

Algorithm Efficiency & Runtime

how do we measure runtime?
not in seconds! we count # of
executions of some basic operation.
(also called Barometer operation)

Ex $A(n)$

for $i = 1$ to n

for $j = 1$ to n

Print('blah') $\leftarrow$ basic op.

(# Print stmts) $= n^2 \leftarrow$ runtime is #
of basic ops. on
input of size n .

Ex. $R(n)$

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for $i = 1$ to n

for $j = 1$ to i

Print('blah') $\leftarrow$ basic op.

$$\begin{aligned} (\text{# print stmts}) &= 1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + n \\ &= \frac{n(n+1)}{2} = \frac{1}{2}n^2 + \frac{1}{2}n \end{aligned}$$

note:

(1) the lower order term $\frac{1}{2}n$ in $R(n)$ is negligible for large values of n .

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{\frac{1}{2}n^2 + \frac{1}{2}n}{n^2} \right) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2n} \right) = \frac{1}{2}$$

$\downarrow$
 0

Thus we might as well consider $\frac{1}{2}n^2 + \frac{1}{2}n$ to be $\frac{1}{2}n^2$, i.e. ignore lower order term.

(2) now compare $A: n^2$ to $B: \frac{1}{2}n^2$

we seek a measure of runtime that is independent of computing device. Since $A \leq B$ can be equalized by running A on a machine that's 2x faster, we don't distinguish between A and B .

Measure of runtime is called:

Asymptotic runtime.

Procedure

- define basic operation(s)
- determine # of basic OPS executed on input of size n , getting a function $f(n)$.
- determine asymptotic growth rate of $f(n)$

Informal:

- (1) drop lower order terms
- (2) replace coeff. of highest order term by 1.

Asymptotic growth of functions

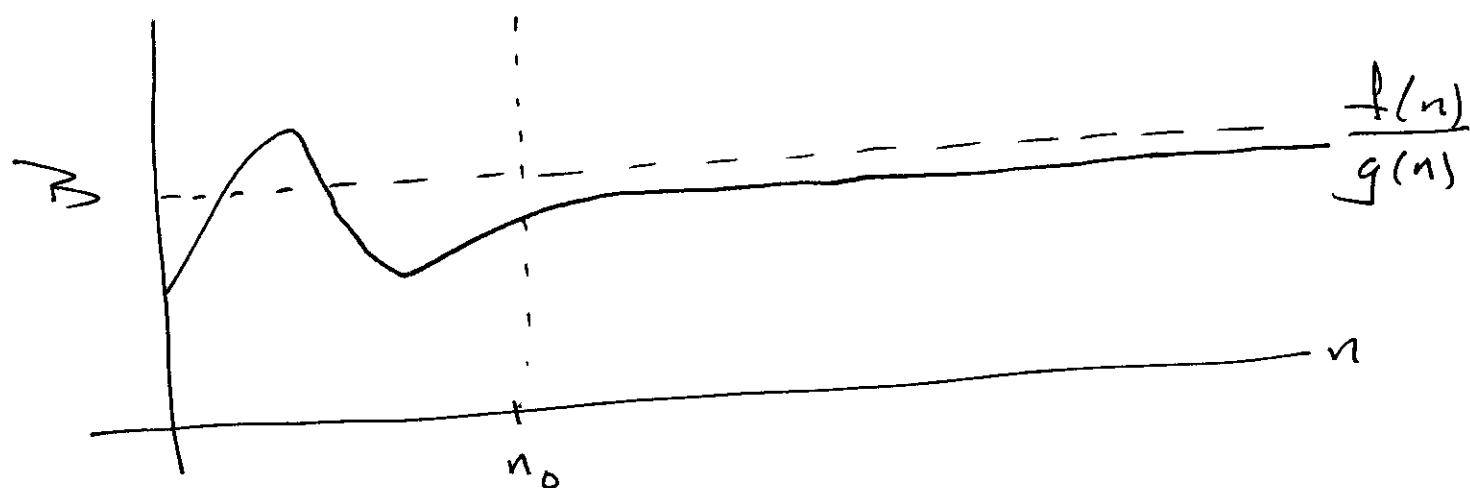
Defn $f(n) = O(g(n))$ iff

$$0 < \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} \leq R \leftarrow \text{some upper bound}$$

for all suff. large n . [i.e.

