

CS11313 - Fall 2021

Design & Analysis *of* Algorithms

The Big-O Notation and Its Relatives

Ibrahim Albluwi

Today's Agenda

- ▶ Running Time Orders of Growth.
- ▶ A formal definition of Big- O
- ▶ Big- O Relatives

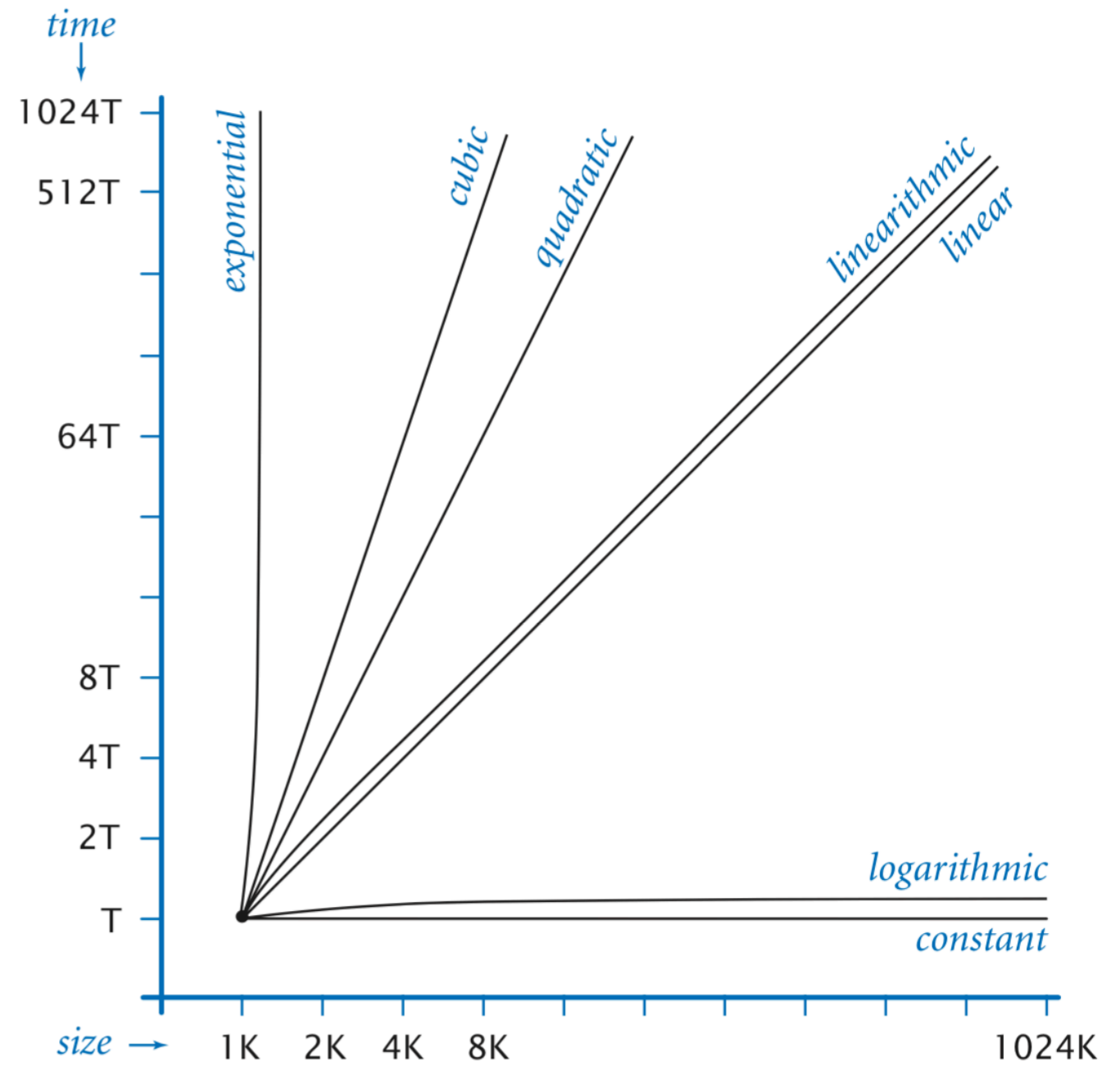
Orders of Growth (Review)

- ▶ **Order of Growth** of the running time: How quickly the running time of an algorithm grows as the input size grows.
Examples: $\log n$, n , n^2 , n^3 , 2^n , etc.

Examples of Growth Rates (Review)

graph by Kevin Wayne and Robert Sedgwick

	order of growth	
	name	function
	constant	1
good	logarithmic	$\log(n)$
		\sqrt{n}
fine	linear	n
	linearithmic	$n \log(n)$
		$n\sqrt{n}$
bad	quadratic	n^2
	cubic	n^3
horrible	exponential	2^n
	exponential	3^n
	factorial	$n!$



! constant < logarithmic < polynomial < exponential < factorial < n^n

$\log_b(n)$ n^c ($c > 0$) c^n ($c > 1$)

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 - **Rationale:**
 - Quadratic growth is not the same as, linear or cubic growth, etc.
 - Algorithms have different constants when implemented, based on hardware, software and implementation factors.

Quiz # 1

Assume $T(n)$ is the order of growth of the running time of **Bubble Sort** as a function of the input size n . Which of the following is *true* about $T(n)$?

- A. $T(n) = O(n^2)$
- B. $T(n) = O(n^3)$
- C. $T(n) = O(n^4)$
- D. All of the above.
- E. None of the above.

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What is

Big-O anyway?



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Big O notation

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Big O notation is a mathematical notation that describes the **limiting behavior** of a **function** when the **argument** tends towards a particular value or infinity. Big O is a member of a **family of notations** invented by **Paul Bachmann**,^[1] **Edmund Landau**,^[2] and others, collectively called **Bachmann–Landau notation** or **asymptotic notation**.

In **computer science**, big O notation is used to **classify algorithms** according to how their run time or space requirements grow as the input size grows.^[3] In **analytic number theory**, big O notation is often used to

$O(), \sim$

Fit approximation

Concepts

- [Orders of approximation](#)
- [Scale analysis](#) · [Big O notation](#)
- [Curve fitting](#) · [False precision](#)
- [Significant figures](#)

Other fundamentals

- [Approximation](#) · [Generalization error](#)
- [Taylor polynomial](#)
- [Scientific modelling](#)

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Big-O

Definition. Let $f(n)$ and $g(n)$ be two functions that are always positive, $f(n)$ is said to be $O(g)$ if and only if :

There are two constants c and n_0 , such that
 $0 \leq f(n) \leq c \cdot g(n)$ for all $n \geq n_0$

Big-O

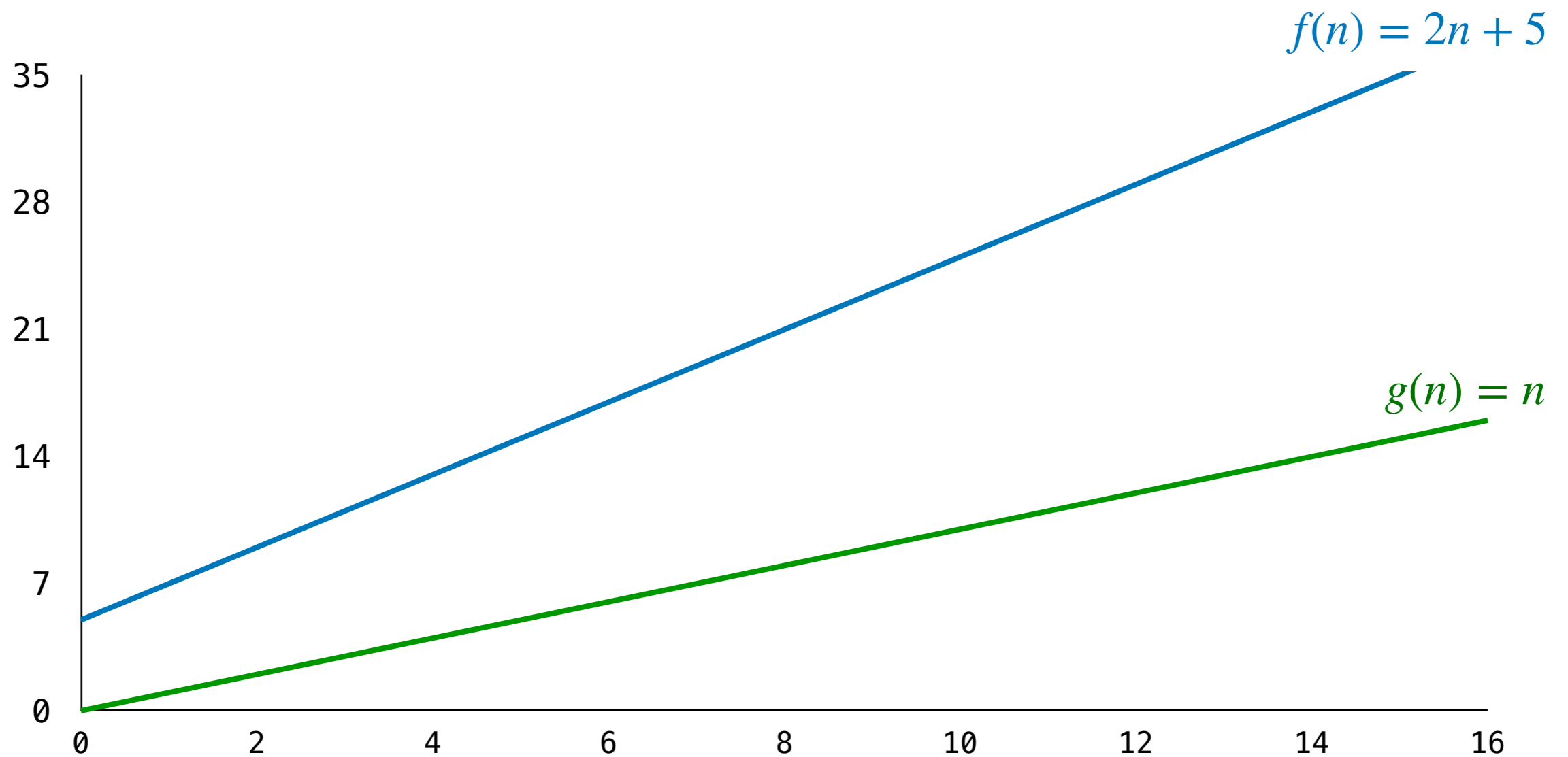
Definition. Let $f(n)$ and $g(n)$ be two functions that are always positive, $f(n)$ is said to be $O(g)$ if and only if :

There are two constants c and n_0 , such that
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Less formally: If multiplying $g(n)$ by a constant makes it an **upper bound** for $f(n)$ after some point, then f is $O(g)$.

Example # 1

Assume $f(n) = 2n + 5$ and $g(n) = n$.

