

Basics -- 2

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Review: Logarithms, Powers and Exponentials

Let b be any real greater than 1 and let x be any real greater than 0. The logarithm to the base b of x , denoted $\log_b x$ is defined to be the number y such that

$$b^y = x$$

$$\log_b 1 = 0$$

$$\log_b x > 0 \text{ if } x > 1$$

$$\log_b b = 1$$

$$\log_b x < 0 \text{ if } 0 < x < 1$$

Any logarithmic function is a monotone increasing function of its argument, that is

$$\log_b x_1 > \log_b x_2 \text{ provided that } x_1 > x_2$$



**Doubling the argument increases the base 2 logarithm by 1.
That is,**

$$\log_2 2x = (\log_2 x) + 1$$

Why?

$$2^{(\log_2 x) + 1} = 2^{\log_2 x} \cdot 2 = 2 \cdot x$$

$$2^{\log_2 2x} = 2x$$



Review: Logarithms

$$\log_b (x_1 \cdot x_2) = \log_b x_1 + \log_b (x_2)$$

$$\log_b (x_1 / x_2) = \log_b x_1 - \log_b x_2$$

$$\log_b x^c = c \cdot \log_b x$$



Suppose a and b are both greater than 1, what is the relation of $\log_a x$ to $\log_b x$?

Since $x = a^{\log_a x}$

$$\begin{aligned}\log_b x &= \log_b(a^{\log_a x}) \\ &= \log_a x \cdot \log_b a\end{aligned}$$

This is a constant. So, any two logarithmic functions differ only by a constant factor.

For example, suppose we know that an algorithm executes $\lg x$ instructions, where x is the size of the input.

$$\lg x = \lg(10^{\log_{10} x})$$

$$\begin{aligned}&= \log_{10} x \cdot \lg 10 \\ &\sim 3.32 * \log_{10} x\end{aligned}$$



The number of bits in the usual binary notation for the positive integer N is $\lfloor \text{Lg}N \rfloor + 1$.

For example, how many bits are required to represent

41 0 1 0 1 0 0 1 6 bits $\lfloor \text{Lg}41 \rfloor + 1 = 5 + 1 = 6$
 64 32 16 8 4 2 1

3 0 1 1 2 bits $\lfloor \text{Lg}3 \rfloor + 1 = 1 + 1 = 2$
 4 2 1



The number of digits in the usual base 10 notation for the positive integer N is $\lfloor \text{Log}_{10}N \rfloor + 1$.

For example, how many digits are required to represent 31?

$$\begin{array}{r} 31 \\ 10 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{r} 3 \ 1 \\ 10 \ 1 \end{array} \quad 2 \text{ digits } \lfloor \text{Log}_{10}31 \rfloor + 1 = 1 + 1 = 2$$



Any function from reals to reals of the form $g(x) = x^\alpha$ for some constant $\alpha > 0$ is called a simple power. Any simple power is an increasing function of its argument.

Examples:

x^2 , x^3 and $x^{1/3}$ are simple powers



An exponential function is one of the form $h(x) = c^x$ for some constant $c > 1$.

Examples:

2^x and 100^x are exponential functions of x



Dominates

- Let f and g be functions from reals to reals. f dominates g if the ratio $f(n) / g(n)$ increases without bound as n increases without bound. In other words, if for any $c > 0$ there is an $n_0 > 0$ such that $f(n) > c \cdot g(n)$ for all $n > n_0$.
- Examples: $f(n) = n^2$ dominates $g(n) = 2n$ since for any c $n^2 > c \cdot 2n$ whenever $n > 2c$.
- $f(n) = 10n$ does not dominate $g(n) = 2n$ since the ratio of $f(n) / g(n)$ is never larger than 5.



Theorem:

**Any exponential function dominates any simple power,
any simple power dominates any logarithmic function.**



Let N be the set of nonnegative integers $\{0,1,\dots\}$. Let R be the set of real numbers and let R^* be the set of nonnegative real numbers.

Let g be a function from N to R^* . Then $O(g)$ is the set of all functions f from N to R^* such that, for some constants $c > 0$ and $N_0 \geq 0$.

$$f(N) \leq c \cdot g(N) \text{ for all } N \geq N_0.$$

In other words, $f \in O(g)$ if the value of f is bounded from above by a fixed multiple of the value of g for all sufficiently large values of the argument.



Examples:

For any f it is the case that $f \in O(f)$.
Any constant multiple of f is in $O(f)$.
 $F(n) = 13n + 7$ is in $O(n)$.

Why?

$$13n + 7 \leq 14n \text{ for } n \geq 7$$

So the definition is satisfied with $c = 14$, $n_0 = 7$.

$$1000n \in O(.0001n^2)$$

Why?

