

Part I: Time Complexity, Recurrence Relations

Course: Design and Analysis of Algorithms
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Outline for Part I

- 1 Time Complexity
 - Introduction
 - Asymptotics
 - Efficiency Classes
- 2 Recurrence Relations
 - Introduction
 - Solving Recurrences using Substitution
 - Solving Recurrences using Recurrence Tree
- 3 Master Theorem
 - Introduction
 - Drawbacks
 - Examples



Understanding Algorithms



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Goal of the Course: Given a problem, how to select a class of solutions and data structures best suited for solving the class of problems.

NB: Evidently, it needs a deep understanding of the nature of the problem.



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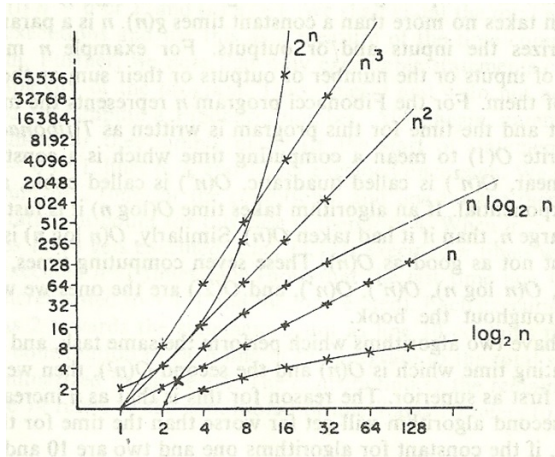
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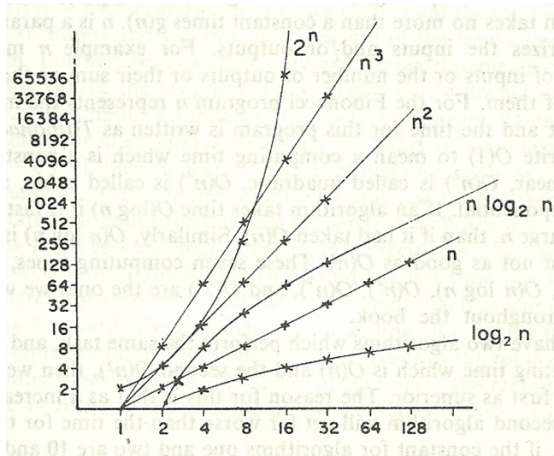
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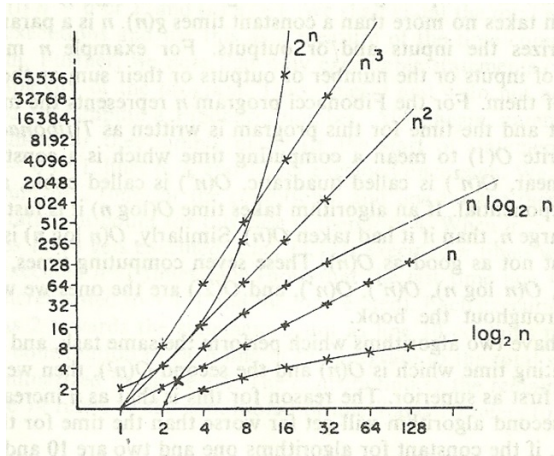
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It is important to understand that the time complexity of an algorithm is dependent on the number of comparisons performed throughout the algorithm.

