

# Divide and conquer

Quicksort an  $n$ -element array:

1. **Divide:** Partition the array into two subarrays around a **pivot**  $x$  such that elements in lower subarray  $\leq x \leq$  elements in upper subarray.



2. **Conquer:** Recursively sort the two subarrays.
3. **Combine:** Trivial.

Key: Linear-time partitioning subroutine.

## Partitioning subroutine

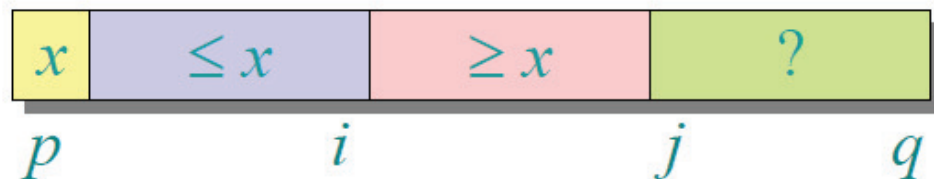
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PARTITION( $A, p, q$ )  $\triangleright A[p \dots q]$   
   $x \leftarrow A[p]$   $\triangleright$  pivot =  $A[p]$   
   $i \leftarrow p$   
  for  $j \leftarrow p + 1$  to  $q$   
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# Partitioning subroutine

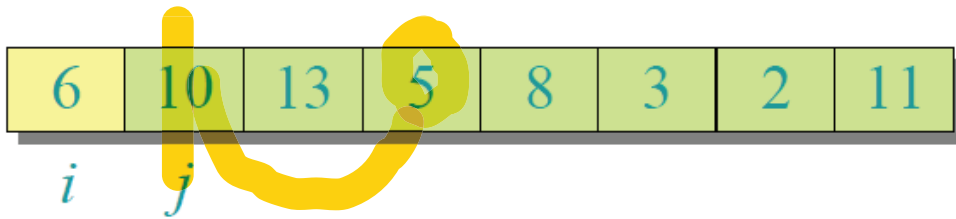
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Running time  
=  $O(n)$  for  $n$   
elements.

