

Problem 2

$$T(n)=T(n/2)+3 \text{ if } n>1, \text{ and } T(1)=2$$

To solve this recurrence, I will assume that all division is integer division.

Now, suppose n is a power of 2, say, $n = 2^m$.

If so, what we will have is:

$$T(2^m) = T\left(\frac{2^m}{2}\right)$$

The above expression, however, can be re-written recursively as:

$$\begin{aligned} &T(2^{m-1}) + 3 \\ &T(2^{m-2}) + 3 + 3 \\ &T(2^{m-3}) + 3 + 3 + 3 \end{aligned}$$

So, for all k , we can claim that:

$$T(2^{m-k}) + 3k$$

And if we apply this reasoning to $k = m$, we get:

$$T(2^{m-m}) + 3m$$

And this results in:

$$2 + 3m$$

Now, since I have substituted 2^m for n , we must take the log of both sides of the equation to get the true value of m :

$$\begin{aligned} n &= 2^m \\ \log(n) &= \log(2^m) \\ \log(n) &= m \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$T(n) = 2 + 3\log_2 n$$

To determine the complexity, we can use the master theorem:

For this function, we have:

$$a = 1, b = 2, c = 0$$
$$\log_b a = \log_2 1 = 0$$

Therefore,

$$T(n) = \theta(n^0 \log n)$$

Or,

$$\theta(\log n)$$