

What Are the Questions?

Principal concern throughout engineering:

"The engineer is someone who can do for a dime what any fool can do for a dollar."

and

Material cost (for programs, time to run, space requirements).

Development costs: How much engineering time? When delivered?

Operational costs: Upgrades, bug fixes.

Reliability: How robust? How safe?

Can it be **fast enough**? Depends on:

Application purpose;

Input data.

Space (memory, disk space)?

Depends on what input data.

Scale, as input gets big?

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Cost Measures (Time)

Real execution time

↳ this at home:

```
java FindPrimes 1000
```

↳ easy to measure, meaning is obvious.

↳ time where time is critical (real-time systems, e.g.).

↳ applies only to specific data set, compiler, machine.

Statement counts of # of times statements are executed:

↳ more general (not sensitive to speed of machine).

↳ doesn't tell you actual time, still applies only to specific data sets.

Asymptotic execution times:

Formulas for execution times as functions of input size.

↳ applies to all inputs, makes scaling clear.

↳ practical formula must be approximate, may tell you about actual time.

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Handy Tool: Order Notation

Try to produce specific functions that specify size, but **ignore factors of functions with similar magnitudes**.

↳ something like "f is bounded by g if it is in g's family."

For a function $g(x)$, the functions $2g(x)$, $0.5g(x)$, or for any $K > 0$, $Kg(x)$ have the same "shape". So put all of them into g 's family.

↳ find $h(x)$ such that $h(x) = K \cdot g(x)$ for $x > M$ (for some M). h has g 's shape "except for small values." So put all of them into g 's family.

For limits, throw in all functions whose absolute value is eventually less than some member of g 's family. Call this set $O(g)$ or $O(g(n))$.

For lower limits, throw in all functions whose absolute value is eventually greater than some member of g 's family. Call this set $\Omega(g)$.

The **Theta set** $\Theta(g) = O(g) \cap \Omega(g)$ —the set of functions **bracketed by** two members of g 's family.

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CS61B Lecture #16: Complexity

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Enlightening Example

Search a text corpus (say 10^7 bytes or so), and find and print frequently used words, together with counts of how often

used (math): Heavy-Duty data structures

↳ naive implementation, randomized placement, pointers galore, several pages long.

↳ Doug McIlroy): UNIX shell script:

```
'[:alpha:]' | tr -d '\n' | fold -w 100 | sort | uniq -c | sort -nr
```

↳ faster?

↳ much faster,

↳ took 5 minutes to write and processes 30MB in < 6 sec.

↳ In many cases, almost anything will do: Keep It Simple.

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Asymptotic Cost

Execution time lets us see **shape** of the cost function.

↳ approximating anyway, pointless to be precise about constants:

Focus on small inputs:

↳ always pre-calculate some results.

↳ for small inputs not usually important.

↳ more interested in **asymptotic behavior** as input size is very large.

Factors (as in "off by factor of 2"):

↳ changing machines causes constant-factor change.

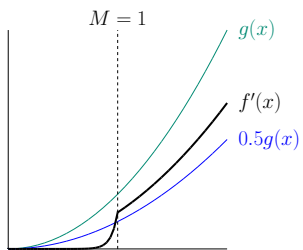
↳ don't get distracted away from (i.e., ignore) these things?

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Big Omega

By bounding from below:



$f(x) \geq \frac{1}{2}g(x)$ as long as $x > 1$,

$f(x)$'s "bounded-below family," written

$$f(x) \in \Omega(g(x)),$$

though $f(x) < g(x)$ everywhere.

Warning: Various Mathematical Pedantry

If I am going to talk about $O(\cdot)$, $\Omega(\cdot)$ and $\Theta(\cdot)$ as sets of functions, you really should write, for example,

$$f \in O(g) \text{ instead of } f(x) \in O(g(x))$$

$f(x) \in O(g(x))$ is short for $\lambda x. f(x) \in O(\lambda x. g(x))$.

