



15-112  
Lecture 2

Sets, Dictionaries,  
and Efficiency

Instructor: Pat Virtue

Tuesday Logistics

[www.cs.cmu.edu/~112/gallery.html](http://www.cs.cmu.edu/~112/gallery.html)



## CMU 15-112, Fall 2023

Fundamentals of Programming and Computer Science  
Carnegie Mellon University

W 15-112 S23 Term Project Lightning Rou... Watch later Share

A YouTube video thumbnail with a red play button in the center. To the left is a blue square with a white dragon logo. The text on the thumbnail reads "15-112 SPRING23" in large blue letters and "TERM PROJECT LIGHTNING ROUND VIDEO" in smaller blue letters below it.

Watch on  YouTube

[Click here for the Term Project Gallery!](#)

# Announcements

## Term Project

- Ideation Meetings
- Special Topic Sessions

## Hack112

- Sat-Sun Nov 4-5
- Just for us!

## HW8

- Little Alchemy!

# Poll 1

Would you attend a TP ideation meeting with a TA?

- Definitely yes
- Probably yes
- Probably not
- Definitely not

Thursday Logistics

# Warm-up as you walk in

Dancing is optional :-p



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LriMvv9qDrk>

# Announcements

## Term Project

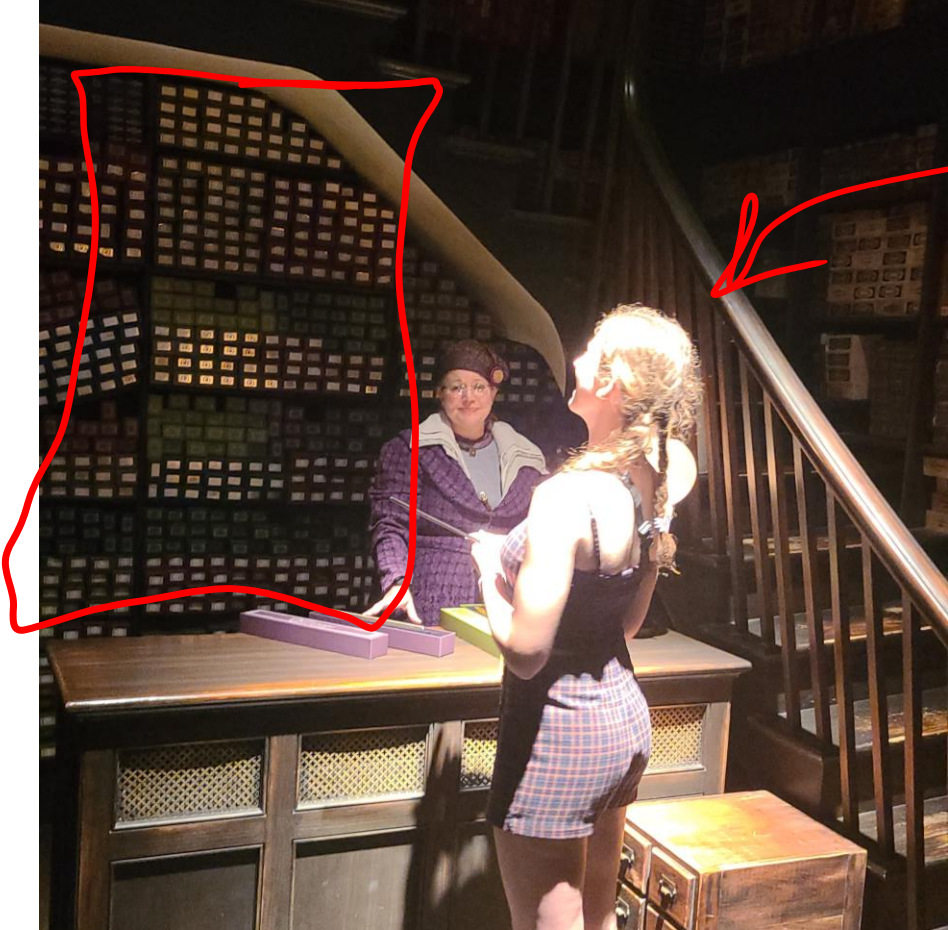
- Preview



Sets

# Debate

Which are better sets or lists?