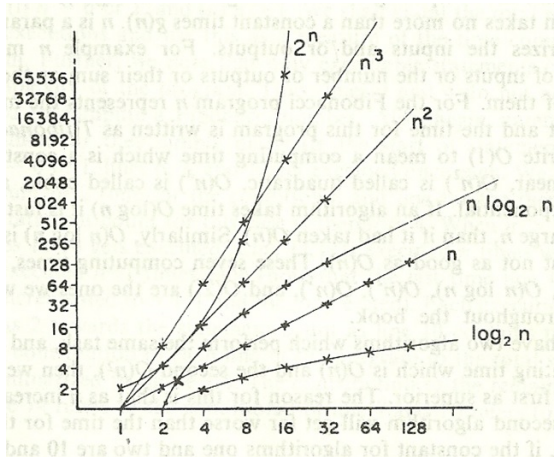




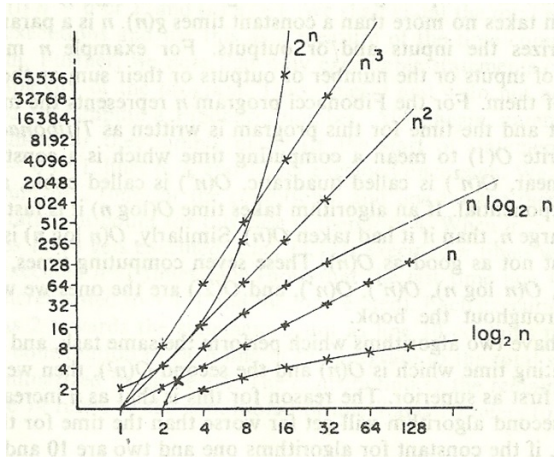
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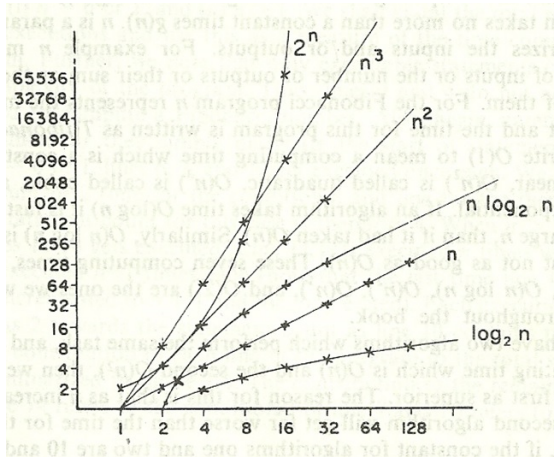
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- However, it suffices to simply measure a cost function's asymptotic behavior.
- Algorithms that have running times n^2 and $2000n^2$ are considered to be asymptotically equivalent.



Definitions

Big-Oh Notation (Asymptotic Upper Bound)

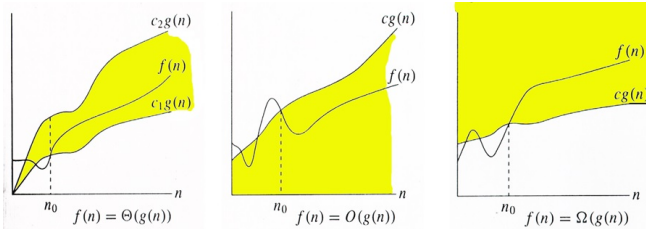
Given two non-negative functions $f(n)$ and $g(n)$ there exists an integer n_0 and a constant $c > 0$, such that \forall integers $n \geq n_0$, $f(n) \leq cg(n)$, then $f(n) \in O(g(n))$.

Big-Omega Notation (Asymptotic Lower Bound)

Given two non-negative functions $f(n)$ and $g(n)$ there exists an integer n_0 and a constant $c > 0$, such that \forall integers $n \geq n_0$, $f(n) \geq cg(n)$, then $f(n) \in \Omega(g(n))$.

Big-Theta Notation (Asymptotic Equivalence)

Given two non-negative functions $f(n)$ and $g(n)$ there exists an integer n_0 and a constant $c_1, c_2 > 0$, such that \forall integers $n \geq n_0$, $c_1g(n) \leq f(n) \leq c_2g(n)$, then $f(n) \in \Theta(g(n))$.



Little-Oh Notation (Loosely bounds from top)

Given two non-negative functions $f(n)$ and $g(n)$ there exists an integer n_0 for every positive constant c , such that \forall integers $n \geq n_0$, $f(n) \leq cg(n)$, then $f(n) \in o(g(n))$.

Little-Omega Notation (Loosely bounds from bottom)

Given two non-negative functions $f(n)$ and $g(n)$ there exists an integer n_0 for every positive constant c , such that \forall integers $n \geq n_0$, $f(n) \geq cg(n)$, then $f(n) \in \omega(g(n))$.



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Categorizing Algorithms with Examples

- **Constant time** - $O(1)$: Accessing elements of an array (independent on input size).
- **Double logarithmic time** - $O(\log_2 \log_2 n)$: Searching in a dictionary (eg. interpolation search).
- **Logarithmic time** - $O(\log_2 n)$: Loops with iterative halving (eg. Binary search).
- **Linear time** - $O(n)$: Searching a number sequentially from a list (dependent linearly on the size of the input sequence).



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- **Factorial time** – $O(n!)$: Generating all unrestricted permutations.



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A *recursive algorithm* is one in which objects are defined in terms of other objects of the same type.

Advantages:

- Simplicity of code
- Easy to understand

Drawbacks:

- Memory
- Speed
- Possibly redundant work

Tail recursion offers a solution to the memory problem, but really, do we need recursion?