There exists $R > 0$ and there exists $n_0 > 0$ such that for all

$$n \geq n_0 : 0 < \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} \leq R .]$$



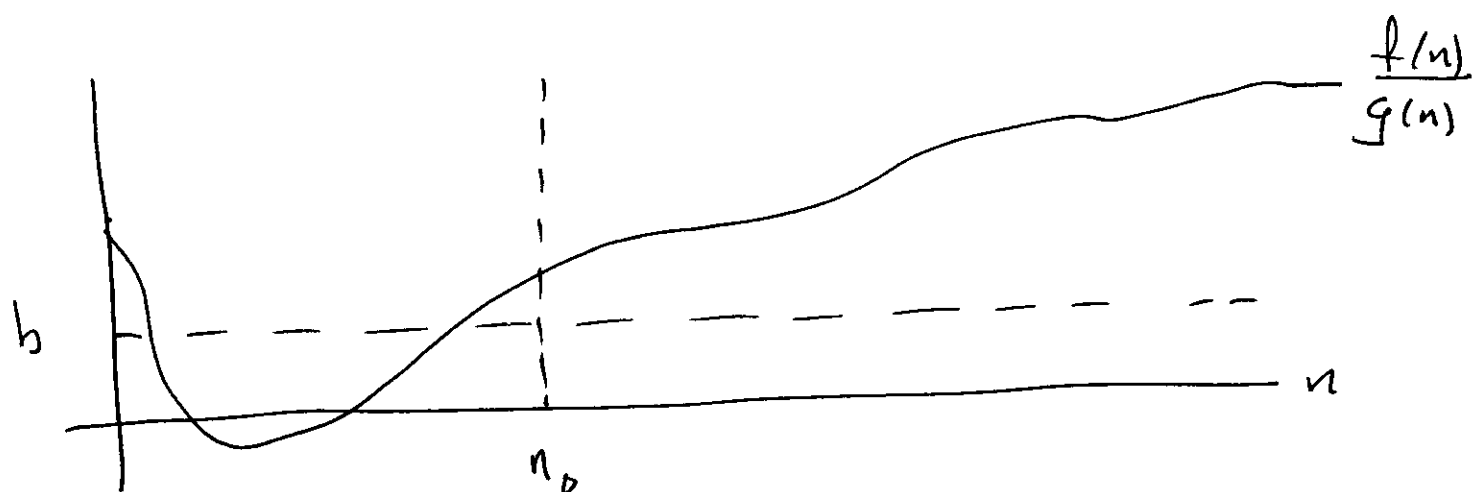
Say: $g(n)$ is asymp. u.b. for $f(n)$

Defn $f(n) = \Omega(g(n))$ iff

$$0 < b \leq \frac{f(n)}{g(n)}$$

some lower bound.

for all suff. large n .

