

# Divide and Conquer I

Summer 2018 • Lecture 06/28

# Announcements

- No tutorial this Friday.
- Homework 0
  - You might have noticed a \*.tex file in **hw0.zip**.
  - Again, no submission required; worth 0% of your grade. But you should still attempt it before solutions are released next Tues 7/3.
- [cs161.stanford.edu](https://cs161.stanford.edu) redirects to our website, finally!

# Course Overview

- Algorithmic Analysis
- **Divide and Conquer**
- Randomized Algorithms
- Tree Algorithms
- Graph Algorithms
- Dynamic Programming
- Greedy Algorithms
- Advanced Algorithms

# Today's Outline

- Divide and Conquer I
  - Proving correctness with induction
  - Proving runtime with recurrence relations
  - Proving the Master method
  - *Problems: Comparison-sorting*
  - *Algorithms: Mergesort*
  - Reading: CLRS 2.3, 4.3-4.6



# Recall Last Time...

- Insertion sort
  - **Does this actually work? Yes!**
    - We talked about loop invariants and proofs by induction.
  - **Is it fast? Eh, nah.**
    - We talked about worst-case, best-case, and average case analysis.
    - We talked about Big-O, Big- $\Omega$  and Big- $\Theta$  notation to describe upper-bounds, lower-bounds, and tight-bounds.
    - **Upper-bound for worst-case runtime  $O(n^2)$**
    - **Lower-bound for best-case runtime  $\Omega(n)$**

# Another way of thinking about today...

- Can we do better than insertion sort?
- Mergesort uses divide-and-conquer.
  - **Does this actually work?**
    - We will revisit proofs by induction.
  - **Is it fast?**
    - We will talk about recurrence relations.

# Another way of thinking about today...

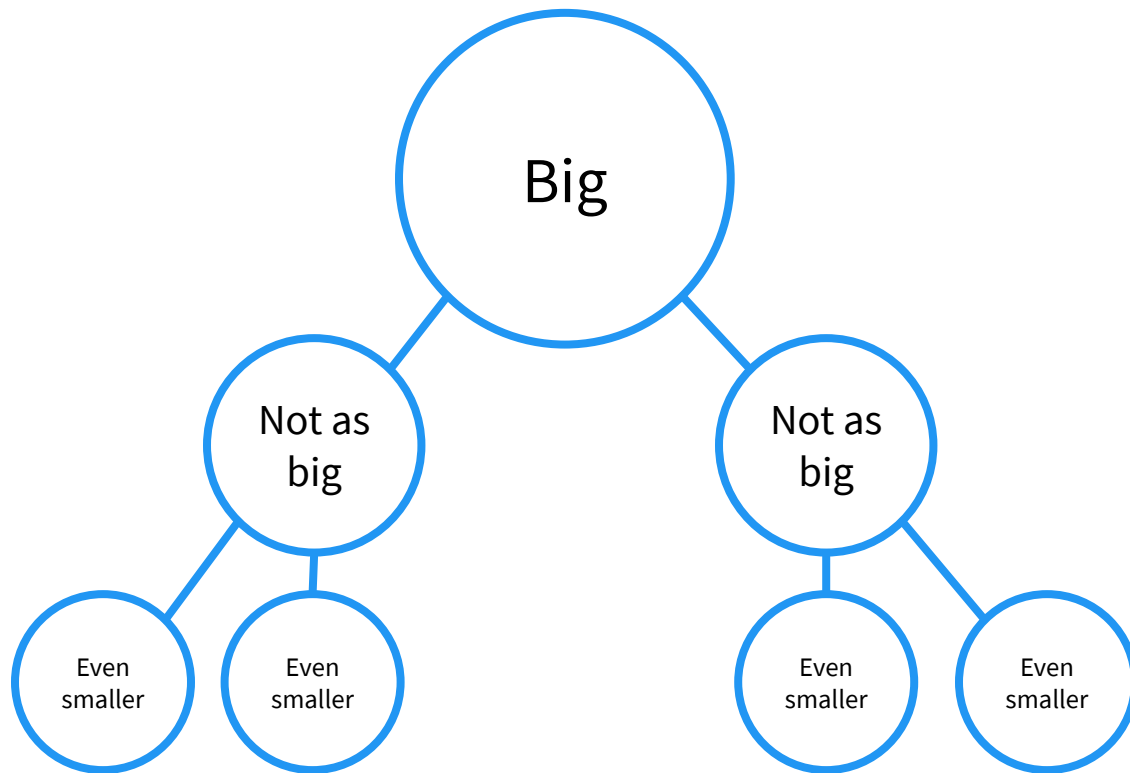
- Can we do better than insertion sort?
  - Mergesort uses divide-and-conquer.
    - **Does this actually work?** 
      - We will revisit proofs by induction.
    - **Is it fast?** 
      - We will talk about recurrence relations.
- These are the same questions we asked about insertion sort!

# Mergesort



# Divide and Conquer

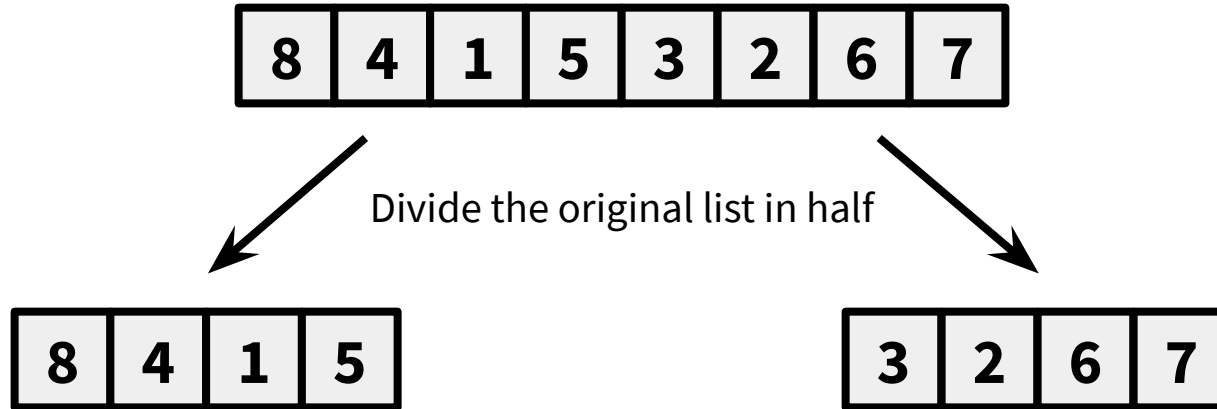
- **Divide** Break the current problem into smaller problems.
- **Conquer** Solve the smaller problems and collect the results to solve the current problem.



