

# The Complexity of Algorithms (3A)

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# Complexity Analysis

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- to compare algorithms at the idea level ignoring the low level details
- To measure how fast a program is
- To explain how an algorithm behaves as the input grows larger

<https://discrete.gr/complexity/>

# Counting Instructions

- Assigning a value to a variable `x= 100;`
- Accessing a value of a particular array element `A[i]`
- Comparing two values `(x > y)`
- Incrementing a value `i++`
- Basic arithmetic operations `+, -, *, /`
- Branching is not counted `if else`

<https://discrete.gr/complexity/>

# Asymptotic Behavior

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- avoiding tedious instruction counting
- eliminate all the minor details
- focusing how algorithms behaves when treated badly
- drop all the terms that grow slowly
- only keep the ones that grow fast as  $n$  becomes larger

<https://discrete.gr/complexity/>

# Finding the Maximum

```
M = A[0];  
for (i=0; i<n; ++i) {  
    if (A[i] >= M) {  
        M = A[i];  
    }  
}
```

// M is set to the 1<sup>st</sup> element  
  
// if the (i+1)th element is greater than M,  
// M is set to that element (new maximum value)

```
int A[n];    // n element integer array A  
int M;      // the current maximum value found so far  
            // set to the 1st element, initially
```

<https://discrete.gr/complexity/>

# Worst and Best Cases

```
int A[4];
```

i=0	A[0]
i=1	A[1]
i=2	A[2]
i=3	A[3]

Case 1:  
Worst Case

A[0]=1	→ M=1
A[1]=2	→ M=2
A[2]=3	→ M=3
A[3]=4	→ M=4

Case 2:  
Best Case

A[0]=4	→ M=4
A[1]=3	
A[2]=2	
A[3]=1	

```
for (i=0; i<n; ++i) {  
    if (A[i] >= M) {  
        M = A[i];  
    }  
}
```

// always **n** comparisons  
// the updating of M depends on the data  
// minimum **1** update, maximum **n** updates

<https://discrete.gr/complexity/>

# Assignment

```
M = A[0];
```

// 2 instructions

```
for (i=0; i<n; ++i) {  
    if (A[i] >= M) {  
        M = A[i];  
    }  
}
```

