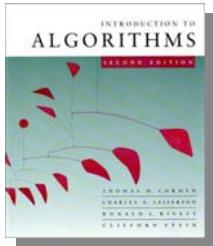


# Solving recurrences

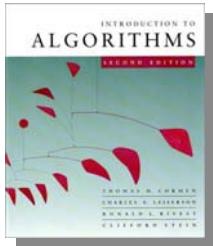
- The analysis of merge sort from **Lecture 1** required us to solve a recurrence.
  - Recurrences are like solving integrals, differential equations, etc. Ex: Merge Sort :
    - Learn a few tricks.
  - **Lecture 3**: Applications of recurrences to divide-and-conquer algorithms.
- $$T(n) = 2 T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + \Theta(n)$$



# Substitution method

*The most general method:*

1. **Guess** the form of the solution.
2. **Verify** by induction.
3. **Solve** for constants.



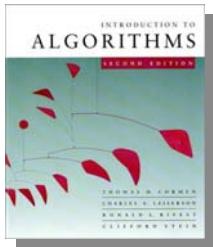
# Substitution method

*The most general method:*

1. **Guess** the form of the solution.
2. **Verify** by induction.
3. **Solve** for constants.

**EXAMPLE:**  $T(n) = 4T(n/2) + n$

- [Assume that  $T(1) = \Theta(1)$ .]
- Guess  $O(n^3)$ . (Prove  $O$  and  $\Omega$  separately.)
- Assume that  $T(k) \leq ck^3$  for  $k < n$ . I.H. : Inductive Hypothesis
- Prove  $T(n) \leq cn^3$  by induction.



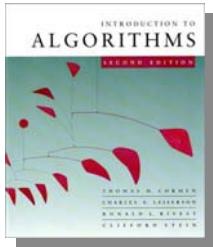
# Example of substitution

$$T.H: T(k) \leq ck^3 \text{ for } k < n$$

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= 4T(n/2) + n \\ &\leq 4c(n/2)^3 + n \\ &= (c/2)n^3 + n \\ &= cn^3 - \underbrace{((c/2)n^3 - n)}_{\text{desired}} \leftarrow \boxed{\text{desired} - \text{residual}} \\ &\leq cn^3 \leftarrow \text{desired} \end{aligned}$$

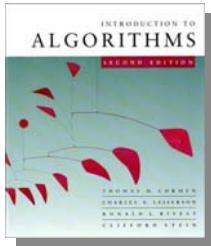
whenever  $(c/2)n^3 - n \geq 0$ , for example,  
if  $c \geq 2$  and  $n \geq 1$ .

*residual*



# Example (continued)

- We must also handle the initial conditions, that is, ground the induction with base cases.
- **Base:**  $T(n) = \Theta(1)$  for all  $n < n_0$ , where  $n_0$  is a suitable constant.
- For  $1 \leq n < n_0$ , we have “ $\Theta(1)$ ”  $\leq cn^3$ , if we pick  $c$  big enough.



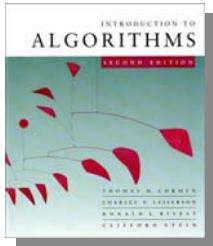
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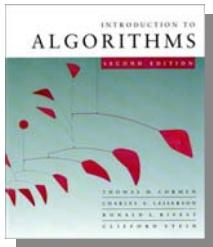
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*This bound is not tight!*



# A tighter upper bound?

We shall prove that  $T(n) = O(n^2)$ .

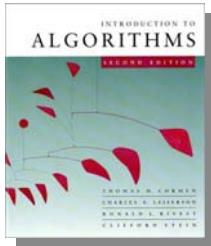


# A tighter upper bound?

We shall prove that  $T(n) = O(n^2)$ .

Assume that  $T(k) \leq ck^2$  for  $k < n$ : — IH

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= 4T(n/2) + n \\ &\leq 4c(n/2)^2 + n \\ &= cn^2 + n \quad \leq cn^2 \\ &= O(n^2) \times \cancel{\text{X}} \end{aligned}$$



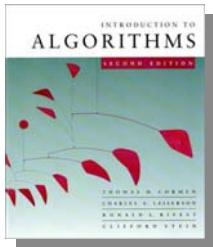
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$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= 4T(n/2) + n \\ &\leq 4c(n/2)^2 + n \\ &= cn^2 + n \\ &= O(n^2) \end{aligned}$$

**Wrong!** We must prove the I.H.



# A tighter upper bound?

We shall prove that  $T(n) = O(n^2)$ .

Assume that  $T(k) \leq ck^2$  for  $k < n$ :

$$T(n) = 4T(n/2) + n$$

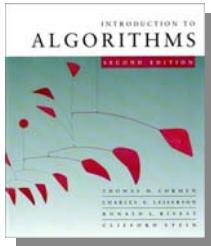
$$\leq 4c(n/2)^2 + n$$

$$= cn^2 + n$$

~~$= O(n^2)$~~  **Wrong!** We must prove the I.H.

$$= cn^2 - (-n) \quad [ \text{desired} - \text{residual} ]$$

$\leq cn^2$  for **no** choice of  $c > 0$ . Lose!

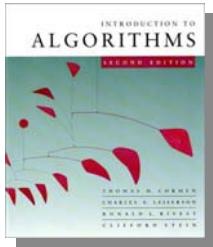


# A tighter upper bound!

**IDEA:** Strengthen the inductive hypothesis.

- *Subtract* a low-order term.

