# Lecture 4: Divide & Conquer





## General techniques in this course

- Greedy algorithms [Lecture 3]
- Divide & Conquer algorithms [today]
- Sweepline algorithms [28 Aug]
- Dynamic programming algorithms [4 and 11 Sep]
- Network flow algorithms [18 Sep and 9 Oct]

#### **Divide-and-Conquer**

#### Divide-and-conquer [usually 3 parts]

- 1. Divide: Break up problem into several parts.
- 2. Conquer: Solve each part recursively.
- 3. Combine solutions to sub-problems into overall solution.

#### Most common usage.

- Break up problem of size n into two equal parts of size  $\frac{1}{2}$ n.
- Solve two parts recursively.
- Combine two solutions into overall solution in linear time.

# **Searching**

**Input:** A sorted sequence S of n numbers  $a_1, a_2, ..., a_n$ , stored in an array A[1..n].

**Question:** Given a number x, is x in S?

0	1	3	4	5	7	10	13	15	18	19	23

- Compare x to the middle element of the array (A[n/2]).
- If A[n/2] = x then "Yes"
- Otherwise, if A[n/2] < x then recursively Search A[1...n/2-1].
- Otherwise, if A[n/2] > x then recursively Search A[n/2+1...n]

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Analysis: T(n) = 1 + T(n/2)

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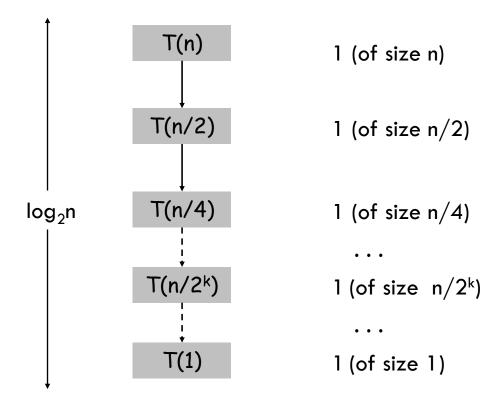
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Analysis: T(n) = 1 + T(n/2)

### **Analyze recursion**

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



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**Example:** x=1 (non-integers are rounded up)



Analysis:  $T(n) = 1 + T(n/2) = O(\log n)$ 

### Sorting

Sorting. Given n elements, rearrange in ascending order.

Obvious sorting applications.

List files in a directory.

Organize an MP3 library.

List names in a phone book.

Display Google PageRank

results.

Problems become easier once sorted.

Find the median.

Find the closest pair.

Binary search in a database.

Identify statistical outliers.

Find duplicates in a mailing list.

Non-obvious sorting applications.

Data compression.

Computer graphics.

Interval scheduling.

Computational biology.

Minimum spanning tree.

Supply chain management.

Simulate a system of particles.

Book recommendations on Amazon.

Load balancing.

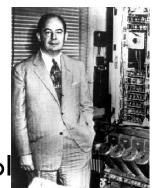
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### Mergesort

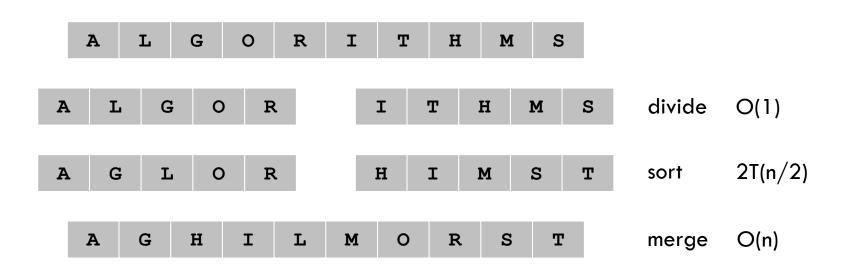
1. Divide array into two halves.

2. Conquer: Recursively sort each half.

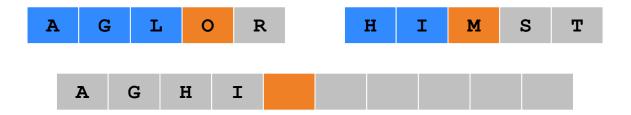
3. Combine: Merge two halves to make sorted whol



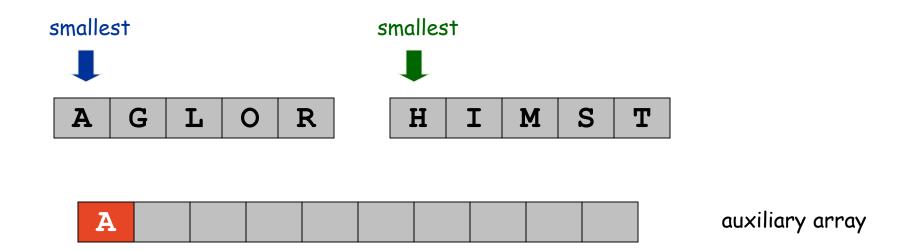
Jon von Neumann (1945)



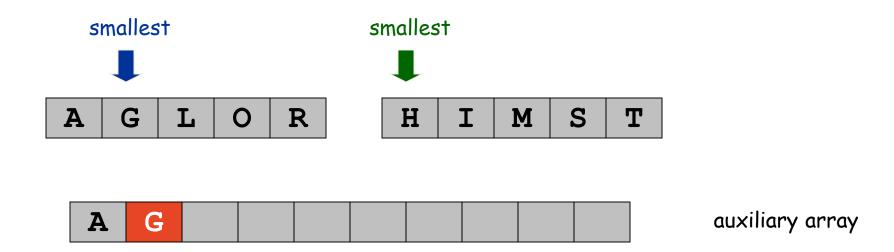
- Merging. Combine two pre-sorted lists into a sorted whole.
- How to merge efficiently?
  - Linear number of comparisons.
  - Use temporary array.



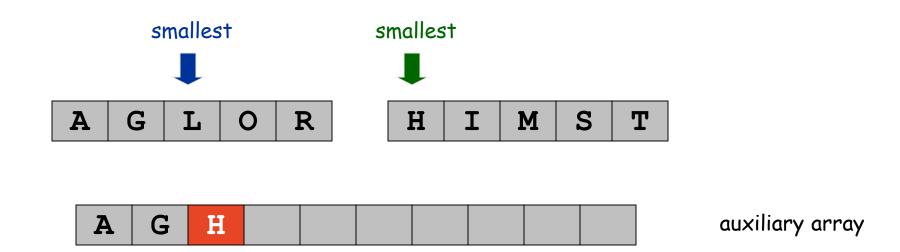
- Merge.
  - Keep track of smallest element in each sorted half.
  - Insert smallest of two elements into auxiliary array.
  - Repeat until done.



