# 02 - Computational Complexity Analysis 

## [KOMS119602] \& [KOMS120403]

Design and Analysis of Algorithm (2021/2022)

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- Review of gcd algorithms
- Computational complexity model
- Asymptotic notation and order of magnitude
- Big-O notation: asymptotic upper bound
- Definition
- Linear \& polynomial functions
- Arithmetic operations in $\mathcal{O}$
- Logarithmic function
- Classification of algorithms
- Determining asymptotic complexity
- Big-Omega notation
- Big-Theta notation
- Quiz


## Euclidean algorithm to compute gcd (1)

## From last week...

Computing gcd:

- Input: two integers $a$ and $b$
- Output: the greatest common divisor of $m$ and $n$

```
Algorithm 1 Naive gcd algorithm of two integers
    1: procedure \(\operatorname{GCD}(a, b)\)
    2: \(\quad r=1\)
    3: \(\quad x=\min (a, b)\)
    4: \(\quad\) for \(i=1\) to \(x\) do
        if \(a \bmod i==0\) and \(b \bmod i==0\) then \(r=i\)
        end if
    end for
    8: end procedure
```

Complexity? homework!

## Euclidean algorithm to compute gcd (2)

## Example

Using the Euclidean algorithm, find the gcd of 210 and 45.

## Solution:

$$
\begin{aligned}
210 & =4 \cdot 45+30 \\
45 & =1 \cdot 30+15 \\
30 & =2 \cdot 15+0
\end{aligned}
$$

So $\operatorname{gcd}(210,45)=15$

## Euclidean algorithm to compute gcd (3)

```
Algorithm 2 Euclidean algorithm
    1: procedure \(\operatorname{EUCLIDGCD}(a, b)\)
    2: \(\quad\) while \(b \neq 0\) do
    3: \(\quad r=a \bmod b\)
    4: \(\quad a=b\)
    5: \(\quad b=r\)
    6: end while
    7: return a
    8: end procedure
```

Why does it terminate?
Complexity? homework!

## Computational complexity model (1)

Can you recall what is complexity of an algorithm, and why should we study it?

## Computational complexity model (2)

A part of algorithm analysis is computing the computational complexity of an algorithm.

The computational complexity or simply complexity of an algorithm is the amount of resources (time and memory) required to run it.

- Time efficiency: how fast an algorithm is executed
- Space efficiency: how much memory needed to execute an algorithm

How do we compute the complexity of an algorithm?

## Computational complexity model (3)

## Example

Let a supercomputer executes an algorithm A, and a PC executes an algorithm B. Both computers have to sort an array of 1 million elements. The supercomputer can execute 100 million instructions in one second, while the PC is only able to execute 1 million instructions in one second.

Algorithm A needs $2 n^{2}$ instructions to sort $n$ elements, and algorithm $B$ needs $50 n \log n$ instructions. Compute the amount of time to sort 1 million elements in each computer!

## Computational complexity model (4)

## Solution:

- Supercomputer: $\frac{2 \cdot\left(10^{6}\right)^{2} \text { instructions }}{10^{8} \text { instructions } / \mathrm{sec}}=20000 \mathrm{sec} \approx 5.56$ hours
- PC: $\frac{50 \cdot 10^{6} \log 10^{6} \text { instructions }}{10^{6} \text { instructions } / \text { sec }} \approx 1000$ sec $\approx 16.67$ minutes

Remark. So, the number of executions matters!

## Computational complexity model (5)

## What affects computational complexity?

Time (and space) complexity depends on lots of things like hardware, OS, processors, programming language and compiler, etc. But we don't consider any of these factors when analyzing the algorithm.

## Remarks:

- Our focus on this subject will be on time complexity.
- We assume that our machine uses only one processor (i.e. generic one-processor).
- Time complexity is computed based on the number of operations/instructions
- The running time of an algorithm increases (or remains constant in case of constant running time) as the input size $(n)$ increases.


## Computational complexity model (6)

Algorithm 3 Average of an array of integers
1: procedure Average (A[1..n])
2: $\quad$ sum $\leftarrow 0$
3: $\quad$ for $i=1$ to $n$ do
4: $\quad$ sum $\leftarrow \operatorname{sum}+A[i]$
5: end for
6: $\quad$ avg $\leftarrow$ sum $/ n$
7: end procedure

The number of operations:

- Assignment: lines $2,4,6$; with $1+n+1=n+2$ operations
- Summation: line 4, with $n$ operations
- Division: line 6, with 1 operation

Complexity: $T(n)=(n+2)+n=2 n+2$ operations.