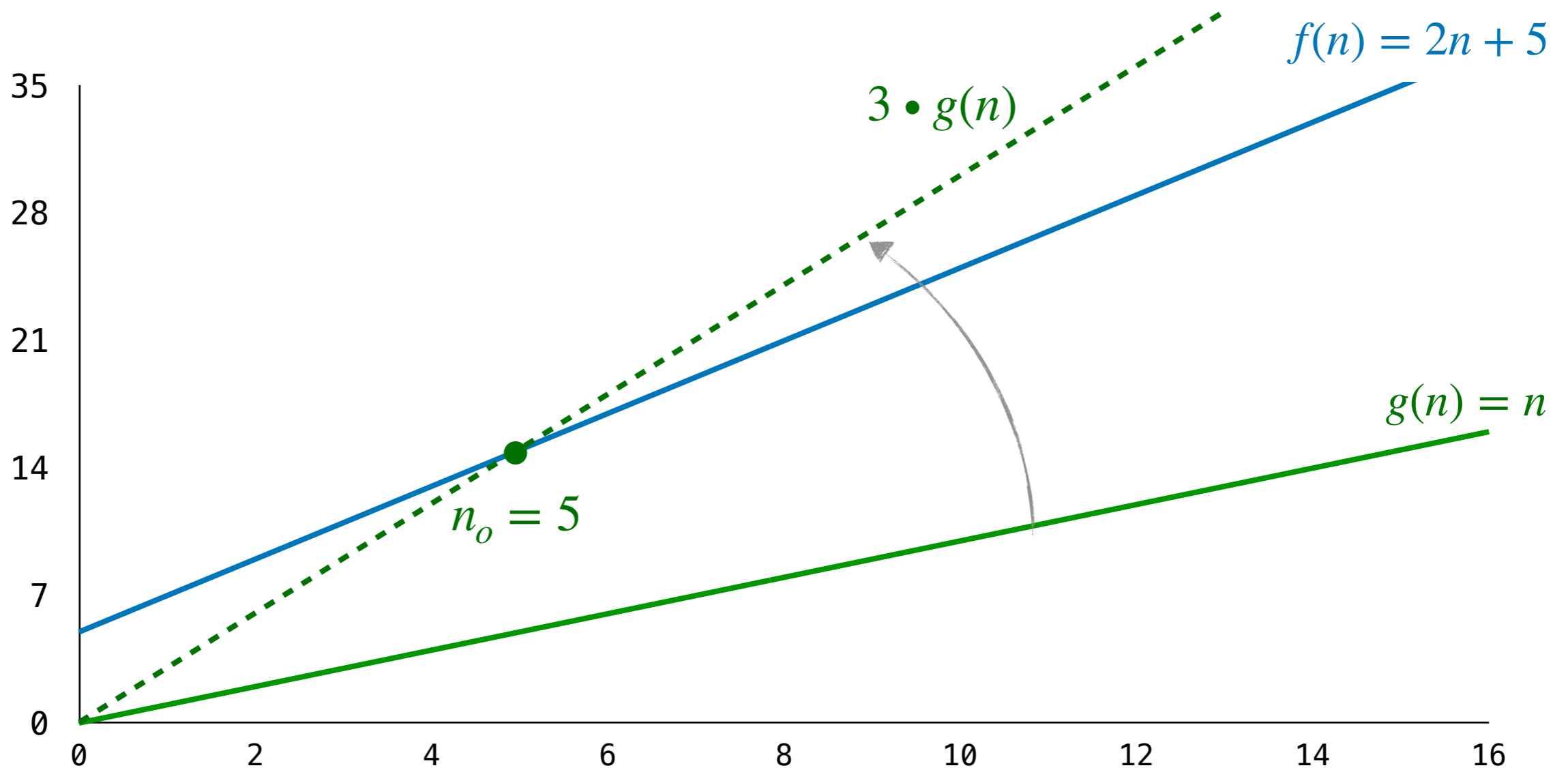


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Assume $f(n) = 2n + 5$ and $g(n) = n$.

f is $O(g)$ because there are c and n_o such that $0 \leq f(n) \leq c \cdot g(n)$ for all $n \geq n_o$:

If $c = 3$, then $0 \leq f(n) \leq 3 \cdot g(n)$ for all $n \geq 5$

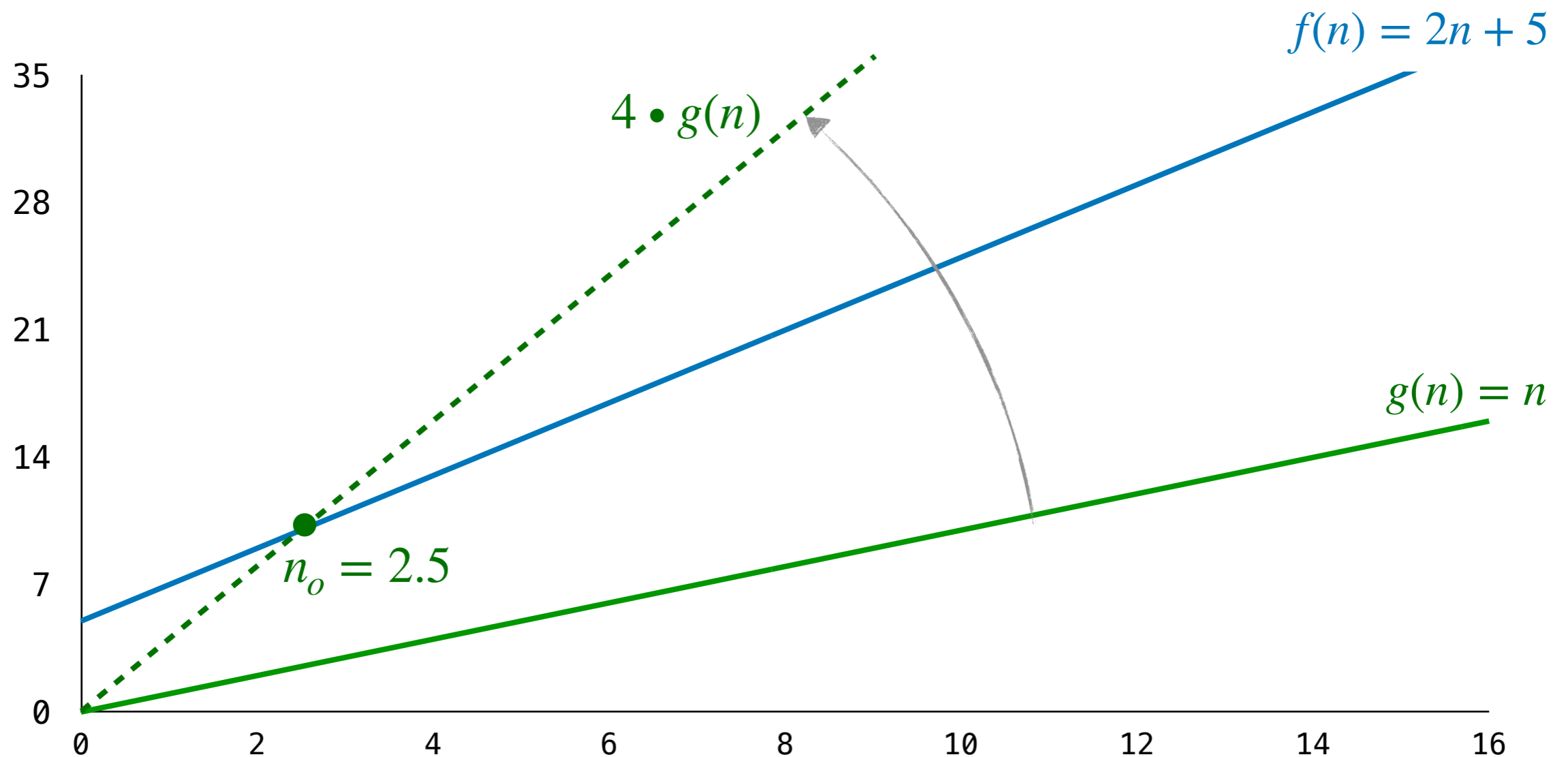


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If $c = 4$, then $0 \leq f(n) \leq 4 \cdot g(n)$ for all $n \geq 2.5$