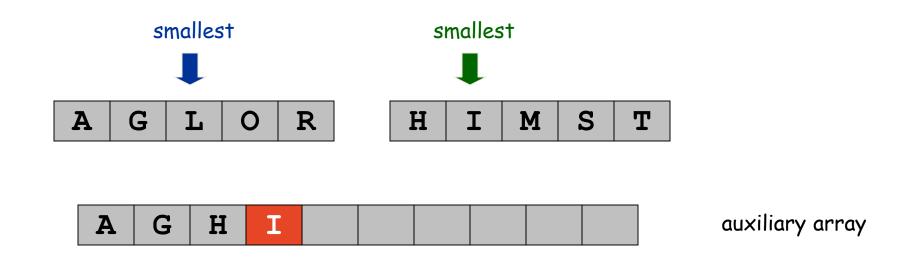
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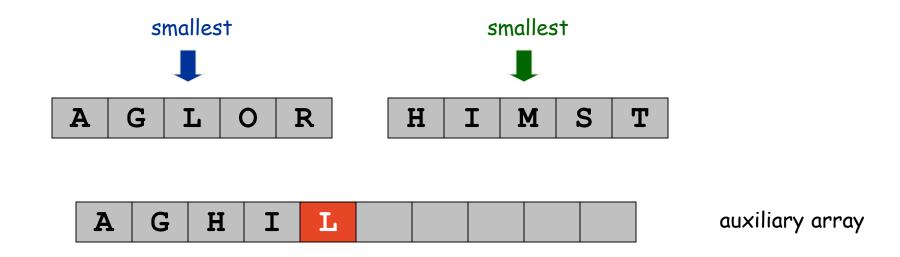
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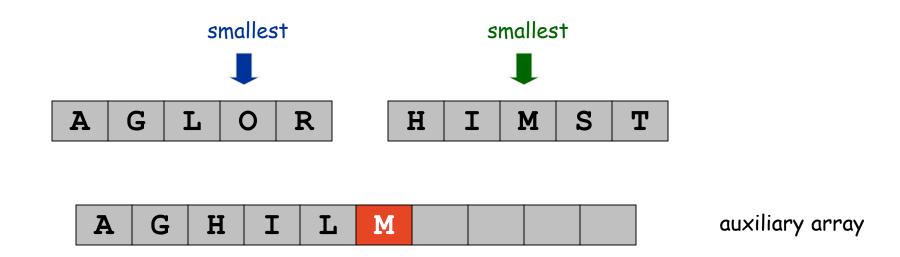
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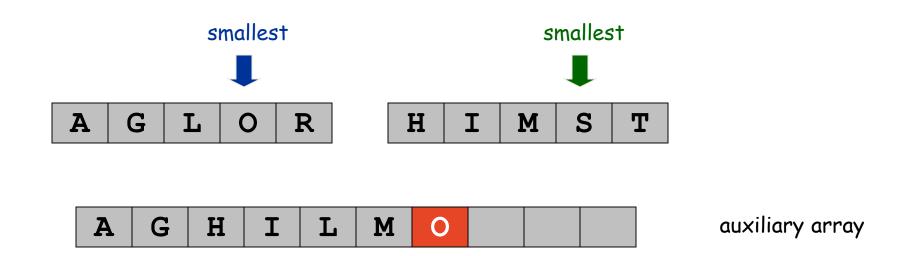
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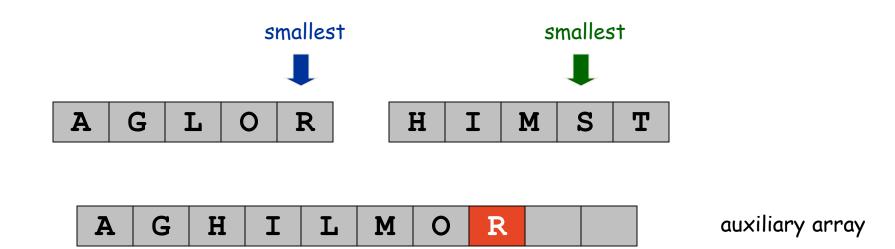
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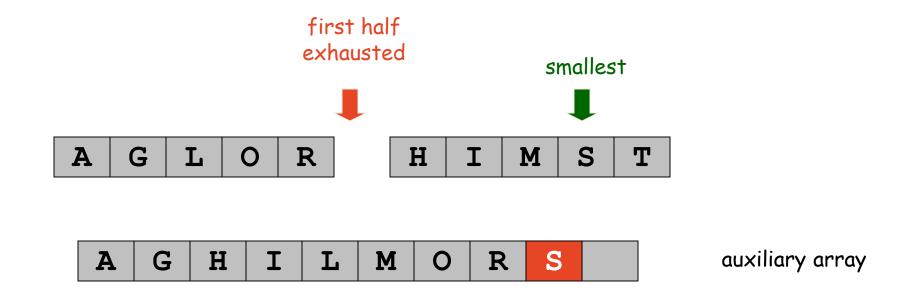
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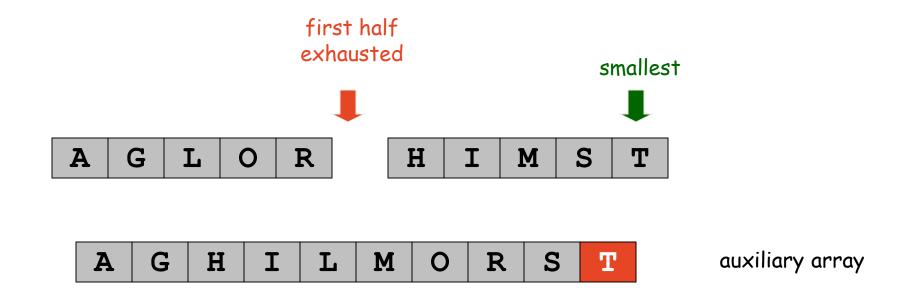
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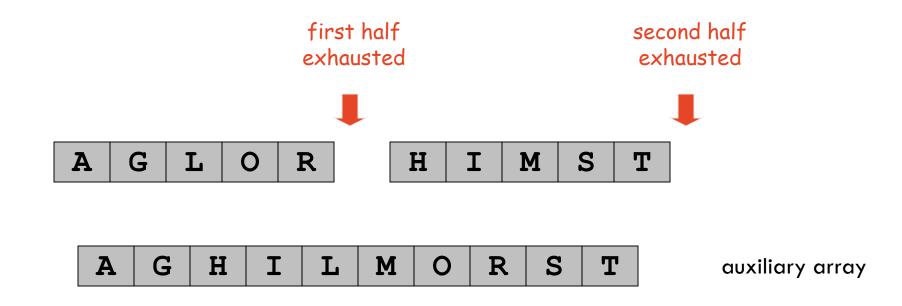
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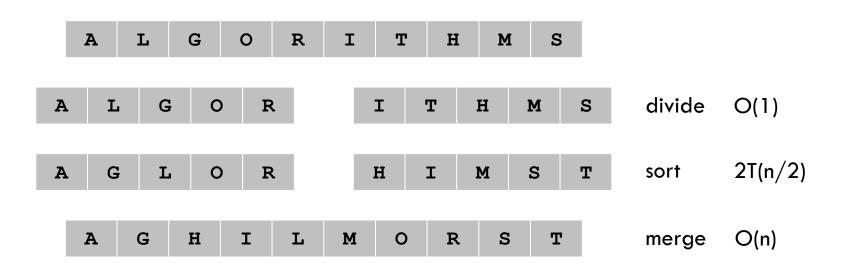
### Mergesort

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#### **A Useful Recurrence Relation**

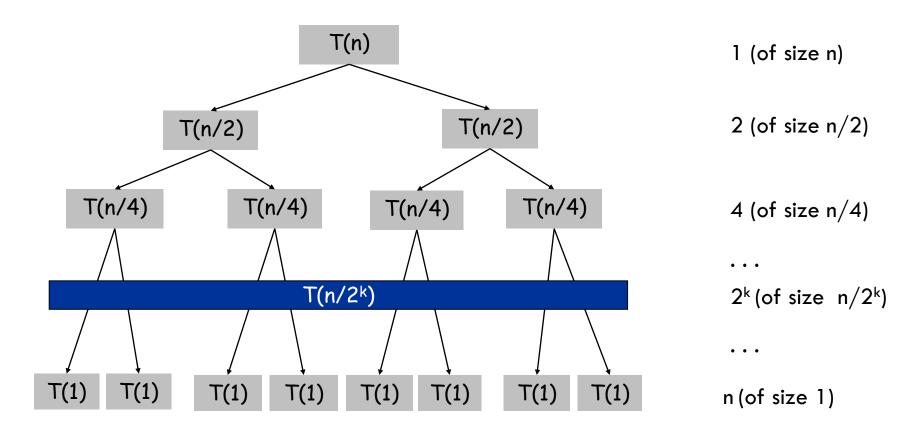
- **Definition:** T(n) = number of comparisons to mergesort an input of size n.
- Mergesort recurrence.

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } n=1 \\ T(\lceil n/2 \rceil) + T(\lfloor n/2 \rfloor) + O(n) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- Solution: T(n) = ?

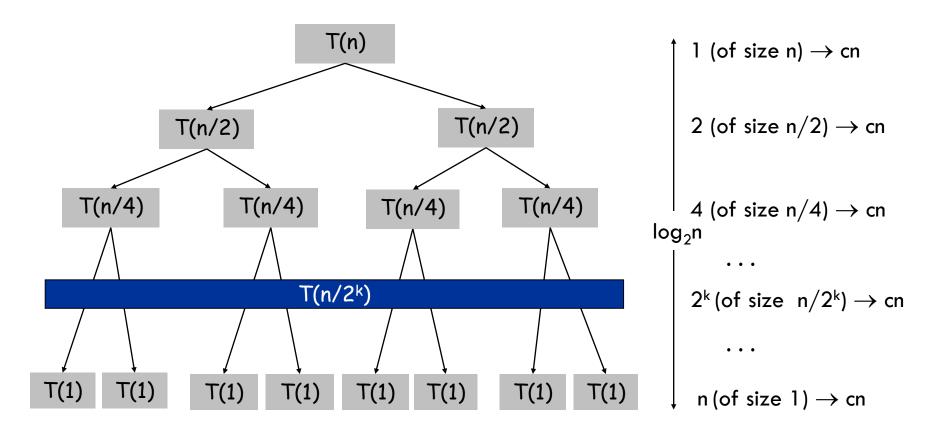
## **Proof by unrolling**

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} c & \text{if } n = 1\\ 2T(n/2) + cn & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$
sorting both halves merging



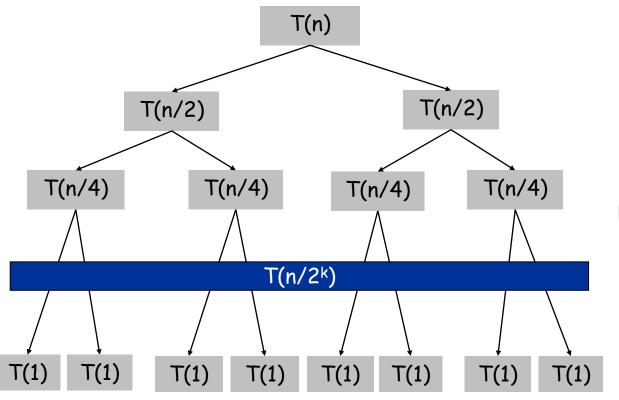
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1 (of size n)  $\rightarrow$  cn 2 (of size n/2)  $\rightarrow$  cn 4 (of size n/4)  $\rightarrow$  cn log<sub>2</sub>n  $2^k$  (of size  $n/2^k$ )  $\rightarrow$  cn  $n (of size 1) \rightarrow cn$ 

#### **A Useful Recurrence Relation**

- **Definition:** T(n) = number of comparisons to mergesort an input of size n.
- Mergesort recurrence.

$$T(n) \leq \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } n = 1 \\ T(\lceil n/2 \rceil) + T(\lceil n/2 \rfloor) + n & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$
solve left half solve right half merging

- Solution:  $T(n) = O(n \log_2 n)$ .

# **Counting Inversions**

# **Counting Inversions**

- Music site tries to match your song preferences with others.
  - You rank n songs.
  - Music site consults database to find people with similar tastes.
- Similarity metric: number of inversions between two rankings.
  - My rank: 1, 2, ..., n.
  - Your rank:  $a_1, a_2, ..., a_n$ .
  - Songs i and k inverted if i < k, but  $a_i > a_k$ .

	Songs				
	Α	В	С	D	Ε
Me	1	2	3	4	5
You	1	3	4	2	5

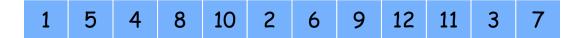
Inversions 3-2, 4-2

– Brute force: check all  $\Theta(n^2)$  pairs i and k.

# **Applications**

- Applications.
  - Voting theory.
  - Collaborative filtering.
  - Measuring the "sortedness" of an array.
  - Sensitivity analysis of Google's ranking function.
  - Rank aggregation for meta-searching on the Web.
  - Nonparametric statistics (e.g., Kendall's Tau distance).

Divide-and-conquer.



- Divide-and-conquer.
  - Divide: separate list into two pieces.



- Divide-and-conquer.
  - Divide: separate list into two pieces.
  - Conquer: recursively count inversions in each half.



5 blue-blue inversions

8 green-green inversions

5-4, 5-2, 4-2, 8-2, 10-2

6-3, 9-3, 9-7, 12-3, 12-7, 12-11, 11-3, 11-7

- Divide-and-conquer.
  - Divide: separate list into two pieces.
  - Conquer: recursively count inversions in each half.
  - Combine: count inversions where a<sub>i</sub> and a<sub>j</sub> are in different halves, and return sum of three quantities.