**Invariant:**

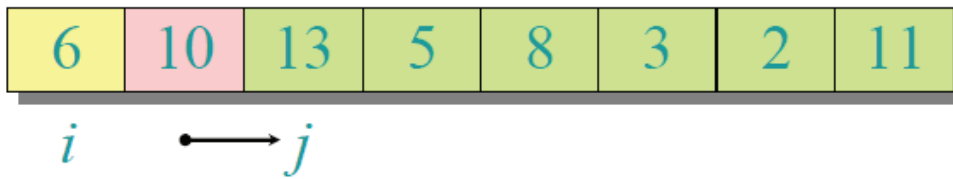


# Example of partitioning



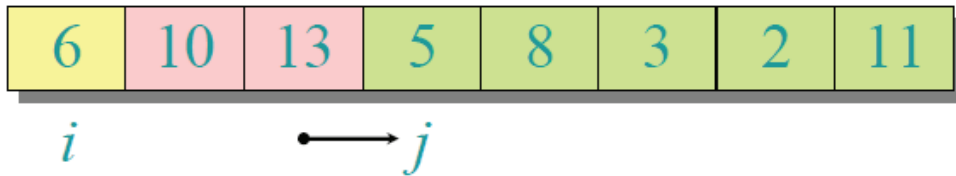
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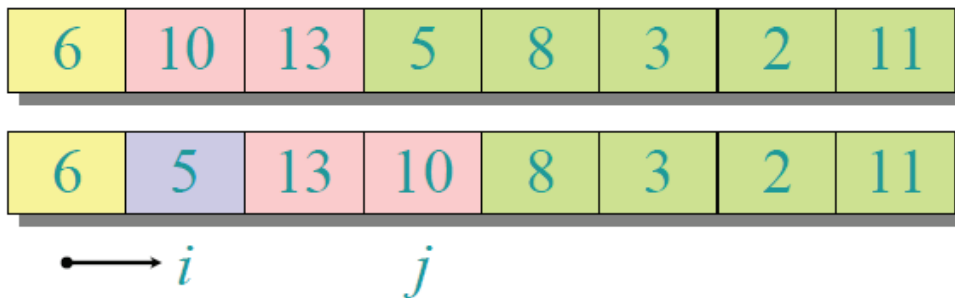
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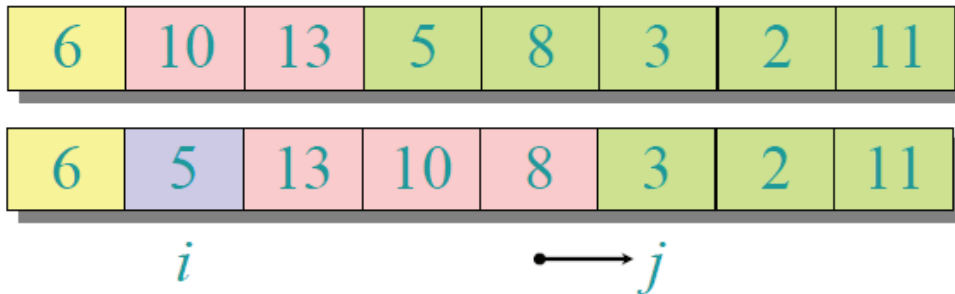
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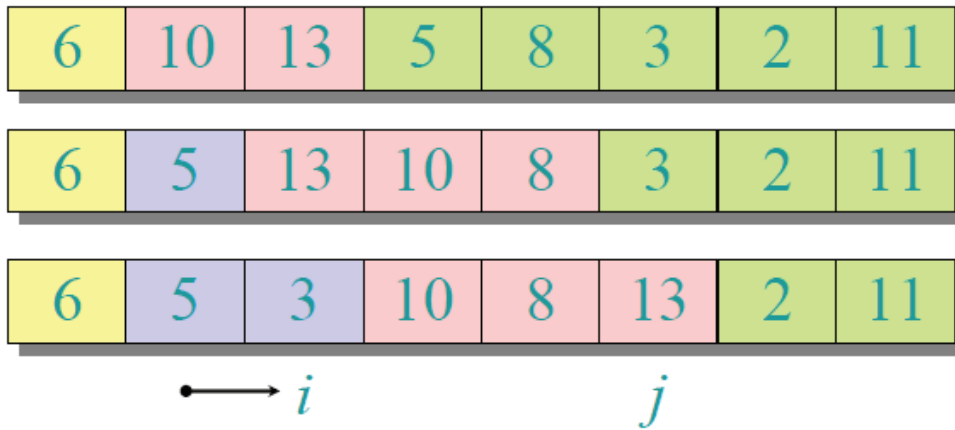
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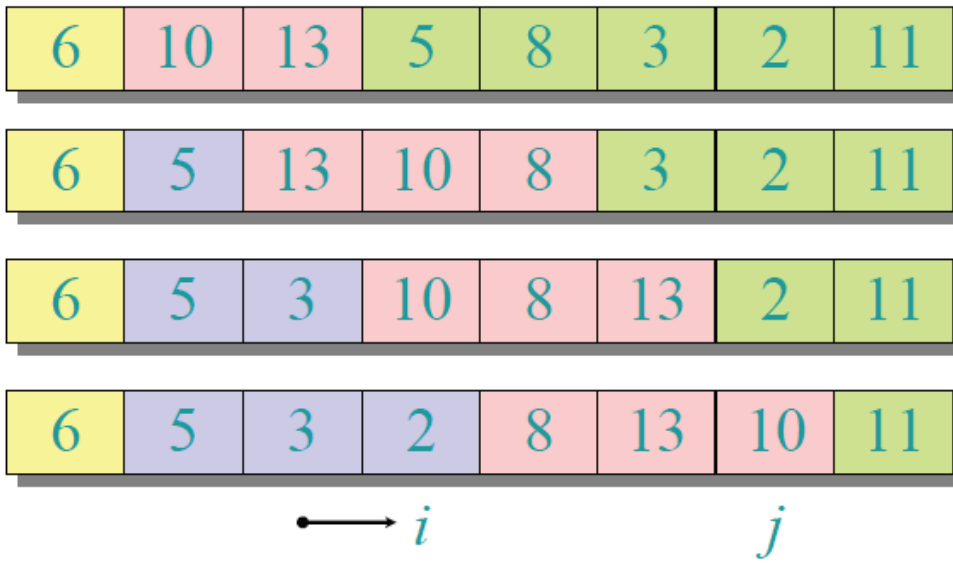