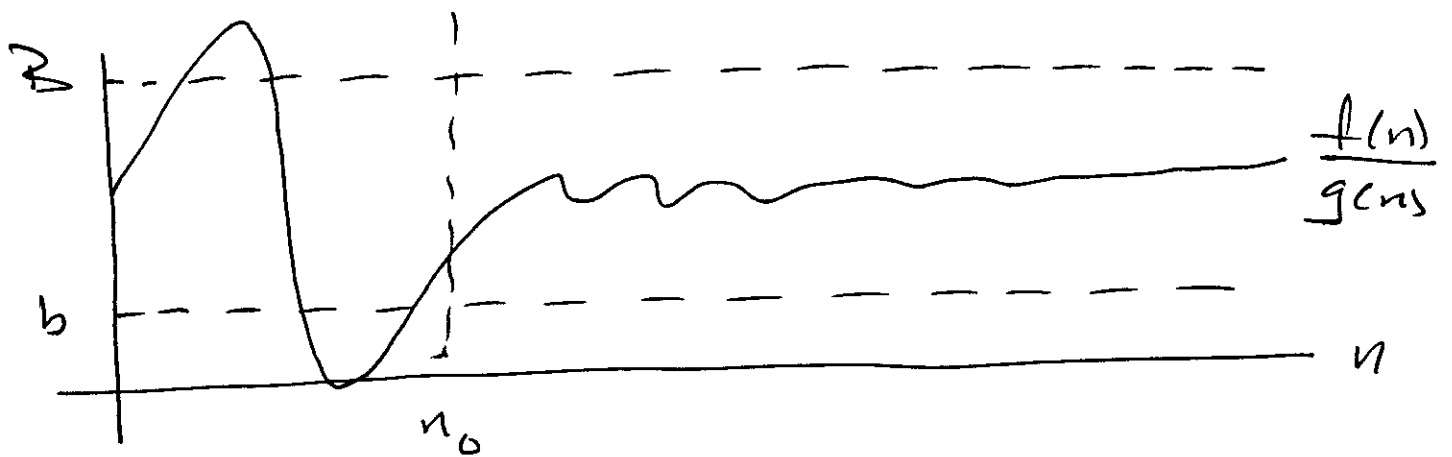


we say: $g(n)$ is an asym. l.b. for $f(n)$

Defn $f(n) = O(g(n))$ iff

$$0 < b \leq \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} \leq R$$

for all suff. large n .



we say: $g(n)$ is a tight asymp. bound
for $f(n)$

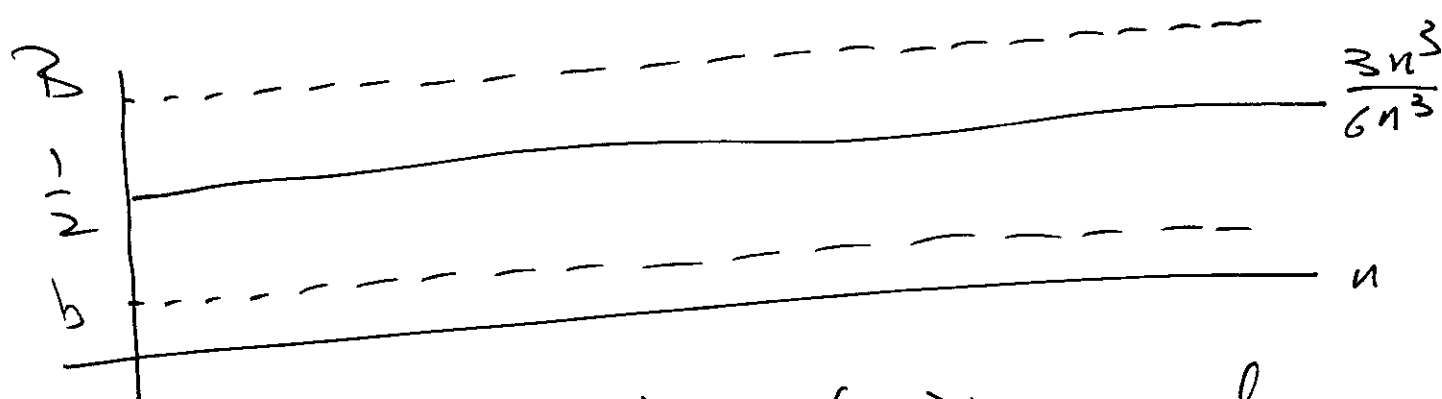
Ex. $n^3 = O(n^4)$. why?

$$\frac{n^3}{n^4} = \frac{1}{n} \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty$$



Ex. $3n^3 = \Theta(6n^3)$

$$\frac{3n^3}{6n^3} = \frac{1}{2} \rightarrow \frac{1}{2} \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty$$