5 blue-blue inversions

8 green-green inversions

9 blue-green inversions Combine: ??? 5-3, 4-3, 8-6, 8-3, 8-7, 10-6, 10-9, 10-3, 10-7

Total = 5 + 8 + 9 = 22.

#### **Counting Inversions: Combine**

#### Combine: count blue-green inversions

- Assume each half is sorted.
- Count inversions where a<sub>i</sub> and a<sub>i</sub> are in different halves.
- Merge two sorted halves into sorted whole.



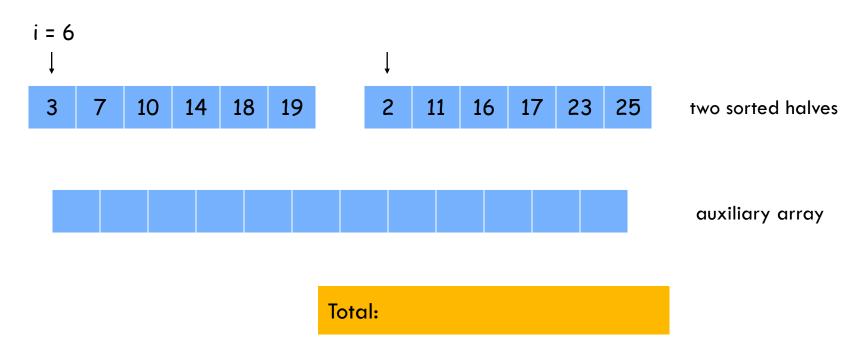
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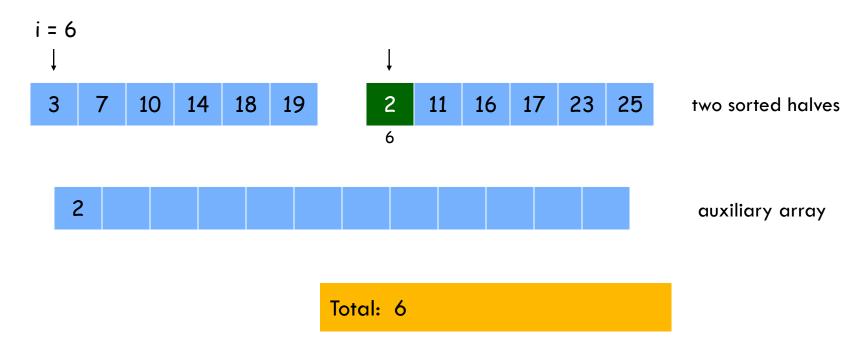
25

How many blue-green inversions?

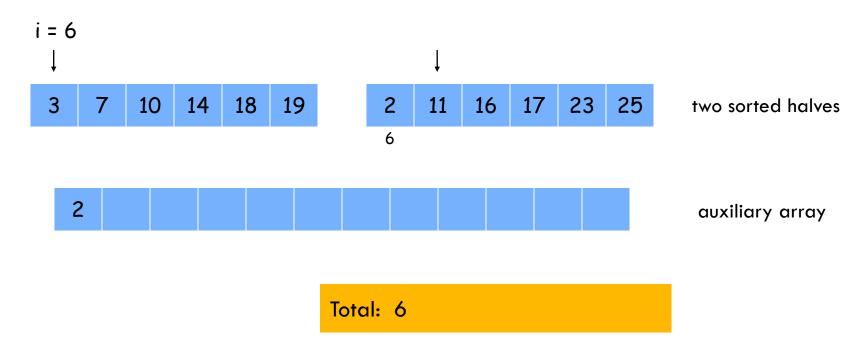
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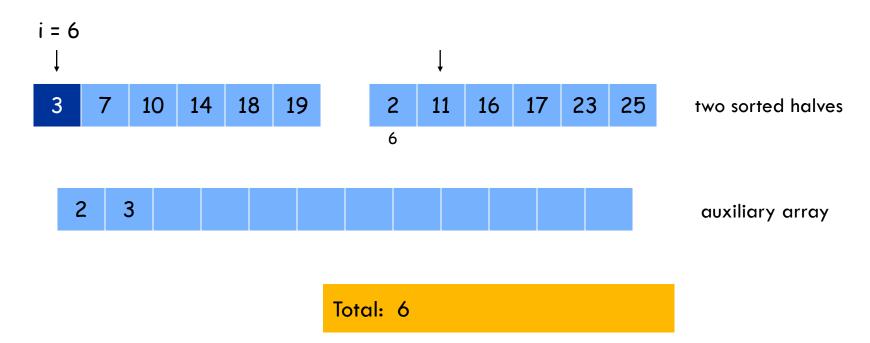
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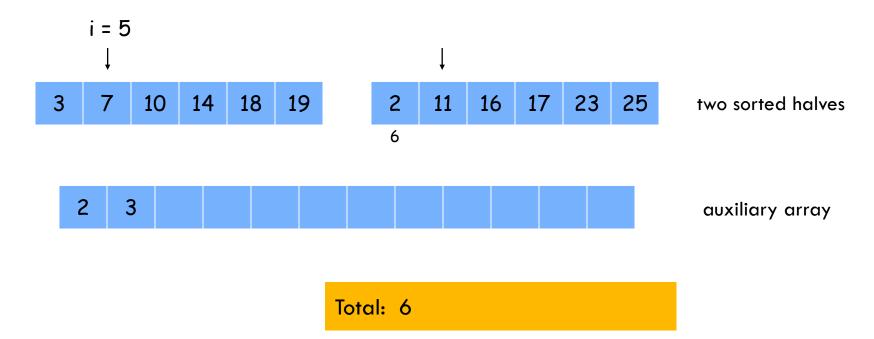
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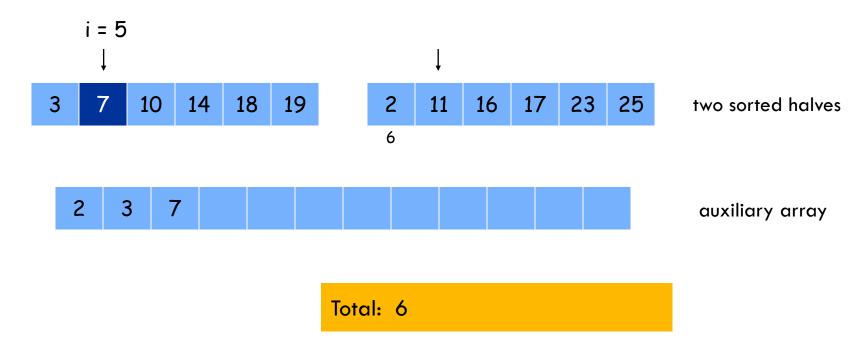
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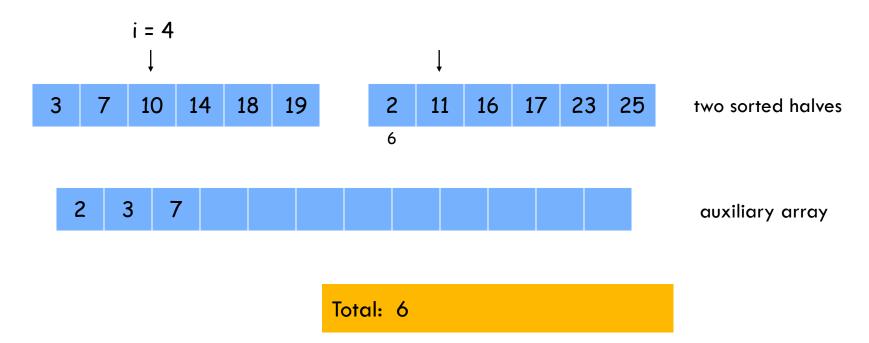
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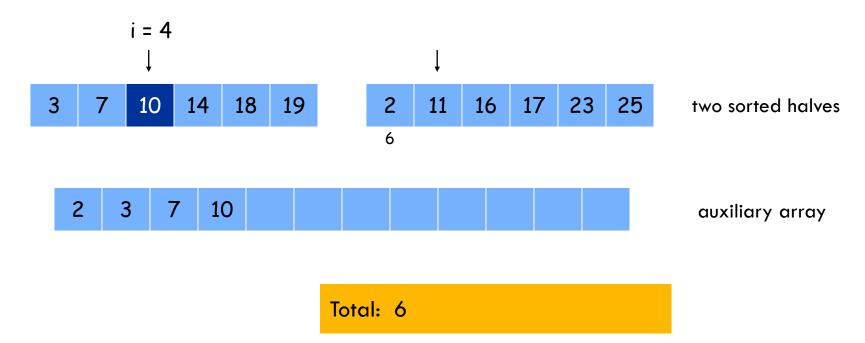
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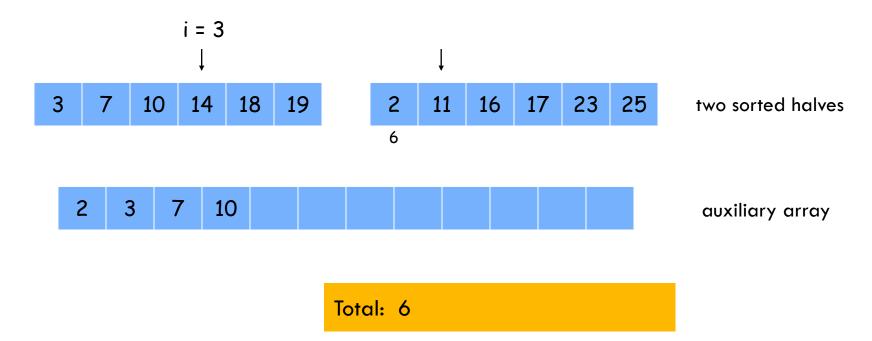
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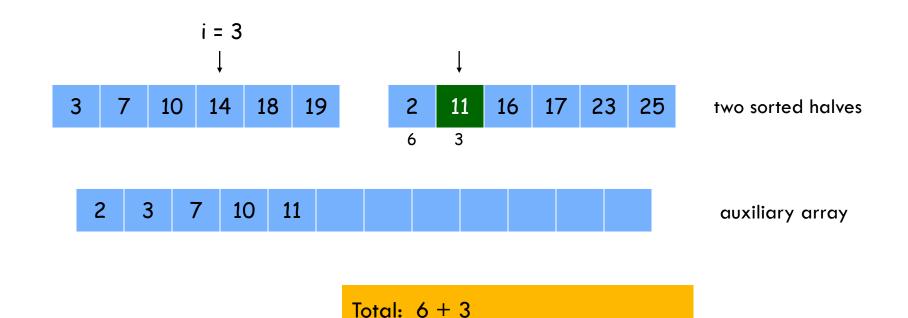
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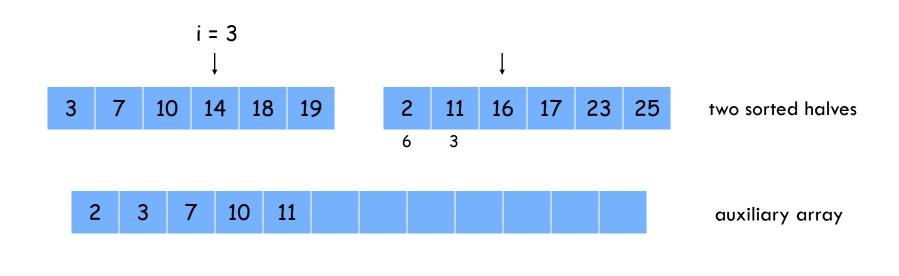
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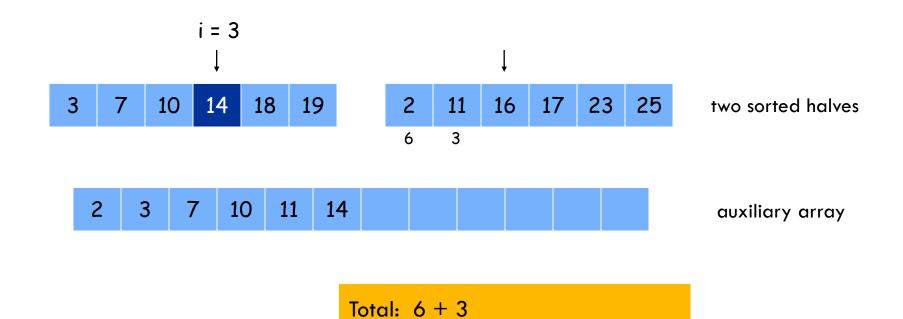