# Lists vs Sets

Property	Lists	Sets
Indexing	✓	✗
Iterate over	✓	✓
Mutable	✓	✓
Mutable elements	✓	✗
Get length	✓	✓
Check contents	✓	✓
<del>Store</del> Sort different types	✓	✓
<del>Store</del> Sort repeated elements	✓	✗
Stored in order added	✓	✗

“I feel the need, the need for speed”

-- Top Gun



## Poll 2

the following

Which of may need to visit all N elements in the list data, assuming  $N = \text{len}(\text{data})$ ? Select ALL that apply.

✓ A. for x in data:

```
    print(x)
```

✓ B. for i in range(len(data)):

```
    x = data[i]
```

```
    print(x)
```

✓ C. if x in data:

```
    print("Found it")
```

~~X~~ D. x = data[-1]

✓ E. x = max(data)

F. None of the above

# Poll 3

Which of may need to visit all N elements in the **set** data, assuming  $N = \text{len}(\text{data})$ ? Select ALL that apply.

✓ A. for x in data:

```
    print(x)
```

~~B. for i in range(len(data)):~~

```
    x = data[i]
```

```
    print(x)
```

C. if x in data:

```
    print("Found it")
```

~~D. x = data[-1]~~

✓ E. x = max(data)

F. None of the above

# Discussion

Brainstorm: How can I make finding a specific student's exam more efficient?

Set lookup is \*way\* faster



Hashing

# Discussion

Brainstorm: How can I make finding a specific student's exam more efficient?

# How do sets work? In-class exercise

## Hashtables

### Simple example

```
def myHash(s):  
    val = 0  
    for c in s:  
        val += ord(c)  
    return val
```

```
s = "cat"
```

```
numBuckets = 10  
hVal = myHash(s)  
bucketIndex = hVal % numBuckets
```

```
print(s, hVal, bucketIndex)
```

# How do sets work?

## Hashtables

### Simple example

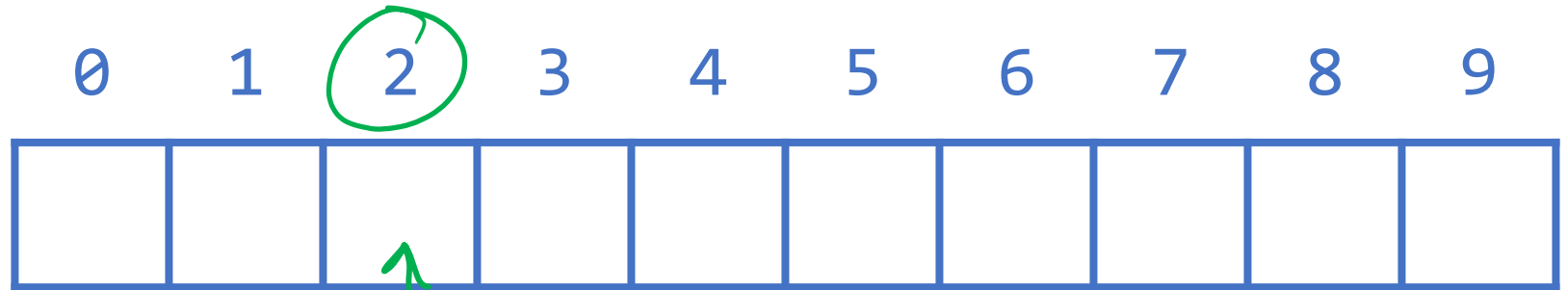
```
def myHash(s):  
    val = 0  
    for c in s:  
        val += ord(c)  
    return val
```

```
s = "cat"
```

```
numBuckets = 10  
hVal = myHash(s)  
bucketIndex = hVal % numBuckets
```

```
print(s, hVal, bucketIndex)
```

Hashtable (a list of length numBuckets)



"cat" → 312 → 2

object → hash → hashtable  
value index

hash(obj)

