

Lecture
8_2.1

Computational Complexity Analysis



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Goal

- This lecture aims at defining the terms of the complexity of algorithms

Prerequisites

– **None**

Further readings

- **Students interested in a deeper look at the covered topics can refer, for instance, to the books listed at the end of the lecture.**
- **A detailed presentation on Recurrences can be found in Lecture 8_2.2.**

Outline

- Algorithm Complexity
- Computational analysis
- Asymptotic Behavior
- Notations O , Ω , Θ
- Examples of Computational analysis

Outline

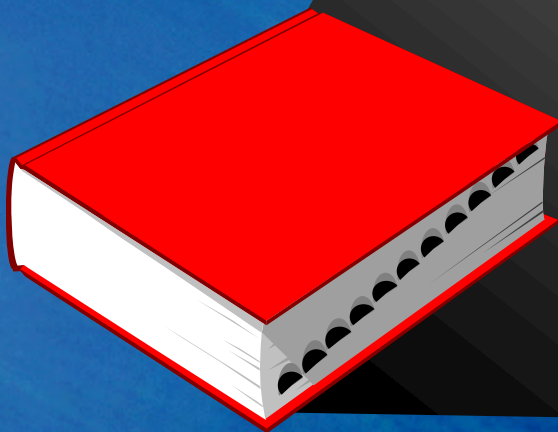
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Algorithm

***A sequence of
computational steps
that transform the
input into the output.
Each step must be
“finite” in terms of
required **time** & **effort*****

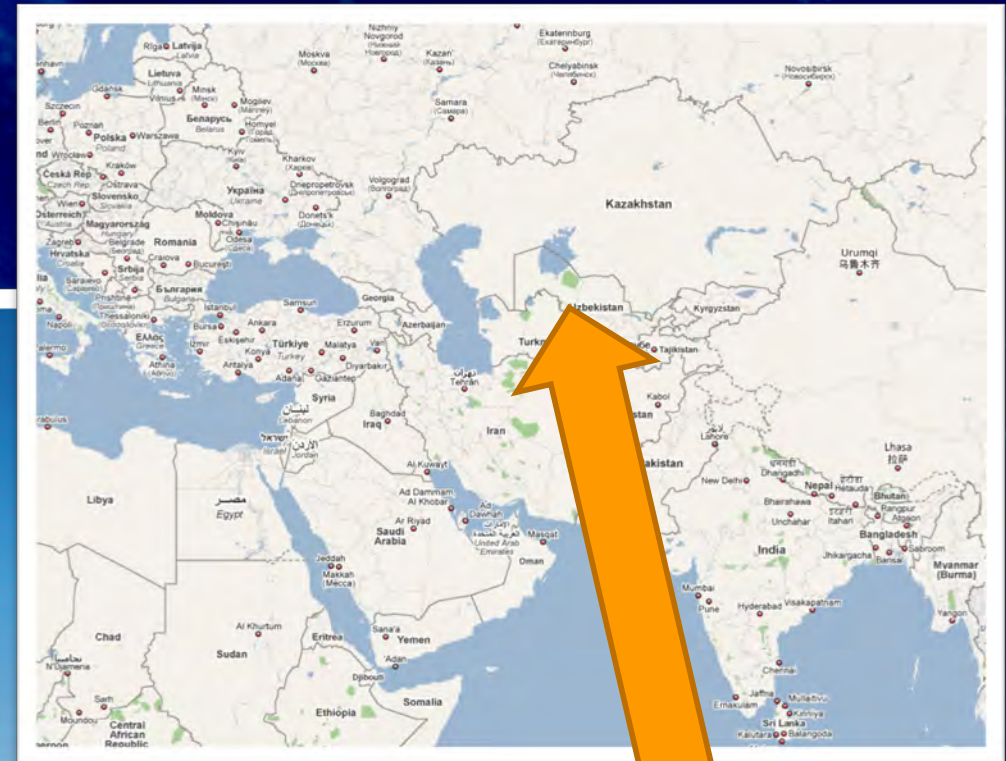
The Arabic source,
al-Ḳwārizmī
‘the man of Ḳwārizm’
(now Khiva), was a
name given to the
mathematician
Abū Ja‘far Muhammad
ibn Mūsa



Algorithm

***A sequence of
computational steps
that transform the
input into the output.
Each step must be
“finite” in terms of
required **time** & **effort*****

Muhammad ibn Mūsā al-Khwārizmī



Baghdad,
780 – 850 AD

Hint



Remark

**Generally, a problem can be
solved by using several
algorithms or programs.**

**Although,
not all the solutions
are equally good**



Algorithm analysis

Is required in order to:

- **Compare two or more different algorithms**

Algorithm analysis

Is required in order to:

- **Compare two or more different algorithms**
- **Foresee the behavior of an algorithm in extreme conditions**

Algorithm analysis

Is required in order to:

- **Compare two or more different algorithms**
- **Foresee the behavior of an algorithm in extreme conditions**
- **Adjust the algorithm parameters to get better results**

How evaluating the “quality” of an algorithm?

