



**BITS Pilani**  
Hyderabad Campus

# Data Structures and Algorithms Design (SEZG519/SSZG519)

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# **S2 Characterizing Time Complexity, Asymptotic Notation, Recurrence Relation, Master Theorem**

# Content of S2



1. Characterizing Time Complexity
  1. Use of Asymptotic Notation
  2. Big-Oh, Big-Omega, Theta Notations
2. Analyzing Recursive Algorithm
  1. Recurrence Relation
  2. Runtime of Recursive Algorithm
  3. Master Theorem

# Analyzing Algorithm



- Used to mean the prediction of resource consumption
- But, what is the resource?

# Analyzing Algorithm



→ Used to mean the prediction of resource consumption  
→ But, what is the resource?

**Primarily** i) memory, ii) communication bandwidth, iii)  
computer hardware

But, most often we are interested in **computational time**

Which computer should be taken as a base case or  
standard?

**Random Access Machine (RAM)** model of a computer

# Random Access Machine Model



Instructions in RAM that takes one unit of time

- 1) Arithmetic: Add, Sub, Mul, Div, Rem, Floor, Ceil
- 2) Data movement: Load, Store, Copy
- 3) Control: Subroutine call, Return, Conditional and Unconditional Branch

Data Types in RAM (fixed size, like 8 bit or 16 bit or 32 bit)

- 1) Integer
- 2) Float

# RAM model: What is not an instruction?

- 1) “Sort” – even if in some computer sort can be done in one struction
- 2) “exponentiation” –  $x^y$ 
  - there may be many algorithms to compute  $x^y$ , but it is not a single instruction if  $y$  is a variable or a large integer
  - But,  $x^k$  is a single instruction, where  $k$  is a constant and very small

# RAM model: memory hierarchy



We do not consider any complex memory hierarchy, like having cache or virtual memory.



# RAM model: memory hierarchy



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## Simplicity of RAM model

- Though simple, but an excellent predictor of performance on actual computer
- Though simple, exact prediction can be challenging
- Often, it would require tools like combinatorics, probability theory, algebraic dexterity and the ability to identify the most significant terms in a formula

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### 2. Runtime of Recursive Algorithm