hVal % numBins

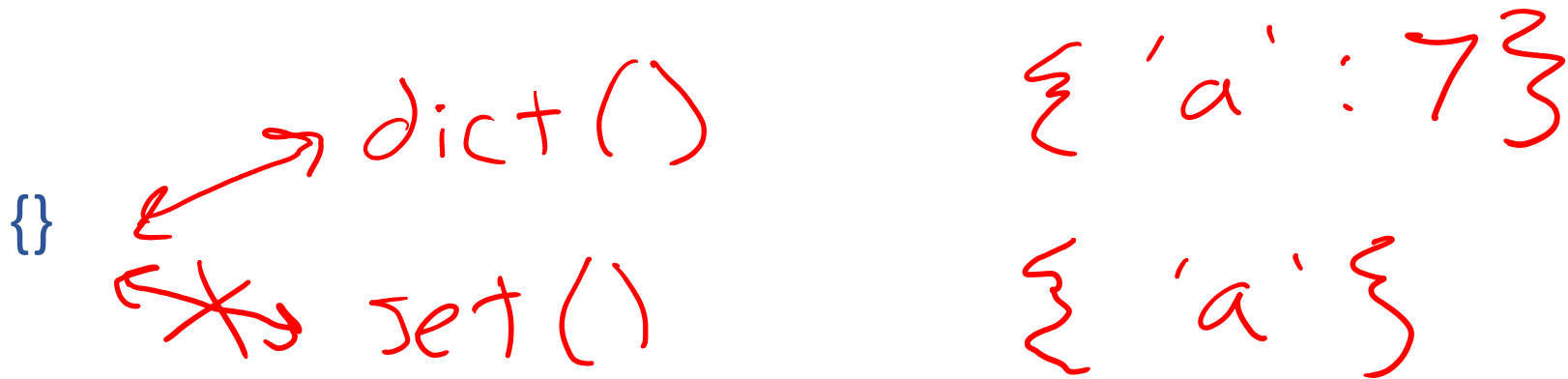
Dictionaries

# Dictionaries

Map keys to values

`vocab.get('ddd', 0)`

Keys are stored like sets



if 'ddd' in vocab  
safe

Key Error `val = vocab['ddd']`

# Sets and Dictionaries Example

Vocab

Efficiency



# Counting operations

## Worksheet

# Counting operations

## Worksheet

$$\sum_{i=1}^{N-1} i$$

$$1 + 2 + \dots + (N-1)$$

# Counting operations

$N$  is the size of the input data

- e.g. the length of an input list

The function  $f(N)$  is a measurement or count of resources used based on  $N$

- Often based on **computation time** needed, but can be related to other resources like **space** (memory) needed
- Measured in number of operations rather than time
  - Lots of reasons, e.g. easier to compare algorithms despite changes in computer speed
- Small details either ignored or estimated (because of big-O)

# Big O

Describes asymptotic behavior of a function

Informally (for 15112):

- Ignore all lower-order terms and constants

$\log_{17} N = \frac{\log_2 N}{\log_2 17}$

$\rightarrow$

$f(N)$  is in  $O(?)$

A few examples:

- $\cancel{1}N^2 - \cancel{1}N + 25$  is in  $O(N^2)$
- $\cancel{30000}N^2 + \cancel{6}N - 25$  is in  $O(N^2)$
- $\cancel{0.000001}N^2 + \cancel{123456}N$  is in  $O(N^2)$
- $\cancel{10}N \log_{\cancel{17}}N + \cancel{25}N - \cancel{17}$  is in  $O(N \log N)$

# Common Function Families

Constant:  $O(1)$

Logarithmic:  $O(\log N)$

Linear:  $O(N)$

Loglinear:  $O(N \log N)$

Quadratic:  $O(N^2)$

Exponential:  $O(2^N)$



# Previous Poll 2

Which of these needs to visit all  $N$  elements in the list data, assuming  $N = \text{len}(\text{data})$ ?

Select ALL that apply.

A. `for x in data:`

`print(x)`

$O(N)$

B. `for i in range(len(data)):`

`print(x)`

$O(N)$

C. `if x in data:`

`print("Found it")`

$O(N)$

D. `x = data[i]`

$O(1)$

E. `x = max(data)`

F. None of the above

# Previous Poll 3

Which of these needs to visit all N elements in the **set** data, assuming  $N = \text{len}(\text{data})$ ?

Select ALL that apply.

A. for x in data:

```
    print(x)
```

$O(N)$

~~B. for i in range(len(data)):~~

```
    print(x)
```

~~$x = \text{data}[i]$~~

$N/A$

C. if x in data:

```
    print("Found it")
```

$O(1)$

~~D. x = data[i]~~

E. x = max(data)

$O(N)$

F. None of the above

# Poll 4

Which of these is  $O(N)$  for the **dictionary**  $d$ , assuming  $N = \text{len}(d)$ ?

Note: all of these are either  $O(1)$  or  $O(N)$

Select ALL that apply.

