

Recursion → Time Complexity [HFN]

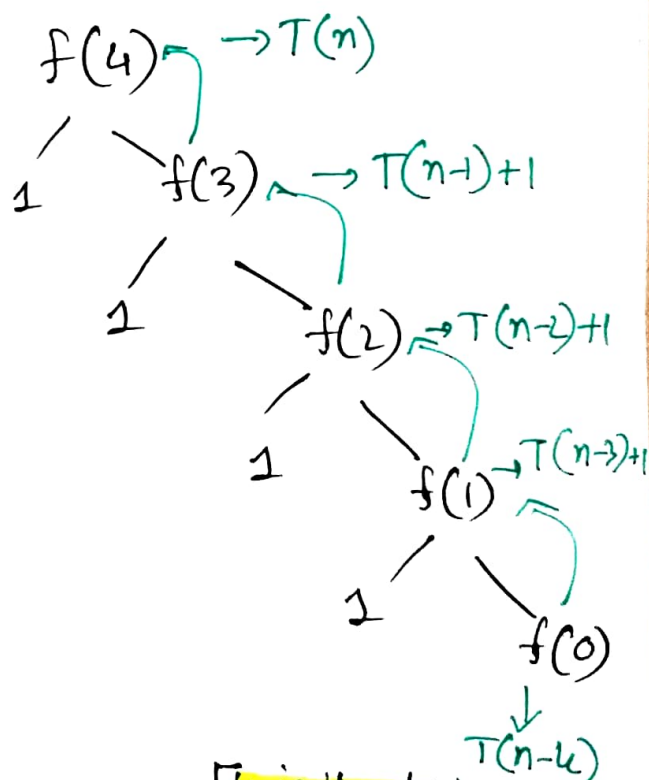
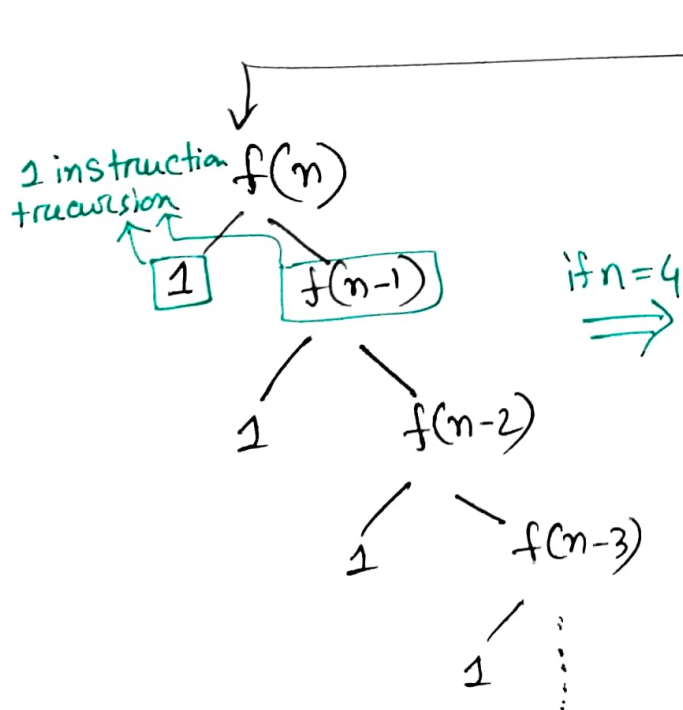
→ it will help to understand recursive task/algos time complexity, also divide & conquer approach will be using this property.

Simple recursive code with recursion tree breakdown.

```
def f(x):
    if x == 0:
        return x
    print("1")
    f(x-1)
```

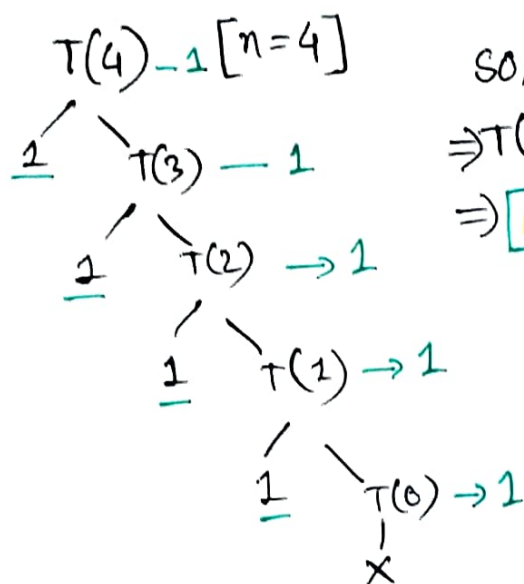
base case [if $x == 0$:] — consider it as a 1 instruction
 return x — 1 instruction
 print("1") — recursive call
 f(x-1) — recursive call

