

CS240

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Alternate Definition of Big-O

Big O

$f(n) \in O(g(n))$ if

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} = c < \infty$$

where c is some constant (possibly 0)

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$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^3 + 2n}{n^3} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} 1 + \frac{2}{n^2} = 1$$

Alternate Definitions of O , Ω , Θ

Big Ω

$f(n) \in \Omega(g(n))$ if

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} = c > 0$$

where c is some constant (possibly ∞)

Alternate Definitions of O , Ω , Θ

Big Θ

$f(n) \in \Theta(g(n))$ if

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} = c, 0 < c < \infty$$

where c is some constant.

A Complication

- Let's analyze this algorithm:

```
1 public static boolean contains(int target,  
2                               int[] numbers) {  
3     for (int number : numbers) {  
4         if (number == target) {  
5             return true;  
6         }  
7     }  
8     return false;  
9 }
```

Best, Worst, Average Case

```
1 public static boolean contains(int target,
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- Best Case: 1 comparison, $O(1)$
- Worst Case: n comparisons, $O(n)$
- Average Case: $\frac{n+1}{2}$ comparisons, $O(n)$

Refined Algorithm Analysis Algorithm

- STEP 1: Decide on best, worst, or average case analysis
- STEP 2: Select a measure of input size and a basic operation
- STEP 3: Find a function $T(n)$ that describes the number of times the basic operation occurs
- STEP 4: Describe $T(n)$ using order notation:
 - Big-O for an upper bound
“The algorithm is at least this fast!”
 - Big- Ω for a lower bound
“The algorithm is at least this slow!”
 - Big- Θ for both upper and lower bound

L'Hôpital's Rule

L'Hôpital's Rule

If $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} g(n) = \infty$ and $f'(n)$ and $g'(n)$ exist, then

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f'(n)}{g'(n)}$$

L'Hôpital Example

- $n \log_2 n \stackrel{?}{\in} O(n^2)$

L'Hôpital Example

■ $n \log_2 n \overset{?}{\in} O(n^2)$

■ $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n \log_2 n}{n^2} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log_2 n}{n}$

L'Hôpital Example

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- $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n \log_2 n}{n^2} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log_2 n}{n}$
- $= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln n}{n \ln 2}$ (Recall that $\log_b(n) = \frac{\log_k n}{\log_k b}$)

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- Apply L'Hôpital's rule:
- $= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{1}{n}}{\ln 2}$ (Recall that $\frac{d}{dx} \ln x = 1/x$)

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- $= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n \ln 2} = 0$

What If We Want to Show That $f(n)$ is NOT $O(g(n))$

- Easiest approach is usually to show:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} = \infty$$

OpenDSA Question

Suppose that a particular algorithm has time complexity $T(n) = 3 \times 2^n$ and that executing an implementation of it on a particular machine takes t seconds for n inputs. Now suppose that we are presented with a machine that is 64 times as fast. How many inputs could we process on the new machine in t seconds?

OpenDSA Question

- Let's call the input size we could handle before n_{old} . The number of steps we completed in t seconds was: $3 \times 2^{n_{old}}$.
- Since our new computer is 64 times faster, the number of steps we can perform in t seconds is now $64 \times 3 \times 2^{n_{old}}$
- Our complexity function tells us that $steps = 3 \times 2^n$, we can solve for size (n):
- $s = 3 \times 2^n$
- $s/3 = 2^n$
- $\log_2(s/3) = n$
- $n = \log_2(s/3)$

OpenDSA Question

Now we plug in our step budget for s :

- $n = \log_2\left(\frac{64 \times 3 \times 2^{n_{old}}}{3}\right)$

- $n = \log_2(64 \times 2^{n_{old}})$

- $n = \log_2(2^6 \times 2^{n_{old}})$

- $n = \log_2(2^{n_{old}+6})$

- $n = n_{old} + 6$