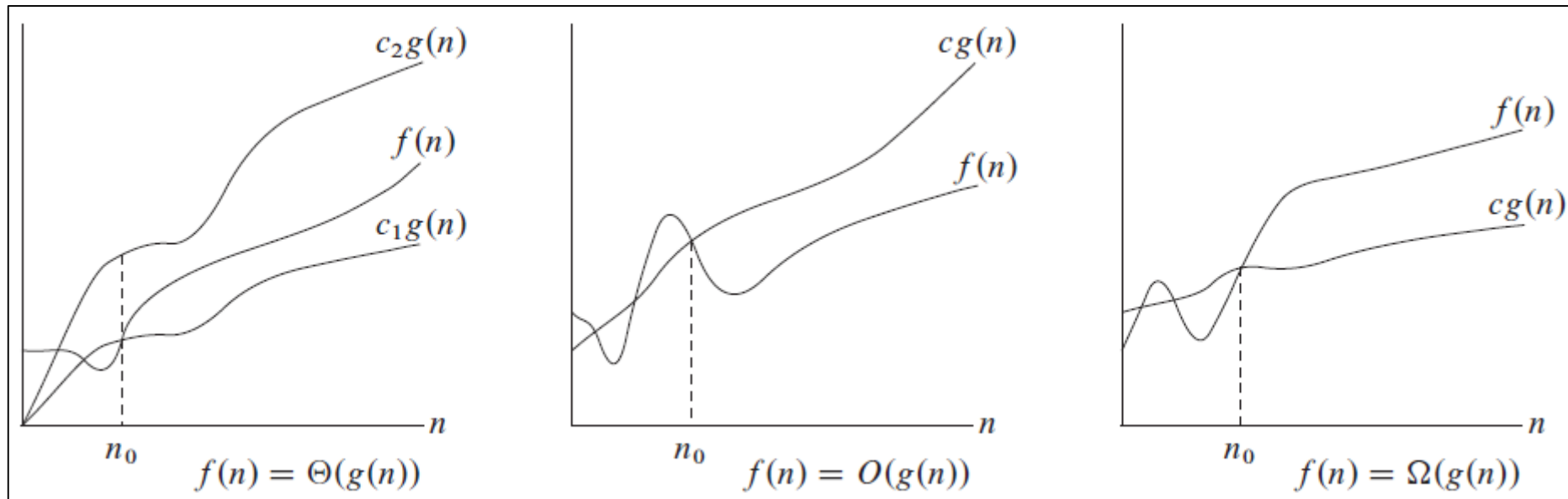
### 3. Master Theorem

# Characterizing Time Complexity



Big-Oh Notation, Omega and Theta Notations:

- Asymptotic notation primarily describes the running times of algorithms, i.e., time complexity



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# Characterizing Time Complexity



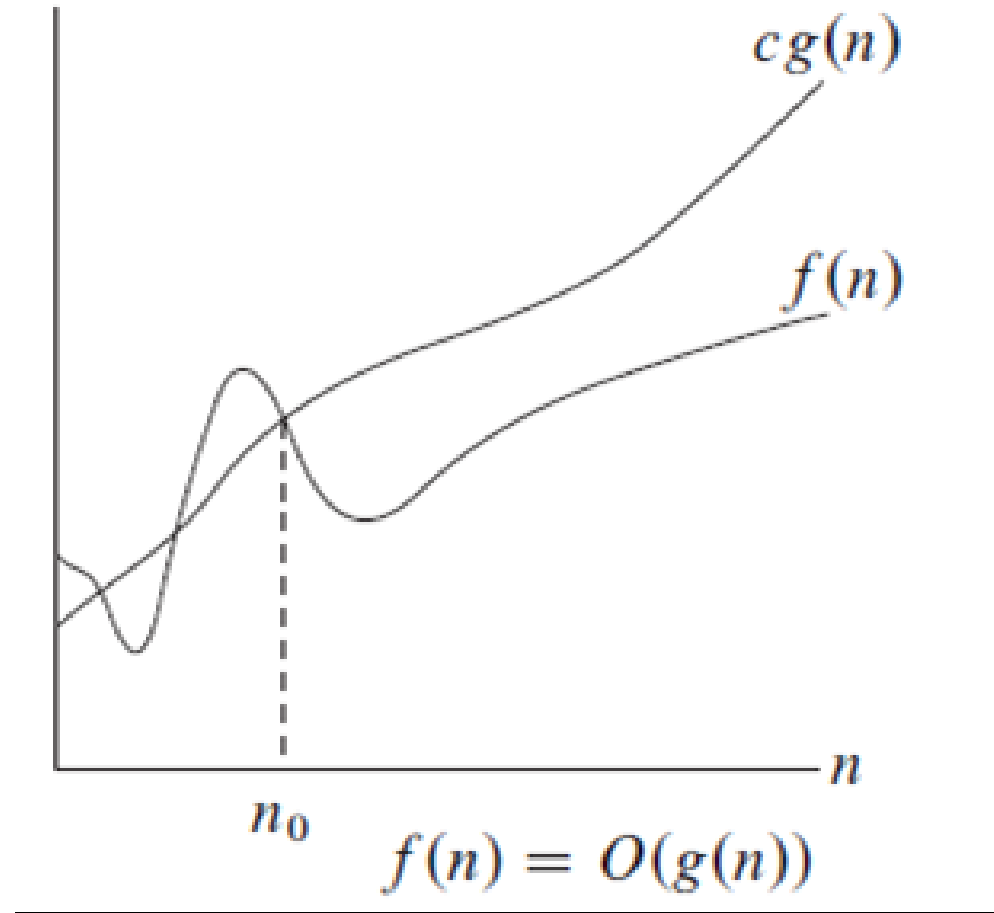
Big-Oh Notation:  $f(n) = O(g(n))$ .

- $g(n)$  is an asymptotically upper bound for  $f(n)$ .