Algorithm 1: POWER(x , n)

Input : Base x , Exponent n **Output:** Power of x raised to n

begin **if** $n == 0$ **then**

return 1;

else return $x * \text{POWER}(x, n-1)$

- The pseudo-code simulates a subroutine that generates power of x raised to n .
- How many times will it call itself?
- Time complexity of recursive algorithms will depend on how many times the recursive function is called.



Forming and Solving Recurrence Relations

$$T(0) = c_1, T(n) = T(n-1) + c_2$$

If we knew $T(n-1)$, we could find $T(n)$

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= T(n-1) + c_2 & T(n-1) &= T(n-2) + c_2 \\ &= T(n-2) + c_2 + c_2 \\ &= T(n-2) + 2c_2 & T(n-2) &= T(n-3) + c_2 \\ &= T(n-3) + c_2 + 2c_2 \\ &= T(n-3) + 3c_2 & T(n-2) &= T(n-3) + c_2 \\ &= T(n-4) + c_2 + 3c_2 \\ &= T(n-4) + 4c_2 \\ &= \dots \\ &= T(n-k) + kc_2 \end{aligned}$$



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If we set $k = n$, we have -

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= T(n-n) + nc_2 \\ &= T(0) + nc_2 \\ &= c_1 + nc_2 \\ &\in \Theta(n) \end{aligned}$$

Is there a better solution (in terms of efficiency)?



Alternative Solution - Is it better?

Algorithm 2: POWER(x , n)

Input : Base x , Exponent n **Output:** Power of x raised to n

begin **if** $n == 0$ **then** return 1 **if** $n == 1$ **then** return x **if** $(n \% 2) == 0$ **then** return POWER(x , $\frac{n}{2}$) * POWER(x , $\frac{n}{2}$) **else** return POWER(x , $\frac{n}{2}$) * POWER(x , $\frac{n}{2}$) * x

The recurrence relation would look something like this,

$$T(0) = c_1$$

$$T(1) = c_2$$

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + c_3 \\ &= 2T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + c_3 \end{aligned}$$



Solving Recurrence Relation : Modified Solution

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Solving Recurrence Relation : Modified Solution

$$\begin{aligned}T(n) &= 2T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + c_3 & T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) &= 2T\left(\frac{n}{4}\right) + c_3 \\&= 2\left(2T\left(\frac{n}{4}\right) + c_3\right) + c_3 \\&= 4T\left(\frac{n}{4}\right) + 3c_3 & T\left(\frac{n}{4}\right) &= 2T\left(\frac{n}{8}\right) + c_3 \\&= 4\left(2T\left(\frac{n}{8}\right) + c_3\right) + c_3 \\&= 8T\left(\frac{n}{8}\right) + 7c_3 & T\left(\frac{n}{8}\right) &= 2T\left(\frac{n}{16}\right) + c_3 \\&= 8\left(2T\left(\frac{n}{16}\right) + c_3\right) + 7c_3 \\&= 16T\left(\frac{n}{16}\right) + 15c_3 \\&= \dots \\&= 2^k T\left(\frac{n}{2^k}\right) + (2^k - 1)c_3\end{aligned}$$



Solving Recurrence Relation : Modified Solution (contd.)

$$T(0) = c_1$$

$$T(1) = c_2$$

$$T(n) = 2^k T\left(\frac{n}{2^k}\right) + (2^k - 1)c_3$$

Pick a value for k , such that $\frac{n}{2^k} = 1$

$$\frac{n}{2^k} = 1$$

$$n = 2^k$$

$$k = \log n$$

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= 2^{\log n} T\left(\frac{n}{2^{\log n}}\right) + (2^{\log n} - 1)c_3 \\ &= nT\left(\frac{n}{n}\right) + (n - 1)c_3 = nT(1) + (n - 1)c_3 \\ &= nc_2 + (n - 1)c_3 \in \Theta(n) \end{aligned}$$



Another Alternative Solution - How about this one?