## Computational complexity model (7)

Three measurements of resource usage:

- Worst-case $\left(T_{\max }(n)\right)$ : it measures the resources (e.g. running time, memory) that an algorithm requires in the worst case i.e. most difficult case, given an input of arbitrary size $n$ (usually denoted in asymptotic notation).
- Best-case $\left(T_{\text {min }}(n)\right)$ : describe an algorithm's behavior under optimal conditions.
- Average-case $\left(T_{\text {avg }}(n)\right)$ : the amount of computational time used by the algorithm, averaged over all possible inputs.


## Asymptotic notation and order of magnitude (1)

- The running time of an algorithm is measured as a function of the size of its input.
- Rate of growth of the running time measures how fast a function grows with the input size. Asymptotically means the function matters only for large values of $n$.
- The order of magnitude function describes the part of the function that increases the fastest as the value of $n$ increases.


## Asymptotic notation and order of magnitude (2)

## Example

Suppose that an algorithm, running on an input of size $n$, takes $6 n^{2}+100 n+300$.


We only keep the most significant term. We say that the function $6 n^{2}$ has a higher order of magnitude than $100 n+300$.

## $\mathcal{O}$ notation (1): Asymptotic upper-bound

Worst-case complexity measures the resources an algorithm needs in the worst-case. It gives an upper bound on the resources required by the algorithm.

## Why learn worst-case complexity?

- provides information about the maximum resource requirements
- naturally, it often happens in a system


## $\mathcal{O}$ notation (2): Asymptotic upper-bound

Big-O $(\mathcal{O}(\cdot))$ notation: a mathematical notation that describes the limiting behavior of a function when the argument tends towards a particular value or infinity.

## Definition

$g(n) \in \mathcal{O}(f(n))$ if $\exists k>0$ and $n_{0}$ s.t. $g(n) \leq k \cdot f(n), \quad \forall n \geq n_{0}$.

## $\mathcal{O}$ notation (3): Asymptotic upper-bound

## Definition

$g(n) \in \mathcal{O}(f(n))$ if $\exists k>0$ and $n_{0}$ s.t. $g(n) \leq k \cdot f(n), \quad \forall n \geq n_{0}$.


## $\mathcal{O}$ notation (4): Linear and polynomial functions

## Example

Show that $g(n)=5 n+3$ is in $\mathcal{O}(n)$.

## $\mathcal{O}$ notation (4): Linear and polynomial functions

## Example

Show that $g(n)=5 n+3$ is in $\mathcal{O}(n)$.

## Solution:

Note that $5 n+3 \leq 5 n+3 n=8 n$ for all $n \geq 1$. In this case, $k=8$ and $n_{0}=1$. So, $g(n) \in \mathcal{O}(n)$.

## $\mathcal{O}$ notation (5): Linear and polynomial functions

## Example

Show that $g(n)=3 n^{2}-5 n+6$ is in $\mathcal{O}\left(n^{2}\right)$.

## $\mathcal{O}$ notation (6): Linear and polynomial functions

## Solution:

Note that $3 n^{2}-5 n+6 \leq 3 n^{2}+0+6 n^{2}=9 n^{2}$ for all $n \geq 1$. In this case, $k=9$ and $n_{0}=1$. So, $g(n) \in \mathcal{O}\left(n^{2}\right)$.

## $\mathcal{O}$ notation (7): Arithmetic operations in $\mathcal{O}$

We denote by $T(n)$ a function of time complexity.

## Theorem (Big-O of a polynomial complexity)

If $T(n)=a_{m} n^{m}+a_{m-1} n^{m-1}+\cdots+a_{1} n+a_{0}$ is a polynomial of order $m$, then $T(n) \in \mathcal{O}\left(n^{m}\right)$.

## Theorem (Arithmetic operations on Big-O)

Let $T_{1}(n) \in \mathcal{O}(f(n))$ and $T_{2}(n) \in \mathcal{O}(g(n))$, then:
(1) $T_{1}(n)+T_{2}(n) \in \mathcal{O}(f(n))+\mathcal{O}(g(n)) \in \mathcal{O}(\max (f(n), g(n)))$
(2) $T_{1}(n) T_{2}(n) \in \mathcal{O}(f(n)) \mathcal{O}(g(n)) \in \mathcal{O}(f(n) g(n))$
(3) $\mathcal{O}(c f(n)) \in \mathcal{O}(f(n))$, where $c$ is a constant
(1) $f(n) \in \mathcal{O}(f(n))$

Proof: homework!