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

- $f(n) = \Theta(g(n))$  implies that  $f(n) = O(g(n))$ ,  
i.e.,  $\Theta(g(n)) \in O(g(n))$

# Graphical representation of Big-O



# Example: Time Complexity Big-O



**Ex-1**  $f(n) = 2n+2$

$2n+2 \leq \underline{10n}$ , where  $n \geq 1$

Here,  $c = 10$ ,  $g(n) = n$

$f(n) = O(g(n)) = O(n)$ .

**Ex-2**  $f(n) = 2n+2$

$2n+2 \leq \underline{10n^2}$ , where  $n \geq 1$

Here,  $c = 10$ ,  $g(n) = n^2$

$f(n) = O(g(n)) = O(n^2)$ .

**Ex-3**  $f(n) = 2n+2$

$2n+2 \leq \underline{10n^3}$ , where  $n \geq 1$

Here,  $c = 10$ ,  $g(n) = n^3$

$f(n) = O(g(n)) = O(n^3)$ .

**Ex-4**  $f(n) = 2n^2+5$

$2n^2+5 \leq \underline{2n^2+5n^2} = 7n^2$ , where  $n \geq 1$

Here,  $c = 7$ ,  $g(n) = n^2$

$f(n) = O(g(n)) = O(n^2)$ .

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

# Example: Time Complexity Big-O



**Ex-5**  $f(n) = 7n - 2$

Here,  $c = 7$ ,  $n \geq 1$

$\rightarrow 7n - 2 \leq cn$ ,  **$g(n) = n$**

$f(n) = O(g(n)) = O(n)$ .

**Ex-6**  $f(n) = 20n^3 + 10n \log n + 5$

Here,  $c = 35$ ,  **$g(n) = n^3$**

$f(n) = O(g(n)) = O(n^3)$ .

**Ex-7**  $f(n) = 3 \log n + \log \log n$

Here,  $c = 4$ ,  **$g(n) = \log n$**

$f(n) = O(g(n)) = O(\log n)$ .

**Ex-8**  $f(n) = 2^{100}$

Here,  $c = 2^{100}$ ,  **$g(n) = 1$**

$f(n) = O(g(n)) = O(1)$ .

**Ex-9**  $f(n) = 5/n$

Here,  $c = 5$ ,  **$g(n) = 1/n$**

$f(n) = O(g(n)) = O(1/n)$ .

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



# Time Complexity: Big-Omega



Omega Notation:  $f(n) = \Omega(g(n))$ .

- $g(n)$  is an asymptotically lower bound for  $f(n)$ .

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

# Example: Omega Notation

**Ex-1**  $f(n) = 2n+2$

$2n+2 \geq \underline{2n}$ , where  $n \geq 1$

Here,  $c = 2$ ,  $\mathbf{g(n) = n}$

$f(n) = \Omega(g(n)) = \Omega(n)$

**Ex-2**  $f(n) = 2n+2$

$2n+2 \geq \underline{\sqrt{n}}$ , where  $n \geq 1$

Here,  $c = 1$ ,  $\mathbf{g(n) = \sqrt{n}}$

$f(n) = \Omega(g(n)) = \Omega(\sqrt{n})$

**Ex-3**  $f(n) = 2n+2$

$2n+2 \geq \underline{\log n}$ , where  $n \geq 1$

Here,  $c = 1$ ,  $\mathbf{g(n) = \log n}$

$f(n) = \Omega(g(n)) = \Omega(\log n)$

**Ex-4**  $f(n) = 2n^2+5$

$2n^2+5 \geq \underline{2n^2}$ , where  $n \geq 1$

Here,  $c = 2$ ,  $\mathbf{g(n) = n^2}$

$f(n) = \Omega(g(n)) = \Omega(n^2)$ .

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

# Characterizing Run Time



Theta Notation:  $f(n) = \Theta(g(n))$ .