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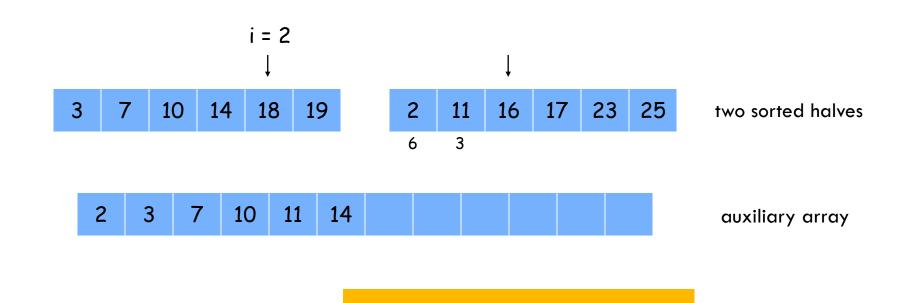


Total: 6 + 3

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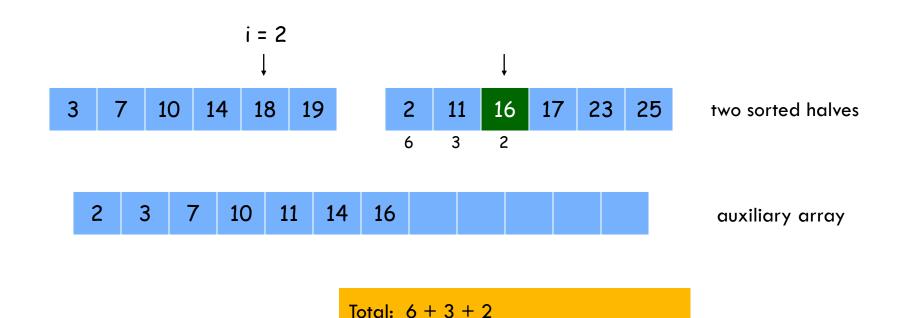
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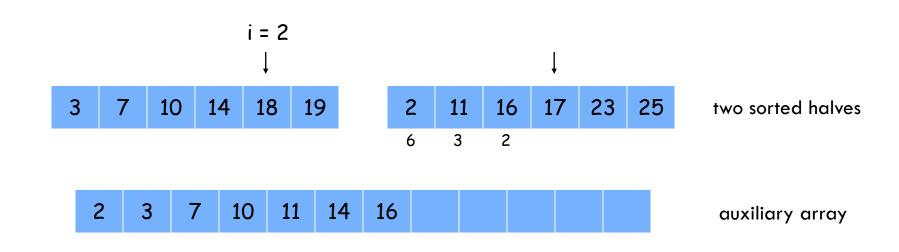
The University of Sydney

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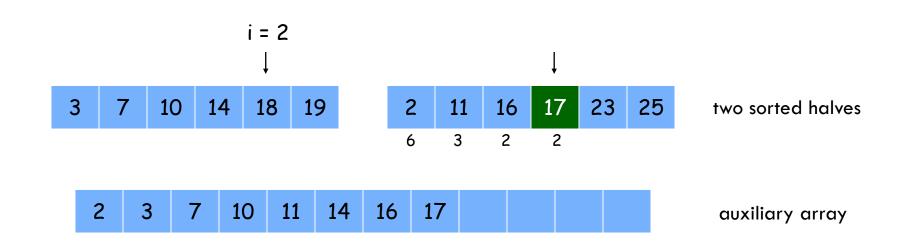


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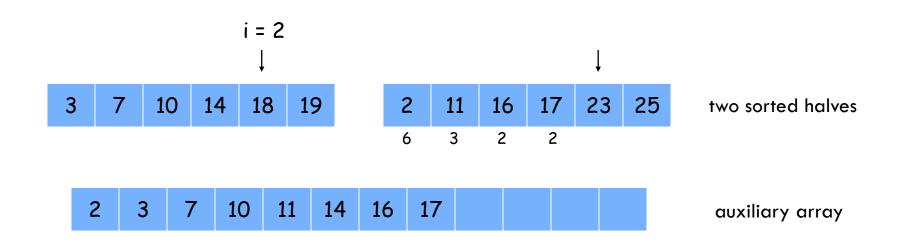
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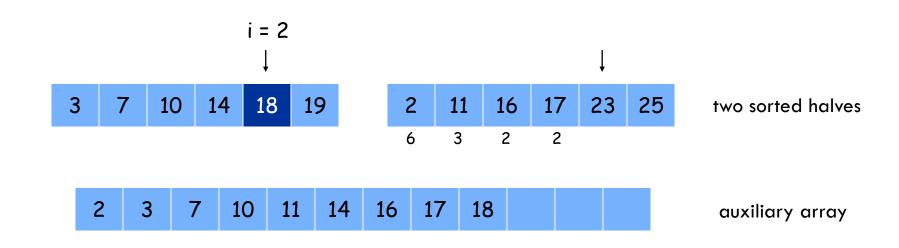
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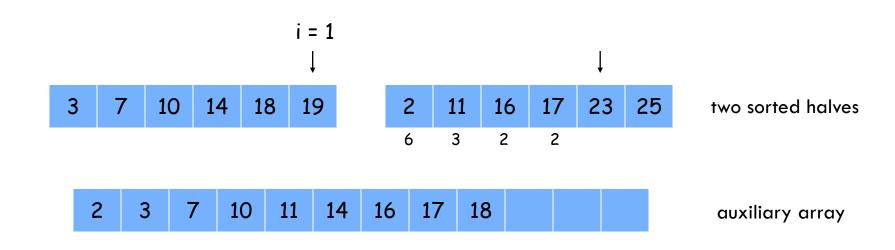
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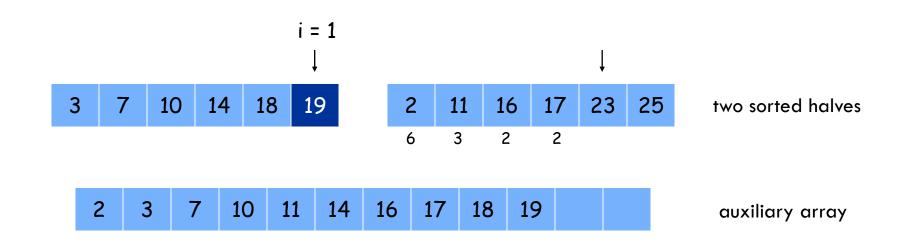
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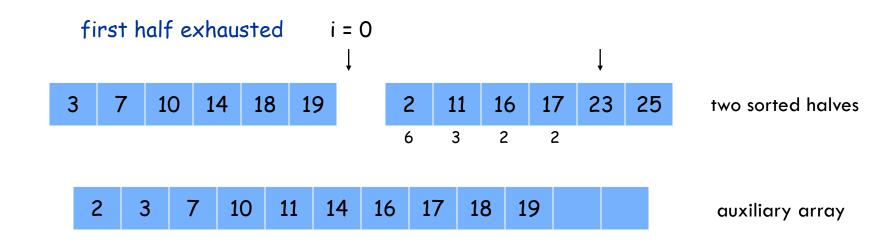
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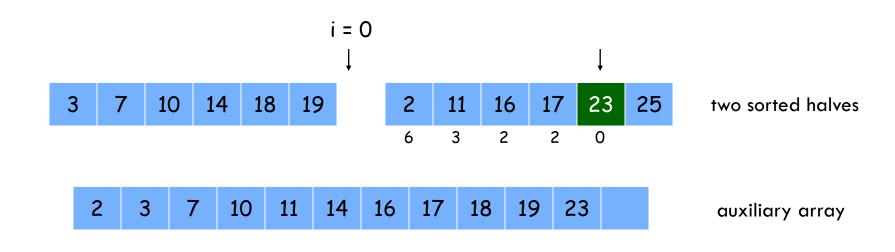
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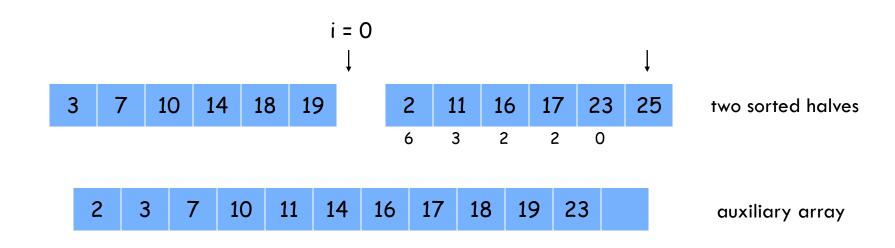
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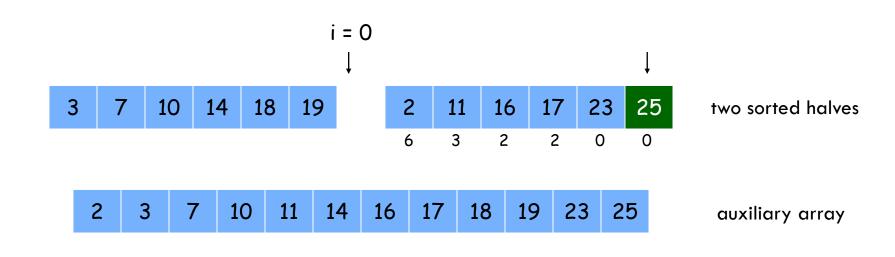
Total: 6 + 3 + 2 + 2 + 0

