

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

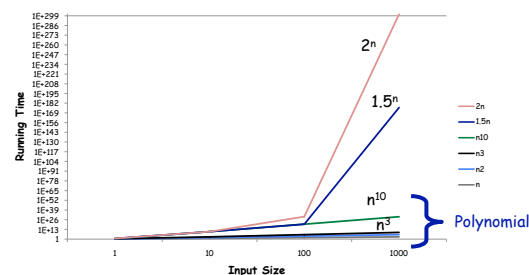
Exceptions.

- 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

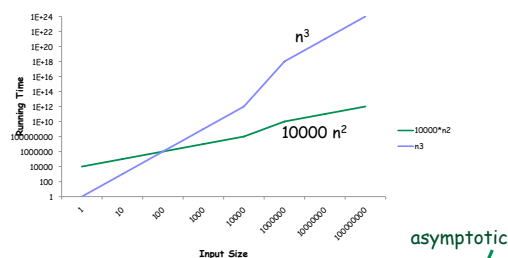


- Huge difference from polynomial to not polynomial
- Differences in runtime matter more as input size increases

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Review: Running Times



As input size increases, n^3 dominates large constant $\cdot n^2$
 \Rightarrow Care about running time as input size *approaches infinity*
 \Rightarrow 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 $f(n)$

$\Rightarrow T$ 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 $n \geq 1$,

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

$$\rightarrow T(n) \leq cn^2, \text{ where } c = p+q+r$$

$$\rightarrow T(n) = O(n^2)$$

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 $f(n)$

$\rightarrow T$ 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 $n \geq 0$,

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

$$\rightarrow T(n) \geq cn^2, \text{ where } \epsilon = p$$

$$\rightarrow T(n) = \Omega(n^2)$$

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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Transitivity

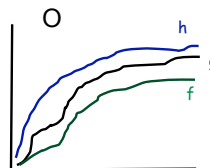
If g asymptotically upperbounds f
And h asymptotically upperbounds g
Then h asymptotically upperbounds f

If $f = O(g)$ and $g = O(h)$ then $f = O(h)$

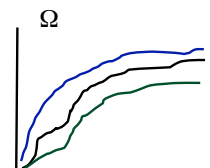
If $f = \Omega(g)$ and $g = \Omega(h)$ then $f = \Omega(h)$

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 $O(\log n)$?

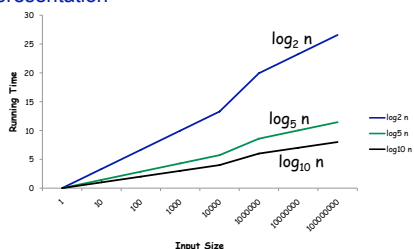
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Asymptotic Bounds for Logarithms

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

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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
  
```

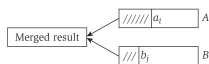
Constant work for each input (does not depend on n)

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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: $O(n)$

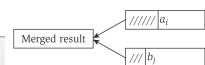
Example. Merge. Combine two sorted lists $A = a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$ with $B = b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n$ into sorted whole

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

```

i = 1, j = 1
while (both lists are nonempty)
  if ( $a_i \leq b_j$ )
    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

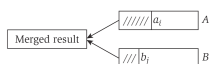
Claim. Merging two lists of size n takes $O(n)$ time

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

```

i = 1, j = 1
while (both lists are nonempty)
  if ( $a_i \leq b_j$ )
    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 = $\binom{n}{k} = \frac{n(n-1)(n-2)\cdots(n-k+1)}{k(k-1)(k-2)\cdots(2)(1)} \leq \frac{n^k}{k!}$
- $O(k^2 n^k / k!) = O(n^k)$.

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* = ∅
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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