Assume, for input n size, which will be fed into the $f(x)$ when calling, time function is $T(n)$;



[It is the last recursive call where base case hits]

1// then we can just calculate the instruction for each recursive call to get the time.



so, for $n=4$, total 5 instructions
[1 $T(n)$ call first, then 4 printing instruction]
 $\Rightarrow T(n) = n+1$
 $\Rightarrow \boxed{T(n) = O(N)}$

This method of creating a recursion tree and observing the behavior, so this is the first way to solve a recursive time complexity problem: ① Analysing Recursion Tree. — ①

keep in mind, this may seem easy for a simple recursive task such as this, but with different task where instructions per method call is bigger, then we have to count them as well, example: $c * T(n) \rightarrow \cancel{c * T(n/2)} \rightarrow c * T(n/2)$

2// Substitute method

same code,

$f(x):$ — $T(n)$
if $x=0$: $\boxed{1}$
return
 $\text{print}("1")$ — 1
 $f(x-1)$ — $T(n-1)$

we can establish recursive relation from here:

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

now, for $n > 0$, we need to solve the recursive process to get the time function;

$$T(n) = \boxed{T(n-1)} + 1 \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{if } T(n) = T(n-1) + 1 \\ \text{then, } T(n-1) = T(n-2) + 1. \\ \text{so substituting } T(n-1) \text{ there} \end{array}$$

$$\Rightarrow T(n) = [T(n-2) + 1] + 1$$

$$\Rightarrow T(n) = \boxed{T(n-2)} + 2 \quad \text{same process}$$

$$\Rightarrow T(n) = T(n-3) + 3$$

assume, the recursion will end at k^{th} time. then;

$$\Rightarrow T(n) = T(n-k) + k \quad (*) \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{ending means } T(n)'s \ n=0 \\ \text{since that's the base case} \end{array}$$

so, for this to be the last call, $(n-k)$ must be 0.

$$n-k = 0 \Rightarrow n = k \Rightarrow k = n$$

now substituting the k 's value:

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= T(n-n) + n \\ &= \boxed{T(0)} + n \quad \rightarrow \quad T(n) = 1 \text{ if } n=0 \\ &= 1 + n = n \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{T(n) = O(N)}$$

This was substitute method. It will always work for any recursive problem.

$[T(n) = T(n-1) + n]$ related problem. Solⁿ 1

take this code as an example:

```
def f(n): _____ T(n)
```

```
    if n == 0:
        return "The end" ] - 1
```

```
    c = 0 _____ 1
```

```
    for i in range(n): _____ n+1 [in python, it runs 0 to n-1; checking n and breaking; so, n+1]
```

```
        c += i _____ n
```

```
    print(c) _____ 1
```

```
    f(n-1) _____ T(n-1)
```

$$\text{So, } T(n) = 1 + n + 1 + n + 1 + T(n-1)$$

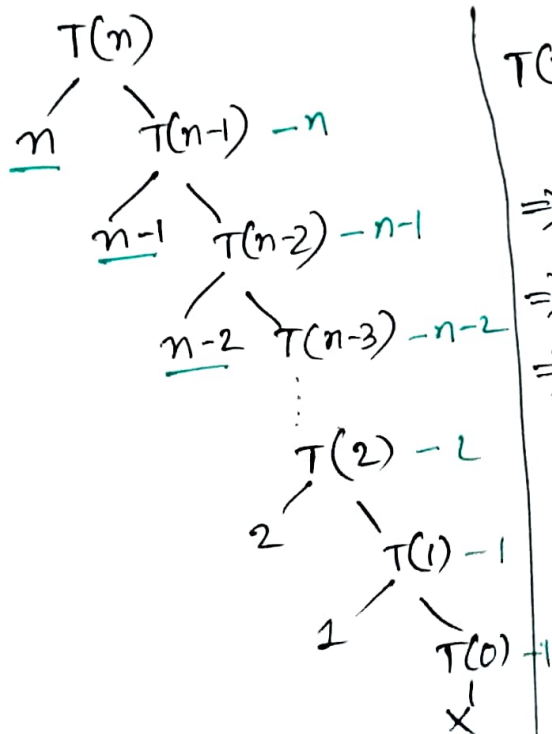
$$= \underline{2n + 3} + T(n-1) \rightarrow \text{asymptotically, this is a linear time, replacing with } n$$