- **Subjective** criteria:
 - Simplicity
 - Clearness
 - Suitability w.r.t. the target problem
- **Objective** criteria:
 - Computational analysis.



Efficiency

***Ability of solving the
proposed problem
using a low
consumption of
computational
resources***

Resources consumption

- Two fundamental factors of *efficiency*:
 - *Spatial cost* or amount of memory required
 - *Temporal cost* or time required to solve the problem
- In order to solve a given problem, an algorithm or program A will be better than another B if A solves the problem in less time and/or uses less memory than B

Resources consumption

- Two fundamental factors of efficiency:
 - **Spatial cost** or amount of memory required
 - **Temporal cost** or time required to solve the problem
- In order to solve a given problem, an algorithm or program A will be better than another B if A solves the problem in less time and/or uses less memory than B

We will focus our attention
mainly on temporal cost

Warning

**Sometimes, just time or memory
are not the only suitable
parameters to appreciate the
quality of a program**



A simple example

- Let's consider three simple programs

```
int main() { /*A1*/  
    int m;  
    m = 10 * 10;  
    printf("%d\n", m);  
}
```

```
int main() { /*A2*/  
    int i, m; m=0;  
    for (i=1; i<=10; i++)  
        m = m + 10;  
    printf("%d\n", m);  
}
```

```
int main() { /*A3*/  
    int i, j, m; m=0;  
    for (i=1; i<=10; i++)  
        for (j=1; j<=10; j++)  
            m++;  
    printf("%d\n", m);  
}
```

What is each program actually doing?

A simple example

- They all compute 10^2

```
int main() { /*A1*/  
    int m;  
    m = 10 * 10; /*producto*/  
    printf("%d\n", m);  
}
```

```
int main() { /*A2*/  
    int i, m; m=0;  
    for (i=1; i<=10; i++)  
        m = m + 10; /*suma*/  
    printf("%d\n", m);  
}
```

```
int main() { /*A3*/  
    int i, j, m; m=0;  
    for (i=1; i<=10; i++)  
        for (j=1; j<=10; j++)  
            m++; /*sucesor*/  
    printf("%d\n", m);  
}
```

A simple example

- Let's analyze their computational time

```
int main() { /*A1*/  
    int m;  
    m = 10 * 10;  
    printf("%d\n", m);  
}
```

```
int main() { /*A2*/  
    int i, m; m=0;  
    for (i=1; i<=10; i++)  
        m = m + 10;  
    printf("%d\n", m);  
}
```

```
int main() { /*A3*/  
    int i, j, m; m=0;  
    for (i=1; i<=10; i++)  
        for (j=1; j<=10; j++)  
            m++;  
    printf("%d\n", m);  
}
```

Be t_* , t_+ , t_s the times required to carry out a *product*, *sum*, and *successor*.

$$T_{A1} =$$

$$T_{A2} =$$

$$T_{A3} =$$

A simple example

- Let's analyze their computational time

```
int main() { /*A1*/  
    int m;  
    m = 10 * 10;  
    printf("%d\n", m);  
}
```

```
int main() { /*A2*/  
    int i, m; m=0;  
    for (i=1; i<=10; i++)  
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```
int main() { /*A3*/  
    int i, j, m; m=0;  
    for (i=1; i<=10; i++)  
        for (j=1; j<=10; j++)  
            m++;  
    printf("%d\n", m);  
}
```

Be t_* , t_+ , t_s the times required to carry out a *product*, *sum*, and *successor*.

$$T_{A1} = t_* \quad T_{A2} = 10 t_+ \quad T_{A3} = 100 t_s$$

A simple example

- Let's analyze their computational time

```
int main() { /*A1*/  
    int m;  
    m = 10 * 10;  
    printf("%d\n",  
}
```

Which program is the best: A1, A2, or A3 ?

```
/*A2*/  
=0;  
(=10; i++)  
0;  
1", m);
```

Be t_* , t_+ , t_s the times required to carry out a *product*, *sum*, and *successor*.

