

# Divide And Conquer

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**Main Focus: Calculating  $k^n$  effectively**

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## Intent:

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To calculate  $k^n$ .

## Naive Algorithm:

The naive algorithm to compute  $k^n$  is: Start with 1 and multiply by  $k$  until reaching  $k^n$ . For this approach, there are  $n - 1$  multiplications and each takes constant time giving a  $O(n)$  algorithm.

Faster approach to compute  $k^n$ .

**Example:**  $9^{24} = (9^{12})^2 = ((9^6)^2)^2 = (((9^3)^2)^2)^2 = (((9^2).9)^2)^2$

When we take squares of numbers, we only need 5 multiplications instead of 23. the algorithm will be:

```
int Exponential(int k, int n){
    if(k==0)
        return 1;
    else{
        if(n%2==1)
            a = Exponential(k,n-1);
            return a*k;
        }
        else{
            a = Exponential(k,n/2);
            return a*a;
        }
    }
}
```

**Time Complexity:**  $T(n) = O(\log n)$ . We can get using Masters Theorem (discussed earlier).

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