



# SLIIT

*Discover Your Future*

# IT2070 – Data Structures and Algorithms

Recursive Functions can be written in several ways

- 1) Recursive Definition
- 2) Graphical Representation
- 3) Recurrence Equation-if it is an equation we have to solve this

## Lecture 05

### Introduction to Recursion

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# Recursion –Example 1

This is the recursive Definition

## Factorial

$n! = n * (n-1) * (n-2) * \dots * 2 * 1$ , and that  $0! = 1$ .

A recursive definition is

$$(n)! = \begin{cases} n * (n-1)! & \text{if } n > 0 \\ 1 & \text{if } n = 0 \end{cases}$$

$n$  could be any number  
within these conditions

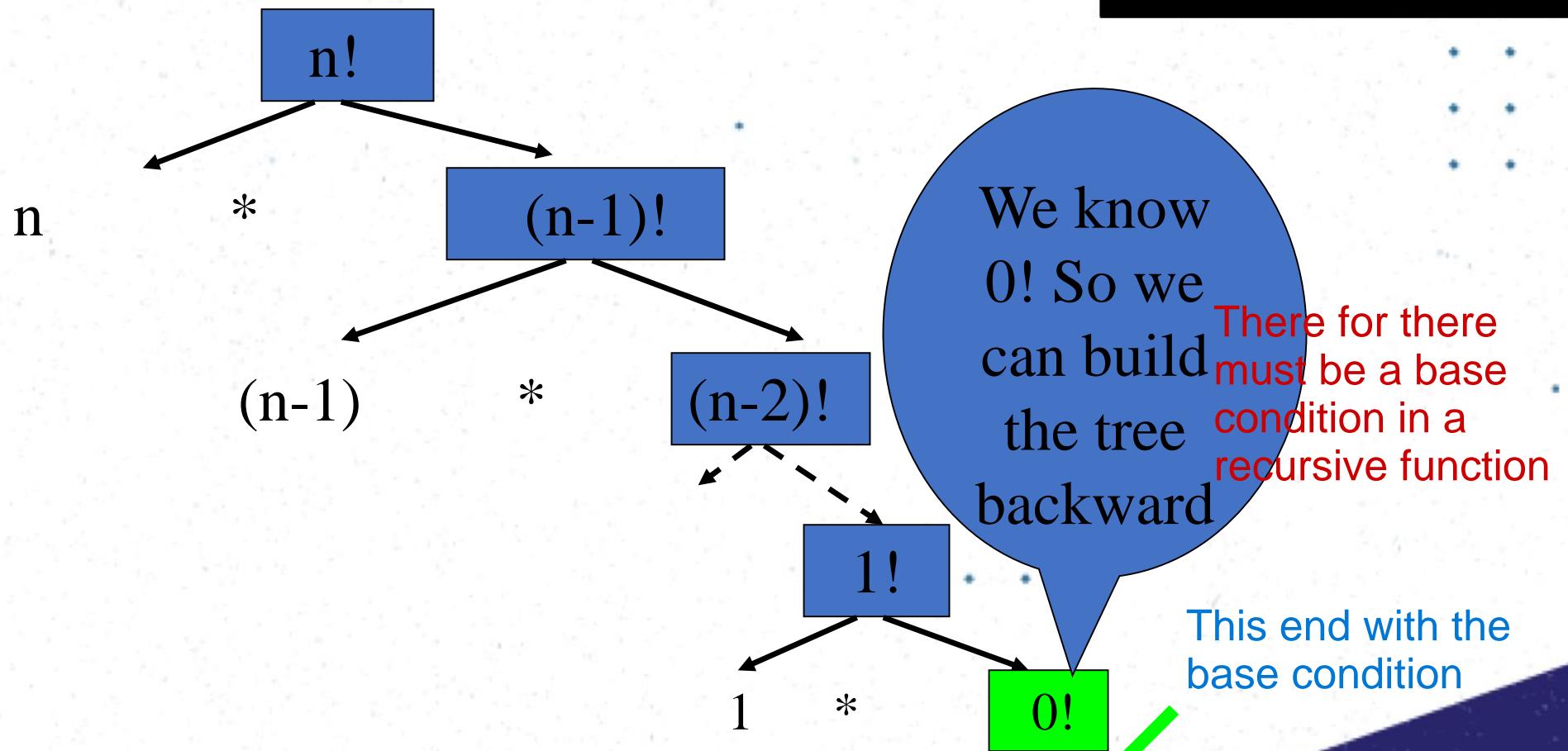
Recursive Condition

Base Condition