$$T_{A1} = t_* \quad T_{A2} = 10 t_+ \quad T_{A3} = 100 t_s$$

A simple example

- Let's assume that A1, A2, A3 are executed on four different computers with different characteristics (different times for *successor*, *sum* and *product* execution)

t_*	100 μs	50 μs	100 μs	200 μs
t_+	10 μs	10 μs	5 μs	10 μs
t_s	1 μs	2 μs	1 μs	0,5 μs
A1	100 μs	50 μs	100 μs	200 μs
A2	100 μs	100 μs	50 μs	100 μs
A3	100 μs	200 μs	100 μs	50 μs

A simple example

- Let's assume that A1, A2, A3 are executed on four different computers with different characteristics (different time to add, different time to multiply, different time to execute a loop, different time to execute a function, different time to execute a product execution)

t_*	100	200 μs
t_+	10	10 μs
t_s	0,5	0,5 μs
A1	100	200 μs
A2	100	100 μs
A3	100	50 μs

*For each computer
there's a best one !!!*

Remark

A good cost characterization should allow to establish the program *quality* independently of:

- the computer
- the particular sizes of the instances to process



Solution

**A good computational
characterization of a program:**

**Cost functional dependency with
the size of input – *for large sizes* !**



Outline

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- Asymptotic Behavior
- Notations O , Ω , Θ
- Examples of Computational analysis

Execution time

In most cases the execution time of an algorithm is influenced not from the actual *values* of input data, but from their overall number

Computational analysis

As a consequence, the computational complexity of a target problem is usually expressed as:

$$T = T(n)$$

where:

- ***n* : size of the problem:**
of the “instances” to be dealt with
- ***T* : Execution time :**
of elementary operations needed to solve the problem resorting to a given algorithm

Advantages

- **Generally, programs are useful to solve problems of large sizes of input (if they are small, we could solve them manually)**
- **Considering large sizes of input, we can carry out simple approximations that considerably simplify cost analysis**

Advantages

- **Programs no longer depend on:**
 - **specific execution time values of the different elementary instructions used (if they don't depend on the size of input)**
 - **sizes of the input of specific instances of the program to solve**

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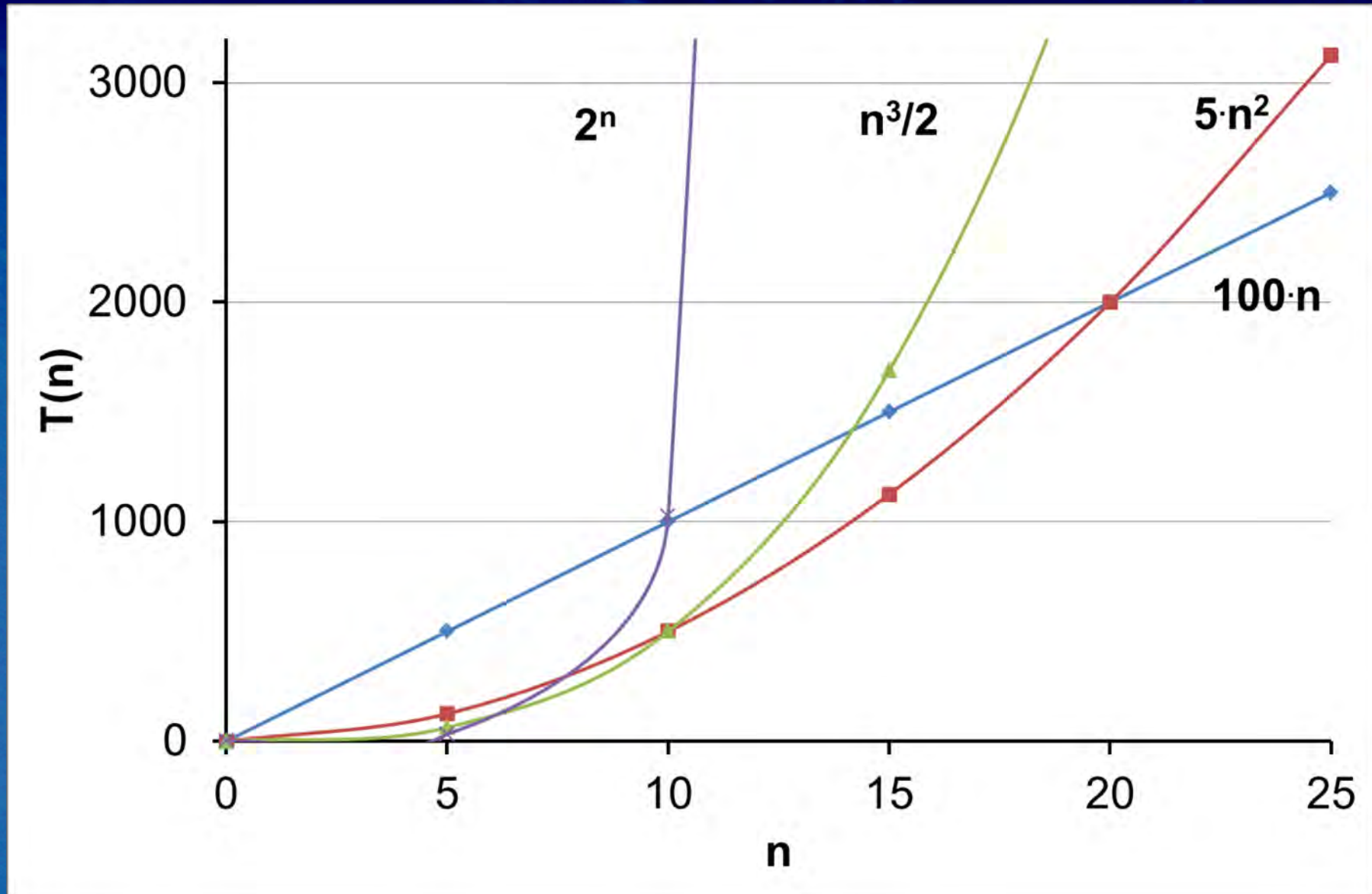
Asymptotic Behavior