- $g(n)$  is an asymptotically tight bound for  $f(n)$ .

$$\Theta(g(n)) = \{f(n) : \text{there exist positive constants } c_1, c_2, \text{ and } n_0 \text{ such that } 0 \leq c_1 g(n) \leq f(n) \leq c_2 g(n) \text{ for all } n \geq n_0\} .^1$$

# Example: Theta Notation



**Ex-1**  $f(n) = \frac{n^2}{2} - \frac{n}{2}$

$$\frac{n^2}{4} \leq \frac{n^2}{2} - \frac{n}{2} \leq \frac{n^2}{2}, \text{ where } n \geq 2$$

$$c_1 = \frac{1}{4}, c_2 = \frac{1}{2}, g(n) = n^2$$

$$f(n) = \Theta(g(n)) = \Theta(n^2).$$

**Ex-2**  $f(n) = 6n^3 \neq \Theta(n^2), \text{ why?}$

$$c_1 n^2 \leq 6n^3 \leq c_2 n^2, \text{ where } n \geq 1$$

There exists no  $c_2$  that implies  $6n^3 \leq c_2 n^2$

$\Theta(g(n)) = \{f(n) : \text{there exist positive constants } c_1, c_2, \text{ and } n_0 \text{ such that } 0 \leq c_1 g(n) \leq f(n) \leq c_2 g(n) \text{ for all } n \geq n_0\} .^1$

# Time Complexity: Little-Oh, Little-omega



o-notation:

$o(g(n)) = \{f(n) : \text{for any positive constant } c > 0, \text{ there exists a constant } n_0 > 0 \text{ such that } 0 \leq f(n) < cg(n) \text{ for all } n \geq n_0\}.$

$\omega$ -notation:

$\omega(g(n)) = \{f(n) : \text{for any positive constant } c > 0, \text{ there exists a constant } n_0 > 0 \text{ such that } 0 \leq cg(n) < f(n) \text{ for all } n \geq n_0\}.$

# Notation Summary



Because these properties hold for asymptotic notations, we can draw an analogy between the asymptotic comparison of two functions  $f$  and  $g$  and the comparison of two real numbers  $a$  and  $b$ :

$f(n) = O(g(n))$  is like  $a \leq b$  ,

$f(n) = \Omega(g(n))$  is like  $a \geq b$  ,

$f(n) = \Theta(g(n))$  is like  $a = b$  ,

$f(n) = o(g(n))$  is like  $a < b$  ,

$f(n) = \omega(g(n))$  is like  $a > b$  .

# Properties of Time Complexity



- Comparison

## Transitivity:

$f(n) = \Theta(g(n))$  and  $g(n) = \Theta(h(n))$  imply  $f(n) = \Theta(h(n))$ ,

$f(n) = O(g(n))$  and  $g(n) = O(h(n))$  imply  $f(n) = O(h(n))$ ,

$f(n) = \Omega(g(n))$  and  $g(n) = \Omega(h(n))$  imply  $f(n) = \Omega(h(n))$ ,

$f(n) = o(g(n))$  and  $g(n) = o(h(n))$  imply  $f(n) = o(h(n))$ ,

$f(n) = \omega(g(n))$  and  $g(n) = \omega(h(n))$  imply  $f(n) = \omega(h(n))$ .

## Reflexivity:

$f(n) = \Theta(f(n))$ ,

$f(n) = O(f(n))$ ,

$f(n) = \Omega(f(n))$ .

# Summary of Properties



- Comparison

## Symmetry:

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

## Transpose symmetry:

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

$f(n) = o(g(n))$  if and only if  $g(n) = \omega(f(n))$ .



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  2. Recurrence Relation
  3. Master Theorem

# Analyzing Recursive Algorithms



**Algorithm** recursiveMax( $A, n$ ):

*Input:* An array  $A$  storing  $n \geq 1$  integers.

*Output:* The maximum element in  $A$ .

**if**  $n = 1$  **then**

**return**  $A[0]$

**return**  $\max\{\text{recursiveMax}(A, n-1), A[n-1]\}$

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$$T(n) = \begin{cases} 2, & \text{if } n = 1 \\ T(n-1) + 4, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

# Analyzing Recursive Algorithms



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1

**if**  $n = 1$  **then**

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**return**  $A[0]$

**return**  $\max\{\text{recursiveMax}(A, n-1), A[n-1]\}$

$1 + 1 + T(n-1) + 1$

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} 2, & \text{if } n = 1 \\ T(n-1) + 4, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

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# Recurrence Relation

Def<sup>n</sup>: A recurrence relation is an equation that defines a sequence based on a rule that gives the next term as a function of the previous term(s).