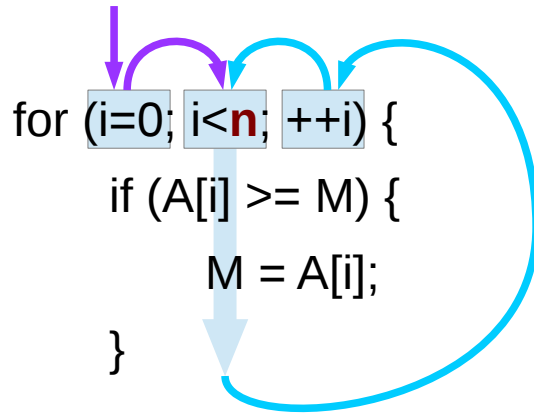
A[0] – 1 instruction

M = – 1 instruction

<https://discrete.gr/complexity/>



# Loop instructions



## Initialization \* 1

<code>i=0</code>	– one instruction
<code>i&lt;n</code>	– one instruction

## Update \* n

<code>++i</code>	– one instruction
<code>i&lt;n</code>	– one instruction

## Loop body \* n

<code>A[i]</code>	– one instruction
<code>&gt;= M</code>	– one instruction

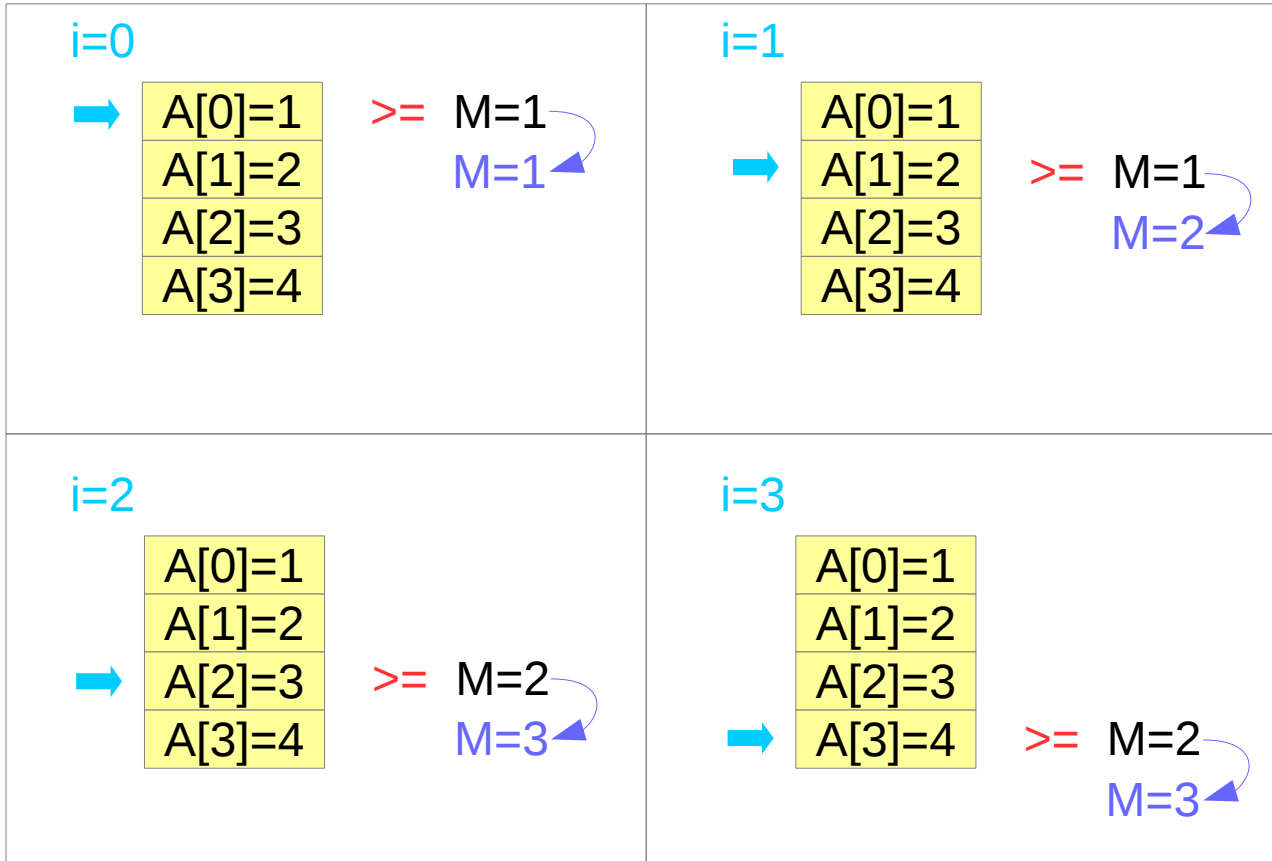
} **n** always

<code>A[i]</code>	– one instruction
<code>M=</code>	– one instruction

} **1 ~ n** depending on the comparison

<https://discrete.gr/complexity/>

# Worst case examples



```
for (i=0; i<n; ++i) {  
    if (A[i] >= M) {  
        M = A[i];  
    }  
}
```

$$2n + 2n = 4n$$

Instructions

$n$  comparisons

$n$  updates

<https://discrete.gr/complexity/>

# Best case examples

<p><math>i=0</math></p> <p>→ <table border="1"><tr><td>A[0]=4</td></tr><tr><td>A[1]=3</td></tr><tr><td>A[2]=2</td></tr><tr><td>A[3]=1</td></tr></table> <math>\geq M=4</math></p> <p><math>M=4</math></p>	A[0]=4	A[1]=3	A[2]=2	A[3]=1	<p><math>i=1</math></p> <p>→ <table border="1"><tr><td>A[0]=4</td></tr><tr><td>A[1]=3</td></tr><tr><td>A[2]=2</td></tr><tr><td>A[3]=1</td></tr></table> <math>&lt; M=4</math></p>	A[0]=4	A[1]=3	A[2]=2	A[3]=1
A[0]=4									
A[1]=3									
A[2]=2									
A[3]=1									
A[0]=4									
A[1]=3									
A[2]=2									
A[3]=1									
<p><math>i=2</math></p> <p>→ <table border="1"><tr><td>A[0]=4</td></tr><tr><td>A[1]=3</td></tr><tr><td>A[2]=2</td></tr><tr><td>A[3]=1</td></tr></table> <math>&lt; M=4</math></p>	A[0]=4	A[1]=3	A[2]=2	A[3]=1	<p><math>i=3</math></p> <p>→ <table border="1"><tr><td>A[0]=4</td></tr><tr><td>A[1]=3</td></tr><tr><td>A[2]=2</td></tr><tr><td>A[3]=1</td></tr></table> <math>&lt; M=4</math></p>	A[0]=4	A[1]=3	A[2]=2	A[3]=1
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A[1]=3									
A[2]=2									
A[3]=1									
A[0]=4									
A[1]=3									
A[2]=2									
A[3]=1									

```
for (i=0; i<n; ++i) {  
    if (A[i] >= M) {  
        M = A[i];  
    }  
}
```

