

# Lecture Title: Recursion (Cont.)



Dept. of Computer Science  
Faculty of Science and Technology

Lecture No:	04	Week No:	04	Semester:	
Lecturer:	Name & email:				

# Recurrences & Master Method

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# Lecture Outline

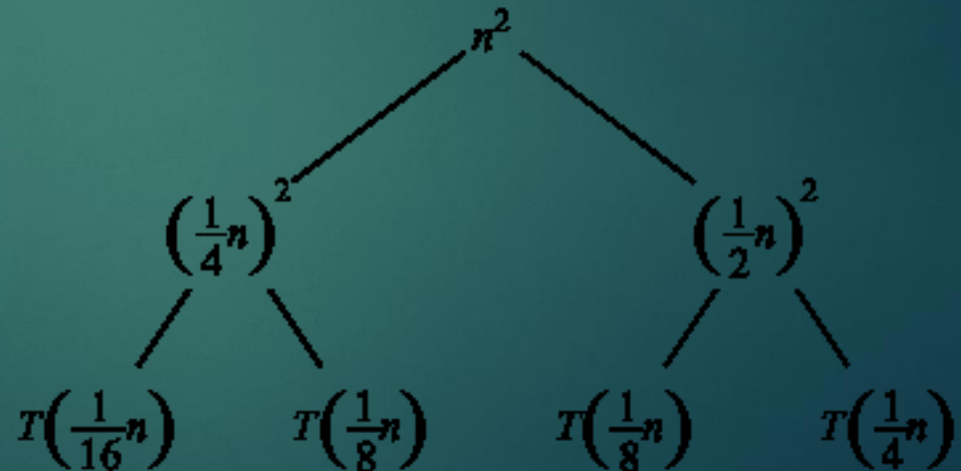
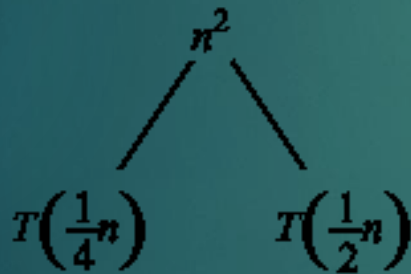


1. Divide and Conquer (Previous Week)
2. Recurrences in Divide and Conquer and methodologies for recurrence Solutions (Previous Week)
3. Repeated Backward Substitution Method (Previous Week)
4. Substitution Method (Previous Week)
5. **Recursion Tree**
6. **Master Method**

# Recursion Tree

- ▶ A recursion tree is a convenient way to visualize what happens when a recurrence is iterated.
  - ▶ Good for "guessing" asymptotic solutions to recurrences