- Execution time is often evaluated by studying its asymptotic behavior, i.e., through the performance of the function $T(n)$, which describes the cost of running the algorithm when the size of the problem grows:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} T(n)$$

- In this way we neglect:
 - constants that do not alter the order of ∞
 - the terms of a lower order

Asymptotic Behavior



Asymptotic Behavior - Advantages

- **The analysis of the asymptotic behavior:**
 - **is independent from the characteristics of the compiler and the machine used to implement the algorithm in the form of program**
 - **allows to compare the algorithms underlying the programs, rather than the programs themselves**
 - **is the only tool that allows to determine the maximum approachable size of a given problem.**

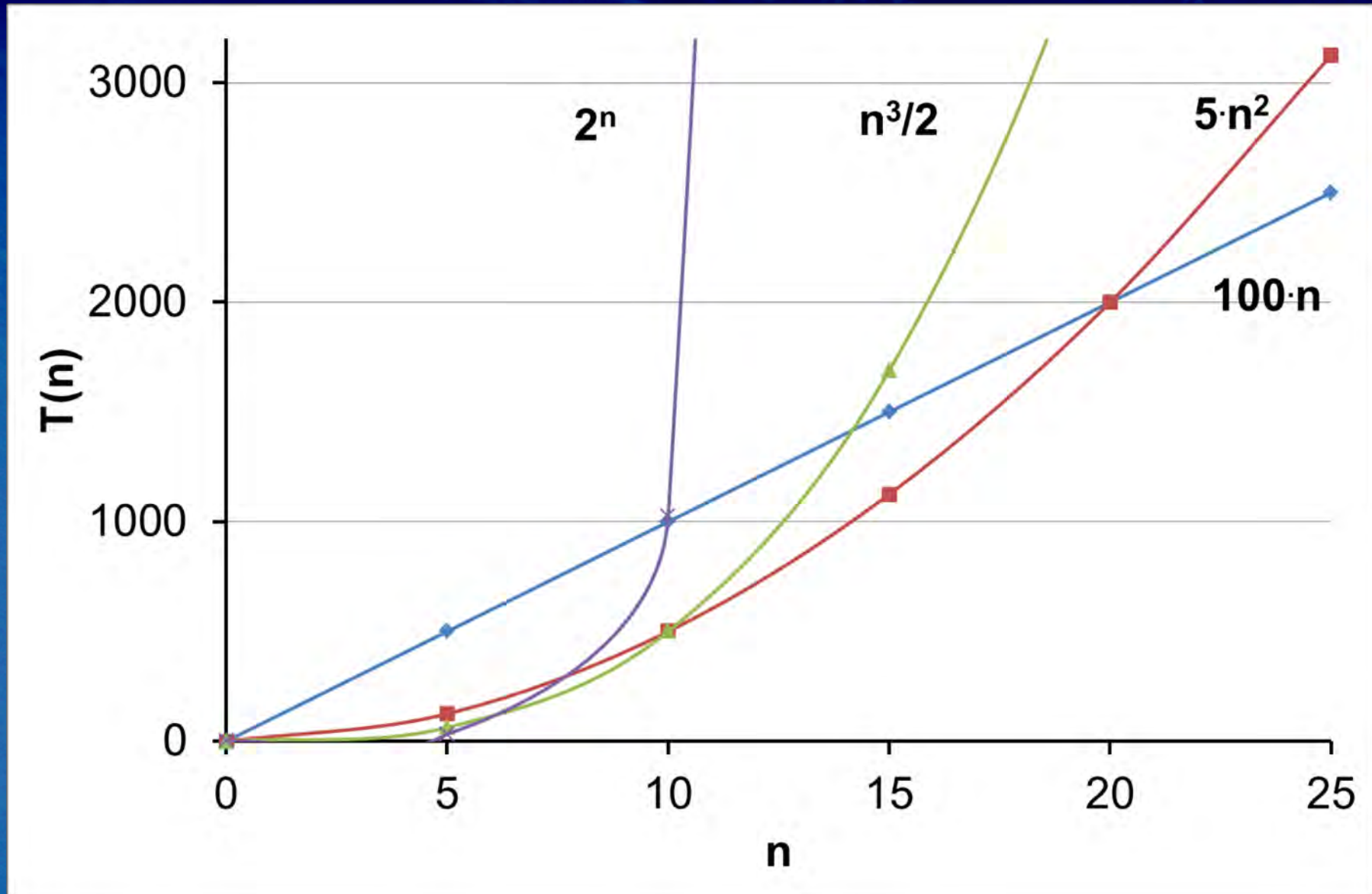
Asymptotic Behavior - Disadvantages

- **Studying only the asymptotic behavior of the function $T(n)$ does not lead to the choice of the algorithm to use.**

Asymptotic Behavior - Disadvantages

- Other items to consider are in fact:
 - the memory amount actually occupied by the program
 - the number of calls to I/O functions
 - the amount of data that the program will have to process:
 - . if n is predominantly small, you should consider the exact execution time, taking into account the constant of proportionality, rather than the asymptotic behavior

Asymptotic Behavior - Disadvantages



Step

**A STEP is the execution of a code segment which processing time either doesn't depend on the size of input of the considered program,
or it is bounded by a constant.**



Computational cost of a program

**Number of STEPS
as a function of the size
of input of the program**



Examples

Examples

```
int main() { /*A1*/  
    int n, m;  
    scanf("%d", &n);  