- Merge and count step.
  - Given two sorted halves, count number of inversions where  $a_i$  and  $a_j$  are in different halves.
  - Combine two sorted halves into sorted whole.



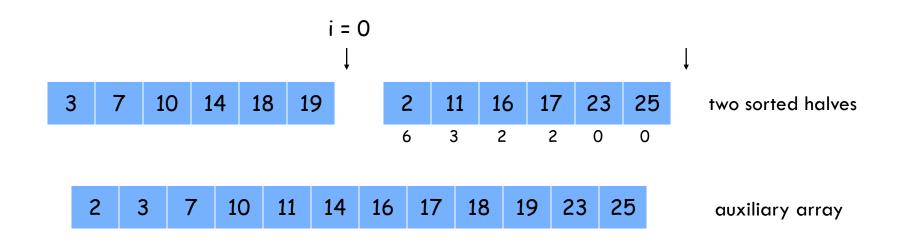
Total: 6 + 3 + 2 + 2 + 0

- Merge and count step.
  - Given two sorted halves, count number of inversions where  $a_i$  and  $a_j$  are in different halves.
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Total: 6 + 3 + 2 + 2 + 0 + 0

- Merge and count step.
  - Given two sorted halves, count number of inversions where  $a_i$  and  $a_j$  are in different halves.
  - Combine two sorted halves into sorted whole.



Total: 6 + 3 + 2 + 2 + 0 + 0 = 13

# Counting Inversions: Combine

#### Combine: count blue-green inversions

- Assume each half is sorted.
- Count inversions where a<sub>i</sub> and a<sub>i</sub> are in different halves.
- Merge two sorted halves into sorted whole.



13 blue-green inversions: 6 + 3 + 2 + 2 + 0 + 0

Count: O(n)

2 10 11 14 16 17 18 19 23 25 Merge: O(n)

**Time:**  $T(n) = 2T(n/2) + O(n) = O(n \log n)$ 

#### **Counting Inversions: Implementation**

- Pre-condition. [Merge-and-Count] A and B are sorted.
- Post-condition. [Sort-and-Count] L is sorted.

```
Sort-and-Count(L) {
   if list L has one element
      return 0 and the list L

   Divide the list into two halves A and B
   (r<sub>A</sub>, A) ← Sort-and-Count(A)
   (r<sub>B</sub>, B) ← Sort-and-Count(B)
   (r<sub>B</sub>, L) ← Merge-and-Count(A, B)

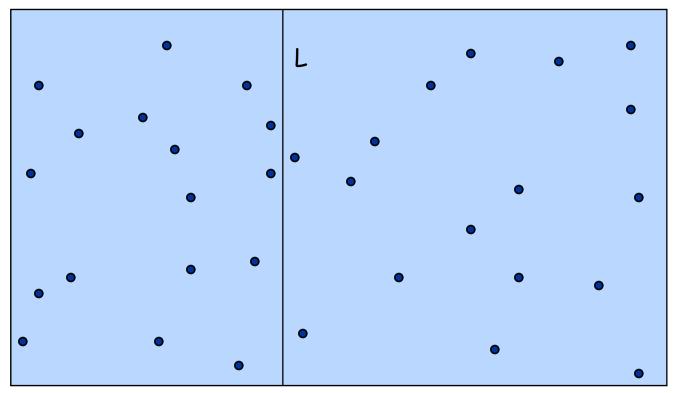
return r = r<sub>A</sub> + r<sub>B</sub> + r and the sorted list L
}
```

# **Closest Pair of Points**

- Closest pair. Given n points in the plane, find a pair with smallest Euclidean distance between them.
- Fundamental geometric primitive.
  - Graphics, computer vision, geographic information systems, molecular modeling, air traffic control.
  - Special case of nearest neighbor, Euclidean MST, Voronoi.
- **Brute force.** Check all pairs of points p and q with  $\Theta(n^2)$  comparisons.
- 1-D version. O(n log n) easy if points are on a line.
- Assumption. No two points have same x coordinate.

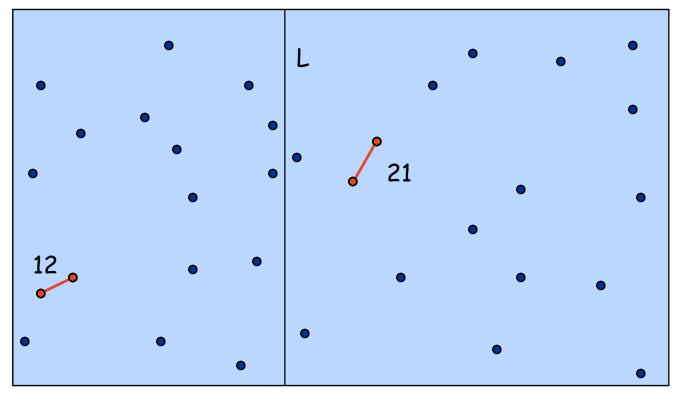
### - Algorithm.

- Divide: draw vertical line L so that roughly  $\frac{1}{2}$ n points on each side.



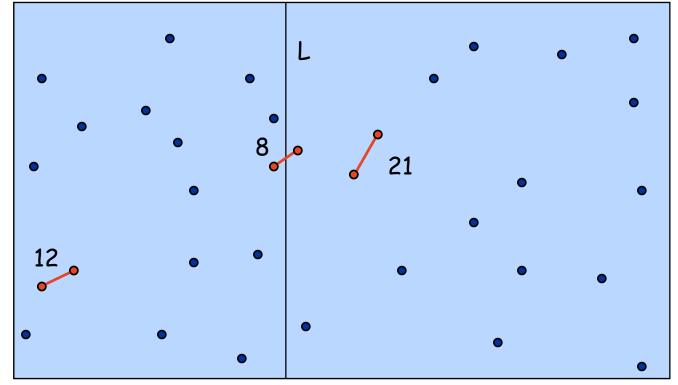
## Algorithm.

- Divide: draw vertical line L so that roughly  $\frac{1}{2}$ n points on each side.
- Conquer: find closest pair in each side recursively.

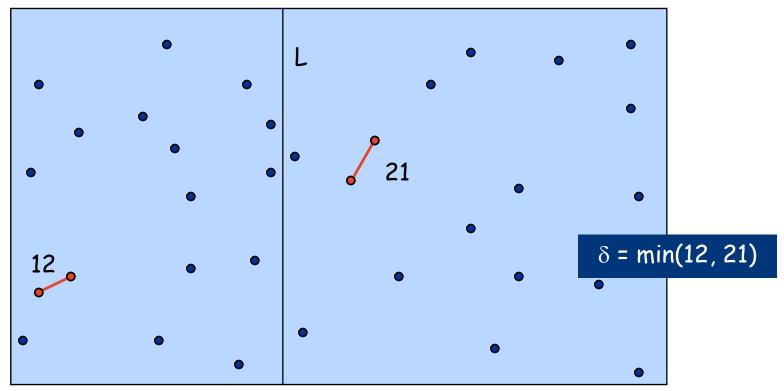


#### Algorithm.

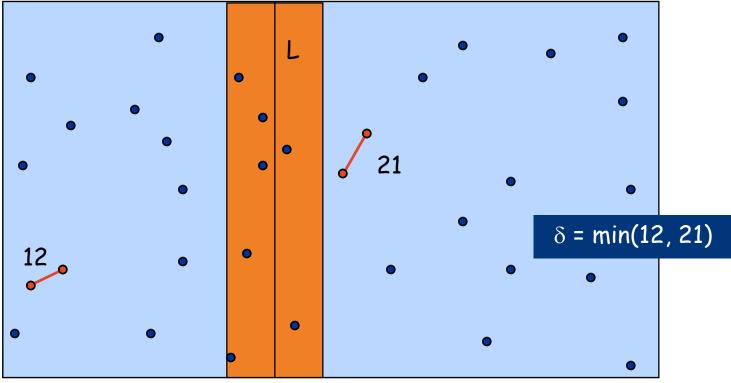
- Divide: draw vertical line L so that roughly  $\frac{1}{2}$ n points on each side.
- Conquer: find closest pair in each side recursively.
- Combine: find closest pair with one point in each side.
- Return best of 3 solutions.



