

# Basics of Algorithm Analysis

- We measure running time as a function of  $n$ , the size of the input (in bytes assuming a reasonable encoding).
- We work in the RAM model of computation. All “reasonable” operations take “1” unit of time. (e.g. +, \*, -, /, array access, pointer following, writing a value, one byte of I/O...)

## What is the running time of an algorithm

- Best case (seldom used)
- Average case (used if we understand the average)
- Worst case (used most often)

each input  $I$  of size  $n$ , has a  
running time  $f(I)$

$\underline{n}$

$(\overline{5}, 10, 2, 7, 8, 9, 6, 4, 1, 0)$

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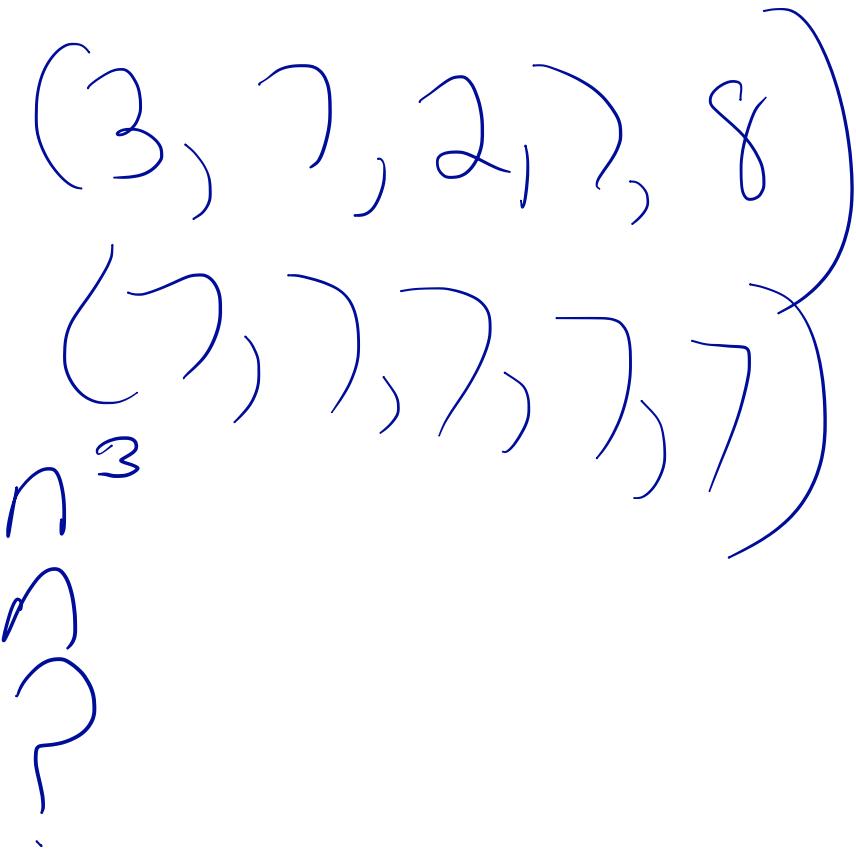
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## Example

```
1 input: A[n]
2 for i = 1 to n
3     if (A[i] == 7)
4         for j = 1 to n
5             for k = 1 to n
6                 Print "hello"
```

- What is the worst case running time?
- What is the best case running time?
- What is the average case running time?



