# Unit #1: Complexity Theory and Asymptotic Analysis

CPSC 221: Algorithms and Data Structures

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#### Unit Outline

- Brief proof reminder
- Algorithm Analysis: Counting steps
- Asymptotic Notation
- Runtime Examples
- Problem Complexity

### Learning Goals

- ► Given code, write a formula that measures the number of steps executed as a function of the size of the input.
- Use asymptotic notation to simplify functions and to express relations between functions.
- Know the asymptotic relations between common functions.
- Understand why to use worst-case, best-case, or average-case complexity measures.
- Give examples of tractable, intractable, and undecidable problems.

#### Proof by ...

- Counterexample
  - show an example which does not fit with the theorem
  - Thus, the <u>theorem</u> is false.
- Contradiction
  - assume the opposite of the theorem
  - derive a contradiction

ex ample:

- ► Thus, the theorem is true.
- Induction
  - rove for a base case (e.g., n = 1)

  - assume for all n ≤ k (for arbitrary k)
     prove for the next value (n = k + 1)

► Thus, the theorem is true.

### Example: Proof by Induction (worked) 1/4

#### Theorem:

A positive integer x is divisible by 3 if and only if the sum of its decimal digits is divisible by 3.

#### Proof:

Let  $x_1x_2x_3...x_n$  be the decimal digits of x. Let the sum of its decimal digits be

$$S(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} x_i$$

We'll prove the stronger result:

$$S(x) \mod 3 = x \mod 3.$$

How do we use induction?

### Example: Proof by Induction (worked) 2/4

#### Base Case:

Consider any number x with one (n = 1) digit (0-9).

$$S(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} x_i = x_1 = x.$$

So, it's trivially true that  $S(x) \mod 3 = x \mod 3$  when n = 1.

### Example: Proof by Induction (worked) 3/4

#### Inductive hypothesis

Assume for an arbitrary integer k > 0 that for any number x with

 $n \le k$  digits:

$$S(x) \mod 3 = x \mod 3.$$

#### Inductive step:

Consider a number x with n = k + 1 digits:

$$x=x_1x_2\ldots x_kx_{k+1}.$$

Let z be the number  $x_1x_2...x_k$ . It's a k-digit number so the inductive hypothesis applies:

by i.h.: 
$$S(z) \mod 3 = z \mod 3$$
.

Not a proof.  

$$E \times a \text{ inpla}$$
:  
 $x = 234$   
 $x_1 = 2_1 \times 2_2 = 3_1 \times 3_2 = 4$   
 $x_2 = 23$ 

### Example: Proof by Induction (worked) 4/4

Inductive step (continued):

$$x \mod 3 = (10z + x_{k+1}) \mod 3$$
  $(x = 10z + x_{k+1})$   
 $= (9z + z + x_{k+1}) \mod 3$   $(9z \text{ is divisible by } 3)$   
 $= (z + x_{k+1}) \mod 3$   $(\text{induction hypothesis})$   
 $= (x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_k + x_{k+1}) \mod 3$   
 $= S(x) \mod 3$ 

QED (quod erat demonstrandum: "what was to be demonstrated")

Induction is used to prove correctness [running time of algorithms that use loops or recursion.

### A Task to Solve and Analyze

operations: Find a student's name in a class given her student ID Stydest object - array of objects · Dictionary > sort · (Balance) Search Tree . Skiplists · Linked list . Hast map/hash table · Doesit matter?. YES · How to compare v too of jorixlams? - express raytime as function of the size looologu

#### Analysis of Algorithms

- Analysis of an algorithm gives insight into
  - how long the program runs (time complexity or runtime) and
  - how much memory it uses (space complexity).
- Analysis can provide insight into alternative algorithms
- ▶ Input size is indicated by a non-negative integer *n* (sometimes there are multiple measures of an input's size)
- Running time is a real-valued function of n such as:
- T(n) = 4n + 5T(n) =  $0.5n \log n - 2n + 7$ T(n) =  $2^n + n^3 + 3n$ Happraticks

# appraises of will not matter when using asymptotic (0,2,0) notation

1ps log n 10ps  $T(4) \quad n \log n$ 10ps  $n^2$ 100ps 2<sup>n</sup> 1ns 4 440 Se word

Suppose a computer executes 1op per picosecond (trillionth):

n =	10	100
log n	1ps	2ps
n	10ps	100ps
$n \log n$	10ps	200ps
$n^2$	100ps	10ns
2 <sup>n</sup>	1ns	1Es

