

香港中文大學(深圳)  
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# CSC3100 Data Structures

## Lecture 6: Complexity analysis with recursion and divide-and-conquer

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# Outline

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- ▶ Review of asymptotic notations
- ▶ Steps of worst-case analysis
- ▶ Complexity analysis
  - Recursion
  - Divide-and-conquer



# Review of asymptotic notations

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- ▶ **Big-Oh definition:**

- $g(n) = O(f(n))$  if and only if there exist positive constants  $c$  and  $n_0$  such that  $g(n) \leq c \cdot f(n)$  for all  $n \geq n_0$

- ▶ **Big-Omega definition:**

- $g(n) = \Omega(f(n))$  if and only if there exists a positive constant  $c$  and  $n_0$  such that  $g(n) \geq c \cdot f(n)$  for all  $n \geq n_0$

- ▶ **Big-Theta definition:**

- If  $g(n) = O(f(n))$  and  $g(n) = \Omega(f(n))$ , then  $g(n) = \Theta(f(n))$



# Steps for worst-case analysis

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- ▶ Step 1: find the worst-case number of basic operations in the algorithm as a function of the input size
  - Example: Linear search & Binary search
    - We counted that the number of basic operations by Linear Search and Binary search are  $4n + 4$  and  $12 \log_2 n + 17$ , respectively
  
- ▶ Step 2: Use Big-Oh and Big-Omega to analyze the algorithm, and derive the Big-Theta if possible
  - We may not be lucky enough to derive that Big-Oh and Big-Omega to be the same
  - Less rigorously, we may also say that an algorithm with  $O(\log n)$  time complexity is better than the one with  $O(n)$ , when we cannot derive that Big-Oh and Big-Omega to be the same



# Counting basic operations

*Sum\_LinearSearch(A, searchnum, sumestimation)*

Input: array A, a search number, and a sum estimation

Output: return 1 if the search number exists in A and the sum estimation is exactly the sum of the array, otherwise return 0

1	tempsum = 0	$O(1)$
2	<b>for</b> i = 0 to n-1	$O(n)$
3	tempsum += A[i]	$O(n)$
4	findmatch = linear_search(A, searchnum)	
5	<b>return</b> findmatch != -1 and tempsum == sumestimation	$O(1)$

$O(n)$  by further counting  
its number of basic  
operations



# How to count basic operations in recursion?

*BinarySearch(arr, searchnum, left, right)*

1	if left == right	$O(1)$
2	if arr[left] = searchnum	$O(1)$
3	return left	$O(1)$
4	else	$O(1)$
5	return -1	$O(1)$
6	middle = (left + right)/2	$O(1)$
7	if arr[middle] = searchnum	$O(1)$
8	return middle	$O(1)$
9	elseif arr[middle] < searchnum	$O(1)$
10	return BinarySearch(arr, searchnum, middle+1, right)	$O(?)$
11	else	
12	return BinarySearch(arr, searchnum, left, middle -1)	$O(?)$



# Counting basic operations in recursion

- Given input size  $n$ , let  $g(n)$  be the total # of basic operations executed in BinarySearch in the worst case

*BinarySearch(arr, searchnum, left, right)*

```
1 if left == right
  2   if arr[left] == searchnum
  3     return left
  4   else
  5     return -1
  6 middle = (left + right)/2
  7 if arr[middle] == searchnum
  8   return middle
  9 elseif arr[middle] < searchnum
10   return BinarySearch(arr, searchnum, middle+1, right)
11 else
12   return BinarySearch(arr, searchnum, left, middle -1)
```

We can still count the number of basic operations for this part

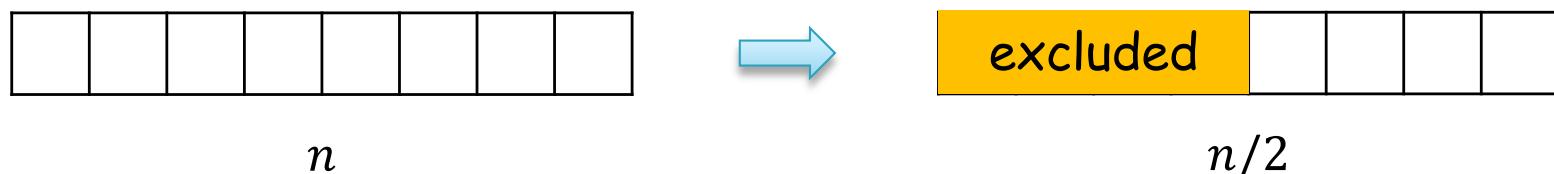
The total number of basic operations executed is a constant independent of the input size  $n$ , we can use  $a$  to denote this

We either run line 10 or line 12, but not both. What is the number of basic operations that are executed by Line 10 or 12?