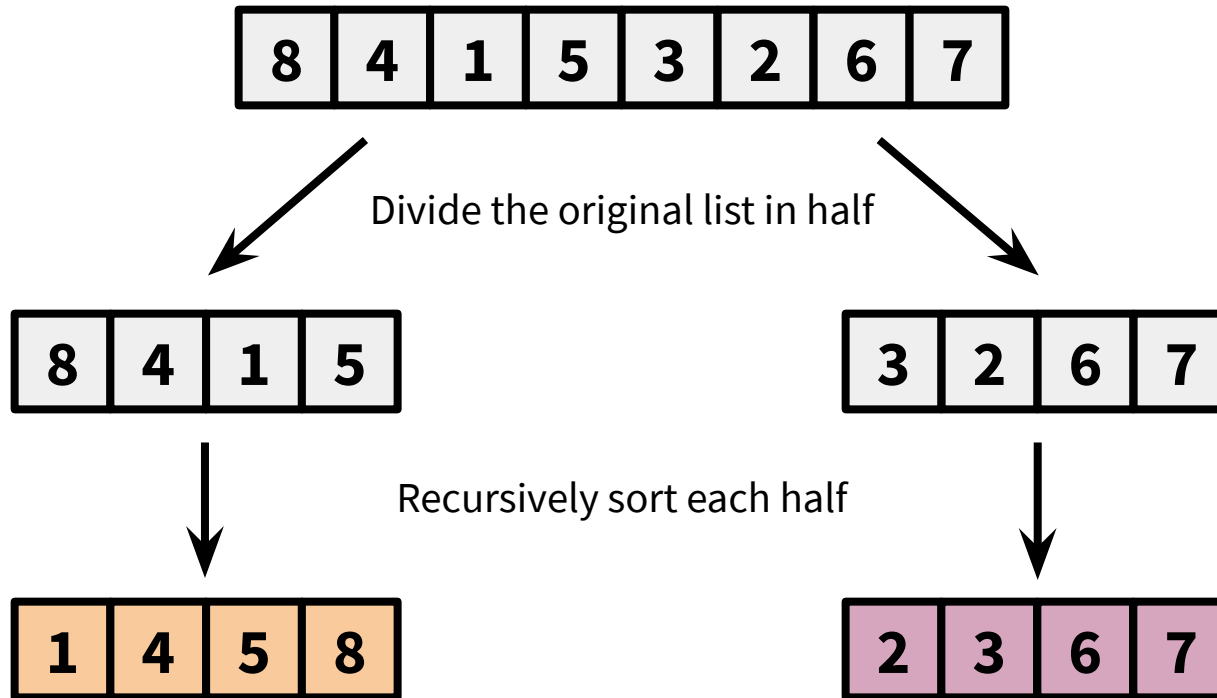
# Mergesort

8	4	1	5	3	2	6	7
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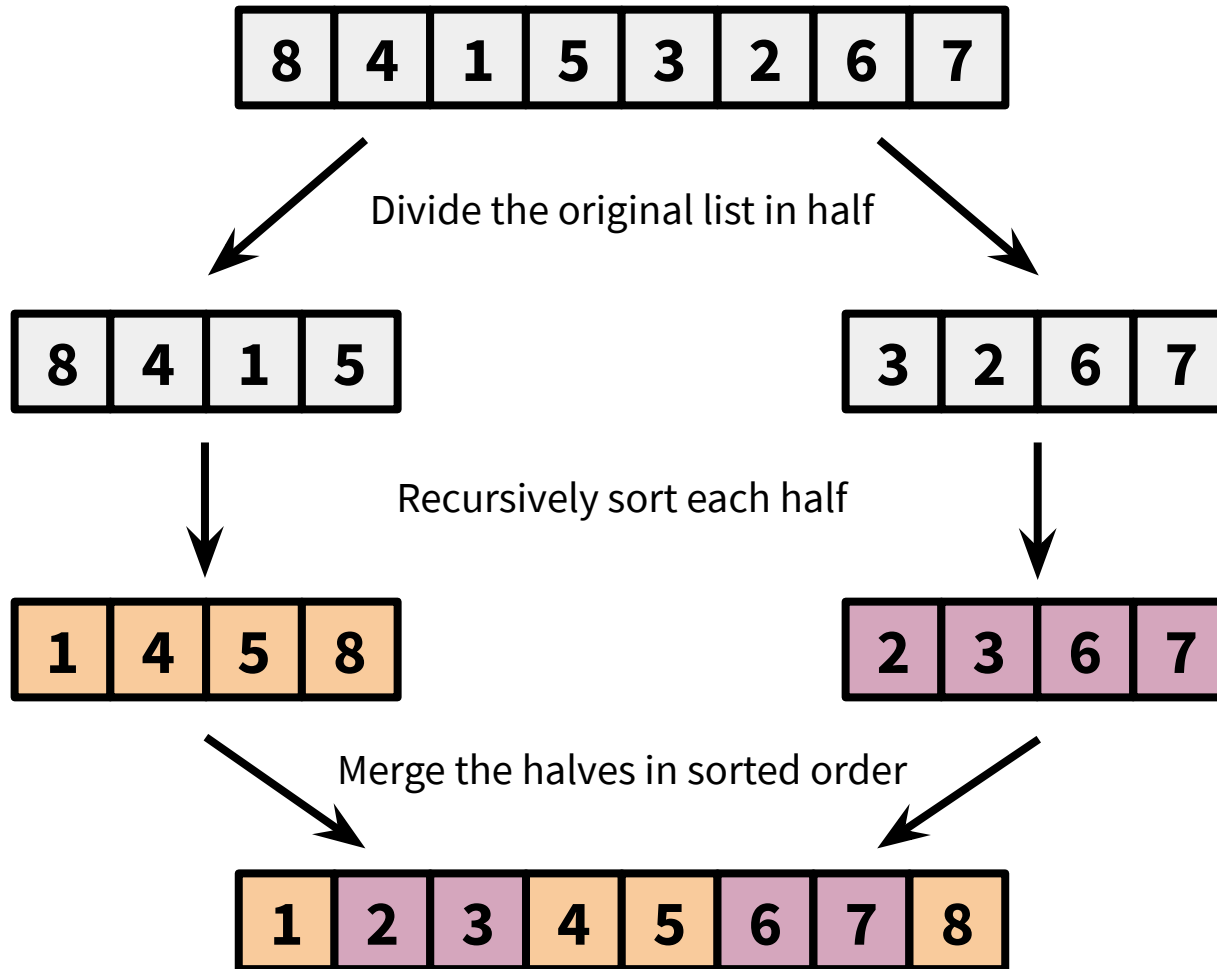
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    L = mergesort(A[0:n/2])
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    return merge(L, R)
```

# Mergesort

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# Mergesort

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def merge(L, R):  
    result = []  
    l_idx, r_idx = (0, 0)
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# Mergesort

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def merge(L, R):  
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    l_idx, r_idx = (0, 0)  
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# Mergesort

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            result.append(L[l_idx])  
            l_idx += 1  
        else:  
            result.append(R[r_idx])  
            r_idx += 1  
    result.extend(L[l_idx:len(L)])  
    result.extend(R[r_idx:len(R)])
```



