

# Chapter 4

## Recurrences

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# Overview

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- Recall that in divide-and-conquer, we solve a problem recursively, applying three steps at each level of the recursion:
  - **Divide** the problem into a number of subproblems that are smaller instances of same problem.
  - **Conquer** the subproblems by solving them recursively. If the subproblem sizes are small enough, however, just solve the subproblems in a straightforward manner.
  - **Combine** the solutions to the subproblems into the solution for the original problem.



# Overview (cond't)

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- When the subproblems are large enough to solve recursively, we call that **the recursive case**.
- Once the subproblems become small enough that we no longer recurse, we call that **the base case**.

# Overview (cond't)

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- A recurrence is an equation or inequality that describes a function in terms of
  - one or more base cases, and
  - itself, with smaller arguments
- For example, the worst-case running time  $T(n)$  of the MEGRE-SORT procedure is the recurrence

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} \Theta(1) & \text{if } n = 1 \\ 2T(n/2) + \Theta(n) & \text{if } n > 1 \end{cases}$$

Solution:  $T(n) = \Theta(n \lg n)$ .

- Example

- $T(n) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } n = 1 \\ T(n-1) + 1 & \text{if } n > 1 \end{cases}$

Solution:  $T(n) = n$ .

← A recursive version of linear search

- $T(n) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } n = 1 \\ 2T(n/2) + n & \text{if } n > 1 \end{cases}$

Solution:  $T(n) = n \lg n + n$ .

- $T(n) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } n = 2 \\ T(\sqrt{n}) + 1 & \text{if } n > 2 \end{cases}$

Solution:  $T(n) = \lg \lg n$ .

- $T(n) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } n = 1 \\ T(n/3) + T(2n/3) + n & \text{if } n > 1 \end{cases}$

Solution:  $T(n) = \Theta(n \lg n)$ .

← A recursive algorithm might divide subproblems into unequal size.



- Example

$$\bullet \quad T(n) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } n = 1 \\ T(n-1) + 1 & \text{if } n > 1 \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= T(n-1) + 1 \\ &= T(n-2) + 1 + 1 \\ &= T(1) + 1 + \cdots + 1 \\ &= n \end{aligned}$$

- Example

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } n = 1 \\ T(n-1) + \frac{1}{n} & \text{if } n > 1 \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= T(n-1) + \frac{1}{n} \\ &= T(n-2) + \frac{1}{n-1} + \frac{1}{n} \\ &= 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \cdots + \frac{1}{n} \\ &= O(\lg n) \end{aligned}$$

- Euler's constant  $\gamma$  is defined by

$$\gamma = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{k} - \log n \right)$$

- $\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{k} \approx \log n + \gamma + \dots$



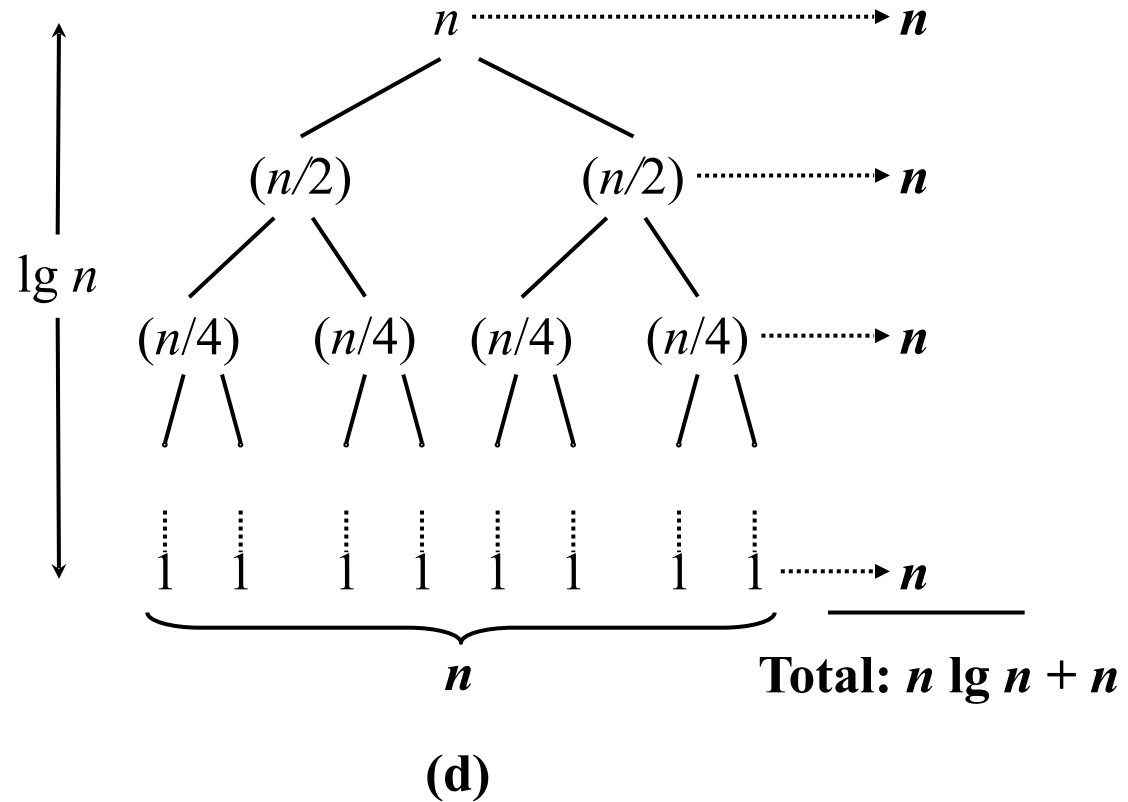
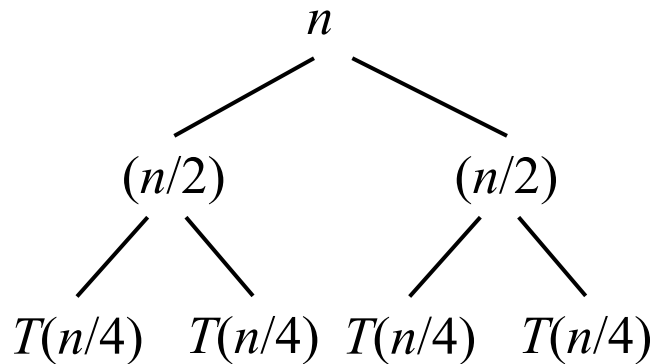
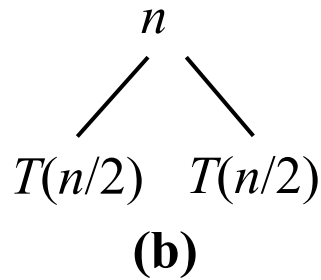


## • Example

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } n = 1 \\ 2T(n/2) + n & \text{if } n > 1 \end{cases}$$

Solution:  $T(n) = n \lg n + n$ .

$T(n)$   
(a)



- Example

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } n = 2 \\ T(\sqrt{n}) + 1 & \text{if } n > 2 \end{cases}$$

Solution:  $T(n) = \lg \lg n$ .

