

1. Applying the Master Theorem [10 points]

For each recurrence relation below, do the following:

- First, indicate whether the master theorem can be used to find a Θ bound on that recurrence relation.
- Next, If the master theorem does apply, then use it to find an asymptotic bound. If the master theorem does not apply, explain why.

Solving Divide and Conquer Recurrences

Master Theorem: Suppose that $T(n) = aT(n/b) + O(n^k)$ for $n > b$.

- If $a < b^k$ then $T(n)$ is $O(n^k)$
 - Cost is dominated by work at top level of recursion
- If $a = b^k$ then $T(n)$ is $O(n^k \log n)$
 - Total cost is the same for all $\log_b n$ levels of recursion
- If $a > b^k$ then $T(n)$ is $O(n^{\log_b a})$
 - Note that $\log_b a > k$ in this case
 - Cost is dominated by total work at lowest level of recursion



a) $T(n) = 5T(\frac{n}{5}) + 5 = 5T(\frac{n}{5}) + 5 \cdot n^0$

i) we can apply the master theorem

ii) $a=5, b=5, k=0$ $b^k = 5^0 = 1$ $5 > 1$ Since $a > b^k$ $T(n)$ is $\Theta(n^{\log_5(5)}) = \Theta(n)$

b) $T(n) = T(\frac{n}{8}) + n^2$

i) we can apply the master theorem

ii) $a=1, b=8, k=2$ $b^k = 8^2 = 64$ $\frac{1}{8} < 64$ Since $a < b^k$ $T(n)$ is $\Theta(n^2)$

c) $T(n) = 2T(\frac{n}{4}) + \sqrt{n} = 2T(\frac{n}{4}) + n^{1/2}$

i) we can apply the master theorem

ii) $a=2, b=4, k=\frac{1}{2}$ $b^k = 4^{1/2} = \sqrt{4} = 2$ $\frac{2}{2} = \frac{2}{2}$ Since $a = b^k$ $T(n)$ is $\Theta(n^{1/2} \log(n))$

d) $T(n) = 5T(\frac{n}{5}) + \log(n)$

i) we cannot apply the master theorem because $\log(n)$ cannot be written in the form n^k for some $k \in \mathbb{R}$.

e) $T(n) = 3T(\frac{2}{3}n) + n^3$

i) we can apply the master theorem

ii) $a=3, b=\frac{1}{2} = \frac{3}{2}, k=3$ $b^k = (\frac{3}{2})^3 = \frac{3^3}{2^3} = \frac{27}{8} = 3.375$ $3 < 3.375$ $a < b^k$

Since $a < b^k$ $T(n)$ is $\Theta(n^3)$