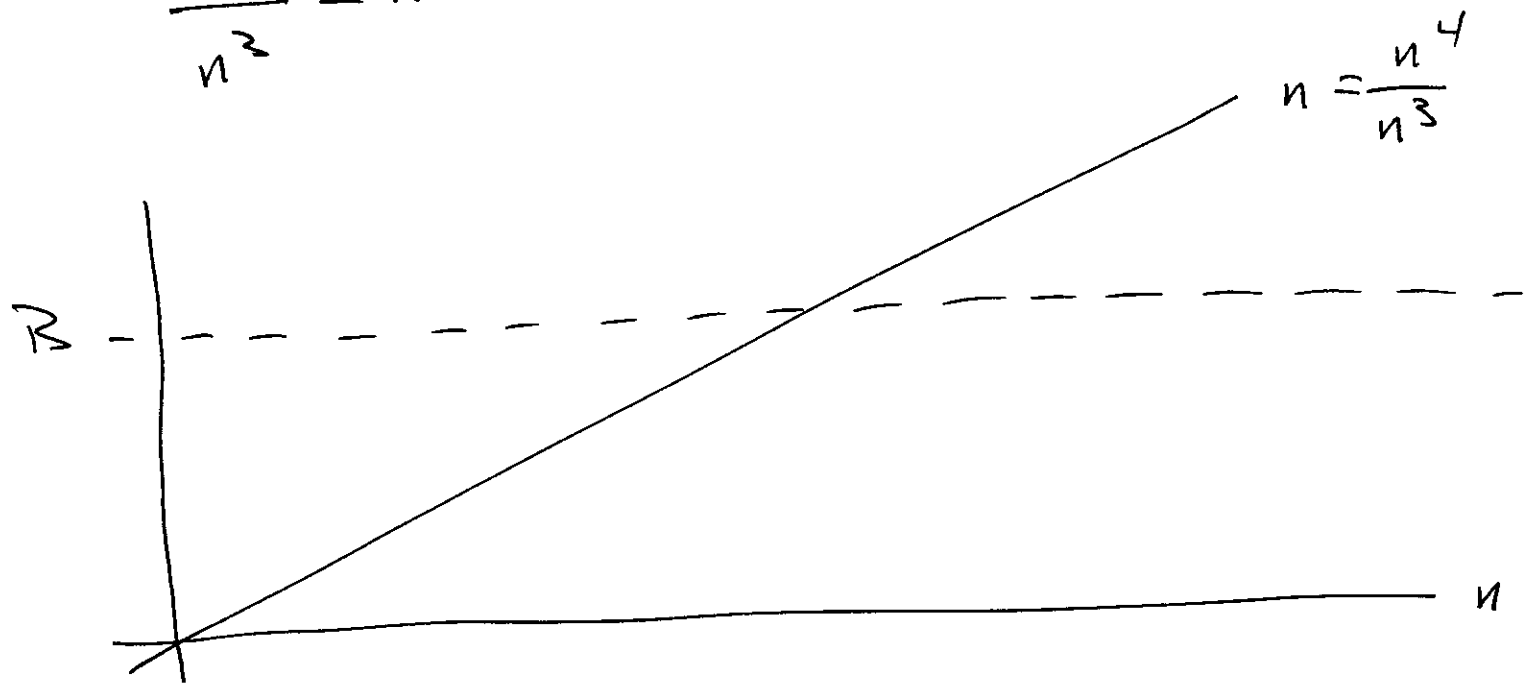


also have: $3n^3 = O(6n^3)$, and
 $3n^3 = \Omega(6n^3)$

Ex. $n^4 \neq O(n^3)$

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$$\frac{n^4}{n^3} = n \rightarrow \infty \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty$$