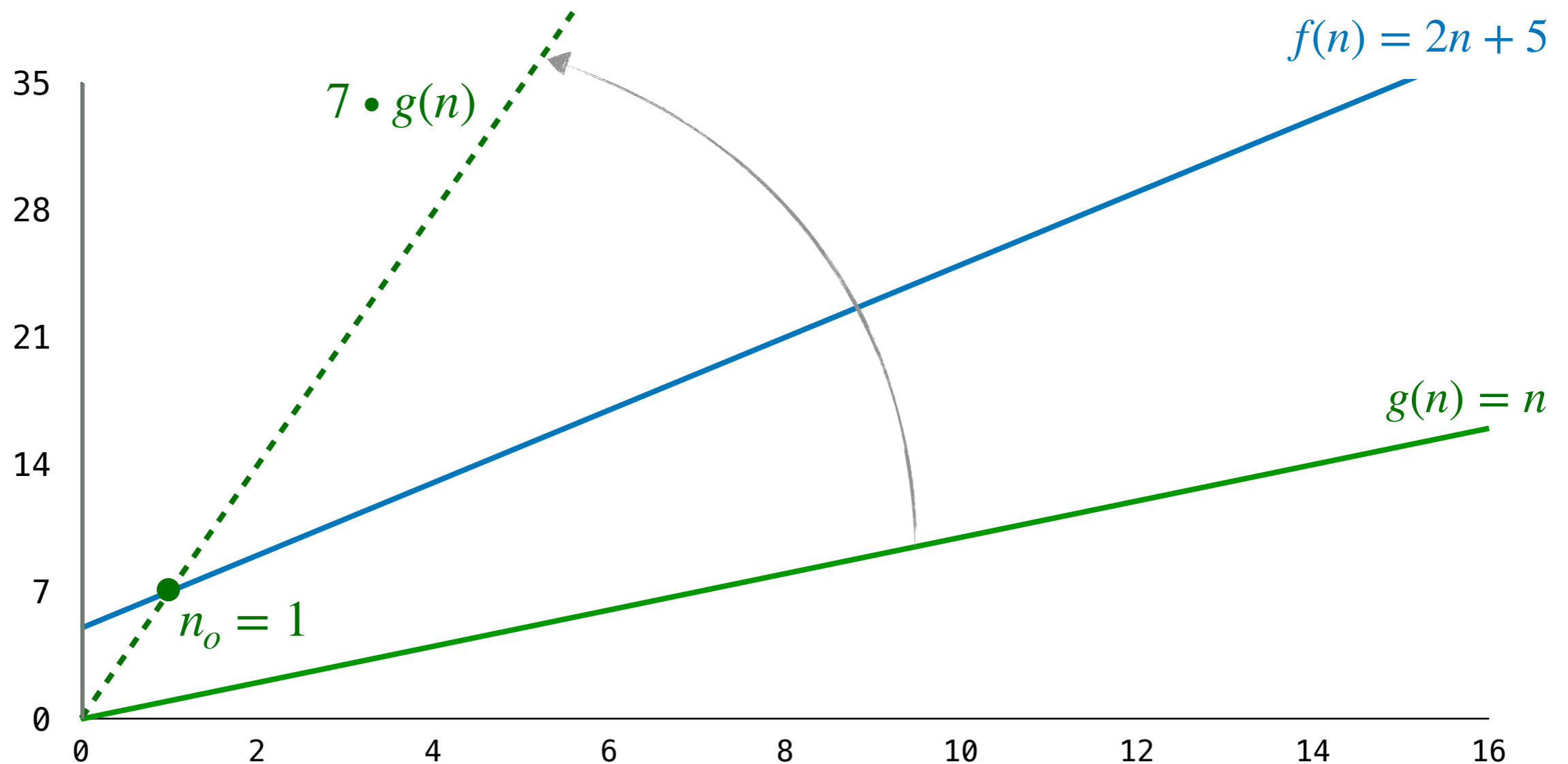


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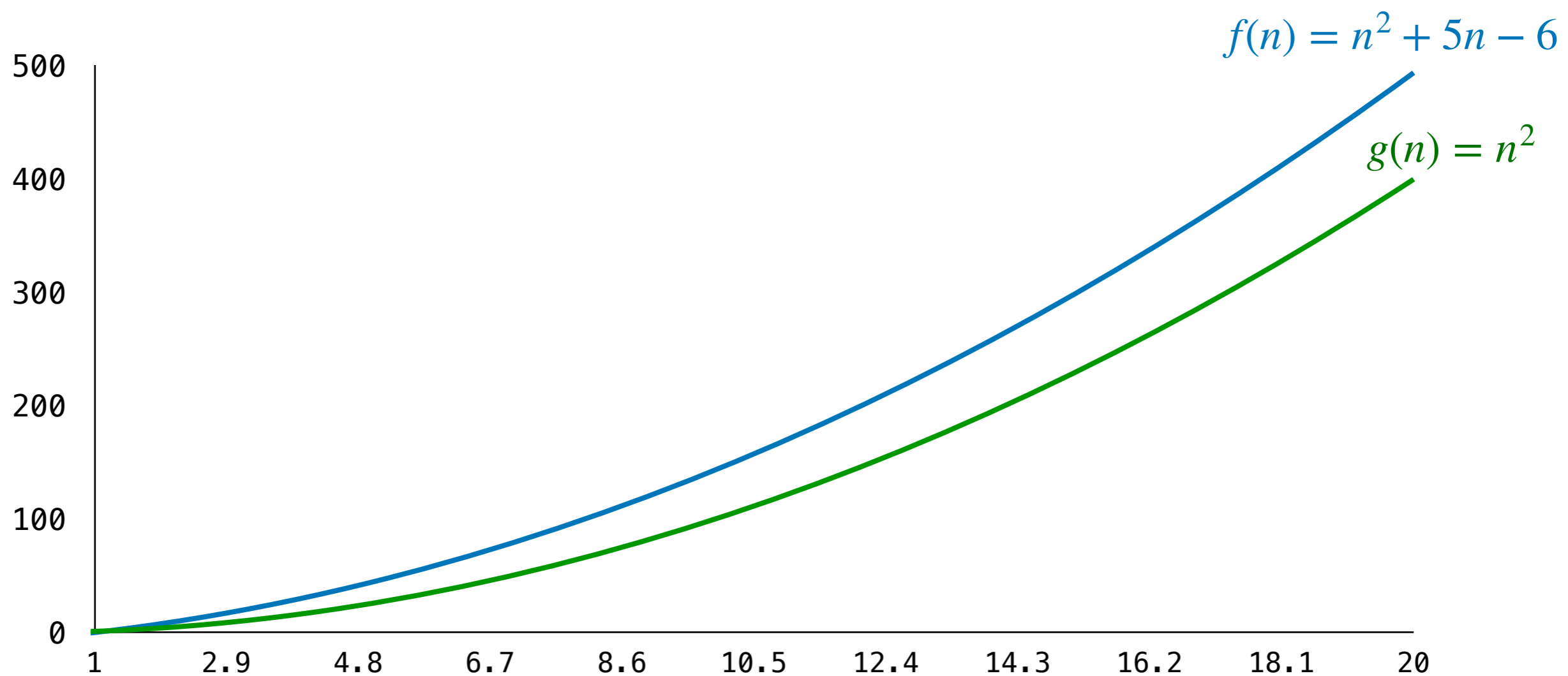
f is $O(g)$ because there are c and n_o such that $0 \leq f(n) \leq c \cdot g(n)$ for all $n \geq n_o$:

If $c = 7$, then $0 \leq f(n) \leq 7 \cdot g(n)$ for all $n \geq 1$



Example # 2

Assume $f(n) = n^2 + 5n - 6$ and $g(n) = n^2$.

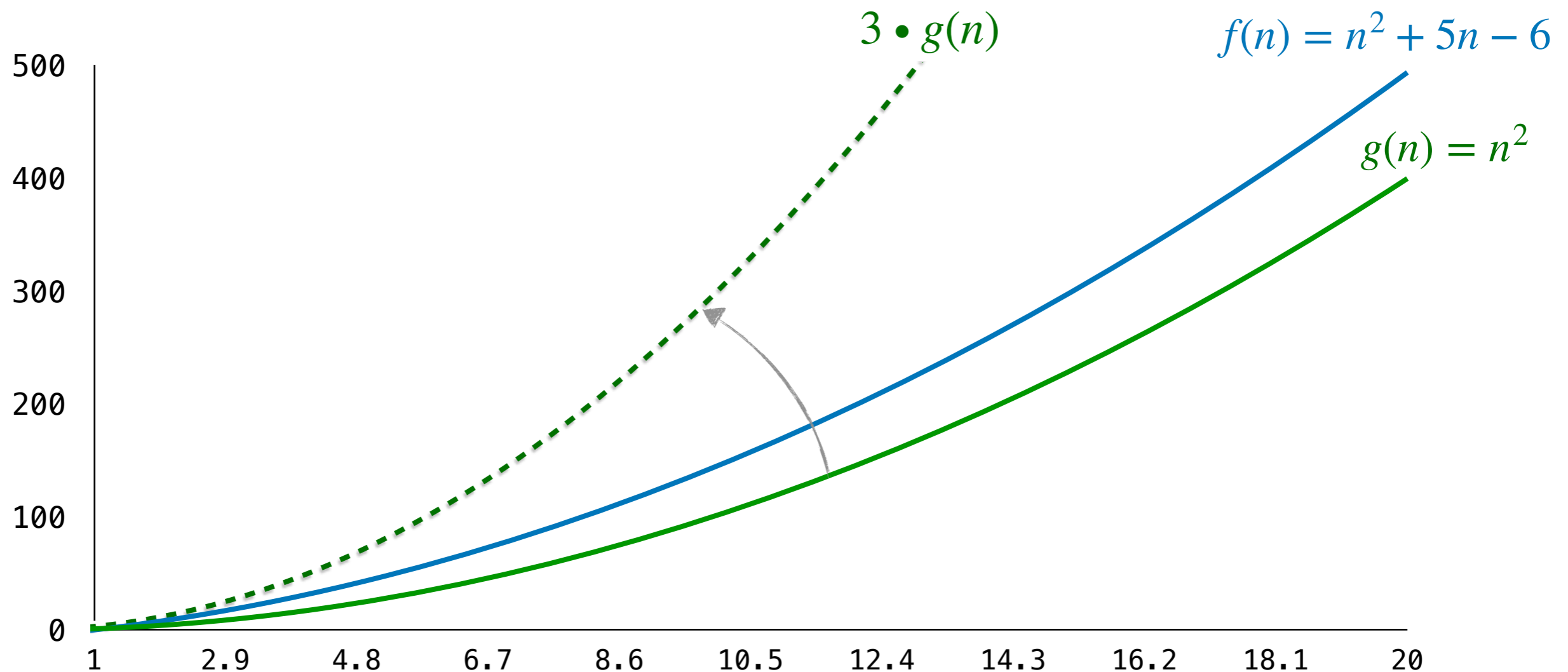


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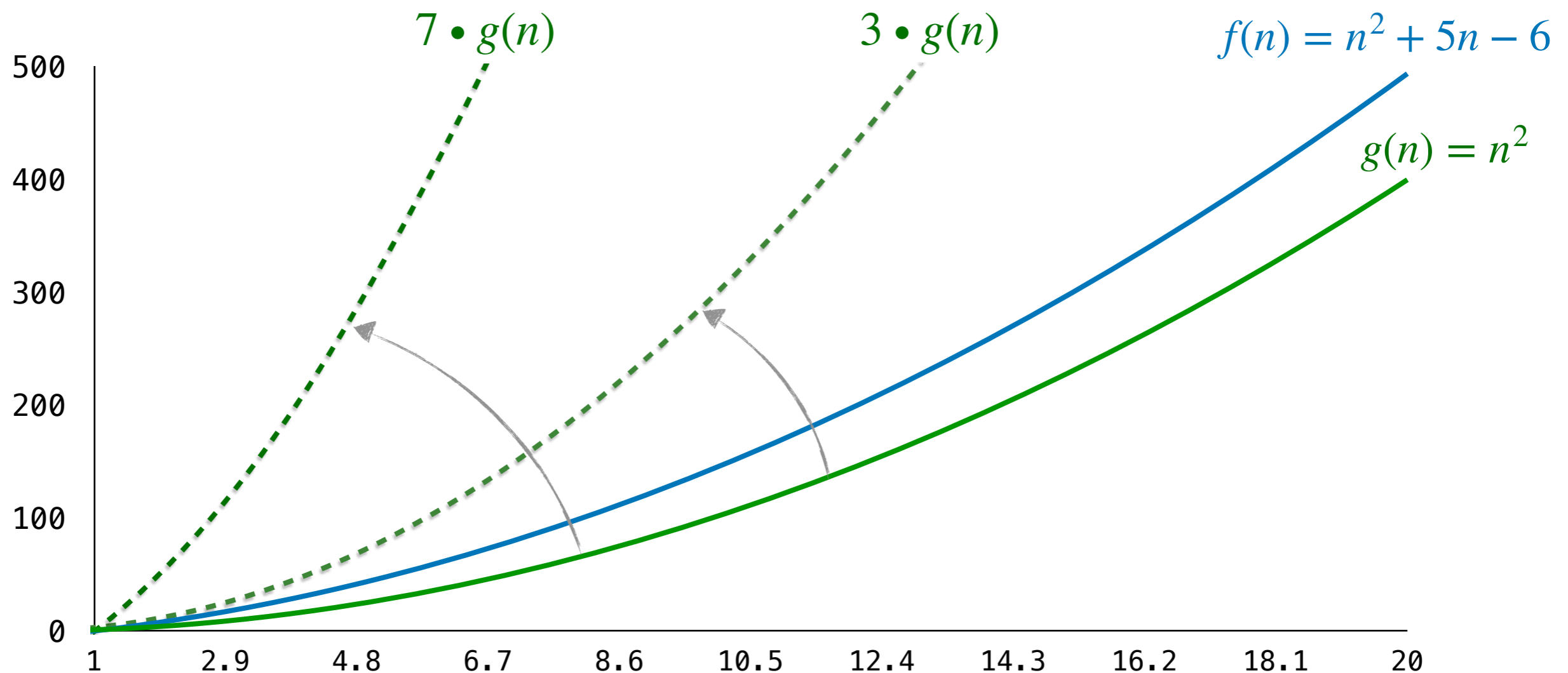


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Since $0 \leq 3n + 3 \leq 3n + 3n$ for all $n \geq 1$

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$$0 \leq 3n + 3 \leq 6n \quad \text{for all } n \geq 1$$

We can pick $c = 6$ and $n_0 = 1$

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For each of the following function, show that f is $O(g)$.

A. $f(n) = 3n + 3$ and $g(n) = n$

Solution (rephrased)

If we pick $c = 9$, we can show that $0 \leq f(n) \leq c \cdot g(n)$ for all $n \geq 1$.

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$f(n)$



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C. $f(n) = n^2$ and $g(n) = n^3$

Solution.

If we pick $c = 1$, It is clear that $0 \leq f(n) \leq c \cdot g(n)$ for all $n \geq 1$.

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For each of the following function, show that f is $O(g)$.

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Solution.

If we pick $c = 1$, It is clear that $0 \leq f(n) \leq c \cdot g(n)$ for all $n \geq 1$.

Dividing $0 \leq n^2 \leq n^3$ by n^2 makes the equation: $0 \leq 1 \leq n$

Back to Quiz # 1

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C. $T(n) = O(n^4)$

D. All of the above.

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C. $T(n) = O(n^4)$

D. All of the above.

E. None of the above.

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) = \frac{1}{2}n^2 - \frac{1}{2}n &\leq c \cdot n^2 \\ &\leq c \cdot n^3 \\ &\leq c \cdot n^4 \end{aligned}$$

for all $n \geq 1$, assuming $c = 1$

Quiz # 2

Assume $T(n)$ is the order of growth of the running time of **Selection Sort** as a function of the input size n . Which of the following best describes $T(n)$?

- A. $T(n) = O(n^2)$
- B. $T(n) = O(n^6)$
- C. $T(n) = O(n^n)$
- D. All of the above.
- E. None of the above.

Quiz # 2

Assume $T(n)$ is the order of growth of the running time of **Selection Sort** as a function of the input size n . Which of the following *best describes* $T(n)$?

A. $T(n) = O(n^2)$

B. $T(n) = O(n^6)$

C. $T(n) = O(n^n)$

D. All of the above.

E. None of the above.

They are all true, but the tightest bound (and the best to use) is $O(n^2)$

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For each of the following function, show that f is $O(g)$.

D. $f(n) = 2^n$ and $g(n) = 3^n$

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We need to show that: $0 \leq 2^n \leq c \cdot 3^n$ for all $n \geq n_0$.

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For each of the following function, show that f is $O(g)$.