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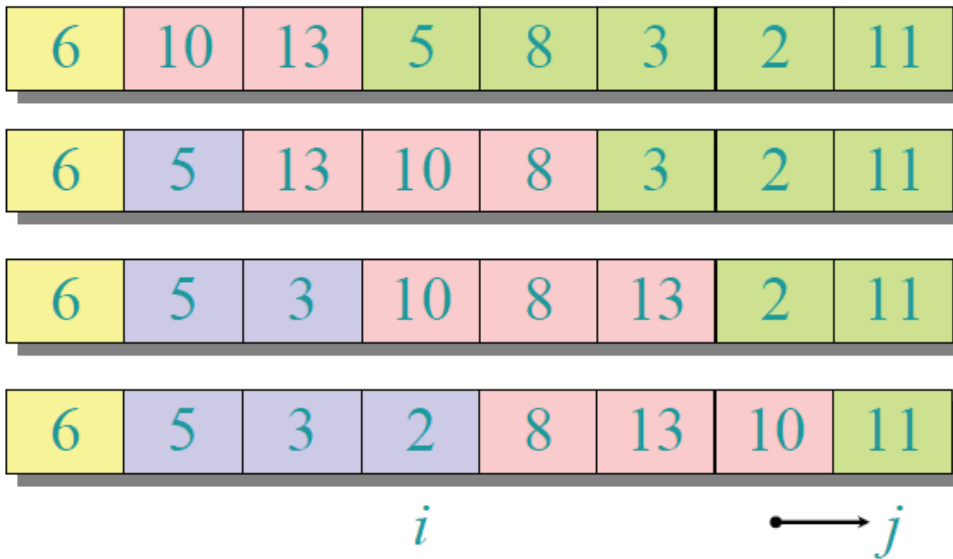
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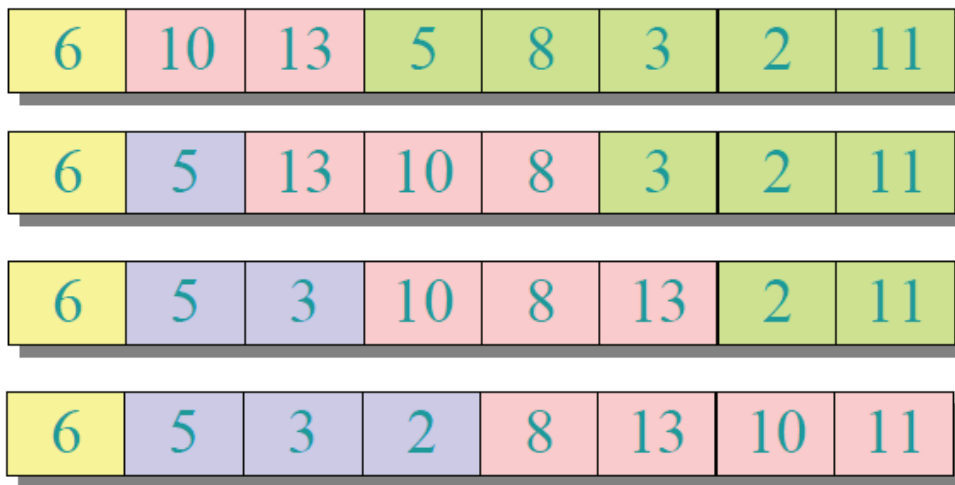
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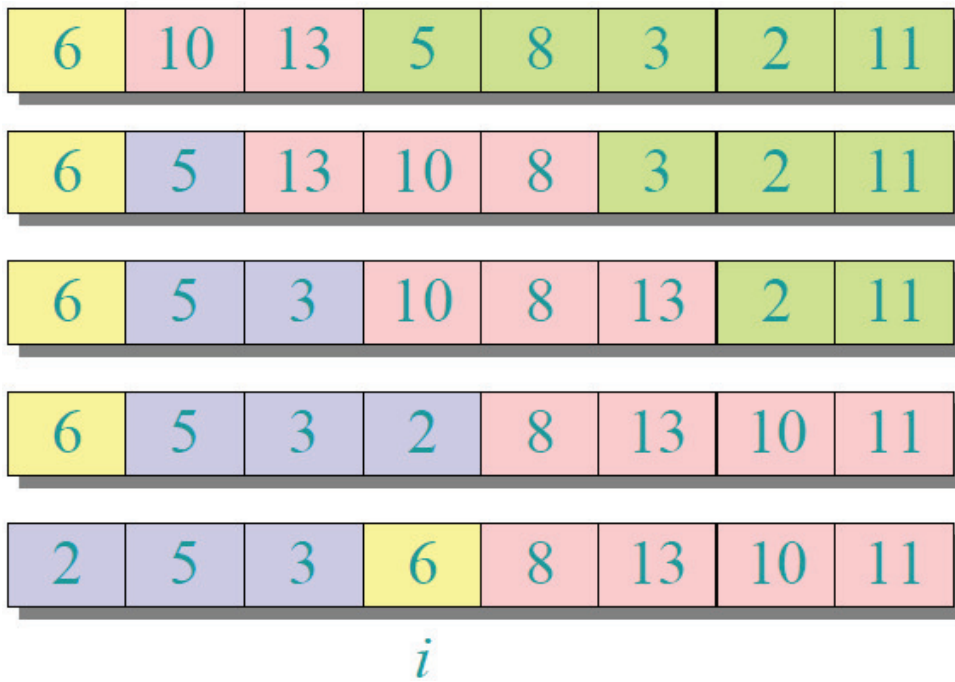


