

# **CSE 421: Introduction to Algorithms**

## **Course Overview**

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# Administrativa Stuffs

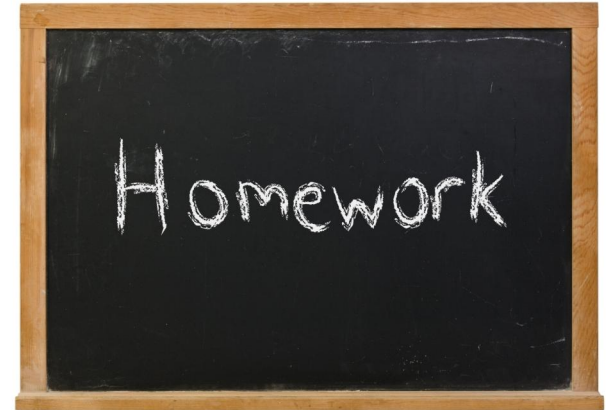
HW1 is due Thursday April 09 at 11:59PM  
Please submit to Canvas

**Late Submission:** Coordinate with me  
**How to submit?**

- Submit a **separate** file for each problem
- **Double check** your submission before the deadline!!
- For hand written solutions, take a picture, turn it into pdf and submit

**Guidelines:**

- Always justify your answer
- You can collaborate, but you must write solutions on your own
- Your proofs should be clear, well-organized, and concise. Spell out main idea.
- Sanity Check: Make sure you use assumptions of the problem



# Man Optimality Summary

**Man-optimality:** In version of GS where men propose, each man receives the best **valid** partner.

$w$  is a valid partner of  $m$  if there exist some stable matching where  $m$  and  $w$  are paired

**Q:** Does man-optimality come at the expense of the women?

# Example

Here

Valid-partner( $w_1$ ) =  $\{m_1, m_2\}$

Valid-partner( $w_2$ ) =  $\{m_1, m_2\}$

Valid-partner( $w_3$ ) =  $\{m_3\}$ .

Man-optimal matching  $\{m_1, w_1\}, \{m_2, w_2\}, \{m_3, w_3\}$

	favorite ↓		least favorite ↓
	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>
$m_1$	$w_1$	$w_2$	$w_3$
$m_2$	$w_2$	$w_1$	$w_3$
$m_3$	$w_1$	$w_2$	$w_3$

	favorite ↓		least favorite ↓
	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>
$w_1$	$m_2$	$m_1$	$m_3$
$w_2$	$m_1$	$m_2$	$m_3$
$w_3$	$m_1$	$m_2$	$m_3$

# Woman Pessimality

**Woman-pessimal assignment:** Each woman receives the worst **valid** partner.

**Claim.** GS finds **woman-pessimal** stable matching **S\***.

**Proof.**

Suppose  $(m, w)$  matched in **S\***, but  $m$  is not worst valid partner for  $w$ .

There exists stable matching **S** in which  $w$  is paired with a man, say  $m'$ , whom she likes less than  $m$ .

Let  $w'$  be  $m$  partner in **S**.

$m$  prefers  $w$  to  $w'$ . ← **man-optimality of S\***

Thus,  $(m, w)$  is an unstable in **S**.



# Summary

- **Stable matching problem:** Given  $n$  men and  $n$  women, and their preferences, find a stable matching if one exists.
- **Gale-Shapley algorithm** guarantees to find a stable matching for **any** problem instance.
- **GS algorithm** finds a stable matching in  **$O(n^2)$**  time. ✓
- **GS algorithm** finds man-optimal woman pessimal matching ✓
- **Q:** How many stable matching are there?

# How many stable Matchings?

We already show every instance has at least 1 stable matchings.

There are instances with about  $b^n$  stable matchings for  $b > 2$



[Karlin-O-Weber'17]: Every instance has at most  $c^n$  stable matchings for some  $c > 2$

[Open Problem]:

Is there an “efficient” algorithm that chooses a uniformly random stable matching of a given instance.

# Extensions: Matching Residents to Hospitals

Men  $\approx$  hospitals, Women  $\approx$  med school residents.