A. for key in d:

```
    print(d[key])
```

$O(N)$

B. for i in range(len(d)):

```
    print(d[i])
```

$O(N)$

C. if key in d:

```
    print("Found it")
```

$O(1)$

D.  $x = d[\text{key}]$

$O(1)$

E.  $d[\text{key}] = x$

$O(1)$

F. None of the above



# Efficiency of Search and Sort

Example Lame Wordle

## Poll 5

I'm thinking of a number between 1 and 64. After each guess, I'll tell you if you're **correct** or if my number is **higher** or **lower**.

\$100 if you win. \$0 if you lose.

How many guesses do you want to buy, \$1 each?

A: 6

B: 7

C: 32

D: 64

# Guess a Number: Binary Search

I'm thinking of a number between **1 and N**. After each guess, I'll tell you if you're **correct** or if my number is **higher** or **lower**.

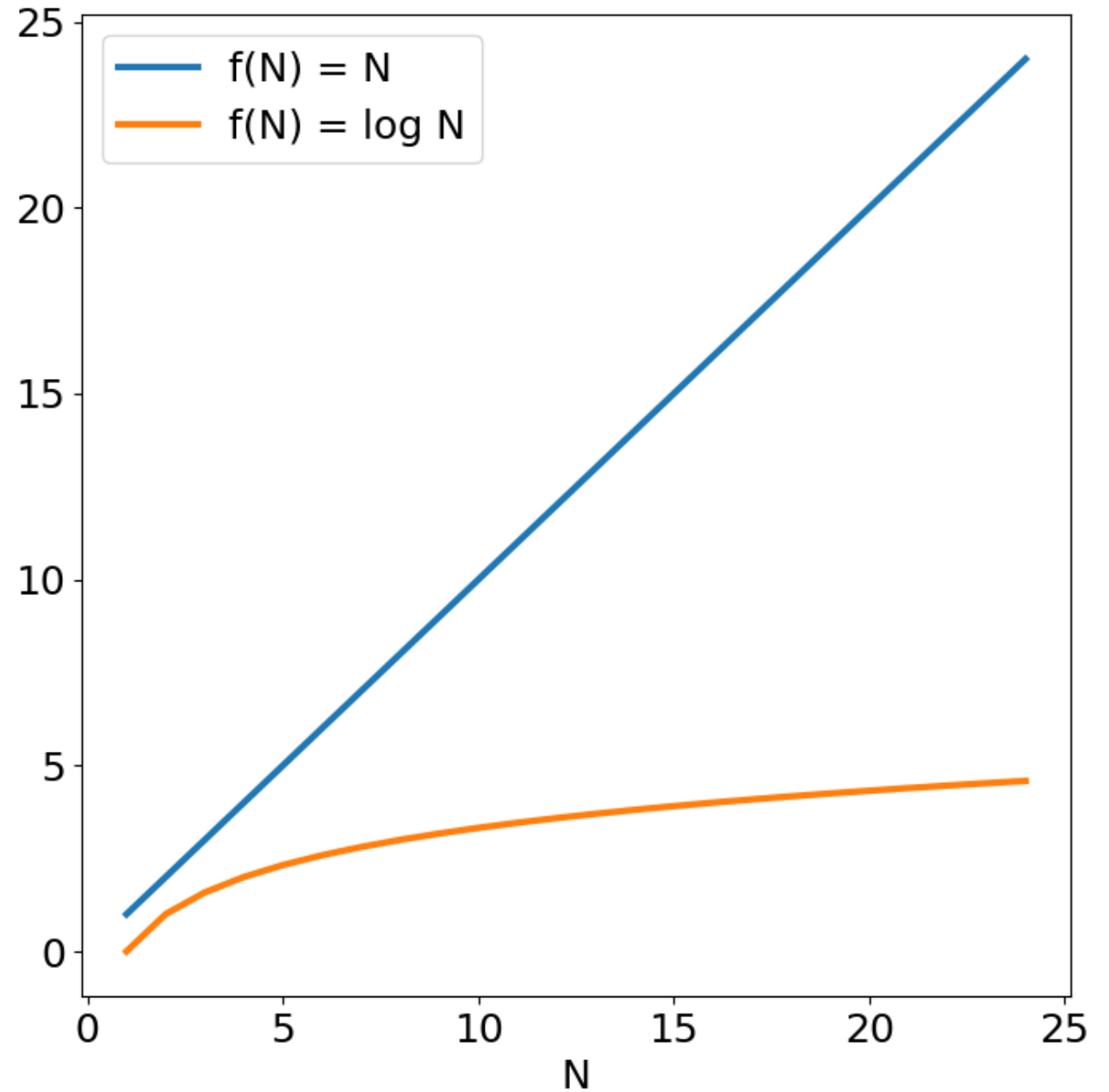
What is the maximum number of guesses you'll need to play this game?

