

# Section 7.2

## Asymptotic Growth of Functions

# Notation

- $\mathbf{Z}^+$  denotes the set of positive integers
  - $\mathbf{Z}^+ = \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$
- $\mathbf{R}^{\geq}$  denotes the set of real numbers greater than or equal to 0
  - $\mathbf{R}^{\geq} = \{n \mid n \in \mathbf{R} \text{ and } n \geq 0\}$

# Big- $\mathcal{O}$ Notation

- Let  $f$  and  $g$  be functions from the set  $\mathbf{Z}^+$  to the set  $\mathbf{R}^{\geq}$ 
  - $f: \mathbf{Z}^+ \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^{\geq}$
  - $g: \mathbf{Z}^+ \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^{\geq}$
- $f(n)$  is  $\mathcal{O}(g(n))$  if there are positive real constants  $c$  and  $n_0$  such that

$$f(n) \leq c \cdot g(n)$$

whenever  $n \geq n_0$

Such  $c$  and  $n_0$  are called witnesses to the claim that  $f(n)$  is  $\mathcal{O}(g(n))$

Showing that  $f(n)$  is  $\mathcal{O}(g(n))$

- Example: Show that  $7n^2$  is  $\mathcal{O}(n^3)$

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$$7n^2 \leq n \cdot n^2 \quad \text{when } n \geq 7$$

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$$7n^2 \leq 1 \cdot n^3 \quad \text{when } n \geq 7$$

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$$7n^2 \leq n \cdot n^2 \quad \text{when } n \geq 7$$

$$7n^2 \leq 1 \cdot n^3 \quad \text{when } n \geq 7$$

- Thus  $7n^2$  is  $\mathcal{O}(n^3)$  with witnesses  $c = 1$  and  $n_0 = 7$

Showing that  $f(n)$  is  $\mathcal{O}(g(n))$

- Another example: Show that  $f(n) = n^2 + 2n + 1$  is  $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$



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$n^2 + 2n + 1$  is  $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$  with witnesses  $c = 3$  and  $n_0 = 2$

Showing that  $f(n)$  is  $\mathcal{O}(g(n))$

- Yet another example: Show that  $f(n) = 3n^2 + 2n + 4$  is  $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$

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$$4 \leq 4n^2 \quad \text{when } n \geq 1$$

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$$3n^2 + 2n + 4 \leq 9n^2 \quad \text{when } n \geq 1$$

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$$3n^2 + 2n + 4 \leq 9n^2 \quad \text{when } n \geq 1$$

$3n^2 + 2n + 1$  is  $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$  with witnesses  $c = 9$  and  $n_0 = 1$

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- Still another example: Show that  $f(n) = 1 + 2 + \cdots + n$  is  $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$

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$$f(n) = 1 + 2 + \dots + n \leq \underbrace{n + n + \dots + n}_{n \text{ times}}$$

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$f(n) = 1 + 2 + \dots + n$  is  $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$  with witnesses  $c = 1$  and  $n_0 = 1$



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$$f(n) = 1 \cdot 2 \cdot \dots \cdot n \leq \underbrace{n \cdot n \cdot \dots \cdot n}_{n \text{ times}} = n^n$$

$f(n) = 1 \cdot 2 \cdot \dots \cdot n$  is  $\mathcal{O}(n^n)$  with witnesses  $c = 1$  and  $n_0 = 1$

# Showing that $f(n)$ is Not $\mathcal{O}(g(n))$

- To show that  $f(n)$  is not  $\mathcal{O}(g(n))$ , you must show that for any  $c$  and  $n_0$ , it is not the case that  $f(n) \leq c \cdot g(n)$

# Showing that $f(n)$ is Not $\mathcal{O}(g(n))$

- Example: Show that  $n^2$  is not  $\mathcal{O}(n)$
- Proof: By contradiction

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- Example: Show that  $n^2$  is not  $\mathcal{O}(n)$
- Proof: By contradiction
  1. Assume that  $n^2$  is  $\mathcal{O}(n)$  with witnesses  $c$  and  $n_0$