    m = n * n; /*producto*/  
    printf("%d\n", m);  
}
```

```
int main() { /*A2*/  
    int i, n, m; m=0;  
    scanf("%d", &n);  
    for (i=1; i<=n; i++)  
        m = m + n; /*suma*/  
    printf("%d\n", m);  
}
```

```
int main() { /*A3*/  
    int i, j, n, m; m=0;  
    scanf("%d", &n);  
    for (i=1; i<=n; i++)  
        for (j=1; j<=n; j++)  
            m++; /*sucesor*/  
    printf("%d\n", m);  
}
```

$$T_{A1}(n) = \quad T_{A2}(n) = \quad T_{A3}(n) =$$

Examples

Examples

```
int main() { /*A1*/  
    int n, m;  
    scanf("%d", &n);  
    m = n * n; /*producto*/  
    printf("%d\n", m);  
}
```

```
int main() { /*A2*/  
    int i, n, m; m=0;  
    scanf("%d", &n);  
    for (i=1; i<=n; i++)  
        m = m + n; /*suma*/  
    printf("%d\n", m);  
}
```

```
int main() { /*A3*/  
    int i, j, n, m; m=0;  
    scanf("%d", &n);  
    for (i=1; i<=n; i++)  
        for (j=1; j<=n; j++)  
            m++; /*sucesor*/  
    printf("%d\n", m);  
}
```

$$T_{A1}(n) = 1, \quad T_{A2}(n) = n, \quad T_{A3}(n) = n^2$$

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- Notations O , Ω , Θ
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Notations O , Ω , Θ

- To describe the asymptotic behavior of an algorithm several notations were introduced.
- Among the most used are to be mentioned:
 - notation O : big O
 - notation Ω : big Omega
 - notation Θ : Teta

Notation *O*

- An algorithm has a (upper delimitation for) complexity $O(f(n))$:

$$T(n) = O(f(n))$$

$$T(n) \in O(f(n))$$

iff:

$$\exists c > 0 : \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{T(n)}{f(n)} \right| = c$$

or, according to the definition of limit, iff:

$$\exists c, n_0 : |T(n)| \leq c|f(n)| \quad \forall n \geq n_0$$

- As n grows, $T(n)$ grows as maximum as $f(n)$, i.e., $f(n)$ is an **upper** limit to the growth of $T(n)$.