# Analysis for recursive binary search (i)

- ▶  $g(n)$  can be also defined recursively
  - At the beginning, the input size is  $n$
  - After executing  $a$  basic operations, we reduce the input size by half
  - Then, we run the recursive binary search with input size  $n/2$ 
    - What is the number of basic operations executed in the worst case by recursive binary search with input size  $n/2$ ?
    - We do not know, but we know it is  $g(\frac{n}{2})$  according to our definition



$$g(n) = a + g\left(\frac{n}{2}\right)$$



# Analysis for recursive binary search (ii)

- ▶ Given  $g(n) = a + g\left(\frac{n}{2}\right)$ ,  $g(1) = b$ 
  - What is  $g(4)$  by using  $a$  and  $b$  to represent?

$$\begin{aligned}g(4) &= g(2) + a \\&= g(1) + a + a \\&= 2a + b\end{aligned}$$

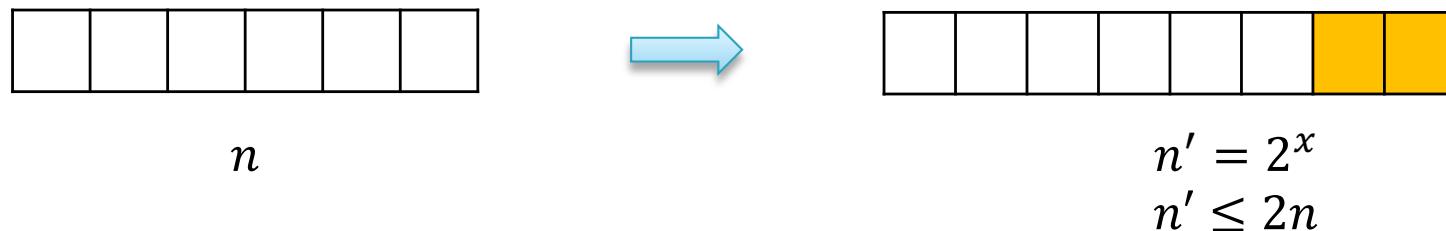
- What is  $g(n)$  by using  $a$  and  $b$  to represent if  $n = 2^x$ ?

$$\begin{aligned}g(n) &= g\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + a \\&= g\left(\frac{n}{2^2}\right) + a + a \\&= g\left(\frac{n}{2^3}\right) + a + a + a \\&= g\left(\frac{n}{2^4}\right) + a + a + a + a \\&= \dots \quad x \text{ of them} \\&= g(1) + \underbrace{a + a + \cdots + a + a}_{x \text{ of them}} = x \cdot a + b = a \cdot \log_2 n + b\end{aligned}$$



# Analysis for recursive binary search (iii)

- ▶ How to analyze if  $n \neq 2^x$ ?
  - We can simulate searching on an array of size  $2^x$ , where  $x$  is the smallest integer such that  $2^x \geq n$



- ▶ In this case,  $g(n) \leq g(2^x)$ , and we have that:
  - $$\begin{aligned} g(n) &\leq g(2^x) \leq a \cdot x + b \\ &\leq a \cdot \log_2 (2n) + b = a \cdot \log_2 n + (a + b) \end{aligned}$$
  - $g(n) = O(\log n)$



# Selection sort

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- ▶ Step 1: Scan all the n elements in the array to find the position  $i_{max}$  of the largest element  $maxnum$

