

# **Algorithms and Problem Solving (15B11CI411)**

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## **Module 1: Lecture 3**

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# Recurrences and Running Time

- An equation or inequality that describes a function in terms of its value on smaller inputs.

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

- Recurrences arise when an algorithm contains recursive calls to itself
- What is the actual running time of the algorithm?
- Need to solve the recurrence

# Example Recurrences

- $T(n) = T(n-1) + n$   $O(n^2)$ 
  - Recursive algorithm that loops through the input to eliminate one item
- $T(n) = T(n/2) + c$   $O(\lg n)$ 
  - Recursive algorithm that halves the input in one step
- $T(n) = T(n/2) + n$   $O(n)$ 
  - Recursive algorithm that halves the input but must examine every item in the input
- $T(n) = 2T(n/2) + 1$   $O(n)$ 
  - Recursive algorithm that splits the input into 2 halves and does a constant amount of other work

# Analysis of BINARY-SEARCH

**Alg.:** BINARY-SEARCH (A, first, last, x)

**if** (first > last)

← constant time:  $c_1$

**return FALSE**

mid  $\leftarrow \lfloor (\text{first} + \text{last}) / 2 \rfloor$

← constant time:  $c_2$

**if** x = A[mid]

← constant time:  $c_3$

**return TRUE**

**if** ( x < A[mid] )

BINARY-SEARCH (A, first, mid-1, x)

← same problem of size  $n/2$

**if** ( x > A[mid] )

BINARY-SEARCH (A, mid+1, last, x)

← same problem of size  $n/2$

- $T(n) = c + T(n/2)$

- $T(n)$  – running time for an array of size  $n$

# How to solve Recurrence Relations

- Substitution method
- Iteration method
- Recursion Tree method
- Master method

# Substitution Method

1. Guess the form of the solution.
2. Use mathematical induction to find the constants and show that the solution works.

# Substitution method

## ❖ Guess a solution

- $T(n) = O(g(n))$
- Induction goal: **apply the definition of the asymptotic notation**
  - $T(n) \leq c g(n)$ , for some  $c > 0$  and  $n \geq n_0$
- Induction hypothesis:  $T(k) \leq c g(k)$  for all  $k < n$

## ❖ Prove the induction goal

- Use the **induction hypothesis** to **find some values of the constants  $c$  and  $n_0$**  for which the **induction goal** holds

# Example 1: $T(n) = T(n - 1) + n$

- Guess:  $T(n) = O(n^2)$ 
  - Induction goal:  $T(n) \leq c n^2$ , for some  $c$  and  $n \geq n_0$
  - Induction hypothesis:  $T(n - 1) \leq c(n - 1)^2$  for all  $k < n$
- Proof of induction goal:
$$\begin{aligned}T(n) &= T(n - 1) + n \\&\leq c(n - 1)^2 + n \\&= cn^2 - (2cn - c - n) \\&\leq cn^2 \text{ if: } 2cn - c - n \geq 0 \Rightarrow c \geq n/(2n - 1) \\&\quad \Rightarrow c \geq 1/(2 - 1/n) \\&\quad \Rightarrow n_0 = 1 \text{ and } c \geq 1\end{aligned}$$



Example 2- Show that  $T(n)=2T(\frac{n}{2})+n$  is  $O(n \log n)$  by substitution method

Proof: To prove  $T(n) = O(n \log n)$ , we need to prove that  $T(n) \leq cn \log n$ .  
Assume that it is true for values smaller than  $n$ .

Induction Step: Assume it is true for  $n=\frac{n}{2}$

i.e.,  $T(\frac{n}{2}) \leq 2.c. (\frac{n}{2}) \log (\frac{n}{2})$  is true

Now we have to show that it is true for  $n=n$

i.e.  $T(n) \leq cn \log n$

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &\leq 2.T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right)+n \\ &\leq 2\left(c.\left(\frac{n}{2}\right).\log\left(\frac{n}{2}\right)\right)+n \\ &\leq cn \log\left(\frac{n}{2}\right)+n \leq cn \log n - cn \log 2 + n \\ &\leq cn \log n - cn + n \leq cn \log n \quad \forall c \geq 1 \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $T(n) = O(n \log n)$

# Example 2: Binary Search

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

- *Guess:  $T(n) = O(\log n)$* 
  - Induction goal:  $T(n) \leq d \log n$ , for some  $d$  and  $n \geq n_0$
  - Induction hypothesis:  $T(n/2) \leq d \log(n/2)$
- Proof of induction goal:

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= T(n/2) + c \\ &\leq d \log(n/2) + c \\ &= d \log n - d + c = d \log n - (d - c) \\ &\leq d \log n \quad \text{if: } d - c \geq 0, d \geq c \end{aligned}$$

- *What about  $n_0$*

# The Iteration Method

Steps followed to solve any recurrence using iterating methods are:

- Expand the recurrence
- Express the expansion as a summation by plugging the recurrence back into itself until you see a pattern.
- Evaluate the summation by using the arithmetic or geometric summation formulae

## Example 1:

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} n + T(n-1), & \text{if } n > 1 \\ 1, & \text{if } n \geq 1 \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= n + T(n-1) \\ &= n + (n-1) + T(n-2) \\ &= n + (n-1) + (n-2) + T(n-3) \\ &= \dots \end{aligned}$$

$= n + (n-1) + (n-2) + \dots + T(1)$ ,  $T(1) = 1$ , we can write the above equation as

$$\begin{aligned} &= 1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + (n-1) + n \\ &= n(n+1)/2 = (n^2+n)/2 \leq n^2 \\ &= O(n^2) \end{aligned}$$

Example 2:  $T(n) = c + T(n/2)$

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

$$T(n/4) = c + T(n/8)$$

- $$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= c + T(n/2) \\ &= c + c + T(n/4) \\ &= c + c + c + T(n/8) \end{aligned}$$

Assume  $n = 2^k$

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= c + \underbrace{c + \dots + c}_{k \text{ times}} + T(1) \\ &= c \log n + T(1) \\ &= O(\log n) \end{aligned}$$

### Example 3: $T(n) = n + 2T(n/2)$

$$\begin{aligned}T(n) &= n + 2T(n/2) \\&= n + 2(n/2 + 2T(n/4)) \\&= n + n + 4T(n/4) \\&= n + n + 4(n/4 + 2T(n/8)) \\&= n + n + n + 8T(n/8) \\&\dots = kn + 2^k T(n/2^k) \\&= kn + 2^k T(1) \\&= n \log n + nT(1) = O(n \lg n)\end{aligned}$$

Assume:  $n = 2^k$

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