## $\mathcal{O}$ notation (8): Arithmetic operations in $\mathcal{O}$

Example (Arithmetic operations on Big-O)
(1) Let $T_{1}(n) \in \mathcal{O}(n)$ and $T_{2}(n) \in \mathcal{O}\left(n^{2}\right)$, then:

$$
T_{1}(n)+T_{2}(n) \in \mathcal{O}\left(\max \left(n, n^{2}\right)\right) \in \mathcal{O}\left(n^{2}\right)
$$

(2) Let $T_{1}(n) \in \mathcal{O}(n)$ and $T_{2}(n) \in \mathcal{O}\left(n^{2}\right)$, then:

$$
T_{1}(n) T_{2}(n) \in \mathcal{O}\left(n \cdot n^{2}\right)=\mathcal{O}\left(n^{3}\right)
$$

(3) $\mathcal{O}\left(5 n^{2}\right) \in \mathcal{O}\left(n^{2}\right)$
(9) $n^{2} \in \mathcal{O}\left(n^{2}\right)$

## $\mathcal{O}$ notation (9): Logarithmic function

Review logarithms and exponents

$$
\log _{b} a=c \Leftrightarrow b^{c}=a
$$

- $a>0$ is the power
- $b>0$ is the base
- $c$ is the exponent

Remark. If the base $b=2$, then it is called binary logarithm. The base is often omitted.

## $\mathcal{O}$ notation (10): Logarithmic function

In Computer Science, we usually use base-two logarithm complexity by default. Why?

## $\mathcal{O}$ notation (10): Logarithmic function

In Computer Science, we usually use base-two logarithm complexity by default. Why?

- It is common to work with binary numbers or divide input data in half
- In Big-O notation (upper bound growth), all logarithms are asymptotically equivalent (the only difference is there multiplicative constant factor)
- So, we do not specify the base, and only write it as $\mathcal{O}(\log n)$


## $\mathcal{O}$ notation (11): Logarithmic function

Some properties of logarithmic function

- $\log _{b} 1=0$ for any $b \geq 0$
- Change of bases: $\log _{b} a=\frac{\log _{p} a}{\log _{p} b}$
- Addition: $\log _{p} m+\log _{p} n=\log _{p} m n$
- Subtraction: $\log _{p} m-\log _{p} n=\log _{p} \frac{m}{n}$
- Power: $\log _{p} a^{x}=x \cdot \log _{p} a$
- Inverse: $\log _{p} \frac{1}{a}=-\log _{p} a$
- Many others...


## $\mathcal{O}$ notation (12): Logarithmic function

## Example

Show that $g(n)=(n+3) \log \left(n^{2}+1\right)+2 n^{2}$ is in $\mathcal{O}\left(n^{2}\right)$

## $\mathcal{O}$ notation (13): Logarithmic function

## Solution:

Note that:
$\log \left(n^{2}+1\right) \leq \log \left(2 n^{2}\right)=\log 2+\log n^{2} \leq 2 \log n^{2}=4 \log n$.
So, $\log \left(n^{2}+1\right) \in \mathcal{O}(\log n)$.
Since $n+3 \in \mathcal{O}(n)$, then
$(n+3) \log \left(n^{2}+1\right) \in \mathcal{O}(n) \cdot \mathcal{O}(\log n) \in \mathcal{O}(n \log n)$.
Since $2 n^{2} \in \mathcal{O}\left(n^{2}\right)$, and $\max \left(n \log n, n^{2}\right)=n^{2}$, then $g(n) \in \mathcal{O}\left(n^{2}\right)$.

## $\mathcal{O}$ notation (13): Classification of algorithms

The classification of algorithms based on the worst-time complexity

| Complexity | Class |
| :---: | :---: |
| $\mathcal{O}(1)$ | constant |
| $\mathcal{O}(\log n)$ | logarithmic |
| $\mathcal{O}(n)$ | linear |
| $\mathcal{O}(n \log n)$ | quasilinear /linearithmic |
| $\mathcal{O}\left(n^{2}\right)$ | square |
| $\mathcal{O}\left(n^{3}\right)$ | cubic |
| $\mathcal{O}\left(n^{k}\right), k \geq 2$ | polynomial |
| $\mathcal{O}\left(2^{n}\right)$ | exponential |
| $\mathcal{O}(n!)$ | factorial |

[^0]
## $\mathcal{O}$ notation (14): Classification of algorithms

() Time Complexity


## $\mathcal{O}$ notation (13): Classification of algorithms

(1) Assignment of values (comparison, arithmetic operations, read, write) needs $\mathcal{O}(1)$
(2) Accessing an element of an array, or selecting a field from a record needs $\mathcal{O}(1)$

## Example

- $\operatorname{read}(x) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(1)$
- $x: x+a[k] \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(1)$
- $\operatorname{print}(x) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(1)$