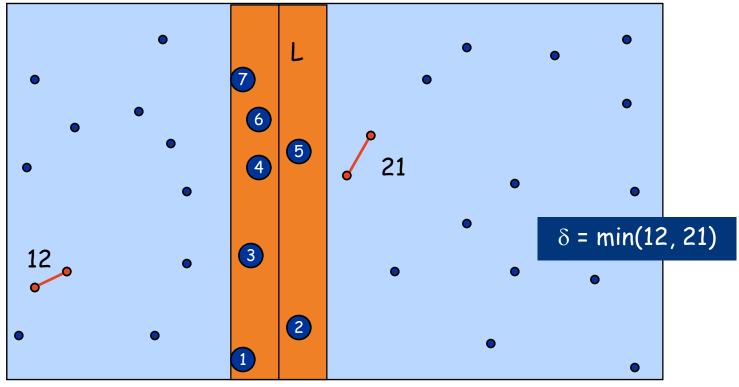
- Find closest pair with one point in each side, assuming that distance  $< \delta$ .



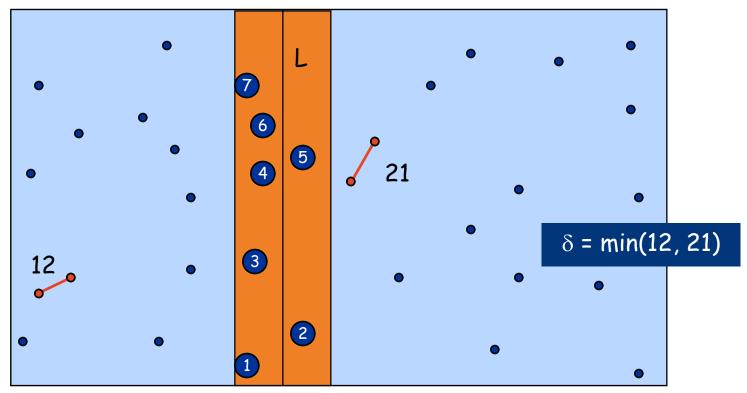
- Find closest pair with one point in each side, assuming that distance  $< \delta$ .
  - Observation: only need to consider points within  $\delta$  of line L.



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  - Observation: only need to consider points within  $\delta$  of line L.
  - Sort points in  $2\delta$ -strip by their y coordinate.



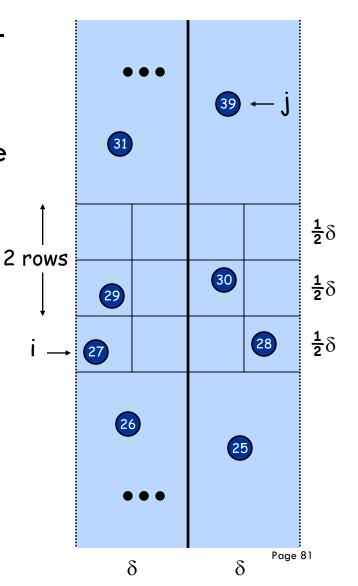
- Find closest pair with one point in each side, assuming that distance  $< \delta$ .
  - Observation: only need to consider points within  $\delta$  of line L.
  - Sort points in  $2\delta$ -strip by their y coordinate.
  - Only check distances of those within 11 positions in sorted list!



- **Definition:** Let  $s_i$  be the point in the  $2\delta$ -strip, with the  $i^{th}$  smallest y-coordinate.

- Claim: If  $|i-j| \ge 12$ , then the distance between  $s_i$  and  $s_j$  is at least  $\delta$ .

- Proof:
  - No two points lie in same  $\frac{1}{2}\delta$ -by- $\frac{1}{2}\delta$  box.
  - Two points at least 2 rows apart have distance  $\geq 2(\frac{1}{2}\delta)$ .
- Fact: Still true if we replace 12 with 7.



## **Closest Pair Algorithm**

```
Closest-Pair (p_1, ..., p_n) {
   Compute separation line L such that half the points
                                                                        O(n \log n)
   are on one side and half on the other side.
   \delta_1 = Closest-Pair(left half)
                                                                        2T(n / 2)
   \delta_2 = Closest-Pair(right half)
   \delta = \min(\delta_1, \delta_2)
   Delete all points further than \delta from separation line L
                                                                        O(n)
                                                                        O(n \log n)
   Sort remaining points by y-coordinate.
   Scan points in y-order and compare distance between
                                                                        O(n)
   each point and next 11 neighbors. If any of these
   distances is less than \delta, update \delta.
   return \delta.
```

# Closest Pair of Points: Analysis

Running time

$$T(n) \le 2T(n/2) + O(n \log n) \Rightarrow T(n) = O(n \log^2 n)$$

- Question: Can we achieve O(n log n)?
- Answer: Yes. Don't sort points in strip from scratch each time.
  - Each recursive returns two lists: all points sorted by y coordinate, and all points sorted by x coordinate.
  - Sort by merging two pre-sorted lists.

$$T(n) \le 2T(n/2) + O(n) \implies T(n) = O(n \log n)$$

# **Solving recursions**

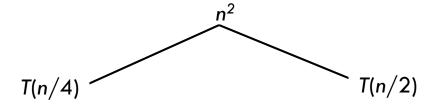
Unrolling and the Master method

Solve 
$$T(n) = T(n/4) + T(n/2) + n^2$$
:

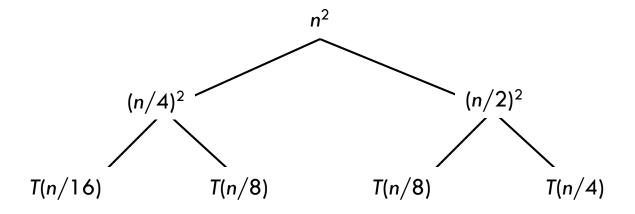
Solve 
$$T(n) = T(n/4) + T(n/2) + n^2$$
:

T(n)

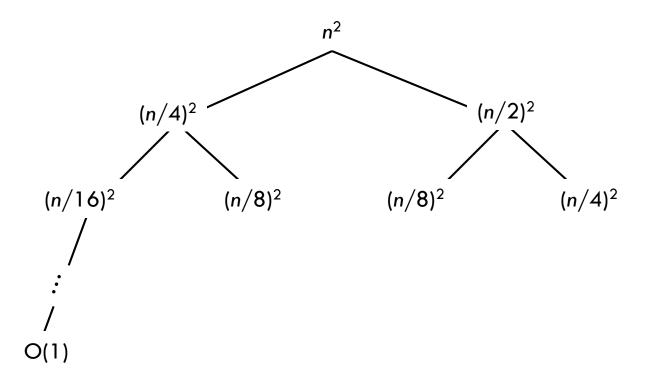
Solve  $T(n) = T(n/4) + T(n/2) + n^2$ :



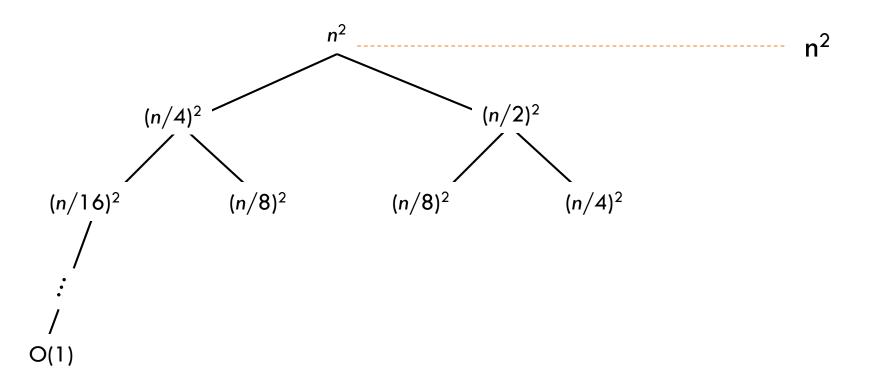
Solve  $T(n) = T(n/4) + T(n/2) + n^2$ :



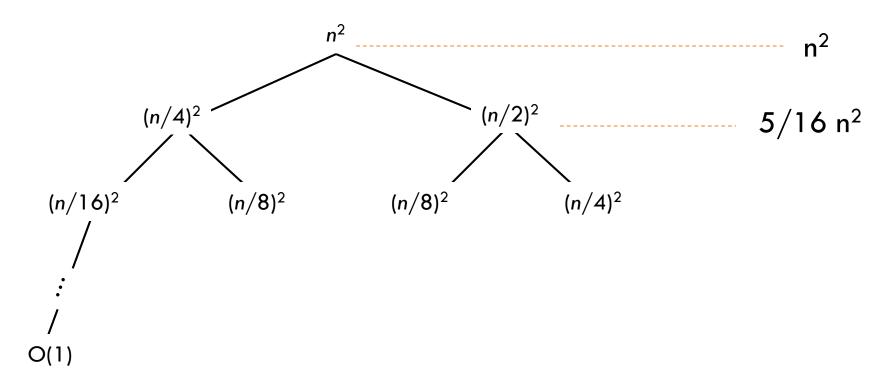
Solve  $T(n) = T(n/4) + T(n/2) + n^2$ :



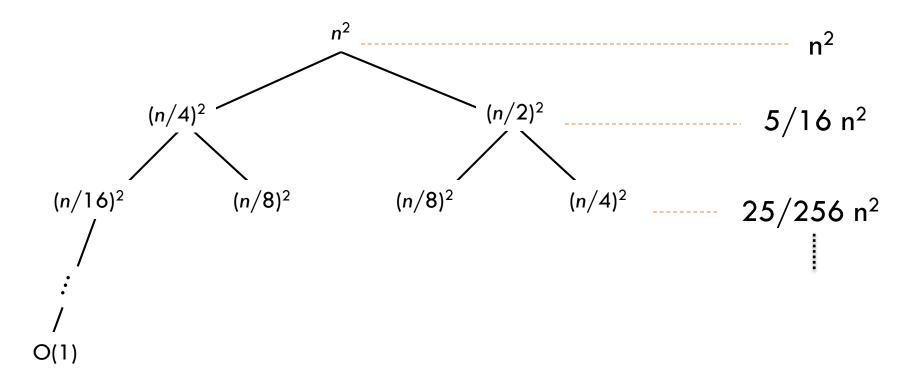
Solve  $T(n) = T(n/4) + T(n/2) + n^2$ :