$N$	10	100	1,000	10,000	100,000	1,000,000	10,000,000
$\log_2 N$	3.3	6.6	10.0	13.3	16.6	19.9	23.3
$\lfloor \log_2 N \rfloor + 1$	4.0	7.0	11.0	14.0	17.0	20.0	24.0

# Linear vs Binary Search

Linear search:  $O(N)$

Binary search:  $O(\log N)$



# Linear vs Binary Search

Linear search:  $O(N)$

$N = 40$



Binary search:  $O(\log N)$



# Common Function Families

Constant:  $O(1)$

Logarithmic:  $O(\log N)$

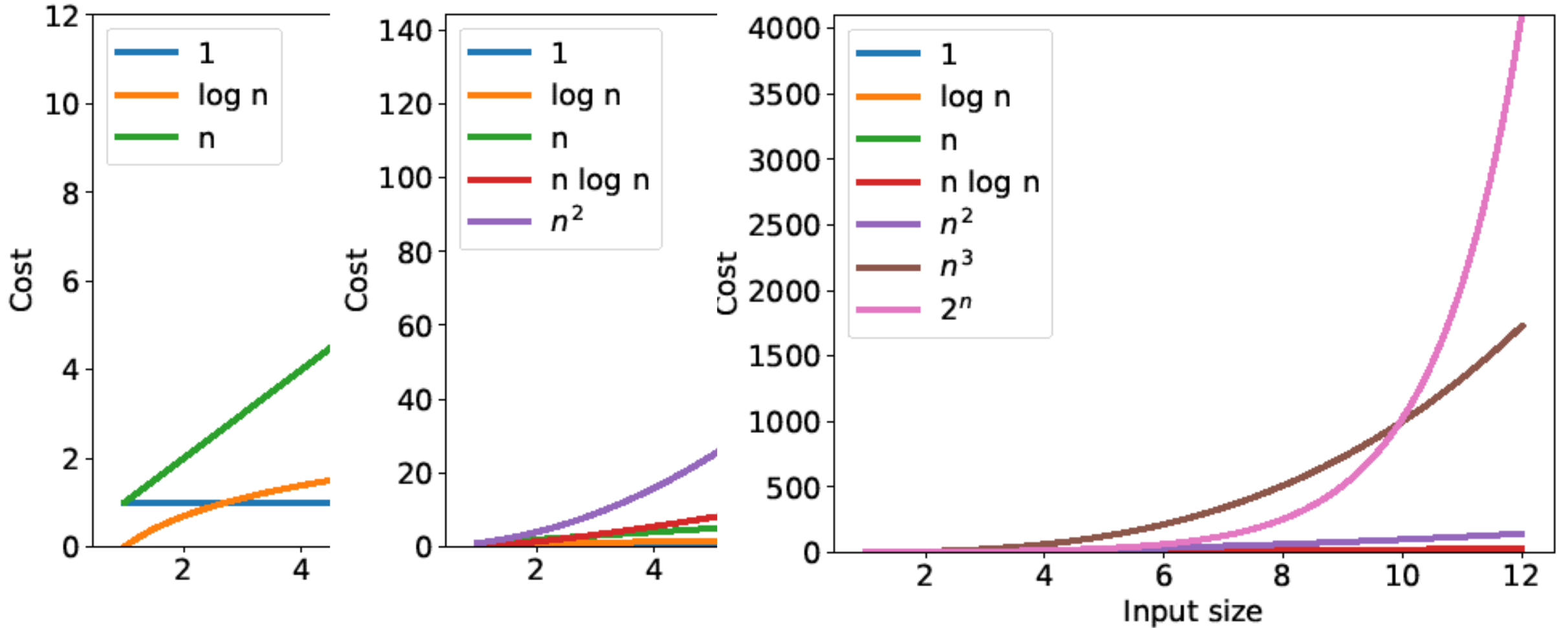
Linear:  $O(N)$

Loglinear:  $O(N \log N)$

Quadratic:  $O(N^2)$

Exponential:  $O(2^N)$