- **Variant 1:** Some participants declare others as unacceptable.
- **Variant 2:** Unequal number of men and women.   
*e.g. A resident not interested in Cleveland*
- **Variant 3:** Limited polygamy.   
*e.g. A hospital wants to hire 3 residents*

**Def:** Matching **S** is **unstable** if there is hospital **h** and resident **r** s.t.

- **h** and **r** are acceptable to each other; and
- either **r** is unmatched, or **r** prefers **h** to her assigned hospital; and
- either **h** does not have all its places filled, or **h** prefers **r** to at least one of its assigned residents.



# Lessons Learned

- Powerful ideas learned in course.
  - Isolate underlying structure of problem.
  - Look at the first **occurrence** of a bad event and get a contradiction.
- Potentially deep social ramifications. [\[legal disclaimer\]](#)
  - Historically, men propose to women. Why not vice versa?
  - Men: propose early and often.
  - Men: be more honest.
  - Women: ask out the guys.
  - Theory can be socially enriching and fun!

# “The Match”: Doctors and Medical Residences

- Each medical school graduate submits a ranked list of hospital where he wants to do a residency
- Each hospital submits a ranked list of newly minted doctors
- A computer runs stable matching algorithm (extended to handle polygamy)
- Until recently, it was hospital-optimal.



# History

1900

- Idea of hospital having residents (then called “interns”)

1900-1940s

- Intense competition among hospitals
  - Each hospital makes offers independently
  - Process degenerates into a race; hospitals advancing date at which they finalize binding contracts

1944

- Medical schools stop releasing info about students before a fixed date

1945-1949

- Hospitals started putting time limits on offers
  - Time limits down to 12 hours; lots of unhappy people

# “The Match”

1950

- NICI run a centralized algorithm for a trial run
- The pairing was not stable, Oops!!

1952

- The algorithm was modified and adopted. It was called the Match.
- The first matching produced in April 1952