$$i_{max} = 4, maxnum = 9$$

4	2	3	6	9	5
---	---	---	---	---	---

- ▶ Step 2: swap the position of the last one and  $maxnum$

4	2	3	6	5	9
---	---	---	---	---	---

- ▶ Step 3: We have a smaller problem: sorting the first n-1 elements

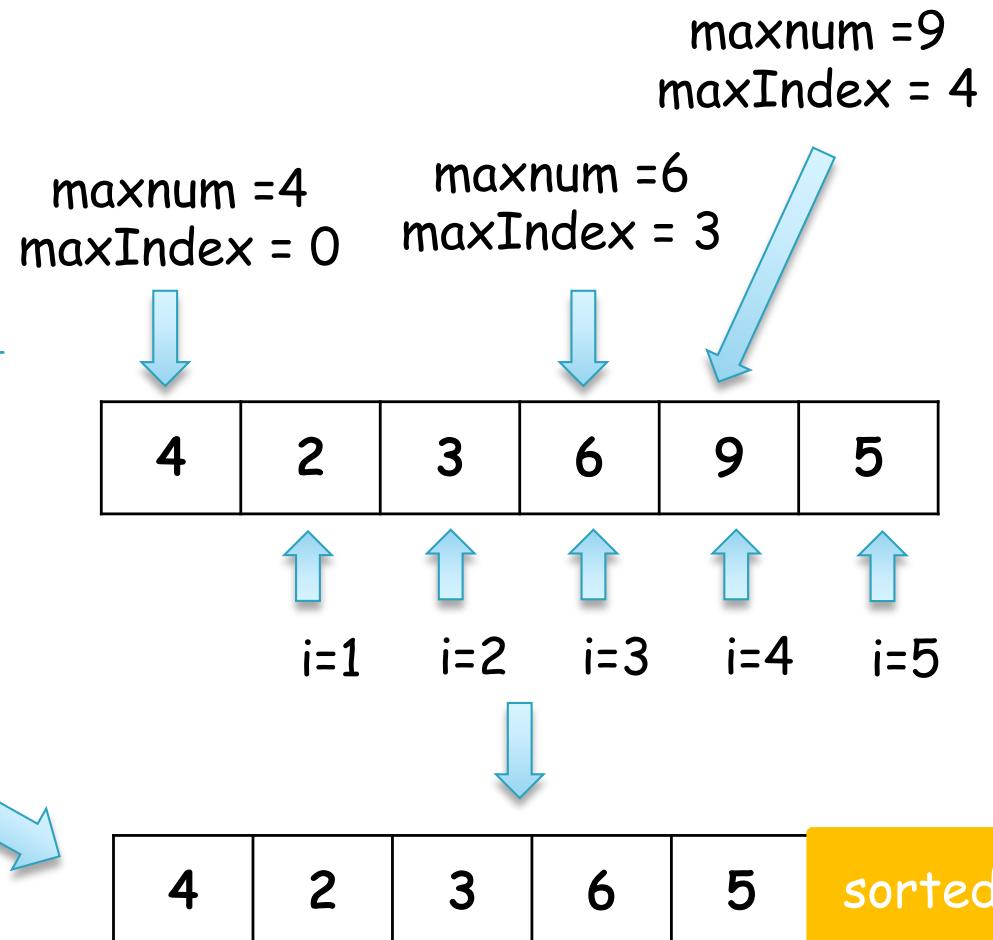
4	2	3	6	5	sorted
---	---	---	---	---	--------



# Selection sort

*SelectionSort(arr, n)*

```
1  if n ≤ 1  
2      return arr  
3  maxnum = arr[0]  
4  maxIndex = 0  
5  for i = 1 to n - 1  
6      if maxnum < arr[i]  
7          maxnum = arr[i]  
8          maxIndex = i  
9  arr[maxIndex] = arr[n-1]  
10 arr[n-1] = maxnum  
11 SelectionSort(arr, n-1)
```





# Selection sort: complexity analysis

<i>SelectionSort(arr, n)</i>		# of basic operations
1	<code>if n ≤ 1</code>	$O(1)$
2	<code>    return arr</code>	$O(1)$
3	<code>maxnum = arr[0]</code>	$O(1)$
4	<code>maxIndex = 0</code>	$O(1)$
5	<code>for i = 1 to n -1</code>	$O(n)$
6	<code>    if maxnum &lt; arr[i]</code>	$O(n)$
7	<code>        maxnum = arr[i]</code>	$O(n)$
8	<code>        maxIndex = i</code>	$O(n)$
9	<code>arr[maxIndex] = arr[n-1]</code>	$O(1)$
10	<code>arr[n-1] = maxnum</code>	$O(1)$
11	<code>SelectionSort(arr, n-1)</code>	$O(?)$