Notation O – Practical Rules

- Given that:

$$T_1(n) = O(f_1(n))$$

$$T_2(n) = O(f_2(n))$$

it is true that:

$$T_1(n) + T_2(n) = O(\max(f_1(n), f_2(n)))$$

$$T_1(n) \cdot T_2(n) = O(f_1(n) \cdot f_2(n))$$

- In addition, for any given constant c :

$$O(c \cdot f(n)) = O(f(n))$$

Notation Ω

- An algorithm has a (lower delimitation for) complexity $\Omega(f(n))$:

$$T(n) = \Omega(f(n))$$

iff:

$$\exists c, n_0 : |T(n)| \geq c|f(n)| \quad \forall n \geq n_0$$

Notation Ω – Considerations

- As n grows, $T(n)$ grows at least as $f(n)$, i.e., $f(n)$ is a **lower** limit to the growth of $T(n)$.
- Notation Ω is useful to express the inherent complexity of a given problem.
- Notation Ω can be seen as O reverse, as it holds:

$$T(n)=\Omega(f(n)) \Rightarrow f(n)=O(T(n))$$

Notation Θ

- An algorithm has a complexity $\Theta(f(n))$:

$$T(n) = \Theta(f(n))$$

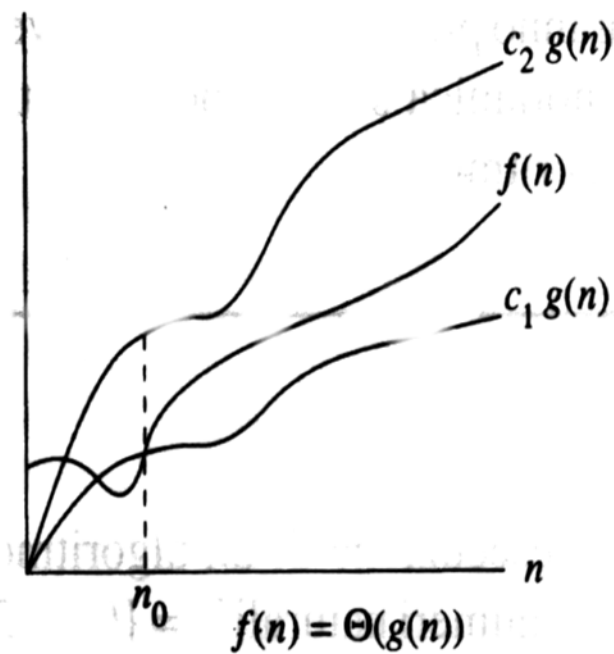
iff:

$$\exists c_1, c_2, n_0 : c_1 |f(n)| \leq |T(n)| \leq c_2 |f(n)| \quad \forall n \geq n_0$$

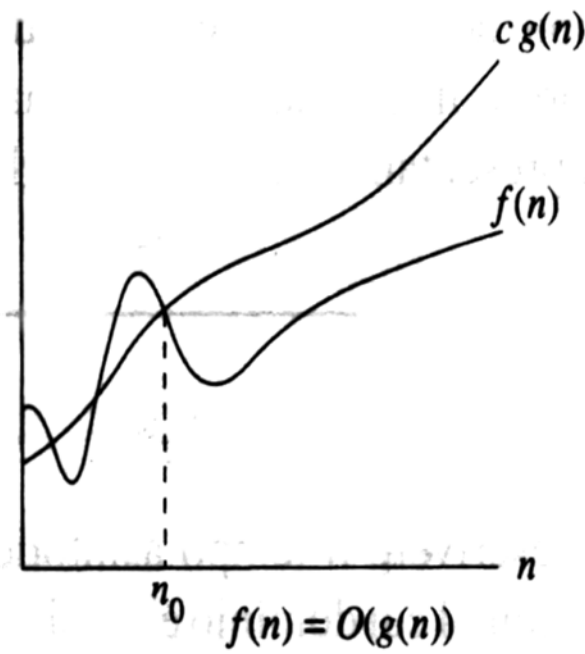
Notation Θ - Considerations

- **If $T(n) = \Theta(f(n))$,**
 - **$T(n)$ e $f(n)$ grows similarly:**
$$\begin{cases} T(n) = O(f(n)) \\ f(n) = O(T(n)) \end{cases}$$
 - **$f(n)$ is at the same time upper and lower limitation for the growth of $T(n)$:**
$$\begin{cases} T(n) = O(f(n)) \\ T(n) = \Omega(f(n)) \end{cases}$$

