

**Exercise 1.** What is the complexity of the following two code snippets (expressed with Big-O)?

```
if (condition) {
    int a = 5;
} else {
    int b = 10;
}
```

**Solution:** The if-statement is just a declaration of either  $a=5$  or  $b=10$  as it requires only finite number of iterations. so it has complexity  $O(1)$ .

**Exercise 2.**

```
for (i = 0; i < N; i++) {
    for(j = 0; j < N; j++) {
        sequence of statements of  $O(1)$ 
    }
}
```

**Solution:** Each statement inside the inner loop requires a finite number of iterations, let denote these iterations  $c$ . Since we perform these statements  $for\ j = 0, 1, \dots, N-1$ , the statements are performed  $N$  times. The outer loop  $for\ (i = 0; i < N; i++)$  also performs  $N$  times, so the total number of operations is  $T(n) = N \cdot cN = cN^2$  so the complexity is  $O(N^2)$ .

**Exercise 3:** What is the complexity?

```
for (i = 0; i < N; i++) {
    for(j = i; j < N; j++) {
        sequence of statements of  $O(1)$ 
    }
}
```

**Solution:** Focus on the inner loop first.

$i = 0$  then we would perform  $N$  operations

$i = 1$  then we would perform  $N - 1$  operations

...

$i = N - 1$  then we would perform 1 operation.

$i = N$  then it would be zero operations.

Thus, the total number of iterations is

$$1 + 2 + \dots + (N - 1) + N = \frac{(N + 1)N}{2} = \frac{N^2 + N}{2} \text{ and this is } O(N^2)$$

**Exercise 3:** Calculate the complexity of the factorial function below.

The Factorial is define as  $x! = x(x - 1) \cdot \dots \cdot 1$  for all natural numbers  $x$ ,  $\{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$  where

$$0! = 1$$

$$1! = 1$$

and

$$2! = 2 \cdot 1! = 2 \cdot 1$$

$$3! = 3 \cdot 2! = 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1$$

Now cosider the code that computes  $n!$

```
int factorial(int n){
    if (n == 0){
        return 1;
    }
    else{
        return n*factorial(n - 1)
    }
}
```

**Solution:**

Let  $T(n)$  be the time complexity of factorial above. The comparison if  $n==0$  cost one unit and in the else statement, the multiplication with cost  $n$  cost 1 operation and calling the  $factorial(n - 1)$  is 1 operation. In turn, calling  $factorial(n - 1)$

costs  $T(n-1)$ .

So we get recursive formula

$$T(n) = T(n-1) + 3.$$

Futhermore if we replace  $T(n-1)$  with  $T(n-2) + 3$  and so on, then we end up with

$$T(n) = T(n-1) + 3$$

$$T(n-1) = T([n-1]-1) + 3$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= T(n-1-1) + 3 + 3 \\ &= T(n-2) + 3 + 3 \\ &= T(n-3) + 3 + 3 + 3 \end{aligned}$$

.

.

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$$T(k) = T(n-k) + 3k$$

If  $k = n$  we get

$$T(n) = T(0) + 3n$$

$$T(n) = 1 + 3n$$

and  $T(n) = 1 + 3n$  is  $O(n)$ .

**Exercise 4:** One of the two software packages A or B should be choosen to process data collections, containing each up to  $10^9$  records. Average processing time of the package A is  $T_A(n) = 0.001n$  milliseconds and the average processing time of the package B is  $T_B(n) = 500\sqrt{n}$  miliseconds. Which algorithm has better performance in a "Big-O sense"? Work out exact conditions when these packages outperform each other.

**Solution:** In "Big-O sense"  $T_A(n)$  is  $O(n)$  and  $T_B(n)$  is  $O(\sqrt{n})$  so B is better than A. Otherwise we have that B outperforms A when  $T_A \geq T_B$  and

$$\begin{aligned}
0.001n &\geq 500\sqrt{n} \\
\Rightarrow n &\geq 500\sqrt{n}/0.001 \\
\Rightarrow n &\geq 5 \cdot 10^5 \sqrt{n} \\
\Rightarrow n/\sqrt{n} &\geq 5 \cdot 10^5 \\
\Rightarrow \sqrt{n} &\geq 5 \cdot 10^5 \\
\Rightarrow (\sqrt{n})^2 &\geq 25 \cdot 10^{10} \\
\Rightarrow n &\geq 25 \cdot 10^{10}
\end{aligned}$$

So B is only better when  $n \geq 25 \cdot 10^{10}$  but  $10^9 < 25 \cdot 10^{10}$  so for processing up to  $10^9$  data items, software package A is the better choice.

**Exercise 5:** Assume that the method `randomValue` requires a constant number of  $c$  computational steps to produce each output value, and that the method `goodSort` takes

$n \log n$  computational steps to sort the array. Determine the Big-Oh complexity for the following fragments of code taking into account only the above computational steps:

```

for (i = 0; i < n; i++) {
    for (j = 0; j < n; j++)
        a[j] = randomValue(i);
    goodSort(a);
}

```

**Solution:** For the inner loop we compute the `randomValue`  $n$  times so the number of iterations for the inner loop is  $n \cdot c$ . Then after the inner loop is done, `goodSort` is used and requires  $n \log n$  operations. So to compute the inner loop and then run `goodSort` it takes a total of  $cn + n \log n$  operations. Since the inner loop and `goodSort` is performed  $n$  times we get the total complexity  $n(cn + n \log n) = cn^2 + n^2 \log n$ . Because  $n^2 \log n$  is the dominant term we have that the complexity of this code is  $O(n^2 \log n)$ .

**Exercise 6:** You have programs A, B, C that have complexities of  $O(\log n)$ ,  $O(\sqrt{n})$ , and

$O(n^3)$  respectively. Each algorithm spends 15 seconds to process 200 data items. What would the time be for each algorithm spend to process 30000 items

**Solution:** We can assume, where  $C, D, E$  are real constants. Because we have the complexities above we can do the following approximations:

$$T_A = C \log n$$

$$T_B = D\sqrt{n}$$

$$T_C = En^3$$

Find  $C, D, E$

$$T(200) = C \log 200 = 15$$

$$\Rightarrow C = 15 / \log 200 = 1.96$$

$$T(200) = D\sqrt{200} = 15$$

$$\Rightarrow D = 15 / \sqrt{200} = 1.06$$

$$T(200) = E \cdot 200^3 = 15$$

$$\Rightarrow E = 15 / 200^3 = 1.9 \cdot 10^{-6}$$

Now calculate  $T_A(30000)$ ,  $T_B(30000)$ ,  $T_C(30000)$

$$T_A(30000) = 1.96 \cdot \log 30000 = 8.78$$

$$T_B(30000) = 1.06 \cdot \sqrt{30000} = 183.60$$

$$T_C(30000) = 1.9 \cdot 10^{-6} \cdot 30000^3 = 51300000$$

thus, it takes 8.78 seconds for algorithm  $A$ , 183.60 seconds for algorithm  $B$  and 51300000 seconds for algorithm  $C$  to process 30000 items.