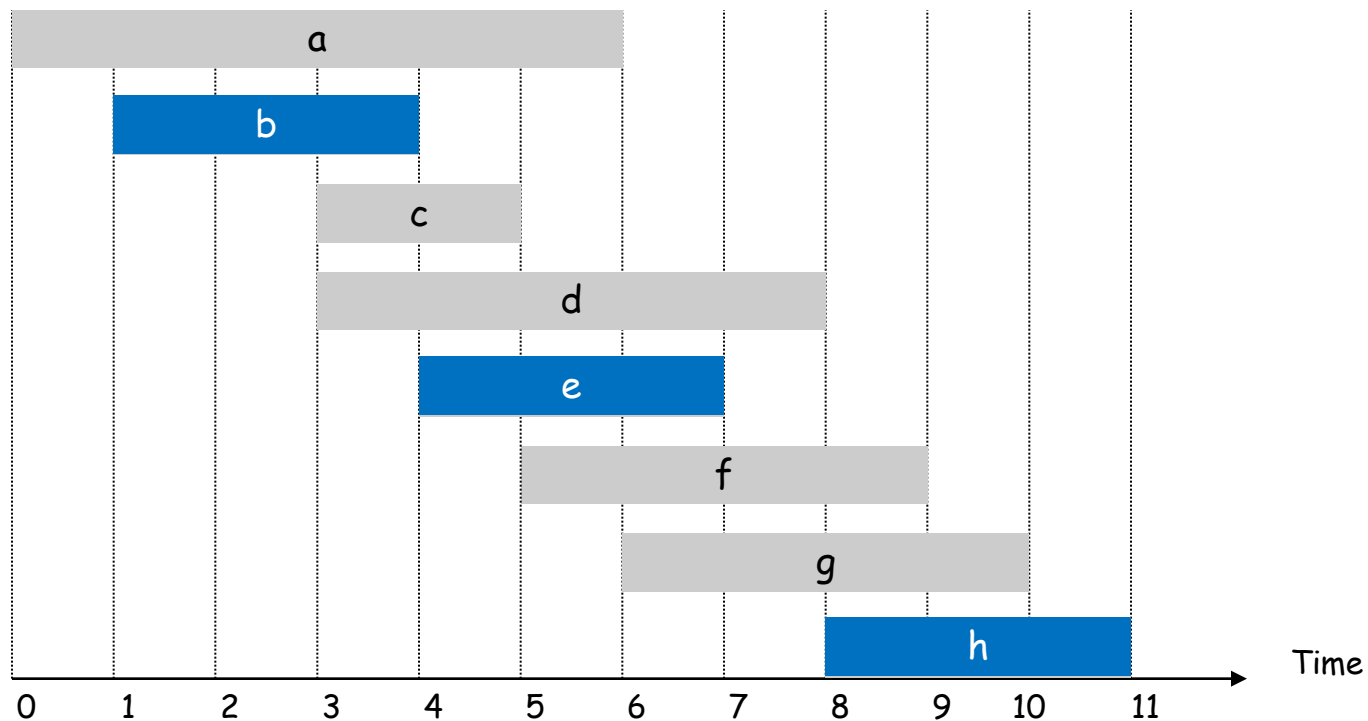
# Five Representative Problems

1. Interval Scheduling
2. Weighted Interval Scheduling
3. Bipartite Matching
4. Independent Set Problem
5. Competitive Facility Location

# Interval Scheduling

**Input:** Given a set of jobs with start/finish times

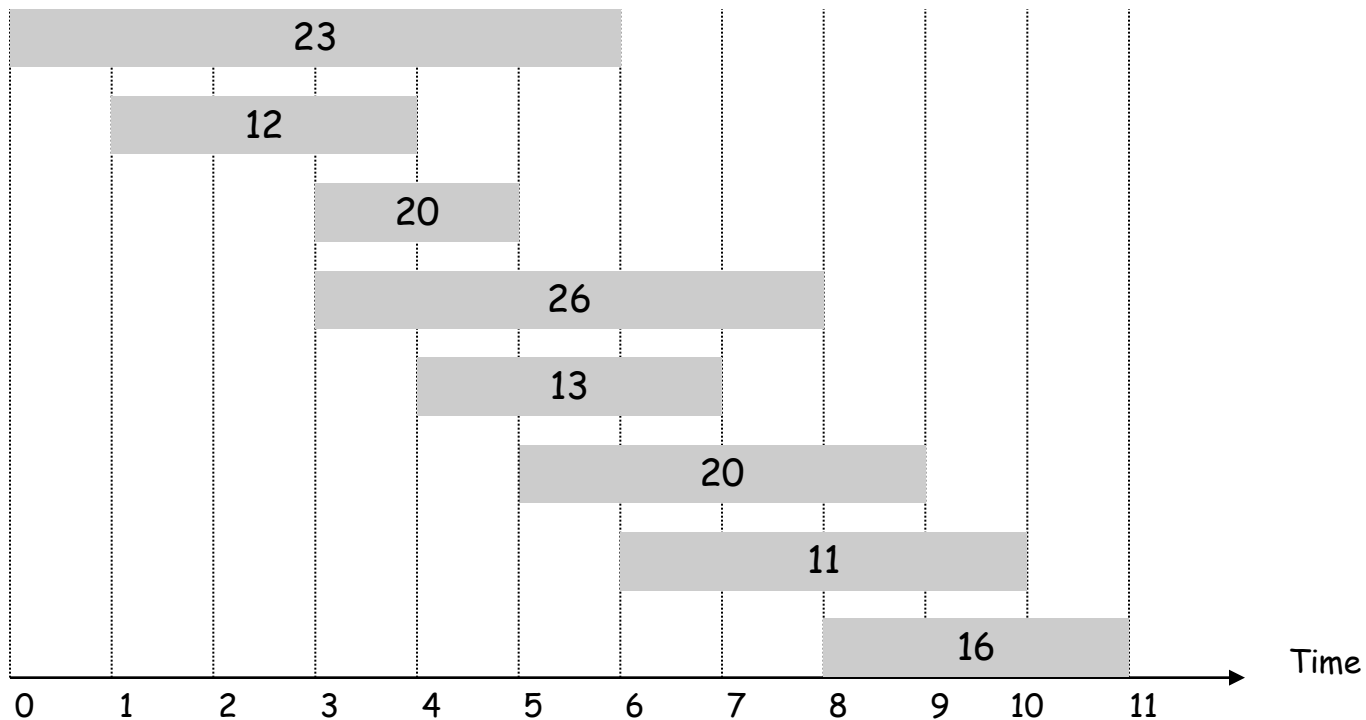
**Goal:** Find the **maximum cardinality** subset of jobs that can be run on a single machine.