Let  $m = \lg n$  and  $S(m) = T(2^m)$ .

$$T(2^m) = T(2^{m/2}) + 1 \Rightarrow S(m) = S(m/2) + 1$$

Using the master theorem,  $m^{\log_b a} = m^{\log_2 1} = m^0 = 1$  and  $f(m) = 1$ .

Since  $f(m) = \Theta(m^{\log_b a})$ , case 2 applies and  $S(m) = \Theta(\lg m)$ .

Therefore,  $T(n) = \Theta(\lg \lg n)$ .

# Overview (cond't)

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- This chapter offers three methods for solving recurrences:
  - **Substitution method**: We guess a bound and then use mathematical induction to prove our guess correct.
  - **Recursion-tree method**: converts the recurrence into a tree whose nodes represent the costs incurred at various levels of the recursion. We use techniques for bounding summations to solve the recurrence.
  - **Master method**: It provides bounds for recurrences of the form

$$T(n) = aT(n/b) + f(n)$$

where  $a \geq 1$ ,  $b > 1$ , and  $f(n)$  is a given function.

# Overview (cond't)

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- We shall see recurrences that are not equalities but rather inequalities
  - $T(n) \leq 2T(n/2) + \Theta(n)$ . We will couch its solution using  $O$ -notation rather than  $\Theta$ -notation.
  - $T(n) \geq 2T(n/2) + \Theta(n)$ . We will use  $\Omega$ -notation in its solution

- Many technical issues:

- Floors and ceilings

[Floors and ceilings can **easily be removed** and don't affect the solution to the recurrence.]

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} \Theta(1) & \text{if } n = 1 \\ T(\lceil n/2 \rceil) + T(\lfloor n/2 \rfloor) + \Theta(n) & \text{if } n > 1. \end{cases}$$

- **Exact** vs. **asymptotic** functions
  - Boundary condition (**ignore**)

In algorithm analysis, we usually **express both the recurrence and its solution using asymptotic notation.**

- E.g.  $T(n) = 2T(n/2) + \Theta(n)$ , with solution  $T(n) = \Theta(n \lg n)$
- The boundary conditions are usually expressed as “ $T(n) = O(1)$  for sufficiently small  $n$ .”
- When we desire an **exact**, rather than an asymptotic, solution, we need to **deal with boundary conditions**.
- In practice, we just use **asymptotic** most of the time, and we **ignore boundary conditions**.

# The maximum-subarray problem



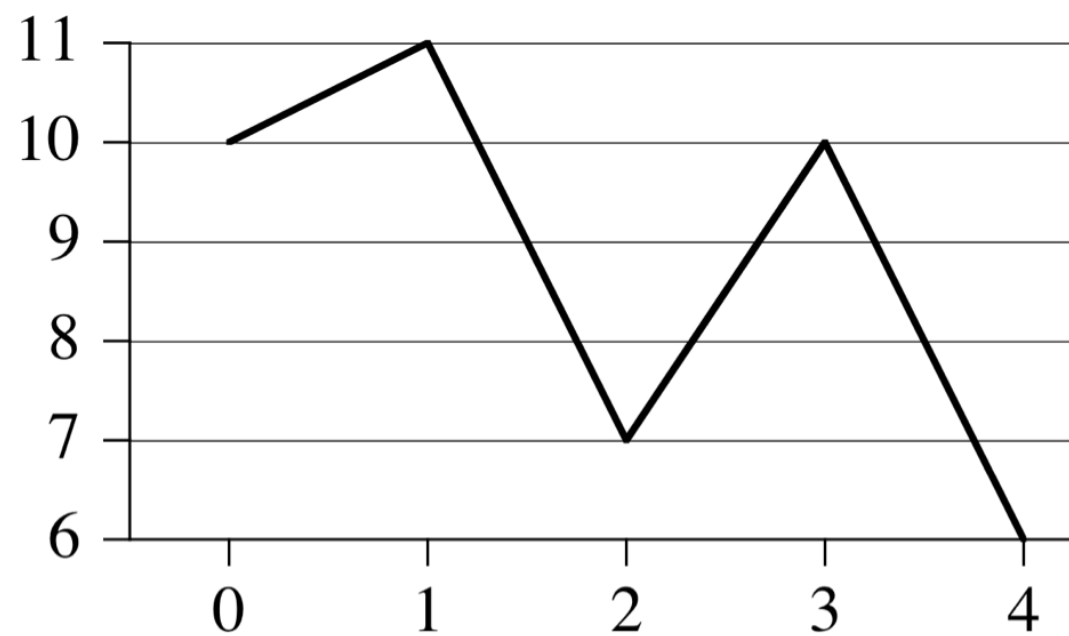
# The maximum-subarray problem

- You are allowed to buy one unit of stock only one time and then sell it at a later date.



Day	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Price	100	113	110	85	105	102	86	63	81	101	94	106	101	79	94	90	97
Change		13	-3	-25	20	-3	-16	-23	18	20	-7	12	-5	-22	15	-4	7





Day	0	1	2	3	4
Price	10	11	7	10	6
Change		1	-4	3	-4

# The maximum-subarray problem (cond't)

- A brute-force solution
  - Just try every possible pair of buy and sell dates in which the buy date precedes the sell date.
  - A period of  $n$  day has  $\binom{n}{2}$  such pairs of dates
  - $\binom{n}{2} = \Theta(n^2)$

# The maximum-subarray problem (cond't)

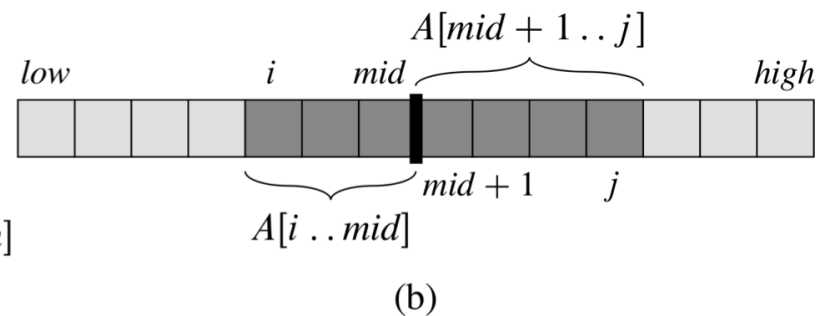
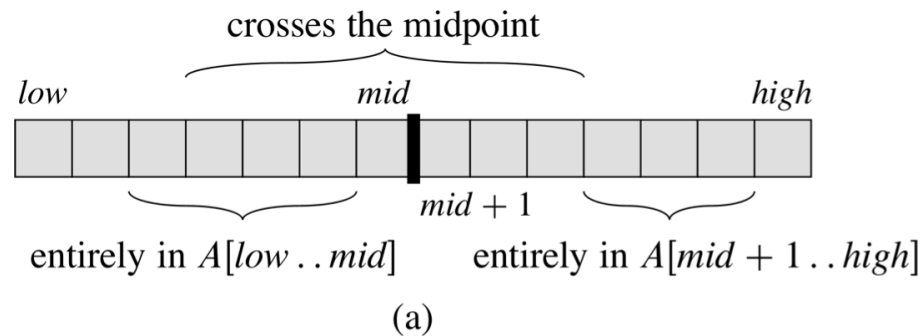
- A transformation
  - We want to find the nonempty, contiguous subarray of  $A$  whose values have the largest sum.
  - We call this contiguous subarray the **maximum subarray**.
- We still need to check  $\binom{n-1}{2} = \Theta(n^2)$  subarrays for a period of  $n$  days.  
buy sell