Base condition/Termination point/Initial Conditions

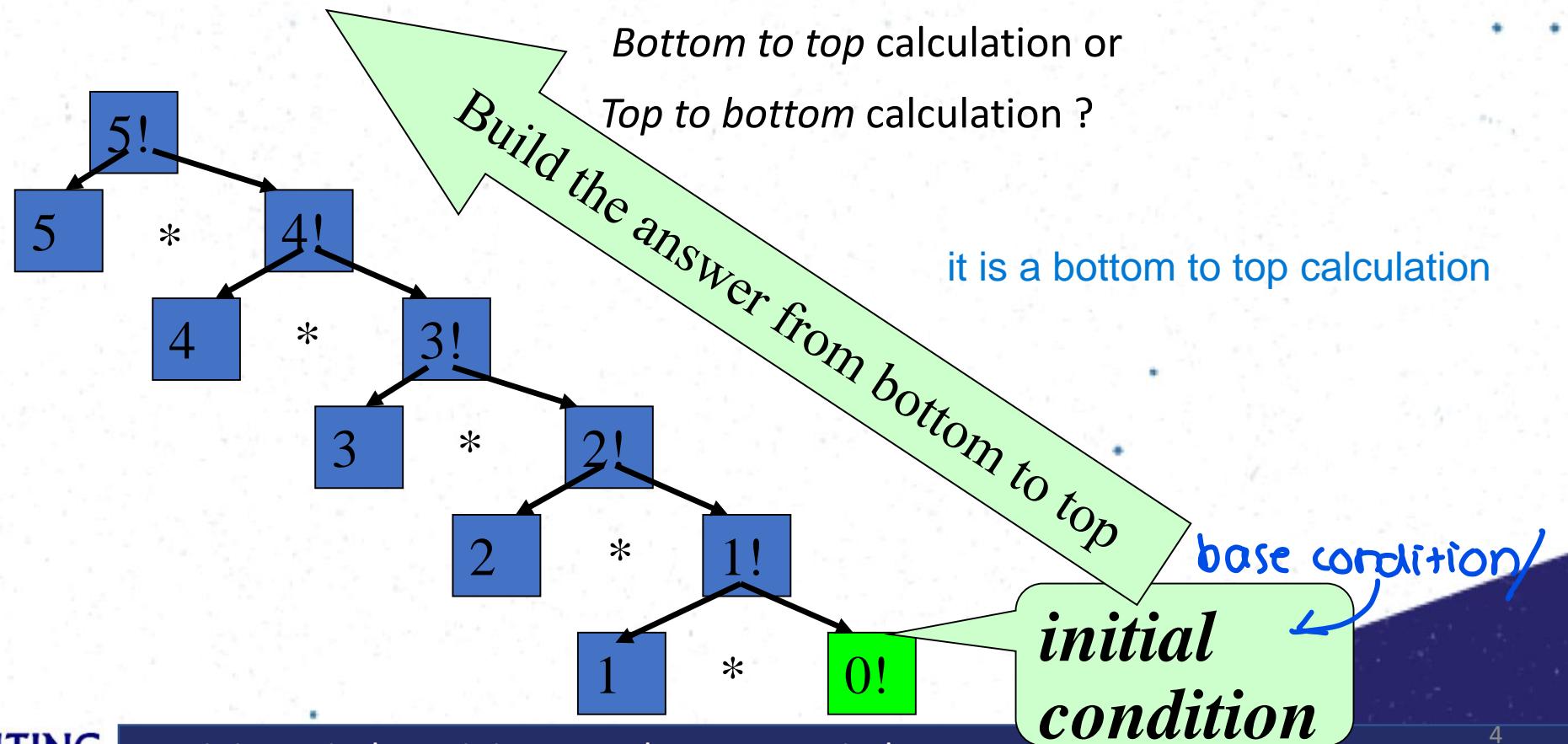
This is the graphical representation

## Factorial -A graphical view



# Exercise

- Draw the recursive tree for  $5!$
- How does it calculate  $5!$  ? Is it:



## Recursive Definition

## Factorial(contd.)

$$(n)! = \begin{cases} n * (n-1)! & \text{if } n > 0 \\ 1 & \text{if } n = 0 \end{cases}$$

## PsuedoCode

```
int factorial(int n) {
    if (n == 0)
        return 1;
    else
        return (n * factorial(n-1));
}
```

Compare

# Recursion

## What is recursion?

A function that calls **itself** directly or indirectly to solve a smaller version of its task until a final call which does not require a self-call is a **recursive** function.

