



A tighter upper bound!

IDEA: Strengthen the inductive hypothesis.

- *Subtract* a low-order term.

Inductive hypothesis: $T(k) \leq c_1 k^2 - c_2 k$ for $k < n$.

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= 4T(n/2) + n \\ &= 4(c_1(n/2)^2 - c_2(n/2)) + n \\ &= c_1 n^2 - 2c_2 n + n \\ &= c_1 n^2 - c_2 n - (c_2 n - n) \\ &\leq c_1 n^2 - c_2 n \quad \text{if } c_2 \geq 1. \end{aligned}$$