**Example.** Consider the following code fragment.

```plaintext
for (i = 0; i < n; i++)
    for (j = 0; j < i; j = j + 10)
        print ("run time analysis")
```

Give a tight bound on the running time of this code fragment.

**Solution.** For each value of $i$, the body of the inner loop executes $i/10$ times. Thus the running time of the body of the outer loop is at most $c(i/10)$, for some positive constant $c$. Hence the total running time of the code fragment is given by

$$
\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} c \left\lfloor \frac{i}{10} \right\rfloor \leq \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} c \left( \frac{i}{10} + 1 \right) = \frac{c(n-1)n}{20} + cn \leq 2cn^2 = O(n^2)
$$

We will now show that $\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} c \left\lfloor \frac{i}{10} \right\rfloor = \Omega(n^2)$. Note that

$$
\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} c \left\lfloor \frac{i}{10} \right\rfloor \geq \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} ci/10 = c(n-1)n/20
$$

We want to find positive constants $c'$ and $n_0$, such that for all $n \geq n_0$,

$$
\frac{c(n-1)n}{20} \geq c'n^2
$$

This is equivalent to showing that $n(c - 20c') \geq c$. This is true when $c' = c/40$ and $n \geq 2$. Thus, the running time of the code fragment is $\Omega(n^2)$.

**Example.** Consider the following code fragment.

```plaintext
i = n
while (i >= 10) do
    i = i/3
    for j = 1 to n do
        print ("Inner loop")
```

What is an upper-bound on the running time of this code fragment? Is there a matching lower-bound?
Solution. The running time of the body of the inner loop is $O(1)$. Thus the running time of the inner loop is at most $c_1n$, for some positive constant $c_1$. The body of the outer loop takes at most $c_2n$ time, for some positive constant $c_2$ (note that the statement $i = i/3$ takes $O(1)$ time). Suppose the algorithm goes through $t$ iterations of the while loop. At the end of the last iteration of the while loop, the value of $i$ is $n/3^t$. We know that the code fragment surely finishes when $n/3^t \leq 1$, solving which gives us $t \geq \log_3 n$. This means that the number of iterations of the while loop is at most $O(\log n)$. Thus the total running time is $O(n \log n)$.

We will now show that the running time is $\Omega(n \log n)$. We will lower-bound the number of iterations of the outer loop. Note that when the value of $i$ is more than 10 (say, $3^3$), the outer loop has not terminated. Solving $n/3^t \geq 3^3$, gives us that $\log_3 n - 3$ is a lower bound on the number of iterations of the outer loop. For each iteration of the outer loop, the inner loop runs $n$ times. Thus the total running time is at least $cn(\log_3 n - 3)$, for some positive constant $c$. Note that $cn(\log_3 n - 3) \geq c'n \log n$, when $c' = c/2$ and $n \geq 3^6$. Thus the running time is $\Omega(n \log n)$.

Example. Consider the following code fragment.

```plaintext
for i = 0 to n
doi
    for j = n down to 0 do
        for k = 1 to j-i do
            print (k)
```

What is an upper-bound on the running time of this algorithm? What is the lower bound?

Solution. Note that for a fixed value of $i$ and $j$, the innermost loop goes through $\max\{0, j - i\} \leq n$ times. Thus the running time of the above code fragment is $O(n^3)$.

To find the lower bound on the running time, consider the values of $i$, such that $0 \leq i \leq n/4$ and values of $j$, such that $3n/4 \leq j \leq n$. Note that for each of the $n^2/16$ different combinations of $i$ and $j$, the innermost loop executes at least $n/2$ times. Thus the running time is at least 

$$(n^2/16)(n/2) = \Omega(n^3)$$

Example. Consider the following code fragment.

```plaintext
for i = 1 to n
doi
    for j = 1 to i*i do
        for k = 1 to j do
            print (k)
```

Give a tight-bound on the running time of this algorithm? We will assume that $n$ is a power of 2.

Solution. Note that the value of $j$ in the second for-loop is upper bounded by $n^2$ and the value of $k$ in the innermost loop is also bounded by $n^2$. Thus the outermost for-loop
iterates for \( n \) times, the second for-loop iterates for at most \( n^2 \) times, and the innermost loop iterates for at most \( n^2 \) times. Thus the running time of the code fragment is \( O(n^5) \).

We will now argue that the running time of the code fragment is \( \Omega(n^5) \). Consider the following code fragment.

```plaintext
for i = n/2 to n do
    for j = (n/4)*(n/4) to (n/2)*(n/2) do
        for k = 1 to (n/4)*(n/4) do
            print (k)
```

Note that the values of \( i, j, k \) in the above code fragment form a subset of the corresponding values in the code fragment in question. Thus the running time of the new code fragment is a lower bound on the running time of the code fragment in question. Thus the running time of the code fragment in question is at least

\[
\frac{n}{2} \cdot \frac{3n^2}{16} \cdot \frac{n^2}{16} = \Omega(n^5).
\]

Thus the running time of the code fragment in question is \( \Theta(n^5) \).

**Example.** Consider the following code fragment. We will assume that \( n \) is a power of 2.

```plaintext
for (i = 1; i <= n; i = 2*i) do
    for j = 1 to i do
        print (j)
```

Give a tight-bound on the running time of this algorithm?

**Solution.** Observe that for \( 0 \leq k \leq \lg n \), in the \( k^{th} \) iteration of the outer loop, the value of \( i = 2^k \). Thus the running time \( T(n) \) of the code fragment can be written as follows.

\[
T(n) = \sum_{k=0}^{\lg n} 2^k = 2^{\lg n+1} - 1 = 2n - 1 = \Theta(n) \quad (c_1 = 1, c_2 = 2, n_0 = 1)
\]

What is wrong with the following argument that the running time of the above code fragment is \( \Omega(n \log n) \)?

```plaintext
for (i = n/128; i <= n; i = 2*i) do
    for j = 1 to n/128 do
        print (j)
```

The outer loop runs \( \Omega(\log n) \) times and the inner loop runs \( \Omega(n) \) times and hence the running time is \( \Omega(n \log n) \).

**Discussion:** Consider a problem \( X \) with an algorithm \( A \).
• Algorithm A runs in time $O(n^2)$. This means that the worst case asymptotic running time of algorithm A is upper-bounded by $n^2$. Is this bound tight? That is, is it possible that the run-time analysis of algorithm A is loose and that one can give a tighter upper-bound on the running time?

• Algorithm A runs in time $\Theta(n^2)$. This means that the bound is tight, that is, a better (tighter) bound on the worst case asymptotic running time for algorithm A is not possible.

• Problem X takes time $O(n^2)$. This means that there is an algorithm that solves problem X on all inputs in time $O(n^2)$.

• Problem X takes $\Theta(n^{1.5})$. This means that there is an algorithm to solve problem X that takes time $O(n^{1.5})$ and no algorithm can do better.

Consider the problem of computing $2^n$ for any non-negative integer $n$. Below are four similar looking algorithms to solve this problem.

```python
powerof2(n)
if n = 0
    return 1
else
    return 2 * powerof2(n-1)
```

```python
powerof2(n)
if n = 0
    return 1
else
    return powerof2(n-1) + powerof2(n-1)
```

```python
powerof2(n)
if n = 0
    return 1
else
    tmp = powerof2(n-1)
    return tmp + tmp
```

```python
powerof2(n)
if n = 0
    return 1
else
    tmp = powerof2(floor(n/2))
    if (n is even) then
        return tmp * tmp
    else
        return 2 * tmp * tmp
```