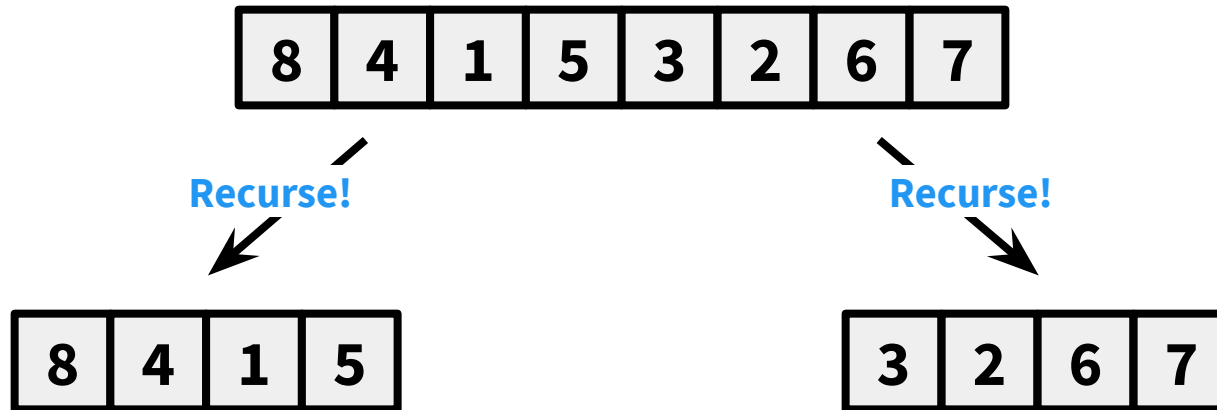
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    result.extend(L[l_idx:len(L)])  
    result.extend(R[r_idx:len(R)])  
    return result
```

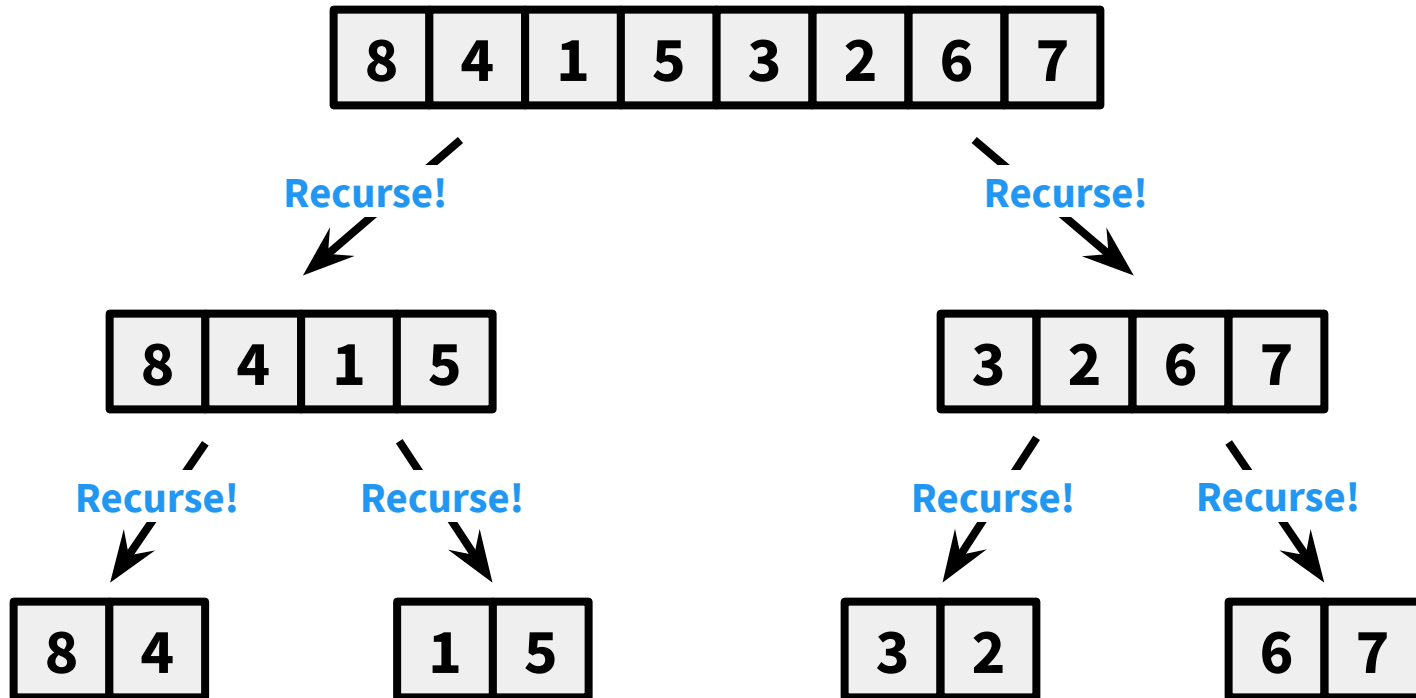
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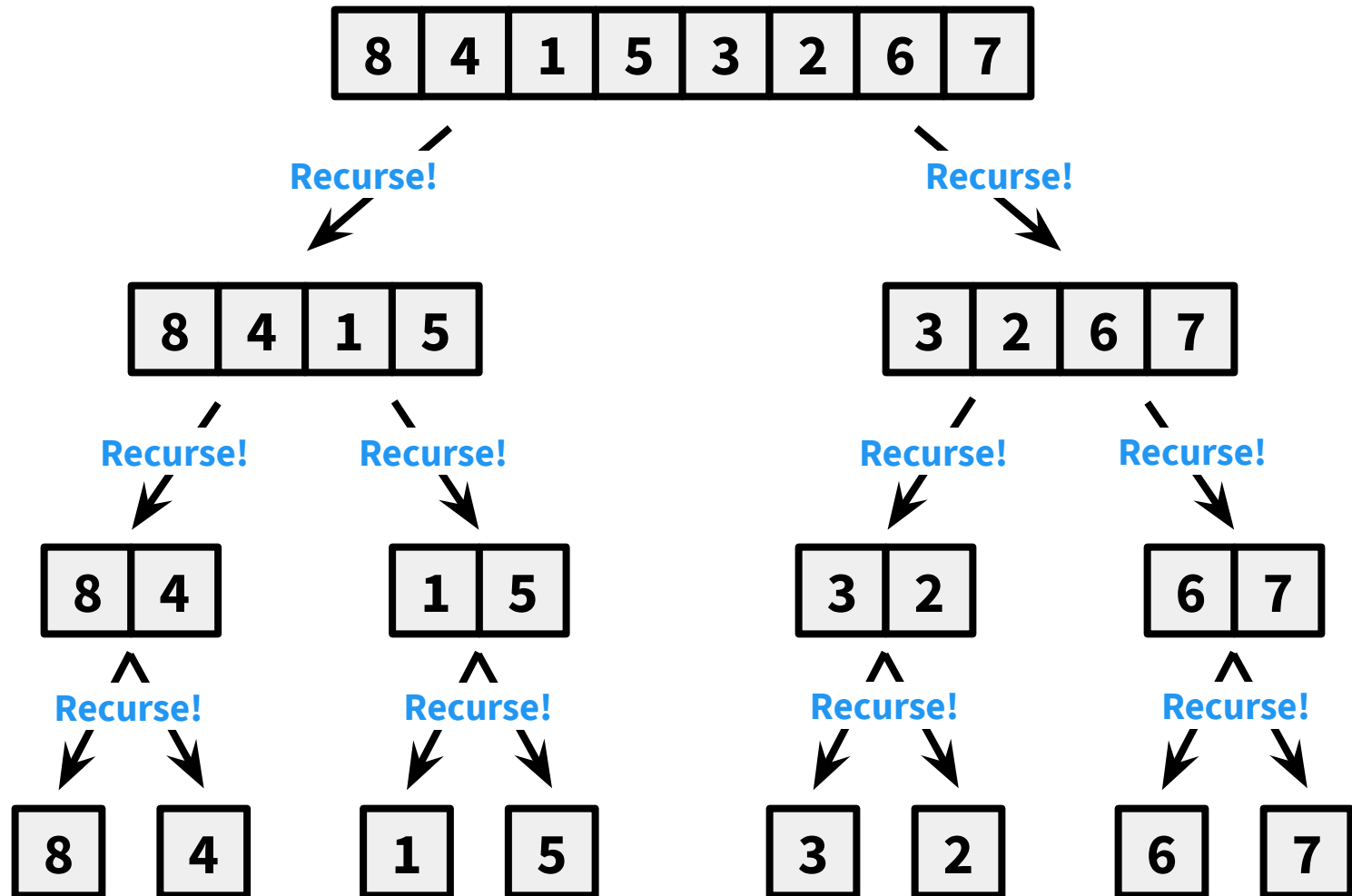
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8

4

1

5

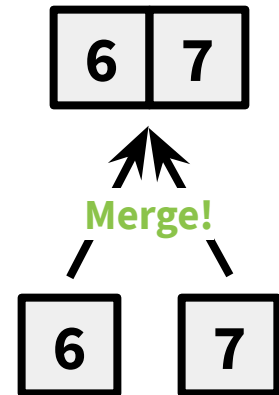
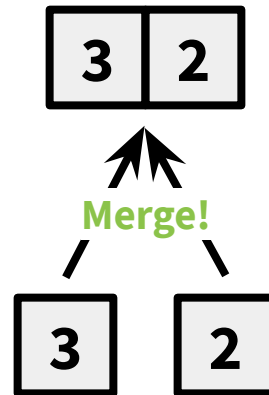
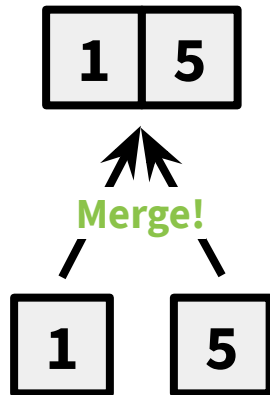
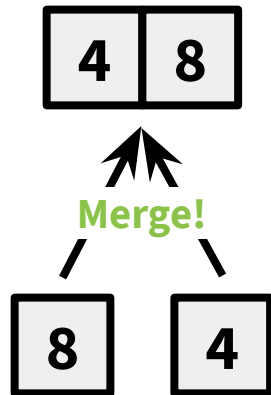
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2

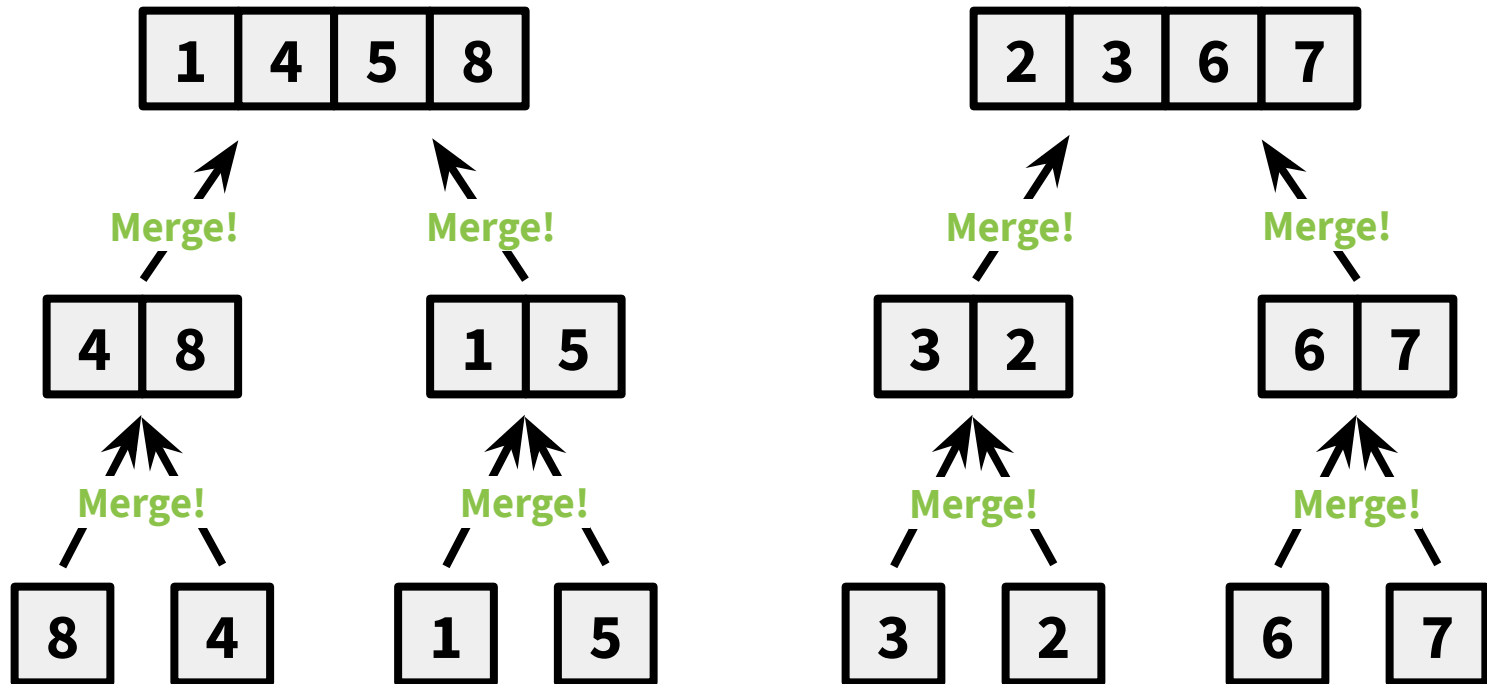
6

7

# Mergesort

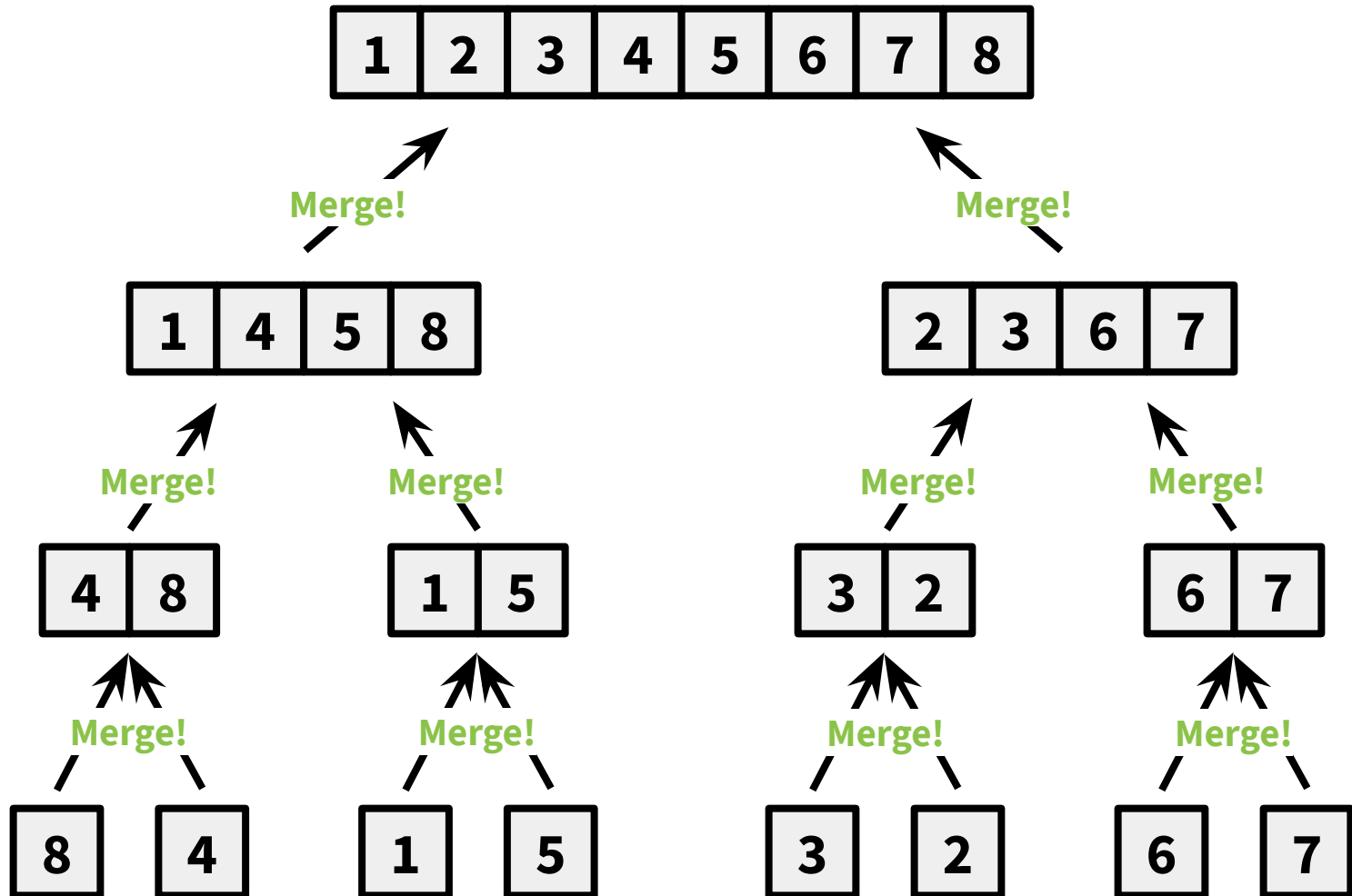


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# Mergesort



# Mergesort

- **Intuition** Divide the list into halves, recursively sort them, merge the sorted halves into a whole sorted list, and return this list.
- You might have two questions at this point...
  1. **Does this actually work?**
  2. **Is it fast?**

```
def mergesort(A):  
    if len(A) <= 1:  
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# Mergesort

1. **Does this actually work?** We've already seen an example!

- Formally, similar to last time, we proceed by induction. However, rather than inducting on the loop iteration, we induct on the length of the input list.

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```

# Proving Correctness

- Recall, there are four components in a proof by induction.
  - **Inductive Hypothesis** The algorithm works on input lists of length 1 to  $i$ .
  - **Base case** The algorithm works on input lists of length 1.
  - **Inductive step** If the algorithm works on input lists of length 1 to  $i$ , then it works on input lists of length  $i+1$ .
  - **Conclusion** If the algorithm works on input lists of length  $n$ , then it works on the entire list.