# Recurrence equation

There are two types of Recursion equations

- Mathematical function that defines the running time of recursive functions.
- This describes the overall running time on a problem of size  $n$  in terms of the running time on smaller inputs.

Lets divide these as type 1 equation and type2 equation

Ex:

$$\begin{aligned} T(N) &= T(N-1) + b \\ T(N) &= T(N/2) + c \end{aligned}$$

check example 1

Recursive functions are complicated and we might get equations like this depending on different scenarios

for the recursion

$$T(n) = T(n-1) + k$$

rest of  
values  
(ex: a/b)

## Recurrence - Example1

Find the Running time of the following function

```
int factorial(int n) {
```

if ( $n == 0$ )

return 1;

else for operation C $\mu$ s for this  $T(n-1)\mu$ s

return ( $n * factorial(n-1)$ );

}

//A Statement A (a $\mu$ s)

//B Statement B (b $\mu$ s)

//C

the time we give for  
factorial n is  $T(n)$

Statement A takes time a → for the conditional evaluation

∴ the time we  
give for(n-1)  
is  $T(n-1)$

Statement B takes time b → for the return assignment

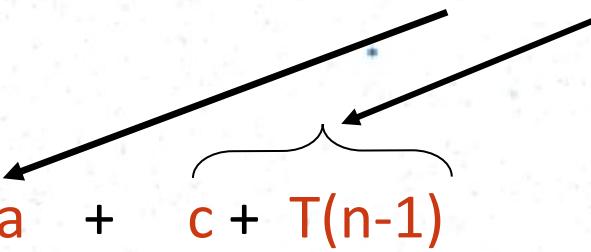
Statement C takes time:

c → for the operations(multiplication & return)

$T(n-1)$  → to determine (n-1)!

## Recurrence - Example1 (Contd.)

$T(n)$  = Time to execute **A** & **C**

$$T(n) = a + c + T(n-1)$$


- This method is called iteration method (or repeated substitution)

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

# Exercise

This is called Repeated substitution method and Both equations can be solved using this

- Solve the recurrence

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

You are given that

$n = 16$  and

$$T(1) = 1$$

$$\begin{aligned} T(16) &= T(8) + 2 \\ T(8) &= T(4) + 2 \\ T(4) &= T(2) + 2 \\ T(2) &= T(1) + 2 \\ T(1) &= 1 \text{ (given)} \end{aligned}$$

this method is  
called repeated  
substitution  
method

$$T(16) = 2 + 2 + 2 + 2 + 1$$

$$\uparrow = 4$$

$$T(16) + T(8) + T(4) + T(2) + T(1) = T(8) + 2 + T(4) + 2 + T(2) + 2 + T(1) + 2 + 1$$

# Finding a solution to a recurrence.

- Other methods

- Recursion tree.

- Master Theorem.

repeated  
substitution  
method  
(iteration  
method)