$2n + 2$

Instructions

$n$  comparisons

$1$  update

<https://discrete.gr/complexity/>

# Asymptotic behavior

```
M = A[0]; ----- 2      instructions
for (i=0; i<n; ++i) { ----- 2 + 2n  instructions (init + update)
    if (A[i] >= M) { ----- 2n      instructions
        M = A[i]; ----- 2 ~ 2n    instructions
    }
}
```

$f(n) = \begin{cases} 6n+4 & \text{instructions for the worst case} \\ 4n+6 & \text{instruction for the best case} \end{cases}$

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

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

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

<https://discrete.gr/complexity/>

# O(n) codes

```
// Here c is a positive integer constant
```

```
for (i = 1; i <= n; i += c) {
```

```
    // some O(1) expressions
```

```
}
```

```
for (int i = n; i > 0; i -= c) {
```

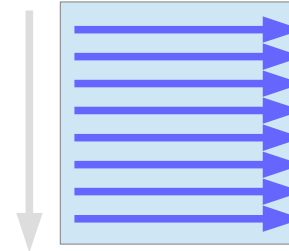
```
    // some O(1) expressions
```

```
}
```

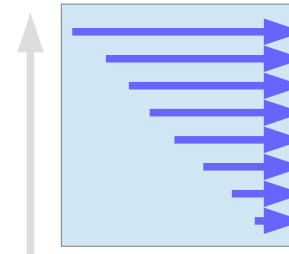
<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/11032015/how-to-find-time-complexity-of-an-algorithm>

# $O(n^2)$ codes

```
for (i = 1; i <= n; i += c) {  
    for (j = 1; j <= n; j += c) {  
        // some O(1) expressions  
    }  
}
```



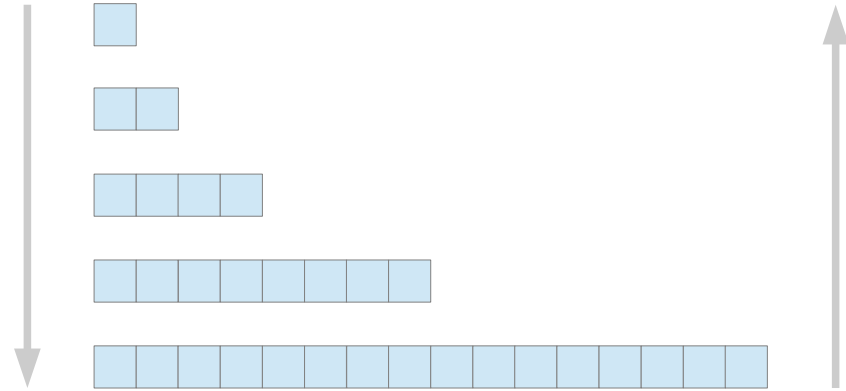
```
for (i = n; i > 0; i -= c) {  
    for (j = i+1; j <= n; j += c) {  
        // some O(1) expressions  
    }  
}
```



<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/11032015/how-to-find-time-complexity-of-an-algorithm>

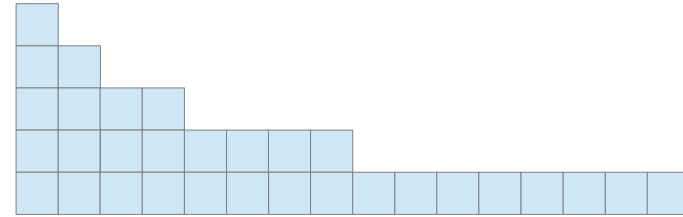
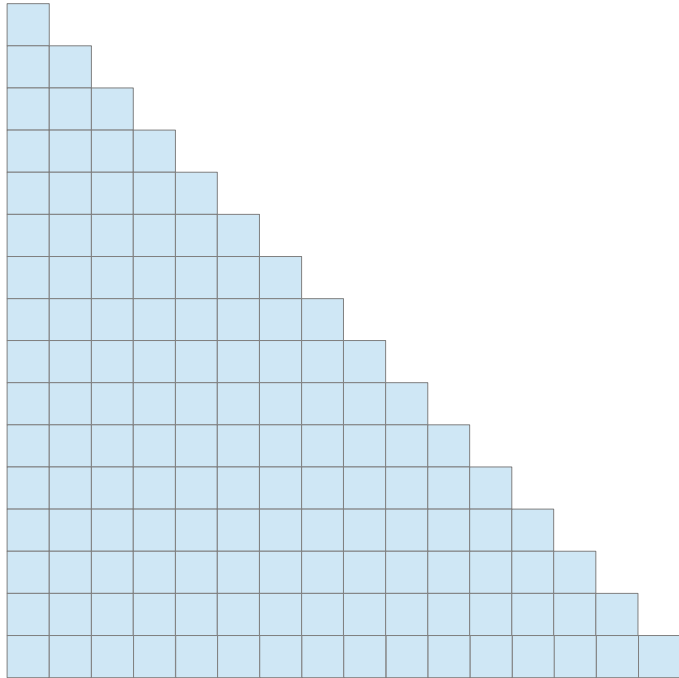
# $O(\log n)$ codes

```
for (int i = 1; i <= n; i *= c) {  
    // some  $O(1)$  expressions  
}  
for (int i = n; i > 0; i /= c) {  
    // some  $O(1)$  expressions  
}
```