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

$$\Rightarrow T(n) = \begin{cases} 1 & ; n=0 \\ T(n-1) + n & ; n > 0 \end{cases}$$

now using Solⁿ 1 [rec. tree]

$T(n)$ = sum of the instructions in this tree



$$\Rightarrow T(n) = n + (n-1) + (n-2) + \dots + 2 + 1$$

$$\Rightarrow T(n) = 1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + n$$

$$\Rightarrow T(n) = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow T(n) = O(N^2)$$

[assuming you know how this is calculated in big-O notation]

Sol^N 2 : back substitute method

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} 1 & ; n=0 \\ T(n-1) + n & ; n > 0 \end{cases}$$

$$T(n) = T(n-1) + n \quad \text{— step 1}$$

$$\Rightarrow T(n) = [T(n-2) + (n-1)] + n \quad \text{— step 2}$$

$$\Rightarrow T(n) = [T(n-3) + (n-2)] + (n-1) + n \quad \text{— step 3}$$

\vdots
kth step:

$$T(n) = T(n-k) + (n-(k-1)) + (n-(k-2)) + \dots + (n-1) + n$$

in kth step, $n-k=0$; $k=n$

$$\Rightarrow T(n) = T(n-n) + (n-(n-1)) + (n-(n-2)) + \dots + (n-1) + n$$

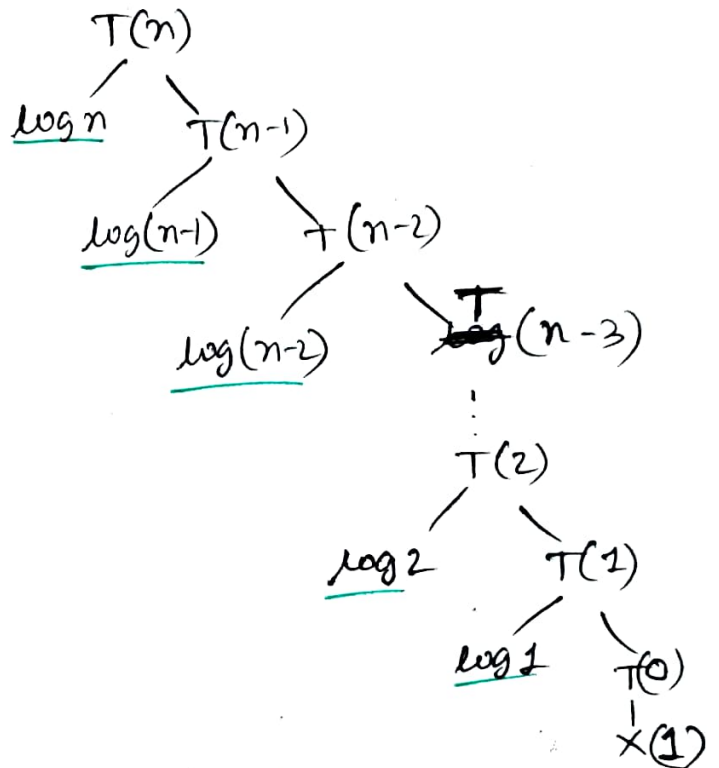
$$\Rightarrow T(n) = T(0) + (n-n+1) + (n-n+2) + \dots + (n-1) + n$$

$$= 1 + 1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + (n-1) + n$$

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

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{T(n) = O(N^2)}$$

log based problems:

Solⁿ 1def f(x): — $T(n)$ if $x == 0$:
return] 1 $i = 1, c = 0$ — 1while($i < x$):
 $c = i$
 $i = i * 2$] $\log(n)$ f(x-1) — $T(n-1)$ 

Summing the instructions:

$$\log n + \log(n-1) + \log(n-2) + \dots + \log 2 + \log 1 + 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \log(n \times (n-1) \times (n-2) \times \dots \times 2 \times 1) + 1$$

$$\Rightarrow T(n) = \log(n!) + 1$$

* mathematical explanation:

$\log(n!) = \log 1 + \log 2 + \dots + \log(n-1) + \log(n)$; as you can see, you cannot find the solution through summation since it's not a ~~calculus~~ functional series where a formula will give you the answer. Thankfully we don't need the exact answer!