# Proving Correctness

- Formally, for **mergesort**...
  - **Inductive Hypothesis** **mergesort** correctly sorts input lists of length  $i$ .
  - **Base case** **mergesort** correctly sorts input lists of length 1; it returns a 1-element list, which is trivially sorted.
  - **Inductive step** Suppose the algorithm works on input lists of length 1 to  $i$ . Calling **mergesort** on an input list of length  $i+1$  recursively calls **mergesort** on the left and right halves, which have lengths between 1 and  $i$ ; therefore, **left** and **right** contain the elements originally in the left and right halves of the list, but sorted. Given two sorted lists, **merge** returns a single sorted list with all of the elements from the original two lists.
- **Conclusion** The inductive hypothesis holds for all  $i$ . In particular, given an input list of any length  $n$ , mergesort returns a sorted version of that list!

# Proving Correctness

- Formally, for **mergesort**...
  - **Inductive Hypothesis** **mergesort** correctly sorts input lists of length  $i$ .
  - **Base case** **mergesort** correctly sorts input lists of length 1; it returns a 1-element list, which is trivially sorted.
  - **Inductive step** Suppose the algorithm works on input lists of length 1 to  $i$ . Calling **mergesort** on an input list of length  $i+1$  recursively calls **mergesort** on the left and right halves, which have lengths between 1 and  $i$ ; therefore, **left** and **right** contain the elements originally in the left and right halves of the list, but sorted. **Given two sorted lists, merge returns a single sorted list with all of the elements from the original two lists.**
    - Proving this statement requires another proof by induction, with a loop invariant!
  - **Conclusion** The inductive hypothesis holds for all  $i$ . In particular, given an input list of any length  $n$ , mergesort returns a sorted version of that list!

# Proving Correctness

```
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```



# Proving Correctness

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def proof_of_correctness_helper(algorithm):  
    if algorithm.type == "iterative":  
        # 1) Find the loop invariant  
        # 2) Define the inductive hypothesis  
        #     (internal state at iteration i)  
        # 3) Prove the base case (i=0)  
        # 4) Prove the inductive step (i => i+1)  
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    elif algorithm.type == "recursive":  
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        #     (correct for inputs of sizes 1 to i)  
        # 2) Prove the base case (i < small constant)  
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    # TODO
```

# Today's Outline

- Divide and Conquer I
  - ~~Proving correctness with induction~~ **Done!**
  - Proving runtime with recurrence relations
  - Proving the Master method
  - *Problems: Comparison-sorting*
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# Analyzing Runtime

## 2. Is it fast?

- Let  $T(n)$  represent the runtime of **mergesort** on a list of length  $n$ .
  - Extending this notation,  $T(n/2)$  is the runtime of **mergesort** on a list of length  $n/2$  and  $T(1000)$  is the runtime of **mergesort** on a list of length 1000.
  - Calling **mergesort** on a list of length  $n$  calls **mergesort** once for each half, a total runtime of  $T(\lceil n/2 \rceil) + T(\lfloor n/2 \rfloor)$ .
  - What is the runtime of **merge**?