recursive  
tree

Master  
theorem

# The recursion-tree method

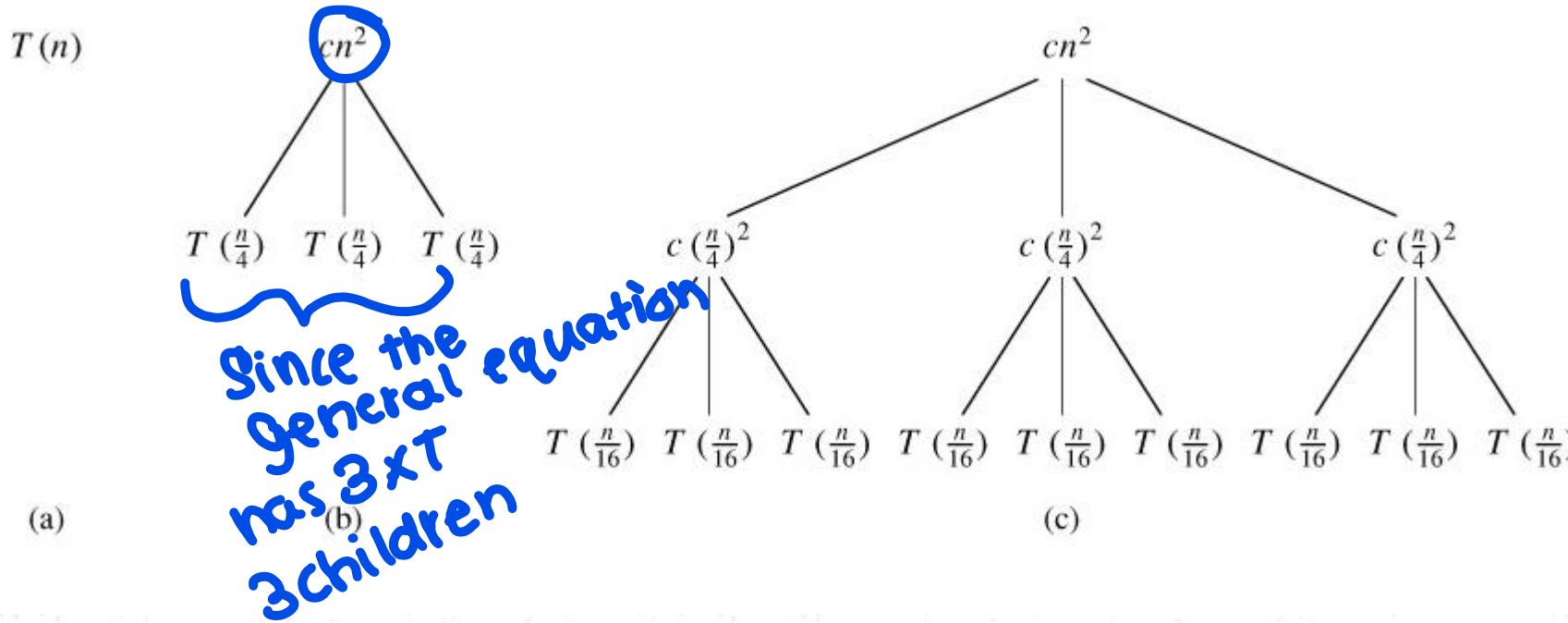
This method isn't discuss a lot

- Although the substitution method can provide a succinct proof that a solution to a recurrence is correct, it is sometimes difficult to come up with a good guess. Drawing out a recursion tree, is a straightforward way to devise a good guess. In a **recursion tree**, each node represents the cost of a single subproblem somewhere in the set of recursive function invocations.
- A recursion tree is best used to generate a good guess, which is then verified by the substitution method.