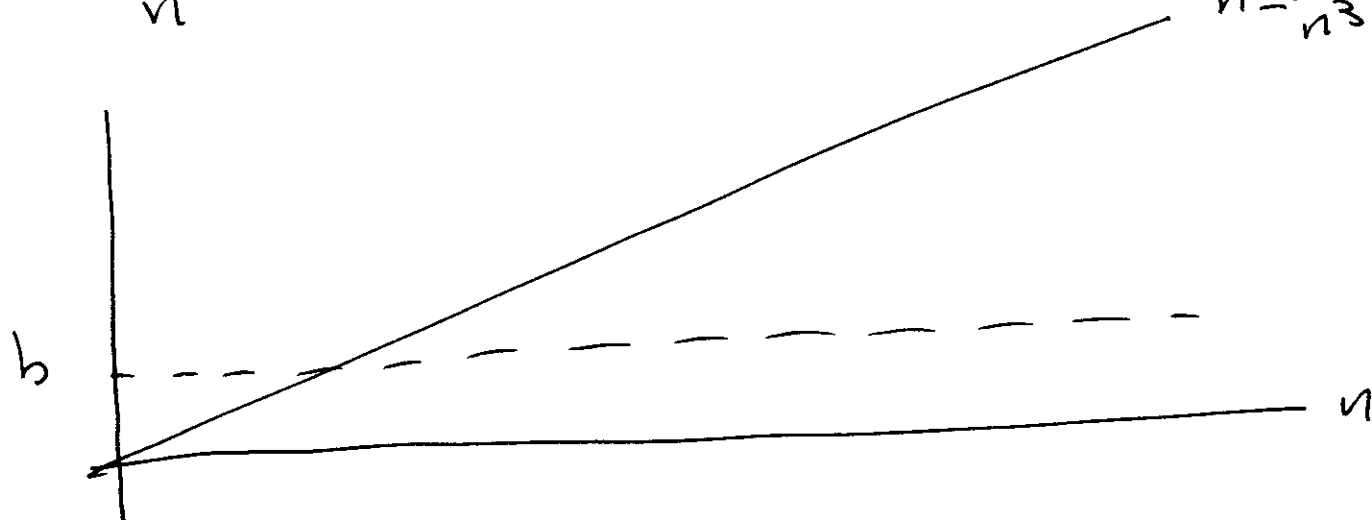


start. $0 < \frac{n^4}{n^3} \leq R$ is false

for every $R > 0$, and suff. large n .

Ex. $n^4 = \Omega(n^3)$

$$\frac{n^4}{n^3} = n \rightarrow \infty \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty$$



Thm

- $f(n) = O(g(n))$ iff $g(n) = \Omega(f(n))$
- $f(n) = \Theta(g(n))$ iff both

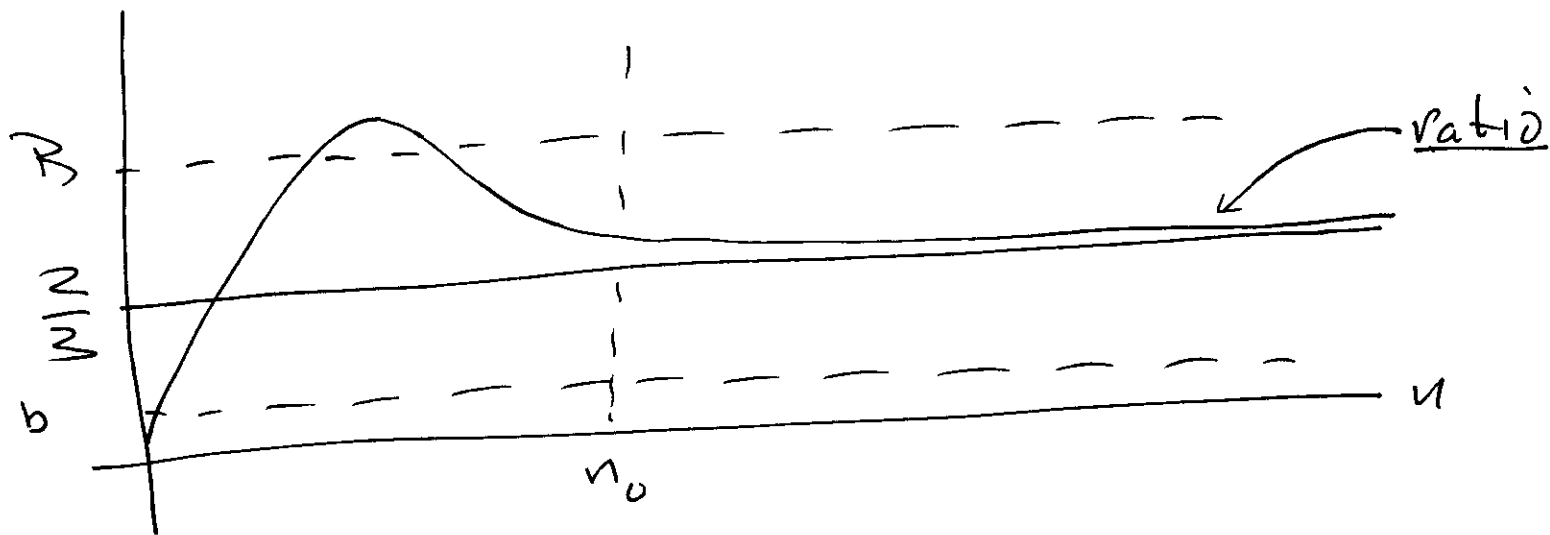
$$f(n) = O(g(n))$$

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

Ex. $2n^2 + 5n - 1 = \Theta(3n^2 - 6n + 4)$

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$$\frac{2n^2 + 5n - 1}{3n^2 - 6n + 4} = \frac{2 + \frac{5}{n} - \frac{1}{n^2}}{3 - \frac{6}{n} + \frac{4}{n^2}} \rightarrow \frac{2}{3} \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty$$



next time

- analogy
- $O(g(n))$
- $\omega(g(n))$