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        else:  
            result.append(R[r_idx])  
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    result.extend(L[l_idx:len(L)])  
    result.extend(R[r_idx:len(R)])  
    return result
```

At most  $\text{len}(L) + \text{len}(R)$ ,  
which is  $n$  iters



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  - Calling **mergesort** on a list of length  $n$  calls **mergesort** once for each half, a total runtime of  $T(\lceil n/2 \rceil) + T(\lfloor n/2 \rfloor)$ .
  - What is the runtime of **merge**?  $\Theta(n)$ .
- Here's our first **recurrence relation**!
  - $T(0) = \Theta(1)$
  - $T(1) = \Theta(1)$
  - $T(n) = T(\lceil n/2 \rceil) + T(\lfloor n/2 \rfloor) + \Theta(n)$

# Analyzing Runtime

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  - A well-known recurrence relation defines the Fibonacci sequence:  
 $T(n) = T(n-1) + T(n-2)$ .

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  - A well-known recurrence relation defines the Fibonacci sequence:  
$$T(n) = T(n-1) + T(n-2).$$
- Our recurrence relation for the runtime of **mergesort** isn't very useful unless we can determine the runtime as closed-form expression.



# Analyzing Runtime

- A **recurrence relation** is a function or sequence whose values are defined in terms of earlier or smaller values.
  - A well-known recurrence relation defines the Fibonacci sequence:  
 $T(n) = T(n-1) + T(n-2)$ .
- Our recurrence relation for the runtime of **mergesort** isn't very useful unless we can determine the runtime as closed-form expression.
  - Let's learn how to translate a recurrence relation for  $T(n)$  to a closed form expression for  $T(n)$ !

# Analyzing Runtime

- First, let's make a few simplifications.

$$T(0) = \Theta(1)$$

$$T(1) = \Theta(1)$$

$$T(n) = T(\lceil n/2 \rceil) + T(\lfloor n/2 \rfloor) + \Theta(n)$$

# Analyzing Runtime

- First, let's make a few simplifications.
  - **Simplification 1** Using the definition of Big- $\Theta$ , rewrite  $\Theta(1)$  and  $\Theta(n)$  terms.

$$T(0) = \Theta(1)$$

$$T(1) \leq c_1$$

$$T(n) \leq T(\lceil n/2 \rceil) + T(\lfloor n/2 \rfloor) + c_2 n$$

# Analyzing Runtime

- First, let's make a few simplifications.
  - **Simplification 1** Using the definition of Big- $\Theta$ , rewrite  $\Theta(1)$  and  $\Theta(n)$  terms.
  - **Simplification 2**  $n$  is a power of 2.

$$\cancel{T(0)} = \cancel{\Theta(1)}$$

$$T(1) \leq c_1$$

$$T(n) \leq 2T(n/2) + c_2 n$$

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  - **Simplification 1** Using the definition of Big- $\Theta$ , rewrite  $\Theta(1)$  and  $\Theta(n)$  terms.
  - **Simplification 2**  $n$  is a power of 2.
  - **Simplification 3**  $c = \max\{c_1, c_2\}$ .

$$\cancel{T(0)} = \cancel{\Theta(1)}$$

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  - **Simplification 2**  $n$  is a power of 2.