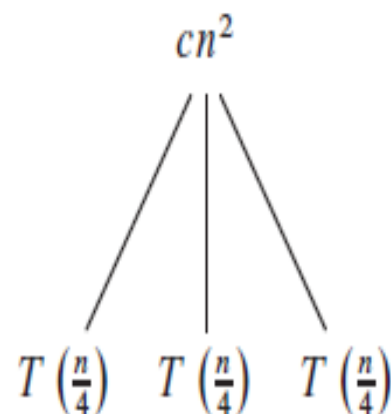
$$T(n) = T(n/4) + T(n/2) + n^2$$



$$T(n) = 3T(\lfloor n/4 \rfloor) + \Theta(n^2)$$

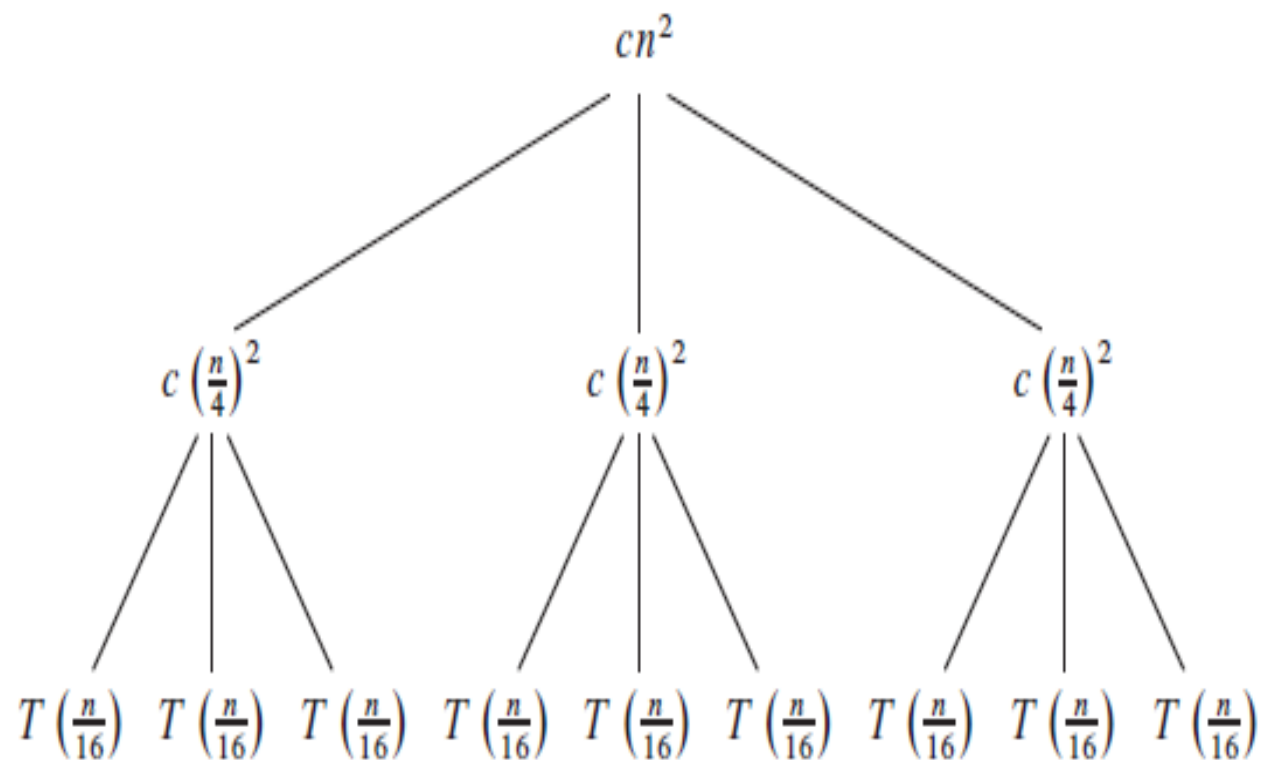
$$T(n) = 3T(n/4) + cn^2$$

$T(n)$

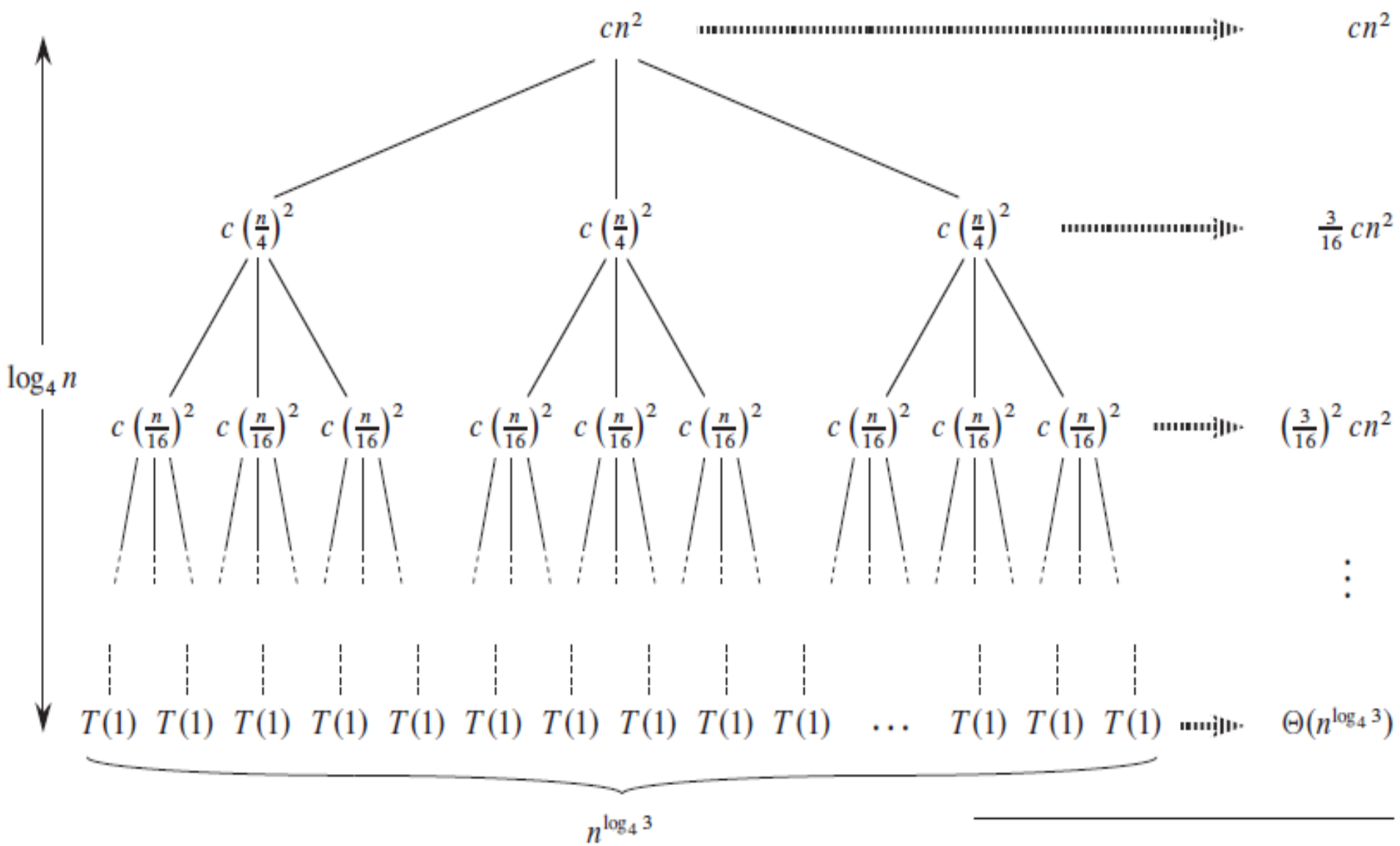


(a)

(b)



(c)



(d)

Total:  $O(n^2)$

# Height and leaves of a recursion tree

- **Height**

The top of the tree begins with  $n$  and for every step down it is divided by  $b$ . So it goes  $n, n/b, n/b^2, \dots, 1$ . To find the height we need to find a  $k$  such that  $n / b^k = 1$  or  $b^k = n$ , which gives  $k = \log_b n$ .

- **Number of leaves**

For every step down the tree, the leaves are multiplied by  $a$  times. The number of leaves is  $a^k$ , where  $k$  is the number of steps or height of the tree. **The number of leaves =  $a^{\log_b n}$ .**

It is easy to see that the tree has  $a^{\log_b n}$  leaves. Indeed, since the height is  $\log_b n$ , and the tree branching factor is  $a$ , the number of leaves is

$$a^h = a^{\log_b n} = a^{\frac{\log_a n}{\log_a b}} = n^{\frac{1}{\log_a b}} = n^{\log_b a}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
T(n) &= cn^2 + \frac{3}{16}cn^2 + \left(\frac{3}{16}\right)^2 cn^2 + \cdots + \left(\frac{3}{16}\right)^{\log_4 n - 1} cn^2 + \Theta(n^{\log_4 3}) \\
&= \sum_{i=0}^{\log_4 n - 1} \left(\frac{3}{16}\right)^i cn^2 + \Theta(n^{\log_4 3}) \\
&= \frac{(3/16)^{\log_4 n} - 1}{(3/16) - 1} cn^2 + \Theta(n^{\log_4 3}) \quad (\text{by equation (A.5)}) .
\end{aligned}$$