Suppose a computer executes 1op per picosecond (trillionth):

n =	10	100	1,000	
log n	1ps	2ps	3ps	
n	10ps	100ps	1ns	
$n \log n$	10ps	200ps	3ns	
$n^2$	100ps	10ns	$1 \mu$ s $lacksquare$	
2 <sup>n</sup>	1ns	1Es	$1\mu$ s $10^{289}$ s $10^{-5}$	

Suppose a computer executes 1op per picosecond (trillionth):

n =	10	100	1,000	10,000
log n	1ps	2ps	3ps	4ps
n	10ps	100ps	1ns	10ns
$n \log n$	10ps	200ps	3ns	40ns
$n^2$	100ps	10ns	$1\mu$ s	$100 \mu$ s
2 <sup>n</sup>	1ns	1Es	$10^{289}$ s	

Suppose a computer executes 1op per picosecond (trillionth):

n =	10	100	1,000	10,000	$10^{5}$	
log n	1ps	2ps	3ps	4ps	5ps	
n	10ps	100ps	1ns	10ns	100ns	
$n \log n$	10ps	200ps	3ns	40ns	500ns	
$n^2$	100ps	10ns	$1\mu$ s	$100 \mu$ s	10ms	
2 <sup>n</sup>	1ns	1Es	$10^{289}$ s			

Suppose a computer executes 1op per picosecond (trillionth):

n =	10	100	1,000	10,000	$10^{5}$	$10^{6}$	
log n	1ps	2ps	3ps	4ps	5ps	6ps	
n	10ps	100ps	1ns	10ns	100ns	$1\mu$ s	
$n \log n$	10ps	200ps	3ns	40ns	500ns	$6\mu$ s	
$n^2$	100ps	10ns	$1 \mu$ s	$100 \mu$ s	10ms	1s	
2 <sup>n</sup>	1ns	1Es	$10^{289}$ s				

Suppose a computer executes 1op per picosecond (trillionth):

n =	10	100	1,000	10,000	$10^{5}$	$10^{6}$	10 <sup>9</sup>
log n	1ps	2ps	3ps	4ps	5ps	6ps	9ps
n	10ps	100ps	1ns	10ns	100ns	$1 \mu$ s	1ms
$n \log n$	10ps	200ps	3ns	40ns	500ns	$6\mu$ s	9ms
$n^2$	100ps	10ns	$1\mu$ s	$100 \mu$ s	10ms	1s	1week
$2^{n}$	1ns	1Es	$10^{289}$ s				

## T(4) = # lines of code executed

```
// Linear search
find(key, array)
  for i = 0 to length(array) - 1 do
   if array[i] == key
     return i is this expensive.
  return -1
1) What's the input size, n?
                     n = size of the array
                   ( k = size of legs)
                                     Optional
                    let's assume == takes constant
                                                 ti me
```

```
// Linear search
find(key, array)
  for i = 0 to length(array) - 1 do
    if array[i] == key
      return i
  return -1
```

2) Should we assume a worst-case, best-case, or average-case input of size n?

```
// Linear search

find(key, array)

for i = 0 to length(array) - 1 do 

if array[i] == key

return i

return -1 

| Hime
```

3) How many lines are executed as a function of n in a worst-case?

$$T(n) = 2$$

Are lines the right unit?

The number of lines executed in the worst-case is:

# Big-O Notation .. allows us to abstract from etrings that bent matter (usually)

Assume that for every integer n,  $T(n) \ge 0$  and  $f(n) \ge 0$ .

 $T(n) \in O(f(n))$  if there are positive constants c and  $n_0$  such that

$$T(n) \leq \mathfrak{C}f(n)$$
 for all  $n \geq n_0$ .

Meaning: "T(n) grows no faster than f(n)"

Chaim:  $2h+1 \in G(h)$  c for h 21

 $\leq 1 \leq 5$ 

if and outsif

for big enough?

### Asymptotic Notation

Claim:

T(n) & D(f(n)) (=) f(n) @ O(T(n))

- $T(n) \in O(f(n))$  if there are positive constants c and  $n_0$  such that  $T(n) \le cf(n)$  for all  $n \ge n_0$ . big-0 T(4) < (4) big-onega.
- $ightharpoonup T(n) \in \Omega(f(n))$  if there are positive constants c and  $n_0$  such 7(h) ">"f(h) that  $T(n) \ge cf(n)$  for all  $n \ge n_0$ .