Algorithm 3: POWER(x, n)

Input : Base x , Exponent n

Output: Power of x raised to n

begin

if $n == 0$ **then** return 1

if $n == 1$ **then** return x

if $(n \% 2) == 0$ **then**

 return POWER($x * x, \frac{n}{2}$)

else

 return POWER($x * x, \frac{n}{2}$) * x

The recurrence relation would look something like this,

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Solving Recurrence Relation : Another Modified Solution

$$\begin{aligned}T(n) &= T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + c_3 & T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) &= T\left(\frac{n}{4}\right) + c_3 \\&= \left(T\left(\frac{n}{4}\right) + c_3\right) + c_3 \\&= T\left(\frac{n}{4}\right) + 2c_3 & T\left(\frac{n}{4}\right) &= T\left(\frac{n}{8}\right) + c_3 \\&= \left(T\left(\frac{n}{8}\right) + c_3\right) + 2c_3 \\&= T\left(\frac{n}{8}\right) + 3c_3 & T\left(\frac{n}{8}\right) &= T\left(\frac{n}{16}\right) + c_3 \\&= \left(T\left(\frac{n}{16}\right) + c_3\right) + 3c_3 \\&= T\left(\frac{n}{16}\right) + 4c_3 \\&= \dots \\&= T\left(\frac{n}{2^k}\right) + kc_3\end{aligned}$$



Solving Recurrence Relation : Another Modified Solution (contd.)

$$T(0) = c_1$$

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Pick a value for k , such that $\frac{n}{2^k} = 1$

$$\frac{n}{2^k} = 1$$

$$n = 2^k$$

$$k = \log n$$

$$T(n) = T\left(\frac{n}{2^{\log n}}\right) + \log n c_3$$

$$= T(1) + \log n c_3$$

$$\in \Theta(\log n)$$

More generally, recurrences can have the following forms,

$$T(n) = \alpha T(n - \beta) + f(n), T(\delta) = c$$

or

$$T(n) = \alpha T\left(\frac{n}{\beta}\right) + f(n), T(\delta) = c$$

The initial conditions are defined by $T(\delta)$.

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Recurrence relations may consist of two parts: recursive and non-recursive.

$$T(n) = \underbrace{2T(n-2)}_{\text{recursive}} + \underbrace{n^2 - 10}_{\text{non-recursive}}$$

Recursive terms come from when an algorithm calls itself.

Non-recursive terms correspond to the *non-recursive* cost of the algorithm — work the algorithm performs *within* a function.



Forward Substitution Method

The forward substitution method for solving recurrences consists of two steps:

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

The inductive hypothesis is applied to smaller values, similar like recursive calls bring us closer to the base case.

The substitution method is powerful to establish lower or upper bounds on a recurrence.



Example 1

The recurrence relation for the cost of a divide-and-conquer method is,

$$T(n) = 2T\left(\left\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \right\rfloor\right) + n$$

Our induction hypothesis is $T(n)$ is $O(n \log_2(n))$ or $T(n) \leq cn \log_2(n)$ for some constant c , independent of n .

Assume the hypothesis holds for all $m \leq n$ and substitute:

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &\leq 2\left(c \left\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \right\rfloor \log_2\left(\left\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \right\rfloor\right)\right) + n \\ &\leq cn \log_2\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + n \\ &= cn \log_2(n) - cn \log_2(2) + n \\ &= cn \log_2(n) - cn + n \\ &\leq cn \log_2(n) \quad (\text{as long as } c \geq 1) \end{aligned}$$



Boundary Conditions

We should also show that the base case holds.

Assuming $T(1) = 1$, we would like to show,

$$T(1) \leq c.1.\log_2(1) = c.0 = 0 \quad (\text{which is impossible when } T(1) > 0)$$

which is impossible when $T(1) > 0$.

We only want to show that $T(n) \leq cn\log_2(n)$ for sufficiently large values of n ; i.e. $\forall n \geq n_0$. (We can try $n_0 > 1$).



The base case

$$T(n) = 2T\left(\left\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \right\rfloor\right) + n$$

We have,

$$T(1) = 1 \Rightarrow \begin{cases} T(2) = 4 \\ T(3) = 5 \end{cases}$$

We want to satisfy simultaneously,

$$\begin{cases} 4 = T(2) \leq c \cdot 2 \cdot \log_2(2) \\ 5 = T(3) \leq c \cdot 3 \cdot \log_2(3) \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} c \geq 2 \\ c \geq \frac{5}{3 \log_2(3)} \approx 1.052 \end{cases} \Rightarrow c \geq 2$$

We have to check both $T(2)$ and $T(3)$ simultaneously because of the nature of the recursive equation.