- ▶ What is the total # of basic operations from Lines 1-10?
  - $O(n)$



# Selection sort: complexity analysis

- ▶ Let  $g(n)$  be the total number of basic operations in the worst case. Let  $g(1) = b$ 
  - We have that:
    - $g(n) = g(n - 1) + O(n)$
  - We can find constant  $c$  such that
    - $g(n) \leq g(n - 1) + c \cdot n$
- ▶ We have that:
  - $$\begin{aligned} g(n) &\leq g(n - 1) + c \cdot n \leq g(n - 2) + c \cdot n + c \cdot (n - 1) \\ &\leq g(n - 3) + c \cdot n + c \cdot (n - 1) + c \cdot (n - 2) \\ &\leq g(1) + c \cdot n + c \cdot (n - 1) \cdots + c \cdot 2 \\ &\leq c \cdot \frac{n(n+1)}{2} + b \end{aligned}$$
  - $g(n) = O(n^2)$

In many cases, we only want to have the **upper bound** of the worst case running time. Deriving its Big-Oh is sufficient.



# Practice

- Analyze the time complexity of `maxInArray1` algorithm

`maxInArray1(arr, n)`

```
1  if n == 1  
2      return arr[0]  
3  else  
4      tempMax = maxInArray1(arr, n-1)  
5      return max(arr[n-1], tempMax)
```

$O(1)$

$O(1)$

$O(1)$

?

$O(1)$

- Denote  $g(n)$  as the number of basic operations executed by `maxInArray1` in the worst case when the input size is  $n$ 
  - For Line 4, it is invoking `maxInArray1` itself with an input size of  $n-1$
  - Then its number of basic operations is  $g(n-1)$ , so  $g(n) = g(n-1) + O(1)$
  - Then, there exists some constant  $c$  such that  $g(n) \leq g(n-1) + c$ . Let  $g(1) = a$ 
    - $g(n) \leq g(n-1) + c \leq g(n-2) + 2c \dots \leq (n-1)c + a \leq cn + a$
    - $g(n) = O(n)$



# Practice (Cont.)

- Analyze the time complexity of maxInArray2 algorithm

**maxInArray2(arr, left, right)**

1	<code>if</code> left == right	$O(1)$
2	<code>return</code> arr[left]	$O(1)$
3	<code>else</code>	$O(1)$
4	mid = (left+right)/2	$O(1)$
5	maxLeft = maxInArray2(arr, left, middle)	?
6	maxRight = maxInArray2(arr, middle+1, right)	?
7	<code>return</code> max(maxLeft, maxRight)	$O(1)$

- Define  $g(n)$  as the number of basic operations executed by maxInArray2 in the worst case when the input size is  $n$

- $g(n) = 2g\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + O(1)$ . Let  $g(1) = b$
- When  $n = 2^x$ , we have that:  $g(n) \leq 2g\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + c \leq 4g\left(\frac{n}{4}\right) + c + 2c \leq 8g\left(\frac{n}{8}\right) + c + 2c + 4c \dots \leq 2^x \cdot g(1) + c + 2c + 4c + \dots + 2^{x-1}c \leq bn + cn - c$
- When  $n \neq 2^x$ , we can follow similar analysis as Page 7 and show that  $g(n) \leq g(n') \leq bn' + n' - c \leq 2bn + 2cn - c$ . Thus,  $g(n) = O(n)$



# Master theorem (big-Oh version)

- ▶ A formula for solving many recurrence relations!
- ▶ Let  $T(n)$  be the running cost depending on the input size  $n$ , and we have its recurrence:
  - $T(1) = O(1)$
  - $T(n) \leq a \cdot T(n/b) + O(n^d)$
  - $a, b, d$  are constants such that  $a \geq 1, b > 1, d \geq 0$ . Then,

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

Note that  $n/b$  may not be an integer, but it will not affect the asymptotic behavior of recurrence



# Master theorem: intuition

- ▶ Recurrence:  $T(n) \leq a \cdot T(n/b) + O(n^d)$
- ▶ An algorithm that divides a problem of size  $n$  into  $a$  subproblems, each of size  $n/b$

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

**a:** number of subproblems (branching factor)

**b:** factor by which input size shrinks (shrinking factor)

**d:** need to do  $O(n^d)$  work to create subproblems + "merge" their solutions



# Master theorem: examples

$$T(n) \leq a \cdot T(n/b) + O(n^d)$$

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

- ▶  $g(1) = c_0, g(n) \leq g(n/2) + c$ 
  - We have that  $a = 1, b = 2, d = 0$
  - Since  $\log_b a = d$ , we know that:  $g(n) = O(n^0 \cdot \log n) = O(\log n)$
- ▶  $g(1) = c_0, g(n) \leq g(n/2) + c_1 \cdot n$ 
  - We have that  $a = 1, b = 2, d = 1$
  - Since  $\log_b a < d$ , we know that:  $g(n) = O(n^d) = O(n)$



