



# CS 173: Discrete Structures

Eric Shaffer

Office Hour: Wed. 12-1, 2215 SC

[shaffer1@illinois.edu](mailto:shaffer1@illinois.edu)





# Announcements

- Friday 3/13 class cancelled (due to EOH)
- HW still due 3/13
  - Hand-in at 3229 Siebel at ~~before~~ noon at the latest
- Quiz **Next** Wed. 3/18 *Covers through today's lecture*
  - Further updates as we get closer to that date..
- Today:
  - Solving recurrence relations (Section 7.1)





## Big-O review

- Which of these functions is  $O(x^2)$ ?

1.  $F(x) = 10$  *yes*

2.  $F(x) = x \log x$  *yes*

3.  $F(x) = 2^x$  *no*

4.  $F(x) = x^4/2$  *no*

5.  $F(x) = \lceil x \rceil \lfloor x \rfloor$  *yes*

$$\lfloor x \rfloor \leq \lceil x \rceil \leq x + 1 \quad \text{so} \quad \lceil x \rceil \lfloor x \rfloor \leq (x + 1)^2$$

$$= x^2 + 2x + 1 =$$

$$O(x^2)$$



## Fill-in-the-blank

If  $\exists c, k$  so that  $\forall x \geq k$ ,  $\underline{f(x) \geq c g(x)}$   
then  $f(x) = \Omega(g(x))$ .

If  $f(x) = \underline{O(g(x))}$ , and  $f(x) = \underline{\Omega(g(x))}$   
then  $f(x) = \Theta(g(x))$





## Growth of functions - other estimates

Show that  $3x^2 + 8x \log x$  is  $\Theta(x^2)$

Proof:

1)  $3x^2 + 8x \log x$  is  $O(x^2)$  since  $8x \log x \leq 8x^2$

so  $3x^2 + 8x \log x \leq 11x^2$  for  $x > 1$

2)  $3x^2 + 8x \log x$  is  $\Omega(x^2)$

$$3x^2 + 8x \log x \geq x^2 \quad \text{for } x > 1$$

$$\text{like } \boxed{k=1, c=1}$$

$$\hookrightarrow 3x^2 + 8x \log x = \Omega(x^2)$$





## Growth of functions - other estimates

$$\lg = \log_2$$

Show that  $2^n \lg 2^n$  is  $\Theta(n \lg n^2) \stackrel{!}{=} 2^n (\lg 2 + \lg n) = \Theta(n 2 \lg n)$

Proof:

Show  $2^n \lg 2^n = O(n \lg n^2)$       show  $2^n + 2^n \lg n = \Theta(2^n \lg n)$

Let  $c=2$  and  $k=1$

$$2^n + 2^n \lg n \leq 2^n \lg n + 2^n \lg n = 2 \cdot (2^n \lg n)$$

for  $n > 1$       so  $2^n \lg 2^n = O(n \lg n^2)$

Show  $2^n \lg 2^n = \Omega(n \lg n^2)$

$$2^n + 2^n \lg n \geq 2^n \lg n \text{ for all } n > 1$$

so, it's true.



## Growth of functions - other estimates

For functions  $f$  and  $g$ ,  $f = o(g)$  if

$$\forall c > 0 \exists k \text{ so that } \forall n > k, f(n) \leq c \cdot g(n),$$

" $f$  is little- $o$  of  $g$ "

Example: Show that  $n^2 = o(n^2 \log n)$

Proof: find a  $k$  (possibly in terms of  $c$ ) that makes the inequality hold.

Choose  $c$  arbitrarily. How large does  $n$  have to be so that  $n^2 \leq c n^2 \log n$ ?

$$1 \leq c \log n$$

$$1/c \leq \log n$$

$$2^{1/c} \leq n$$

This inequality holds when  $n > 2^{1/c}$ .

$$\text{So, } k = 2^{1/c}.$$





## Growth of functions - other estimates

For functions  $f$  and  $g$ ,  $f = o(g)$  if

$$\forall c > 0 \exists k \text{ so that } \forall n > k, f(n) \leq c \cdot g(n),$$

" $f$  is little- $o$  of  $g$ "

Example: Show that  $10n^2 = o(n^3)$

Proof foreshadowing: find a  $k$   
(possibly in terms of  $c$ ) that makes the inequality hold.

Choose  $c$  arbitrarily. How large does  $n$  have to  
be so that  $10n^2 \leq c n^3$ ?

$$10/c \leq n$$

This inequality holds  
when  $n > 10/c$ .

So,  $k = 10/c$ .







## Growth of functions - other estimates

For functions  $f$  and  $g$ , if  $f = o(g)$  then  $g = \omega(f)$

" $g$  is little-omega of  $f$ "

What if  $f = o(g)$  and  $f = \omega(g)$ ?





# Techniques for solving recurrence relations

No general, automatic procedure for solving is known.

There are methods for solving specific forms of recurrences

- Generate a guess
  - prove the guess is true by induction
- Unrolling the recursion
- Drawing a recursion tree
- Approximate solutions (e.g.  $T(n) = O(f(n))$  )
- We may or may not cover these:
  - Characteristic equation method
  - Master Theorem
  - Generating functions





# Solving recurrence relations

One of the first and most useful recurrences: Compound Interest

Starting with a deposit of \$10,000 with a yield of 11% a year (!)  
How much do we have after N years

$$T(0) = 10000$$

$$T(n) = T(n-1) + 0.11 T(n-1)$$

Technique: UNROLLING THE RECURRENCE

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= 1.11 T(n-1) = \\ &= 1.11 (1.11 (T(n-2))) \\ &= 1.11 (1.11 (1.11 T(n-3))) = 1.11^i T(n-i) \end{aligned}$$

To get to the base case we let  $i=n$ :  $T(n) = 1.11^n T(0) = 1.11^n (10,000)$   
For  $n=30$  you get \$228,922.97





## Solving recurrence relations

$T(n)$  = number of pieces of pizza as a function of the number of cuts

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

$$T(0) = 1$$

Technique: UNROLLING THE RECURRENCE

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

$$T(n) = T(n-2) + (n-1) + n$$

$$T(n) = T(n-3) + (n-2) + (n-1) + n$$

$$T(n) = T(n-i) + (n-i+1) + \dots + n$$

To get to the base case we let  $i=n$ :  $T(n) = T(n-n) + (n-n+1) + \dots + n$

$$T(n) = T(0) + 1 + 2 + \dots + n = 1 + \sum_{i=1}^n i$$

$$= 1 + \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$$





## Solving recurrence relations

$$T(n) = T(n-1) + 3n \quad \text{from this we get } T(n-1) = T(n-2) + 3(n-1)$$
$$T(0) = 1$$

Technique: UNROLLING THE RECURRENCE

$$T(n) = T(n-1) + 3n \quad \text{substitute}$$

$$T(n) = T(n-2) + 3(n-1) + 3n$$

$$T(n) = T(n-i) + 3(n-i+1) + \dots + 3n$$

$$T(n) = T(0) + 3(1) + 3(2) + \dots + 3n$$

$$= 1 + 3 \sum_{i=1}^n i = 1 + 3 \left( \frac{n(n+1)}{2} \right)$$