# Interval Scheduling

**Input:** Given a set of jobs with start/finish times

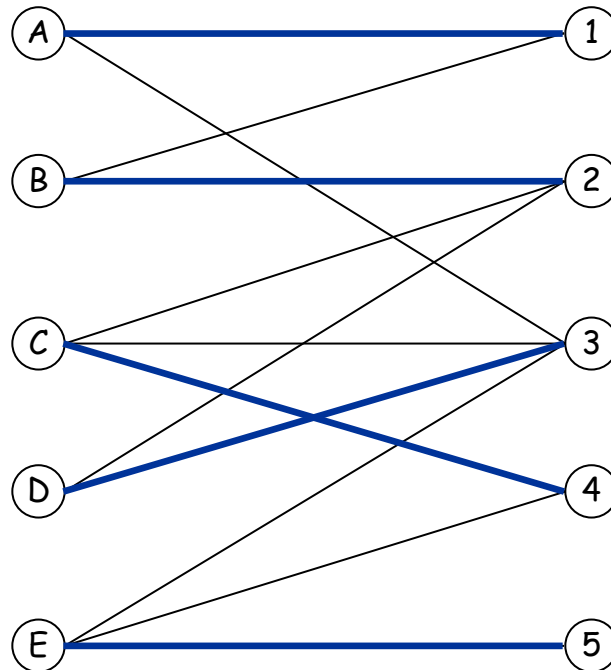
**Goal:** Find the **maximum weight** subset of jobs that can be run on a single machine.



# Bipartite Matching

**Input:** Given a bipartite graph

**Goal:** Find the **maximum cardinality** matching



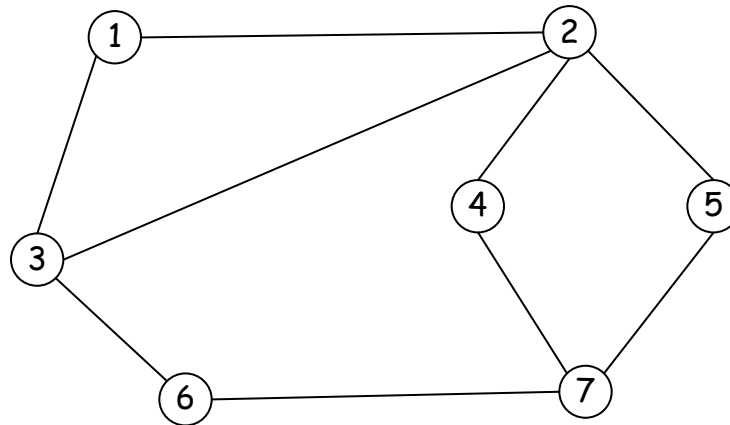


# Independent Set

Input: A graph

Goal: Find the **maximum independent set**

Subset of nodes that no two joined by an edge

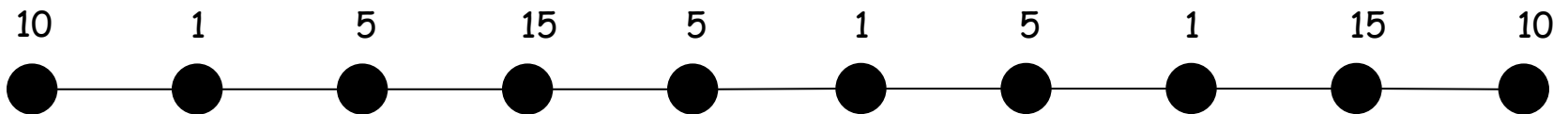


# Competitive Facility Location

**Input:** Graph with weight on each node

**Game:** Two competing players alternate in selecting nodes. Not allowed to select a node if any of its neighbors have been selected.

**Goal.** Does player 2 have a strategy which guarantees a total value of  $V$  **no matter** what player 1 does?



Second player can guarantee 20, but not 25.

# Five Representative Problems

Variation of a theme: Independent set Problem

1. Interval Scheduling  
 $n \log n$  greedy algorithm
2. Weighted Interval Scheduling  
 $n \log n$  dynamic programming algorithm
3. Bipartite Matching  
 $n^k$  maximum flow based algorithm
4. Independent Set Problem: NP-complete
5. Competitive Facility Location: PSPACE-complete

Main Objective: Design **Efficient** Algorithms  
that finds optimum solutions in the **Worst Case**

# Defining Efficiency

“Runs fast on typical real problem instances”

## Pros:

- Sensible,
- Bottom-line oriented

## Cons:

- Moving target (diff computers, programming languages)
- Highly subjective (how fast is “fast”? What is “typical”?)