# Master theorem: examples

$$T(n) \leq a \cdot T(n/b) + O(n^d)$$

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

- ▶  $g(1) = c_0, g(n) \leq 2 \cdot g(n/2) + c_1 \cdot n^{0.5}$ 
  - We have that  $a = 2, b = 2, d = 0.5$
  - Since  $\log_b a > d$ , we have that:  $g(n) = O(n^{\log_b a}) = O(n)$
- ▶  $g(1) = c_0, g(n) \leq 2 \cdot g(n/4) + c_1 \cdot \sqrt{n}$ 
  - We have  $a = 2, b = 4, d = 0.5$
  - Since  $\log_b a = d$ , we have that:  $g(n) = O(n^d \cdot \log n) = O(\sqrt{n} \cdot \log n)$



# Practice

$$T(n) \leq a \cdot T(n/b) + O(n^d)$$

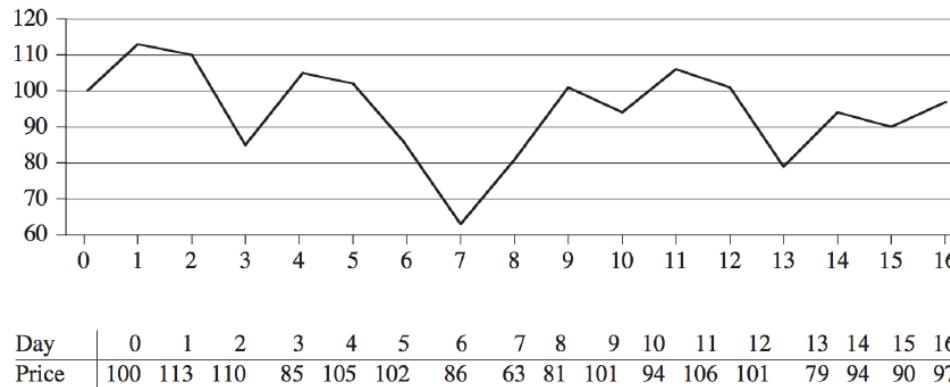
$$T(n) = \begin{cases} O(n^d \log n) & \text{if } a = b^d \\ O(n^d) & \text{if } a < b^d \\ O(n^{\log_b(a)}) & \text{if } a > b^d \end{cases}$$

- ▶ Solve the following recurrence relations
  - $g(1) = c_0, g(n) \leq 8g(n/2) + c_1 \cdot n^2$
  - $g(1) = c_0, g(n) \leq 2g(n/8) + c_1 \cdot n^{\frac{1}{3}}$
  - $g(1) = c_0, g(n) \leq 2g(n/4) + c_1 \cdot n$



# Maximum-subarray problem

- ▶ Consider to buy a stock given the prediction curve
  - To earn more money, we often “buy low and sell high”



- ▶ How to earn more money?
  - First: choose highest price and go left to find the lowest price
  - Second: choose lowest price and go right to find the highest price
  - Third: try every possible pair of buy and sell dates to find the optimal one, but this will lead to  $O(n^2)$  time cost
  - Can we find an optimal solution with smaller time cost?



# A transformation

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- ▶ Find a sequence of days over which the **summarized net change** is maximum

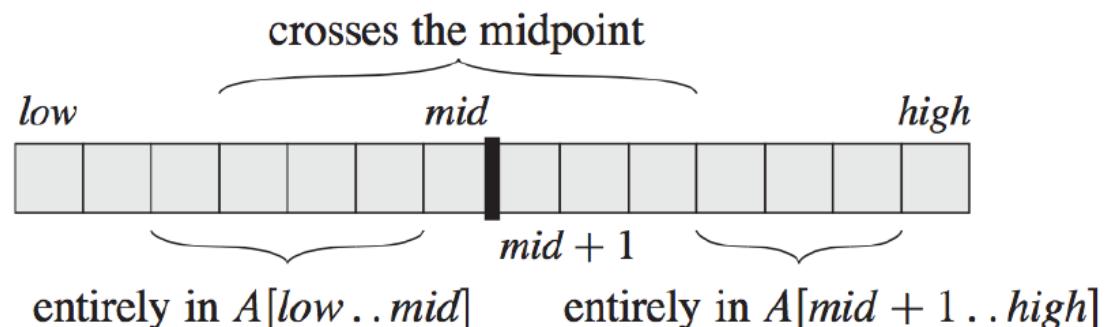
Day	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Price	100	113	110	85	105	102	86	63	81	101	94	106	101	79	94	90	97
Change		13	-3	-25	20	-3	-16	-23	18	20	-7	12	-5	-22	15	-4	7