$$\frac{2n^3 + n}{2n^3 + n + 1}$$

## Example

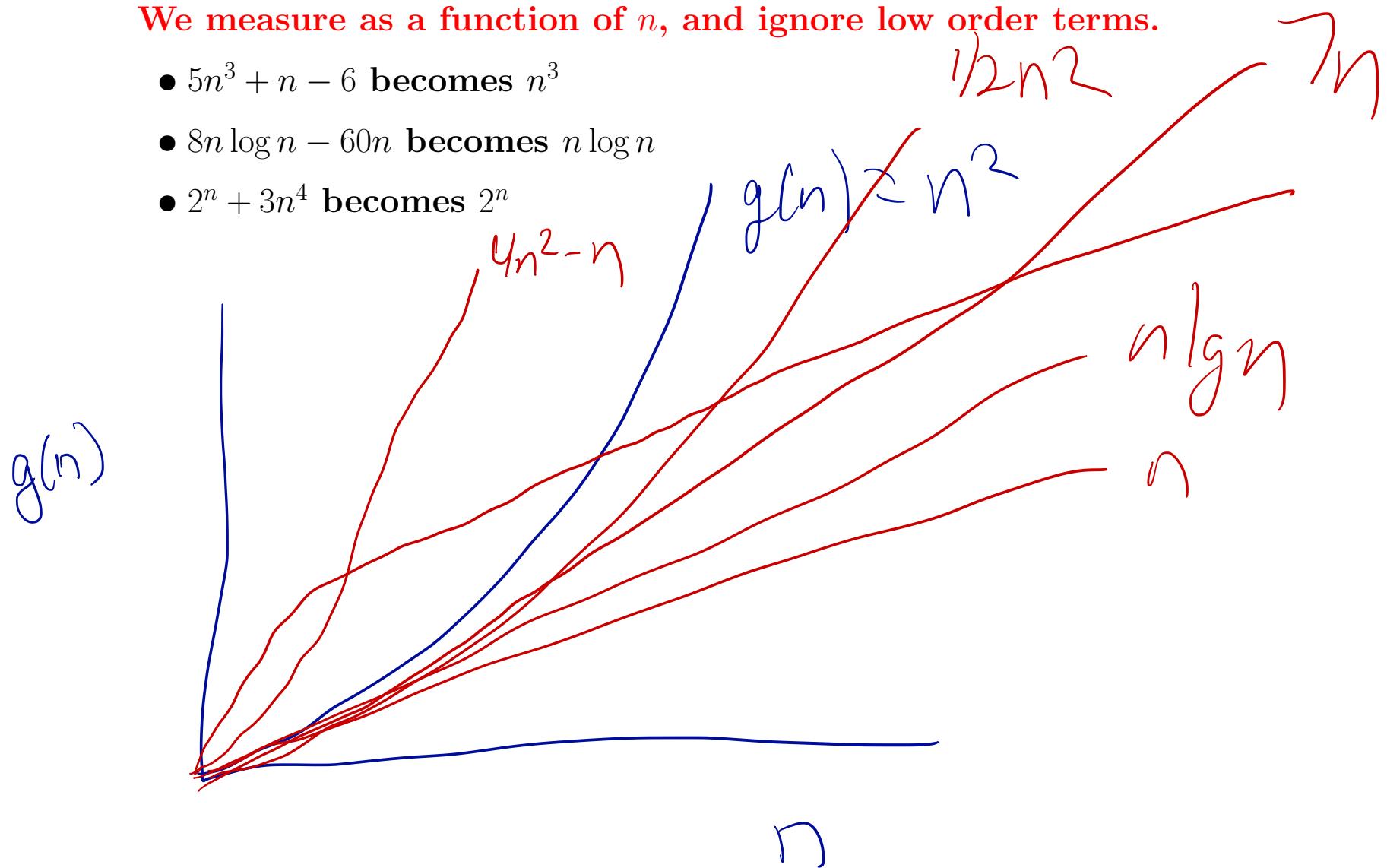
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- What is the worst case running time?  $O(n^3)$
- What is the best case running time?  $O(n)$
- What is the average case running time? What is an average array?

# How do we measure the running time?

We measure as a function of  $n$ , and ignore low order terms.

- $5n^3 + n - 6$  becomes  $n^3$
- $8n \log n - 60n$  becomes  $n \log n$
- $2^n + 3n^4$  becomes  $2^n$



# Asymptotic notation

## big-O

$O(g(n)) = \{f(n) : \text{there exist positive constants } c \text{ and } n_0 \text{ such that } 0 \leq f(n) \leq cg(n) \text{ for all } n \geq n_0\}$ .

Alternatively, we say

$f(n) = O(g(n))$  if there exist positive constants  $c$  and  $n_0$  such that  
 $(f(n) \in O(g(n))) \quad 0 \leq f(n) \leq cg(n) \text{ for all } n \geq n_0\}$

Informally,  $f(n) = O(g(n))$  means that  $f(n)$  is asymptotically less than or equal to  $g(n)$ .

## big- $\Omega$

$\Omega(g(n)) = \{f(n) : \text{there exist positive constants } c \text{ and } n_0 \text{ such that } 0 \leq cg(n) \leq f(n) \text{ for all } n \geq n_0\}$ .

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$f(n) = \Omega(g(n))$  if there exist positive constants  $c$  and  $n_0$  such that  
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Informally,  $f(n) = \Omega(g(n))$  means that  $f(n)$  is asymptotically greater than or equal to  $g(n)$ .

