

# Recurrences

# Recurrence Equation

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} \Theta(1) & \text{if } n \leq c \\ aT(n/b) + D(n) + C(n) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- Technicalities
  1. Ignoring the assumption of integer arguments to function
  2. Ignoring boundary conditions
- Merge-Sort

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} \Theta(1) & \text{if } n = 1 \\ T(\lceil n/2 \rceil) + T(\lfloor n/2 \rfloor) + \Theta(n) & \text{if } n > 1 \end{cases}$$

➤ After Ignoring 1& 2

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

# Solving Recurrences

1. Substitution Method
2. Recursion-tree Method
3. Master Method

# 1. Substitution Method

- Guess the solution
- ✓ Use Mathematical induction to show that the solution works.

Examples:

1.  $T(n) = 2T(\lfloor n/2 \rfloor) + n$

2.  $T(n) = T(\lfloor n/2 \rfloor) + T(\lceil n/2 \rceil) + 1$

## 2. The Recursion-Tree Method

- Each node represents the cost of a single sub-problem
- ✓ Summing the cost within each level of the tree give a per-level costs
- ✓ Summing the pre-level cost gives the total costs of the recurrence.

Examples:

1.  $T(n) = 3T(n/4) + cn^2$

2.  $T(n) = T(n/3) + T(2n/3) + O(n)$

### 3. Master Method

Solve the recurrence of the form:

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

Where:  $a \geq 1$ ,  $b > 1$ ,  $f(n)$  asymptotically +ve function.

1. If  $f(n) = O(n^{\log_b a - \varepsilon})$ ,  $\varepsilon > 0$ , then:  $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$
2. If  $f(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$ , then:  $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \lg n)$
3. If  $f(n) = \Omega(n^{\log_b a + \varepsilon})$ ,  $\varepsilon > 0$ , and if  
 $af(n/b) \leq cf(n)$  for  $c < 1$ , then:  $T(n) = \Theta(f(n))$

## Case 1:

If  $f(n) = O(n^{\log_b a - \varepsilon})$ ,  $\varepsilon > 0$ , then:  $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$

If  $n^{\log_b a} / f(n) = n^\varepsilon$  then:  $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$

If  $n^{\log_b a} > f(n)$  and  $n^{\log_b a} / f(n) \neq n^\varepsilon$   
then:  $T(n) = !!!$



## Case 2:

If  $f(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$  ,then:  $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \lg n)$

If  $n^{\log_b a} = f(n)$  then:  $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \lg n)$

## Case 3:

If  $f(n) = \Omega(n^{\log_b a + \varepsilon})$ ,  $\varepsilon > 0$ , and if  
 $af(n/b) \leq cf(n)$  for  $c < 1$ , then:  $T(n) = \Theta(f(n))$

If  $f(n) / n^{\log_b a} = n^\varepsilon$  and  $af(n/b) \leq cf(n)$   
then:  $T(n) = \Theta(f(n))$

If  $f(n) > n^{\log_b a}$  and  $f(n) / n^{\log_b a} \neq n^\varepsilon$   
then:  $T(n) = !!!$

## Examples:

1.  $T(n) = 9T(n/3) + n$
2.  $T(n) = T(2n/3) + 1$
3.  $T(n) = 4T(n/2) + n^3$
4.  $T(n) = 2T(n/2) + n \lg n$