## $\mathcal{O}$ notation (14): Determining asymptotic complexity

(3) If-Else condition: If C then A1 else A2 needs time:

$$
T_{C}+\max \left(T_{O 1}, T_{O 2}\right)
$$

## Example

```
1: read(x)
2: if }x\operatorname{mod}2=0\mathrm{ then
3: }\quadx:=x+
4: print("Even")
5: else
6: print("Odd")
7: end if
```

Asymptotic TC: $\mathcal{O}(1)+\mathcal{O}(1)+\max (\mathcal{O}(1)+\mathcal{O}(1), \mathcal{O}(1)) \in \mathcal{O}(1)$

## $\mathcal{O}$ notation (15): Determining asymptotic complexity

(9) For loop: the time complexity is the number of iterations multiplied with the time complexity of the body loop (i.e. loop statements)

## Example (Single for loop)

1: for $i=1$ to $n$ do
2: $\quad$ sum: $=$ sum $+a[1]$
3: end for

Asymptotic TC: $n \cdot \mathcal{O}(1)=\mathcal{O}(n)$

## $\mathcal{O}$ notation (16): Determining asymptotic complexity

## Example (Two nested for loops with one instruction)

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { 1: } \begin{array}{l}
\text { for } i=1 \text { to } n \text { do } \\
\text { 2: } \quad \text { for } j=1 \text { to } n \text { do } \\
\text { 3: } \quad a[i, j]:=i+j \\
\text { 4: end for } \\
\text { 5: end for }
\end{array} \text { 居 }
\end{aligned}
$$

Asymptotic TC: $n \cdot \mathcal{O}(n)=\mathcal{O}\left(n^{2}\right)$

## $\mathcal{O}$ notation (17): Determining asymptotic complexity

## Example (Two nested for loops with two instructions)

| 1: | for $i=1$ to $n$ do |
| :--- | :--- |
| 2: | for $j=1$ to $i$ do |
| 3: | $a:=a+1$ |
| 4: | $b:=b-1$ |
| 5: end for |  |
| 6: end for |  |

The outer loop is executed $n$ times, and the inner loop is executed $i$ times for each $j$. The number of iterations: $1+2+\cdots+n=\frac{n(n+1)}{2} \in \mathcal{O}\left(n^{2}\right)$.
The body loop needs $\mathcal{O}(1)$-time.
Asymptotic time complexity: $\mathcal{O}\left(n^{2}\right)$

## $\mathcal{O}$ notation (18): Determining asymptotic complexity

(3) While loop: while C do A; and repeat A until C. Time complexity $=\#$ iterations $\times T_{\text {body }}$

Example (Single loop with $n-1$ iterations)

1: $i:=2$
2: while $i \leq n$ do
3: $\quad$ sum: $=$ sum $+a[i]$
4: $\quad i:=i+1$

## 5: end while

Asymptotic TC:
$\mathcal{O}(1)+(n-1)(\mathcal{O}(1)+\mathcal{O}(1)+\mathcal{O}(1))=\mathcal{O}(1)+\mathcal{O}(n-1) \in \mathcal{O}(n)$

## $\mathcal{O}$ notation (19): Determining asymptotic complexity

## Example (Infinite loop)

1: $x:=0$
2: while $x<5$ do
3: $\quad x:=1$
4: $\quad x:=x+1$

## 5: end while

In this situation, $x$ will never be greater than 5 , since at the start of the while loop, $x$ is given the value of 1 , thus, the loop will always end in 2 and the loop will never break.

## $\Omega$ notation: Asymptotic lower-bound

We can also say that an algorithm takes at least a certain amount of time, without providing an upper bound.

Big-Omega $(\Omega(\cdot))$ notation

## Definition

$g(n) \in \Omega(f(n))$ if $\exists k>0$ and $n_{0}$ s.t. $g(n) \geq k \cdot f(n), \quad \forall n \geq n_{0}$.


## $\Theta$ notation: Asymptotically tight-bound

## Definition

$$
\begin{aligned}
& g(n) \in \Theta(f(n)) \text { if } \exists k_{1}, k_{2}>0 \text { and } n_{0} \text { s.t. } \\
& k_{1} \cdot f_{n} \leq g(n) \leq k_{2} \cdot f(n), \forall n \geq n_{0} .
\end{aligned}
$$



## QUIZ

## Exc 1: Growth of function in $\mathcal{O}$ (1)

Which kind of growth best characterizes each of these functions?

