Chapter 2

Asymptotic Notation

Goal : To simplify the analysis of running time by getting rid of "details" which may be affected by specific implementation and hardware.

The "Big Oh" (O-Notation) : It gives us the upper bound (Worst case behaviour) of the running time. If f(n) and g(n) are two increasing functions on non-negative numbers then.

f(n) = O(g(n)) if there exists constant c and $n \ge n_0$ such that $f(n) \le c \cdot g(n) \forall n \ge n_0$.



$$\therefore \qquad n > n_0 = 1$$

 $\therefore \qquad f(n) = O(n^2)$

Simple Rule: Pop lower order terms and constant factors.

e.g.
$$-5n^2 + 6n + 20$$
 is $O(n^2)$
and $-5n^2 \log n + n + 7$ is $O(n^2 \log n)$

Omega Notation (Ω) : It gives the tight bound (Lower bound) on running time. If f(n) and g(n) are two increasing functions over non-negative numbers. Then

 $f(n) = \Omega(g(n)) \text{ if there exists a constant c and } n \ge n_0$ such that $f(n) \ge c g(n) \quad \forall n \ge n_0$

and $c > 0 \& n_0 \ge 1$





For example: $f(n) = 60n^2 + 5n + 11 > 60n^2 \quad \forall n > 1$

Therefore, $f(n) = \Omega(n^2)$ where c = 60 and $n > n_0 = 1$

Theta Notation (θ) : It gives the tight bound (Average case behaviour) on running time. If f(n) and g(n) are two increasing function defined over non-negative numbers then

 $f(n) = \theta(g(n))$ if there exists constants c_1, c_2 and $n \ge n_0$ such that $c_1g(n) \le f(n) \le c_2g(n) \quad \forall n \ge n_0$

f(n) is sandwidthed between $c_1g(n)$ and $c_2g(n)$



If f(n) = O(g(n)) and $f(n) = \Omega(g(n))$ Then $f(n) = \theta(g(n))$ and vice-versa.

As we have,
$$f(n) = 60n^2 + 5n + 11$$
 and $f(n) = O(n^2)$ and $f(n) = \Omega(n^2)$

Therefore, $f(n) = \theta(n^2)$

Little O Notation (o) :

• f(n) = o(g(n))

g(n) is strictly (do not consider equality) larger than f(n)

•
$$f(n) < g(n) \forall n \ge n_0$$

• Graphical representation remain same.

$$\lim_{n\to\infty}\frac{f(n)}{g(n)}=0$$



- $f(n) = \omega(g(n))$
- g(n) is strictly smaller than f(n)

•
$$f(n) > (g(n)) \forall n \ge n_0$$

• Graphical representation remain same.

$$\lim_{n\to\infty}\frac{f(n)}{g(n)}=\infty$$

Types of time complexitites:



Note: $n! = O(n^n) \text{ correct}$ $n! = o(n^n) \text{ exactly correct}$

Properties of Asymptotic Notation: (1) Relfexive properties:

(i)
$$f(n) = O(f(n))$$



(ii) $f(n) = \Omega(f(n))$ (iii) $f(n) = \theta(f(n))$ (iv) $f(n) \neq o(f(n))$

(v)
$$f(n) \neq \omega(f(n))$$

(2) Symmetric properties:

(i) if
$$f(n) = O(g(n))$$
 then $g(n) \neq O(f(n))$
(ii) if $f(n) = \Omega(g(n))$ then $g(n) \neq \Omega(f(n))$
(iii) if $f(n) = \theta(g(n))$ then $g(n) = \theta(f(n))$

(3) Transitive property:

(i) If
$$f(n) = O(g(n)) \& \& g(n) = O(h(n))$$
 then $f(n) = O(h(n))$
(ii) If $f(n) = \Omega(g(n)) \& \& g(n) = \Omega(h(m))$ then $f(n) = \Omega(h(n))$
(4) If $f(n) = O(g(n))$ then $h(n) \cdot f(n) = O(h(n) \cdot g(n))$

where, h(n) is positive function.