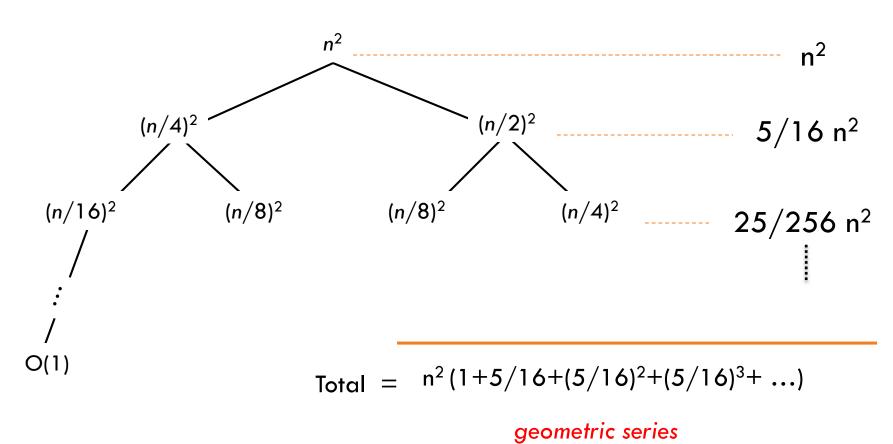
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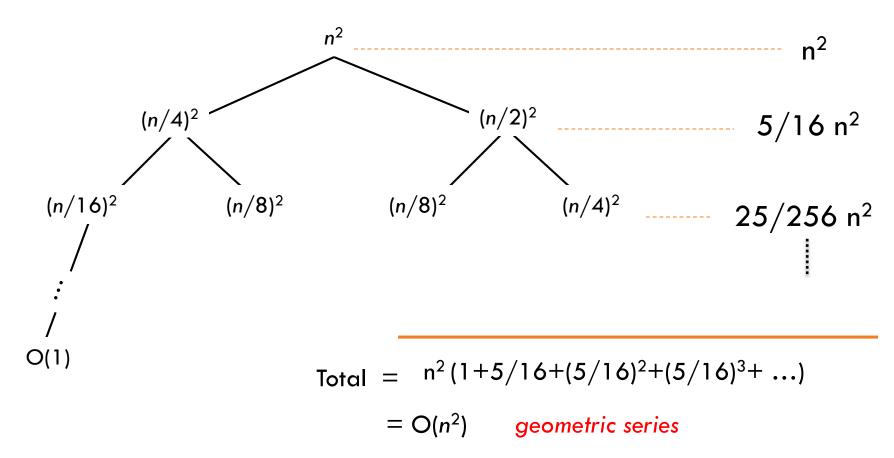


# **Appendix: geometric series**

$$1 + x + x^{2} + \dots + x^{n} = \frac{1 - x^{n+1}}{1 - x} \quad \text{for } x \neq 1$$

$$1 + x + x^2 + \dots = \frac{1}{1 - x}$$
 for  $|x| < 1$ 

Solve 
$$T(n) = T(n/4) + T(n/2) + n^2$$
:



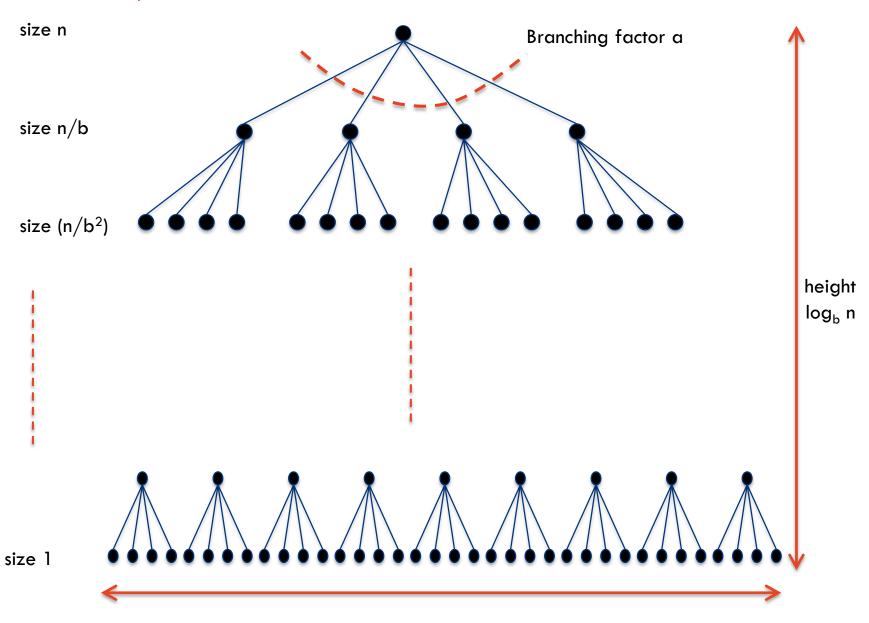
#### The master method

The master method applies to recurrences of the form

$$T(n) = a \cdot T(n/b) + f(n),$$

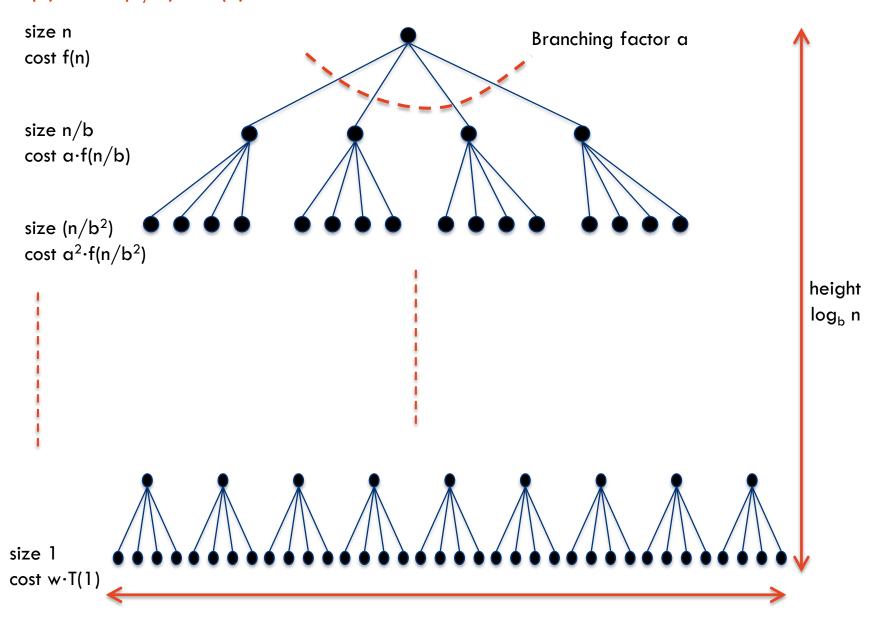
where  $a \ge 1$ , b > 1, and f is asymptotically positive.

### $T(n) = a \cdot T(n/b) + f(n)$



width  $w = a^{\log_b n} = n^{\log_b a}$ 

#### $T(n) = a \cdot T(n/b) + f(n)$



width  $w = a^{\log_b n} = n^{\log_b a}$ 

#### Three common cases

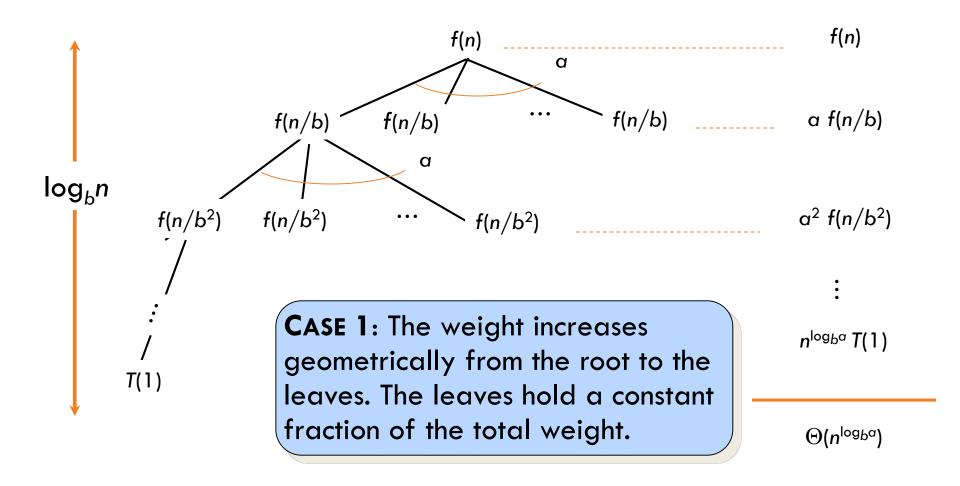
Compare f(n) with nlogba:

### Case 1:

If  $f(n) = O(n^{\log_b a - \epsilon})$  for any constant  $\epsilon > 0$  then f(n) grows polynomially slower than  $n^{\log_b a}$  (by an  $n^{\epsilon}$  factor).

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

#### Idea of master theorem: Case 1



# Three common cases [Compare f(n) with $n^{\log_b a - \epsilon}$ ]

# Case 1: Example

$$T(n) = 8T(n/2) + 10n^{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow a = 8, b = 2 \text{ and } f(n) = 10n^{2}$$

$$f(n) = 10n^{2}$$

$$n^{\log_{b} a - \epsilon} = n^{\log_{2} 8 - \epsilon} = O(n^{3 - \epsilon}) \text{ for } \epsilon = 1 > 0.$$

$$\Rightarrow f(n) = O(n^{\log_{b} a - \epsilon}) \Rightarrow \text{Case 1 holds.}$$

**Solution:**  $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_{b}a}) = \Theta(n^3)$ 

Three common cases (cont'd) [Compare f(n) with nlogba - E]

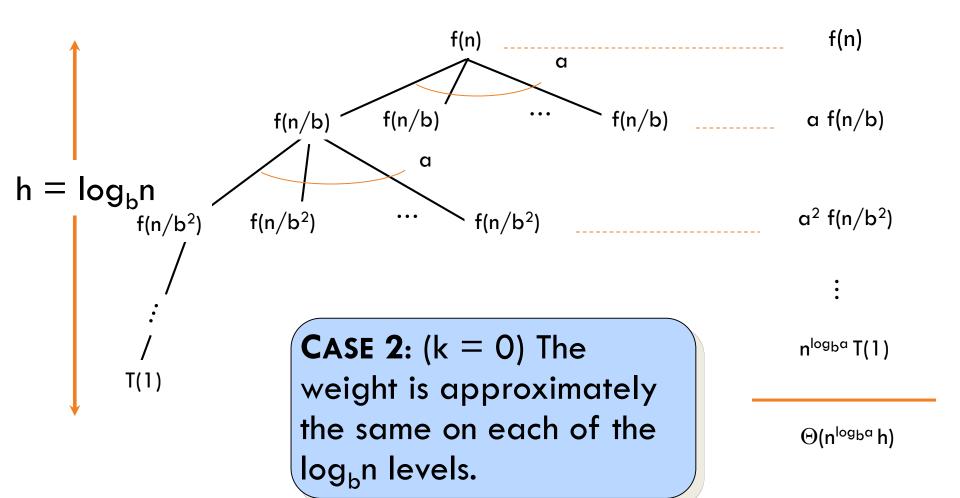
### Case 2:

If  $f(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \log^k n)$  for some constant  $k \ge 0$  then f(n) and  $n^{\log_b a}$  grow at similar rates.