$i$

$\longrightarrow j$

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## Pseudocode for quicksort

```
QUICKSORT( $A, p, r$ )  
  if  $p < r$   
    then  $q \leftarrow \text{PARTITION}(A, p, r)$   
        QUICKSORT( $A, p, q-1$ )  
        QUICKSORT( $A, q+1, r$ )
```

**Initial call:** QUICKSORT( $A, 1, n$ )

# Analysis of quicksort

- Assume all input elements are distinct.
- In practice, there are better partitioning algorithms for when duplicate input elements may exist.
- Let  $T(n)$  = worst-case running time on an array of  $n$  elements.

## Worst-case of quicksort

- Input sorted or reverse sorted.
- Partition around min or max element.
- One side of partition always has no elements.

$$\begin{aligned}T(n) &= T(0) + T(n-1) + \Theta(n) \\&= \Theta(1) + T(n-1) + \Theta(n) \\&= T(n-1) + \Theta(n) \\&= \Theta(n^2)\end{aligned}$$



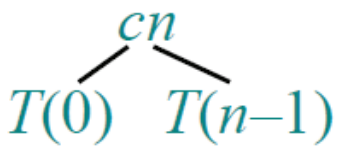
## Worst-case recursion tree

$$T(n) = T(0) + T(n-1) + cn$$

*T(n)*

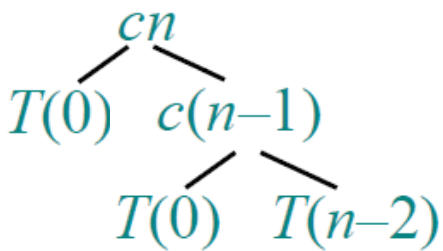
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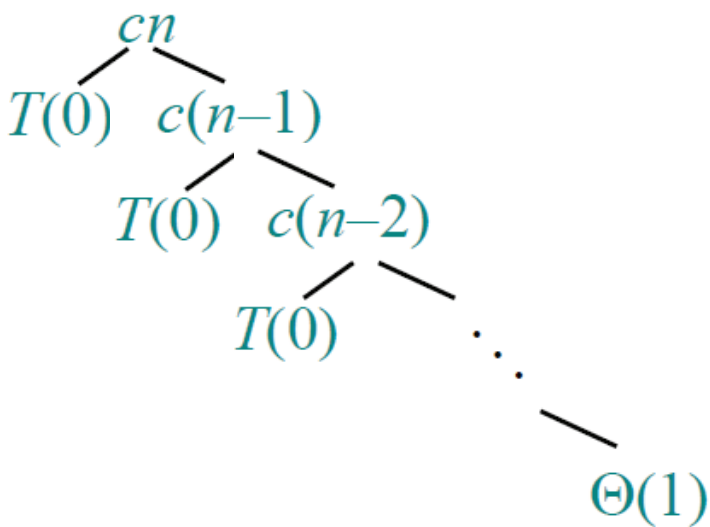
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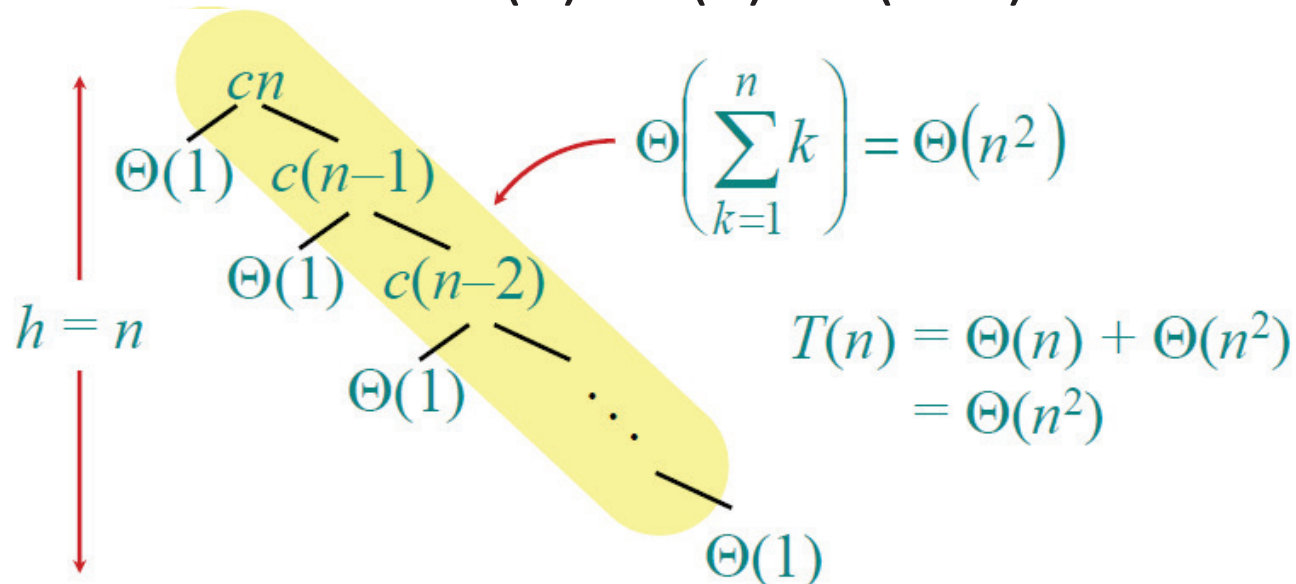
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# Best-case analysis