D. $f(n) = 2^n$ and $g(n) = 3^n$

Solution.

We need to show that: $0 \leq 2^n \leq c \cdot 3^n$ for all $n \geq n_0$.

Divide by 2^n : $0 \leq 1 \leq c \cdot \left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^n$ for all $n \geq n_0$.

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For each of the following function, show that f is $O(g)$.

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Solution.

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Divide by 2^n : $0 \leq 1 \leq c \cdot \left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^n$ for all $n \geq n_0$.

We can pick $c = 1$ which makes the statement true for all $n \geq 1$.

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Divide by 2^n : $0 \leq 1 \leq c \cdot \left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^n$ for all $n \geq n_0$.

We can pick $c = 1$ which makes the statement true for all $n \geq 1$.



Note that we don't always need to explicitly find c and n_0 .

It is enough to show that they exist. For example, a valid answer for the above example would be:

Since 1 is constant and $\left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^n$ is a strictly increasing function, there must be some c and $n_0 \geq 1$ such that $0 \leq 1 \leq c \cdot \left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^n$ for all $n \geq n_0$.

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For each of the following function, show that f is $O(g)$.

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E. $f(n) = An + B$ and $g(n) = n$ where A and B are positive integers

Solution.

We need to show that: $0 \leq An + B \leq c \cdot n$ for all $n \geq n_0$.

Because A , B and n are positive integers.

1. $0 \leq An + B$ for all $n \geq 1$

Exercise # 1

For each of the following function, show that f is $O(g)$.

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$f(n)$

$c \cdot g(n)$

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2. $An + B \leq (A + B)n$ for all $n \geq 1$

Pick $c = A + B$ and $n_0 = 1$

Big-O

Relatives

Big-Ω

Definition. Let $f(n)$ and $g(n)$ be two functions that are always positive, $f(n)$ is said to be $\Omega(g)$ if and only if :

There are two constants $c > 0$ and $n_0 \geq 0$,
such that $0 \leq c \cdot g(n) \leq f(n)$ for all $n \geq n_0$

Big-Ω

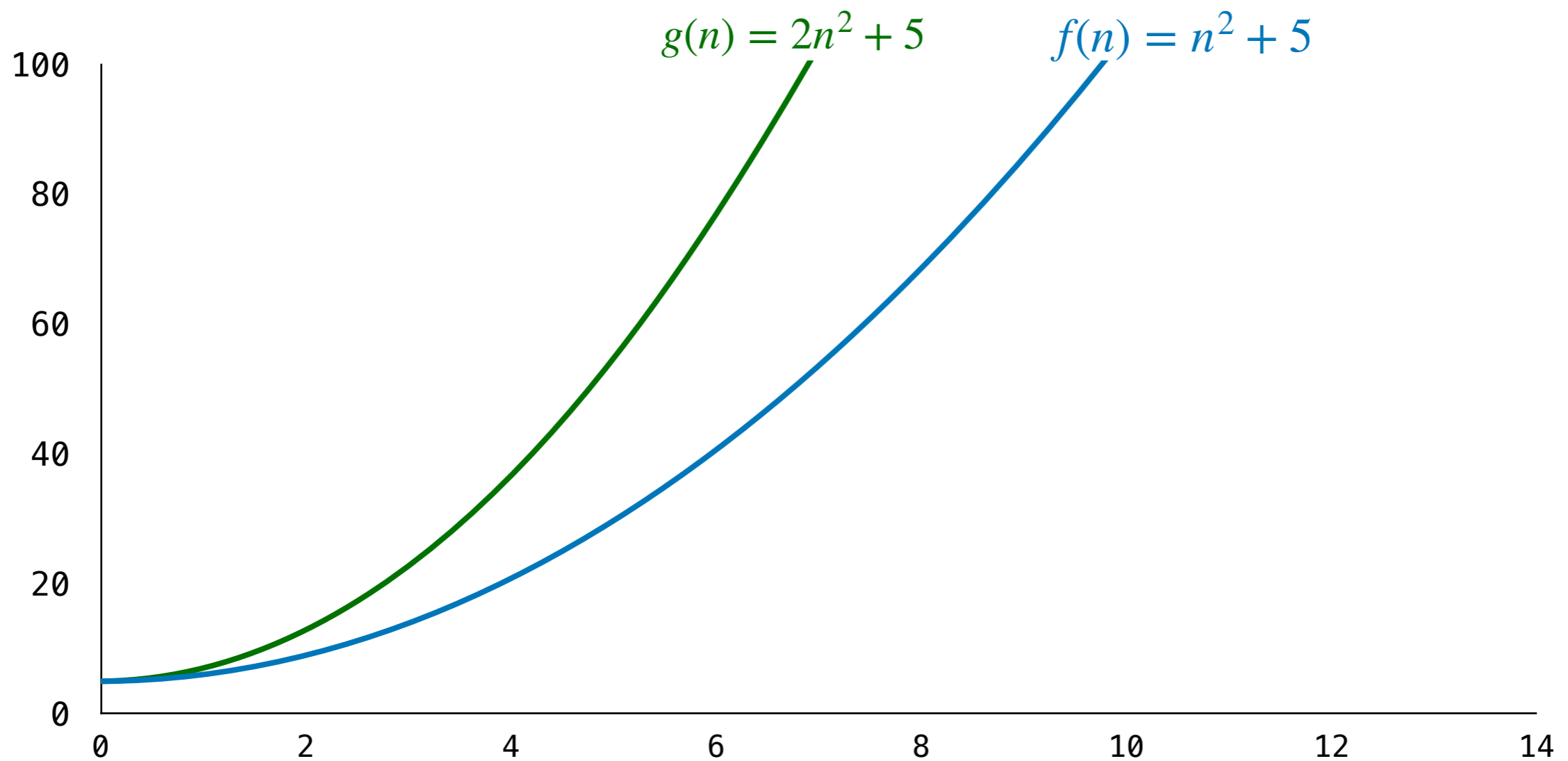
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Less formally: If multiplying $g(n)$ by a constant makes it a **lower bound** for $f(n)$ after some point, then f is $\Omega(g)$.

Big-Ω Example

Assume $f(n) = n^2 + 5$ and $g(n) = 2n^2 + 5$.

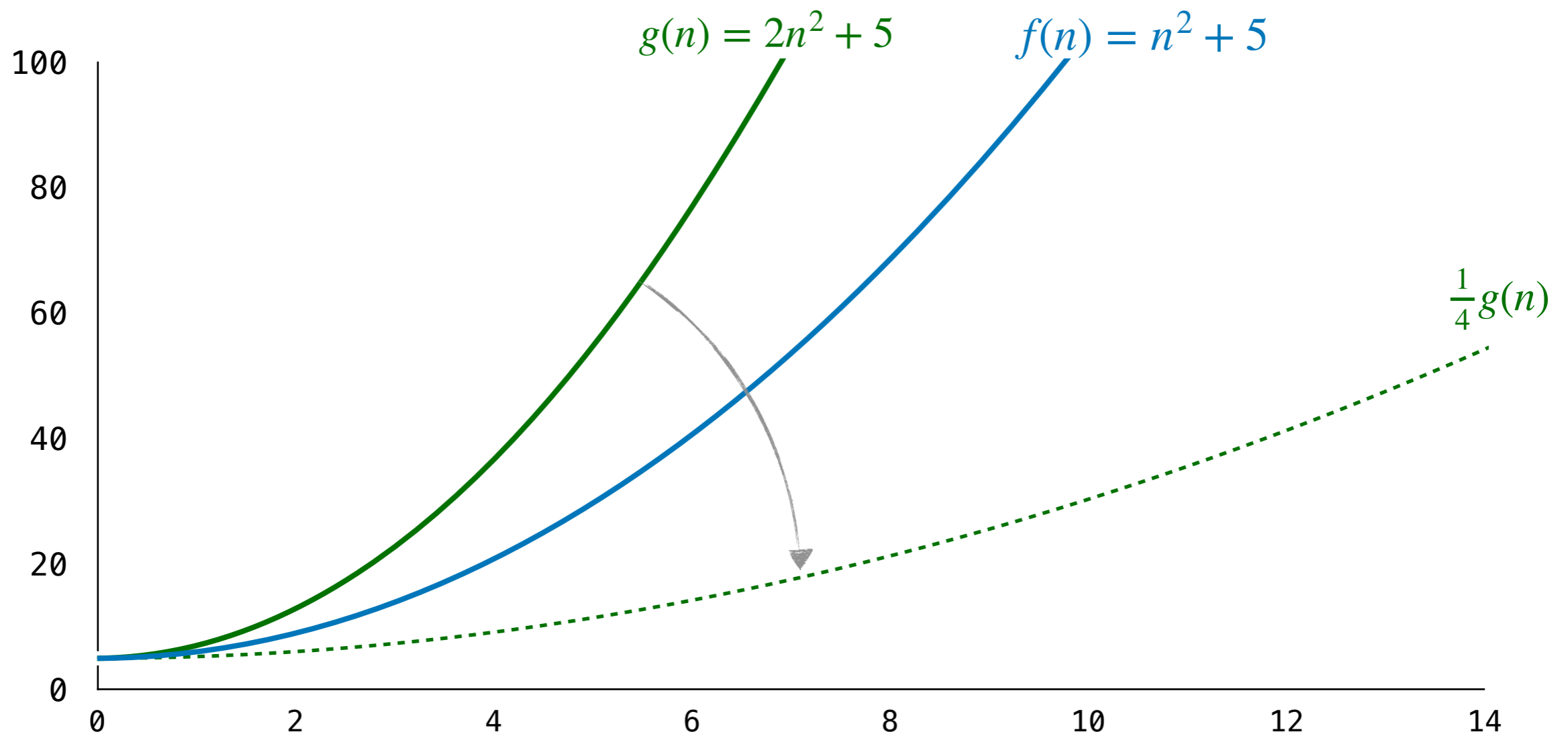


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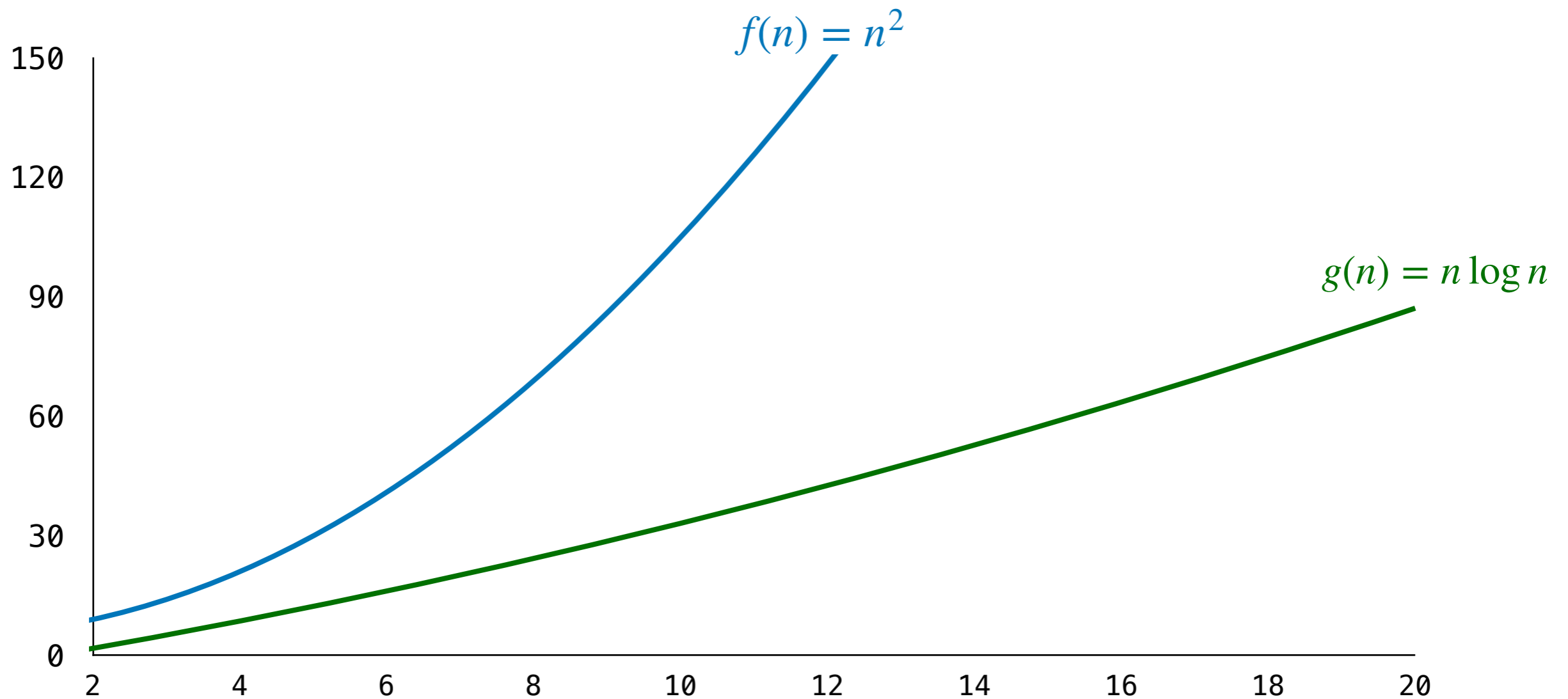
f is $\Omega(g)$ because there are c and n_0 such that $0 \leq c \cdot g(n) \leq f(n)$ for all $n \geq n_0$:

If $c = \frac{1}{4}$, then $0 \leq \frac{1}{4} \cdot g(n) \leq f(n)$ for all $n \geq 1$



Big-Ω Example

Assume $f(n) = n^2$ and $g(n) = n \log n$.