**Solution:**  $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_{b^{\alpha}}} \log^{k+1} n)$ .

#### Idea of master theorem

#### Recursion tree:



# Three common cases [Compare f(n) with $n^{\log_b a - \epsilon}$ ]

# Case 2: Example

$$T(n) = 2T(n/2) + n \log n$$
  
 $\Rightarrow a = 2, b = 2 \text{ and } f(n) = n \log n$ 

 $f(n) = n \log n = \Theta(n^{\log_{b^{\alpha}}} \log^k n) = \Theta(n \log n) \text{ for } k=1$  $\Rightarrow$  Case 2 holds.

Solution:  $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_{b^{\alpha}}} \log^{k+1} n) = \Theta(n \log^2 n)$ 

Three common cases (cont.) [Compare f(n) with  $n^{\log_b a - \epsilon}$ ]

### Case 3:

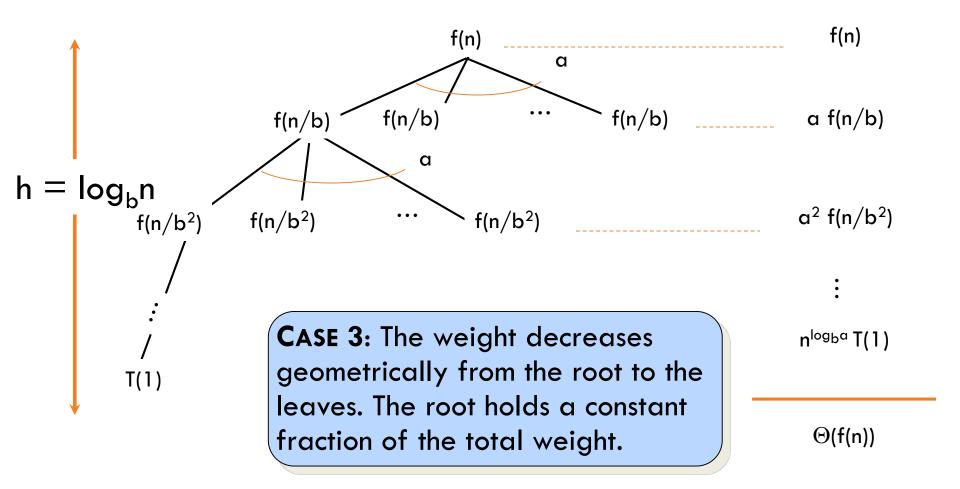
If  $f(n) = \Omega(n^{\log_b a + \epsilon})$  for some constant  $\epsilon > 0$ .

- f(n) grows polynomially faster than  $n^{log_{b^{\alpha}}}$  (by an  $n^{\epsilon}$  factor), and
- f(n) satisfies the **regularity condition** that  $a \cdot f(n/b) \le c \cdot f(n)$  for some constant c < 1.

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

#### Idea of master theorem

#### Recursion tree:



#### Three common cases

[Compare f(n) with  $n^{\log_b a - \epsilon}$ ]

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

$$a = 4$$
,  $b = 2$   $\Rightarrow$   $n^{\log_b a} = n^2$  and  $f(n) = n^3$ .

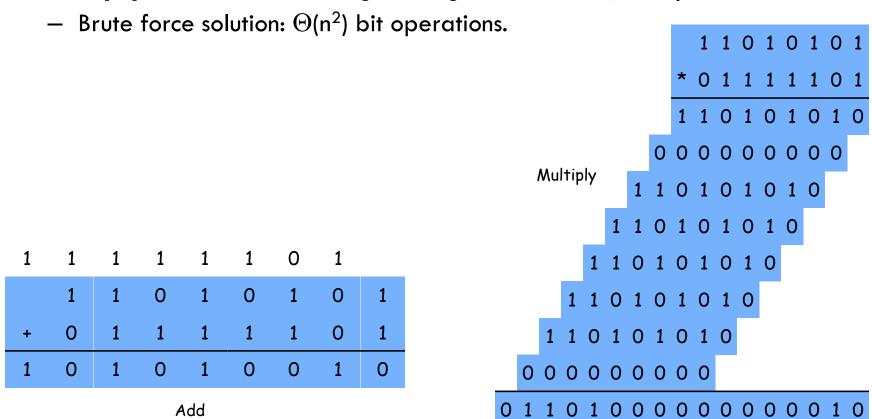
CASE 3: 
$$f(n) = \Omega(n^{2+\epsilon})$$
 for  $\epsilon = 1$  and  $4(cn/2)^3 \le cn^3$  (reg. cond.) for  $c = 1/2$ .

Solution:  $T(n) = \Theta(n^3)$ 

# Integer Multiplication

# **Integer Arithmetic**

- Add. Given two n-digit integers a and b, compute a + b.
  - O(n) bit operations.
- Multiply. Given two n-digit integers a and b, compute a  $\times$  b.



# Divide-and-Conquer Multiplication: Warmup

- To multiply two n-digit integers:
  - Given two numbers A and B with n bits each.
  - Partition the n bits into the n/2 "high" bits and the n/2 "low" bits.

$$B B_H B_L$$

$$A = A_H \cdot 2^{n/2} + A_I$$

$$B = B_H \cdot 2^{n/2} + B_L$$

# Divide-and-Conquer Multiplication: Warmup

- To multiply two n-digit integers:
  - Given two numbers A and B with n bits each.
  - Partition the n bits into the n/2 "high" bits and the n/2 "low" bits.

A 
$$A_H$$
  $A_L$   $A = A_H \cdot 2^{n/2} + A_L$ 

B  $B_H$   $B_L$   $B = B_H \cdot 2^{n/2} + B_L$ 

- 4 multiplications of n/2-bit numbers:  $A_HB_H$ ,  $A_HB_L$ ,  $A_LB_H$ ,  $A_LB_L$ , additions and shifts. Multiplications by powers of 2 are just shifts.

# Divide-and-Conquer Multiplication: Warmup

- To multiply two n-digit integers:
  - Given two numbers A and B with n bits each.
  - Partition the n bits into the n/2 "high" bits and the n/2 "low" bits.

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$$A_H$$
  $A_L$   $A = A_H \cdot 2^{n/2} + A_L$ 

B  $B_H$   $B_L$   $B = B_H \cdot 2^{n/2} + B_L$ 

$$T(n) = \underbrace{4T(n/2)}_{\text{recursive calls}} + \underbrace{\Theta(n)}_{\text{add, shift}} \Rightarrow T(n) = \Theta(n^2)$$

# Karatsuba Multiplication [1960]

Multiply two n-digit integers

$$B B_H B_L$$

$$A = A_H \cdot 2^{n/2} + A_I$$

$$B = B_H \cdot 2^{n/2} + B_L$$

#### **Observation:**

$$A \cdot B = A_H B_H \cdot 2^n + [(A_H + A_L) \cdot (B_H + B_L) - A_H B_H - A_L B_L] \cdot 2^{n/2} + A_L B_L$$

#### Theorem: [Karatsuba-Ofman, 1962]

3 multiplications of n/2-bit numbers + additions, subtractions and shifts.

#### Karatsuba: Recursion Tree

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } n = 1\\ 3T(n/2) + n & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

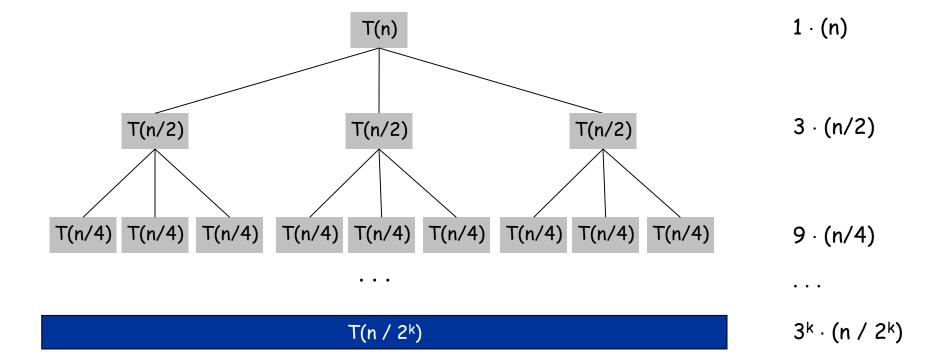
$$T(n) = \sum_{k=0}^{\log_2 n} n \left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^k = \frac{\left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^{1 + \log_2 n} - 1}{\frac{3}{2} - 1} = 3n^{\log_2 3} - 2$$

$$= O(n^{1.59})$$

T(2)

T(2)

T(2)



T(2)

The University of Sydney

T(2)

T(2)

T(2)

T(2)

 $n^{\log_3 2} \cdot (2)$ 

# **Summary: Divide-and-Conquer**

#### Divide-and-conquer.

- Break up problem into several parts.
- Solve each part recursively.
- Combine solutions to sub-problems into overall solution.

#### Master theorem

#### - Problems

- Merge Sort
- Closest pair
- Multiplication

This weeks quiz is all about solving recursions!