Lower bound

We want to show $T(n) \geq cn \log_2(n)$. Assume that n is a power of 2. We have,

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &\geq 2 \left(c \left\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \right\rfloor \log_2 \left(\left\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \right\rfloor \right) \right) + n \\ &= cn \log_2 \left(\frac{n}{2} \right) + n \\ &= cn \log_2(n) - cn \log_2(2) + n \\ &= cn \log_2(n) - cn + n \\ &\geq cn \log_2(n) \quad (\text{as long as } c \leq 1) \end{aligned}$$

We also want to satisfy the boundary condition ($T(2) = 4$).

$$T(2) \geq c \cdot 2 \cdot \log_2(2) = 2 \cdot c$$

In other words, it is enough if $c \leq 2$. By the requirement $c \leq 1$ for the induction step, we choose $c = 1$.



Lower bound

We will prove that $T(n)$ is strictly increasing.

For the base case, note that $T(1) = 1 < 4 = T(2)$

Assuming that for all $k \leq n$ it holds $T(k) > T(k - 1)$, we want to show that $T(n + 1) > T(n)$. We distinguish cases for $n + 1$.

$(n + 1)$ is odd

Say, $n + 1 = 2m + 1$. Then, it holds

$$\begin{aligned} T(2m + 1) &= 2T\left(\left\lfloor \frac{2m + 1}{2} \right\rfloor\right) + 2m + 1 \\ &= 2T(m) + 2m + 1 \\ &= T(2m) + 1 \\ &> T(2m) \end{aligned}$$



Lower bound

$(n + 1)$ is even

Say, $n + 1 = 2m$. Then, it holds

$$\begin{aligned}T(2m) &= 2T\left(\left\lfloor \frac{2m}{2} \right\rfloor\right) + 2m \\&= 2T(m) + 2m \\&> 2T(m - 1) + 2m \\&= 2T\left(\left\lfloor \frac{2m - 1}{2} \right\rfloor\right) + (2m - 1) + 1 \\&= T(2m - 1) + 1 \\&> T(2m - 1)\end{aligned}$$

Note that the induction hypothesis is used only when $(n + 1)$ is even.



Loose bound

Consider the recurrence

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

Our guess is $O(n)$, so we try to show $T(n) \leq cn$.

$$T(n) \leq c\lfloor n/2 \rfloor + c\lceil n/2 \rceil + 1 = cn + 1$$

which **does not** imply that $T(n) \leq cn$, for any c . We need to show the exact form.

Ideas to overcome the hurdle:

- ❶ Revise our guess; say $T(n) = O(n^2)$.
 - However, our original guess was correct.
- ❷ Sometimes it is easier to prove something stronger.



A stronger bound

We will attempt to show $T(n) = cn - b$, where b is another constant.

We have,

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= \left(c \left\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \right\rfloor - b\right) + \left(c \left\lceil \frac{n}{2} \right\rceil - b\right) + 1 \\ &= cn - 2b + 1 \\ &\leq cn - b \quad (\text{for } b \geq 1) \end{aligned}$$

We still have to specify c .

Assume that $T(1) = 1$. We want $T(1) = 1 \leq c \cdot 1 - b$

Hence, it is enough to set $c = 2$ and $b = 1$.

Consider the recurrence,

$$T(n) = 2T(\sqrt{n}) + \log_2(n)$$

Replace, $m = \log_2(n)$. We have,

$$T(2m) = 2T\left(2\frac{m}{2}\right) + m$$

Define $S(m) = T(2m)$. We get,

$$S(m) = 2S\left(\frac{m}{2}\right) + m$$

Hence, the solution is $O(m\log_2(m))$, or with substitution $O(\log_2(n)\log_2(\log_2(n)))$



How to use recurrence trees

Recurrence trees are considered as a useful tool to solve recurrence relations.

Recurrence trees can help solving a recurrence relation in following steps,

- 1 Expanding the recurrence relation into a tree.
- 2 Determining of the height of the tree.
- 3 Summing the cost at each level.
- 4 Accumulate cost from each level of the tree over all the levels (i.e., the height of the tree).



Problem 1:

Consider the recurrence relation,

$$T(n) = 3T\left(\frac{n}{4}\right) + cn^2$$

We assume, c is a constant and n is an exact power of 4.