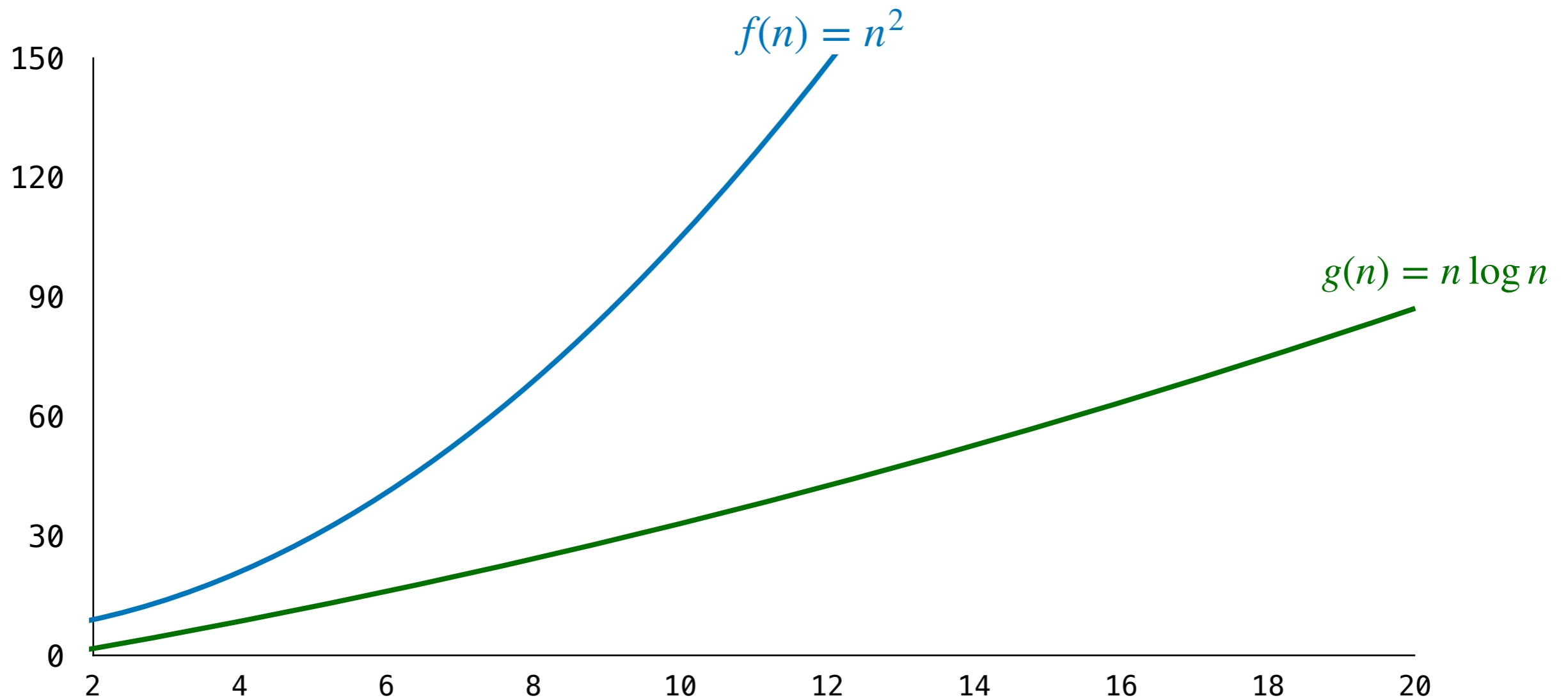


Big-Ω Example

Assume $f(n) = n^2$ and $g(n) = n \log n$.

f is $\Omega(g)$ because there are c and n_0 such that $0 \leq c \cdot g(n) \leq f(n)$ for all $n \geq n_0$:

If $c = 1$, then $g(n) \leq f(n)$ for all $n \geq 1$



Good and Bad Uses of Big- Ω

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Every comparison-based sorting algorithm performs $\Omega(n \log n)$ comparisons in the worst-case. Interesting!

In other words. There is no use of trying to find a comparison-based sorting algorithm whose running time in the worst case is *better than* $n \log n$.

Stay tuned for a proof in a couple of weeks from now!

Big- Θ

Definition. Let $f(n)$ and $g(n)$ be two functions that are always positive, $f(n)$ is said to be $\Theta(g)$ if and only if :

f is $O(g)$ and f is also $\Omega(g)$

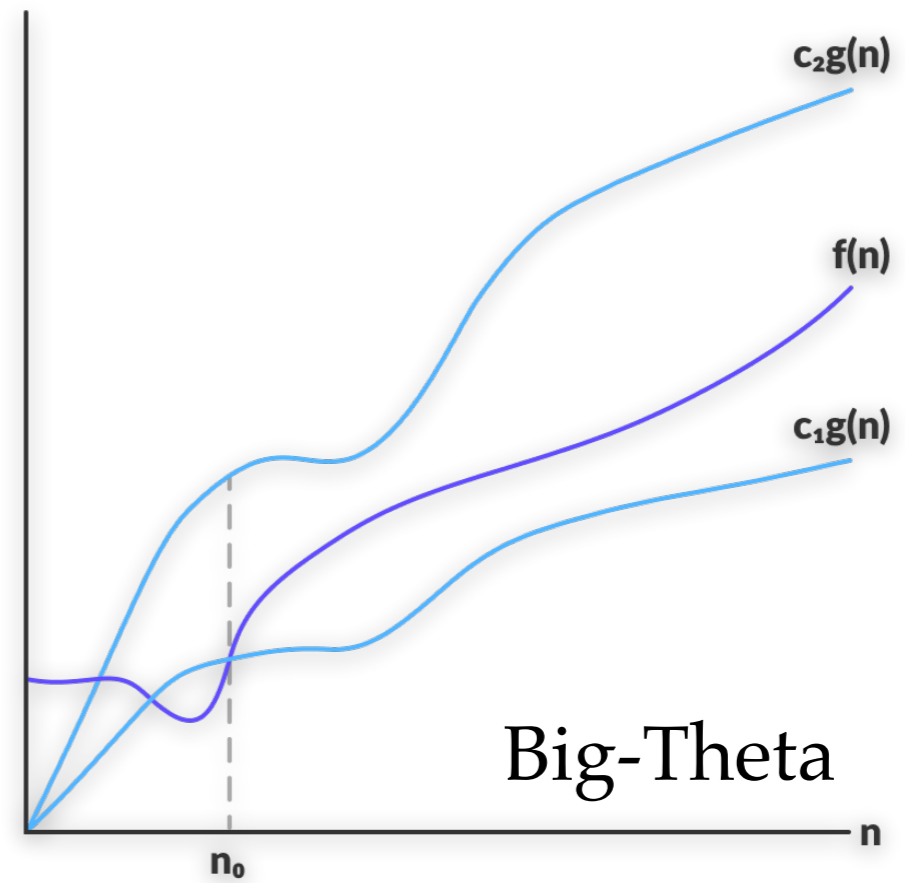
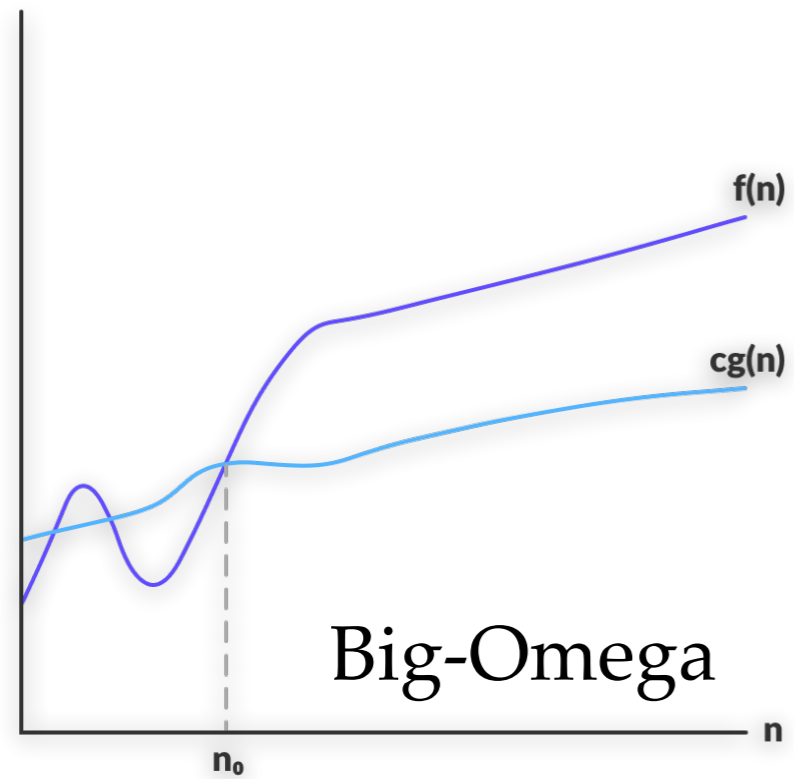
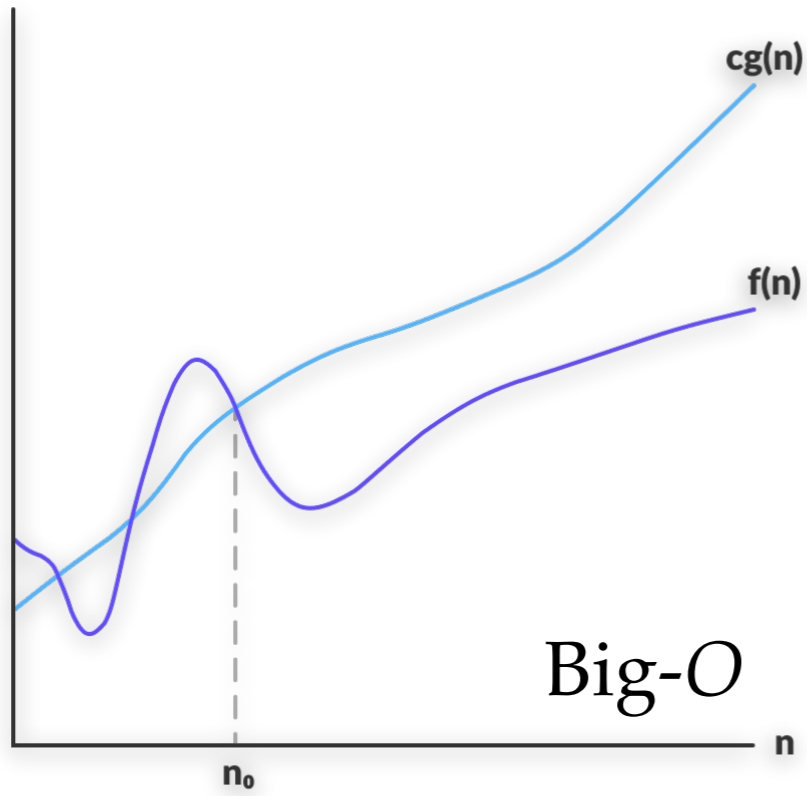
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Big-Θ



Exercises

For each of the following functions, show that f is $\Theta(g)$.

