The subarray is empty  
    if( low > high ) return false;  
  
    // Search this subarray recursively  
    int mid = (high + low) / 2;  
    if( key == array[mid] ) {  
        return true;  
    } else if( key < array[mid] ) {  
        return BinArrayFind( array, low,  
            mid-1, key );  
    } else {  
        return BinArrayFind( array, mid+1,  
            high, key );  
    }  
}
```

Best case:

Worst case:

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## Solving Recurrence Relations

1. Determine the recurrence relation. What is the base case(s)?
2. "Expand" the original relation to find an equivalent general expression *in terms of the number of expansions*.
3. Find a closed-form expression by setting *the number of expansions* to a value which reduces the problem to a base case

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## Linear Search vs Binary Search

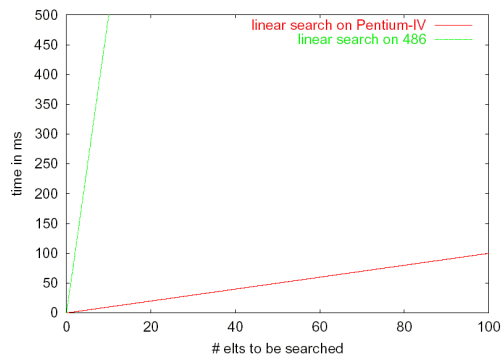
	Linear Search	Binary Search
Best Case		
Worst Case		

*So ... which algorithm is better?  
What tradeoffs can you make?*

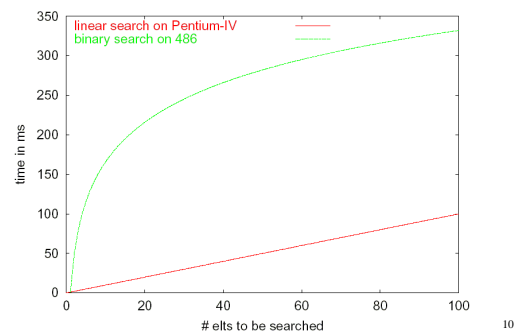
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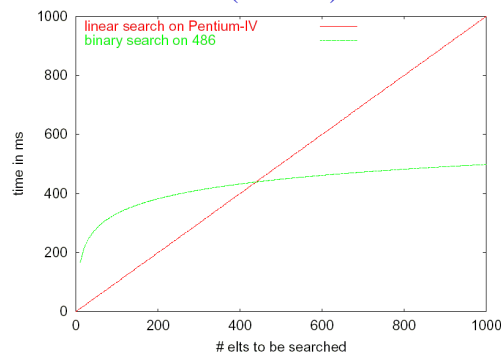
## Fast Computer vs. Slow Computer



## Fast Computer vs. Smart Programmer (round 1)



## Fast Computer vs. Smart Programmer (round 2)



## Asymptotic Analysis

- Asymptotic analysis looks at the *order* of the running time of the algorithm
  - A valuable tool when the input gets "large"
  - Ignores the *effects of different machines* or *different implementations* of the same algorithm
- Intuitively, to find the asymptotic runtime, throw away the constants and low-order terms
  - Linear search is  $T(n) = 3n + 2 \in \Theta(n)$
  - Binary search is  $T(n) = 4 \log_2 n + 4 \in \Theta(\log n)$

*Remember: the fastest algorithm has the slowest growing function for its runtime*

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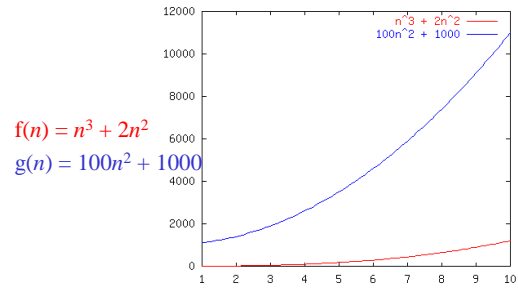
## Asymptotic Analysis

- Eliminate low order terms
  - $4n + 5 \Rightarrow$
  - $0.5 n \log n + 2n + 7 \Rightarrow$
  - $n^3 + 2^n + 3n \Rightarrow$
- Eliminate coefficients
  - $4n \Rightarrow$
  - $0.5 n \log n \Rightarrow$
  - $n \log n^2 \Rightarrow$

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## Order Notation: Intuition



Although not yet apparent, as  $n$  gets “sufficiently large”,  $f(n)$  will be “greater than or equal to”  $g(n)$ .