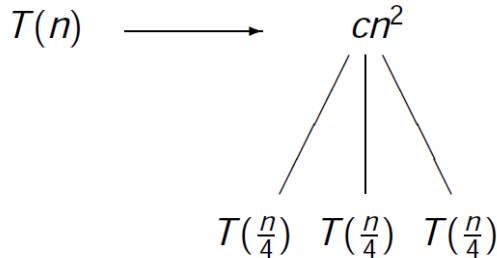


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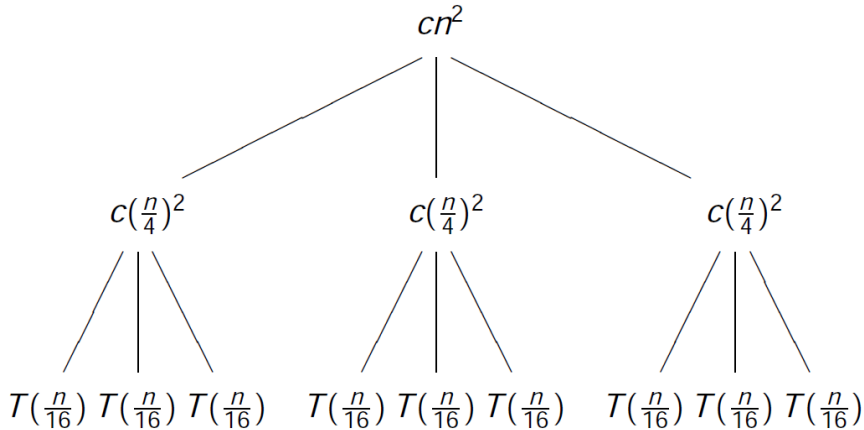
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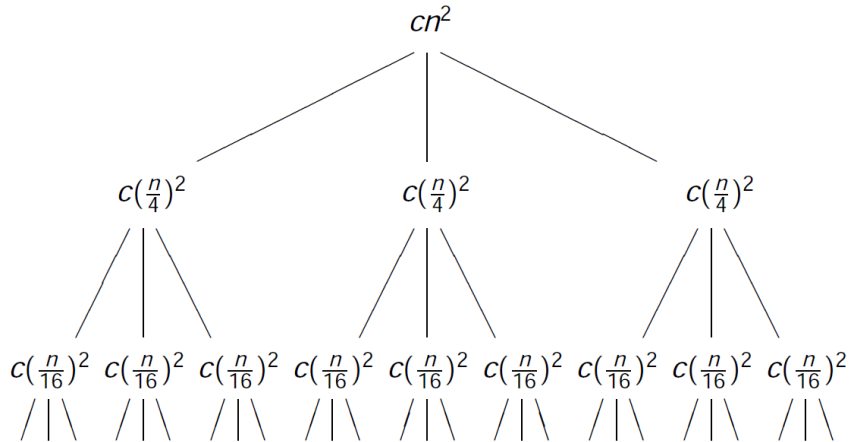


Problem 1: $T(n) = 3T\left(\frac{n}{4}\right) + cn^2$



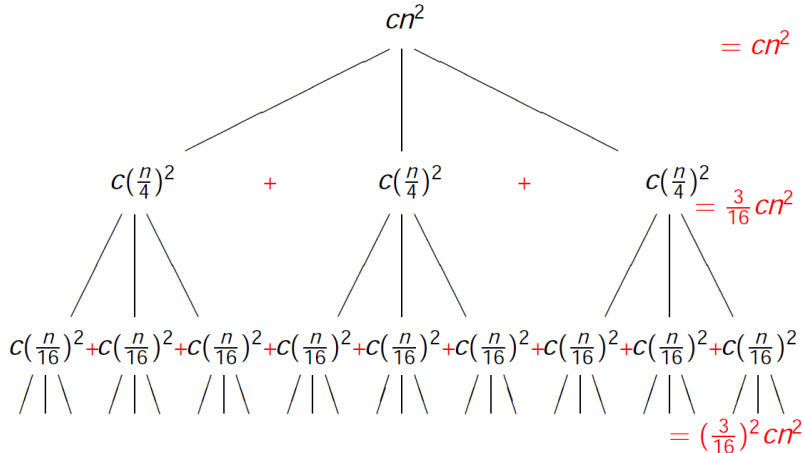


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Problem 1: $T(n) = 3T\left(\frac{n}{4}\right) + cn^2$

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= cn^2 + \left(\frac{3}{16}\right)cn^2 + \left(\frac{3}{16}\right)^2 cn^2 + \dots \\ &= cn^2 \left(1 + \frac{3}{16} + \left(\frac{3}{16}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{3}{16}\right)^3 + \dots\right) \end{aligned}$$



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If $n \geq 16$, i.e., 4^2 , the height of the tree is at least 2.