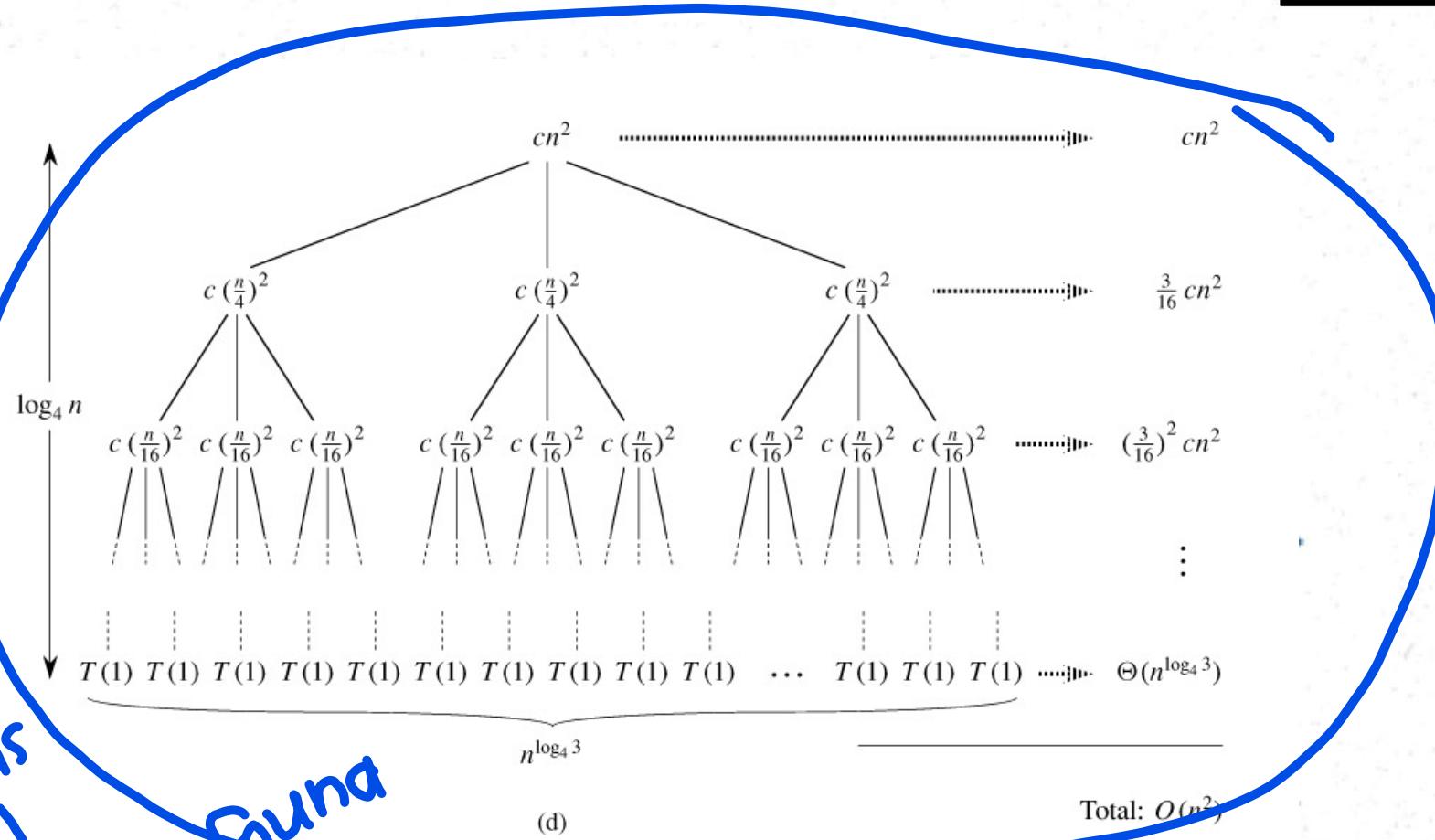
it is a good  
guess about the  
recursion tree  
- me

root

Recursion tree for  $T(n) = 3T(n/4) + cn^2$



# Recursion tree for $T(n) = 3T(n/4) + cn^2$



# The Master Method

- The Master method applies to recurrences of the form

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

when the equation is given and you want to use master method it should be in this format (equation)

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

The recurrence describes the running time of an algorithm that divides a problem of size  $n$  into  $a$  subproblems, each of size  $n/b$ , where  $a$  and  $b$  are positive constants. The  $a$  subproblems are solved recursively, each in time  $T(n/b)$ . The cost of dividing the problem and combining the results of the subproblems is described by the function  $f(n)$ .

We just need to apply this (no need to prove)

# The master theorem

- The master method depends on the following theorem.
- Let  $a \geq 1$  and  $b > 1$  be constants, let  $f(n)$  be a 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  $\lceil n/b \rceil$ . Then  $T(n)$  can be bounded asymptotically as follows.

# The master theorem

Compare  $n^{\log_b a}$  vs.  $f(n)$ :

Case 1:  $f(n) = O(n^{\log_b a - \epsilon})$  for some constant  $\epsilon > 0$ .

( $f(n)$  is polynomially smaller than  $n^{\log_b a}$ .)

**Solution:**  $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$ .

Case 2:  $f(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \lg^k n)$ , where  $k \geq 0$ .

( $f(n)$  is within a polylog factor of  $n^{\log_b a}$ , but not smaller.)

**Solution:**  $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \lg^{k+1} n)$ .

(Intuitively: cost is  $n^{\log_b a} \lg^k n$  at each level, and there are  $\Theta(\lg n)$  levels.)

**Simple case:**  $k = 0 \Rightarrow f(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a}) \Rightarrow T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \lg n)$ .