So, consider $n! \Rightarrow 1 \times 2 \times 3 \times \dots \times (n-1) \times n$. if we try to find the upper bound of this function, there are "n" terms where the maximum value is n. So, rewriting:

$$n! = n(n-1)(n-2)(n-3) \dots 2 \cdot 1.$$

assume, the upperbound for all this term is n, throwing

...the constant terms,

so, $O(n!) \Rightarrow n \times n \times n \times \dots \times n$ [n number of n's are multiplied]

$$\Rightarrow O(n!) = O(n^n)$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{n! = O(N^N)}$$

$$\text{so, } T(n) = \log(n!)$$

$$\Rightarrow T(n) = O(\log n^n)$$

$$= O(n \log n)$$

$$\left[\log_{\text{base}} a^b = b \log_{\text{base}} a \right]$$

Soln 2: Substitute

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} 1 & n=0 \\ T(n-1) + \log n; & n > 0 \end{cases}$$

$$T(n) = T(n-1) + \log n$$

$$\Rightarrow T(n) = [T(n-2) + \log(n-1)] + \log n$$

$$\Rightarrow T(n) = [T(n-k)] + \log n + \log n-1 + \dots + \log 2 + \log 1$$

in kth step, $n-k=0$; $n=k \Rightarrow k=n$

$$\Rightarrow T(n) = T(n-n) + \log(n!)$$

$$= T(0) + n \log n$$

$$= 1 + n \log n$$

$$\Rightarrow T(n) = O(n \log n)$$

recursion branding/multiple rec.

code:

 $f(n) : \text{---} T(n)$ if $n == 0$:

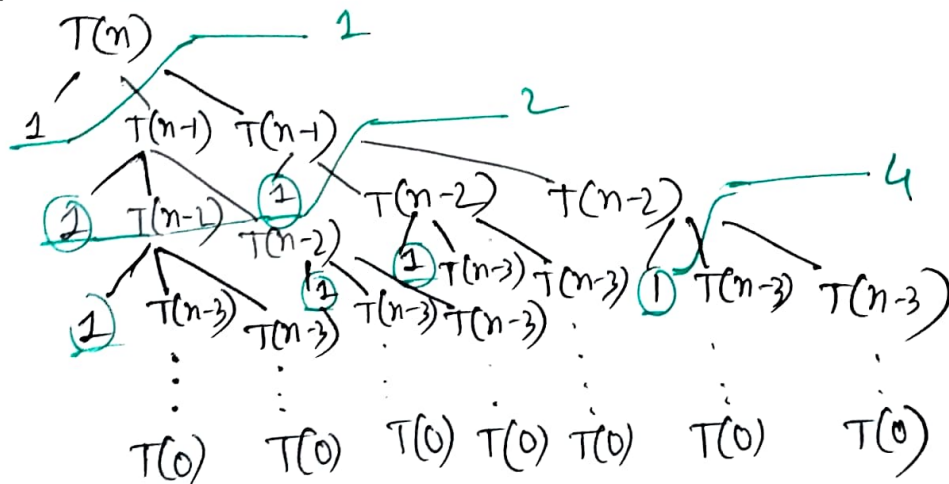
return

print("n")

 $f(n-1) \text{---} T(n-1)$ $f(n-1) \text{---} T(n-1)$

p

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

Solⁿ 1

the instructions will go like,

$$\begin{array}{l|l} 1 & \text{for } k^{\text{th}} \text{ step} \Rightarrow \text{summing all} \\ 2 & 1 + 2^1 + 2^2 + 2^3 + 2^4 + \dots + 2^k \\ 4 & \Rightarrow 2^{k+1} - 1 \\ 8 & \left[\begin{array}{l} a + ax + ax^2 + ax^3 + \dots + ax^n \\ = \frac{a(x^{n+1} - 1)}{x - 1} \end{array} \right] \\ 16 & \\ \vdots & \end{array}$$

since, $n-k=0$; $k=n$

$$T(n) = 2^{n+1} - 1$$

$$\Rightarrow T(n) = O(2^n)$$

Sol^N 2 sub.

