

Objectives

Algorithm analysis
Data structures

Jan 21, 2009

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Review

How do we define efficiency in algorithms?

- In what "case" do we analyze algorithms?

What term do we care about in algorithms? Why?

What is the definition of "big O"?

What is the symbol for the asymptotic lower bound?

What is the symbol for the asymptotic tight bound?

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Review: Worst-Case Polynomial-Time

Def. An algorithm is **efficient** if its running time is **polynomial**

Justification: It really works in practice!

- In practice, poly-time algorithms that people develop almost always have low constants and low exponents
- Although $6.02 \times 10^{23} \times N^{20}$ is technically poly-time, it would be useless in practice

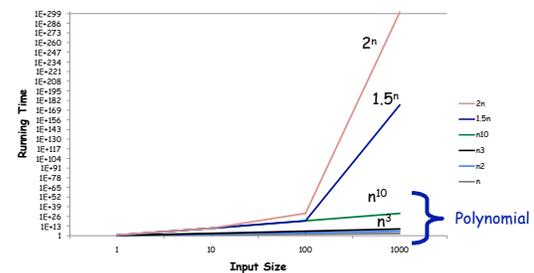
Exceptions.

- Some poly-time algorithms do have high constants and/or exponents, and are useless in practice
- Some exponential-time (or worse) algorithms are widely used because the worst-case instances seem to be rare

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Review: Running Times

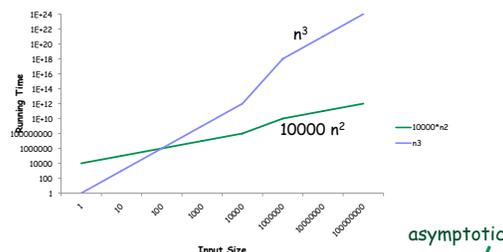


- Huge difference from polynomial to not polynomial
- Differences in runtime matter more as input size increases

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Review: Running Times



- As input size increases, n^3 dominates large constant $\cdot n^2$
- Care about running time as input size *approaches infinity*
- Only care about highest-order term

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Review: Asymptotic Order of Growth Upper Bounds

$T(n)$ is the worst case running time of an algorithm

We say that $T(n)$ is $O(f(n))$

- "order $f(n)$ "

if there exist constants $c > 0$ and $n_0 \geq 0$ such that for all $n \geq n_0$

- i.e., sufficiently large n , c cannot depend on n

we have $T(n) \leq c \cdot f(n)$

- i.e., $T(n)$ is bounded above by a constant multiple of $f(n)$

→ T is **asymptotically upperbounded** by f

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Example: Upper Bound

$T(n) = pn^2 + qn + r$

- p, q, r are positive constants

For all $n \geq 1$,

$$T(n) = pn^2 + qn + r \leq pn^2 + qn^2 + rn^2 = (p+q+r)n^2$$

→ $T(n) \leq cn^2$, where $c = p+q+r$

→ $T(n) = O(n^2)$

Also correct to say that $T(n) = O(n^3)$

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Review: Asymptotic Order of Growth: Lower Bounds

Complementary to upper bound.

$T(n)$ is $\Omega(f(n))$

if there exist constants $\epsilon > 0$ and $n_0 \geq 0$ such that for all $n \geq n_0$

- i.e., sufficiently large n , ϵ cannot depend on n

we have $T(n) \geq \epsilon \cdot f(n)$

- i.e., $T(n)$ is bounded below by a constant multiple of $f(n)$

→ T is **asymptotically lowerbounded** by f

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Example: Lower Bound

$T(n) = pn^2 + qn + r$

- p, q, r are positive constants

Idea: Need to *deflate* terms rather than inflate

For all $n \geq 0$,

$$T(n) = pn^2 + qn + r \geq pn^2$$

→ $T(n) \geq \epsilon n^2$, where $\epsilon = p$

→ $T(n) = \Omega(n^2)$

Also correct to say that $T(n) = \Omega(n)$

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Asymptotic Order of Growth

Tight bounds. $T(n)$ is $\Theta(f(n))$ if $T(n)$ is both $O(f(n))$ and $\Omega(f(n))$

- The "right" bound

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Properties

Transitivity

- If $f = O(g)$ and $g = O(h)$ then $f = O(h)$
- If $f = \Omega(g)$ and $g = \Omega(h)$ then $f = \Omega(h)$
- If $f = \Theta(g)$ and $g = \Theta(h)$ then $f = \Theta(h)$