<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/11032015/how-to-find-time-complexity-of-an-algorithm>

# $O(n)$ vs. $O(\log n)$



<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/11032015/how-to-find-time-complexity-of-an-algorithm>



# $O(\log n)$ codes

// Here c is a constant greater than 1

```
for (int i = 2; i <= n; i = pow(i, c)) {           //  $i = i^c$             $i = i^2, i = i^3$   
    // some  $O(1)$  expressions  
}
```

// Here fun is sqrt or cuberoot or any other constant root

```
for (int i = n; i > 0; i = fun(i)) {           //  $i = i^{1/c}$   
    // some  $O(1)$  expressions  
}
```

<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/11032015/how-to-find-time-complexity-of-an-algorithm>

# $O(\log \log n)$ codes

// Here c is a constant greater than 1

```
for (int i = 2; i <= n; i = pow(i, c)) {
```

```
    // some  $O(1)$  expressions
```

```
}
```

//  $i = i^c$

$i = i^2$  ( $2, 2^2, 2^4, 2^8, 2^{16}, \dots$ )

// Here fun is sqrt or cuberoot or any other constant root

```
for (int i = n; i > 0; i = fun(i)) {
```

```
    // some  $O(1)$  expressions
```

```
}
```

//  $i = i^{1/c}$

$i = i^{\frac{1}{2}}$  ( $n, n^{\frac{1}{2}}, n^{\frac{1}{4}}, n^{\frac{1}{8}}, n^{\frac{1}{16}}, \dots$ )

<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/11032015/how-to-find-time-complexity-of-an-algorithm>

# $O(\log \log n)$ codes

// Here c is a constant greater than 1

```
for (int i = 2; i <=n; i = pow(i, c)) {
```

```
    // some  $O(1)$  expressions
```

```
}
```

//  $i = i^c$

$i = i^2$  ( $2, 2^2, 2^4, 2^8, 2^{16}, \dots$ )

//Here fun is sqrt or cuberoot or any other constant root

```
for (int i = n; i > 0; i = fun(i)) {
```

```
    // some  $O(1)$  expressions
```

```
}
```

//  $i = i^{(1/c)}$

$i = i^{\frac{1}{2}}$  ( $n, n^{\frac{1}{2}}, n^{\frac{1}{4}}, n^{\frac{1}{8}}, n^{\frac{1}{16}}, \dots$ )

<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/11032015/how-to-find-time-complexity-of-an-algorithm>

# Some Algorithm Complexities and Examples (1)

## **$O(1)$ – Constant Time**

not affected by the input size  $n$ .

## **$O(n)$ – Linear Time**

Proportional to the input size  $n$ .

## **$O(\log n)$ – Logarithmic Time**

recursive subdivisions of a problem

binary search algorithm

## **$O(n \log n)$ – Linearithmic Time**

Recursive subdivisions of a problem and then merge them

merge sort algorithm.

<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/11032015/how-to-find-time-complexity-of-an-algorithm>

# Some Algorithm Complexities and Examples (2)

## **$O(n^2)$ – Quadratic Time**

bubble sort algorithm

## **$O(n^3)$ – Cubic Time**

straight forward matrix multiplication

## **$O(2^n)$ – Exponential Time**

Tower of Hanoi

## **$O(n!)$ – Factorial Time**

Travel Salesman Problem (TSP)

<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/11032015/how-to-find-time-complexity-of-an-algorithm>

## References

- [1] <http://en.wikipedia.org/>
- [2]