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

$$= 2[2T(n-2) + 1] + 1 = 2^2T(n-2) + 2 + 1$$

$$(u^k) \Rightarrow 2^k \cdot T(n-k) + 2^{k-1} + 2^{k-2} + \dots + 2^3 + 2^2 + 2^1 + 1$$

$$k = n \Rightarrow 2^n \cdot T(n-n) + 2^{n-1} + 2^{n-2} + \dots + 2^2 + 2^1 + 1$$

$$\Rightarrow 2^n \cdot 1 + 2^{n-1} + 2^{n-2} + \dots + 2^2 + 2^1 + 1$$

$$T(n) = 2^n + 2^n - 1$$

$$= 2^{n+1} - 1$$

$$\Rightarrow T(n) = O(2^n)$$

Observations:

$$T(n) = \frac{T(n-1)}{n} \times \frac{1}{1} \Rightarrow O(n)$$

$$T(n) = \frac{T(n-1)}{n} \times \frac{n}{n} \Rightarrow O(n^2)$$

$$T(n) = \frac{T(n-1)}{n} \times \frac{\log n}{n} \Rightarrow O(n \log n)$$

$$T(n) = \frac{T(n-1)}{n} \times \frac{n^2}{n} \Rightarrow O(n^3)$$

$$T(n) = \frac{T(n-1)}{n} \times \frac{n}{n} \Rightarrow O(n)$$

if the recursive process is only branching 1 function per call + its size is decreasing in a linear fashion, we can interchange it with n and multiply with the instruction in each call.

$$T(n) = 2T(n-1) + 1 \Rightarrow O(2^n)$$

$$T(n) = 3T(n-1) + 1 \Rightarrow O(3^n)$$

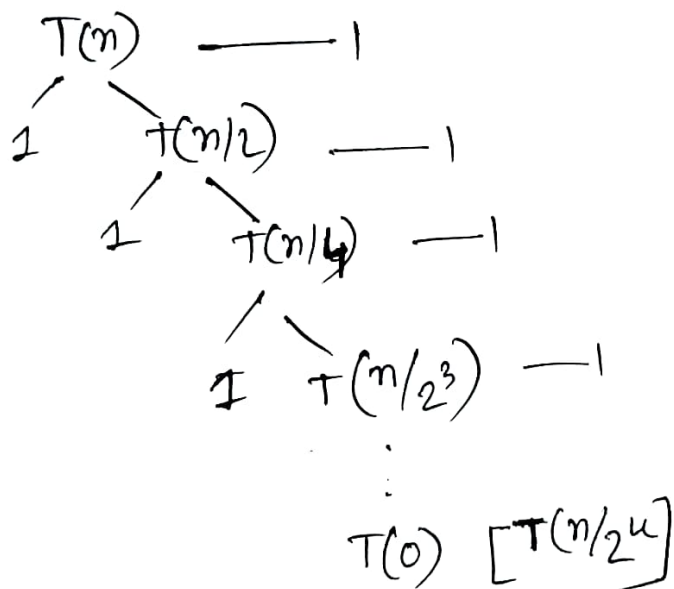
$$T(n) = 3T(n-1) + n \Rightarrow O(n \cdot 3^n)$$

same scenario but multiple branching, then branching ^(decrease) linear \times instr

All of the tasks shown before, are the recursion of decreasing function; $T(n) = T(n-1)$ in this pattern; now see some dividing function:

$$f(n): \begin{array}{l} \text{---} T(n) \\ \text{if } n == 0: \\ \quad \text{return "done"} \end{array} \quad \left| \quad T(n) = \begin{cases} 1, & n = 0 \\ T(n/2) + 1, & n > 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{print}(n) \text{ --- } 1 \\ f(n/2) \text{ --- } T(n/2) \end{array}$$



Sol^N2

$$\begin{aligned}
 T(n) &= T(n/2) + 1 \\
 &= [T(n/4) + 1] + 1 \\
 &= T(n/2^2) + 2 \\
 &= [T(n/2^3) + 1] + 2 \\
 &= T(n/2^3) + 3
 \end{aligned}$$

$$k^{\text{th}} = T(n/2^k) + k$$

$T(n/2^k)$ in k^{th} time, it should be 1 [base case]