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For $n = 4^k$, $k = \log_4(n)$, we have,

$$T(n) = cn^2 \sum_{i=0}^{\log_4(n)} \left(\frac{3}{16}\right)^i$$



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For $n = 4^k$, $k = \log_4(n)$, we have,

$$T(n) = cn^2 \sum_{i=0}^{\log_4(n)} \left(\frac{3}{16}\right)^i$$

To remove $\log_4(n)$ factor, for some constant d , we consider,

$$T(n) \leq cn^2 \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{3}{16}\right)^i = cn^2 \frac{-1}{\frac{3}{16} - 1} \leq dn^2$$



Problem 1: $T(n) = 3T\left(\frac{n}{4}\right) + cn^2$

We verify $T(n) \leq dn^2$ by applying substitution method,

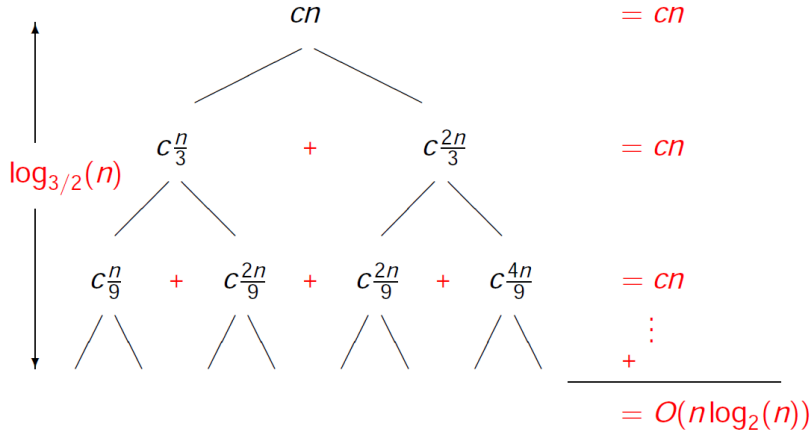
$$\begin{aligned}T(n) &= 3T\left(\frac{n}{4}\right) + cn^2 \\&\leq 3d\left(\frac{n}{4}\right)^2 + cn^2 \\&= \left(\frac{3}{16}d + c\right)n^2 \\&= \frac{3}{16}\left(d + \frac{16}{3}c\right)n^2 \\&\leq \frac{3}{16}(2d)n^2, \text{ if } d \geq \frac{16}{3}c \\&\leq dn^2\end{aligned}$$



$$\text{Problem 2: } T(n) = T\left(\frac{n}{3}\right) + T\left(\frac{2n}{3}\right) + cn$$



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Verification by substitution method,

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &\leq T\left(\frac{n}{3}\right) + T\left(\frac{2n}{3}\right) + cn \\ &\leq d\left(\frac{n}{3}\right)\log\left(\frac{n}{3}\right) + d\left(\frac{2n}{3}\right)\log\left(\frac{2n}{3}\right) + cn \\ &= dn\log n - d\left(\left(\frac{n}{3}\right)\log(3) + d\left(\frac{2n}{3}\right)\log\left(\frac{3}{2}\right)\right) + cn \\ &= dn\log n - dn\left(\log(3) - \frac{2}{3}\right) + cn \\ &\leq dn\log n \end{aligned}$$

We assume, $d \geq \frac{c}{\log(3) - \frac{2}{3}}$



Outline for Part III

- 1 Time Complexity
 - Introduction
 - Asymptotics
 - Efficiency Classes
- 2 Recurrence Relations
 - Introduction
 - Solving Recurrences using Substitution
 - Solving Recurrences using Recurrence Tree
- 3 Master Theorem
 - Introduction
 - Drawbacks
 - Examples



Solving Recurrences using Master Theorem

When analyzing algorithms, recall that we only care about the *asymptotic behavior*.



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Recursive algorithms are no different. Rather than *solve* exactly the recurrence relation associated with the cost of an algorithm, it is enough to give an asymptotic characterization.



Solving Recurrences using Master Theorem

When analyzing algorithms, recall that we only care about the *asymptotic behavior*.

Recursive algorithms are no different. Rather than *solve* exactly the recurrence relation associated with the cost of an algorithm, it is enough to give an asymptotic characterization.

The main tool for doing this is the *master theorem*.