## Geometric series

For real  $x \neq 1$ , the summation

$$\sum_{k=0}^n x^k = 1 + x + x^2 + \cdots + x^n$$

is a *geometric* or *exponential series* and has the value

$$\sum_{k=0}^n x^k = \frac{x^{n+1} - 1}{x - 1} . \quad (\text{A.5})$$

When the summation is infinite and  $|x| < 1$ , we have the infinite decreasing geometric series

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} x^k = \frac{1}{1 - x} . \quad (\text{A.6})$$



$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= \sum_{i=0}^{\log_4 n - 1} \left( \frac{3}{16} \right)^i cn^2 + \Theta(n^{\log_4 3}) \\ &< \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \left( \frac{3}{16} \right)^i cn^2 + \Theta(n^{\log_4 3}) \\ &= \frac{1}{1 - (3/16)} cn^2 + \Theta(n^{\log_4 3}) \\ &= \frac{16}{13} cn^2 + \Theta(n^{\log_4 3}) \\ &= O(n^2) . \end{aligned}$$

# Verify our guess [substitution]

$$\begin{aligned}T(n) &\leq 3T(\lfloor n/4 \rfloor) + cn^2 \\&\leq 3d \lfloor n/4 \rfloor^2 + cn^2 \\&\leq 3d(n/4)^2 + cn^2 \\&= \frac{3}{16} dn^2 + cn^2 \\&\leq dn^2 ,\end{aligned}$$

where the last step holds as long as  $d \geq (16/13)c$ .

# Master Method

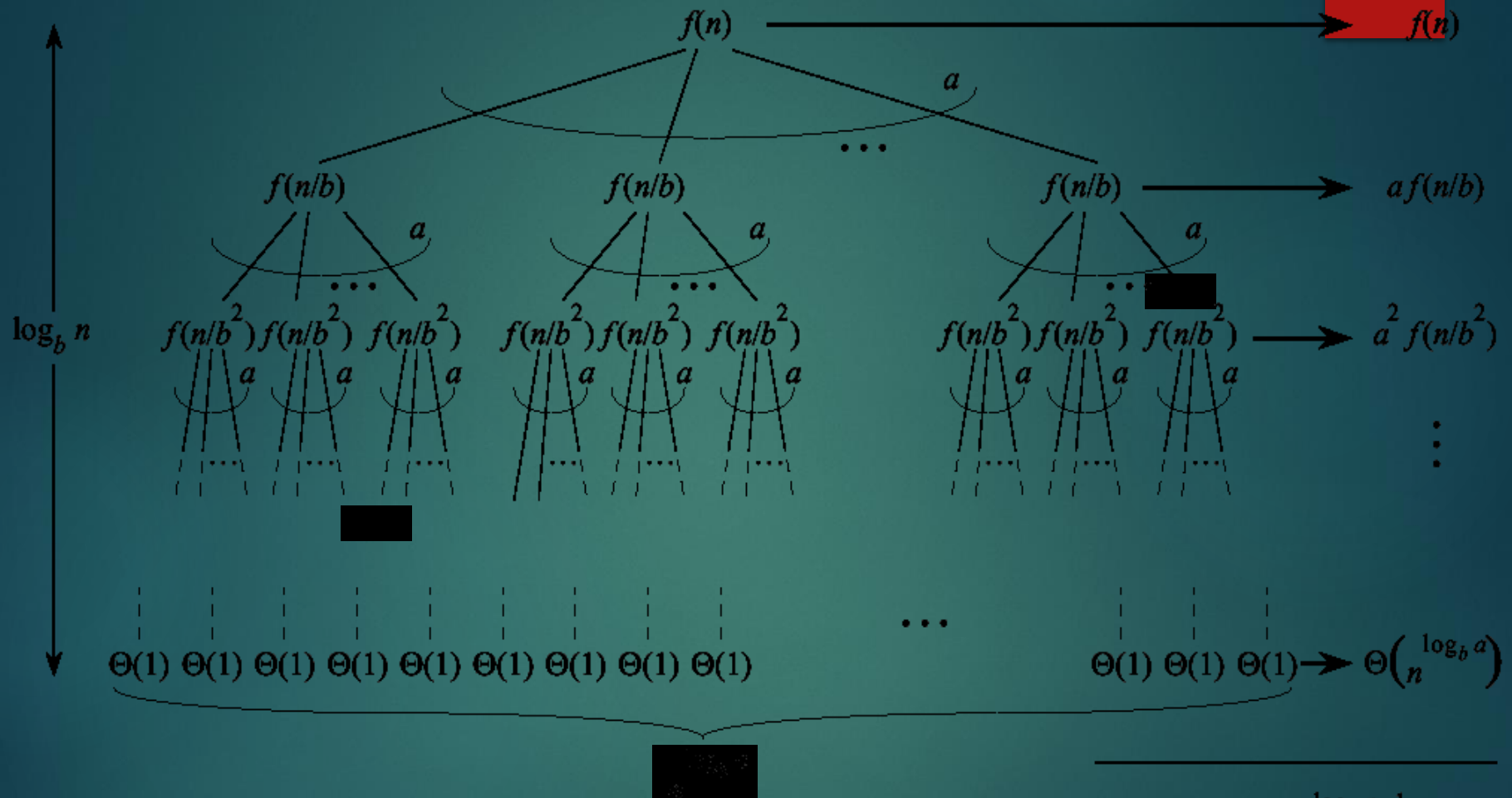
- ▶ The idea is to solve a class of recurrences that have the form