(For intuition only!)

- If we're lucky, PARTITION splits the array evenly:

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

$$= \Theta(\lg n) \text{ (same as merge sort)}$$

- What if the split is always 1/10 : 9/10 ?

$$T(n) = T(n/10) + T(9n/10) + \Theta(n)$$

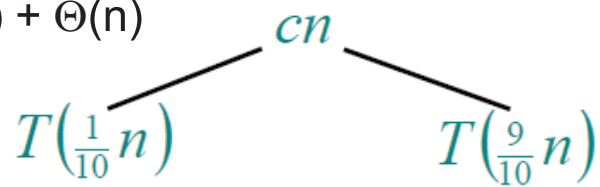
- What is the solution to this recurrence ?

# Analysis of “almost-best” case

$$T(n) = T(n/10) + T(9n/10) + \Theta(n) \quad T(n)$$

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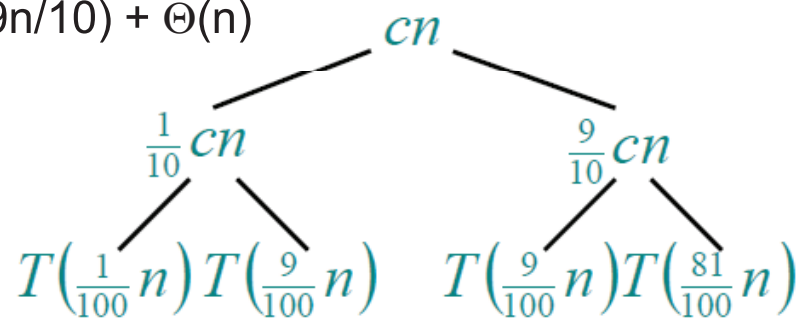
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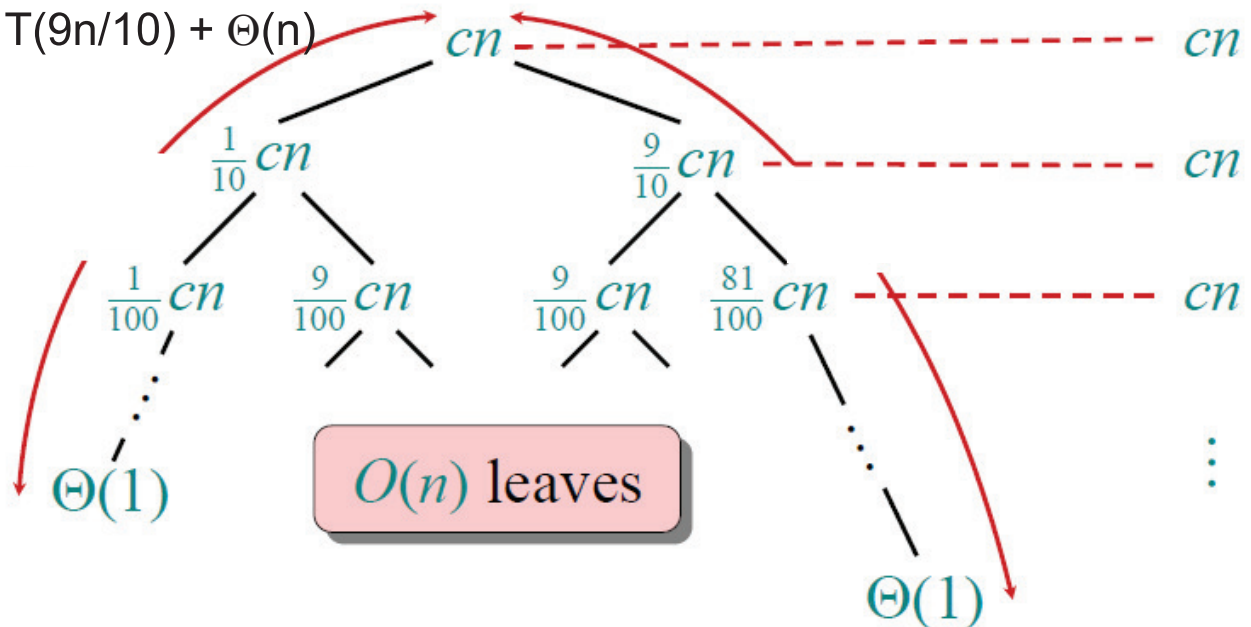
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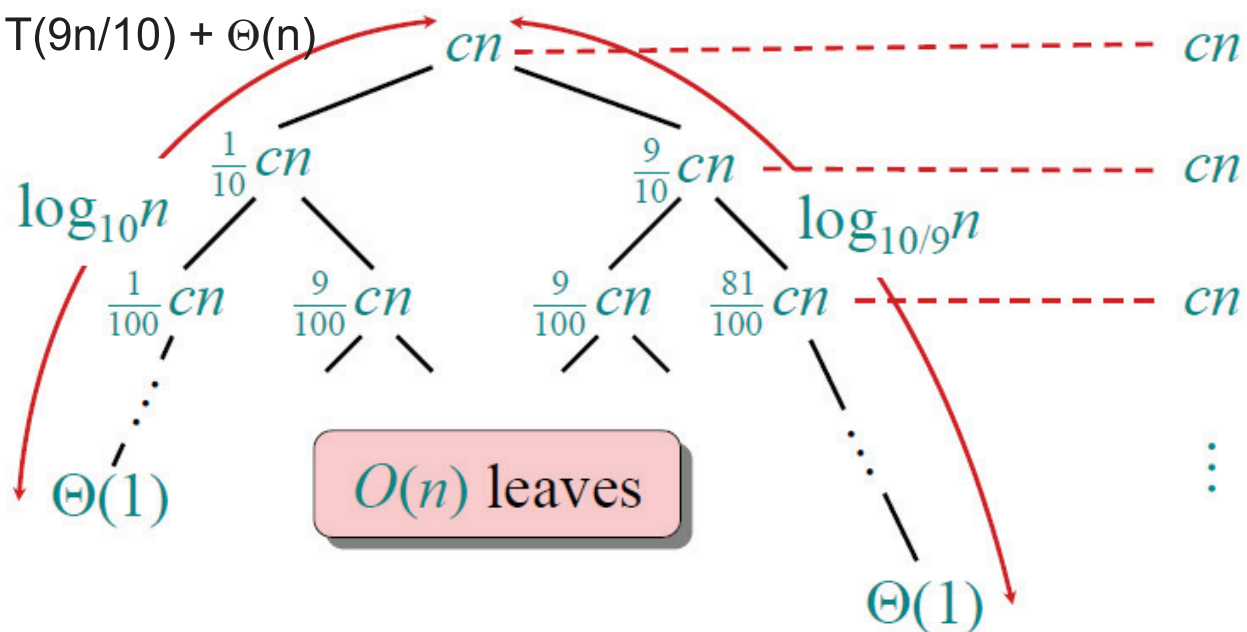
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$$cn \log_{10} n \leq T(n) \leq cn \log_{10/9} n + O(n)$$