Master Theorem

Theorem

Let $T(n)$ be a monotonically increasing function that satisfies

$$T(n) = aT\left(\frac{n}{b}\right) + f(n)$$

$$T(1) = c$$

where $a \geq 1$, $b \geq 2$, $c > 0$. If $f(n) \in \Theta(n^d)$ where $d \geq 0$, then

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} \Theta(n^d) & \text{if } a < b^d \\ \Theta(n^d \log n) & \text{if } a = b^d \\ \Theta(n^{\log_b a}) & \text{if } a > b^d \end{cases}$$

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Master Theorem cannot be used if,

- $T(n)$ is not a monotone, ex: $T(n) = \sin(n)$
- $f(n)$ is not a polynomial, ex: $T(n) = 2T(\frac{n}{2}) + n^n$
- b cannot be expressed as a constant, ex: $T(n) = T(\sqrt{n})$



Fourth Condition

Recall that we cannot use the Master Theorem if $f(n)$ (the non-recursive cost) is not polynomial.

There is a limited 4-th condition of the Master Theorem that allows us to consider polylogarithmic functions.

Corollary

If $f(n) \in \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \log^k n)$ for some $k \geq 0$ then

$$T(n) \in \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \log^{k+1} n)$$

This final condition is fairly limited and is presented merely for completeness.



Problem 1:

Let $T(n) = T(\frac{n}{2}) + \frac{1}{2}n^2 + n$.

What are the parameters a , b , c ? Therefore, which conditions should be applied?

$a =$



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$$a = 1$$

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Since, $1 < 2^2$, case 1 ($a < b^d$) applies.



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Thus we conclude that

$$T(n) \in \Theta(n^d) = \Theta(n^2)$$



Problem 2:

Let $T(n) = 2T(\frac{n}{4}) + \sqrt{n} + 42$.

What are the parameters a , b , c ? Therefore, which conditions should be applied?

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Let $T(n) = 2T(\frac{n}{4}) + \sqrt{n} + 42$.

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$$a = 2$$

$$b = 4$$

$$d =$$



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$$d = \frac{1}{2}$$

Since, 2 equals to $4^{\frac{1}{2}}$, case 2 ($a = b^d$) applies.



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Thus we conclude that

$$T(n) \in \Theta(n^d \log n) = \Theta(\sqrt{n} \log n)$$



Problem 3:

Let $T(n) = 3T(\frac{n}{2}) + \frac{3}{4}n + 1$.

What are the parameters a , b , c ? Therefore, which conditions should be applied?

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Problem 3:

Let $T(n) = 3T(\frac{n}{2}) + \frac{3}{4}n + 1$.

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Since, $3 > 2^1$, case 3 ($a > b^d$) applies.



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Thus we conclude that

$$T(n) \in \Theta(n^{\log_b a}) = \Theta(n^{\log_2 3}) = \Theta(n^{1.5849})$$



Problem 4:

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

What are the parameters a , b , c ? Therefore, which conditions should be applied?

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$$d = 2$$

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Problem 6:

Let $T(n) = T(\frac{n}{2}) + 2^n$.

What are the parameters a , b , c ? Therefore, which conditions should be applied?

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Problem 6:

Let $T(n) = T(\frac{n}{2}) + 2^n$.

What are the parameters a , b , c ? Therefore, which conditions should be applied?

$a = 1$, $b =$



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Let $T(n) = T(\frac{n}{2}) + 2^n$.

What are the parameters a , b , c ? Therefore, which conditions should be applied?

$a = 1$, $b = 2$, $d =$



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Let $T(n) = T(\frac{n}{2}) + 2^n$.

What are the parameters a , b , c ? Therefore, which conditions should be applied?

$a = 1$, $b = 2$, $d = ?$

Here, we can apply, modified version of case 1.

- ① There is an $\epsilon > 0$, for which $f(n) = \Omega(n^{\log_b a + \epsilon})$, and
- ② There is a $c < 1$ such that $af(n/b) \leq cf(n)$ for all n sufficiently large, then

$$T(n) \in \Theta(n^d)$$



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Let $T(n) = T(\frac{n}{2}) + 2^n$.

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- ② There is a $c < 1$ such that $af(n/b) \leq cf(n)$ for all n sufficiently large, then

$$T(n) \in \Theta(n^d)$$

We can show that, $f(n) \in \Omega(n^2)$

For $c=0.5$, we can prove $af(n/b) \leq cf(n)$, therefore,

$$T(n) \in \Theta(2^n)$$



Example: Fourth Condition

Say that we have the following recurrence relation:

$$T(n) = 2T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + n \log n$$



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Clearly, $a = 2$, $b = 2$ but $f(n)$ is not a polynomial. However,

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Clearly, $a = 2$, $b = 2$ but $f(n)$ is not a polynomial. However,

$$f(n) \in \Theta(n \log n)$$

for $k = 1$, therefore, by the 4-th case of the Master Theorem we can say that

$$T(n) \in \Theta(n \log^2 n)$$