

Part I

Recurrences

1. Given $T(n) = T(n-3) + 3\lg(n)$, guess $T(n) = O(n\lg n)$. Show $T(n) \leq cn\lg(n)$ for some constant $c > 0$.

$$T(n-3) \leq c(n-3)\lg(n-3)$$

Plugging this back in, we have:

$$T(n) \leq c(n-3)\lg(n-3) + 3\lg(n)$$

$$T(n) \leq cn\lg(n-3) - 3c\lg(n-3) + 3\lg(n) \leq cn\lg(n) - 3c\lg(n) + 3\lg(n) = cn\lg(n) - 3\lg(n)(c-1)$$

For $c > 1$, we now have:

$$T(n) \leq cn\lg(n) - 3\lg(n)(c-1) \leq cn\lg(n)$$

2. Given $T(n) = 4T\left(\frac{n}{3}\right) + n$, guess $T(n) = O(n^{\log_3 4})$. Show $T(n) \leq cn^{\log_3 4}$ for some constant $c > 0$.

$$T\left(\frac{n}{3}\right) \leq c\left(\frac{n}{3}\right)^{\log_3 4} \leq cn^{\log_3 4}$$

Plugging this back in, we have:

$$T(n) \leq 4c\left(\frac{n}{3}\right)^{\log_3 4} + n = 4cn^{\log_3 4} \frac{1}{3^{\log_3 4}} + n = 4cn^{\log_3 4} \frac{1}{4} + n = cn^{\log_3 4} + n$$

Our guess was not good enough, we will try again subtracting off a lower order term; $T(n) \leq cn^{\log_3 4} - 3n$

$$T\left(\frac{n}{3}\right) \leq c\left(\frac{n}{3}\right)^{\log_3 4} - 3\frac{n}{3} \leq cn^{\log_3 4} - n$$

$$T(n) \leq cn^{\log_3 4} + n - n = cn^{\log_3 4}$$

3. Given $T(n) = T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + T\left(\frac{n}{4}\right) + T\left(\frac{n}{8}\right) + n$, guess $T(n) = O(n)$. Show $T(n) \leq cn$ for some constant $c > 0$.

$$T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) \leq c\frac{n}{2}$$

$$T\left(\frac{n}{4}\right) \leq c\frac{n}{4}$$

$$T\left(\frac{n}{8}\right) \leq c\frac{n}{8}$$

Plugging this back in, we have:

$$T(n) \leq c\frac{n}{2} + c\frac{n}{4} + c\frac{n}{8} + n \leq 3c\frac{n}{2} + n$$

This is not good enough. Trying a stronger guess, let's try $T(n) \leq cn - n$

$$T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) \leq c\frac{n}{2} - \frac{n}{2}$$

$$T\left(\frac{n}{4}\right) \leq c\frac{n}{4} - \frac{n}{4}$$

$$T\left(\frac{n}{8}\right) \leq c\frac{n}{8} - \frac{n}{8}$$

Plugging this back in, we have:

$$T(n) \leq c\frac{n}{2} + c\frac{n}{4} + c\frac{n}{8} - \frac{3n}{8} + n \leq \frac{3}{2}cn - \frac{1}{8}n \leq cn$$

Because c is an arbitrary constant, we can 'absorb' the $\frac{3}{2}$ into c .

4. Given $T(n) = 4T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + n^2$, guess $T(n) = O(n^2)$. Show $T(n) \leq cn^2$ for some constant $c > 0$. Using the masters method, case 2, we can make a guess of $\Theta(n^2 \log(n))$. That is to say, $T(n) \leq cn^2 \log(n)$.

$$T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) \leq c\left(\frac{n}{2}\right)^2 \log\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) = \frac{1}{4}cn^2 (\log(n) - \log(2)) = \frac{1}{4}cn^2 (\log(n) - 1) = \frac{1}{4}cn^2 \log(n) - \frac{1}{4}cn^2$$

Plugging this back in:

$$T(n) \leq 4\left(\frac{1}{4}cn^2 \log(n) - \frac{1}{4}cn^2\right) + n^2 = cn^2 \log(n) - cn^2 + n^2 = cn^2 \log(n) - n^2(c-1)$$

If we fix $c > 1$, then we can prove our bound:

$$T(n) \leq cn^2 \log(n) - n^2(c-1) \leq cn^2 \log(n) = \Theta(n^2 \log(n))$$