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
$A$	13	-3	-25	20	-3	-16	-23	18	20	-7	12	-5	-22	15	-4	7

maximum subarray

# The maximum-subarray problem (cond't)

- A solution using divide-and-conquer
  - Suppose we want to find a maximum subarray of the subarray  $A[low \dots high]$
  - We find the midpoint, say  $mid$ , of the subarray, and consider the subarrays  $A[low \dots mid]$  and  $A[mid + 1 \dots high]$



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## FIND-MAX-CROSSING-SUBARRAY( $A, low, mid, high$ )

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```
1  $left\text{-}sum = -\infty$ 
2  $sum = 0$ 
3 for  $i = mid$  downto  $low$  do
4      $sum = sum + A[i]$ 
5     if  $sum > left\text{-}sum$  then
6          $left\text{-}sum = sum$ 
7          $max\text{-}left = i$ 
8  $right\text{-}sum = -\infty$ 
9  $sum = 0$ 
10 for  $j = mid + 1$  to  $high$  do
11      $sum = sum + A[j]$ 
12     if  $sum > right\text{-}sum$  then
13          $right\text{-}sum = sum$ 
14          $max\text{-}right = j$ 
15 return ( $max\text{-}left, max\text{-}right, left\text{-}sum + right\text{-}sum$ )
```

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## FIND-MAXIMUM-SUBARRAY( $A, low, high$ )

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```
1 if  $high == low$  then
2   return ( $low, high, A[low]$ )
3 else
4    $mid = \lfloor (low + high) / 2 \rfloor$ 
5   ( $left-low, left-high, left-sum$ ) =
      FIND-MAXIMUM-SUBARRAY( $A, low, mid$ )
6   ( $right-low, right-high, right-sum$ ) =
      FIND-MAXIMUM-SUBARRAY( $A, mid + 1, high$ )
7   ( $cross-low, cross-high, cross-sum$ ) =
      FIND-MAX-CROSSING-SUBARRAY( $A, low, mid, high$ )
8   if  $left-sum \geq right-sum$  and  $left-sum \geq cross-sum$  then
9     return ( $left-low, left-high, left-sum$ )
10  else if  $right-sum \geq left-sum$  and  $right-sum \geq cross-sum$  then
11    return ( $right-low, right-high, right-sum$ )
12  else
13    return ( $cross-low, cross-high, cross-sum$ )
```

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# The maximum-subarray problem (cond't)

- Analyzing the divide-and conquer algorithm
  - We denote by  $T(n)$  the running time of FIND-MAXIMUM-SUBARRAY on a sub array of  $n$  elements.
  - The base case, when  $n = 1$ : line 2 takes constant time, and so  $T(1) = \Theta(1)$ .
  - line 5 and 6: is on a sub array of  $n/2$  elements, and so we spend  $T(n/2)$  time solving each of them.
  - FIND-MAX-CROSSING-SUBARRAY takes  $\Theta(n)$ .

# The maximum-subarray problem (cond't)

- Analyzing the divide-and conquer algorithm

- $$T(n) = \begin{cases} \Theta(1) & \text{if } n = 1 \\ 2T(n/2) + \Theta(n) & \text{if } n > 1. \end{cases}$$
- $T(n) = \Theta(n \lg n)$



# Strassen's algorithm for matrix multiplication



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# Matrix Multiplication

- If  $A = (a_{ij})$  and  $B = (b_{ij})$  are square  $n \times n$  matrices, then in the product  $C = A \bullet B$ , we define the entry  $c_{ij}$ , for  $i, j = 1, 2, \dots, n$ , by

$$c_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^n a_{ik} \bullet b_{kj}$$

# Matrix Multiplication (cond't)

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SQUARE-MATRIC-MULTIPLY( $A, B$ )

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```
1  $n = A.rows$ 
2 let  $C$  be a new  $n \times n$  matrix
3 for  $i = 1$  to  $n$  do
4     for  $j = 1$  to  $n$  do
5          $c_{ij} = 0$ 
6         for  $k = 1$  to  $n$  do
7              $c_{ij} = c_{ij} + a_{ik} \cdot b_{kj}$ 
8 return ( $C$ )
```

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# Divide-and-Conquer Algorithm

- Suppose that we partition each of  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$  into four  $n/2 \times n/2$  matrices

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} \end{pmatrix}, B = \begin{pmatrix} B_{11} & B_{12} \\ B_{21} & B_{22} \end{pmatrix}, C = \begin{pmatrix} C_{11} & C_{12} \\ C_{21} & C_{22} \end{pmatrix}$$

so that we rewrite the equation  $C = A \bullet B$  as

$$\begin{pmatrix} C_{11} & C_{12} \\ C_{21} & C_{22} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} \end{pmatrix} \bullet \begin{pmatrix} B_{11} & B_{12} \\ B_{21} & B_{22} \end{pmatrix}$$

# Divide-and-Conquer Algorithm (cond't)

- $C_{11} = A_{11} \cdot B_{11} + A_{12} \cdot B_{21}$
- $C_{12} = A_{11} \cdot B_{12} + A_{12} \cdot B_{22}$
- $C_{21} = A_{21} \cdot B_{11} + A_{22} \cdot B_{21}$
- $C_{22} = A_{21} \cdot B_{12} + A_{22} \cdot B_{22}$

## SQUARE-MATRIC-MULTIPLY-RECURSIVE( $A, B$ )