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## Definition of Order Notation

- Upper bound:  $T(n) = O(f(n))$       Big-O  
Exist constants  $c$  and  $n'$  such that  
 $T(n) \leq c f(n)$  for all  $n \geq n'$
- Lower bound:  $T(n) = \Omega(g(n))$       Omega  
Exist constants  $c$  and  $n'$  such that  
 $T(n) \geq c g(n)$  for all  $n \geq n'$
- Tight bound:  $T(n) = \Theta(f(n))$       Theta  
When both hold:  
 $T(n) = O(f(n))$   
 $T(n) = \Omega(f(n))$

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## Order Notation: Definition

$O(f(n))$  : a set or class of functions

$g(n) \in O(f(n))$  iff there exist const  $c$  and  $n_0$  such that:

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

Example:  $g(n) = 1000n$  vs.  $f(n) = n^2$

Is  $g(n) \in O(f(n))$  ?

Pick:  $n_0 = 1000, c = 1$

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## Notation Notes

**Note:** Sometimes, you’ll see the notation:

$$g(n) = O(f(n)).$$

This is equivalent to:

$$g(n) \text{ is } O(f(n)).$$

**However:** The notation

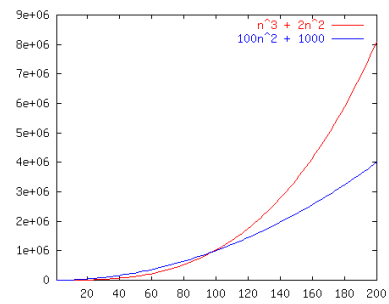
$$O(f(n)) = g(n) \text{ is meaningless!}$$

(in other words big-O “equality” is not symmetric)

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## Order Notation: Example



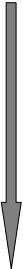
$$100n^2 + 1000 \leq 5(n^3 + 2n^2) \text{ for all } n \geq 19$$

So  $f(n)$  is  $O(g(n))$

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## Big-O: Common Names

- 
- constant:  $O(1)$
  - logarithmic:  $O(\log n)$  ( $\log_k n, \log n^2$  is  $O(\log n)$ )
  - linear:  $O(n)$
  - log-linear:  $O(n \log n)$
  - quadratic:  $O(n^2)$
  - cubic:  $O(n^3)$
  - polynomial:  $O(n^k)$  ( $k$  is a constant)
  - exponential:  $O(c^n)$  ( $c$  is a constant  $> 1$ )

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## Meet the Family

- $O(f(n))$  is the set of all functions asymptotically less than or equal to  $f(n)$ 
  - $o(f(n))$  is the set of all functions asymptotically strictly less than  $f(n)$
- $\Omega(f(n))$  is the set of all functions asymptotically greater than or equal to  $f(n)$ 
  - $\omega(f(n))$  is the set of all functions asymptotically strictly greater than  $f(n)$
- $\Theta(f(n))$  is the set of all functions asymptotically equal to  $f(n)$

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## Meet the Family, Formally

- $g(n) \in O(f(n))$  iff  
There exist  $c$  and  $n_0$  such that  $g(n) \leq c f(n)$  for all  $n \geq n_0$ 
  - $g(n) \in o(f(n))$  iff  
There exists a  $n_0$  such that  $g(n) < c f(n)$  for all  $c$  and  $n \geq n_0$
- $g(n) \in \Omega(f(n))$  iff  
There exist  $c > 0$  and  $n_0$  such that  $g(n) \geq c f(n)$  for all  $n \geq n_0$ 
  - $g(n) \in \omega(f(n))$  iff  
There exists a  $n_0$  such that  $g(n) > c f(n)$  for all  $c$  and  $n \geq n_0$
- $g(n) \in \Theta(f(n))$  iff  
 $g(n) \in O(f(n))$  and  $g(n) \in \Omega(f(n))$ 
  - Equivalent to:  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} g(n)/f(n) = 0$
  - Equivalent to:  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} g(n)/f(n) = \infty$

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## Big-Omega et al. Intuitively

Asymptotic Notation	Mathematics Relation
$O$	$\leq$
$\Omega$	$\geq$
$\Theta$	$=$
$o$	$<$
$\omega$	$>$

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## Pros and Cons of Asymptotic Analysis

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## Types of Analysis

Two orthogonal axes:

- **bound flavor**
  - upper bound ( $O, o$ )
  - lower bound ( $\Omega, \omega$ )
  - asymptotically tight ( $\Theta$ )
- **analysis case**
  - worst case (adversary)
  - average case
  - best case
  - "amortized"

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### Which Function Grows Faster?