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  - **Simplification 2**  $n$  is a power of 2.
  - **Simplification 3**  $c = \max\{c_1, c_2\}$ .

$$\cancel{T(0) = \Theta(1)}$$

$$T(1) \leq c$$

$$T(n) \leq 2T(n/2) + cn$$

How do we translate this simplified recurrence relation to a closed-form expression?

# Solving Recurrences

- There are a few different methods to translate a recurrence relation for  $T(n)$  to a closed form expression for  $T(n)$ .
  - Recursion tree method
  - Iteration method
  - Master method
  - Substitution Method



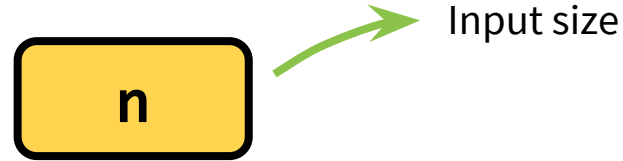
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# Recursion Tree Method

$$T(1) \leq c$$

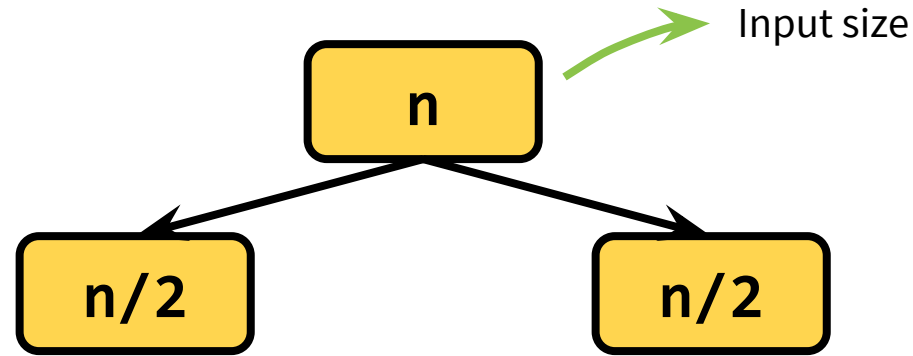
$$T(n) \leq 2T(n/2) + cn$$



# Recursion Tree Method

$$T(1) \leq c$$

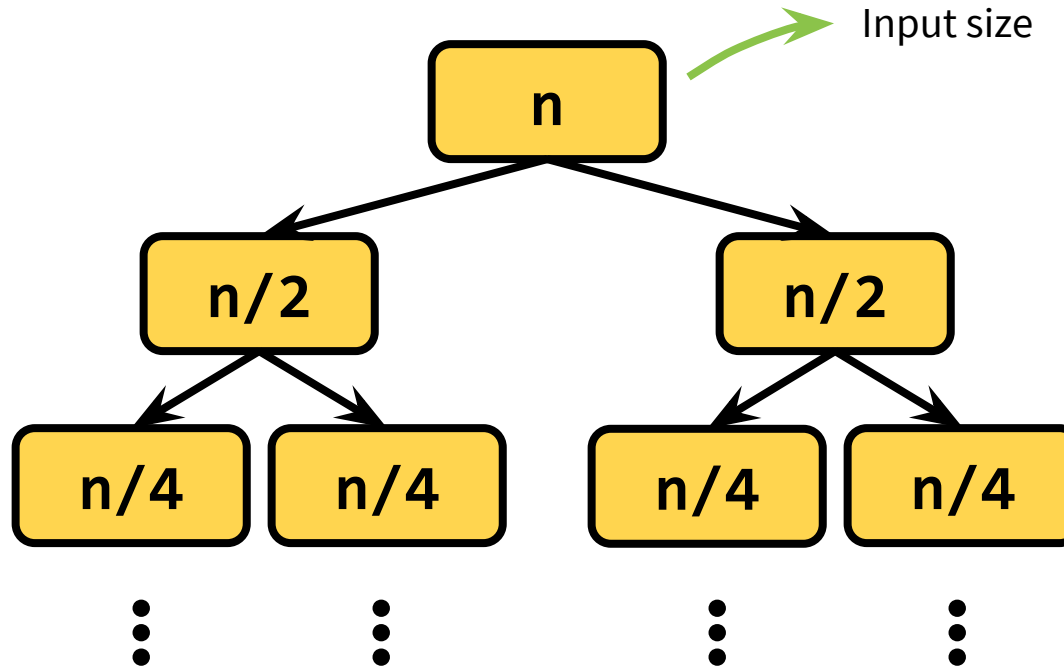
$$T(n) \leq 2T(n/2) + cn$$



$$T(1) \leq c$$

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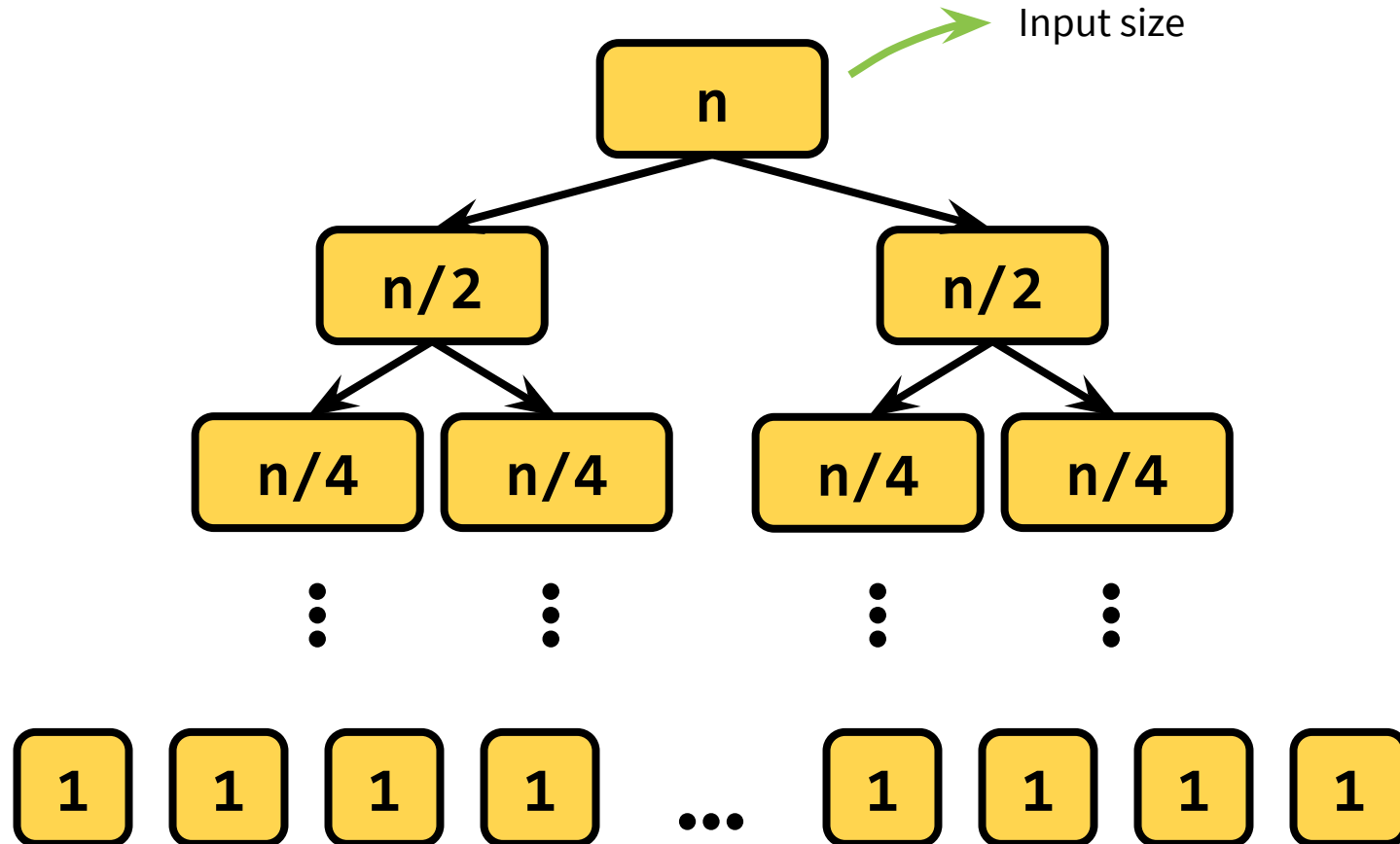
# Recursion Tree Method



$$T(1) \leq c$$

$$T(n) \leq 2T(n/2) + cn$$

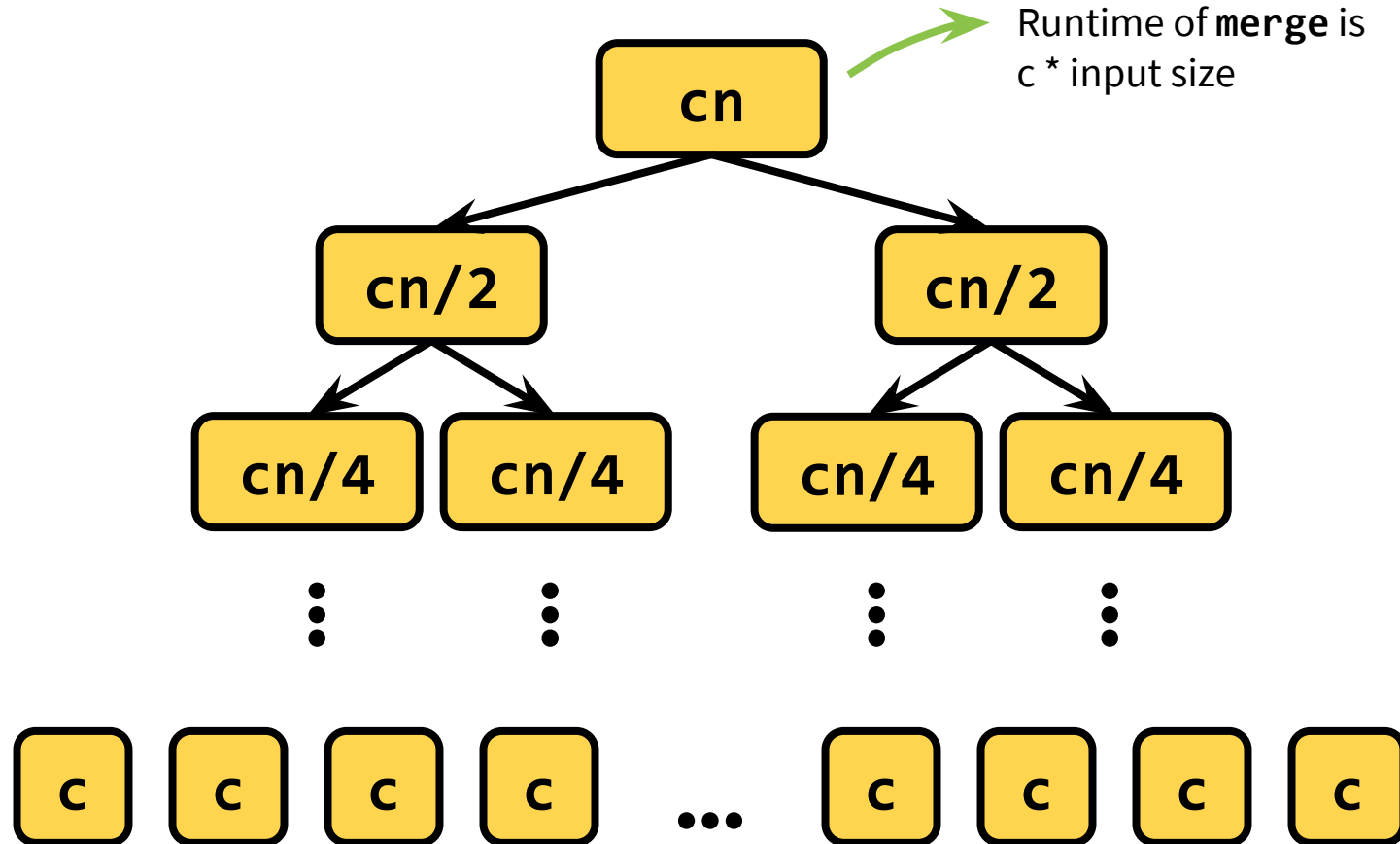
# Recursion Tree Method



$$T(1) \leq c$$

$$T(n) \leq 2T(n/2) + cn$$

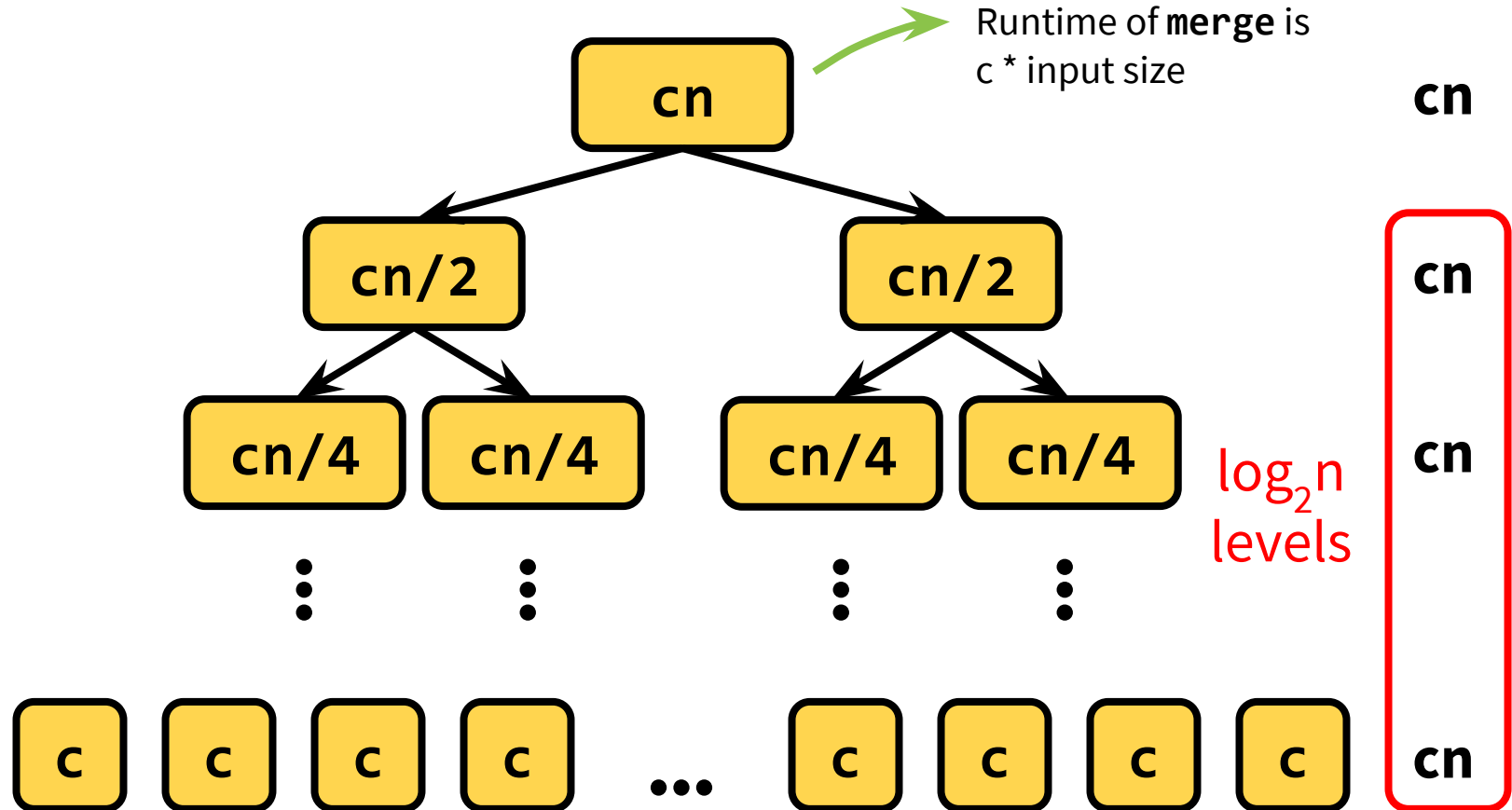
# Recursion Tree Method



$$T(1) \leq c$$

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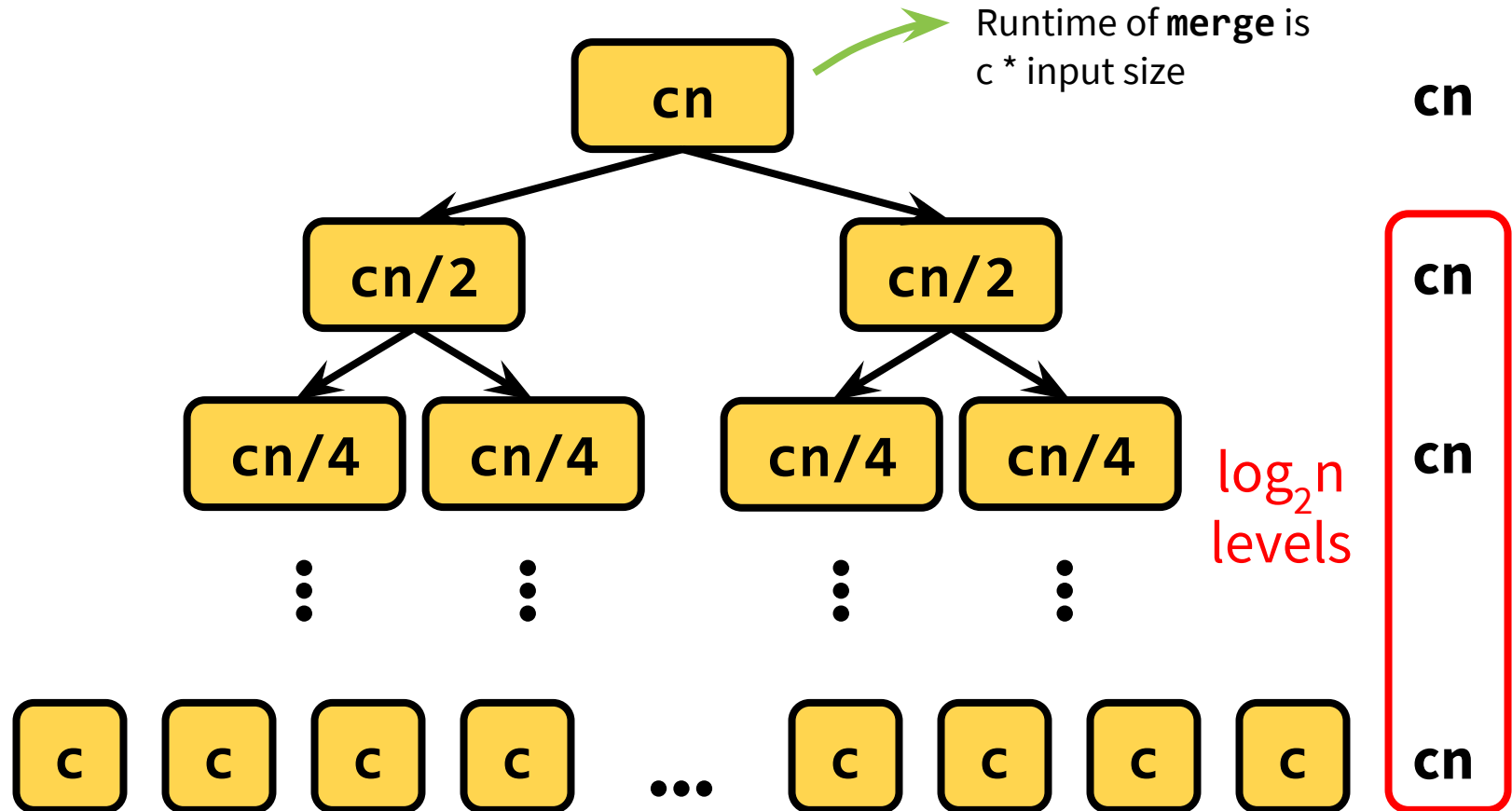
# Recursion Tree Method



$$T(1) \leq c$$

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# Recursion Tree Method



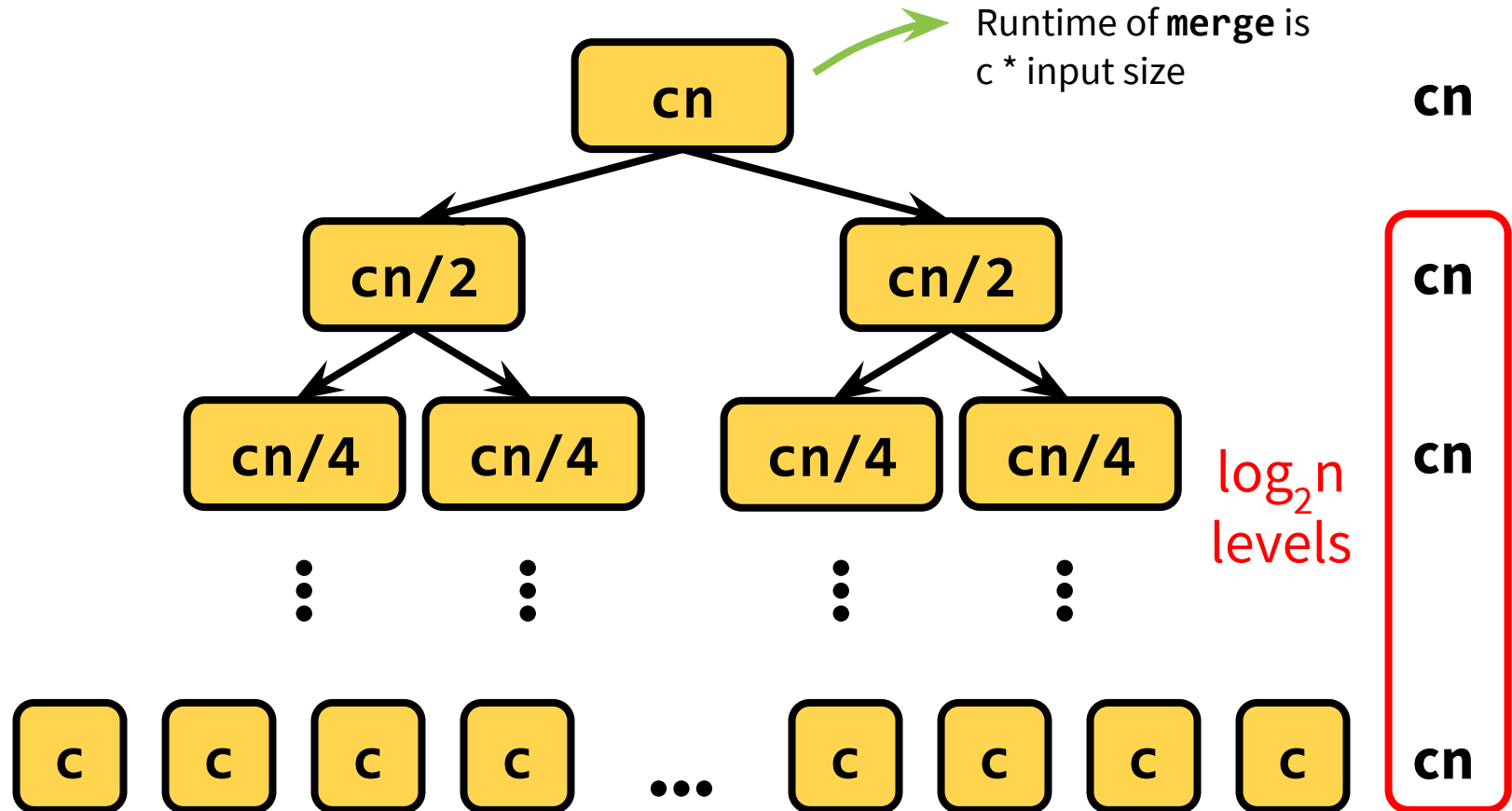
$$\text{Runtime } cn \log_2 n + cn = O(n \log(n))$$



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# Recursion Tree Method



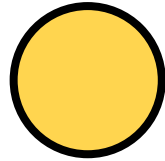
$$\text{Runtime } cn \log_2 n + cn = O(n \log(n))$$

Use same reasoning for  $\Omega$

# Recursion Tree Method

$$T(1) \leq c$$

$$T(n) \leq 2T(n/2) + cn$$



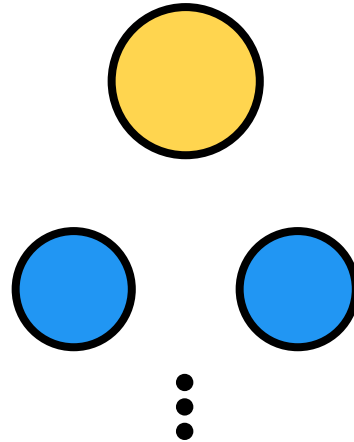
1 problem  
of size  $cn$

**$cn$**

# Recursion Tree Method

$$T(1) \leq c$$

$$T(n) \leq 2T(n/2) + cn$$



1 problem  
of size  $cn$

**$cn$**

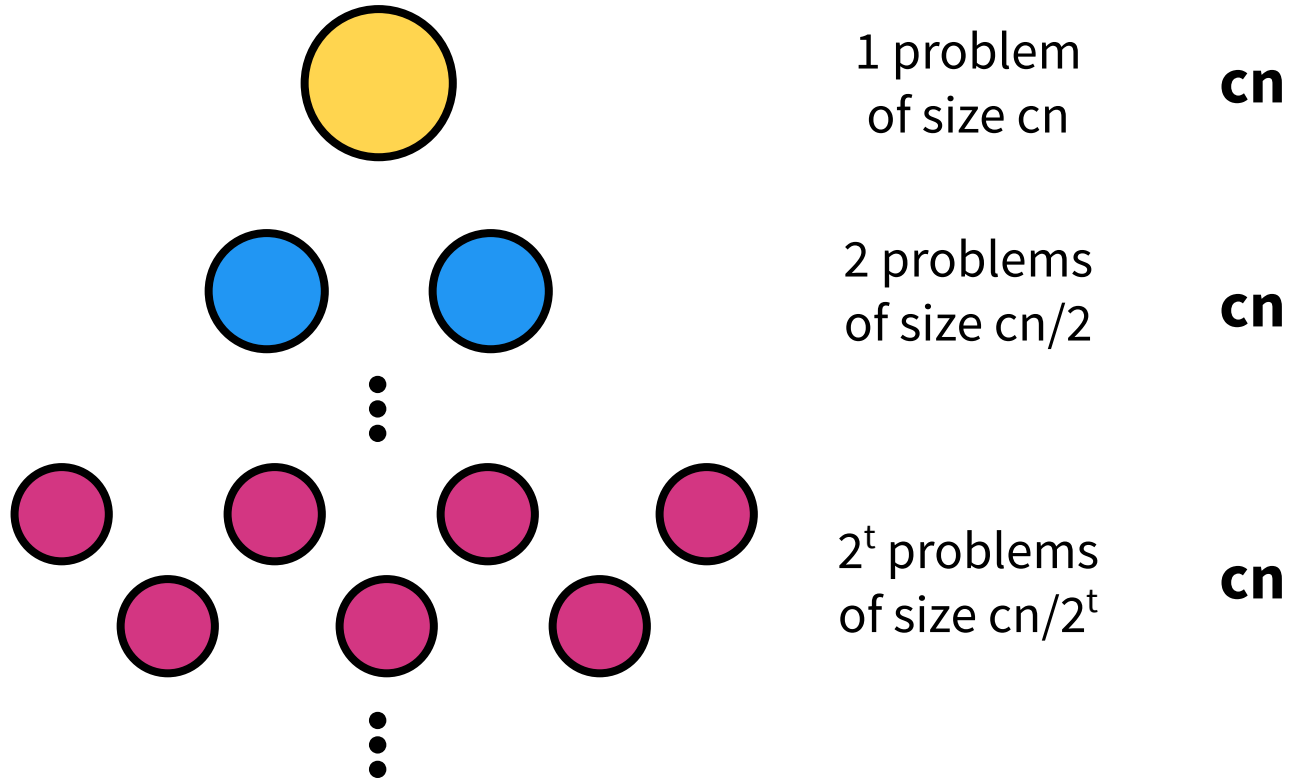
2 problems  
of size  $cn/2$

**$cn$**

# Recursion Tree Method

$$T(1) \leq c$$

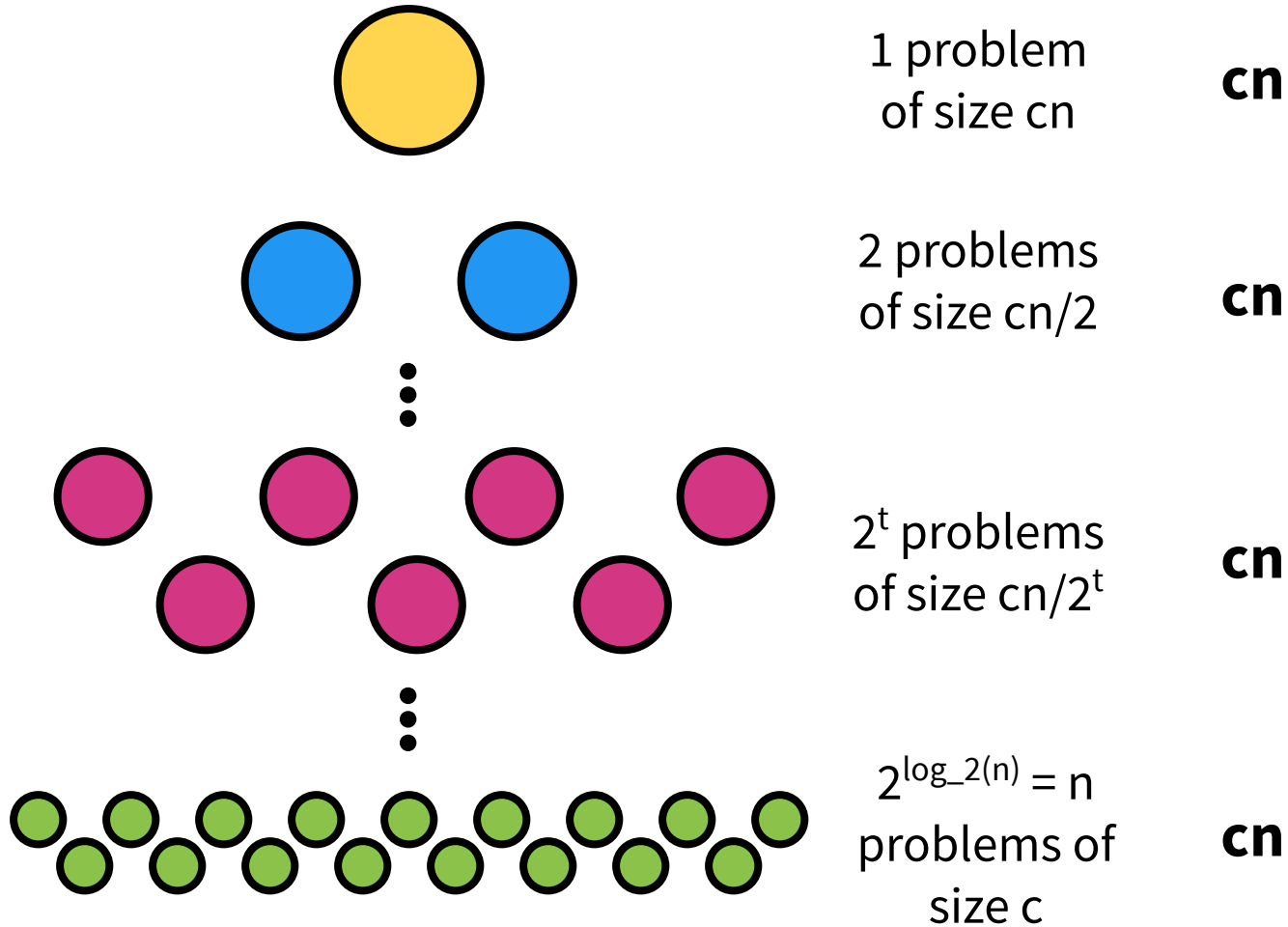
$$T(n) \leq 2T(n/2) + cn$$



# Recursion Tree Method

$$T(1) \leq c$$

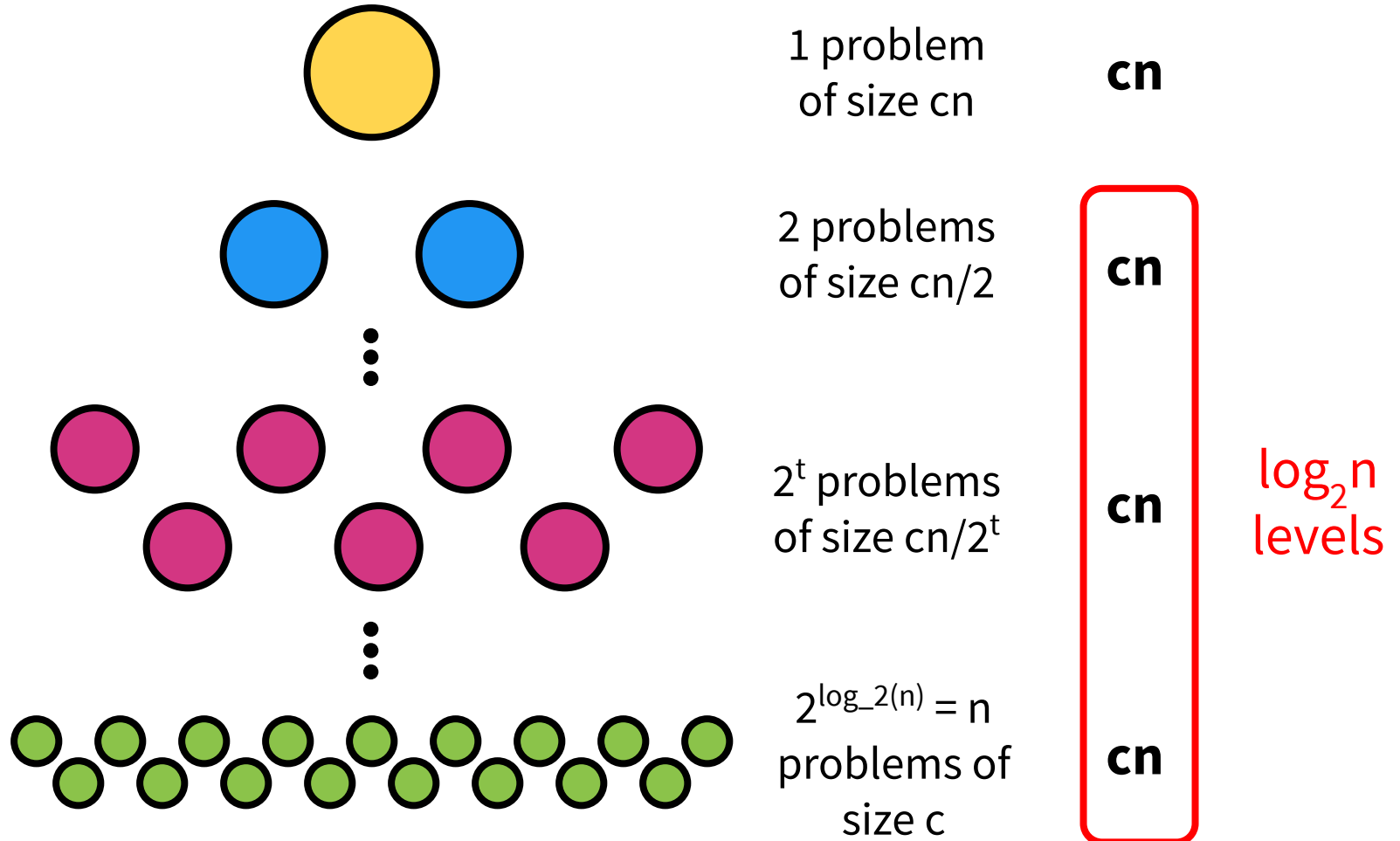
$$T(n) \leq 2T(n/2) + cn$$



$$T(1) \leq c$$

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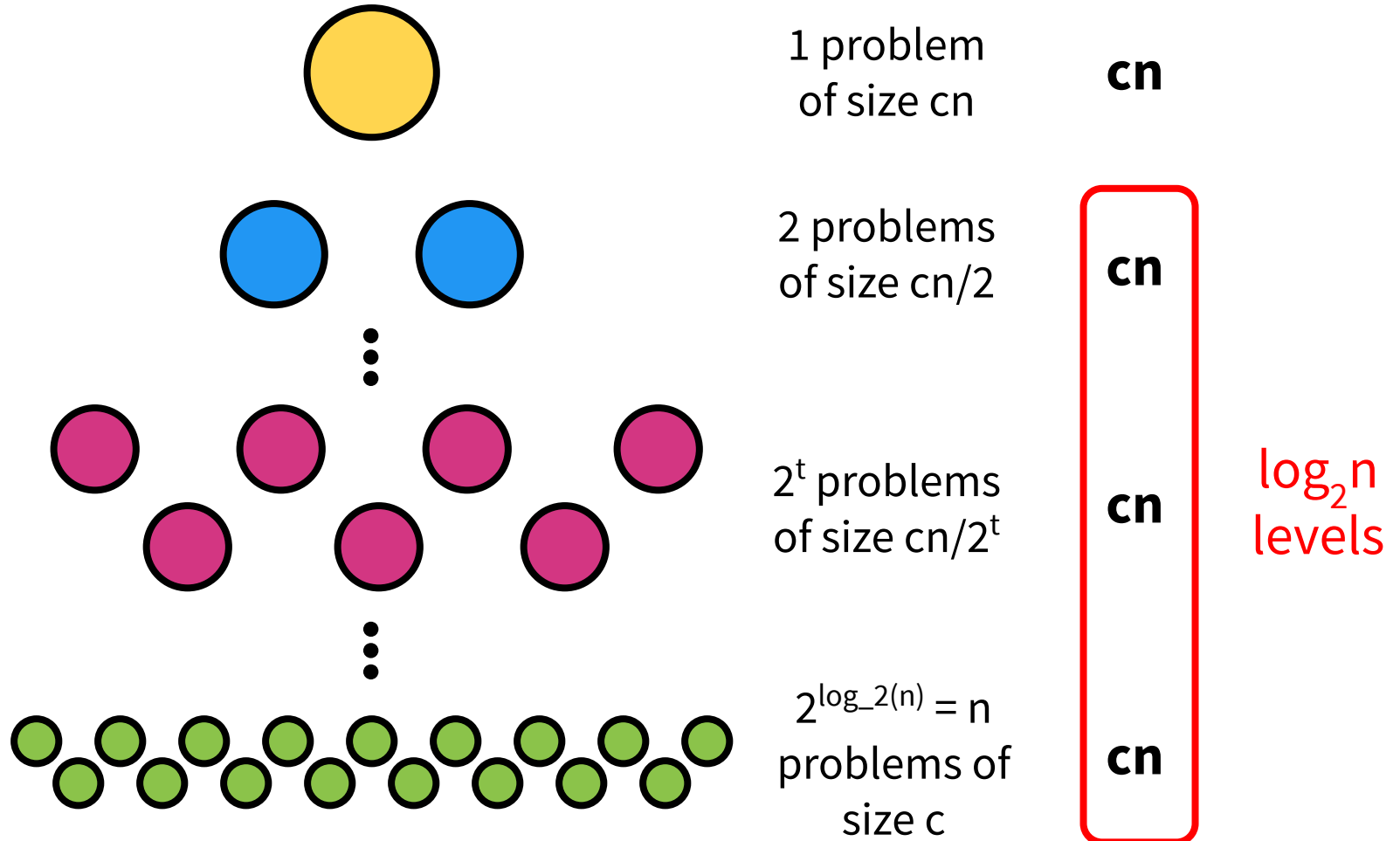
# Recursion Tree Method



$$T(1) \leq c$$

$$T(n) \leq 2T(n/2) + cn$$

# Recursion Tree Method



$$\text{Runtime } cn \log_2 n + cn = O(n \log(n))$$

# Solving Recurrences

- There are a few different methods to translate a recurrence relation for  $T(n)$  to a closed form expression for  $T(n)$ .
  - **Recursion tree method**  $\Theta(n \log(n))$ .
  - Iteration method
  - Master method
  - Substitution Method