(5) If
$$f(n) = O(g(n)) d(n) = O(h(n))$$
 then
(i) $f(n) + d(n) = \max(g(n) \cdot h(n)) = O(g(n) + h(n))$
(ii) $f(n) \cdot d(n) = O(g(n) \cdot h(n))$

Problem : Consider the following z functions.

$$f(n) = O(g(n)) \& \& g(n) \neq O(f(n))$$
$$g(n) = O(h(n)) \& \& h(n) = O(g(n))$$

True/False

(a) f(n) + g(n) = O(h(n))(c) $f(n) \cdot g(n) = O(h(n) \cdot h(n))$ (b) f(n) = O(h(n))(d) h(n) - O(f(n))

Find the Time complexity?

```
main()
{
```

```
x = y + z;
for (i = 1; i \le n; i + +) (n time execution)
x = y + z;
for (i = 1; i \le n; i + +)
{
```



so, O(n²).

{

}

}

}

$$x = y + z$$

for (i = 1; i \le n; i + {

{

}

for $(j = 1; j \le i; j + +)$ {

$$x = y + z \qquad (1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + n) = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$$
}
so, $O(n^2)$

Difference between Relative Analysis and Absolute Analysis **Relative Analysis :**

(1) It is software and hardware dependent analysis.

(2) Exact answers (3) Answer is changing from system to system.

Absolute analysis:

(1) It is software and hardware independent analysis.

(2) Approximate answers

(3) Answer will be same in all computer systems.

Note : Absolute analysis is the standard analysis in practice.

```
Absolute analysis : It is a determination of order of magnitude of a statement
Number of times a statement is executing.
Example:
main()
{
        x = y + z; \implies 1 time execution
                        O(1) or order of 1.
}
```




[GATE-1987: 2 Marks]

- Soln. By using substitution method we get following series: $n + (n - 1) + (n - 2) + (n - 3) \dots 3 + 2 + 1$ Which is sum of 'n' natural numbers. $= \frac{n(n + 1)}{2} \Rightarrow O(n^2)$
- 2. What is the generating function G(z) for the sequence of Fibonacci numbers ?

[GATE-1987 : 2 Marks]

[GATE-1994 : 2 Marks]

Soln. The generating function for the Fibonacci numbers G(z) is $G(z) = \frac{z}{1 - z - z^2}$.



Soln.
$$\sum_{1 \le k \le n} O(n) = O(1) + O(2) + O(3) + \dots + O(n) = O\left(\frac{n(n+1)}{2}\right) = O(n^2)$$

4. Consider the following two functions:

$$g_{1}(n) = \begin{cases} n^{3} & \text{for } 0 \le n \le 10,000 \\ n^{2} & \text{for } n \ge 10,000 \end{cases}$$

$$g_{2}(n) = \begin{cases} n & \text{for } 0 \le n \le 100 \\ n^{3} & \text{for } n > 100 \end{cases}$$
Which of the following is true ?
(a) $g_{1}(n) \text{ is } O(g_{2}(n))$
(b) $g_{1}(n) \text{ is } O(n^{3}) \text{ VOUR}$
(c) $g_{2}(n) \text{ is } O(g_{1}(n))$
(d) $g_{2}(n) \text{ is } O(n)$

Ans. (a)

Soln.



Therefore; $n^2 \le n^3$ for $N \ge 10000$ $g_1(n) = O(g_2(n))$ Correct option is (a).



5.	Which of the following is false?			
	(a) 100n log n = O $\left(\frac{n \log n}{100}\right)$	(b) $\sqrt{\log n} = O(\log \log n)$		
	(c) If $0 < x < y$ then $n^x = O(n^y)$	(d) $2n \neq O(nk)$		
Ans	(\mathbf{b}, \mathbf{d})		[GATE-1996 : 1 Mark]	
Soln.	(a) We know that $f(n) = O(g(n))$ i.e., $f(n) \le k.g(n)$ for k, some positive integers and $n > n_0$			
	$100 \text{ n} \log n \le 10000 \times \frac{n \log n}{100}$			
	for $k = 10000$			
	$\therefore 100 \text{ n} \log \text{n} = \text{O}\left(\frac{\text{n} \log \text{n}}{100}\right)$			
	(b) $\sqrt{\log n} \le 1 * \log \log n$			
	$\therefore \sqrt{\log n} \neq O(\log \log n)$			
	(c) $n^x \le n^y$ as $0 < x < y$			
	$\therefore n^{x} = O(n^{y})$			
	(d) $2n \le kn$ for $k \ge 2$			
	$\therefore 2n = O(nk)$			
6.	The concatenation of two lists is to be performed in $O(1)$ time. Which of the following implementations of a list should be used?			
	(a) singly linked list	(b) doubly linked list		
	(c) circular doubly linked list	(d) array implementation of list	[CATE_1007 • 1 Mark]	
Ans.	(c) LAREER	ENDEAVOUR		
Soln.	As list concatenation requires traversing at least one list to the end. So singly linked list and doubly linked requires $O(n)$ time complexity whereas circular doubly linked list required $O(1)$ time.			
7.	Let $f(n) = n^2 \log n$ and $g(n) = n(\log n)^{10}$ be two correct 2	o positive functions of n. Which of	f the following statements is	
	(a) $f(n) = O(g(n))$ and $g(n) \neq O(f(n))$ (c) $f(n) \neq O(g(n))$ and $g(n) \neq O(f(n))$	(b) $g(n) = O(f(n))$ and $f(n) \neq$ (d) $f(n) = O(g(n))$ and $g(n) =$	O(g(n)) $O(f(n))$ [CATE-2001 · 1 Mark]	
Ans.	(b)			
Soln.	$f(n) = n^2 \log n$			
	$g(n) = n \left(\log n \right)^{10}$			
	$n(\log n)^{10} \le n^2 \log n$			
	\therefore g(n) = O(f(n))			
	Whereas $f(n) \neq O(g(n))$ because			
	$f(n) \neq O(g(n))$ because			