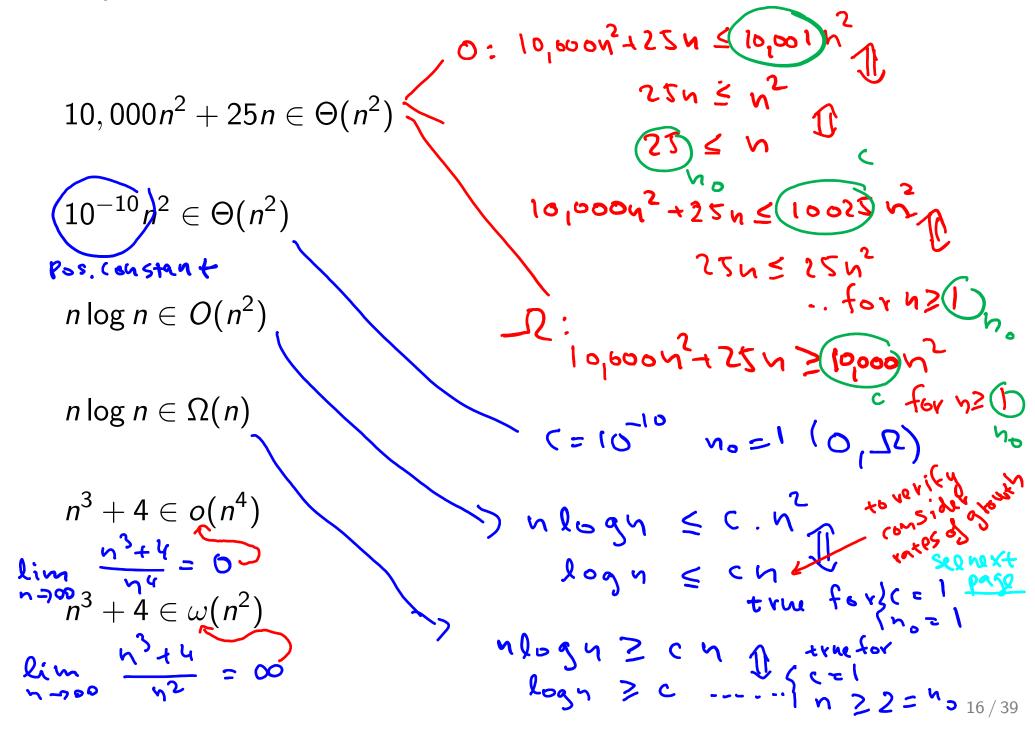
T(4) = "f(4) big-theta ►  $T(n) \in \Theta(f(n))$  if  $T(n) \in O(f(n))$  and  $T(n) \in \Omega(f(n))$ .

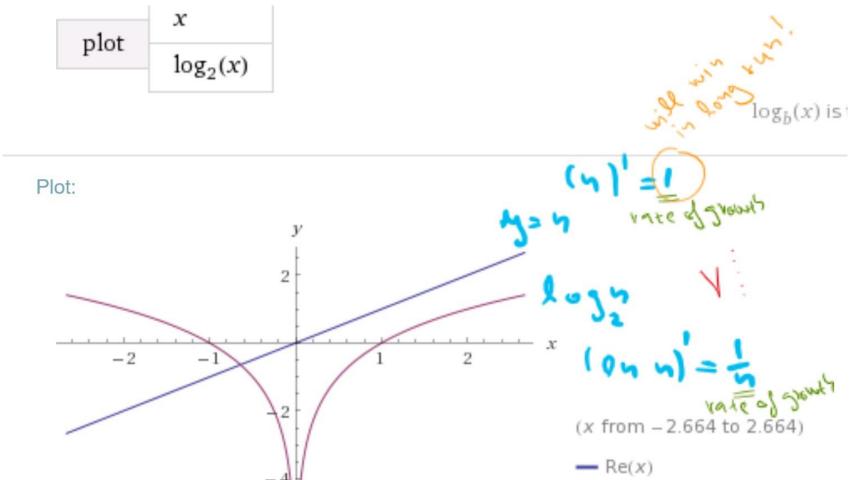
▶  $T(n) \in o(f(n))$  if for any positive constant c, there exists  $n_0$ 

such that T(n) < cf(n) for all  $n \ge n_0$ .