# Measuring Efficiency

**Time**  $\approx$  # of instructions executed in a **simple** programming language

only simple operations (+, \*, -, =, if, call, ...)

each operation takes one time step

each memory access takes one time step

no fancy stuff (add these two matrices, copy this long string, ...) built in; write it/charge for it as above

# Time Complexity

**Problem:** An algorithm can have different running time on different inputs

**Solution:** The complexity of an algorithm associates a number  $T(N)$ , the “time” the algorithm takes on problem size  $N$ .

On **which** inputs of size  $N$ ?

Mathematically,

$T$  is a function that maps positive integers giving problem size to positive integers giving number of steps

# Time Complexity (N)

Worst Case Complexity: **max** # steps algorithm takes on any input of size **N**

This Course

Average Case Complexity: **avg** # steps algorithm takes on inputs of size **N**

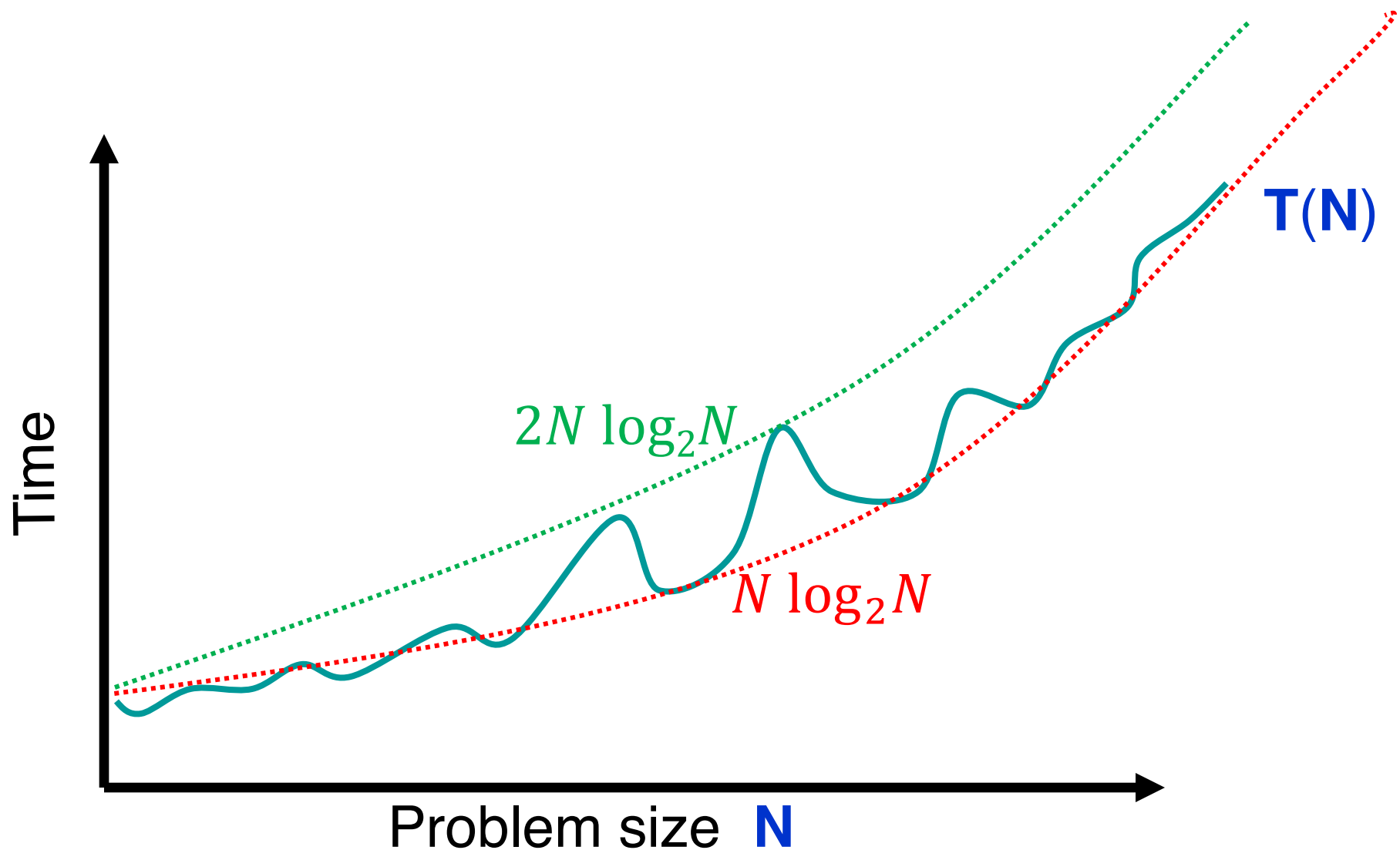
Best Case Complexity: **min** # steps algorithm takes on any input of size **N**