A. $f(n) = 4n + 8$ and $g(n) = n$

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We need to show that:

$$\begin{array}{l} 4n + 8 = O(n) \\ 4n + 8 = \Omega(n) \end{array} \longrightarrow \text{pick } c = 12 \text{ and } n_0 = 1$$

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We need to show that:

$$\begin{array}{ll} 4n + 8 = O(n) & \longrightarrow \text{pick } c = 12 \text{ and } n_0 = 1 \\ 4n + 8 = \Omega(n) & \longrightarrow \text{pick } c = 1 \text{ and } n_0 = 1 \end{array}$$

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B. $f(n) = \log_2 n$ and $g(n) = \log_3 n$

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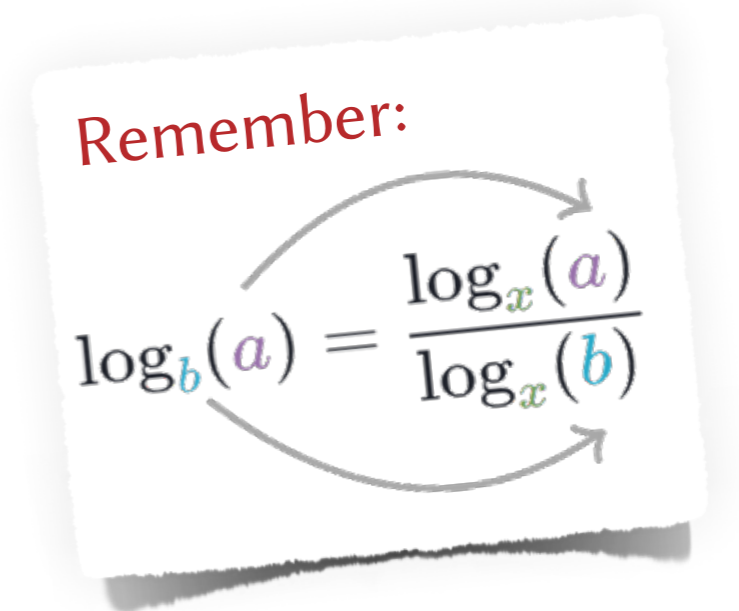
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We need to show that:

$$\log_2 n = O\left(\frac{\log_2 n}{\log_2 3}\right)$$

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Show that $n^3 + n$ is **not** $O(n^2)$.

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Assume for the sake of **contradiction** that there exist two constants c and n_0 such that $0 \leq n^3 + n \leq c \cdot n^2$ for all $n \geq n_0$.

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Divide by n^2 : $0 \leq n + \frac{1}{n} \leq c$

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This is clearly false because $n + \frac{1}{n}$ is strictly increasing while the right hand side is constant.

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Divide by n^2 : $0 \leq c \cdot n \leq 1$

This is clearly false because $c \cdot n$ is strictly increasing while the right hand side is constant.

Quiz # 3

Which of the following is true about the running time of **insertion sort**?

- A. The running time is $O(n^2)$
- B. The running time is $\Omega(n)$
- C. The best case is $\Theta(n)$.
- D. The worst case is $\Theta(n^2)$.
- E. All of the above.

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E. All of the above.

Exercises

Stirling's Approximation states that:

$$\log_2(n!) = n \log_2 n - n \log_2 e + r \log_2 n \quad (r \text{ is a positive constant})$$

Show that $\log_2(n!) = \Theta(n \log n)$ without using Stirling's Approximation.

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Solution.

$$1. \log(1 \times 2 \times 3 \times \dots \times n) \leq \log(n \times n \times n \times \dots \times n) \quad \text{for all } n \geq 1$$

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- $\log(1 \times 2 \times 3 \times \dots \times n) \leq \log(n \times n \times n \times \dots \times n)$ for all $n \geq 1$
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 $= \log(1) + \log(2) + \log(3) + \dots + \log(\frac{n}{2}) + \log(\frac{n}{2}+1) + \log(\frac{n}{2}+2) + \dots + \log(n)$
 $\geq \log(1) + \log(2) + \log(3) + \dots + \log(\frac{n}{2}) + \log(\frac{n}{2}+1) + \log(\frac{n}{2}+2) + \dots + \log(n)$
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 $\geq \frac{n}{2} \log(\frac{n}{2}) \geq \frac{n}{2}(\log(n) - \log(2))$

Exercises

Stirling's Approximation states that:

$$\log_2(n!) = n \log_2 n - n \log_2 e + r \log_2 n \quad (r \text{ is a positive constant})$$

Show that $\log_2(n!) = \Theta(n \log n)$ without using Stirling's Approximation.

Solution.

- $\log(1 \times 2 \times 3 \times \dots \times n) \leq \log(n \times n \times n \times \dots \times n)$ for all $n \geq 1$
 $\log(1 \times 2 \times 3 \times \dots \times n) \leq \log(n^n)$ for all $n \geq 1$
 $\log(1 \times 2 \times 3 \times \dots \times n) \leq n \log(n)$ for all $n \geq 1$

Therefore $\log_2(n!) = O(n \log n)$ because $0 \leq \log(n!) \leq 1 \cdot n \log n$ for all $n \geq 1$

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 $\geq \log(1) + \log(2) + \log(3) + \dots + \log(\frac{n}{2}) + \log(\frac{n}{2}+1) + \log(\frac{n}{2}+2) + \dots + \log(n)$
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Exercises

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 $\geq \log(1) + \log(2) + \log(3) + \dots + \log(\frac{n}{2}) + \log(\frac{n}{2}+1) + \log(\frac{n}{2}+2) + \dots + \log(n)$
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 $\geq \frac{n}{2} \log(\frac{n}{2}) \geq \frac{n}{2}(\log(n) - \log(2)) \geq \frac{n}{2}(\log(n) - 1) \geq \frac{n}{2}(\log(n) - \frac{1}{4} \log(n))$
for all $n \geq 16$

Exercises

Stirling's Approximation states that:

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 $\log(1 \times 2 \times 3 \times \dots \times n) \leq \log(n^n)$ for all $n \geq 1$
 $\log(1 \times 2 \times 3 \times \dots \times n) \leq n \log(n)$ for all $n \geq 1$

Therefore $\log_2(n!) = O(n \log n)$ because $0 \leq \log(n!) \leq 1 \cdot n \log n$ for all $n \geq 1$

- $\log_2(n!) = \log(1 \times 2 \times 3 \times \dots \times \frac{n}{2} \times (\frac{n}{2}+1) \times (\frac{n}{2}+2) \times \dots \times n)$
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 $\geq \log(1) + \log(2) + \log(3) + \dots + \log(\frac{n}{2}) + \log(\frac{n}{2}) + \log(\frac{n}{2}) + \dots + \log(\frac{n}{2})$
 $\geq \frac{n}{2} \log(\frac{n}{2}) \geq \frac{n}{2}(\log(n) - \log(2)) \geq \frac{n}{2}(\log(n) - 1) \geq \frac{n}{2}(\log(n) - \frac{1}{4} \log(n))$

Therefore $\log_2(n!) = \Omega(n \log n)$ because $0 \leq \frac{3}{8} \cdot n \log n \leq \log(n!)$ for all $n \geq 16$

Optional Example

We know that $\sum_{i=0}^n i^2$ can be computed using the formula: $\frac{1}{3}n^3 + \frac{1}{2}n^2 + \frac{1}{6}n$

Show that $\sum_{i=0}^n i^2 = \Theta(n^3)$ without using the above formula.

Optional Examples

We know that $\sum_{i=0}^n i^2$ can be computed using the formula: $\frac{1}{3}n^3 + \frac{1}{2}n^2 + \frac{1}{6}n$

Show that $\sum_{i=0}^n i^2 = \Theta(n^3)$ without using the above formula.

Solution.

- $1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + n^2 \leq$

Optional Examples

We know that $\sum_{i=0}^n i^2$ can be computed using the formula: $\frac{1}{3}n^3 + \frac{1}{2}n^2 + \frac{1}{6}n$

Show that $\sum_{i=0}^n i^2 = \Theta(n^3)$ without using the above formula.

Solution.

1. $1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + n^2 \leq n^2 + n^2 + n^2 + \dots + n^2$ for all $n \geq 1$

Optional Examples

We know that $\sum_{i=0}^n i^2$ can be computed using the formula: $\frac{1}{3}n^3 + \frac{1}{2}n^2 + \frac{1}{6}n$

Show that $\sum_{i=0}^n i^2 = \Theta(n^3)$ without using the above formula.

Solution.

$$\begin{aligned} 1. \quad 1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + n^2 &\leq n^2 + n^2 + n^2 + \dots + n^2 && \text{for all } n \geq 1 \\ 1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + n^2 &\leq n \times n^2 && \text{for all } n \geq 1 \end{aligned}$$

Optional Examples

We know that $\sum_{i=0}^n i^2$ can be computed using the formula: $\frac{1}{3}n^3 + \frac{1}{2}n^2 + \frac{1}{6}n$

Show that $\sum_{i=0}^n i^2 = \Theta(n^3)$ without using the above formula.

Solution.

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 $1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + n^2 \leq n \times n^2$ for all $n \geq 1$
Therefore, $1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + n^2 = O(n^3)$ pick $c = 1$ and $n_0 = 1$

Optional Examples

We know that $\sum_{i=0}^n i^2$ can be computed using the formula: $\frac{1}{3}n^3 + \frac{1}{2}n^2 + \frac{1}{6}n$

Show that $\sum_{i=0}^n i^2 = \Theta(n^3)$ without using the above formula.

Solution.

1. $1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + n^2 \leq n^2 + n^2 + n^2 + \dots + n^2$ for all $n \geq 1$

$1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + n^2 \leq n \times n^2$ for all $n \geq 1$

Therefore, $1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + n^2 = O(n^3)$ pick $c = 1$ and $n_0 = 1$

2. $1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + (\frac{n}{2})^2 + (\frac{n}{2}+1)^2 + (\frac{n}{2}+2)^2 + \dots + n^2$

Optional Examples

We know that $\sum_{i=0}^n i^2$ can be computed using the formula: $\frac{1}{3}n^3 + \frac{1}{2}n^2 + \frac{1}{6}n$

Show that $\sum_{i=0}^n i^2 = \Theta(n^3)$ without using the above formula.

Solution.

$$1. \quad 1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + n^2 \leq n^2 + n^2 + n^2 + \dots + n^2 \quad \text{for all } n \geq 1$$

$$1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + n^2 \leq n \times n^2 \quad \text{for all } n \geq 1$$

$$\text{Therefore, } 1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + n^2 = O(n^3) \quad \text{pick } c = 1 \text{ and } n_0 = 1$$

$$2. \quad 1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + \left(\frac{n}{2}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{n}{2}+1\right)^2 + \left(\frac{n}{2}+2\right)^2 + \dots + n^2$$

$$\geq \cancel{1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots} + \left(\frac{n}{2}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{n}{2}+1\right)^2 + \left(\frac{n}{2}+2\right)^2 + \dots + n^2 \quad \text{for all } n \geq 1$$

Optional Examples

We know that $\sum_{i=0}^n i^2$ can be computed using the formula: $\frac{1}{3}n^3 + \frac{1}{2}n^2 + \frac{1}{6}n$

Show that $\sum_{i=0}^n i^2 = \Theta(n^3)$ without using the above formula.