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  1. Assume that  $n^2$  is  $\mathcal{O}(n)$  with witnesses  $c$  and  $n_0$
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  1. Assume that  $n^2$  is  $\mathcal{O}(n)$  with witnesses  $c$  and  $n_0$
  2.  $n^2 \leq c \cdot n$  for all  $n$  when  $n \geq n_0$
  3.  $n^2 \leq c \cdot n$  for all  $n$  when  $n \geq n_0$ ,  $n > 0$ , and  $n > c$

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  2.  $n^2 \leq c \cdot n$  for all  $n$  when  $n \geq n_0$
  3.  $n^2 \leq c \cdot n$  for all  $n$  when  $n \geq n_0$ ,  $n > 0$ , and  $n > c$
  4.  $n \leq c$  for all  $n$  when  $n \geq n_0$ ,  $n > 0$ , and  $n > c$
  5.  $n \leq c$  when  $n > c$  is a contradiction

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  5.  $n \leq c$  when  $n > c$  is a contradiction
  6.  $n^2$  is not  $\mathcal{O}(n)$

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  1. Assume that  $n^3$  is  $\mathcal{O}(7n^2)$  with witnesses  $c$  and  $n_0$
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  1. Assume that  $n^3$  is  $\mathcal{O}(7n^2)$  with witnesses  $c$  and  $n_0$
  2.  $n^3 \leq c \cdot 7n^2$  when  $n \geq n_0$
  3.  $n^3 \leq c \cdot 7n^2$  when  $n \geq n_0, n > 0$ , and  $n > c \cdot 7$

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  4.  $n \leq c \cdot 7$  when  $n \geq n_0$ ,  $n > 0$ , and  $n > c \cdot 7$
  5.  $n \leq c \cdot 7$  when  $n > c \cdot 7$  is a contradiction
  6.  $n^3$  is not  $\mathcal{O}(7n^2)$

# Big- $\Omega$ Notation

- Let  $f$  and  $g$  be functions from the set  $\mathbf{Z}^+$  to the set  $\mathbf{R}^{\geq}$ 
  - $f: \mathbf{Z}^+ \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^{\geq}$
  - $g: \mathbf{Z}^+ \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^{\geq}$
- $f(n)$  is  $\Omega(g(n))$  if there are positive real constants  $c$  and  $n_0$  such that

$$f(n) \geq c \cdot g(n)$$

whenever  $n \geq n_0$

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# Big- $\mathcal{O}$ and Big- $\Omega$

If  $f$  and  $g$  be functions from the set  $\mathbf{Z}^+$  to the set  $\mathbf{R}^{\geq}$ , then

$f$  is  $\mathcal{O}(g)$  if and only if  $g$  is  $\Omega(f)$

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$f$  is  $\mathcal{O}(g)$  iff there are positive real  $c$  and  $n_0$  such that  $f(n) \leq c \cdot g(n)$  when  $n \geq n_0$

iff there are positive real  $1/c$  and  $n_0$  such that  $\frac{1}{c} \cdot f(n) \leq g(n)$  when  $n \geq n_0$



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iff there are positive real  $1/c$  and  $n_0$  such that  $\frac{1}{c} \cdot f(n) \leq g(n)$  when  $n \geq n_0$   
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- iff there are positive real  $1/c$  and  $n_0$  such that  $\frac{1}{c} \cdot f(n) \leq g(n)$  when  $n \geq n_0$
- iff there are positive real  $1/c$  and  $n_0$  such that  $g(n) \geq \frac{1}{c} \cdot f(n)$  when  $n \geq n_0$
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- iff there are positive real  $c$  and  $n_0$  such that  $g(n) \geq c \cdot f(n)$  when  $n \geq n_0$
- iff  $g$  is  $\Omega(f)$