Proofs in book

Additivity

- If $f = O(h)$ and $g = O(h)$ then $f + g = O(h)$
- If $f = \Omega(h)$ and $g = \Omega(h)$ then $f + g = \Omega(h)$
- If $f = \Theta(h)$ and $g = O(h)$ then $f + g = \Theta(h)$

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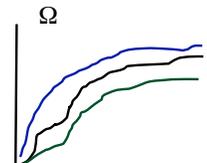
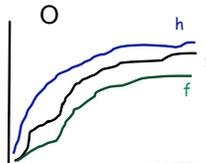
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Transitivity

If g asymptotically upperbounds f
 And h asymptotically upperbounds g
 Then h asymptotically upperbounds f

- If $f = O(g)$ and $g = O(h)$ then $f = O(h)$
- If $f = \Omega(g)$ and $g = \Omega(h)$ then $f = \Omega(h)$
- If $f = \Theta(g)$ and $g = \Theta(h)$ then $f = \Theta(h)$

Proofs in book



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Additivity

- If $f = O(h)$ and $g = O(h)$ then $f + g = O(h)$
- If $f = \Omega(h)$ and $g = \Omega(h)$ then $f + g = \Omega(h)$
- If $f = \Theta(h)$ and $g = O(h)$ then $f + g = \Theta(h)$

Sketch proof for O Proofs in book

- $f \leq c \cdot h$ (by defn of O)
- $g \leq d \cdot h$
- $f + g \leq c \cdot h + d \cdot h = (c + d)h = c' \cdot h$

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ASYMPTOTIC BOUNDS FOR CLASSES OF ALGORITHMS

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Asymptotic Bounds for Polynomials

$a_0 + a_1n + \dots + a_dn^d$ is $\Theta(n^d)$ if $a_d > 0$

- Asymptotic runtime determined by higher-order term

Other examples of polynomial times:

- $O(n^{1/2})$
- $O(n^{1.58})$
- $O(n \log n) \leq O(n^2)$

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Asymptotic Bounds for Logarithms

Logarithms. $\log_b n = x$, where $b^x = n$

- x is number of digits to represent n in base- b representation

What does this mean for the running time of an algorithm that is $O(\log n)$?

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Asymptotic Bounds for Logarithms

Logarithms. $\log_b n = x$, where $b^x = n$

- x is number of digits to represent n in base- b representation

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Asymptotic Bounds for Logarithms

Logarithms: $\log_b n = x$, where $b^x = n$

- x is number of digits to represent n in base- b representation

→ Slowly growing functions

$O(\log_a n) = O(\log_b n)$ for any constants $a, b > 0$

- Don't need to specify the base

For every $x > 0$, $\log n = O(n^x)$

- Log grows slower than every polynomial

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Asymptotic Bounds for Exponentials

Exponentials: functions of the form $f(n) = r^n$ for constant base r

- Faster growth rates as n increases

For every $r > 1$ and every $d > 0$, $n^d = O(r^n)$

- Every exponential grows faster than every polynomial

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Summary of Asymptotic Bounds

In terms of growth rates

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Summary of Asymptotic Bounds

In terms of growth rates

Logarithms < Polynomials < Exponentials

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A SURVEY OF COMMON RUNNING TIMES

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Linear Time: $O(n)$

Running time is at most a **constant** factor times the size of the input

- Example: process the input in one pass, doing constant amount of work
- Online algorithms
- Data stream algorithms

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Linear Time: $O(n)$

Computing the maximum: Compute maximum of n numbers a_1, \dots, a_n

```

max = a1
for i = 2 to n
  if (ai > max)
    max = ai

```

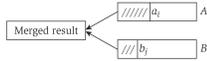
Constant work for each input (does not depend on n)

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Linear Time: $O(n)$

Example. Merge. Combine two sorted lists $A = a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$ with $B = b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n$ into sorted whole



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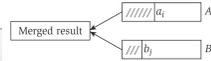
Linear Time: $O(n)$

Example. Merge. Combine two sorted lists $A = a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$ with $B = b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n$ into sorted whole

Claim. Merging two lists of size n takes $O(n)$ time

```

i = 1, j = 1
while (both lists are nonempty)
  if (a_i <= b_j)
    append a_i to output list and increment i
  else (a_i > b_j)
    append b_j to output list and increment j
append remainder of nonempty list to output list
    
```



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Linear Time: $O(n)$

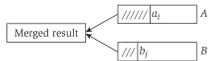
Example. Merge. Combine two sorted lists $A = a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$ with $B = b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n$ into sorted whole

Claim. Merging two lists of size n takes $O(n)$ time

Proof. After each comparison, the length of output list increases by 1

```

i = 1, j = 1
while (both lists are nonempty)
  if (a_i <= b_j)
    append a_i to output list and increment i
  else (a_i > b_j)
    append b_j to output list and increment j
append remainder of nonempty list to output list
    
```



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$O(n \log n)$ Time

Also referred to as linearithmic time

Arises in divide-and-conquer algorithms

- Splitting input into equal pieces, solve recursively, combine solutions in linear time

What well-known set of algorithms has an $O(n \log n)$ running time?