# Why Worst-case Inputs?

- Analysis is typically easier
- Useful in real-time applications  
e.g., space shuttle, nuclear reactors)
- Worst-case instances kick in when an algorithm is run as a module many times  
e.g., geometry or linear algebra library
- Useful when running competitions  
e.g., airline prices
- Unlike average-case no debate about the right definition

# Time Complexity on Worst Case Inputs



# O-Notation

Given two positive functions **f** and **g**

- **f(N)** is **O(g(N))** iff there is a constant **c > 0** s.t.,  
**f(N)** is eventually always **≤ c g(N)**
- **f(N)** is **Ω(g(N))** iff there is a constant **ε > 0** s.t.,  
**f(N)** is **≥ ε g(N)** for infinitely
- **f(N)** is **Θ(g(N))** iff there are constants **c<sub>1</sub>, c<sub>2</sub> > 0** so that  
eventually always **c<sub>1</sub>g(N) ≤ f(N) ≤ c<sub>2</sub>g(N)**

# Asymptotic Bounds for common fns

- **Polynomials:**

$$a_0 + a_1n + \cdots + a_d n^d \text{ is } O(n^d)$$

- **Logarithms:**

$$\log_a n = O(\log_b n) \text{ for all constants } a, b > 0$$

- **Logarithms:** log grows slower than every polynomial

$$\text{For all } x > 0, \log n = O(n^x)$$

- $n \log n = O(n^{1.01})$

# Efficient = Polynomial Time

An algorithm runs in polynomial time if  $T(n) = O(n^d)$  for some constant  $d$  independent of the input size  $n$ .

Why Polynomial time?

If problem size grows by at most a constant factor then so does the running time

- E.g.  $T(2N) \leq c(2N)^k \leq 2^k(cN^k)$
- Polynomial-time is exactly the set of running times that have this property

Typical running times are small degree polynomials, mostly less than  $N^3$ , at worst  $N^6$ , not  $N^{100}$

# Why it matters?

- #atoms in universe  $< 2^{240}$
- Life of the universe  $< 2^{54}$  seconds
- A CPU does  $< 2^{30}$  operations a second

If every atom is a CPU, a  $2^n$  time ALG cannot solve  $n=350$  if we start at Big-Bang.

	$n$	$n \log_2 n$	$n^2$	$n^3$	$1.5^n$	$2^n$	$n!$
$n = 10$	< 1 sec	< 1 sec	< 1 sec	< 1 sec	< 1 sec	< 1 sec	4 sec
$n = 30$	< 1 sec	< 1 sec	< 1 sec	< 1 sec	< 1 sec	18 min	$10^{25}$ years
$n = 50$	< 1 sec	< 1 sec	< 1 sec	< 1 sec	11 min	36 years	very long
$n = 100$	< 1 sec	< 1 sec	< 1 sec	1 sec	12,892 years	$10^{17}$ years	very long
$n = 1,000$	< 1 sec	< 1 sec	1 sec	18 min	very long	very long	very long
$n = 10,000$	< 1 sec	< 1 sec	2 min	12 days	very long	very long	very long
$n = 100,000$	< 1 sec	2 sec	3 hours	32 years	very long	very long	very long
$n = 1,000,000$	1 sec	20 sec	12 days	31,710 years	very long	very long	very long

not only get very big, but do so *abruptly*, which likely yields erratic performance on small instances

# Why “Polynomial”?

Point is not that  $n^{2000}$  is a practical bound, or that the differences among  $n$  and  $2n$  and  $n^2$  are negligible.

Rather, simple theoretical tools may not easily capture such differences, whereas exponentials are qualitatively different from polynomials, so more amenable to theoretical analysis.

- “My problem is in P” is a starting point for a more detailed analysis
- “My problem is not in P” may suggest that you need to shift to a more tractable variant