Little one of  $T(n) = \{0, T(n) \in T(n) \in T(n) \}$   $T(n) \in \omega(f(n))$  if for any positive constant c, there exists  $n_0$ T(y) ">"f(y) such that T(n) > cf(n) for all  $n \ge n_0$ . T(4) & w (f(4))

### **Examples**



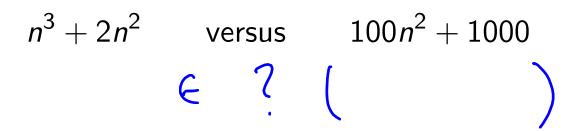


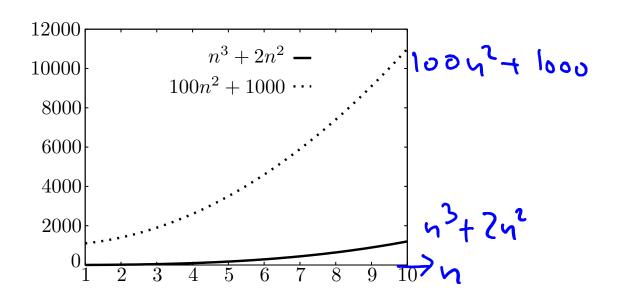
Re(x)

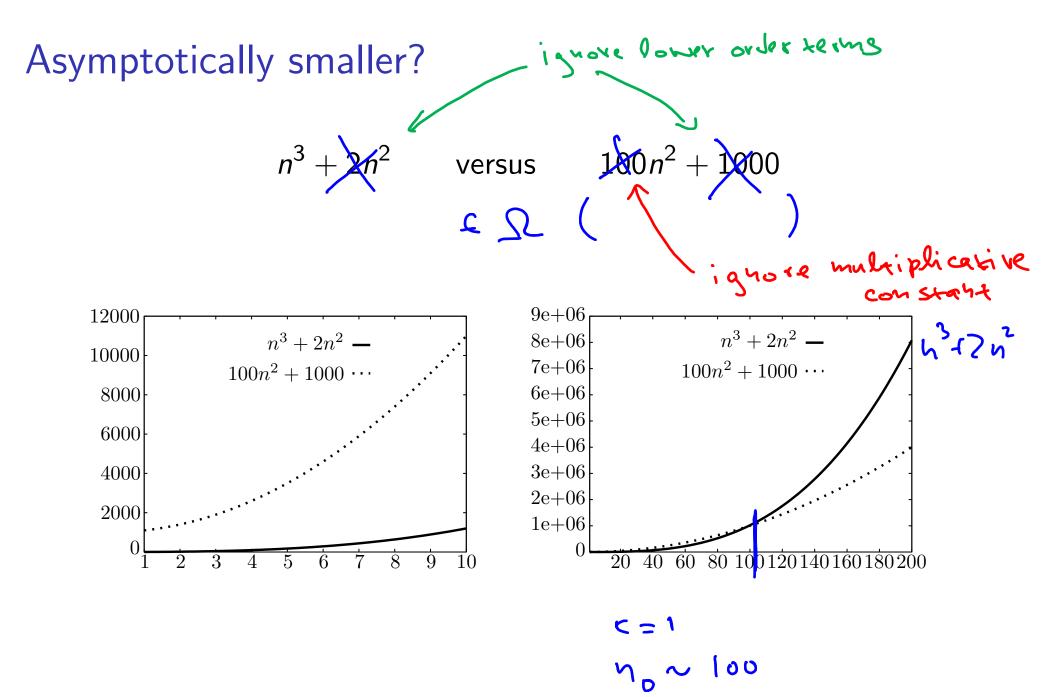
Re(log(x))

log(2)

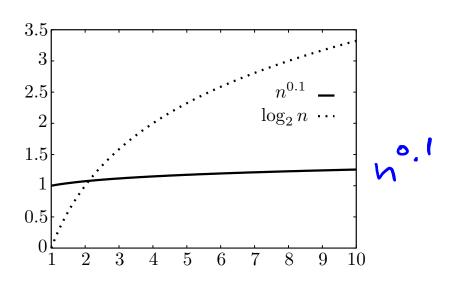
```
// Linear search
 find(key, array)
   for i = 0 to length(array) - 1 do
      if array[i] == key
         return i
   return -1
                , horst-case
4) How does T(n) = 2n + 1 behave asymptotically? What is the
 appropriate order notation? (O, o, \Theta, \Omega, \omega?)
worst-case
      T(n) & 0 (n)
 T(n) & O(4).. my alg. is fast .. upper bound
 T(n) & D(n).. your alg. is slow.. lower bound
  T(y) & O(n). exact answer time of linear search alg. What can we say about running time of linear search alg. if we do not consider the worst-case? A. T(n) & O(n).
```