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$O(n \log n)$ Time Example

Sorting. Mergesort and heapsort are sorting algorithms that perform $O(n \log n)$ comparisons

- Break input into equal-sized pieces
 - Running time of this step?
- Sorts each half recursively
- Merges sorted halves into a sorted list
 - Running time of this step?

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$O(n \log n)$ Time Example

Largest empty interval. Given n time-stamps x_1, \dots, x_n at which copies of a file arrive at a server, what is largest interval of time when no copies of the file arrive?

$O(n \log n)$ solution

- Sort time-stamps
- Scan sorted list in order, identifying the maximum gap between successive time-stamps

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Quadratic Time: $O(n^2)$

Examples?

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Quadratic Time: $O(n^2)$

Examples:

- Enumerate all pairs of elements
- Nested loops (n iterations)

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Quadratic Time: $O(n^2)$

Closest pair of points. Given a list of n points in the plane $(x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_n, y_n)$, find the pair that is closest

$O(n^2)$ solution. Try all pairs of points

```

min =  $(x_1 - x_2)^2 + (y_1 - y_2)^2$ 
for i = 1 to n {
  for j = i+1 to n {
    d =  $(x_i - x_j)^2 + (y_i - y_j)^2$ 
    if (d < min)
      min = d
  }
}

```

← don't need to take square roots

$\Omega(n^2)$ seems inevitable, but Chapter 5 has an $O(n \log n)$ solution

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Cubic Time: $O(n^3)$

Examples?

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Cubic Time: $O(n^3)$

Enumerate all triples of elements

Set disjointness. Given n sets S_1, \dots, S_n each of which is a subset of $1, 2, \dots, n$, is there some pair of these which are disjoint?

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Cubic Time: $O(n^3)$

Enumerate all triples of elements

Set disjointness. Given n sets S_1, \dots, S_n each of which is a subset of $1, 2, \dots, n$, is there some pair of these which are disjoint?

$O(n^3)$ solution. For each pair of sets, determine if they are disjoint

```

foreach set  $S_i$ 
  foreach other set  $S_j$ 
    foreach element p of  $S_i$ 
      determine whether p also belongs to  $S_j$ 
    if (no element of  $S_i$  belongs to  $S_j$ )
      report that  $S_i$  and  $S_j$  are disjoint

```

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Polynomial Time: $O(n^k)$ Time

Independent set of size k . Given a graph, are there k nodes such that no two are joined by an edge?

- k is a constant

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Polynomial Time: $O(n^k)$ Time

If to get all pairs, the algorithm is $O(n^2)$, what is an example of an $O(n^k)$ algorithm?

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Polynomial Time: $O(n^k)$ Time

If to get all pairs, the algorithm is $O(n^2)$, what is an example of an $O(n^k)$ algorithm?

- All subsets of size k

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Polynomial Time: $O(n^k)$ Time

Independent set of size k . Given a graph, are there k nodes such that no two are joined by an edge?

- k is a constant

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Polynomial Time: $O(n^k)$ Time

Independent set of size k . Given a graph, are there k nodes such that no two are joined by an edge?

- k is a constant

```
foreach subset S of k nodes
  check whether S is an independent set
  if (S is an independent set)
    report S is an independent set
```

$O(n^k)$ solution.

- Enumerate all subsets of k nodes
- Check whether S is an independent set = $O(k^2)$.
- Number of k element subsets = $\binom{n}{k} = \frac{n(n-1)(n-2)\dots(n-k+1)}{k(k-1)(k-2)\dots(2)(1)} \leq \frac{n^k}{k!}$
- $O(k^2 n^k / k!) = O(n^k)$.

poly-time for $k=17$,
but not practical

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Exponential Time

Independent set. Given a graph, what is maximum size of an independent set?

$O(n^2 2^n)$ solution. Enumerate all subsets

```
S* = φ
foreach subset S of nodes
  check whether S is an independent set
  if (S is largest independent set seen so far)
    S* = S
```

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$O(\log n)$ Time

Sublinear time

Know any algorithms that take $O(\log n)$ time?

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$O(\log n)$ Time

Example: Binary search

Often requires some pre-processing or data structure that allows cheaper "querying" than n time

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