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Therefore, $1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + n^2 = O(n^3)$ pick $c = 1$ and $n_0 = 1$

2. $1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + (\frac{n}{2})^2 + (\frac{n}{2}+1)^2 + (\frac{n}{2}+2)^2 + \dots + n^2$

$\geq \cancel{1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots} + (\frac{n}{2})^2 + (\frac{n}{2}+1)^2 + (\frac{n}{2}+2)^2 + \dots + n^2$ for all $n \geq 1$

$\geq \cancel{1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots} + (\frac{n}{2})^2 + (\frac{n}{2})^2 + (\frac{n}{2})^2 + \dots + (\frac{n}{2})^2$ for all $n \geq 1$

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- $1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + n^2 \leq n^2 + n^2 + n^2 + \dots + n^2$ for all $n \geq 1$
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Therefore, $1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + n^2 = O(n^3)$ pick $c = 1$ and $n_0 = 1$

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 $\geq \cancel{1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots} + (\frac{n}{2})^2 + (\frac{n}{2}+1)^2 + (\frac{n}{2}+2)^2 + \dots + n^2$ for all $n \geq 1$
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 $\geq \frac{n}{2} \times (\frac{n}{2})^2$ for all $n \geq 1$

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We know that $\sum_{i=0}^n i^2$ can be computed using the formula: $\frac{1}{3}n^3 + \frac{1}{2}n^2 + \frac{1}{6}n$

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Therefore, $1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + n^2 = O(n^3)$ pick $c = 1$ and $n_0 = 1$

- $1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + (\frac{n}{2})^2 + (\frac{n}{2}+1)^2 + (\frac{n}{2}+2)^2 + \dots + n^2$
 $\geq \cancel{1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots} + (\frac{n}{2})^2 + (\frac{n}{2}+1)^2 + (\frac{n}{2}+2)^2 + \dots + n^2$ for all $n \geq 1$
 $\geq \cancel{1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots} + (\frac{n}{2})^2 + (\frac{n}{2})^2 + (\frac{n}{2})^2 + \dots + (\frac{n}{2})^2$ for all $n \geq 1$
 $\geq \frac{n}{2} \times (\frac{n}{2})^2 \geq \frac{n}{2} \times \frac{n^2}{4}$ for all $n \geq 1$

Optional Examples

We know that $\sum_{i=0}^n i^2$ can be computed using the formula: $\frac{1}{3}n^3 + \frac{1}{2}n^2 + \frac{1}{6}n$

Show that $\sum_{i=0}^n i^2 = \Theta(n^3)$ without using the above formula.

Solution.

$$\begin{aligned} 1. \quad 1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + n^2 &\leq n^2 + n^2 + n^2 + \dots + n^2 && \text{for all } n \geq 1 \\ 1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + n^2 &\leq n \times n^2 && \text{for all } n \geq 1 \\ \text{Therefore, } 1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + n^2 &= O(n^3) && \text{pick } c = 1 \text{ and } n_0 = 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 2. \quad &1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + \left(\frac{n}{2}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{n}{2}+1\right)^2 + \left(\frac{n}{2}+2\right)^2 + \dots + n^2 \\ &\geq \cancel{1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots} + \left(\frac{n}{2}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{n}{2}+1\right)^2 + \left(\frac{n}{2}+2\right)^2 + \dots + n^2 && \text{for all } n \geq 1 \\ &\geq \cancel{1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots} + \left(\frac{n}{2}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{n}{2}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{n}{2}\right)^2 + \dots + \left(\frac{n}{2}\right)^2 && \text{for all } n \geq 1 \\ &\geq \frac{n}{2} \times \left(\frac{n}{2}\right)^2 \geq \frac{n}{2} \times \frac{n^2}{4} \geq \frac{n^3}{8} && \text{for all } n \geq 1 \end{aligned}$$

Optional Examples

We know that $\sum_{i=0}^n i^2$ can be computed using the formula: $\frac{1}{3}n^3 + \frac{1}{2}n^2 + \frac{1}{6}n$

Show that $\sum_{i=0}^n i^2 = \Theta(n^3)$ without using the above formula.

Solution.

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Therefore, $1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + n^2 = O(n^3)$ pick $c = 1$ and $n_0 = 1$

$$\begin{aligned} 2. \quad &1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + \left(\frac{n}{2}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{n}{2}+1\right)^2 + \left(\frac{n}{2}+2\right)^2 + \dots + n^2 \\ &\geq \cancel{1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots} + \left(\frac{n}{2}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{n}{2}+1\right)^2 + \left(\frac{n}{2}+2\right)^2 + \dots + n^2 && \text{for all } n \geq 1 \\ &\geq \cancel{1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots} + \left(\frac{n}{2}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{n}{2}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{n}{2}\right)^2 + \dots + \left(\frac{n}{2}\right)^2 && \text{for all } n \geq 1 \\ &\geq \frac{n}{2} \times \left(\frac{n}{2}\right)^2 \geq \frac{n}{2} \times \frac{n^2}{4} \geq \frac{n^3}{8} && \text{for all } n \geq 1 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, $1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + n^2 = \Omega(n^3)$ pick $c = \frac{1}{8}$ and $n_0 = 1$

Small- o and Small- ω

Informal Definition. f is said to be $o(g)$ if it grows **strictly slower** than g .

Informal Definition. f is said to be $\omega(g)$ if it grows **strictly faster** than g .

Small- o and Small- ω

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Notation	Order of Growth Relation	Example
$f = O(g)$	$f \leq g$	If $f = O(n^2)$, examples for f could be:
$f = o(g)$	$f < g$	If $f = o(n^2)$, examples for f could be:

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Notation	Order of Growth Relation	Example
$f = O(g)$	$f \leq g$	If $f = O(n^2)$, examples for f could be: $n^2, 3n^2 + n, 5n - 1, 7n \log n + 5n, \sqrt{n}$
$f = o(g)$	$f < g$	If $f = o(n^2)$, examples for f could be: $n^{1.9}, 5n - 1, 7n \log n + 5n, \sqrt{n}$

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$f = o(g)$	$f < g$	If $f = o(n^2)$, examples for f could be: $n^{1.9}, 5n - 1, 7n \log n + 5n, \sqrt{n}$
$f = \Omega(g)$	$f \geq g$	If $f = \Omega(n^2)$, examples for f could be:
$f = \omega(g)$	$f > g$	If $f = \omega(n^2)$, examples for f could be:

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Notation	Order of Growth Relation	Example
$f = O(g)$	$f \leq g$	If $f = O(n^2)$, examples for f could be: $n^2, 3n^2 + n, 5n - 1, 7n \log n + 5n, \sqrt{n}$
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$f = \Omega(g)$	$f \geq g$	If $f = \Omega(n^2)$, examples for f could be: $n^2, 3n^2 + n, 5n^3, 7n^5, 2^n$
$f = \omega(g)$	$f > g$	If $f = \omega(n^2)$, examples for f could be: $n^{2.01}, n^2 \log n, 5n^3, 7n^5, 2^n$

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Notation	Order of Growth Relation	Example
$f = O(g)$	$f \leq g$	If $f = O(n^2)$, examples for f could be: $n^2, 3n^2 + n, 5n - 1, 7n \log n + 5n, \sqrt{n}$
$f = o(g)$	$f < g$	If $f = o(n^2)$, examples for f could be: $n^{1.9}, 5n - 1, 7n \log n + 5n, \sqrt{n}$
$f = \Omega(g)$	$f \geq g$	If $f = \Omega(n^2)$, examples for f could be: $n^2, 3n^2 + n, 5n^3, 7n^5, 2^n$
$f = \omega(g)$	$f > g$	If $f = \omega(n^2)$, examples for f could be: $n^{2.01}, n^2 \log n, 5n^3, 7n^5, 2^n$
$f = \Theta(g)$	$f = g$	If $f = \Theta(n^2)$, examples for f could be: $n^2, 3n^2, 5n^2 - n, 7n^2 + n \log n + 100$

Quiz # 4

Assume that a function f is known to be $o(n^2)$ and also known to be $\Omega(\log n)$, which of the following functions can f possibly be?

Choose all that applies.

A. n^n

F. $n\sqrt{n}$

K. $\log^2 n$

B. 2^n

G. $n^{1.1}$

L. $\log n$

C. n^3

H. $n \log n$

M. $\log(\log n)$

D. $n^2 \log n$

I. n

N. 100

E. n^2

J. \sqrt{n}

Quiz # 4

Assume that a function f is known to be $o(n^2)$ and also known to be $\Omega(\log n)$, which of the following functions can f possibly be?

Choose all that applies.

A. n^n

B. 2^n

C. n^3

D. $n^2 \log n$

E. n^2

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H. $n \log n$

I. n

J. \sqrt{n}

K. $\log^2 n$

L. $\log n$

M. $\log(\log n)$

M. 100

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Examples.

$$3n^2 \text{ vs } n^2$$

$$3n^2 \text{ vs } n^3$$

$$3n^3 \text{ vs } n^2$$

Small- o and Small- ω

Informal Definition. f is said to be $o(g)$ if it grows **strictly slower** than g .

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Examples.

$3n^2$ vs n^2

$3n^2$ vs n^3

$3n^3$ vs n^2

$$3n^2 = O(n^2)$$

$$3n^2 = \Omega(n^2)$$

$$3n^2 = \Theta(n^2)$$

$$3n^2 \neq o(n^2)$$

$$3n^2 \neq \omega(n^2)$$

Small- o and Small- ω

Informal Definition. f is said to be $o(g)$ if it grows **strictly slower** than g .

Informal Definition. f is said to be $\omega(g)$ if it grows **strictly faster** than g .

Examples.

$3n^2$ vs n^2

$$3n^2 = O(n^2)$$

$$3n^2 = \Omega(n^2)$$

$$3n^2 = \Theta(n^2)$$

$$3n^2 \neq o(n^2)$$

$$3n^2 \neq \omega(n^2)$$

$3n^2$ vs n^3

$$3n^2 = O(n^3)$$

$$3n^2 \neq \Omega(n^3)$$

$$3n^2 \neq \Theta(n^3)$$

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$3n^3$ vs n^2

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Examples.

$3n^2$ vs n^2

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$3n^3$ vs n^2

$$3n^3 \neq O(n^2)$$

$$3n^3 = \Omega(n^2)$$

$$3n^3 \neq \Theta(n^2)$$

$$3n^3 \neq o(n^2)$$

$$3n^3 = \omega(n^2)$$

Quiz # 5

Consider $f(n) = O(g(n))$. Which of the following is definitely true?
Choose all that applies.

A. $f = \Theta(g)$

B. $f = o(g)$

C. $g = \Omega(f)$

D. $g = \omega(f)$

Quiz # 5

Consider $f(n) = O(g(n))$. Which of the following is definitely true?
Choose all that applies.

A. $f = \Theta(g)$ ← we don't know if $f = \Omega(g)$

B. $f = o(g)$ ← f and g could be of the same order!

C. $g = \Omega(f)$ ← $g = \Omega(f) \iff f = O(g)$
 $g = \omega(f) \iff f = o(g)$

D. $g = \omega(f)$ ← f and g could be of the same order!

Properties

- Reflexivity. $f =? O(f)$
 $f =? \Omega(f)$
 $f =? \Theta(f)$
 $f =? \omega(f)$
 $f =? o(f)$

Properties

- Reflexivity. $f = \Theta(f)$
 $f = O(f)$
 $f = \Omega(f)$
 $f \neq \omega(f)$
 $f \neq o(f)$

Properties

- **Reflexivity.** f is $\Theta(f)$ and $O(f)$ and $\Omega(f)$ but not $o(f)$ or $\omega(f)$
- **Constants.** If f is $\Theta(g)$ and $c > 0$, then $c \cdot f$ is $\Theta(g)$.