# Big- $\Omega$ Notation

- Example:  $f(n) = 8n^3 + 5n^2 + 7$  is  $\Omega(g)$  where  $g(n) = n^3$

- Proof:

$$8n^3 + 5n^2 + 7 \geq n^3 \text{ whenever } n > 0$$

So,  $8n^3 + 5n^2 + 7 \geq n^3$  is  $\Omega(g)$  with witnesses  $c = 1$  and  $n_0 = 0$

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- Proof:

$n^2 \geq \frac{1}{8}8n^2$	for all $n$
$\frac{1}{3}n^2 \geq \frac{1}{3 \cdot 8}8n^2$	for all $n$

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$$n^2 \geq 3 \cdot 4n \quad \text{when } n \geq 12$$



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$$n^2 \geq 3 \cdot 2 \quad \text{when } n \geq 6$$

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- Another example:  $f(n) = n^2 - 4n - 2$  is  $\Omega(g)$  where  $g(n) = 8n^2$
- Proof:

$$\begin{array}{ll} n^2 & \geq \frac{1}{8} 8n^2 & \text{for all } n \\ \frac{1}{3} n^2 & \geq \frac{1}{3 \cdot 8} 8n^2 & \text{for all } n \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ll} n^2 & \geq 3 \cdot 4n & \text{when } n \geq 12 \\ \frac{1}{3} n^2 & \geq 4n & \text{when } n \geq 12 \end{array}$$

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# Big-Ω Notation

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$$n^2 - 4n - 2 \text{ is } \Omega(8n^2) \text{ with witnesses } c = \frac{1}{24} \text{ and } n_0 = 12$$

# Big- $\Theta$ Notation

- Let  $f$  and  $g$  be functions from either the set of integers or the set of real numbers to the set of real numbers
- $f(n)$  is  $\Theta(g(n))$  if  $f(n)$  is  $\mathcal{O}(g(n))$  and  $f(n)$  is  $\Omega(g(n))$



# Big- $\Theta$ Notation

Theorem: If  $f(n)$  is  $\Theta(g(n))$  then  $g(n)$  is  $\Theta(f(n))$

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2.  $f(n)$  is  $\mathcal{O}(g(n))$  and  $f(n)$  is  $\Omega(g(n))$
3.  $g(n)$  is  $\Omega(f(n))$  and  $g(n)$  is  $\mathcal{O}(g(n))$  (proved last lecture)

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Theorem: If  $f(n)$  is  $\Theta(g(n))$  then  $g(n)$  is  $\Theta(f(n))$

Proof:

1. Assume  $f(n)$  is  $\Theta(g(n))$
2.  $f(n)$  is  $\mathcal{O}(g(n))$  and  $f(n)$  is  $\Omega(g(n))$
3.  $g(n)$  is  $\Omega(f(n))$  and  $g(n)$  is  $\mathcal{O}(g(n))$  (proved last lecture)
4.  $g(n)$  is  $\Theta(f(n))$

# Big- $\Theta$ Notation

- Example: Show that  $f(n) = 1 + 2 + \dots + n$  is  $\Theta(n^2)$
- Proof: A previous example showed that  $f(n) = 1 + 2 + \dots + n$  is  $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$ . To show that  $f(n)$  is  $\Theta(n^2)$ , we just need to show that  $f(n)$  is  $\Omega(n^2)$

# Big- $\Theta$ Notation

$$f(n) = 1 + 2 + \dots + (n - 1) + n$$

# Big- $\Theta$ Notation

$$f(n) = 1 + 2 + \dots + (n - 1) + n$$

$$2 \cdot f(n) = \begin{array}{l} 1 + 2 + \dots + (n - 1) + n \\ + 1 + 2 + \dots + (n - 1) + n \end{array}$$



# Big- $\Theta$ Notation

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$$2 \cdot f(n) = \begin{array}{l} 1 + 2 + \dots + (n - 1) + n \\ + 1 + 2 + \dots + (n - 1) + n \end{array}$$

$$2 \cdot f(n) = \begin{array}{l} 1 + \quad 2 \quad + \dots + (n - 1) + n \\ + n + (n - 1) + \dots + \quad 2 \quad + 1 \end{array}$$

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# Big- $\Theta$ Notation

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$$f(n) = \frac{1}{2}n^2 + \frac{1}{2}n$$

$$f(n) \geq \frac{1}{2}n^2 \quad \text{when } n \geq 1$$

$f(n)$  is  $\Omega(n^2)$  with witnesses  $c = \frac{1}{2}$  and  $n_0 = 1$ .