- ▶ Find the nonempty, contiguous subarray of the array A whose values have the largest sum, which is called the **max subarray**
- ▶ The **max subarray problem**
  - In computer science, it is the task of finding a contiguous subarray with the largest sum, within a given array  $A[1\dots n]$  of numbers
  - It can be extended for multi-dimensional arrays



# A divide-and-conquer solution

- ▶ Suppose we want to find a max subarray of  $A[low, \dots, high]$ 
  - The middle point,  $mid = (low + high) / 2$
- ▶ Suppose  $A[i, \dots, j]$  is the max subarray of  $A[low, \dots, high]$
- ▶ Three situations:
  - $A[i, \dots, j]$  in  $A[i, \dots, mid]$
  - $A[i, \dots, j]$  in  $A[mid+1, \dots, j]$
  - $A[i, \dots, j]$  crosses  $mid$





# A divide-and-conquer solution

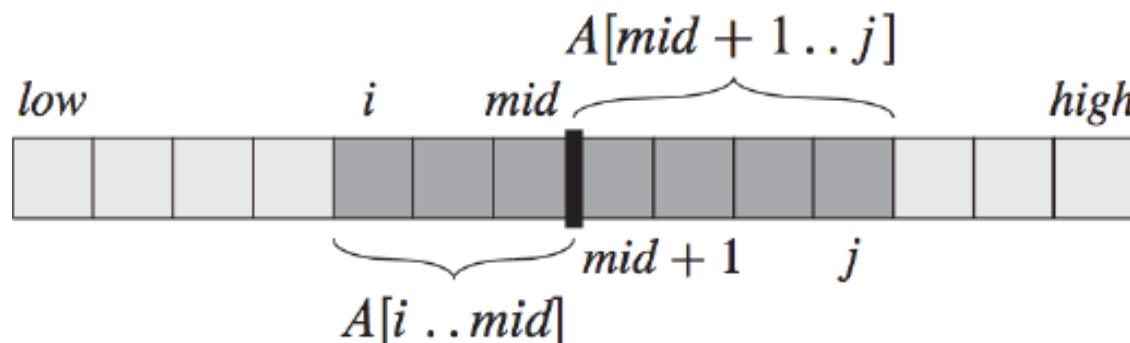
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- ▶ Solve the subarrays  $A[\text{low}, \dots, \text{mid}]$  and  $A[\text{mid}+1, \dots, \text{high}]$  (two sub-problems) recursively, and then the third case  $\text{low} \leq i \leq \text{mid} < j \leq \text{high}$
- ▶ Then take the largest of these three
- ▶ How to solve the third case?
  - Seems not a sub-problem
  - But the added restriction - crossing the midpoint - helps



# A divide-and-conquer solution

- ▶ Any subarray crossing the midpoint is itself made of two subarrays  $A[i, \dots, \text{mid}]$  and  $A[\text{mid}+1, \dots, j]$
- ▶ The restriction fixes one ending point for the first array and one starting point for the second array
- ▶ Thus, we just need to find maximum subarrays of the form  $A[i, \dots, \text{mid}]$  and  $A[\text{mid}+1, \dots, j]$  and then combine them





# Find max subarray crossing midpoint

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FIND-MAX-CROSSING-SUBARRAY( $A, low, mid, high$ )

```
1  left-sum = -∞
2  sum = 0
3  for i = mid downto low
4      sum = sum + A[i]
5      if sum > left-sum
6          left-sum = sum
7          max-left = i
8  right-sum = -∞
9  sum = 0
10 for j = mid + 1 to high
11     sum = sum + A[j]
12     if sum > right-sum
13         right-sum = sum
14         max-right = j
15 return (max-left, max-right, left-sum + right-sum)
```