Mathematically,  $x_{n+1} = f(x_n)$  : a simple recurrence relation, also called as first order recurrence relation.

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Example of first order recurrence relation:

1)  $x_{n+1} = 2 - x_{n/2}$

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Mathematically,  $x_{n+1} = f(x_n)$  : a simple recurrence relation, also called as first order recurrence relation.

Example of first order recurrence relation:

1)  $x_{n+1} = 2 - x_{n/2}$

A second order recurrence relation depends just on  $x_n$  and  $x_{n-1}$  and is of the form  $x_{n+1} = f(x_n, x_{n-1})$

Example:  $x_{n+1} = x_n + x_{n-1}$



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# Analyzing Recursive Algorithms



## Solving recurrence equations

### 1. Master Theorem for Dividing Functions

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

where  $g(n)$  is  $O(n^k \log^p n)$ , where  $p$  and  $k$  are integers.

a)  $a < b^k$ : if  $p < 0$ , then  $T(n) = O(n^k)$

# Analyzing Recursive Algorithms



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if  $p \geq 0$ , then  $T(n) = O(n^k \log^p n)$

# Analyzing Recursive Algorithms



## Solving recurrence equations

### 1. Master Theorem for Dividing Functions

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

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a)  $a < b^k$ : if  $p < 0$ , then  $T(n) = O(n^k)$

if  $p \geq 0$ , then  $T(n) = O(n^k \log^p n)$

b)  $a = b^k$ : if  $p > -1$ , then  $T(n) = O(n^k \log^{p+1} n)$

if  $p = -1$ , then  $T(n) = O(n^k \log \log n)$

if  $p < -1$ , then  $T(n) = O(n^k)$

# Analyzing Recursive Algorithms



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b)  $a = b^k$ : if  $p > -1$ , then  $T(n) = O(n^k \log^{p+1} n)$