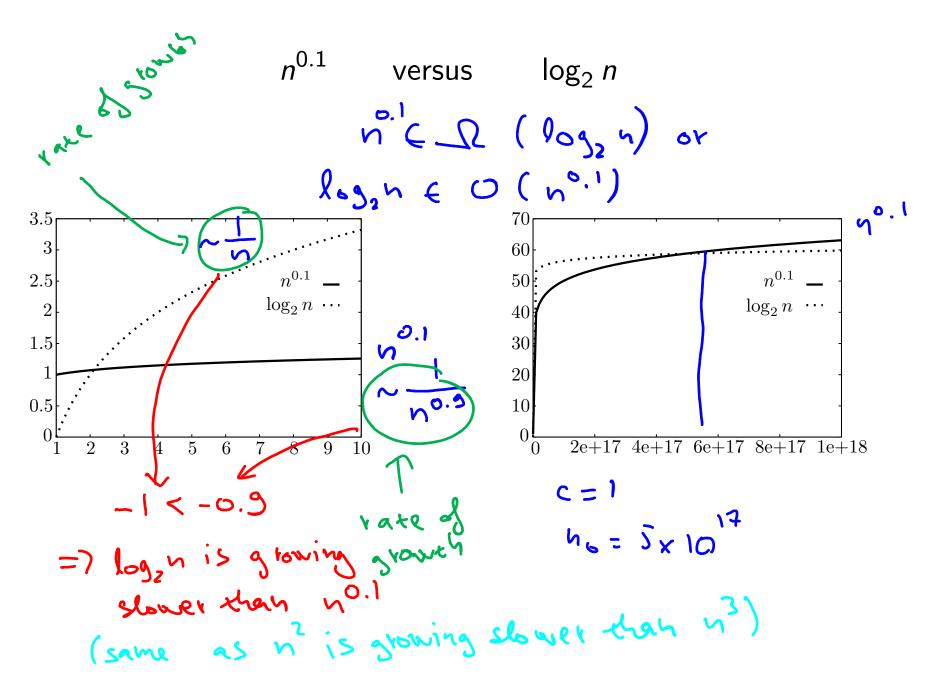


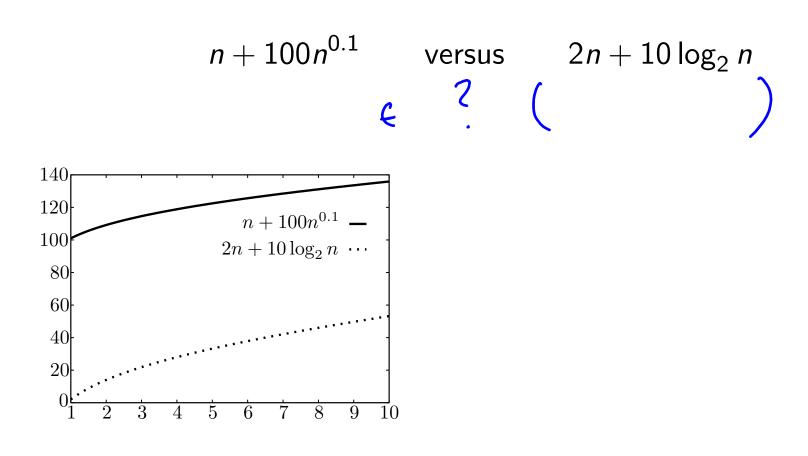






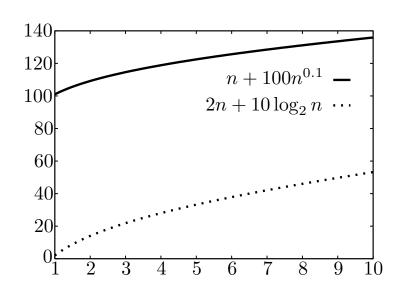


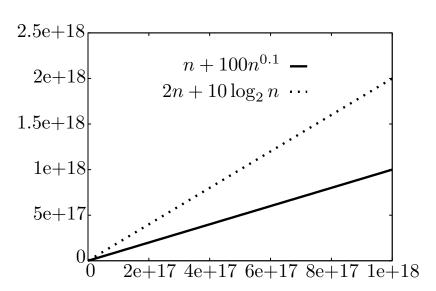




lower order terms can be ignored

$$n+100n^{0.1}$$
 versus  $2n+10\log_2 n$ 





### Typical asymptotics

```
Tractable
▶ linear: \Theta(n)
                                                     ▶ log-linear: \Theta(n log n)
                        P quadratic: \Theta(n^2)

► cubic: \Theta(n^3)

► polynomial: \Theta(n^k) (k is a constant)

P and M and M are M are M and M are M and M are M are M are M and M are M are M and M are M are M are M are M are M and M are M and M are M and M are 
                                                    • superlinear: \Theta(n^{1+c}) (c is a constant > 0)
```

### Sample asymptotic relations

►  $\{1, \log n, n^{0.9}, n, 100n\} \subset O(n)$  $\qquad \qquad \mid n, 100n, n + \underline{\log n} \mid \subset \Theta(n)$ 

- single operations: constant time
- consecutive operations: sum operation times
- conditionals: condition time plus max of branch times
- loops: sum of loop-body times
- Linear in Renga Dall function call: time for function

Above all, use your head!

Runtime example #1

For i = 1 to n do

for j = 1 to n do

sum = sum + 1 j = 1  $k(2n+1) = 2n^2 + 4$ 

€ ( n2)

## Runtime example #2

$$\sum_{j=1}^{N} | = (N-\lambda+1)$$
inner loo
$$y = 1$$

$$S = \alpha + (a-1) + ... + (b-1) + b$$

$$S = b + (b-1) + ... + (a+1) + a$$

$$2S = (a+b) + (a+b) + ... + (a+b)$$

on to surratic series

executions!

```
i = 1
   while i < n do
      for j = 1 to i do
         sum = sum + 1
            i= 1, 2, 4,8, 16, ..