## big- $\Theta$

$f(n) = \Theta(g(n))$  if and only if  $f(n) = O(g(n))$  and  $f(n) = \Omega(g(n))$ .

Informally,  $f(n) = \Theta(g(n))$  means that  $f(n)$  is asymptotically equal to  $g(n)$ .

### **INFORMAL summary**

- $f(n) = O(g(n))$  roughly means  $f(n) \leq g(n)$
- $f(n) = \Omega(g(n))$  roughly means  $f(n) \geq g(n)$
- $f(n) = \Theta(g(n))$  roughly means  $f(n) = g(n)$
- $f(n) = o(g(n))$  roughly means  $f(n) < g(n)$
- $f(n) = w(g(n))$  roughly means  $f(n) > g(n)$

## Big-O proofs

- $3n = O(n^2)$
- $2n + 7 = O(n)$
- $n^{\log n} = O(2^n)$

$$3n \leq cn^2$$

=

$$\forall n \geq n_0$$

=

$$n_0 = )$$

$$3n \leq 3n^2$$

$$\forall n \geq 1$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 1 \leq n$$

$$\forall n \geq 1$$

✓

$$2n+7 \leq cn$$

$$\forall n \geq n_0$$

$$2n+7 \leq 3n$$

$$\forall n \geq 1$$

$$\Leftrightarrow c \geq 2 + \frac{7}{n}$$

$\approx 3$

$$c \geq 3$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \forall n \geq n_0 \\ \forall n \geq n_0 \\ \forall n \geq 1 \end{array}$$

$$7 \leq n$$

$$\forall n \geq 1$$

## Big-O proofs

- $3n = O(n^2)$
- $2n + 7 = O(n)$
- $n^{\log n} = O(2^n)$

$$n^{\lg n} \leq c2^n \quad \forall n \geq n_0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \lg(n^{\lg n}) \leq \lg(c2^n)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \lg^2 n \leq \lg c + \lg 2^n$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \lg^2 n \leq \lg c + n \quad \forall n \geq n_0$$

$$n - \lg^2 n \geq -\lg c$$

$$c = 1$$

$$n - \lg^2 n \geq 0$$

$$\forall n \geq n_0$$

$$\forall n \geq n_0$$

$$\forall n \geq y$$

~~As long~~

## Use of big-O

$$2n + 7 = O(n)$$

$$2n + 7 = O(n^3)$$

$$2n + 7 = O(n^{4.5} \log n)$$

$$2n + 7 = O(2^n)$$

Which of these do we care about?

## Use of big-O

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$$2n + 7 = O(n^3)$$

$$2n + 7 = O(n^{4.5} \log n)$$

$$2n + 7 = O(2^n)$$

$$2n + 7 = O(3n)$$
$$2n + 7 = O(n^3 \log n)$$

Which of these do we care about?

- Given a function  $f(n)$ , we want to know the “smallest”  $g(n)$  such that  $f(n) = O(g(n))$  and  $g(n)$  is “simple”

# Simple Functions

- Given a function  $f(n)$ , we want to know the “smallest”  $g(n)$  such that  $f(n) = O(g(n))$  and  $g(n)$  is “simple”
- Typical simple functions include (but are not limited to)
  - 1
  - $\log \log n$
  - $\log n$
  - $\log^2 n$
  - $n$
  - $n \log n$
  - $n^2$
  - $n^3$
  - $2^n$
  - $n!$
- We use these to **classify** algorithms into classes

See chart for justification

## Polynomial Time

An algorithm runs in **polynomial time** if, on an input of size  $n$ , its running time is  $O(n^k)$  for some constant  $k$ .

$2^n$  is NOT polynomial. Let's try to prove that it is polynomial and see what goes wrong.

$$2^n \leq cn^k$$

Wh~~o~~?

$$n \leq \lg c + k \lg n$$

des.

|

$\frac{1}{n}$

Cannot  
choose  $c$  &  $k$   
to make this  
true

## Proving Omega and Theta

$f(n) = \Omega(g(n))$  if there exist positive constants  $c$  and  $n_0$  such that  
 $0 \leq cg(n) \leq f(n)$  for all  $n \geq n_0\}$ .