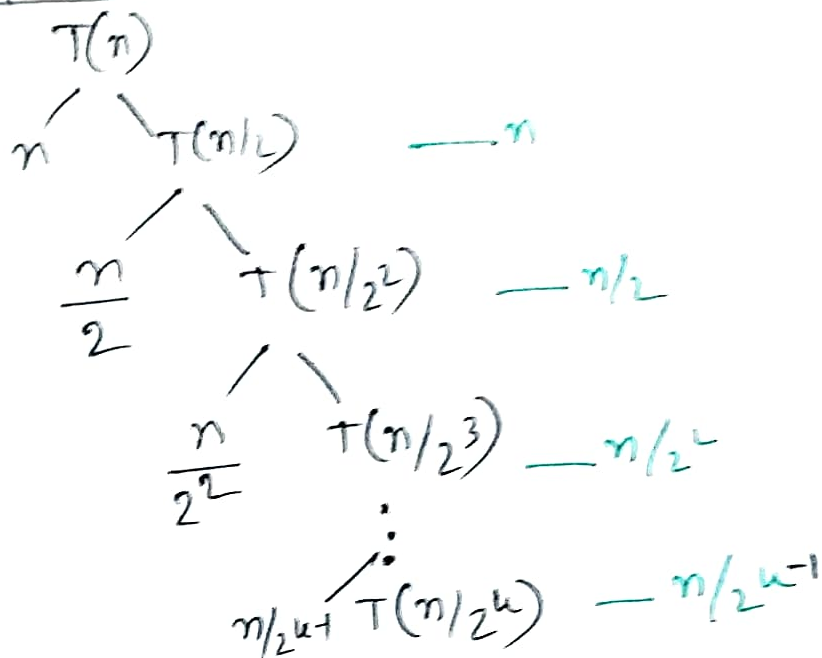
$$n/2^k = 1 \Rightarrow k = \log n.$$

$$\text{So, } T(n) = T\left(\frac{n}{2^{\log n}}\right) + \log n$$

$$= \underbrace{1}_{\text{base case}} + \log n$$

$$\Rightarrow T(n) = O(\log n)$$

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

Sol^N 1

Summing $\Rightarrow n + n/2 + n/2^2 + \dots + n/2^{(k-1)} + n/2^k$

$$\Rightarrow T(n) = n \left[1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2^2} + \dots + \frac{1}{2^k} \right]$$

\hookrightarrow approximately
since big oh
notation

$$= n (1 + .5 + .25 + \dots)$$

$$= n \times O(1)$$

$$\Rightarrow T(n) = O(n)$$

this is a forever
going function's finite
version which will
approximately be around
1.9999; it will never
reach more than 2,
making it linear
regardless [big oh]

$$T(n) = T(n/2) + n \quad \text{--- st 1}$$

$$\Rightarrow [T(n/4) + n/2] + n \quad \text{--- st 2}$$

$$= [T(n/2^2) + n/2] + n$$

$$\Rightarrow T(n/2^3) + n/2^2 + n/2 + n \quad \text{--- st 3}$$

$$u^{th} \Rightarrow T(n/2^u) + n/2^{u-1} + n/2^{u-2} + \dots + n/2^1 + n/2^0$$

$$\Rightarrow T(n) = T(n/2^u) + n \left[1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2^2} + \frac{1}{2^3} + \dots + \frac{1}{2^u} \right]$$