And notation outside this course, in fact, is $f(x) = O(g(x))$, which, I think that's a serious abuse of notation.

Why It Matters

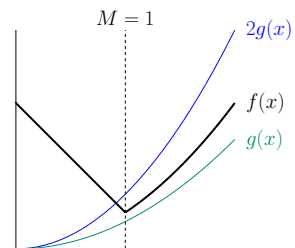
Scientists often talk as if constant factors didn't matter, but the difference of $\Theta(N)$ vs. $\Theta(N^2)$.

They do matter, but at some point, constants always get

\sqrt{n}	n	$n \lg n$	n^2	n^3	2^n
1.4	2	2	4	8	4
2	4	8	16	64	16
2.8	8	24	64	512	256
4	16	64	256	4,096	65,536
5.7	32	160	1024	32,768	4.2×10^9
8	64	384	4,096	262,144	1.8×10^{19}
11	128	896	16,384	2.1×10^9	3.4×10^{38}
:	:	:	:	:	:
32	1,024	10,240	1.0×10^6	1.1×10^9	1.8×10^{308}
:	:	:	:	:	:
1024	1.0×10^6	2.1×10^7	1.1×10^{12}	1.2×10^{18}	$6.7 \times 10^{315.652}$

Big Oh

By bounding from above:



$f(x) \leq 2g(x)$ as long as $x > 1$,

$f(x)$'s "bounded-above family," written

$$f(x) \in O(g(x)),$$

though (in this case) $f(x) > g(x)$ everywhere.

Big Theta

From the previous slides, we not only have $f(x) \in O(g(x))$ and $f(x) \in \Omega(g(x))$,...

we also have $f(x) \in \Omega(g(x))$ and $f(x) \in O(g(x))$.

Summarize this all by saying $f(x) \in \Theta(g(x))$ and $f(x) \in \Theta(g(x))$.

How We Use Order Notation

In mathematics, you'll see $O(\dots)$, etc., used generally to bound functions.

$$\pi(N) = \Theta\left(\frac{N}{\ln N}\right)$$

and prefer to write

$$\pi(N) \in \Theta\left(\frac{N}{\ln N}\right)$$

where $\pi(N)$ is the number of primes less than or equal to N .)

See things like

$$= x^3 + x^2 + O(x) \quad (\text{or } f(x) \in x^4 + x^2 + O(x)),$$

$$f(x) = x^3 + x^2 + g(x) \text{ where } g(x) \in O(x).$$

In computer science, the functions we will be bounding will be *cost functions* that measure the amount of execution time or the space required by a program or algorithm.

Using the Notation

order notation for any kind of real-valued function.

them to describe cost functions. Example:

```
position of X in list L, or -1 if not found. */
List L, Object X {
```

```
    c = 0; L != null; L = L.next, c += 1)
    (X.equals(L.head)) return c;
    -1;
```

representative operation: number of .equals tests.

length of L, then loop does at most N tests: *worst-case* tests.

total # of instructions executed is roughly proportional to worst case, so can also say worst-case time is $O(N)$, if units used to measure.

provision (in defn. of $O(\cdot)$) to ignore empty list.

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Some Intuition on Meaning of Growth

problem can you solve in a given time?

following table, left column shows time in microseconds to solve problem as a function of problem size N.

for the size of problem that can be solved in a second, (31 days), and century, for various relationships between time and problem size.

Time for size N	1 second	1 hour	1 month	1 century
10^{300000}		$10^{1000000000}$	$10^{8 \cdot 10^{11}}$	$10^{10^{14}}$
10^6		$3.6 \cdot 10^9$	$2.7 \cdot 10^{12}$	$3.2 \cdot 10^{15}$
63000		$1.3 \cdot 10^8$	$7.4 \cdot 10^{10}$	$6.9 \cdot 10^{13}$
1000		60000	$1.6 \cdot 10^6$	$5.6 \cdot 10^7$
100		1500	14000	150000
20		32	41	51