```
1  $n = A.rows$ 
2 let  $C$  be a new  $n \times n$  matrix
3 if  $n == 1$  then
4      $c_{11} = a_{11} \cdot b_{11}$ 
5 else
6     partition  $A, B$ , and  $C$  as in equations (4.9)
7      $C_{11} = \text{SQUARE-MATRIC-MULTIPLY-RECURSIVE}(A_{11}, B_{11})$   $T(n/2)$ 
8      $\Theta(n^2)$   $\boxed{+}$   $\text{SQUARE-MATRIC-MULTIPLY-RECURSIVE}(A_{12}, B_{21})$   $T(n/2)$ 
9      $C_{12} = \text{SQUARE-MATRIC-MULTIPLY-RECURSIVE}(A_{11}, B_{12})$   $T(n/2)$ 
10     $\Theta(n^2)$   $\boxed{+}$   $\text{SQUARE-MATRIC-MULTIPLY-RECURSIVE}(A_{12}, B_{22})$   $T(n/2)$ 
11     $C_{21} = \text{SQUARE-MATRIC-MULTIPLY-RECURSIVE}(A_{21}, B_{11})$   $T(n/2)$ 
12     $\Theta(n^2)$   $\boxed{+}$   $\text{SQUARE-MATRIC-MULTIPLY-RECURSIVE}(A_{22}, B_{21})$   $T(n/2)$ 
13     $C_{22} = \text{SQUARE-MATRIC-MULTIPLY-RECURSIVE}(A_{21}, B_{12})$   $T(n/2)$ 
14     $\Theta(n^2)$   $\boxed{+}$   $\text{SQUARE-MATRIC-MULTIPLY-RECURSIVE}(A_{22}, B_{22})$   $T(n/2)$ 
15 return ( $C$ )
```

# Divide-and-Conquer Algorithm (cond't)

- Analyzing the divide-and conquer algorithm

- $$T(n) = \begin{cases} \Theta(1) & \text{if } n = 1 \\ 8T(n/2) + \Theta(n^2) & \text{if } n > 1. \end{cases}$$
- Using the master theorem,  $n^{\log_2 8} = n^3$  and  $f(n) = \Theta(n^2)$ . Since  $f(n) = O(n^3)$ , case 1 applies. Therefore,  $T(n) = \Theta(n^3)$ .

# Strassen's method

- Divide the input matrices  $A$  and  $B$  and output matrix  $C$  into  $n/2 \times n/2$  submatrices.
- Create 10 matrices  $S_1, S_2, \dots, S_{10}$ , each of which is  $n/2 \times n/2$  and is the sum or difference of two matrices created in step 1.
- Using the submatrices created in step 1 and the 10 matrices created in step 2, recursively compute seven matrix products  $P_1, P_2, \dots, P_7$ . Each matrix  $P_i$  is  $n/2 \times n/2$ .
- Compute the desired submatrices  $C_{11}, C_{12}, C_{21}, C_{22}$  of the result matrix  $C$  by adding and subtraction various combinations of the  $P_i$  matrices.



- $S_1 = B_{12} - B_{22}$
- $S_2 = A_{11} + A_{12}$
- $S_3 = A_{21} + A_{22}$
- $S_4 = B_{21} - B_{11}$
- $S_5 = A_{11} + A_{22}$
- $S_6 = B_{11} + B_{22}$
- $S_7 = A_{12} - A_{22}$
- $S_8 = B_{21} + B_{22}$
- $S_9 = A_{11} - A_{21}$
- $S_{10} = B_{11} + B_{12}$



# Strassen's method (cond't)

- $P_1 = A_{11} \cdot S_1 = A_{11} \cdot B_{12} - A_{11} \cdot B_{22}$
- $P_2 = S_2 \cdot B_{22} = A_{11} \cdot B_{22} + A_{12} \cdot B_{22}$
- $P_3 = S_3 \cdot B_{11} = A_{21} \cdot B_{11} + A_{22} \cdot B_{11}$
- $P_4 = A_{22} \cdot S_4 = A_{22} \cdot B_{21} - A_{22} \cdot B_{11}$
- $P_5 = S_5 \cdot S_6 = A_{11} \cdot B_{11} + A_{11} \cdot B_{22} + A_{22} \cdot B_{11} + A_{22} \cdot B_{22}$
- $P_6 = S_7 \cdot S_8 = A_{12} \cdot B_{21} + A_{12} \cdot B_{22} - A_{22} \cdot B_{21} - A_{22} \cdot B_{22}$
- $P_7 = S_9 \cdot S_{10} = A_{11} \cdot B_{11} + A_{11} \cdot B_{12} - A_{21} \cdot B_{11} - A_{21} \cdot B_{12}$



# Strassen's method (cond't)

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- $C_{11} = P_5 + P_4 - P_2 + P_6$
- $C_{12} = P_1 + P_2$
- $C_{21} = P_3 + P_4$
- $C_{22} = P_5 + P_1 - P_3 - P_7$



# Strassen's method (cond't)

$$\begin{aligned}
 \bullet C_{11} &= P_5 + P_4 - P_2 + P_6 = A_{11} \cdot B_{11} + A_{12} \cdot B_{21} \\
 P_5 &= A_{11} \cdot B_{11} + A_{11} \cdot B_{22} + A_{22} \cdot B_{11} + A_{22} \cdot B_{22} \\
 P_4 &= A_{22} \cdot B_{21} - A_{22} \cdot B_{11} \\
 -P_2 &= -A_{11} \cdot B_{22} - A_{12} \cdot B_{22} \\
 P_6 &= A_{12} \cdot B_{21} + A_{12} \cdot B_{22} - A_{22} \cdot B_{21} - A_{22} \cdot B_{22}
 \end{aligned}$$



# Strassen's method (cond't)

- $C_{12} = P_1 + P_2 = A_{11} \cdot B_{12} + A_{12} \cdot B_{22}$   
 $P_1 = A_{11} \cdot B_{12} - A_{11} \cdot B_{22}$   
 $P_2 = A_{11} \cdot B_{22} + A_{12} \cdot B_{22}$



# Strassen's method (cond't)

- $C_{21} = P_3 + P_4 = A_{21} \cdot B_{11} + A_{22} \cdot B_{21}$   
 $P_3 = A_{21} \cdot B_{11} + A_{22} \cdot B_{11}$   
 $P_4 = A_{22} \cdot B_{21} - A_{22} \cdot B_{11}$



# Strassen's method (cond't)

- $C_{22} = P_5 + P_1 - P_3 - P_7 = A_{22} \cdot B_{22} + A_{21} \cdot B_{12}$   
 $P_5 = A_{11} \cdot B_{11} + A_{11} \cdot B_{22} + A_{22} \cdot B_{11} + A_{22} \cdot B_{22}$   
 $P_1 = A_{11} \cdot B_{12} - A_{11} \cdot B_{22}$   
 $- P_3 = -A_{21} \cdot B_{11} - A_{22} \cdot B_{11}$   
 $- P_7 = -A_{11} \cdot B_{11} - A_{11} \cdot B_{12} + A_{21} \cdot B_{11} + A_{21} \cdot B_{12}$



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# STRASSEN-MATRIC-MULTIPLY-RECURSIVE( $A, B$ )

---