$f(n) = \Theta(g(n))$  if and only if  $f(n) = O(g(n))$  and  $f(n) = \Omega(g(n))$ .

$$2n+7 = \Theta(n)$$

$$\textcircled{1} \quad 2n+7 \leq 3n \quad \forall n \geq \underline{\quad}$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad 2n+7 \geq \underline{1} \cdot n \quad \forall n \geq \underline{\quad}$$

## 3 useful formulas

Arithmetic series

$$\sum_{i=1}^n i = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$$

(for  $\omega = 1$  took  
for  $j > 1$  to  $i$ )  
 $\Theta(n^2)$

Geometric series

$$\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} a^i = \frac{1}{1-a} \quad \text{for } 0 < a < 1$$

Harmonic series

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{i} = \ln n + O(1) = \Theta(\ln n)$$

## Arithmetic Series in PseudoCode

```
1  for  $i = 1$  to  $n$ 
2      for  $j = 1$  to  $n$ 
3          Jump up and down
```

**compared to**

```
1  for  $i = 1$  to  $n$ 
2      for  $j = 1$  to  $i$ 
3          Jump up and down
```

## Geometric Series

```
1 for i = 0 to log n  
2   for j = 1 to  $2^i$   
3     Jump up and down
```

$$1 + 2 + 4 + 8 + \dots - n$$

or

```
1 JUMP(n)  
2 if n = 1  
3   Jump up and down once  
4 else  
5   Jump up and down n times  
6   JUMP( $\lfloor n/2 \rfloor$ )
```

$$n + \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \frac{n}{2^i} + \dots + 1 = O(n)$$

$$n \left( 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \dots + \frac{1}{2^{n-1}} \right)$$

$$\leq n \left( 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \dots \right) \leq 2n$$

## A few facts about logs

- $\log_b a = \frac{\log_c a}{\log_c b}$  for any  $c > 1$

- therefore  $\ln n = O(\log n)$

- in general, the base of the logarithm in a big-O statement is not important

$\lg_2 10$

$$\begin{aligned} n + \frac{n}{2} + \frac{n}{3} + \frac{n}{4} + \frac{n}{5} + \dots + 1 &= n \left( 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{5} + \dots + \frac{1}{n} \right) \\ &= O(n \log n) \end{aligned}$$

## Algorithmic Correctness

- Very important, but we won't typically prove correctness from first principles.
- We will use loop invariants
- We will use other problem specific methods

for  $i \in [0, n]$

$$x = x + i$$

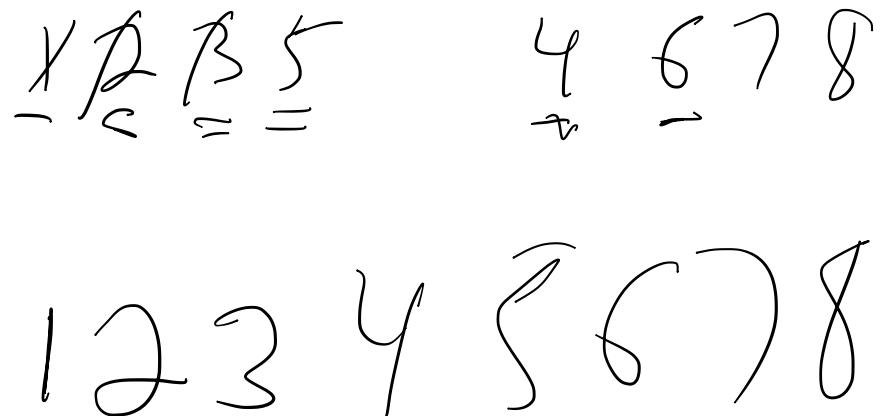
## Divide and Conquer

- Divide a problem into pieces
- Recursively solve the pieces
- Combine the solutions to the subproblems