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  - Substitution Method

$$T(1) \leq c$$

$$T(n) \leq 2T(n/2) + cn$$

# Iteration Method

- Apply the relationship until you see a pattern.

$$T(n) \leq 2 \cdot T(n/2) + cn$$

$$T(1) \leq c$$

$$T(n) \leq 2T(n/2) + cn$$

# Iteration Method

- Apply the relationship until you see a pattern.

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &\leq 2 \cdot T(n/2) + cn \\ &\leq 2 \cdot (2T(n/4) + cn/2) + cn \\ &= 4 \cdot T(n/4) + 2cn \end{aligned}$$

$$T(1) \leq c$$

$$T(n) \leq 2T(n/2) + cn$$

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# Iteration Method

- Apply the relationship until you see a pattern.

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- What is k?

$$T(1) \leq c$$

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# Iteration Method

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- What is  $k$ ? It's the number of times to divide  $n$  by 2 to get 1. So  $k = \log_2 n$ .

$$T(n) \leq 2^k T(n/2^k) + kcn$$

$$T(1) \leq c$$

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# Iteration Method

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$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &\leq 2^k T(n/2^k) + kcn \\ &= 2^{\log_2 n} T(n/2^{\log_2 n}) + cn \log_2 n \end{aligned}$$

Substitute  $k = \log_2 n$



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$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &\leq 2^k T(n/2^k) + kcn \\ &= 2^{\log_2 n} T(n/2^{\log_2 n}) + cn \log_2 n \\ &= nT(1) + cn \log_2 n \end{aligned}$$

Substitute  $k = \log_2 n$   
Simplify

$$T(1) \leq c$$

$$T(n) \leq 2T(n/2) + cn$$

# Iteration Method

- Apply the relationship until you see a pattern.

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &\leq 2 \cdot T(n/2) + cn \\ &\leq 2 \cdot (2T(n/4) + cn/2) + cn \\ &= 4 \cdot T(n/4) + 2cn \\ &\leq 4 \cdot (2T(n/8) + cn/4) + 2cn \\ &= 8 \cdot T(n/8) + 3cn \\ &\dots \\ &\leq 2^k T(n/2^k) + kcn \end{aligned}$$

- What is k? It's the number of times to divide n by 2 to get 1. So  $k = \log_2 n$ .

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &\leq 2^k T(n/2^k) + kcn \\ &= 2^{\log_2 n} T(n/2^{\log_2 n}) + cn \log_2 n && \text{Substitute } k = \log_2 n \\ &= nT(1) + cn \log_2 n && \text{Simplify} \\ &\leq cn + cn \log_2 n \\ &= \mathbf{O(n \log n)} \end{aligned}$$

# Solving Recurrences

- There are a few different methods to translate a recurrence relation for  $T(n)$  to a closed form expression for  $T(n)$ .
  - **Recursion tree method**  $\Theta(n \log(n))$ .
  - **Iteration method**  $\Theta(n \log(n))$ .
  - Master method
  - Substitution Method

# Solving Recurrences

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**5-min Break**

# Today's Outline

- Divide and Conquer I
  - ~~Proving correctness with induction~~ Done!
  - ~~Proving runtime with recurrence relations~~ Done!
  - Proving the Master method
  - *Problems: Comparison-sorting*