```
1  $n = A.rows$ 
2 Let  $C$  be a new  $n \times n$  matrix
3 if  $n == 1$  then
4    $c_{11} = a_{11} \cdot b_{11}$ 
5 else
6   Partition  $A, B$ , and  $C$  into  $n/2 \times n/2$  submatrices
7   Let  $S_1, S_2, \dots, S_{10}$  be  $n/2 \times n/2$  matrices  $\Theta(n^2)$ 
8   Compute  $S_1, S_2, \dots, S_{10}$  by sum or difference of two submatrices  $\Theta(n^2)$ 
9     of  $A$  and  $B$ 
9    $P_1 = \text{STRASSEN-MATRIC-MULTIPLY-RECURSIVE}(A_{11}, S_1)$   $T(n/2)$ 
10   $P_2 = \text{STRASSEN-MATRIC-MULTIPLY-RECURSIVE}(S_2, B_{22})$   $T(n/2)$ 
11   $P_3 = \text{STRASSEN-MATRIC-MULTIPLY-RECURSIVE}(S_3, B_{11})$   $T(n/2)$ 
12   $P_4 = \text{STRASSEN-MATRIC-MULTIPLY-RECURSIVE}(A_{22}, S_4)$   $T(n/2)$ 
13   $P_5 = \text{STRASSEN-MATRIC-MULTIPLY-RECURSIVE}(S_5, S_6)$   $T(n/2)$ 
14   $P_6 = \text{STRASSEN-MATRIC-MULTIPLY-RECURSIVE}(S_7, S_8)$   $T(n/2)$ 
15   $P_7 = \text{STRASSEN-MATRIC-MULTIPLY-RECURSIVE}(S_9, S_{10})$   $T(n/2)$ 
16   $C_{11} = P_5 + P_4 - P_2 + P_6$   $\Theta(n^2)$ 
17   $C_{12} = P_1 + P_2$   $\Theta(n^2)$ 
18   $C_{21} = P_3 + P_4$   $\Theta(n^2)$ 
19   $C_{22} = P_5 + P_1 - P_3 - P_7$   $\Theta(n^2)$ 
20 return ( $C$ )
```





# Strassen's method (cond't)

- Analyzing the divide-and conquer algorithm

- $$T(n) = \begin{cases} \Theta(1) & \text{if } n = 1 \\ 7T(n/2) + \Theta(n^2) & \text{if } n > 1. \end{cases}$$

- Using the master theorem,  $n^{\log_2 7} = n^{\lg 7}$  and  $f(n) = \Theta(n^2)$ . Since  $f(n) = O(n^{\lg 7})$ , case 1 applies. Therefore,  $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\lg 7})$ .



# The substitution method for solving recurrences



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# Substitution Method

1. Guess the solution.
2. Use induction to find the constants and show that the solution works.

• *E.g.*

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } n = 1 \\ 2T(n/2) + n & \text{if } n > 1. \end{cases}$$

1. *Guess:*  $T(n) = n \lg n + n$ . [Here, we have a recurrence with an **exact function**, rather than asymptotic notation, and the solution is also **exact** rather than asymptotic. We'll have to **check boundary conditions and the base case.**]

# Substitution Method (cont'd)

## 2. Induction:

**Base:**  $n = 1 \rightarrow n \lg n + 1 = 1 = T(n)$

**Inductive step:** Inductive hypothesis is that  $T(k) = k \lg k + k$  for all  $k < n$ .

We'll use this inductive hypothesis for  $T(n/2)$ .

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= 2T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + n \\ &= 2\left(\frac{n}{2} \lg \frac{n}{2} + \frac{n}{2}\right) + n \\ &= n \lg \frac{n}{2} + n + n \\ &= n(\lg n - \lg 2) + n + n \\ &= n \lg n - n + n + n \\ &= n \lg n + n \end{aligned}$$

# Substitution Method (cont'd)

- Generally, we use asymptotic notation:

$$T(n) = T(n/2) + \Theta(n)$$

- Assume  $T(n) = O(1)$  for sufficiently small  $n$
- Express the solution by asymptotic notation:  $T(n) = \Theta(n \lg n)$
- Don't worry about boundary cases, nor do we show base cases in the substitution proof.

# Substitution Method (cont'd)

---

- $T(n)$  is always constant for any constant  $n$ .
- Since we are ultimately interested in asymptotic solution to a recurrence, it will always be possible to choose base cases that work
- When we want an asymptotic solution to a recurrence, we don't worry about the base cases in our proofs.
- When we want an exact solution, then we have to deal with base cases.

# Substitution Method (cont'd)

For the substitution method:

- Name the **constant** in the additive term
- Show the upper ( $O$ ) and lower ( $\Omega$ ) bounds separately. Might need to use different constants for each notation

