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| def | <pre>binary_search(sequence, TO, item):</pre>                                      | <b>C</b> 1             |
|-----|--|------------------------|
|     | low = 0  | 1                      |
|     | high = len(sequence)   | 6                      |
|     | while high - low > 1 :   | C2                     |
|     | mid = (low + high) / 2   | <b>C</b> 3             |
|     | <pre>compar = TO(item, sequence[mid])</pre>  |                        |
|     | if compare < 0:  | <i>C</i> 4             |
|     | $\operatorname{alif}_{\operatorname{compar}} \geq 0$                               | C5                     |
|     | low - mid + 1  | Č.                     |
|     |  | c <sub>6</sub>         |
|     | else:  | <b>C</b> 7             |
|     | low = mid  |                        |
|     | high = mid + 1   | Co                     |
|     | if low < high and TO(item, sequence[low]) == 0:                                    | <b>-</b> 0             |
|     | return low   | <b>C</b> -             |
|     | else:  | Cg                     |
|     | return -1  | <i>c</i> <sub>10</sub> |
|     | ·····  |                        |
|     | $T_{bs}(n) = c_1 + c_2(\lg n + 1) + (c_3 + \max(c_4, c_5 + c_6, c_5 + c_7)) \lg n$ |                        |
|     |  |                        |

$$+c_8 + \max(c_9, c_{10})$$
  
=  $d_0 + d_1 \lg n$ 



$$T_{sel}(n) = f_1 + f_2 n + f_3 n^2$$

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 $g(n) \sim f(n)$  means the functions are asymptotically equal, that is, that  $\lim_{n\to\infty} \frac{g(n)}{f(n)} = 1$ . Thus  $\frac{n^3}{6} - \frac{n^2}{2} + \frac{n}{3} \sim \frac{n^3}{6}$ .

g(n) = O(f(n)), which really should be written  $g(n) \in O(f(n))$ , means that a scaled version of f(n) asymptotically bounds g above. It means there exists a c such that when n is large enough,  $g(n) \le cf(n)$ . Thus  $\frac{n^3}{6} - \frac{n^2}{2} + \frac{n}{3} = O(\frac{n^3}{6})$  but also  $\frac{n^3}{6} - \frac{n^2}{2} + \frac{n}{3} = O(n^3)$  and  $\frac{n^3}{6} - \frac{n^2}{2} + \frac{n}{3} = O(n^4)$ .

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With big-oh, you can throw away the lower ordered terms *and* throw away the constant factor of the highest order term *and* overshoot.

With tilde, you only can throw away the lower ordered terms.

Objections to and misconceptions of big-oh notation take forms such as

- Big-oh notation specifies only an upper bound of running time, which might be widely imprecise.
- Big-oh notation measures only the worst case, when the best case or the typical case might be much better.
- ▶ Big-oh ignores constants, which can greatly affect running time in practice.
- Algorithms that have the same big-oh category can have widely different running times in practice.
- Big-oh considers only the *size* of the input, when in fact other attributes of the input can greatly affect running time.