

## What Are the Questions?

Principal concern throughout engineering:

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

and

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

**development costs**: How much engineering time? When delivered?

**maintenance costs**: Upgrades, bug fixes.

**reliability**: How robust? How safe?

How **fast enough**? Depends on:

**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**

do this at home:

```
java FindPrimes 1000
```

pros: easy to measure, meaning is obvious.

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

usage: applies only to specific data set, compiler, machine,

**statement counts** of # of times statements are executed:

pros: more general (not sensitive to speed of machine).

cons: doesn't tell you actual time, still applies only to data sets.

**execution times**:

**formulas** for execution times as functions of input size.

pros: applies to all inputs, makes scaling clear.

usage: practical formula must be approximate, may tell about actual time.

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## Handy Tool: Order Notation

try to produce specific functions that specify size, but **focus on families of functions with similarly behaved 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  $K > 0$ ,  $Kg(x)$  all have the same "shape". So put all of them into  $g$ 's family.

For a function  $h(x)$  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 everywhere bounded by some member of  $g$ 's family. Call this set  $O(g)$  or  $O(g(n))$ .

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

The  $\Theta(g) = O(g) \cap \Omega(g)$ —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  $10^9$  bytes or so), and find and print frequently used words, together with counts of how often

used (e.g., words): Heavy-Duty data structures

and algorithms: randomized placement, pointers galore, pointers long.

Doug McIlroy): UNIX shell script:

```
'[:alpha:]' | tr -c '\n*' < FILE | \
```

```
\
tr -k 1,1 | \
```

sort

tr -d '\n'

sort -n -k 1,1 | \

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.

For 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.

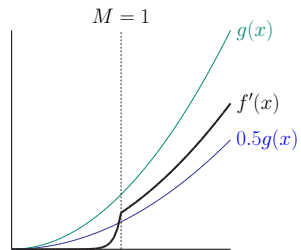
Don't get distracted away from (i.e., ignore) these things?

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## Big Omega

Lower bounding from below:



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

$f$ 's "bounded-below family," written

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

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

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## 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,

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

because  $f(x) \in O(g(x))$  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.

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## 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	$4.2 \times 10^9$
8	64	384	4,096	262,144	$1.8 \times 10^{19}$
11	128	896	16,384	$2.1 \times 10^9$	$3.4 \times 10^{38}$
:	:	:	:	:	:
32	1,024	10,240	$1.0 \times 10^6$	$1.1 \times 10^9$	$1.8 \times 10^{308}$
:	:	:	:	:	:
1024	$1.0 \times 10^6$	$2.1 \times 10^7$	$1.1 \times 10^{12}$	$1.2 \times 10^{18}$	$6.7 \times 10^{315.652}$

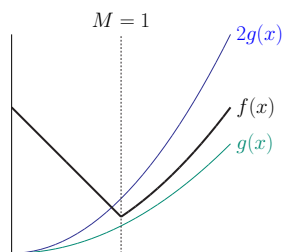
replace column  $n^2$  with  $10^6 \cdot n^2$  and it still becomes  $O(2^n)$ .

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## Big Oh

Upper bounding from above.



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

$f$ 's "bounded-above family," written

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

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

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## Big Theta

From 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  $f(x) \in \Theta(g(x))$ .

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## How We Use Order Notation

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

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

and we 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  $N$ .)

We see things like

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

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

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

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## 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.

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

al # 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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## The Intuition on Meaning of Growth

problem can you solve in a given time?

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

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

size.

Time for size $N$	Max $N$ Possible in			
	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;
```

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 speed-up.

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## Be Careful

Remember that the worst-case time is  $O(N^2)$ , since  $N \in O(N^2)$  and these 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  $N$ .

When we talk about our worst-case time, we should try to be as precise as possible: in this case, we can:  $\Theta(N^2)$ .

That still tells us nothing about *best-case* time, which we find  $X$  at the beginning of the loop. Best-case time is  $\Theta(1)$ .

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## Binary Search: Slow Growth

```
is an element of S[L .. U]. Assumes
ascending order, 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  $C(D) = U - L + 1$ .

Each time we consider  $S[M]$  from consideration each time and look at half the array.  $C(D) = 2^k - 1$  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

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;
    if (S.length() <= X.length()) return false;
```

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

Let  $C(N)$  to be the worst-case cost of  $\text{occurs}(S, X)$  for  $S$  of fixed size  $N_0$ , measured in # of calls to  $\text{occurs}$ . 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:

$$C(N) = 2(N-1) + 1 = 2(2(N-2) + 1) + 1 = \dots = \underbrace{2(\dots 2 \cdot 1 + 1)}_{N-N_0} + \dots + 1$$

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

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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); sort(L1);  
  merge(L0, L1);  
}
```

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

at 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  $2^k$ ).