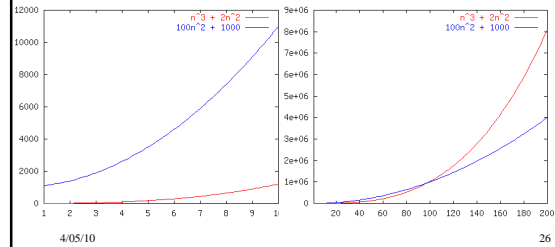
$n^3 + 2n^2$  vs.  $100n^2 + 1000$

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### Which Function Grows Faster?

$n^3 + 2n^2$  vs.  $100n^2 + 1000$



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### Which Function Grows Faster?

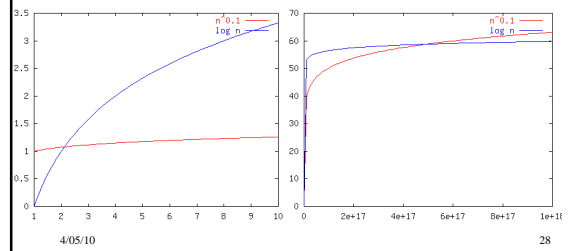
$n^{0.1}$  vs.  $\log n$

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### Which Function Grows Faster?

$n^{0.1}$  vs.  $\log n$



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### Which Function Grows Faster?

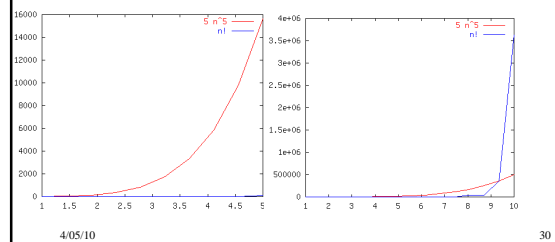
$5n^5$  vs.  $n!$

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### Which Function Grows Faster?

$5n^5$  vs.  $n!$



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## Nested Loops

```
for i = 1 to n do
  for j = 1 to n do
    sum = sum + 1
for i = 1 to n do
  for j = 1 to n do
    sum = sum + 1
```

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## Nested Loops

```
for i = 1 to n do
  for j = 1 to n do
    if (cond) {
      do_stuff(sum)
    } else {
      for k = 1 to n*n
        sum += 1
```

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$$16n^3 \log_8(10n^2) + 100n^2 = O(n^3 \log(n))$$

- Eliminate low order terms
- Eliminate constant coefficients

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$$16n^3 \log_8(10n^2) + 100n^2 = O(n^3 \log(n))$$

- Eliminate low order terms
  - Eliminate constant coefficients
- $$\begin{aligned} & 16n^3 \log_8(10n^2) + 100n^2 \\ & \Rightarrow 16n^3 \log_8(10n^2) \\ & \Rightarrow n^3 \log_8(10n^2) \\ & \Rightarrow n^3 [\log_8(10) + \log_8(n^2)] \\ & \Rightarrow n^3 \log_8(10) + n^3 \log_8(n^2) \\ & \Rightarrow n^3 \log_8(n^2) \\ & \Rightarrow n^3 2 \log_8(n) \\ & \Rightarrow n^3 \log_8(n) \\ & \Rightarrow n^3 \log_8(2) \log(n) \\ & \Rightarrow n^3 \log(n) \end{aligned}$$

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