**E.g.:**  $T(n) = T(n/2) + \Theta(n)$ . If we want to show an upper bound of  $T(n)$ , we write  $T(n) \leq T(n/2) + cn$  for some positive constant  $c$ .



## 1. Upper bound:

Guess:  $T(n) \leq dn \lg n$  for some positive constant  $d$ . We are given  $c$  in the recurrence, and we get to choose  $d$  as any positive constant. It's OK for  $d$  to depend on  $c$ .

Substitution:

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &\leq 2T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + cn \\ &\leq 2\left(d\frac{n}{2}\lg\frac{n}{2}\right) + cn \\ &= dn\lg\frac{n}{2} + cn \\ &= dn\lg n - dn + cn \\ &\leq dn\lg n \quad \text{if } -dn + cn \leq 0, d \geq c \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $T(n) = O(n \lg n)$



## 2. Lower bound:

Write  $T(n) \geq T(n/2) + cn$  for some positive constant  $c$ .

Guess:  $T(n) \geq dn \lg n$  for some positive constant  $d$ .

Substitution:

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &\geq 2T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + cn \\ &\geq 2\left(d\frac{n}{2}\lg\frac{n}{2}\right) + cn \\ &= dn\lg\frac{n}{2} + cn \\ &= dn\lg n - dn + cn \\ &\geq dn\lg n \quad \text{if } -dn + cn \geq 0, d \leq c \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $T(n) = \Omega(n \lg n)$ .

Therefore,  $T(n) = \Theta(n \lg n)$  [For this particular recurrence, we can use  $d = c$  for both the upper-bound and lower-bound proofs.]

# Substitution Method (cont'd)

- Make sure you show the same **exact form** when doing a substitution proof.
- Consider the recurrence

$$T(n) = 8T(n/2) + \Theta(n^2)$$

- For an upper bound:  $T(n) \leq 8T(n/2) + cn^2$
- Guess:  $T(n) \leq dn^3$

$$T(n) \leq 8d\left(\frac{n}{2}\right)^3 + cn^2 = 8d\left(\frac{n^3}{8}\right) + cn^2 = dn^3 + cn^2 \leq dn^3$$

Doesn't work!

# Substitution Method

Remedy: Subtract off a lower-order term.

Guess:  $T(n) \leq dn^3 - d'n^2$

$$\begin{aligned}T(n) &\leq 8\left(d\left(\frac{n}{2}\right)^3 - d'\left(\frac{n}{2}\right)^2\right) + cn^2 \\&= 8d\left(\frac{n^3}{8}\right) - 8d'\left(\frac{n^2}{4}\right) + cn^2 \\&= dn^3 - 2d'n^2 + cn^2 \\&\leq dn^3 - d'n^2 \quad \text{if } -2d'n^2 + cn^2 \leq -d'n^2, d' \geq c\end{aligned}$$

# Substitution Method (cont'd)

- Be careful when using asymptotic notation.
- The false proof for the recurrence  $T(n) = 4T(n/4) + n$ , that  $T(n) = O(n)$ :

$$T(n) \leq 4 \left( c \left( \frac{n}{4} \right) \right) + n \leq cn + n = O(n)$$

- Because we haven't proven the **exact** form of our inductive hypothesis (which is that  $T(n) \leq cn$ ), this proof is false.

# The recursion-tree method for solving recurrences



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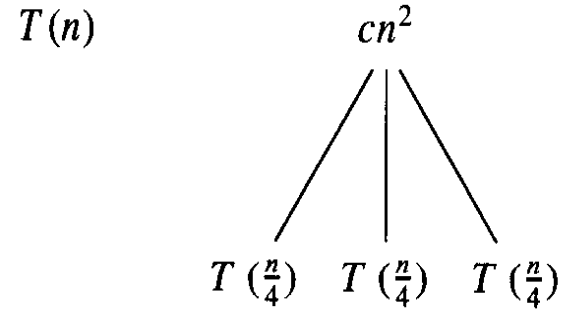
# Recurrence Trees

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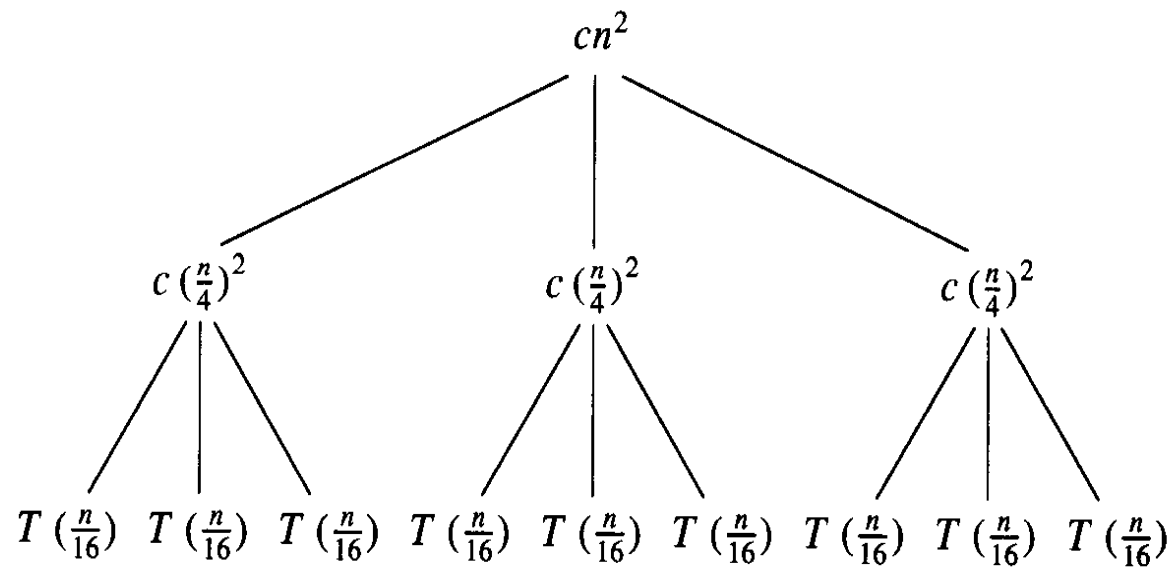
- Goal of the recursion-tree method
  - a good guess for the substitution method
  - a direct proof of a solution to a recurrence (provided by carefully drawing a recursion tree)

# Recurrence Trees (cont'd)

$$T(n) = 3T(\lfloor n/4 \rfloor) + \Theta(n^2)$$



(a)

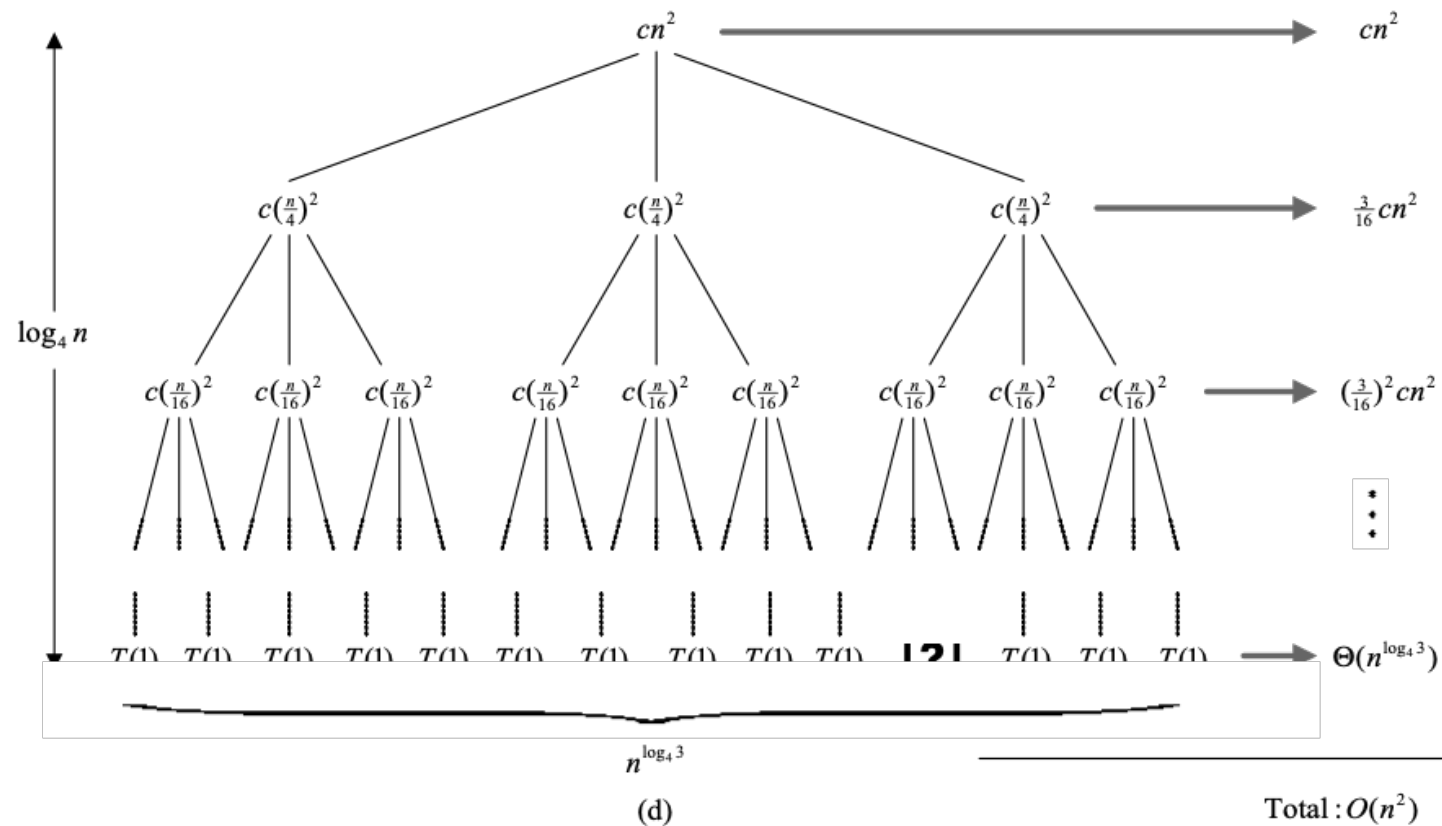


(b)

(c)



# Recurrence Trees (cont'd)





# Recurrence Trees (cont'd)

- The cost of the entire tree

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= cn^2 + \frac{3}{16}cn^2 + \left(\frac{3}{16}\right)^2 cn^2 + \dots + \left(\frac{3}{16}\right)^{\log_4 n - 1} cn^2 + \Theta(n^{\log_4 3}) \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^{\log_4 n - 1} \left(\frac{3}{16}\right)^i cn^2 + \Theta(n^{\log_4 3}) \\ &= \frac{(3/16)^{\log_4 n} - 1}{(3/16) - 1} cn^2 + \Theta(n^{\log_4 3}). \end{aligned}$$