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Effect of Nested Loops

often lead to polynomial bounds:

```
i = 0; i < A.length; i += 1)
  int j = 0; j < A.length; j += 1)
    (i != j && A[i] == A[j])
      return true;
    else;
```

time is $O(N^2)$, where $N = A.length$. Worst-case time is

efficient though:

```
i = 0; i < A.length; i += 1)
  int j = i+1; j < A.length; j += 1)
    (A[i] == A[j]) return true;
  else;
```

worst-case time is proportional to

$$-1 + N - 2 + \dots + 1 = N(N-1)/2 \in \Theta(N^2)$$

worst-case time unchanged by the constant factor.

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Be Careful

time that the worst-case time is $O(N^2)$, since $N \in O(N^2)$ bounds are loose.

worst-case time is $\Omega(N)$, since $N \in \Omega(N)$, but that does *not* mean the loop *always* takes time N, or even $K \cdot N$ for some K.

we are just saying something about the function that maps problem size to the largest possible time required to process any array of size N.

As much as possible about our worst-case time, we should try to find a lower bound: in this case, we can: $\Theta(N)$.

That still tells us nothing about best-case time, which we find X at the beginning of the loop. Best-case time

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Binary Search: Slow Growth

```
X is an element of S[L .. U]. Assumes
S is sorted, 0 <= L <= U-1 < S.length. */
String X, String[] S, int L, int U {
    return false;
    (U-L)/2;
    S[X.compareTo(S[M])];
    (0) return isIn(X, S, L, M-1);
    (M > 0) return isIn(X, S, M+1, U);
    true;
```

worst-case time, $C(D)$, (as measured by # of calls to .compareTo), is $D = U - L + 1$.

we consider S[M] from consideration each time and look at half the size of the array. $D = 2^k - 1$ for simplicity, so:

$$C(D) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } D \leq 0, \\ 1 + C((D-1)/2), & \text{if } D > 0. \end{cases}$$

$$= \underbrace{1 + 1 + \dots + 1}_k + 0$$

$$= k = \lg(D+1) \in \Theta(\lg D)$$

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Recursion and Recurrences: Fast Growth

time of recursion. In the worst case, both recursive calls

```
if X is a substring of S */
occurs(String S, String X) {
    if (S.contains(X)) return true;
    return length() <= X.length() return false;
```

```
(S.substring(1), X) ||
(S.substring(0, S.length()-1), X);
```

we want to be the worst-case cost of occurs(S,X) for S of fixed size N_0 , measured in # of calls to occurs. Then

$$C(N) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } N \leq N_0, \\ 2C(N-1) + 1 & \text{if } N > N_0 \end{cases}$$

grows exponentially:

$$C(N-1) + 1 = 2(2C(N-2) + 1) + 1 = \dots = 2(\dots 2 \cdot 1 + 1) + \dots + 1$$

$$N_0 + 2^{N-N_0-1} + 2^{N-N_0-2} + \dots + 1 = 2^{N-N_0+1} - 1 \in \Theta(2^N)$$

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Other Typical Pattern: Merge Sort

```
sort(L) {  
  if (|L| < 2) return L;  
  L0 and L1 of about equal size;  
  sort(L0); L1 = sort(L1);  
  merge(L0 and L1)
```

Merge ("combine into a single ordered list") takes time proportional to size of its result.

Let size of L is $N = 2^k$, worst-case cost function, $C(N)$,
merge time (which is proportional to # items merged):

$$\begin{aligned} C(N) &= \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } N < 2; \\ 2C(N/2) + N, & \text{if } N \geq 2. \end{cases} \\ &= 2(2C(N/4) + N/2) + N \\ &= 4C(N/4) + N + N \\ &= 8C(N/8) + N + N + N \\ &= N \cdot 0 + \underbrace{N + N + \dots + N}_{k=\lg N} \\ &= N \lg N \end{aligned}$$

can say it's $\Theta(N \lg N)$ for arbitrary N (not just 2^k).