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

- ▶ **Assumptions:**  $a \geq 1$  and  $b > 1$ , and  $f(n)$  is asymptotically positive.
- ▶ Abstractly speaking,  $T(n)$  is the runtime for an algorithm and we know that
  - ▶  $a$  number of subproblems of size  $n/b$  are solved recursively, each in time  $T(n/b)$ .
  - ▶  $f(n)$  is the cost of dividing the problem and combining the results.  
e.g., In merge-sort

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

# ...Master Method



Split problem into  $a$  parts. There are  $\log_b n$  levels. There are  $a^{\log_b n} = n^{\log_b a}$  leaves.

$$\text{Total: } \Theta(n^{\log_b a}) + \sum_{j=0}^{\log_b n - 1} a^j f(n/b^j)$$

# ...Master Method

- ▶ Iterating the recurrence (expanding the tree) yields

$$\begin{aligned}T(n) &= f(n) + aT(n/b) \\&= f(n) + af(n/b) + a^2T(n/b^2) \\&= f(n) + af(n/b) + a^2f(n/b^2) + \dots \\&\quad a^{\log_b n - 1}f(n/b^{\log_b n - 1}) + a^{\log_b n}T(1)\end{aligned}$$

$$T(n) = \sum_{j=0}^{\log_b n - 1} a^j f(n/b^j) + \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$$

- ▶ The first term is a division/recombination cost (totaled across all levels of the tree).
- ▶ The second term is the cost of doing all subproblems of size 1 (total of all work pushed to leaves).

# Master Method, Intuition

- ▶ **Three** common cases:
  1. Running time dominated by cost at leaves.
  2. Running time evenly distributed throughout the tree.
  3. Running time dominated by cost at the root.
- ▶ To solve the recurrence, we need to identify the dominant term.
- ▶ In each case compare  $f(n)$  with  $O(n^{\log_b a})$

# Master Method, Case 1

- ▶ If  $f(n) = O(n^{\log_b a - \varepsilon})$  for some constant  $\varepsilon > 0$  then
  - ▶  $f(n)$  grows polynomially slower than  $n^{\log_b a}$  (by factor  $n^\varepsilon$ ).
- ▶ **The work at the leaf level dominates**

