

## Question 1

The recurrence relation of a recursive divide and conquer algorithm is given. Explain this recurrence, verbally, in terms of the size of each sub-problem, the cost of dividing the problem, and combining solutions.

$$T(n) = 3T\left(\frac{n}{4}\right) + 2n + n^3$$

**Answer:**

↳ Size of each subproblem  $\Rightarrow$  since input size is  $n$ ,  $3T(n/4)$  means that the problem is divided into 3 subproblems with  $n/4$  size each. Thus size of each s.p. is  $n/4$ .

↳ cost of dividing the problem  $\Rightarrow 2n$ .

↳ cost of combining the solutions  $\Rightarrow n^3$

## Question 2

Find an asymptotically tight lower bound for the following recurrence by using the substitution method.

$$T(n) = T\left(\frac{n}{3}\right) + T\left(\frac{2n}{3}\right) + \Theta(n)$$

**Answer:** (1) making a guess: Since each recursive call's work proportional to  $n$ , let's assume that  $T(n)$  is bounded below by  $cn \log n$  for some constant  $c > 0$ . In other words, we claim  $T(n) = \Omega(n \log n)$ .

(2) Inductive Step: We need to prove that  $T(n) \geq cn \log n$  for all sufficiently large  $n$ . We have the recurrence reln.

$$T(n) = T(n/3) + T(2n/3) + \Theta(n)$$

Assuming the lower bound  $T(n) \geq cn \log n$ , by inductive hypothesis:

$$T(n) \geq \left(\frac{cn}{3} \log \frac{n}{3}\right) + \left(\frac{2cn}{3} \log \frac{2n}{3}\right) + \Theta(n)$$

By simplifying:

$$T(n) \geq cn \log n - \cancel{cn \log 3} + \frac{2cn}{3} \log 2 - \frac{2cn}{3} \log 3 + \Theta(n)$$

Dropping the lower-order terms

$$T(n) \geq cn \log n + \Theta(n)$$

Thus, we prove that the tight lower bound for  $T(n)$ :

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

Question 3

For the following recurrences, either solve it by using the master method or show that it cannot be solved with the master method.

(a)  $T(n) = T(\frac{n}{2}) + \Theta(1)$

$a \geq 1$   
 $b \geq 1$   
 $f(n)$  is asymp. positive. } applicable.

**Answer:** With Master Theorem, we can solve the recurrences with the structure:

$$T(n) = a \cdot T(n/b) + f(n) \Rightarrow a=1, b=2, f(n) = \Theta(1)$$

Analysis of the case:

$$\log_b a = \log_2 1 = 0 \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Since } f(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a}) \\ f(n) = \Theta(1) = \Theta(n^0). \end{array} \right. \text{ Case 2 applies.}$$

Therefore, the solution to the recurrence relation:

$$T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \cdot \log n) \Rightarrow T(n) = \Theta(n^0 \cdot \log n) = \Theta(\log n),$$

(b)  $T(n) = 3T(\frac{n}{4}) + n \lg n$

$a \geq 1$   
 $b \geq 1$   
 $f(n)$  is asymp. positive } applicable

**Answer:**

$$n^{\log_b a} = n^{\log_4 3} \Rightarrow \log_4 3 < 1, \text{ we need to compare } f(n)$$

$$f(n) = n \lg n = \Omega(n^{\log_4 3 + \epsilon})$$

$$a \cdot f(n/b) \leq c f(n) \Rightarrow 3 \cdot \frac{n}{4} \log \frac{n}{4} \leq c \cdot n \log n \Rightarrow c = 3/4 \Rightarrow c < 1$$

Case 3:

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

necessary  
checks