

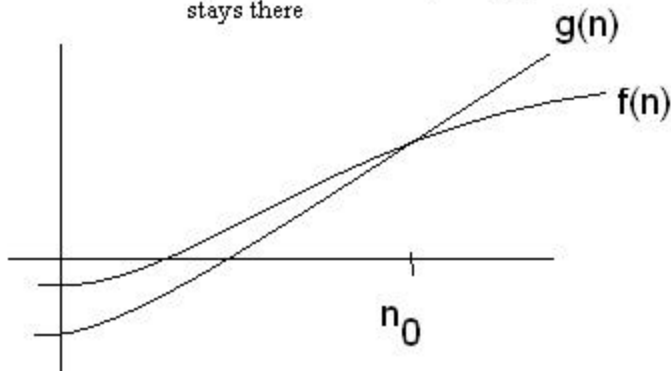
Below are the mathematical descriptions of the different asymptotic notations.

I hope this helps.

$f(n) \in O(g(n))$ iff for some $c > 0$, $n_0 > 0$:

$$|f(n)| \leq c * g(n) \quad \text{for some } n \geq n_0$$

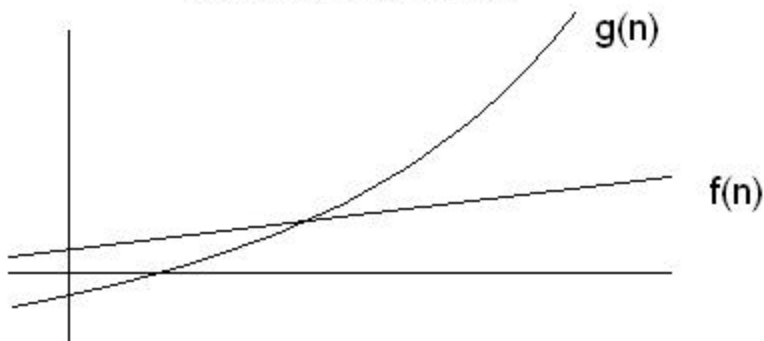
That is, at some point during $f(n)$, $g(n)$ becomes at least as large as $f(n)$, and stays there



$f(n) \in o(g(n))$ iff

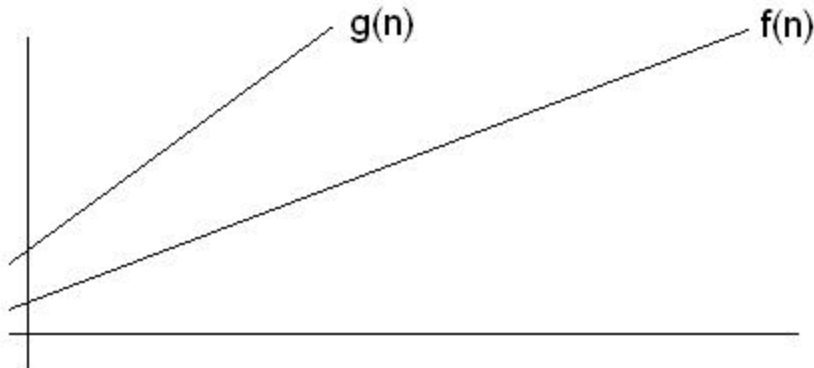
$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} = 0$$

That is, as n approaches infinity, $f(n)$ is insignificant compared to $g(n)$:



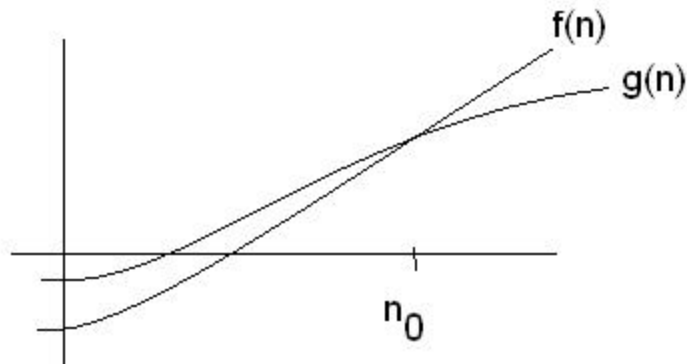
$$f(n) \in \Theta(g(n)) \text{ iff } f(n) \in O(g(n)) \text{ and } g(n) \in O(f(n))$$

That is, $g(n)$ and $f(n)$ differ only by a constant or some other lower order terms.
 For example, $f(n) = n/2$ and $g(n) = n \dots$



$$f(n) \in \Omega(g(n)) \text{ iff } g(n) \in O(f(n))$$

See O notation for more clarification



$$f(n) \approx g(n) \text{ iff } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} = 1$$

That is, $f(n)$ and $g(n)$ are equivalent for large n .
 For example:

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

$$g(n) = n^2$$

As n approaches infinity,
 $1/n$ approaches 0;
 so $f(n)/g(n)$ approaches 1.