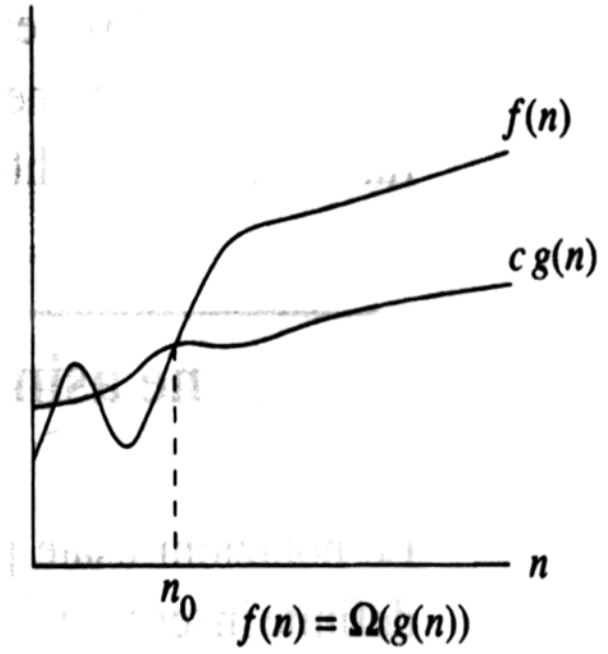
Notations Θ , O , Ω



(a)



(b)



(c)

Outline


- Algorithm Complexity
- Computational analysis
- Asymptotic Behavior
- Notations O , Ω , Θ
- Examples of Computational analysis:
 - . Iterative procedure
 - . Recurrence
 - . Recursive procedure

Example 1: Iterative procedure

```
void bubble (int* A, int N){  
    // sorts array into increasing order  
    int i, j, temp;  
(1)    for(i=0; i<N-1; i++)  
(2)        for(j=N-1; j>=i+1; j--)  
(3)            if(A[j-1]>A[j]){  
(4)                temp = A[j-1];  
(5)                A[j-1] = A[j];  
(6)                A[j] = temp;  
            }  
    }
```

Example 1: Iterative procedure

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(5)                A[j-1] = A[j];  
(6)                A[j] = temp;  
            }  
    }
```




Example 1: Iterative procedure

```
void bubble (int* A, int N){  
    // sorts array into  
    int i, j, temp;  
(1)    for(i=0; i<N-1; i++){  
(2)        for(j=N-1; j>=i+1; j--){  
(3)            if(A[j-1]>A[j]){  
(4)                temp = A[j-1];  
(5)                A[j-1] = A[j];  
(6)                A[j] = temp;  
            }  
        }  
    }  
}
```

$T_{4 \div 6} = c_1$

Example 1: Iterative procedure

```
void bubble (int* A, int N){  
    // sorts array into increasing order  
    int i, j, temp;  
(1)    for(i=0; i<N-1; i++)  
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(3)            if(A[j-1]>A[j]){  
(4)                temp = A[j-1];  
(5)                A[j-1] = A[j];  
(6)                A[j] = temp;  
            }  
    }
```



Example 1: Iterative

$$T_{2\div 6} = c_2 \cdot (n - i)$$

```
void bubble (int* A, int n) {  
    // sorts array into increasing order  
    int i, j, temp;  
(1)    for(i=0; i<N-1; i++)  
(2)        for(j=N-1; j>=i+1; j--)  
(3)            if(A[j-1]>A[j]){  
(4)                temp = A[j-1];  
(5)                A[j-1] = A[j];  
(6)                A[j] = temp;  
            }  
    }  
}
```

Example 1: Iterative procedure

```
void bubble (int* A, int N){  
    // sorts array into increasing order  
    int i, j, temp;  
(1)    for(i=0; i<N-1; i++)  
(2)        for(j=N-1; j>=i+1; j--)  
(3)            if(A[j-1]>A[j]){  
(4)                temp = A[j-1];  
(5)                A[j-1] = A[j];  
(6)                A[j] = temp;  
            }  
    }
```


Example 1: Iterative procedure

$$T_{1\div 6} = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} c \cdot (n - i)$$

to increasing order

```
(1)   for(i=0; i<N-1; i++)
(2)       for(j=N-1; j>=i+1; j--)
(3)           if(A[j-1]>A[j]){
(4)               temp = A[j-1];
(5)               A[j-1] = A[j];
(6)               A[j] = temp;
           }
    }
```

Example 1: Iterative procedure