What is the time cost?  $\Theta(n)$



# Analyze running time

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- ▶ The base case, when  $n = 1$ , is easy,  $T(1) = \Theta(1)$
- ▶ Solve two subarrays  $2T(n/2)$ , solve the subarray crossing midpoint  $\Theta(n)$ , thus the running time  
$$T(n)=2T(n/2)+\Theta(n)$$
- ▶ By master theorem, the divide-and-conquer solution takes  $\Theta(n\log n)$  time, which is faster than brute-force!
- ▶ Question: is there a better solution?
  - Answer: Yes, see Ex.4.1-5



# Questions

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- ▶ Can we use master theorem to solve the following recurrences?
  - $T(n) \leq a \cdot T(n - 1) + c$
  - $T(n) = T(n/5) + T(7n/10) + n$ , where  $T(n) = 1$  when  $1 \leq n \leq 10$



# Recommended reading

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- ▶ Reading this week
  - Chapter 4, textbook
  
- ▶ Next week
  - List: Chapter 10, textbook



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(Materials of back slides are NOT included in the midterm and final exams)

## Backup slides



# Proof of master theorem

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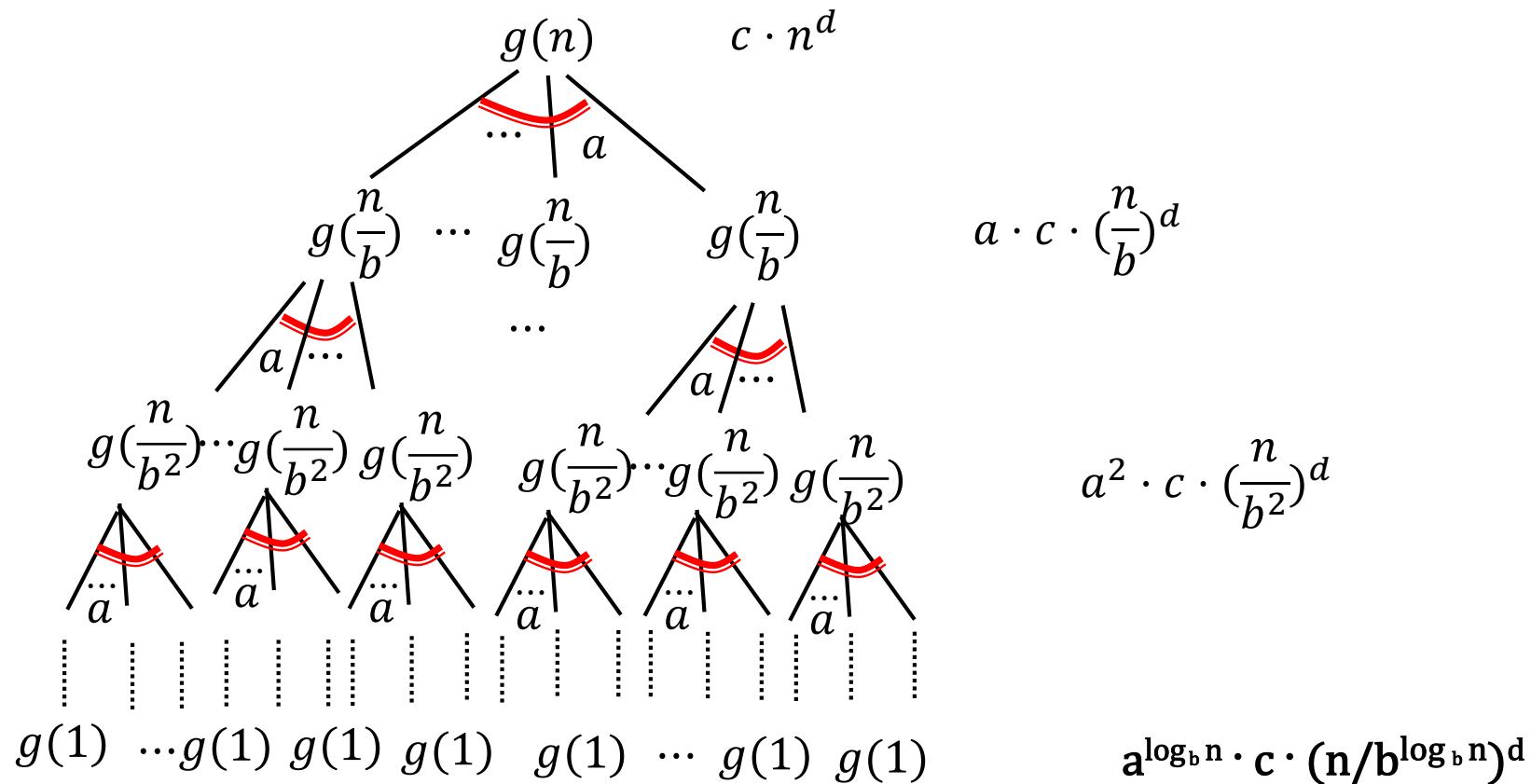
## ► Preparation:

- $\log_b n^x = x \cdot \log_b n$
- $a^{\log_b n} = n^{\log_b a}$ , which implies that  $b^{\log_b n} = n$
- For  $x > 1$ ,  $\sum_{i=0}^n x^i = \frac{x^{n+1}-1}{x-1}$
- For  $0 < x < 1$ ,  $\sum_{i=0}^n x^i \leq \frac{1}{1-x}$
- For  $x = 1$ ,  $\sum_{i=0}^n x^i = (n + 1)$



# Recursion tree of master theorem

- ▶ Draw the tree for  $T(n) = a \cdot T(n/b) + c \cdot n^d$
- ▶ Fill out the table & sum up last column (from  $t = 0$  to  $t = \log_b n$ )





# Recursion tree of master theorem

- Draw the tree for  $T(n) = a \cdot T(n/b) + c \cdot n^d$
- Fill out the table & sum up last column (from  $t = 0$  to  $t = \log_b n$ )

LEVEL	# OF PROBLEMS	SIZE OF EACH PROBLEM	WORK PER PROBLEM	TOTAL WORK AT THIS LEVEL
0	1	$n$	$c \cdot n^d$	$1 \cdot c \cdot n^d$
1	$a$	$n/b$	$c \cdot (n/b)^d$	$a \cdot c \cdot (n/b)^d$
...				
$t$	$a^t$	$n/b^t$	$c \cdot (n/b^t)^d$	$a^t \cdot c \cdot (n/b^t)^d$
...				
$\log_b n$	$a^{\log_b n}$	$n/b^{\log_b n} = 1$	$c \cdot (n/b^{\log_b n})^d$	$a^{\log_b n} \cdot c \cdot (n/b^{\log_b n})^d$

Total amount of work:

$$c \cdot n^d \cdot \sum_{t=0}^{\log_b(n)} \left(\frac{a}{b^d}\right)^t$$

(add work across all levels up, then factor out the  $c$  &  $n^d$  terms & write in summation form)



# Recursion tree of master theorem

---

- ▶ Draw the tree for  $T(n) = a \cdot T(n/b) + c \cdot n^d$
- ▶ Fill out the table & sum up last column (from  $t = 0$  to  $t = \log_b n$ )

$$\text{So } T(n) \leq c \cdot n^d \cdot \sum_{t=0}^{\log_b(n)} \left(\frac{a}{b^d}\right)^t$$

We can verify that for each of the three cases ( $a =$ ,  $<$ , or  $>$   $b^d$ ), this equation above gives us the desired results:

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



## Case 1: $a = b^d$

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

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= c \cdot n^d \cdot \sum_{t=0}^{\log_b(n)} \left( \frac{a}{b^d} \right)^t \\ &= c \cdot n^d \cdot \sum_{t=0}^{\log_b(n)} 1 \quad \text{This is equal to 1!} \\ &= c \cdot n^d \cdot (\log_b(n) + 1) \\ &= c \cdot n^d \cdot \left( \frac{\log(n)}{\log(b)} + 1 \right) \\ &= \Theta(n^d \log(n)) \end{aligned}$$



## Case 2: $a < b^d$

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

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= c \cdot n^d \cdot \sum_{t=0}^{\log_b(n)} \left( \frac{a}{b^d} \right)^t \\ &= c \cdot n^d \cdot [\text{some constant}] \\ &= \Theta(n^d) \end{aligned}$$

This is less than 1!

Geometric series with the "multiplier"  $< 1$  & constant!



## Case 3: $a > b^d$

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

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= c \cdot n^d \cdot \sum_{t=0}^{\log_b(n)} \left(\frac{a}{b^d}\right)^t \\ &= \Theta\left(n^d \left(\frac{a}{b^d}\right)^{\log_b(n)}\right) \\ &= \Theta\left(n^{\log_b(a)}\right) \end{aligned}$$

This is greater than 1!

The  $n^d$  term cancels with  $(b^d)^{\log_b(n)}$ !  
and  $a^{\log_b n} = n^{\log_b a}$ !

Use the geometric series formula to convince yourself that this is legitimate!