

Big-O Cheat Sheet

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$O(x)$ - less than

- Big O
- “ $5n$ is $O(n)$ and $O(n^2)$.” “Our algorithm runs in...”
- $f < c * g$ for large enough n

$\Omega(x)$ - greater than

- Big Omega
- “ $5n^2$ is $\Omega(n^2)$ and $\Omega(n)$ ”. The opposite of Big-O. “Our lower bound shows...”
- $f > c * g$ for large enough n

$\Theta(x)$ - equal to

- Big Theta
- “ $5n^2$ is $\Theta(n^2)$ ”. “Furthermore, our bounds are tight...”
- $c_1 * g > f > c_2 * g$ for large enough n

$o(x)$ - less than, not equal to.

- Little O
- “ $5n^2$ is $o(n^3)$ ”. “We break a long standing barrier, giving the first algorithm running in time...”
- $f < c * g$ for large enough n and for all c . I.e. $\frac{f}{g} \rightarrow 0$

$\omega(x)$ - greater than, not equal to.

- Little Omega
- “ n^2 is $\omega(n)$ ”. The opposite of Little-O, and as far as I can tell, not very popular.
- $f > c * g$ for large enough n and for all c . I.e. $\frac{g}{f} \rightarrow 0$