## MergeSort

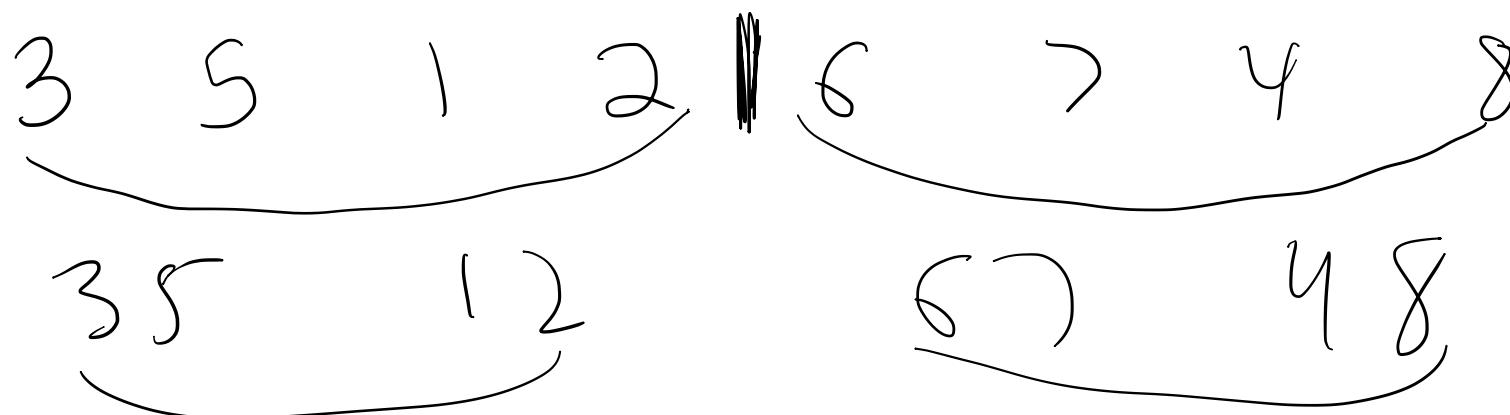
```

1 Merge-Sort( $A, p, r$ )
2 if  $p < r$ 
3    $q = \lfloor (p + r)/2 \rfloor$ 
4   MERGE-SORT( $A, p, q$ )
5   MERGE-SORT( $A, q + 1, r$ )
6   MERGE( $A, p, q, r$ )
    
```



Let  $T(n)$  be the running time of MergeSort on  $n$  items. Merge takes  $O(n)$  time.

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} \Theta(1) & \text{if } n = 1 , \\ 2T(n/2) + \Theta(n) & \text{if } n > 1 . \end{cases}$$



- 3 Recurrence Trees
- of subproblems  
size of subproblem  
non recursive time
1.  $T(n) = 2T(n/2) + n$
  2.  $T(n) = 2T(n/2) + 1$
  3.  $T(n) = 2T(n/2) + n^2$