 $n^2 \log n \not\leq n \left(\log n\right)^{10}$

10		CAREER ENDEAVOUR	Asymptotic Notation		
8.	In the worst case, the number of comparisons needed to search singly linked list of length n for a given elements				
	(a) $\log_2 n$ (b) $n/2$	(c) $\log_2 n - 1$	(d) n [GATE-2002 : 1 Mark]		
Ans. Soln.	(d)Worst case of searching singly linked list is when given element doesn't present at all in the singly linked list.Using linear search then require "n" comparisons in worst case.				
9.	Consider the following functions $f(n) = 3n^{\sqrt{n}}$ $g(n) = 2^{\sqrt{n} \log_2 n}$ Which of the following is true? (a) $h(n)$ is $O(f(n))$ (b) $h(n)$ is	h(n) = n! O(g(n)) (c) g(n) is not O(f(n))	(d) $f(n)$ is $O(g(n))$		
Ans.	(b)		[GATE-2002 : 2 Marks]		
Soln.	$f(n) = 3n^{\sqrt{n}}, g(n) = 2^{\sqrt{n} \log_2 n}, h(n) = n! = O(n^n)$				
	$\Rightarrow g(n) = n^{\sqrt{n} \log_2 2} [a^{\log b} = b^{\log a}]$				
	$\Rightarrow n^{\sqrt{n}}$				
10.	Consider the following algorithm for searching for a given number x in an insorted array A[1n] having n distinct values: 1. Choose an i uniformly at random from 1n; 2. If A[i] = x then Stop else Goto 1; Assuming that x is present on A, What is the expected number of comparisons made by the algorithm before it terminates? (a) n (b) n 1 (c) 2n (d) n/2				
	(a) II (b) $II - I$	(C) 211	[GATE-2002 : 2 Marks]		
Ans. Soln.	(a) Let expected number of compariso Case-I If A[i] is found in the first Number of comparisons Probability = 1/n. Case-II If A[i] if found in the second Number of comparisons Probability = $\frac{(n-1)}{n} * \frac{1}{n}$ Case-III If A[i] is found in the third Number of comparisons Probability = $\frac{(n-1)}{n} * \frac{1}{n}$ There are actually infinite such case $E = \frac{1}{n} + \frac{n-1}{n} * \frac{1}{n} * 2 + \frac{(n-1)}{n} *$ After multiplying equation (i) with 4	ins be E. Value of E is sum of followin attempt, =1 AREER ENDEAN ond attempt, = 2 d attempt, = 3 $\frac{n-1}{n} * \frac{1}{n}$ es. So, we have following infinite serie $\frac{(n-1)}{n} * \frac{1}{n} * 3 +$ $\frac{(n-1)}{n}$, we get	es for E. (i)		
	$E = \frac{(n-1)}{n} = \frac{n-1}{n} * \frac{1}{n} + \frac{n-1}{n} * \frac{1}{n}$	$\frac{1}{n} * 2 + \dots$	(ii)		



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Subtracting (ii) from (i), we get

 $\frac{E}{n} = \frac{1}{n} + \frac{n-1}{n} * \frac{1}{n} + \frac{n-1}{n} * \frac{n-1}{n} * \frac{1}{n} + \dots$

The expression on right side is a G.P. with infinite elements.