if  $p = -1$ , then  $T(n) = O(n^k \log \log n)$

if  $p < -1$ , then  $T(n) = O(n^k)$

c)  $a > b^k$ :  $T(n) = O(n^{\log_b a})$

# Solution using Master Theorem



$g(n)$  is  $O(n^k \log^p n)$

**Ex-1**  $T(n) = 4T(\frac{n}{2}) + n,$

$a = 4, b = 2, k = 1, p = 0.$

$a = 4, b^k = 2 \rightarrow a > b^k$

$T(n) = O(n^{\log_2 4}) = O(n^2)$

**Ex-2**  $T(n) = 8T(\frac{n}{2}) + n^2,$

$a = 8, b = 2, k = 2, p = 0.$

$a = 8, b^k = 4 \rightarrow a > b^k$

$T(n) = O(n^{\log_2 8}) = O(n^3)$

**Ex-3**  $T(n) = 8T(\frac{n}{2}) + n \log n,$

$a = 8, b = 2, k = 1, p = 1.$

$a = 8, b^k = 2 \rightarrow a > b^k$

$T(n) = O(n^{\log_2 8}) = O(n^3)$

# Solution using Master Theorem



**Ex-4**  $T(n) = 2T(\frac{n}{2}) + n,$

$a = 2, b = 2, k = 1, p = 0.$

$a = 2, b^k = 2 \rightarrow a = b^k$

$T(n) = O(n^k \log^{p+1} n)$   
 $= O(n \log n)$

**Ex-5**  $T(n) = 4T(\frac{n}{2}) + n^2,$

$a = 4, b = 2, k = 2, p = 0.$

$a = 4, b^k = 4 \rightarrow a = b^k$

$T(n) = O(n^k \log^{p+1} n)$   
 $= O(n^2 \log n)$

**Ex-6**  $T(n) = 4T(\frac{n}{2}) + n^2 \log n,$

$a = 4, b = 2, k = 2, p = 1.$

$a = 4, b^k = 4 \rightarrow a = b^k$

$T(n) = O(n^k \log^{p+1} n)$   
 $= O(n^2 \log^2 n)$

# Solution using Master Theorem



**Ex-7**  $T(n) = 2T(\frac{n}{2}) + \frac{n}{\log n},$

$a = 2, b = 2, k = 1, p = -1.$

$a = 2, b^k = 2 \rightarrow a = b^k$

$T(n) = O(n^k \log \log n)$   
 $= O(n \log \log n)$

**Ex-8**  $T(n) = T(\frac{n}{2}) + n^2,$

$a = 1, b = 2, k = 2, p = 0.$

$a = 1, b^k = 4 \rightarrow a < b^k$

$T(n) = O(n^k \log^p n)$   
 $= O(n^2)$

**Ex-9**  $T(n) = 2T(\frac{n}{2}) + n^2 \log^2 n,$

$a = 2, b = 2, k = 2, p = 2.$

$a = 2, b^k = 4 \rightarrow a < b^k$

$T(n) = O(n^k \log^p n)$   
 $= O(n^2 \log^2 n)$



# Master Theorem for Decreasing Functions



$$T(n) = aT(n - b) + g(n)$$

where  $g(n)$  is  $O(n^k)$

- a)  $a < 1 : T(n) = O(n^k)$
- b)  $a = 1 : T(n) = O(n^{k+1})$
- c)  $a > 1 : T(n) = O(n^k a^{n/b})$

# Solution using Master Theorem



**Ex-1**  $T(n) = T(n-1)+1,$

$a = 1, b = 1, k = 0.$

$$T(n) = O(n^{k+1}) = O(n)$$

**Ex-3**  $T(n) = 2T(n-1)+1,$

$a = 2, b = 1, k = 0.$

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= O(n^k a^{n/b}) \\ &= O(2^n) \end{aligned}$$

**Ex-2**  $T(n) = T(n-1)+n,$

$a = 1, b = 1, k = 1.$

$$T(n) = O(n^{k+1}) = O(n^2)$$

**Ex-4**  $T(n) = 2T(n-1)+n,$

$a = 2, b = 1, k = 1.$

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= O(n^k a^{n/b}) \\ &= O(n2^n) \end{aligned}$$

# Correctness of Algorithms



- An algorithm is said to be correct
  - if, for every input instance, it halts with the correct output.
- We say that a correct algorithm
  - solves the given computational problem.
- An incorrect algorithm
  - might not halt at all on some input instances, or
  - it might halt with an incorrect answer.

# Some Mathematics



## Ordering Functions by Their Growth Rates

$n$	$\log n$	$\sqrt{n}$	$n$	$n \log n$	$n^2$	$n^3$	$2^n$
2	1	1.4	2	2	4	8	4
4	2	2	4	8	16	64	16
8	3	2.8	8	24	64	512	256
16	4	4	16	64	256	4,096	65,536
32	5	5.7	32	160	1,024	32,768	4,294,967,296
64	6	8	64	384	4,096	262,144	$1.84 \times 10^{19}$
128	7	11	128	896	16,384	2,097,152	$3.40 \times 10^{38}$
256	8	16	256	2,048	65,536	16,777,216	$1.15 \times 10^{77}$
512	9	23	512	4,608	262,144	134,217,728	$1.34 \times 10^{154}$
1,024	10	32	1,024	10,240	1,048,576	1,073,741,824	$1.79 \times 10^{308}$

$$1 < \log n < \sqrt{n} < n < n \log n < n^2 < n^3 < \dots < 2^n < 3^n < n^n$$

# Some Mathematics



- $\sum_{i=0}^n a^i = 1 + a + \dots + a^n = \frac{1-a^{n+1}}{1-a}$
- $\log_b a = c$  if  $a = b^c$
- $\log_b ac = \log_b a + \log_b c$
- $\log_b (a/c) = \log_b a - \log_b c$
- $\log_b a^c = c \log_b a$
- $\log_b a = \log_c a / \log_c b$
- $b^{\log_c a} = a^{\log_c b}$