# Complexity Classes





# Efficiency of Sorting Algorithms

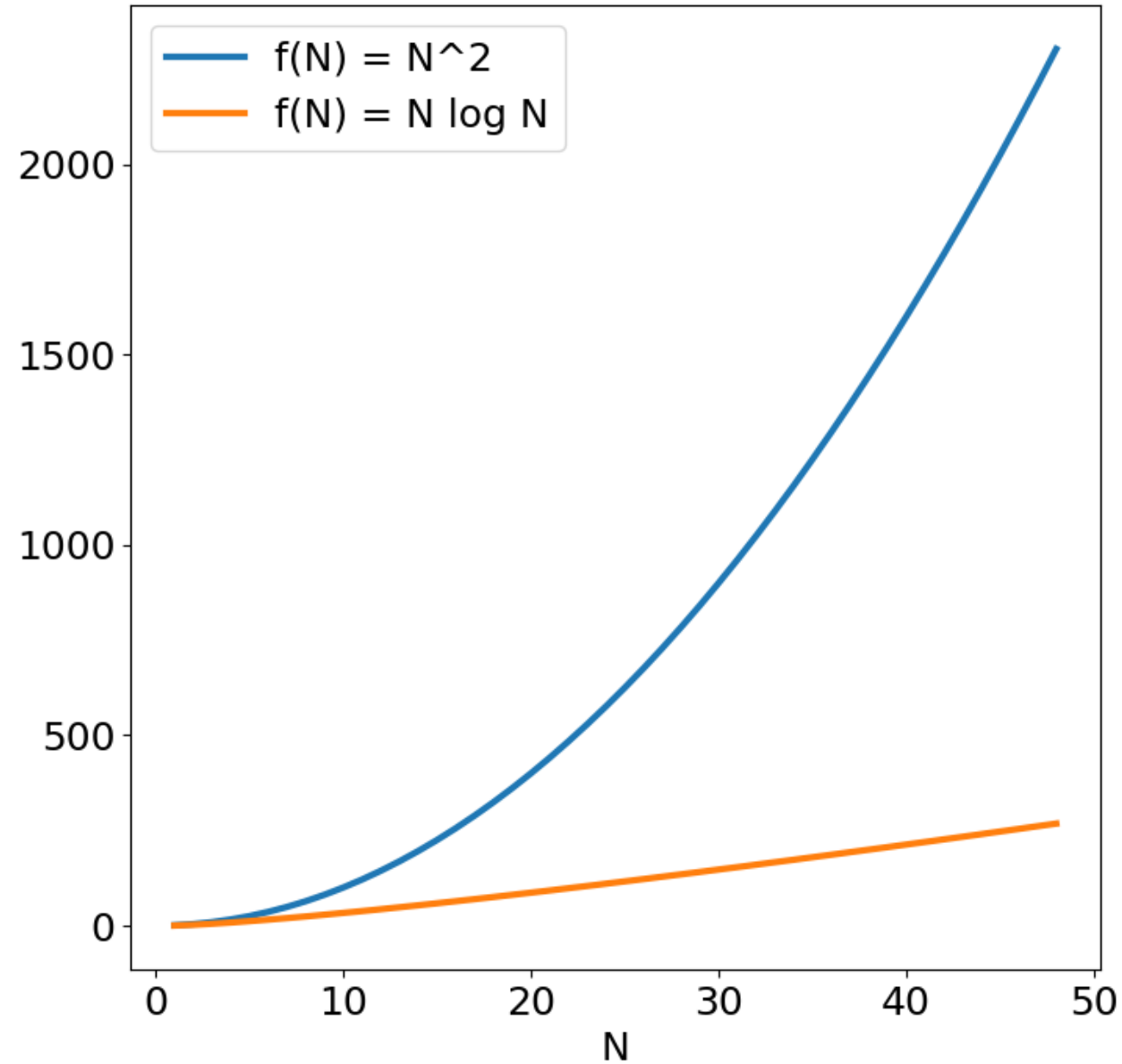
# Sorting algorithms

xSortLab

<http://math.hws.edu/eck/js/sorting/xSortLab.html>

Selection sort:  $O(N^2)$

Merge sort:  $O(N \log N)$



# Sorting algorithms

Selection sort:  $O(N^2)$

## Loop

- Find max in unsorted region
- Swap max with value at the end of the unsorted region
- Shrink unsorted region by 1

Merge sort:  $O(N \log N)$

# Sorting algorithms

Merge sort:  $O(N \log N)$

Merge concept:

Assume you had two piles that were already independently sorted.

Could you shuffle them together into one sorted pile in  $O(N)$ ?