So apply the sum formula
$$\left(\frac{a}{1-r}\right)$$

 $\frac{E}{n} = \left(\frac{1}{n}\right) / \left(\frac{n-(n-1)}{n}\right) = 1$

n (n)/(n)E = n Correct option is (a).

11. The running time of the following algorithm Procedure A(n). If n < = 2 return (1) else return $\left(A\left(\left\lceil \sqrt{n} \right\rceil\right)\right)$; is



Ans. (a)

Soln. Consider each statement separately



I. $f(n) = (n+k)^m$ (Assume k = 1 is constant) so, $f(n) = (1+n)^{m}$ $f(n) = 1 + {}^{m}C_{1}n + {}^{m}C_{2}n^{2} + {}^{m}C_{m}n^{m}$ $f(n) = O(n^m)$ $f(n) = 2^{n+1}$ II.

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

$$f(n) = 2 \cdot 2^{n}$$

$$f(n) = O(2^{n})$$
III.
$$f(n) = 2^{2n+1}$$

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

 $f(n) = 2 \cdot 2^{2n}$ $f(n) = O(2^{2n})$

Therefore I and II are correct.

13. Consider the following C function.

```
float f (float x, int y)
{
    float p, s; int i;
    for (s = 1, p = 1, i = 1; i < y; i++)
    {
         p^* = x/i;
         s + = p;
    }
    return s; }
For large values of y, the return value of the function f best approximates
(a) x^y
                            (b) e<sup>x</sup>
```

(c) $\ln(1+x)$

(d) x^x

```
[GATE-2003 : 1 Mark]
```

Ans. (b)

Soln. The given function f is not recursive, so consider the following iteration method.

1	р	
	$p = p * \frac{x}{i}$	s = s + p
Initialize 1	1	1
1	$\mathbf{p} = \mathbf{x}$	s = 1 + x
2	$\mathbf{p} = \mathbf{x} \cdot \frac{\mathbf{x}}{2}$	$s = 1 + x + \frac{x^2}{2}$
3	$p = \frac{x^2}{2} \cdot \frac{x}{4}$	$s = 1 + x + \frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{x^3}{6}$
4	$p = \frac{x^3}{6} \cdot \frac{x}{4}$	$s = 1 + x + \frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{x^3}{6} + \frac{x^4}{24}$
5	$p = \frac{x^4}{24} \cdot \frac{x}{5}$	$s = 1 + x + \frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{x^3}{6} + \frac{x^4}{24} + \frac{x^5}{120}$

For large value of y assume $y \rightarrow \infty$ then i also tends to infinite it means increment of for loop may tends to infinite. In the given function we choose y as a large integer but not infinite. The return value of the function f is s.



$$s = 1 + x + \frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{x^3}{6} + \frac{x^4}{24} + \frac{x^5}{120} + \dots + \infty$$

$$s = 1 + x + \frac{x^2}{!2} + \frac{x^3}{!3} + \frac{x^4}{!4} + \frac{x^5}{!5} + \dots + \infty$$

$$s = e^x$$

- 14. The tighest lower bound on the number of comparisons, in the worst case, for comparisons-based sorting is of the order of
 - (a) n (b) n^2 (c) $n \log n$ (d) $n \log^2 n$ [GATE-2004:1 Mark]

Ans. (c)

Soln. Any decision tree that sorts n distinct elements has height at least $\log |n|$. So the tighest lower bound on the number of comparison based sorting is $\log |n|$ but from starling's approximation.

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{n} = (\mathbf{n}/e)^n \\ \text{Taking log both sides} \\ \log | \mathbf{n} = \log (\mathbf{n}/e)^n \\ \log | \mathbf{n} = \mathbf{n} \log (\mathbf{n}/e) \\ \log | \mathbf{n} = \mathbf{n} \log \mathbf{n} - \log \mathbf{e} \\ \log | \mathbf{n} = \mathbf{n} (\log \mathbf{n} - \log \mathbf{e}) \\ \log | \mathbf{n} = \mathbf{n} (\log \mathbf{n} - 1.44) \\ \log | \mathbf{n} = \mathbf{n} \log \mathbf{n} - 1.44 \mathbf{n} \\ \text{So } \log | \mathbf{n} = O(\mathbf{n} \log \mathbf{n}) \\ \text{What does the following algorithm approximate? (Assume m > 1, $\varepsilon > 0$).

$$\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{m}; \\ \mathbf{y} = 1; \\ \text{while } (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y} > \varepsilon) \\ \{ \\ \mathbf{x} = (\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y})/2; \\ \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{m}/x; \\ \} \\ \text{print } (\mathbf{x}); \\ (\mathbf{a}) \log \mathbf{m} \qquad (\mathbf{b}) \mathbf{m}^2 \qquad (\mathbf{c}) \mathbf{m}^{1/2} \qquad (\mathbf{d}) \mathbf{m}^{1/3} \\ \mathbf{[GATE-2004: 2 Marks]} \\ \text{. (c)} \\ \text{In the large of the large of the large of the following inversion of the following inversion for the following inversion of the following inversion for the following inversion of the following inversion of the following inversion for the following inversion of the following inversion of the following inversion for the following inversion of the following inversion$$$$

Ans.