Since  $f(n)$  is also  $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$ ,  $f(n)$  is  $\Theta(n^2)$

# Big- $\Theta$ Notation

- Another example: Show that  $3n^2 + 8n \cdot \log(n)$  is  $\Theta(n^2)$
- Note that when  $n > 0$ ,  $\log(n) < n$

# Big- $\Theta$ Notation

- Another example: Show that  $3n^2 + 8n \cdot \log(n)$  is  $\Theta(n^2)$
- Note that when  $n > 0$ ,  $\log(n) < n$

$$\log(n) < n \quad \text{when } n \geq 1$$



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- Another example: Show that  $3n^2 + 8n \cdot \log(n)$  is  $\Theta(n^2)$
- Note that when  $n > 0$ ,  $\log(n) < n$

$$\begin{array}{ll} \log(n) < n & \text{when } n \geq 1 \\ 8n \cdot \log(n) \leq 8n^2 & \text{when } n \geq 1 \end{array}$$

# Big- $\Theta$ Notation

- Another example: Show that  $3n^2 + 8n \cdot \log(n)$  is  $\Theta(n^2)$
- Note that when  $n > 0$ ,  $\log(n) < n$

$$\log(n) < n \quad \text{when } n \geq 1$$

$$8n \cdot \log(n) \leq 8n^2 \quad \text{when } n \geq 1$$

$$3n^2 + 8n \cdot \log(n) \leq 11n^2 \quad \text{when } n \geq 1$$

# Big- $\Theta$ Notation

- Another example: Show that  $3n^2 + 8n \cdot \log(n)$  is  $\Theta(n^2)$
- Note that when  $n > 0$ ,  $\log(n) < n$

$$\log(n) \leq n \quad \text{when } n \geq 1$$

$$8n \cdot \log(n) \leq 8n^2 \quad \text{when } n \geq 1$$

$$3n^2 + 8n \cdot \log(n) \leq 11n^2 \quad \text{when } n \geq 1$$

So,  $3n^2 + 8n \cdot \log(n)$  is  $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$  with witnesses  $c = 11$  and  $n_0 = 1$

# Big- $\Theta$ Notation

- Another example continued

Now we need to show that  $3n^2 + 8n \cdot \log(n)$  is  $\Omega(n^2)$

# Big- $\Theta$ Notation

- Another example continued

Now we need to show that  $3n^2 + 8n \cdot \log(n)$  is  $\Omega(n^2)$

$$\log(n) \geq 0 \quad \text{when } n \geq 1$$

# Big- $\Theta$ Notation

- Another example continued

Now we need to show that  $3n^2 + 8n \cdot \log(n)$  is  $\Omega(n^2)$

$$\log(n) \geq 0 \quad \text{when } n \geq 1$$

$$8n \cdot \log(n) \geq 0 \quad \text{when } n \geq 1$$

# Big- $\Theta$ Notation

- Another example continued

Now we need to show that  $3n^2 + 8n \cdot \log(n)$  is  $\Omega(n^2)$

$$\log(n) \geq 0 \quad \text{when } n \geq 1$$

$$8n \cdot \log(n) \geq 0 \quad \text{when } n \geq 1$$

$$3n^2 + 8n \cdot \log(n) \geq n^2 \quad \text{when } n \geq 1$$

# Big- $\Theta$ Notation

- Another example continued

Now we need to show that  $3n^2 + 8n \cdot \log(x)$  is  $\Omega(n^2)$

$$\log(n) \geq 0 \quad \text{when } n \geq 1$$

$$8n \cdot \log(n) \geq 0 \quad \text{when } n \geq 1$$

$$3n^2 + 8n \cdot \log(n) \geq n^2 \quad \text{when } n \geq 1$$

Hence  $3n^2 + 8n \cdot \log(n)$  is  $\Omega(n^2)$  with witnesses  $c = 1$  and  $n_0 = 1$