$$\underline{T(n) = 2T(n/2) + n}$$

i #subproblems

0 1

1 2

2 4  
8

$2^i$

$n \cdot h$   
 $n$

size

$n$

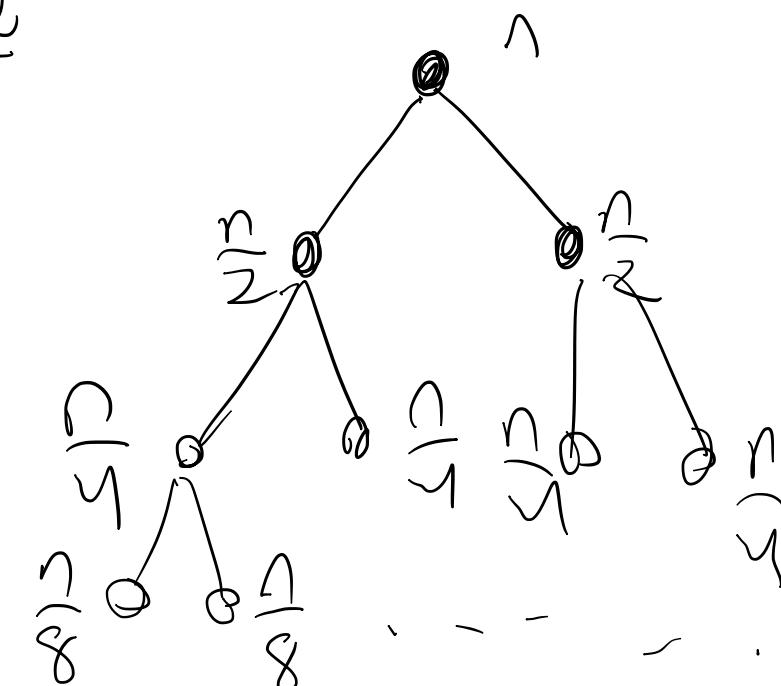
$\frac{n}{2}$

$\frac{n}{4}$   
 $\frac{n}{8}$

$\frac{n}{2^i}$

$2^i$

1



work  
 $n$

$$\frac{n}{2} + \frac{n}{2} = n$$

$$\frac{n}{4} f(4) = n$$

$$2^i \left(\frac{n}{2^i}\right) < n$$

$$n(n) = n$$

$$\frac{n(\lg n + 1)}{n(\lg n + 1)} = O(n \lg n)$$

$$\underline{T(n) = 2T(n/2) + 1}$$

#pfch.  
1

size  
n

2

$\sum^n_2$

4

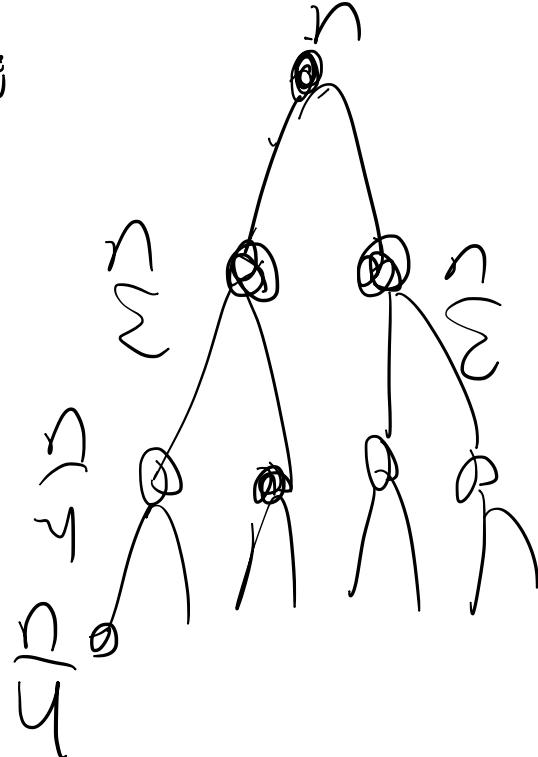
$\sum^4_2$

8

$\sum^8_2$

$2^i$

$\sum^{2^i}_2$



wak  
1

$$2(1) = 2$$

$$4(1) = 4$$

$$2^i(1) = 2^i$$

n

1

$$= n \left( 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{8} + \dots + \frac{1}{2^i} \right) (1 + 2 + 4 + 8 + \dots + n)$$

$$n(1) = n$$

$\sim [O(n)]$

$$\underline{T(n) = 2T(n/2) + n^2}$$

#prob

1

2

4

size

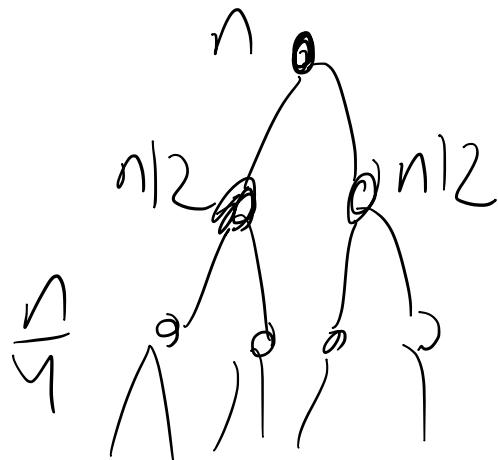
$\frac{1}{2}$

$\frac{1}{4}$

$\frac{1}{8}$

$2^i$

i



work

$n^2$

$$2\left(\frac{n}{2}\right)^2 = \frac{n^2}{2}$$

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

$$8\left(\frac{n}{8}\right)^2 = \frac{n^2}{8}$$

$$2^i \left(\frac{n}{2^i}\right)^2 = \frac{n^2}{2^i}$$

n

1

$$n^2 + \frac{n^2}{2} + \frac{n^2}{4} + \frac{n^2}{8} + \dots + n$$

$$= n^2 \left(1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \dots + \frac{1}{n}\right) < 2n^2 = O(n^2)$$