# Recurrence Trees (cont'd)

$$\begin{aligned}T(n) &= \sum_{i=0}^{\log_4 n - 1} \left(\frac{3}{16}\right)^i cn^2 + \Theta(n^{\log_4 3}) \\&< \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{3}{16}\right)^i cn^2 + \Theta(n^{\log_4 3}) \\&= \frac{1}{1 - (3/16)} cn^2 + \Theta(n^{\log_4 3}) \\&= \frac{16}{13} cn^2 + \Theta(n^{\log_4 3}) \\&= O(n^2)\end{aligned}$$



# Recurrence Trees (cont'd)

- Verify by the substitution method
  - Show that  $T(n) \leq dn^2$  for some constant  $d > 0$

$$T(n) \leq 3T\left(\left\lfloor \frac{n}{4} \right\rfloor\right) + cn^2 \leq 3d\left(\left\lfloor \frac{n}{4} \right\rfloor\right)^2 + cn^2 \leq 3d\left(\frac{n}{4}\right)^2 + cn^2 = \frac{3}{16}dn^2 + cn^2 \leq dn^2$$

where the last step holds as long as  $d \geq \frac{16}{13}c$ .

# Recurrence Trees (cont'd)

---

Use to generate a guess. Then verify by substitution method.

**E.g.:**  $T(n) = T(n/3) + T(2n/3) + \Theta(n)$ .

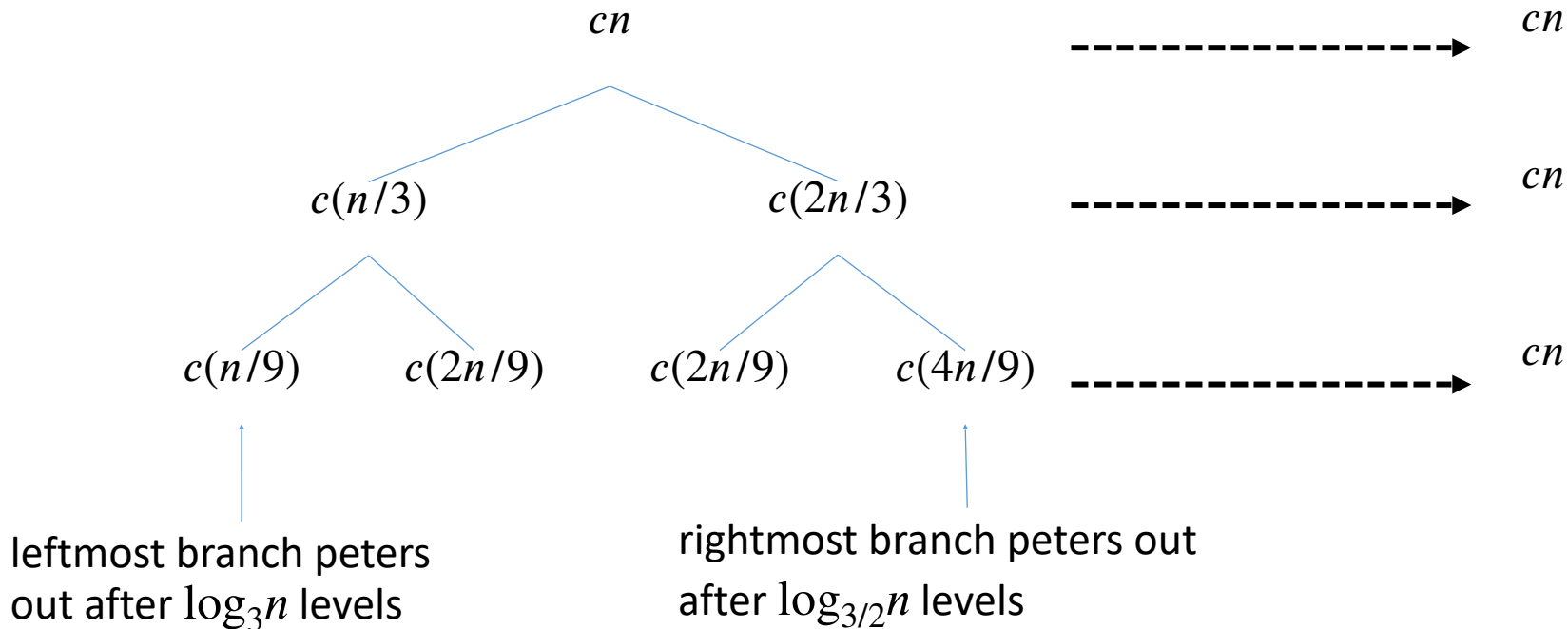
For upper bound, as  $T(n) \leq T(n/3) + T(2n/3) + cn$

For lower bound, as  $T(n) \geq T(n/3) + T(2n/3) + cn$



# Recurrence Trees (cont'd)

- By summing across each level, the recursion tree shows the cost at each level of recursion (minus the costs of recursive calls, which appear in subtrees):



# Recurrence Trees (cont'd)

- There are  $\log_3 n$  full levels, and after  $\log_{3/2} n$  levels, the problem size is down to 1.
- Each level contributes  $\leq cn$ .
- Lower bound guess:  $\geq dn \lg_3 n = \Omega(n \lg n)$  for some positive constant  $d$ .
- Upper bound guess:  $\leq dn \lg_{3/2} n = O(n \lg n)$  for some positive constant  $d$ .
- Then prove by substitution.

# Recurrence Trees (cont'd)

- Upper bound:

Guess:  $T(n) \leq dn \lg n$ .

Substitution:

$$T(n) \leq T(n/3) + T(2n/3) + cn$$

$$\leq d(n/3)\lg(n/3) + d(2n/3)\lg(2n/3) + cn$$

$$= (d(n/3)\lg n - d(n/3)\lg 3) + (d(2n/3)\lg n - d(2n/3)\lg(3/2)) + cn$$

$$= dn \lg n - d((n/3)\lg 3 + (2n/3)\lg(3/2)) + cn$$

$$= dn \lg n - d((n/3)\lg 3 + (2n/3)\lg 3 - (2n/3)\lg 2) + cn$$

$$= dn \lg n - dn(\lg 3 - 2/3) + cn$$

$$\leq dn \lg n \quad \text{if } -dn(\lg 3 - 2/3) + cn \leq 0, d \geq \frac{c}{\lg 3 - 2/3}$$

Therefore,  $T(n) = O(n \lg n)$ .

Note: Make sure that symbolic constants used in the recurrence (e.g.,  $c$ ) and the guess (e.g.,  $d$ ) are different.

# Recurrence Trees (cont'd)

- Lower bound:

Guess:  $T(n) \geq d n \lg n$ .

Substitution: Same as for the upper bound, but replacing  $\leq$  by  $\geq$ . End up needing

$$0 \leq d \leq \frac{c}{\lg 3 - \frac{2}{3}}$$

Therefore,  $T(n) = \Omega(n \lg n)$ .

Since  $T(n) = O(n \lg n)$  and  $T(n) = \Omega(n \lg n)$ , we conclude that  $T(n) = \Theta(n \lg n)$



# The master method for solving recurrences



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# Master Theorem

---

- Let  $a \geq 1$  and  $b > 1$  be constants, let  $f(n)$  be an asymptotically positive function, and let  $T(n)$  be defined on the nonnegative integers by the recurrence

$$T(n) = aT(n/b) + f(n)$$

where we interpret  $n/b$  to mean either  $\lfloor n/b \rfloor$  or  $\lceil n/b \rceil$ .



# Master Theorem (cond't)

- Then  $T(n)$  has the following asymptotic bounds:
  - If  $f(n) = O(n^{\log_b a - \varepsilon})$  for some constant  $\varepsilon > 0$ , then  $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$ .
  - If  $f(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$ , then  $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \lg n)$ .