     T(n) = 1 + 2 + 4 + 8 + 16 + ... + 2^{k}, where \binom{2^{k}2^{k-1}}{2^{k}2^{k-1}} 2^{k}2^{0}
  = (11...11)_{2} \times \text{binam representation}
= (11...212)_{2} \times \text{binam representation}
= (100...212)_{2} \times \text{binam representation}
     Hence, T(n)=2+1-1 }
                  T(n) = 2.2^{k} - 1
        So: n-1 < T(n) < 2n-1 => T(n) = O(n)
If you are curious what the value k is: k = \[ \langle \gamma_1 - 1 = \langle \langle \gamma_1 \]
```

### Runtime example #4

```
int max(A, n)
  if( n == 1 ) return A[0]
  return larger of A[n-1] and max(A, n-1)
Recursion almost always yields a recurrence relation:
                                                    if counting lines:
                T(1) \leq b
                T(n) \le c + T(n-1) if n > 1
                                 >> T(n-1) < c + T(n-1-1)
Solving recurrence:
 Substitution method:

T(n) \leq c + c + T(n-2)
                                  (substitution)
            \leq c + c + c + T(n-3) (substitution)
                               (extrapolating k > 0)
(for k = n - 1)
            < kc + T(n-k)
           = (n-1)c + T(1)
           \leq (n-1)c+b
T(n) \in \mathcal{O}(\mathbf{w})
```

Claim: T(n) < (n-1)(+b

Proof by induction on: recurrence

Base case: n=1 T(1) ≤ b = (1-1) c+b

· Inductive step:

The ction hypothesis (i.h.):

for every  $n \le k$ :  $T(n) \le (n-1) + b$ We need to prove the claim for n = k+1.  $y \in (n)$  when  $(n-1) \in (k-1) \in (k-1)$ 

# Runtime example #5: Mergesort ッ (目 道子) マス

Mergesort algorithm:

Split list in half, sort first half, sort second half merge together Recurrence relation:

$$T(1) \leq b$$
 Think for splitting Line for  $S$  here  $S$  if  $S$  if

Solving recurrence:

Solving recurrence: 
$$T(n/2) \leq 2T(n/4) + cn/2$$

$$T(n) \leq 2T(n/2) + cn$$

$$\leq 2(2T(n/4) + cn/2) + cn \quad \text{(substitution)}$$

$$= 4T(n/4) + 2cn$$

$$\leq 4(2T(n/8) + cn/4) + 2cn \quad \text{(substitution)}$$

$$= 8T(n/8) + 3cn$$

$$\leq 2^k T(n/2^k) + kcn \quad \text{(extrapolating } k > 0)$$

$$= nT(1) + cn \lg n$$

$$\leq n + cn \lg n \quad \text{(for } 2^k = n)$$

$$\leq n + cn \lg n \quad \text{(for } 2^k = n)$$

## Runtime example #6: Fibonacci 1/2

#### Recursive Fibonacci:

int fib(n) if  $(n == 0 \text{ or } n == 1) \text{ return } \mathbf{r}$ return fib(n-1) + fib(n-2)

Recurrence relation: (lower bound)

$$T(0) \geq b$$

$$T(1) \geq b$$

$$T(n) \geq T(n-1) + T(n-2) + c$$

computed 3x

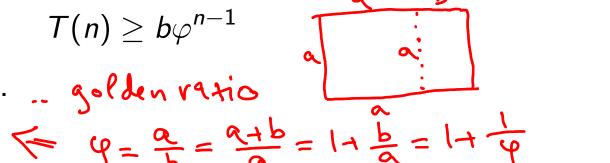
if 
$$n>1$$

#### Claim:

$$T(n) \ge b\varphi^{n-1}$$

 $T(n) \geq b arphi^{n-1}$  where  $arphi = (1+\sqrt{5})/2$ . Solden ratio

Note: 
$$\varphi^2 = \varphi + 1$$
.



## Runtime example #6: Fibonacci 2/2

Claim:

$$T(n) \ge b\varphi^{n-1}$$

Proof: (by induction on *n*)

Base case:  $T(0) \ge b > b\varphi^{-1}$  and  $T(1) \ge b = b\varphi^{0}$ .

Inductive hyp: Assume  $T(n) \ge b\varphi^{n-1}$  for all  $n \le k$ .

Inductive step: Show true for n = k + 1.

$$T(n) \geq T(n-1) + T(n-2) + c$$

$$\geq b\varphi^{n-2} + b\varphi^{n-3} + c \qquad \text{(by inductive hyp.)}$$

$$= b\varphi^{n-3}(\varphi+1) + c$$

$$= b\varphi^{n-3}\varphi^2 + c \qquad \text{golden ratio property}$$

$$\geq b\varphi^{n-1}$$

$$T(n) \in \Omega (\varphi^n)$$

Why? Same recursive call is made numerous times.

Example #7: Learning from analysis

To avoid recursive calls

- store base case values in a table
  before calculating the value
  - check if the value for n is in the table
  - ▶ if so, return it
  - ▶ if not, calculate it and store it/in the table

This strategy is called memoization and is closely related to dynamic programming.

How much time does this version take?

A(n)

## Runtime Example #8: Longest Common Subsequence

Problem: Given two strings (A and B), find the longest sequence of characters that appears, in order, in both strings.

Example:

$$A = \text{Search me}$$
 $A = \text{Search me}$ 
 $A = \text{Search m$ 

A longest common subsequence is "same" (so is "seme") the space

#### Applications:

DNA sequencing, revision control systems, diff, ...

Alg. 1;

For every subsequence 
$$S$$
 of  $B$ 

If  $S=S^1$ 

remember the longest so far

 $T(n) \in \Theta$  ( $2^n \cdot 2^n$  min  $(n_1n_1)$ )

sabsemences of "abc" 0.. 23-1=7 sub se mence bih 000 " c v 86 ( "b" 010 011 Best My. using DP: & (nm) 100 " abe"

Al 37 .: For evory Subsoquence 3 of A if S is a subsequence of B remember the buggest one 7(4)=4 0(2, m)

greedy approdi:

Find first occ of S(o) in B

for i=1 to langth(S)-1

find first occ of S(i) in

Bafter occ of S(i-1)

## Example #9

Find a tight bound on  $T(n) = \lg(n!)$ .

$$= \log (n \cdot (n-1)(n-2) \dots 2 \cdot 1)$$

$$= \log (n) + \log (n-1) + \dots + \log (n) + \log (n)$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{n} \log (i) \le \sum_{i=1}^{n} \log (n) = \frac{n}{n} \log n \quad \in O(n \log n)$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{n} \log (i) \ge \sum_{i=1}^{n} \log (n) \ge \sum_{i=1}^{n} \log (n/2)$$

$$= \frac{n}{2} \log n \ge 2$$

$$= \frac{n}{2} \cdot \log n - \frac{n}{2} \ge c \log n$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \cdot \log n - \frac{1}{2} \ge c \log n$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} \cdot \log n - \frac{1}{2} \ge c \log n$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} \cdot \log n + \frac{1}{4} \cdot \log n - \frac{n}{2} \ge \frac{1}{4} \cdot \log n$$

$$= \frac{33}{4}$$

## Log Aside

 $\log_b x$  is the exponent b must be raised to to equal x.