Cost of all the leaves  $\Theta(n^{\log_b a})$

# Master Method, Case 2

- ▶ If  $f(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$  then
  - ▶  $f(n)$  and  $n^{\log_b a}$  are asymptotically the same
- ▶ **The work is distributed equally throughout the tree**

(level cost)(number of levels)

$$T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \lg n)$$



# Master Method, Case 3

- ▶ If  $f(n) = \Omega(n^{\log_b a + \varepsilon})$  for some constant  $\varepsilon > 0$  then
  - ▶ Inverse of Case 1
  - ▶  $f(n)$  grows polynomially faster than  $n^{\log_b a}$
  - ▶ Also need a “regularity” condition  
 $\exists c < 1$  and  $n_0 > 0$  such that  $af(n/b) \leq cf(n) \quad \forall n > n_0$
- ▶ **The work at the root dominates**

division/recombination cost

$$T(n) = \Theta(f(n))$$

# Master Theorem, Summarized

Given: recurrence of the form  $T(n) = aT(n/b) + f(n)$

1.  $f(n) = O\left(n^{\log_b a - \varepsilon}\right)$

$$\Rightarrow T(n) = \Theta\left(n^{\log_b a}\right)$$

2.  $f(n) = \Theta\left(n^{\log_b a}\right)$

$$\Rightarrow T(n) = \Theta\left(n^{\log_b a} \lg n\right)$$

3.  $f(n) = \Omega\left(n^{\log_b a + \varepsilon}\right)$  and  $af(n/b) \leq cf(n)$ , for some  $c < 1, n > n_0$

$$\Rightarrow T(n) = \Theta\left(f(n)\right)$$

# Strategy

1. Extract  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $f(n)$  from a given recurrence
2. Determine  $n^{\log_b a}$
3. Compare  $f(n)$  and  $n^{\log_b a}$  asymptotically
4. Determine appropriate MT case and apply it

***Merge sort:  $T(n) = 2T(n/2) + \Theta(n)$***

**1.  $a=2, b=2, f(n) = \Theta(n)$**

**2.  $n^{\log_2 2} = n$**

**3.  $\Theta(n) = \Theta(n)$**

**→ Case 2:  $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \log n) = \Theta(n \log n)$**

# Examples of Master Method

```
BinarySearch(A, l, r, q) :  
    m := (l+r) / 2  
    if A[m]=q then return m  
    else if A[m]>q then  
        BinarySearch(A, l, m-1, q)  
    else BinarySearch(A, m+1, r, q)
```

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

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

$$2. n^{\log_2 1} = 1$$

$$3. 1 = \Theta(1)$$

$$\rightarrow \text{Case 2: } T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \log n) = \Theta(\log n)$$

# ...Examples of Master Method

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

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

2.  $n^{\log_3 9} = n^2$

3.  $n = \Theta(n^{\log_3 9 - \varepsilon})$  with  $\varepsilon = 1$

→ Case 1:  $T(n) = \Theta(n^2)$

# ...Examples of Master Method

$$T(n) = 3T(n/4) + n \log n$$

1.  $a=3, b=4, f(n) = n \log n$

2.  $n^{\log_4 3} = n^{0.792}$

3.  $n \log n = \Omega(n^{\log_4 3 + \varepsilon})$  with  $\varepsilon = 0.208$


→ Case 3:

regularity condition:  $af(n/b) \leq cf(n)$

$$af(n/b) = 3(n/4)\log(n/4) \leq (3/4)n\log n = cf(n)$$

;with  $c=3/4$

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



►  $T(n) = 8T(n/2) + n^3$

# References & Readings

## ▶ CLRS

- ▶ Chapter: 4 (4.1-4.3)
- ▶ 4.4 for bedtime reading
- ▶ Exercises
  - ◆ 4.1, 4.2, 4.3
- ▶ Problems
  - ◆ 4-1, 4-4

## ▶ HSR

- ▶ Chapter: 3 (3.1-3.6)
- ▶ Examples: 3.1-3.5
- ▶ Exercises: 3.1 (1, 2), 3.2 (1, 3-6),