```
void bubble (int* A, int N){  
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    int i, j, temp;  
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(5)                A[j-1] = A[j];  
(6)                A[j] = temp;  
            }  
    }
```


Example 1: Iterative procedure

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(2)        for(j=N-1; j>=i+1; j--)  
(3)            if(A[j-1]>A[j]){  
(4)                temp = A[j-1];  
(5)                A[j-1] =  
(6)                A[j] =  
            }  
}
```

$$T(n) = T_{1\div 6} = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} c \cdot (n - i)$$

Example 1: Iterative procedure

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= T_{1 \div 6} = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} c \cdot (n - i) = c \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} (n - i) = \\ &= c \left[\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} n - \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} i \right] = c \left[\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} n - \left(\sum_{i=1}^n i - n \right) \right] = \\ &= c \left[n(n-1) - \frac{n(n+1)}{2} + n \right] \\ &= c \left[\frac{2n^2 - 2n - n^2 - n + 2n}{2} \right] = \\ &= c \left[\frac{n^2 - n}{2} \right] = O(n^2) \end{aligned}$$

Outline

- Algorithm Complexity
- Computational analysis
- Asymptotic Behavior
- Notations O , Ω , Θ
- Examples of Computational analysis:
 - . Iterative procedure
 - . Recurrence
 - . Recursive procedure



Recurrence

***An equation that
describes a function
in terms of its value
on smaller functions***

Recurrence Examples

$$s(n) = \begin{cases} 0 & n = 0 \\ c + s(n-1) & n > 0 \end{cases}$$

$$s(n) = \begin{cases} 0 & n = 0 \\ n + s(n-1) & n > 0 \end{cases}$$

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} c & n = 1 \\ 2T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + c & n > 1 \end{cases}$$

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} c & n = 1 \\ aT\left(\frac{n}{b}\right) + cn & n > 1 \end{cases}$$

Divide and conquer algorithm

**An algorithm that divides the
problem of size n into
subproblems, each of size n/b**



Recurrences' Complexity Analysis

Given the recurrence

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} c & n = 1 \\ aT\left(\frac{n}{b}\right) + cn & n > 1 \end{cases}$$

with a, b, c costants ≥ 0 .

Recurrences' Complexity Analysis

Given the recurrence

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} c & n = 1 \\ aT\left(\frac{n}{b}\right) + cn & n > 1 \end{cases}$$

with a, b, c costants ≥ 0 .

Its complexity is:

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} \Theta(n) & a < b \\ \Theta(n \log_b n) & a = b \\ \Theta(n^{\log_b a}) & a > b \end{cases}$$

Example 1

- Let's analyze:

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} c & n = 1 \\ 2T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + cn & n > 1 \end{cases}$$

Example 1

- Let's analyze:

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} c & n = 1 \\ 2T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + cn & n > 1 \end{cases}$$

- Since in this case, $a=b$, we get:

$$T(n) = \Theta(n \log n)$$

Example 2

- Let's analyze:

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} c & n = 1 \\ 9T(n/3) + n & n > 1 \end{cases}$$

Example 2

- Let's analyze:

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} c & n = 1 \\ 9T(n/3) + n & n > 1 \end{cases}$$

$$a = 9 \quad b = 3$$

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} \Theta(n) & a < b \\ \Theta(n \log_b n) & a = b \\ \Theta(n^{\log_b a}) & a > b \end{cases}$$

Example 2

- Let's analyze:

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} c & n = 1 \\ 9T(n/3) + n & n > 1 \end{cases}$$

$$a = 9 \quad b = 3$$

$$T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_3 9}) = \Theta(n^2)$$

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} \Theta(n) & a < b \\ \Theta(n \log_b n) & a = b \\ \Theta(n^{\log_b a}) & a > b \end{cases}$$

Outline

- Algorithm Complexity
- Computational analysis
- Asymptotic Behavior
- Notations O , Ω , Θ
- Examples of Computational analysis:
 - . Iterative procedure
 - . Recurrence
 - . Recursive procedure

Example 3: recursive procedure

```
int fact (int n) {  
    // fact(n) computes n!  
    int rv;  
(1)    if(n<=1) {  
(2)        rv = 1;  
(3)    } else{rv = rv * fact(n-1);}  
    return rv;  
}
```

Example 3: recursive procedure

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    return rv;  
}
```

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} d & \text{se } n \leq 1 \\ c + T(n-1) & \text{se } n > 1 \end{cases}$$

Example 3: recursive procedure

$$T(n)=c+T(n-1)=2c+T(n-2)=kc+T(n-k)$$

if $k=n-1$ it holds:

$$T(n)=(n-1)c+T(1)=(n-1)c+d$$

and so:

$$T(n)=O(n)$$

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