- ▶  $\lg x \equiv \log_2 x$  (base 2 is common in CS)
- ▶  $\log x \equiv \log_{10} x$  (base 10 is common for 10 fingered mammals)
- ▶  $\ln x \equiv \log_e x$  (the natural log)

Note:  $\Theta(\lg n) = \Theta(\log n) = \Theta(\ln n)$  because

$$\log_b n = \frac{\log_c n}{\log_c b}$$

for constants b, c > 1.

## Asymptotic Analysis Summary

- Determine what is the input size
- Express the resources (time, memory, etc.) an algorithm requires as a function of input size
  - worst case
  - best case
  - average case
- ▶ Use asymptotic notation,  $O, \Omega, \Theta$ , to express the function simply

## **Problem Complexity**

The **complexity of a problem** is the complexity of the best algorithm for the problem.

- We can sometimes prove a lower bound on a problem's complexity. (To do so, we must show a lower bound on any possible algorithm.)
- A correct algorithm establishes an upper bound on the problem's complexity.

Searching an unsorted list using comparisons takes  $\Omega(n)$  time (lower bound).

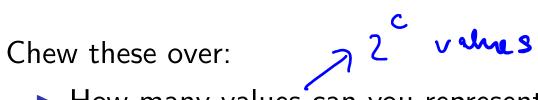
Linear search takes O(n) time (matching upper bound).

Sorting a list using comparisons takes  $\Omega(n \log n)$  time (lower bound).

Mergesort takes  $O(n \log n)$  time (matching upper bound).

## Aside: Who Cares About $\Omega(\lg(n!))$ ?

Can You Beat  $O(n \log n)$  Sort?



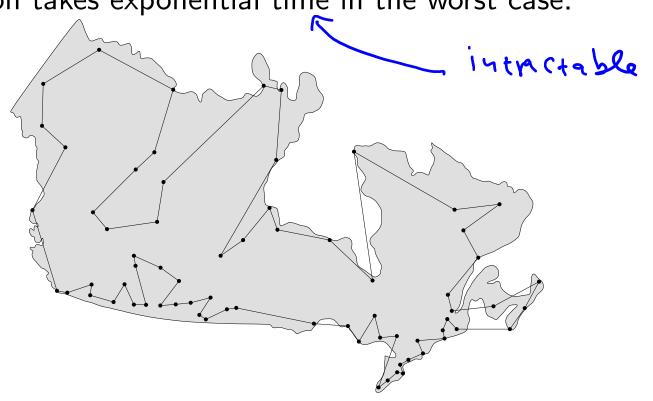
- ► How many values can you represent with c bits?
- $\triangleright$  Comparing two values (x < y) gives you one bit of information.
- ▶ There are n! possible ways to reorder a list. We could number them: 1, 2, ..., n!
- Sorting basically means choosing which of those reorderings/numbers you'll apply to your input.
- $\blacktriangleright$  How many comparisons does it take to pick among n!numbers?

# Problem Complexity P

Sorting: solvable in polynomial time, tractable Traveling Salesman Problem (TSP): In 1,290,319km, can I drive to all the cities in Canada and return home? www.math.uwaterloo.ca/tsp/Checking a solution takes polynomial time. Current fastest way to find a solution takes exponential time in the worst case.

€ Q ( N c )

NP



Are problems in NP really in P? \$1,000,000 prize

## **Problem Complexity**

Searching and Sorting: P, tractable
Traveling Salesman Problem: NP, intractable?
Kolmogorov Complexity: Uncomputable = Undecidable

Kolmogorov Complexity of a string is the length of the shortest description of it.

Can't be computed. Pithy but hand-wavy proof: What's:

The smallest positive integer that cannot be described in fewer than fourteen words

Example 2: Halting problem: Given a code, decide it it stops.