  - If  $f(n) = \Omega(n^{\log_b a + \varepsilon})$  for some constant  $\varepsilon > 0$  and if  $a f(n/b) \leq c f(n)$  for some constant  $c < 1$  and all sufficiently large  $n$ , then  $T(n) = \Theta(f(n))$ .

# Master Theorem (cond't)

---

- **What's with the Case 3 regularity condition?**
  - Generally not a problem.
  - It always holds whenever  $f(n) = n^k$  and  $f(n) = \Omega(n^{\log_b a + \epsilon})$  for constant  $\epsilon > 0$ . So you don't need to check it when  $f(n)$  is a polynomial.

- $T(n) = 9T(n/3) + n$

Using the master theorem,  $n^{\log_3 9} = n^2$  and  $f(n) = n$ .

Since  $f(n) = O(n^{\log_3 9 - \epsilon})$ , case 1 applies.

Therefore,  $T(n) = \Theta(n^2)$ .

- $T(n) = T(2n/3) + 1$

Using the master theorem,  $n^{\log_{3/2} 1} = n^0 = 1$  and  $f(n) = 1$ .

Since  $f(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$ , case 2 applies.

Therefore,  $T(n) = \Theta(\lg n)$ .

- $T(n) = 3T(n/4) + n \lg n$

Using the master theorem,  $n^{\log_4 3} = O(n^{0.793})$  and  $f(n) = n \lg n$ .

Since  $f(n) = \Omega(n^{\log_4 3 + \epsilon})$  where  $\epsilon \approx 0.2$  and  $a f(n/b) = 3(n/4) \lg(n/4) \leq (3/4)n \lg n = c f(n)$  for  $c = 3/4$ , case 3 applies.

Therefore,  $T(n) = \Theta(f(n)) = \Theta(n \lg n)$ .

- $T(n) = 2T(n/2) + n \lg n$

$a = 2, b = 2, f(n) = n \lg n$  and  $n^{\log_b a} = n$

Case 3 should apply, since  $f(n) = n \lg n$  is asymptotically larger than  $n^{\log_b a} = n$ .  
**Wrong!**

The ratio  $\frac{f(n)}{n^{\log_b a}} = \lg n$  is asymptotically less than  $n^\varepsilon$  for any positive constant  $\varepsilon$  (not polynomially larger).

- The recurrence falls into the gap between case 2 and case 3. (Using Extended Master Theorem)



# Extended Master Theorem

- Then  $T(n)$  has the following asymptotic bounds:
  - If  $f(n) = O\left(n^{\log_b a} (\log_b n)^k\right)$  with  $k < -1$ , then  $T(n) = \Theta\left(n^{\log_b a}\right)$ . (includes case 1 of the Master Theorem)
  - If  $f(n) = \Theta\left(n^{\log_b a} (\log_b n)^{-1}\right)$ , then  $T(n) = \Theta\left(n^{\log_b a} \log_b \log_b n\right)$ .
  - If  $f(n) = \Theta\left(n^{\log_b a} (\log_b n)^k\right)$  with  $k > -1$ , then  $T(n) = \Theta\left(n^{\log_b a} (\log_b n)^{k+1}\right)$ . (with  $k = 0$  is case 2 in the Master Theorem)
  - If  $f(n) = \Omega\left(n^{\log_b a + \varepsilon}\right)$  for some constant  $\varepsilon > 0$  and if  $a f(n/b) \leq c f(n)$  for some constant  $c < 1$  and all sufficiently large  $n$ , then  $T(n) = \Theta(f(n))$ .

# Extended Master Theorem (cond't)

- Examples:

- $T(n) = 5T(n/2) + \Theta(n^2)$   
 $n^{\log_2 5}$  vs.  $n^2$

Since  $\log_2 5 - \varepsilon = 2$  for some constant  $\varepsilon > 0$ , use Case 1  $\Rightarrow T(n) = \Theta(n^{\lg 5})$

- $T(n) = 27T(n/3) + \Theta(n^3 \lg n)$   
 $n^{\log_3 27} = n^3$  vs.  $n^3 \lg n$

Use Case 3 with  $k = 1 \Rightarrow T(n) = \Theta(n^3 \lg^2 n)$



# Extended Master Theorem (cond't)

- $T(n) = 5T(n/2) + \Theta(n^3)$   
 $n^{\log_2 5}$  vs.  $n^3$

Now  $\log_2 5 + \varepsilon = 3$  for some constant  $\varepsilon > 0$

Check regularity condition (don't really need to since  $f(n)$  is a polynomial):

$$af(n/b) = 5(n/2)^3 = 5n^3/8 \leq cn^3 \text{ for } c = \frac{5}{8} < 1$$

Use Case 4:  $T(n) = \Theta(n^3)$



# Extended Master Theorem (cond't)

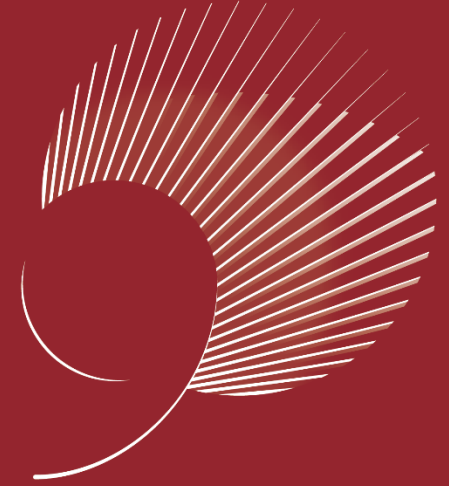
- $T(n) = 27T(n/3) + \Theta(n^3/\lg n)$

$$n^{\log_3 27} \text{ vs. } n^3/\lg n = n^3 \lg^{-1} n$$

Since  $f(n) = \Theta\left(n^{\log_b a} (\log_b n)^{-1}\right)$ , use Case 2.

Therefore,  $T(n) = \Theta\left(n^{\log_b a} \log_b \log_b n\right) = \Theta\left(n^3 \log_3 \log_3 n\right)$ .





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