  - *Algorithms: Mergesort*
  - Reading: CLRS 2.3, 4.3-4.6

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  - **Master method**
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# Master Method

- Suppose  $T(n) = a \cdot T(n/b) + O(n^d)$ . The Master method states:

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} O(n^d \log n) & \text{if } a = b^d \\ O(n^d) & \text{if } a < b^d \\ O(n^{\log_b a}) & \text{if } a > b^d \end{cases}$$
$$T(1) \leq c$$
$$T(n) \leq 2T(n/2) + cn$$

where  $a$  is the number of subproblems,

$b$  is the factor by which the input size shrinks, and

$d$  parametrizes the runtime to create the subproblems and merge their solutions.

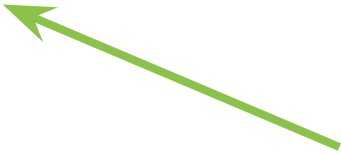


# Master Method

- Suppose  $T(n) = a \cdot T(n/b) + O(n^d)$ . The Master method states:

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$T(1) \leq c$   
 $T(n) \leq 2T(n/2) + cn$   
 $a = 2, b = 2, d = 1$



where  $a$  is the number of subproblems,

$b$  is the factor by which the input size shrinks, and

$d$  parametrizes the runtime to create the subproblems and merge their solutions.

# Master Method

- We can prove the Master Method by writing out a generic proof using a recursion tree.
  - Draw out the tree.
  - Determine the work per level.
  - Sum across all levels.
- The three cases of the Master Method correspond to whether the recurrence is top heavy, balanced, or bottom heavy.

# Solving Recurrences

- There are a few different methods to translate a recurrence relation for  $T(n)$  to a closed form expression for  $T(n)$ .
  - **Recursion tree method**  $\Theta(n \log(n))$ .
  - **Iteration method**  $\Theta(n \log(n))$ .
  - **Master method**  $\Theta(n \log(n))$ .
  - Substitution Method

# Solving Recurrences

- There are a few different methods to translate a recurrence relation for  $T(n)$  to a closed form expression for  $T(n)$ .
  - **Recursion tree method**  $\Theta(n \log(n))$ .
  - **Iteration method**  $\Theta(n \log(n))$ .
  - **Master method**  $\Theta(n \log(n))$ .
  - **Substitution Method** Next time!

# Mergesort

```
def mergesort(A):  
    if len(A) <= 1:  
        return A  
    L = mergesort(A[0:n/2])  
    R = mergesort(A[n/2:n])  
    return merge(L, R)
```

**Worst-case runtime  $\Theta(n \log(n))$**

# Mergesort

```
def mergesort(A):  
    if len(A) <= 1:  
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    L = mergesort(A[0:n/2])  
    R = mergesort(A[n/2:n])  
    return merge(L, R)
```

**Best-case runtime  $\Theta(n \log(n))$**



It's the same as the  
worst-case runtime!

# Today's Outline

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  - ~~Proving correctness with induction~~ **Done!**
  - ~~Proving runtime with recurrence relations~~ **Done!**
  - ~~Proving the Master method~~ **Done!**
  - *Problems: Comparison-sorting*
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