Properties

- **Reflexivity.** f is $\Theta(f)$.
- **Constants.** If f is $\Theta(g)$ and $c > 0$, then $c \cdot f$ is $\Theta(g)$.
Example: $4n^2 + 5$ is $\Theta(n^2)$ and $4 \times (4n^2 + 5)$ is also $\Theta(n^2)$.

Properties

- **Reflexivity.** f is $\Theta(f)$.
- **Constants.** If f is $\Theta(g)$ and $c > 0$, then $c \cdot f$ is $\Theta(g)$.

Example: $4n^2 + 5$ is $\Theta(n^2)$ and $4 \times (4n^2 + 5)$ is also $\Theta(n^2)$.

Similarly: If f is $O(g)$ and $c > 0$, then $c \cdot f$ is $O(g)$.

If f is $\Omega(g)$ and $c > 0$, then $c \cdot f$ is $\Omega(g)$.

If f is $o(g)$ and $c > 0$, then $c \cdot f$ is $o(g)$.

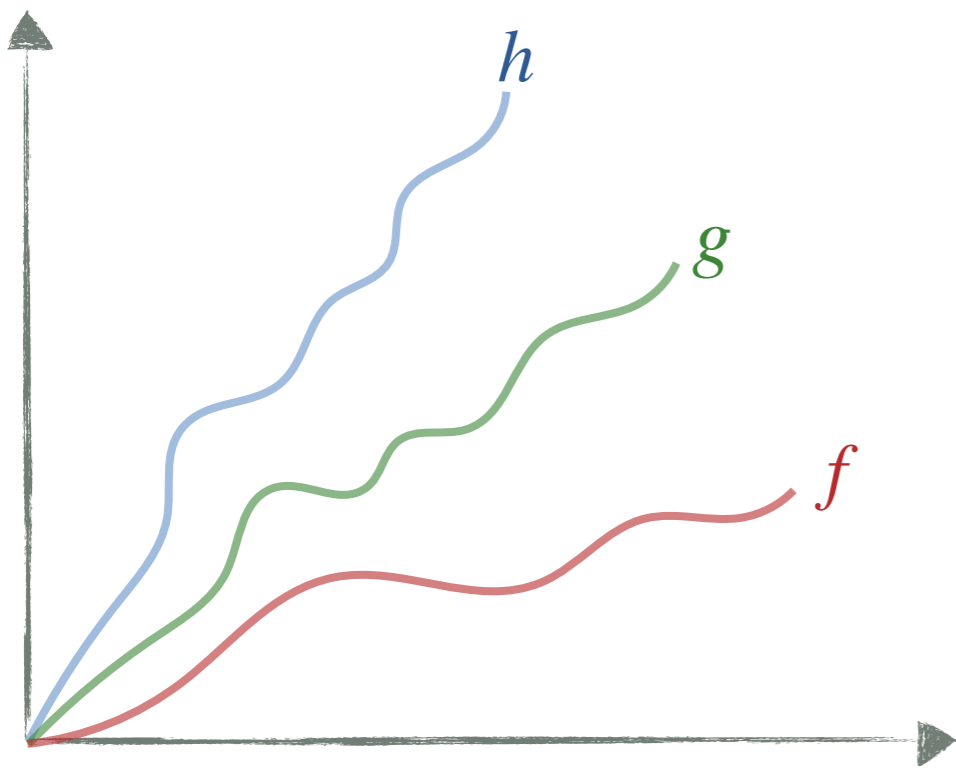
If f is $\omega(g)$ and $c > 0$, then $c \cdot f$ is $\omega(g)$.

Properties

- **Reflexivity.** f is $\Theta(f)$.
- **Constants.** If f is $\Theta(g)$ and $c > 0$, then $c \cdot f$ is $\Theta(g)$.
- **Transitivity.** If f is $O(g)$ and g is $O(h)$ then f is $O(h)$.

Properties

- **Reflexivity.** f is $\Theta(f)$.
- **Constants.** If f is $\Theta(g)$ and $c > 0$, then $c \cdot f$ is $\Theta(g)$.
- **Transitivity.** If f is $O(g)$ and g is $O(h)$ then f is $O(h)$.



*h is an upper bound
for both g and f*

Properties

- **Reflexivity.** f is $\Theta(f)$.
- **Constants.** If f is $\Theta(g)$ and $c > 0$, then $c \cdot f$ is $\Theta(g)$.
- **Transitivity.** If f is $O(g)$ and g is $O(h)$ then f is $O(h)$.
Similarly: If f is $\Theta(g)$ and g is $\Theta(h)$ then f is $\Theta(h)$.
If f is $\Omega(g)$ and g is $\Omega(h)$ then f is $\Omega(h)$.
If f is $o(g)$ and g is $o(h)$ then f is $o(h)$.
If f is $\omega(g)$ and g is $\omega(h)$ then f is $\omega(h)$.

Properties

- **Reflexivity.** f is $\Theta(f)$.
- **Constants.** If f is $\Theta(g)$ and $c > 0$, then $c \cdot f$ is $\Theta(g)$.
- **Transitivity.** If f is $\Theta(g)$ and g is $\Theta(h)$ then f is $\Theta(h)$.
- **Sums.** If f_1 is $\Theta(g_1)$ and f_2 is $\Theta(g_2)$, then $f_1 + f_2$ is ... ?

Properties

- **Reflexivity.** f is $\Theta(f)$.
 - **Constants.** If f is $\Theta(g)$ and $c > 0$, then $c \cdot f$ is $\Theta(g)$.
 - **Transitivity.** If f is $\Theta(g)$ and g is $\Theta(h)$ then f is $\Theta(h)$.
 - **Sums.** If f_1 is $\Theta(g_1)$ and f_2 is $\Theta(g_2)$, then $f_1 + f_2$ is $\Theta(\max\{g_1, g_2\})$.
- Example:** If $f_1(n)$ is $\Theta(n^2)$ and $f_2(n)$ is $\Theta(n^3)$ then $f_1 + f_2$ is $\Theta(n^3)$.

Properties

- **Reflexivity.** f is $\Theta(f)$.
 - **Constants.** If f is $\Theta(g)$ and $c > 0$, then $c \cdot f$ is $\Theta(g)$.
 - **Transitivity.** If f is $\Theta(g)$ and g is $\Theta(h)$ then f is $\Theta(h)$.
 - **Sums.** If f_1 is $\Theta(g_1)$ and f_2 is $\Theta(g_2)$, then $f_1 + f_2$ is $\Theta(\max\{g_1, g_2\})$.
- Example:** If $f_1(n)$ is $\Theta(n^2)$ and $f_2(n)$ is $\Theta(n^3)$ then $f_1 + f_2$ is $\Theta(n^3)$.
- Similarly: If f_1 is $O(g_1)$ and f_2 is $O(g_2)$, then $f_1 + f_2$ is $O(\max\{g_1, g_2\})$.
- If f_1 is $\Omega(g_1)$ and f_2 is $\Omega(g_2)$, then $f_1 + f_2$ is $\Omega(\max\{g_1, g_2\})$.

قل ولا تقل

- Don't say: "My algorithm is $O(n^2)$ "

- **Don't say:** "My algorithm is $O(n^2)$ "

Say: "The running time of my algorithm" is $O(n^2)$ or "My algorithm runs in $O(n^2)$ ".

Explanation. An algorithm is not a function, its running time is.

- **Don't say:** "My algorithm is $O(n^2)$ "

Say: "The running time of my algorithm" is $O(n^2)$ or "My algorithm runs in $O(n^2)$ ".

- **Don't say:** "Your algorithm runs in at least $O(n^2)$ "

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- **Don't say:** "Your algorithm runs in at least $O(n^2)$ "

Say: "Your algorithm runs in $\Omega(n^2)$ " or "Your algorithm runs in at least $\Theta(n^2)$ "

Explanation. $O(n^2)$ describes all the functions whose order of growth is n^2 or less (e.g. $\log(n)$, \sqrt{n} , n , $n \log(n)$, etc.)

Saying that the running time is *at least* one of these functions means that the running time could be anything!

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- **Avoid saying:** "The worst case running time of Bubble Sort is $O(n^2)$ "

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- **Avoid saying:** "The worst case running time of Bubble Sort is $O(n^2)$ "

Say: "The worst case running time of Bubble Sort is $\Theta(n^2)$ "

Explanation. $O(n^2)$ means: in the order of n^2 or less
 $\Theta(n^2)$ means: in the order of n^2

قل ولا تقل

- **Don't say:** "My algorithm is $O(n^2)$ "

Say: "The running time of my algorithm" is $O(n^2)$ or "My algorithm runs in $O(n^2)$ ".

- **Don't say:** "Your algorithm runs in at least $O(n^2)$ "

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- **Avoid saying:** "The worst case running time of Bubble Sort is $O(n^2)$ "

Say: "The worst case running time of Bubble Sort is $\Theta(n^2)$ "



$O(g(n))$ is a **set of functions**, but computer scientists often *abuse* the notation by writing $f(n) = O(g(n))$ instead of $f(n) \in O(g(n))$.

Alternative Definitions

if $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} = 0$ *then*

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order of growth
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$$f(n) < g(n)$$

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if $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} = 0$ *then* $f = o(g)$

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$$f(n) \geq g(n)$$

if $0 < \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} < \infty$ *then* $f = \Theta(g)$

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

Optional Example

Show that $\log_2(n) \times \log_2(n) = O(n)$

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Show that $\log_2(n) \times \log_2(n) = O(n)$

Solution.

This is equivalent to showing that $\log_2(n) = O(\sqrt{n})$

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$$0 \leq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log_2(n)}{\sqrt{n}} < \infty$$

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Using L'Hôpital's rule:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{f'(x)}{g'(x)}.$$
$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log_2(n)}{\sqrt{n}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{1}{n \cdot \ln 2}}{\frac{1}{2\sqrt{n}}}$$

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$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2\sqrt{n}}{n \cdot \ln 2}$$

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Show that $\log_2(n) \times \log_2(n) = O(n)$

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Using L'Hôpital's rule: $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log_2(n)}{\sqrt{n}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{1}{n \cdot \ln 2}}{\frac{1}{2\sqrt{n}}}$

$\lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{f'(x)}{g'(x)}$.

Remember. $\log^c n = o(n^d)$
where $c > 0$ and $d > 0$ are constants.

$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2\sqrt{n}}{n \cdot \ln 2} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2\sqrt{n}}{\sqrt{n}\sqrt{n} \cdot \ln 2}$

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Prove by induction that $2^n = O(n!)$

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We need to show that there exist two constants c and n_0 such that $0 \leq 2^n \leq c \cdot n!$ for all $n \geq n_0$.

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Prove by induction that $2^n = O(n!)$

Solution.

We need to show that there exist two constants c and n_0 such that $0 \leq 2^n \leq c \cdot n!$ for all $n \geq n_0$.

Assume $c = 1$

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Assume $c = 1$

i. When $n = 4$, $2^n = 16$ while $n! = 24$. Therefore, the inequality holds for $n = 4$.

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i. When $n = 4$, $2^n = 16$ while $n! = 24$. Therefore, the inequality holds for $n = 4$.

ii. Assuming that $0 \leq 2^m \leq m!$ is true for some $m \geq 4$,
we will show that $0 \leq 2^{m+1} \leq (m+1)!$ is also true.

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Rewriting the equation: $0 \leq 2^1 \cdot 2^m \leq (m+1) \cdot m!$

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This is clearly true, since $2^1 \leq (m+1)$ since $m \geq 4$ and we know from the induction hypothesis that $2^m \leq m!$

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This is clearly true, since $2^1 \leq (m+1)$ since $m \geq 4$ and we know from the induction hypothesis that $2^m \leq m!$

Therefore, $0 \leq 2^n \leq c \cdot n!$ for all $n \geq n_0$ is true if we pick $c = 1$ and $n_0 = 4$.