|  | Constant | Linear | Polynomial | Exponential |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $(3 / 2)^{n}$ |  |  |  |  |
| 1 |  |  |  |  |
| $(3 / 2) n$ |  |  |  |  |
| $2 n^{3}$ |  |  |  |  |
| $2^{n}$ |  |  |  |  |
| $3 n^{2}$ |  |  |  |  |
| 1000 |  |  |  |  |
| $3 n$ |  |  |  |  |

## Exc 1: Growth of function in $\mathcal{O}$ (2)

Which kind of growth best characterizes each of these functions?

|  | Constant | Linear | Polynomial | Exponential |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $(3 / 2)^{n}$ |  |  |  | $\checkmark$ |
| 1 | $\checkmark$ |  |  |  |
| $(3 / 2) n$ |  | $\checkmark$ |  |  |
| $2 n^{3}$ |  |  | $\checkmark$ |  |
| $2^{n}$ |  |  |  | $\checkmark$ |
| $3 n^{2}$ |  |  | $\checkmark$ |  |
| 1000 | $\checkmark$ |  |  |  |
| $3 n$ |  | $\checkmark$ |  |  |

## Exc 2: Comparing function growth (1)

Match each function with an equivalent function that satisfies $g(n)=\Theta(f(n))$.

| $g(n)$ | $f(n)$ |
| :---: | :---: |
| $n+30$ | $n^{2}+3 n$ |
| $n^{2}+2 n-10$ | $n^{4}$ |
| $n^{3} * 3 n$ | $\log _{2} 2 x$ |
| $\log _{2} x$ | $3 n-1$ |

## Exc 2: Comparing function growth (2)

Recall that $g(n) \in \Theta(f(n))$ if $\exists k_{1}, k_{2}>0$ s.t. for all sufficiently large $n$, we have

$$
k_{1} \cdot f(n) \leq g(n) \leq k_{2} \cdot f(n)
$$

We drop the constants and lower order terms (i.e. only keep the most significant term).

| $g(n)$ | simplified | $f(n)$ | simplified |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $n+30$ | $n$ | $n^{2}+3 n$ | $n^{2}$ |
| $n^{2}+2 n-10$ | $n^{2}$ | $n^{4}$ | $n^{4}$ |
| $n^{3} * 3 n$ | $n^{4}$ | $\log _{2} 2 x$ | $\log x$ |
| $\log _{2} x$ | $\log x$ | $3 n-1$ | $n$ |

Two functions match if the corresponding simplified functions are equal.

## Exc 3: Asymptotic notation (1)

For the functions $\log _{2} n$ and $\log _{8} n$, what is the asymptotic relationship between these functions?

- $\log _{2} n$ is in $\mathcal{O}\left(\log _{8} n\right)$
- $\log _{2} n$ is in $\Omega\left(\log _{8} n\right)$
- $\log _{2} n$ is in $\Theta\left(\log _{8} n\right)$


## Exc 3: Asymptotic notation (2)

Both $\log _{2} n$ and $\log _{8} n$ are functions with logarithmic growth, with their base as the only difference.


## Exc 3: Asymptotic notation (3)

- Is $\log _{2} n$ in $\mathcal{O}\left(\log _{8} n\right)$ ?

Recall that $\log _{a} n=\frac{\log _{b} n}{\log _{b} a}$.
So, $\log _{8} n=\frac{\log _{2} n}{\log _{2} 8}=\frac{\log _{2} n}{3}=\frac{1}{3} \cdot \log _{2} n$.
We can take $k=5$, so that: $\log _{2} n \leq 5 \log _{8} n$.


## Exc 3: Asymptotic notation (4)

- Is $\log _{2} n$ in $\Omega\left(\log _{8} n\right)$ ?

Since $\log _{8} n=\frac{1}{3} \cdot \log _{2} n$, then $\log _{2} n \geq \log _{8} n$ for all $n \geq 1$.
So, $\log _{2} n \in \Omega\left(\log _{8} n\right)$

## Exc 3: Asymptotic notation (5)

- Is $\log _{2} n$ in $\Theta\left(\log _{8} n\right)$ ?

Clearly, $\log _{8} n \leq \log _{2} n \leq 5 \cdot \log _{8} n$ for all $n>1$.
So, $\log _{2} n \in \Theta\left(\log _{8} n\right)$.



[^0]:    $\underbrace{\mathcal{O}(1)<\mathcal{O}(\log n)<\mathcal{O}(n)<\mathcal{O}(n \log n)<\mathcal{O}\left(n^{2}\right)<\mathcal{O}\left(n^{3}\right)<\cdots<}_{\text {polynomial algorithms }} \underbrace{\mathcal{O}\left(2^{n}\right)<\mathcal{O}(n!)}_{\text {exponential algorithms }}$