Case 3:  $f(n) = \Omega(n^{\log_b a + \epsilon})$  for some constant  $\epsilon > 0$  and  $f(n)$  satisfies the regularity condition  $af(n/b) \leq cf(n)$  for some constant  $c < 1$  and all sufficiently large  $n$ .

( $f(n)$  is polynomially greater than  $n^{\log_b a}$ .)

**Solution:**  $T(n) = \Theta(f(n))$ .

(Intuitively: cost is dominated by root.)

# The master theorem

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} \Theta(n^{\log_b a}) & \text{when we compare if our } f(n) < n^{\log_b a} \\ \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \lg n) & f(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a - \varepsilon}) \rightarrow f(n) < n^{\log_b a} \\ \Theta(f(n)) & \text{our answer is this what you have to do here is, find } a \checkmark \\ & b \checkmark \\ & \log_b a \checkmark \\ & n^{\log_b a} \checkmark \\ & \text{compare with } f(n) \end{cases}$$

*when we compare if our  $f(n) < n^{\log_b a}$*

*$f(n) = O(n^{\log_b a - \varepsilon}) \rightarrow f(n) < n^{\log_b a}$*

*$f(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a}) \rightarrow f(n) = n^{\log_b a}$*

*when we compare  $f(n) = \Omega(n^{\log_b a + \varepsilon}) \rightarrow f(n) > n^{\log_b a}$*

*if  $af(n/b) \leq cf(n)$  for  $c < 1$  and large  $n$*

# Master Theorem – Case 1 example

Give tight asymptotic bound for

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

Solution:

$a=9$ ,  $b=3$ , and  $f(n) = n$ .

$$n^{\log_b a} = n^{\log_3 9} = n^2$$

$$f(n) = O(n^{\log_3 9 - \varepsilon}) \text{ for } \varepsilon = 1 \text{ or } f(n) < n^{\log_3 9}$$

$$\therefore T(n) = \Theta(n^2)$$

assume you  
are given an equation like  
this asking to find  
running time

∴ if choosing master theorem  
equation should be  
according to

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

Since it is  
case 1  $a = 9$  ✓  
 $b = 3$  ✓

$$\log_b a = \log_3 9 = 2$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} n^{\log_b a} = n^2 \\ f(n) = n \end{array} \right.$$

$$f(n) = n$$

✓

compare

# Master Theorem – Case 2 example

Give tight asymptotic bound for

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

$$T(n) = a T\left(\frac{n}{b}\right) + f(n)$$

**Solution:**

$a=1$ ,  $b=3/2$ , and  $f(n)=1$ .

$$n^{\log_b a} = n^{\log_{3/2} 1} = n^0 = 1$$

$$a = 1$$

$$b = 3/2$$

$$f(n) = 1$$

$$f(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a}) \text{ or } f(n) = n^{\log_b a} \rightarrow \text{case 2}$$

$$\log_b a = \log_{3/2} 1 = 0$$

$$\therefore T(n) = \Theta(\log n)$$

$$\Theta(1 \log n)$$

$$\Theta(n^{\log_b a} \log n)$$

$$f(n) = 1$$

$$n^{\log_b a} = n^0 = 1$$

$$f(n) = n^{\log_b a}$$

# Master Theorem – Case 3 example

- Give tight asymptotic bound for
- $T(n) = 3T(n/4) + n \log n$
- **Solution:**
- $a=3, b=4$ , and  $f(n) = n \log n$

$$n^{\log_b a} = n^{\log_4 3} = O(n^{0.793})$$

$$f(n) = \Omega(n^{\log_4 3 + \varepsilon}), \text{ for } \varepsilon \approx 0.2 \text{ or } f(n) > n^{\log_4 3} \rightarrow \text{case 3}$$

Note :  $n \lg n \geq c \cdot n^{\log_4 3} \cdot n^{0.2}$

# Exercises.

- Use the master method to give tight asymptotic bounds for the following recurrences.

1.  $T(n) = 4T(n/2) + n.$
2.  $T(n) = 4T(n/2) + n^2.$
3.  $T(n) = 4T(n/2) + n^3.$

don't try

Use the master method to show that the solution to the binary-search recurrence  $T(n) = T(n/2) + \Theta(1)$  is  $T(n) = \Theta(\lg n).$