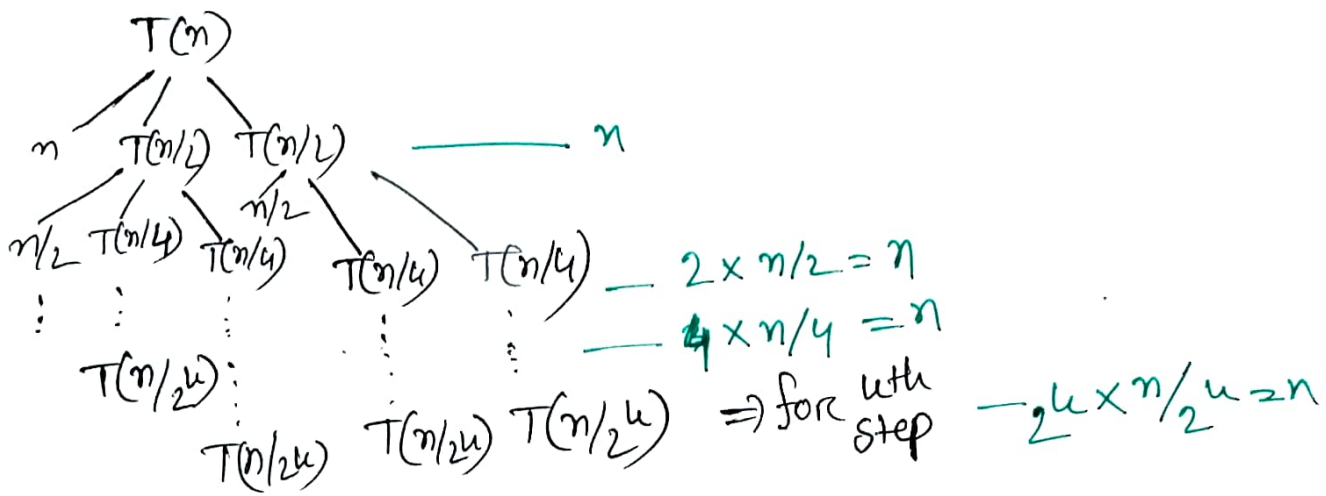
$$\Rightarrow T(n) = \underbrace{T(1)}_{\text{base case}} + n \times (1+1)$$

$$\Rightarrow T(n) = O(n)$$

another case (will be useful in sorting)

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

(P.T.O.)



base case, $n/2^k = 1$ [Sol^N 1]

$$\Rightarrow k = \log n.$$

Summing all steps, total k steps, each step n operation;

$$T(n) = k \times n$$

$$\Rightarrow T(n) = n \times \log n$$

$$= O(n \log n)$$

Sol^N 2

$$T(n) = 2T(n/2) + n \quad \text{--- 1}$$

$$= 2^2 T(n/2^2) + 2 * n/2 + n \quad \text{--- (11)}$$

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

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

$$k^{\text{th}} \Rightarrow 2^k T(n/2^k) + k \cdot n ; \quad n/2^k = 1 ; \quad n = 2^k$$

$$k = \log n$$

$$T(n) = 2^k T(1) + n \cdot \log n$$

$$= n \times 1 + n \cdot \log n \Rightarrow T(n) = O(n \cdot \log n)$$

Another way to solve generalized recursive

Algorithm: Master's Theorem.

\Rightarrow it's also known as master method. We discussed two types of recursive cases, "decreasing recursion & dividing recursion". The generalised formula is different for both of them.

for decreasing recursive function:

format: $\overset{T(n)=\downarrow}{a} T(n-b) + f(n)$; $\boxed{\begin{array}{l} a > 0 \text{ \& } b > 0 \text{ \& } f(n) \\ \text{must satisfy} \\ \text{these three} \end{array}} = O(n^d)$

① if, $a = 1 \Rightarrow T(n) = O(n \times f(n))$

② if, $a > 1 \Rightarrow T(n) = O(a^{n/b} \cdot n^d) = O(\underbrace{n^d}_{\substack{\uparrow f(n) \\ \text{upper bound of } f(n); \text{ you can} \\ \text{write } f(n) \text{ instead} \\ \text{if you want}}} \cdot a^{n/b})$

③ if $a < 1 \Rightarrow T(n) = O(n^d) = O(f(n))$

for dividing recursive function:

since it divides its input; the instructions/ $f(n)$ cannot be represented with the previous formula

⇒ format for dividing rec. master theorem

$$T(n) = a \cdot T(n/b) + f(n); \quad a \geq 1, b > 1$$

we will need:

$$f(n) = O(n^d)$$

This is a more generalized formula. the conditions for this theorem are:

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} O(n^d \cdot \log n) & ; \text{ if } a = b^d \\ O(n^d) & ; \text{ if } a < b^d \\ O(n^{\log_b a}) & ; \text{ if } a > b^d. \end{cases}$$

divide
recur-
sion

to repeat; for decreasing recursion:

$$T(n) = a \cdot T(n-b) + f(n); \quad \begin{matrix} a > 0; \\ b > 0; \end{matrix} \quad f(n) = O(n^d)$$

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} O(n^d) & ; \text{ if } a < 1 \\ O(n \times n^d) & ; \text{ if } a = 1 \\ O(n^d \times a^{n/b}) & ; \text{ if } a > 1 \end{cases}$$