$$\underbrace{n(1)^2}_{} = n$$

$$T(n) = 2T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + n^{\log_b c}$$

## Master Theorem

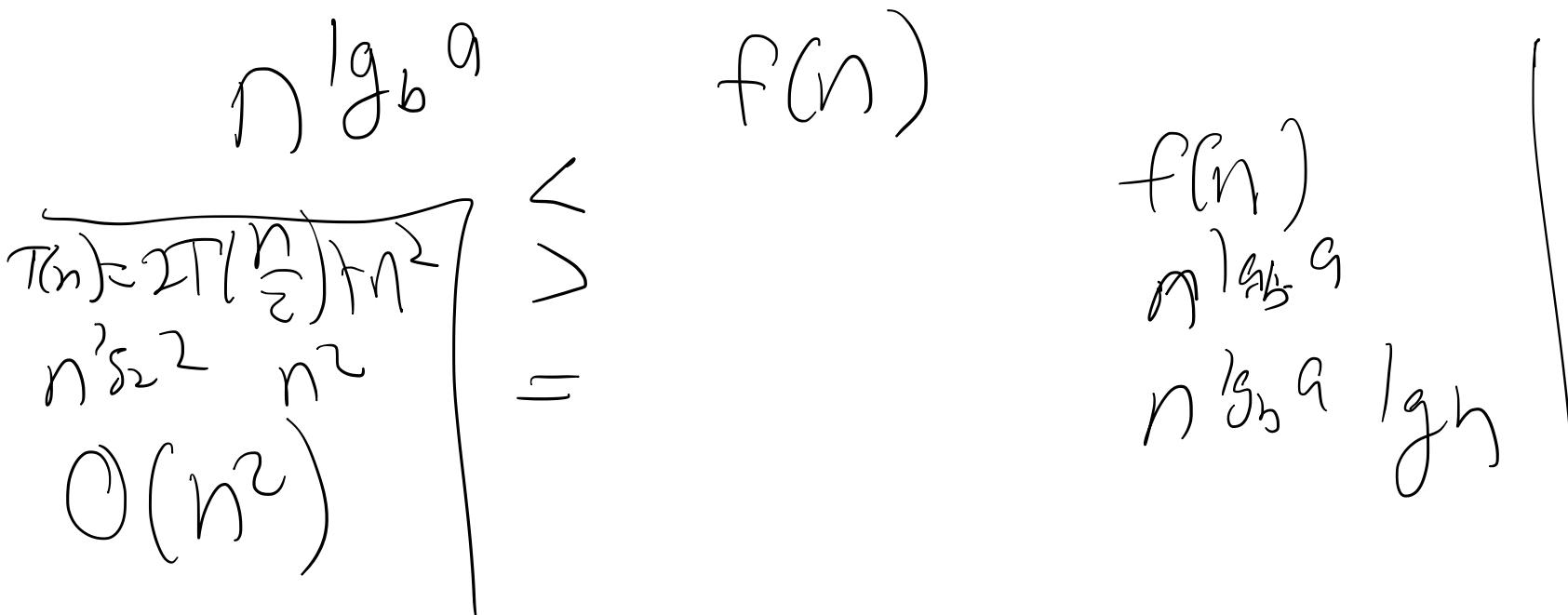
$$T(n) = 2T(n/2) + n^{\log_2 2} \in O(n^{\log_2 2})$$

**Master Theorem for Recurrences** Let  $a \geq 1$  and  $b > 1$  be constants, let  $f(n)$  be a function, and let  $T(n)$  be defined on the non-negative integers by the recurrence

$$T(n) = aT(n/b) + f(n),$$

where we interpret  $n/b$  to mean either  $\lfloor n/b \rfloor$  or  $\lceil n/b \rceil$ . Then  $T(n)$  can be bounded asymptotically as follows.

1. If  $f(n) = O(n^{\log_b a - \epsilon})$  for some constant  $\epsilon > 0$ , then  $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$ .
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3. If  $f(n) = \Omega(n^{\log_b a + \epsilon})$  for some constant  $\epsilon > 0$ , and if  $af(n/b) \leq cf(n)$  for some constant  $c < 1$  and all sufficiently large  $n$ , then  $T(n) = \Theta(f(n))$ .



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$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &\geq 7T\left(\frac{n}{5}\right) + n^{\lg 5} \\ T(n) &\geq 9T\left(\frac{n}{3}\right) + n^2 \\ &n^{\lg 3} \quad n^2 \quad O(n^{\lg 5}) \\ &\quad \quad \quad O(n^2/\lg n) \end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= 2T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + n \lg n \\ n^{\lg b} &= \underline{\underline{n}} \quad f(n) = \underline{\underline{n}} \lg n \\ n &\leq n \lg n \leq n^{1+\epsilon} \end{aligned}$$

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