Let $c = 10^7$ and $n_0 = 0$ in the definition of $O()$.

$$f(n) = n$$

$$f(n) \in O(n^2)$$



Little o

For any function g , $o(g)$ is the set of all functions that are dominated by g . That is, the set of all functions f such that for each constant $c > 0$ there is an $n_0 > 0$ such that

$$f(n) < c \cdot g(n) \text{ for all } n > n_0.$$

Examples:

Let $f(n) = n$ and $g(n) = n^2$ then
 $f(n) \in o(g(n))$

Let $f(n) = n^2$ and $g(n) = 2^n$ then
 $f(n) \in o(g(n))$



Theorem: Growth Rates

1. The power n^α is in $O(n^\beta)$ if and only if $\alpha \leq \beta$ ($\alpha, \beta > 0$); and n^α is in $o(n^\beta)$ if and only if $\alpha < \beta$.

Examples:

$$n \in O(n^3)$$

$$n \in o(n^3)$$

Intuitively

$$n \leq n^3$$

$$n < n^3$$



2. $\log_b n \in o(n^\alpha)$ for any b and α .

Examples:

$\log_{10} n \in o(n)$

$\log_2 n \in o(n^{1/2})$



3. $n^\alpha \in o(c^n)$ for any $\alpha > 0$ and $c > 1$.

Examples:

$$n^2 \in o(4^n)$$

$$n^{100} \in o(2^n)$$



4. $\log_a n \in O(\log_b n)$ for any a and b .

$$\log_2 n \in O(\log_{10} n)$$

$$\log_{10} n \in O(\log_2 n)$$



5. $c^n \in O(d^n)$ if and only if $c \leq d$, and $c^n \in o(d^n)$ if and only if $c < d$.

Examples:

$$3^n \in O(4^n)$$

$$3^n \in o(4^n)$$



6. Any constant function $f(n) = c$ is in $O(1)$.

For example:

A 32-bit add instruction $O(1)$.



Big-O only provides an upper bound.

For example:

$$17n^2 \in O(n^2) \text{ but}$$

$$17n^2 \in O(n^{37})$$

$$17n^2 \in O(2^n)$$



Big Omega (Big- Ω):

**Big- Ω notation is exactly the converse of Big-O notation;
 $f \in \Omega(g)$ if and only if $g \in O(f)$.**

$f \in O(g)$ implies that f grows at most as quickly as g .

$f \in \Omega(g)$ implies that f grows at least as quickly as g .

Examples:

let $f(n) = n$

$f(n) \in O(n^2)$

$n^2 \in \Omega(n)$



Big theta (Big θ):

$$\theta(f) = O(f) \cap \Omega(f)$$

Example:

Let $f(n) = 4n$ then

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

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

so

$$f(n) \in \theta(n)$$

The set of functions $\theta(f)$ is the order of f .



A Quiz

Suppose we use a phone book to look up a number in the standard way. Let $T(n)$ be the number of operations (comparisons) required.

In the worst case $T(n) \in O(\text{Log } N)$.

True or False:

Also, in the worst case,

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

$T(n) \in \theta(n)$ _____

$T(n) \in \Omega(n)$ _____

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

$T(n) \in \theta(n)$ False

$T(n) \in \Omega(n)$ False

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A Quiz

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In the best case $T(n) \in O(1)$.

True or False:

Also, in the best case,

$T(n) \in O(n)$ *True*

$T(n) \in \theta(n)$ *False*

$T(n) \in \Omega(n)$ *False*

A Quiz

Suppose we want to delete the last item on a singly linked list. Let $T(n)$ be the number of operations (comparisons) required.

There are no cases to consider: $T(n) \in O(n)$.

True or False:

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

$$T(n) \in \theta(n)$$

$$T(n) \in \Omega(\lg n)$$

A Quiz

Suppose we want to delete the last item on a singly linked list. Let $T(n)$ be the number of operations (comparisons) required.

There are no cases to consider: $T(n) \in O(n)$.

True or False:

$T(n) \in O(\lg n)$ *False*

$T(n) \in \theta(n)$ *True*

$T(n) \in \Omega(\lg n)$ *True*

Remember

When working with Big O , Big θ and Big Ω , be sure to always consider only large n .

In addition, pin the case down first and then consider Big O , Big θ , and Big Ω

Lastly, remember that some times “case” does not apply.

Algorithms and Problems

In this class, we will mostly be analyzing algorithms (counting operations) in terms of Big O, Big θ and Big Ω .

Problems may also be analyzed. The lower bound for a particular problem is the worst case running time of the fastest algorithm that solves that problem.

Later, we will look at an argument that comparison based sorting is $\Omega(n \text{ Log } n)$. What does that mean?