Since  $3n^2 + 8n \cdot \log(n)$  is also  $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$ ,  $3n^2 + 8n \cdot \log(n)$  is  $\Theta(n^2)$



# Asymptotic Growth of Polynomials

- Theorem 7.2.2

Let  $p(n)$  be a polynomial of degree  $k$ :

$$p(n) = a_k n^k + a_{k-1} n^{k-1} + \dots + a_1 n^1 + a_0$$

where  $a_k > 0$

Then,  $p(n)$  is  $\Theta(n^k)$

# Asymptotic Growth Logarithmic Functions of Different Bases

- If  $a$  and  $b$  constants such  $a > 1$  and  $b > 1$ , then  $\log_a(n)$  is  $\Theta(\log_b(n))$

- Proof:

1.  $n = a^{\log_a(n)} = b^{\log_b(n)}$  when  $n \geq 1$
2.  $\log_a(a^{\log_a(n)}) = \log_a(b^{\log_b(n)})$  when  $n \geq 1$
3.  $\log_a(n) = \log_a(b) \cdot \log_b(n)$  where  $\log_a(b)$  is positive and  $n \geq 1$
4.  $\log_a(n) = c \cdot \log_b(n)$  where  $c = \log_a(b)$  is positive and  $n \geq 1$
5.  $\log_a(n) \leq c \cdot \log_b(n)$  where  $c$  is positive and  $n \geq 1$
6.  $\log_a(n) \geq c \cdot \log_b(n)$  where  $c$  is positive and  $n \geq 1$
7.  $\log_a(n)$  is  $\Theta(\log_b(n))$

# Growth Rates of Common Functions

- A function is a constant function if it always returns the same value
- If  $f(n)$  is a constant function, then  $f(n)$  is  $\Theta(1)$
- $f(n)$  is called linear if  $f(n)$  is  $\Theta(n)$
- $f(n)$  is called polynomial if  $f(n)$  is  $\Theta(n^k)$  for a real number  $k > 0$
- $f(n)$  is called exponential if  $f(n)$  is  $\Theta(c^n)$  for a real number  $c > 1$

# Common Functions in Algorithmic Complexity

Function	Name
$\Theta(1)$	Constant
$\Theta(\log(\log(n)))$	Log log
$\Theta(\log(n))$	Logarithmic
$\Theta(n)$	Linear
$\Theta(n \cdot \log(n))$	n log n
$\Theta(n^2)$	Quadratic
$\Theta(n^3)$	Cubic
$\Theta(n^k) \ k > 3$	Power
$\Theta(c^n) \ c > 1$	Exponential
$\Theta(n!)$	Factorial

# Rules for Asymptotic Growth of Functions

- If  $f(n)$  is  $\mathcal{O}(h(n))$  and  $g(n)$  is  $\mathcal{O}(h(n))$ , then  $f(n) + g(n)$  is  $\mathcal{O}(h(n))$
- If  $f(n)$  is  $\Omega(h(n))$  and  $g(n)$  is  $\Omega(h(n))$ , then  $f(n) + g(n)$  is  $\Omega(h(n))$
- If  $f(n)$  is  $\mathcal{O}(g(n))$  and  $a > 0$ , then  $a \cdot f(n)$  is  $\mathcal{O}(g(n))$
- If  $f(n)$  is  $\Omega(g(n))$  and  $a > 0$ , then  $a \cdot f(n)$  is  $\Omega(g(n))$
- If  $f(n)$  is  $\mathcal{O}(g(n))$  and  $g(n)$  is  $\mathcal{O}(h(n))$ , then  $f(n)$  is  $\mathcal{O}(h(n))$
- If  $f(n)$  is  $\Omega(g(n))$  and  $g(n)$  is  $\Omega(h(n))$ , then  $f(n)$  is  $\Omega(h(n))$