



Master's Method (Master's theorem)

The recurrence relation is solved is master's theorem.

Substitution method can be used for solving any recurrence relation. but it is ^{slow}.

But this not the case about master's method.

It can solve only recurrence a few recurrence relations which are in the format given below,

$$\textcircled{1} \quad T(n) = a \cdot T\left(\frac{n}{b}\right) + f(n)$$

where $a \geq 1$ and $b > 1$

Also $f(n)$ must be a positive funⁿ

e.g. $T(n) = T(n-1) + 1$

Here $T(n) = 1 \cdot T(n-1) + 1$

so $a=1$ & $b=1$

But for master's theorem we require $b > 1$

so this equation can not be solved using master's method



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② Solution is $T(n) = 8T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + n^2$

$$T(n) = T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + C$$

These 2 eqⁿs can be solved using master's method.



There are 3 cases for master's theorem

Case I: If $T(n) = O(n^{\log_b a - \epsilon})$
for constant $\epsilon > 0$ then
 $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$
(avg case)

For Big O notation the funⁿ which we have is
 $f(n) \leq c \cdot g(n)$

we ~~we~~ need to show $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$

we need to make both terms ~~with~~ as
equal

$$n^1 \leq n^2$$

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

we need subtract ~~it~~
~~with~~ some constant

Case II: If $T(n) = \Omega(n^{\log_b a + \epsilon})$
for constant $\epsilon > 0$ then
 $T(n) = \Theta(f(n))$

For Ω notation the funⁿ is

$$f(n) \geq c \cdot g(n)$$

We need to show $T(n) = \Theta(f(n))$

we need to make both the terms as
equal

$$n^2$$

$$n^3 \geq n^1$$

$$n^3 = n^{1+2}$$

we need to add
some constant



Case III:

$$\text{If } T(n) = O(n^{\log_b a})$$

As both the terms are equal not \rightarrow neither \geq nor \leq in this we do not have to add or subtract the constant ϵ .

$$T(n) = O(n^{\log_b a} * \log n)$$

Just multiply the term with $\log n$



Example 1 based on case 7

Give recurrence relation is

$$T(n) = 8T(n/2) + n^2$$

Pattern of recurrence relⁿ for master's method is

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

$a \geq 1$, $b > 1$, $f(n)$ must be +ve funⁿ

As the given recurrence relation is in the form of above equation let's find value for a , b & $f(n)$

We have $a = 8$, $b = 2$, $f(n) = n^2$

$$\text{Find, } n^{\log_b a} = n^{\log_2 8}$$

This gives us value of $g(n)$

$$\boxed{n^{\log_b a} = n^3}$$

(compare n^2 & $n^{\log_b a}$ i.e. n^3)

As per case 7 of master's theorem we have

$$f(n) \leq c \cdot g(n)$$

$$n^2 \leq c \cdot n^3 \quad (\text{True})$$

For this case

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

$$\boxed{T(n) = \Theta(n^3)}$$

consider the larger term amongst n^3 & n^2 as we need upper bound



Example 2 based on case 1

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

$$\text{So, } a=9, b=3, f(n)=n$$

$$n^{\log_b a} = n^{\log_3 9} = n^2$$

As per case 1

$$f(n) \leq c \cdot g(n)$$

$$n \leq c \cdot n^2 \quad (\text{True})$$

So final answer of Time complexity of given recurrence relation is,

$$T(n) = \Theta(n^2)$$

consider the term which is largest amongst n^2 & n as we need upper bound



Example 3 based on case II

$$T(n) = 64T(n/2) + n^7$$

Solve the given recurrence relation.

First check if it is in the given format or not.

$$T(n) = aT(n/b) + f(n) \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} a \geq 1 \\ b > 1 \\ f(n) \text{ true fun}^n \end{array} \right\}$$

Ex As the given ~~req~~ equation is in the above format we have,

$$a = 64, \quad b = 2, \quad f(n) = n^7$$

First calculate $n^{\log_b a}$ to get value of $g(n)$

$$n^{\log_b a} = n^{\log_2 64}$$

$$n^{\log_b a} = n^{\log_2 2^6}$$

$$\boxed{n^{\log_b a} = n^6} \quad \text{as } \log_2 2 = 1$$

~~This~~ This is the value of $g(n)$

So we have $f(n) = n^7$ & $g(n) = n^6$

as per case II of master's theorem we have,

$$f(n) \geq c \cdot g(n)$$

$$n^7 \geq c \cdot n^6 \quad (\text{True})$$

So time complexity of given recurrence relation is,

$$\boxed{T(n) = \Theta(n^7)} \quad (\text{consider largest term from } n^6 \& n^7)$$