15.

Soln. Let x = m = 9. The loop will be terminated when x - y = 0 or x - y < 0. Consider the following iteration for x = m = 9, y = 1

 $\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y} > \mathbf{0}$ \Rightarrow x = (x + y)/2, y = m/x 9 - 1 = 8x = 5.0, y = 9/5.0 = 1.85.0 - 1.8 = 3.2x = 3.4, y = 9/3.4 = 2.63.4 - 2.6 = .80x = 3.0, y = 9/3.0 = 3.0x - y = 3.0 - 3.0 = 0, loop terminated So, m = 9 then x = 3 $\mathbf{x} = (\mathbf{m})^{1/2} = (\mathbf{9})^{1/2} \Longrightarrow \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{3}$ So the algorithm computes $x = m^{1/2}$.

(14)

Asymptotic Notation



2. if (n = = 1) return (1);

3. else

```
4. return (recursive (n-1) + recursive (n-1));
```

5. }

```
Let recursive(n) = T(n)
```



According to line 4 the recursion equation is T(n) = T(n-1) + T(n-1), n > 1. So the complete recursion equations is

T(n) = 1, n = 1T(n) = T(n-1) + T(n-1), n > 1or T(n) = 2T(n-1), n > 1 $T(1) = 1 = 2^{\circ}$ $T(2) = 2T(1) 2 \cdot 1 = 2^{1}$ $T(3) = 2T(2) = 2.2 = 2^{2}$ $T(4) = 2T(3) = 2 \cdot 2^2 = 2^3$ $T(n) = 2^{n-1}$ or $T(n) = 2^n \cdot 1/2$ So, $T(n) = O(2^n)$ 18. The recurrence equation T(1) = 1 $T(n) = 2T(n-1) + n, n \ge 2$ evaluates to (a) $2^{n+1} - n - 2$ (c) $2^{n+1} - 2n - 2$ (b) $2^n - n$ (d) $2^{n} + n$ [GATE-2004 : 2 Marks] Ans. (a) Soln. T(1) = 1 $T(n) = 2T(n-1) + n \quad n \ge 2$ T(2) = 2T(1) + 2 = 2.1 + 2 = 4T(3) = 2T(2) + 3 = 2.4 + 3 = 11T(4) = 2T(3) + 4 = 2.11 + 4 = 26 $T(n-1) = 2T(n-2) + n = 2^{n} - (n-1) - 2$ So $T(n) = 2^{n+1} - n - 2$ 19. Let f(n), g(n) and h(n) be functions defined for positive integers such that $f(n) = O(g(n), g(n)) \neq O(f(n))$, $g(n) = O(g(n), g(n)) \neq O(f(n))$. O(h(n)), and h(n) = O(g(n)). Which one of the following statements is FALSE? (a) f(n) + g(n) = O(h(n)) + h(n)(b) f(n) = O(h(n))(c) $h(n) \neq O(f(n))$ (d) $f(n)h(n) \neq O(g(n)h(n))$ [GATE-2004 : 2 Marks] Ans. (d) We can verify as: $f \le f$ BUT $g \ne f$. Therefore, f < g, Also g = h as g = O(h) and h = O(g). Therefore f < g. Soln. and g = h(a) f(n) + g(n) = O(h(n)) + h(n)) is true. (b) f(n) = O(h(n)) is true. \Rightarrow f + g = f + h < h + h \Rightarrow f < h (c) $h(n) \neq O(f(n))$ is true. (d) $f(n)h(n) \neq O(g(n)h(n))$ is false. \Rightarrow h \neq f is correct. \Rightarrow f · h < g · h implies fh = O(gh) 20. The time complexity of computing the transitive closure of a binary relation on a set of n elements is known to be (a) O(n) (b) $O(n \log n)$ (c) $O(n^{3/2})$ (d) $O(n^3)$ [GATE-2005 : 1 Mark]