# Case Studies: Analyzing Algorithms



Ex-1

```
#include <stdio.h>
void main(){
    int n=10;
    int a[n];
    a[3]=5;
    printf("%d",a[3]);
}
```

$T(n) = 1 + (1+1) + (1+1) \rightarrow T(n) = O(1)$

Ex-2

```
#include <stdio.h>
void main(){
    int n; scanf("%d",&n);
    int a[n];
    for(int i=0;i<n;i++)
        scanf("%d",&a[i]);
    for(int i=0;i<n;i++)
        printf("%d",a[i]);
}
```

$T(n) = 2 + (1 + (n+1) + 2(n)) + 2n + (1 + (n+1) + 2(n)) + 2n = 10n + 6$   
 $\rightarrow T(n) = O(n)$

# Case Studies: Analyzing Algorithms



Ex-3

```
#include <stdio.h>
void main(){
    int n; scanf("%d",&n);
    int a[n];
    for(int i=0;i<n;i++)
        scanf("%d",&a[i]);
    for(int i=0;i<n;i++)
        for(int j=0;j<n;j++)
            printf("%d",a[i]);
}
```

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= 2 + (1 + (n+1) + 2(n)) + 2n + (1 + (n+1) + 2(n)) + n(1 + (n+1) + 2(n)) \\ &= 3n^2 + 10n + 6 \\ &\rightarrow T(n) = O(n^2) \end{aligned}$$

Ex-4

```
#include <stdio.h>
void main(){
    int n; scanf("%d",&n);
    int a[n];
    for(int i=0;i<n;i++)
        scanf("%d",&a[i]);
    for(int i=0;i<n;i++)
        for(int j=0;j<n/2;j++)
            printf("%d",a[i]);
}
```

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= 2 + (1 + (n+1) + 2(n)) + 2n + (1 + (n+1) + 2(n)) + n(1 + (n+1)/2 + 2(n/2)) \\ &\rightarrow T(n) = O(n^2) \end{aligned}$$

# Case Studies: Analyzing Algorithms



Ex-5

```
int findMinimum(int array[]) {  
    int min = array[0];  
    for(int i = 1; i < n; i++){  
        if (array[i] < min) {  
            min = array[i];  
        }  
    }  
    return min;  
}
```

$T(n) = O(n)$



# Case Studies: Analyzing Algorithms



Ex-6

```
void fun(int n){  
    if(n<=0)  
        return;  
    printf("%d",n);  
    fun(n-1);  
}
```

$T(n) = T(n-1) + 2 \rightarrow T(n) = O(n)$   
Master Theorem for Decreasing  
Functions

Ex-7

```
void fun(int n){  
    if(n<=0)  
        return;  
    printf("%d",n);  
    fun(n/2);  
}
```

$T(n) = T(n/2) + 2 \rightarrow T(n) = O(\log n)$   
Master Theorem for Dividing  
Functions

# Case Studies: Analyzing Algorithms



Ex-8

```
void fun(int n){  
    if(n<=0)___1  
        return;  
    for(int i=0;i<k';i++) ___(k'+1)  
        fun(n-1); ___k'*T(n-1)  
}
```

$(T(n) = 1 + (k'+1) + (k'*(T(n-1))) = k'*T(n-1) + (k' + 2) \rightarrow T(n)$  depends on value of  $k'$   
(Master Theorem for Decreasing Functions))

Ex-9

```
void fun(int n){  
    if(n>1){ ___1  
        for(int i=0;i<n;i++) ___(n+1)  
            printf("%d",i); ___n  
            fun(n/2); ___T(n/2)  
            fun(n/2); ___T(n/2)  
        }  
}
```

$T(n) = 1 + (n+1) + n + 2T(n/2) = 2T(n/2) + (2n + 2)$   
 $a = 2, b = 2, k = 1, p = 0. O(n \log n)$  as per Master Theorem for Dividing Functions

# References



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**Any Question!!**



# Thank you!!

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