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



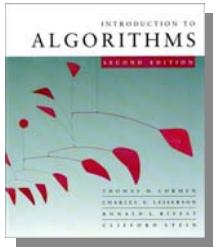
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$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= 4T(n/2) + n \\ &= 4(c_1(n/2)^2 - c_2(n/2)) + n \\ &= c_1 n^2 - 2c_2 n + n \\ &= \boxed{c_1 n^2 - c_2 n} - \boxed{(c_2 n - n)} \quad \text{Residual} \\ &\stackrel{\text{Desired}}{\leq} c_1 n^2 - c_2 n \quad \text{if } c_2 \geq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



# A tighter upper bound!

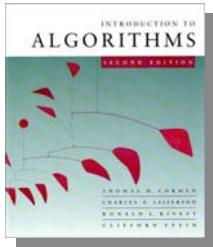
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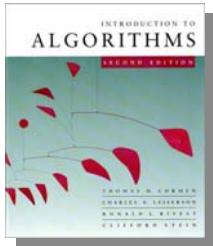
$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= 4T(n/2) + n \\ &= 4(c_1(n/2)^2 - c_2(n/2)) + n \\ &= c_1 n^2 - 2c_2 n + n \\ &= c_1 n^2 - c_2 n - (c_2 n - n) \\ &\leq c_1 n^2 - c_2 n \text{ if } c_2 \geq 1. \end{aligned}$$

Pick  $c_1$  big enough to handle the initial conditions.



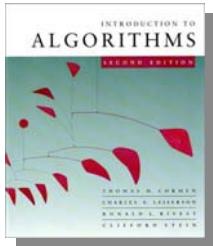
# Recursion-tree method

- A recursion tree models the costs (time) of a recursive execution of an algorithm.
- The recursion-tree method can be unreliable, just like any method that uses ellipses (...).
- The recursion-tree method promotes intuition, however.
- The recursion tree method is good for generating guesses for the substitution method.



# Example of recursion tree

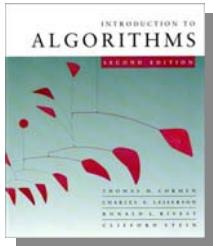
Solve  $T(n) = T(n/4) + T(n/2) + n^2$ :



# Example of recursion tree

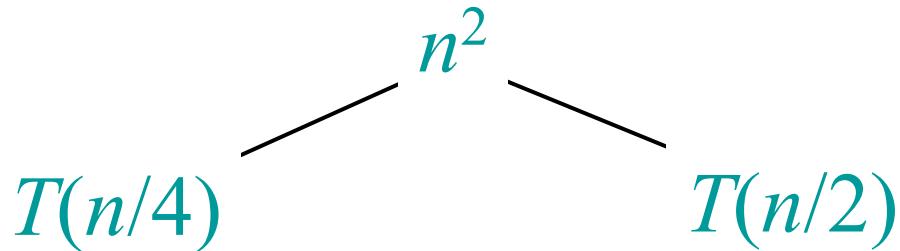
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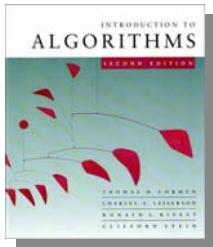
$$T(n)$$



# Example of recursion tree

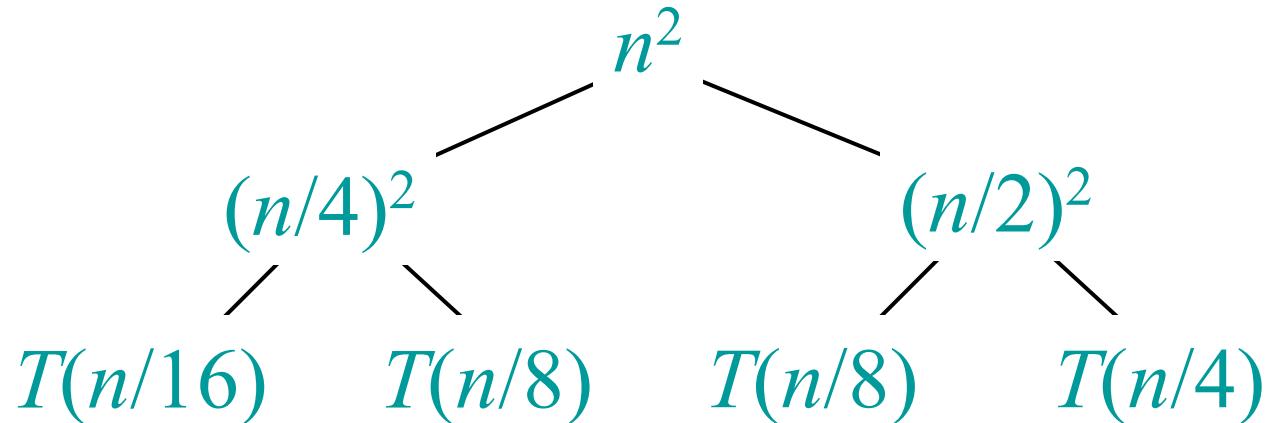
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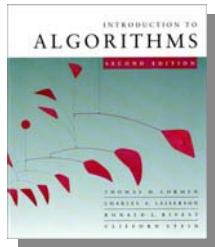




# Example of recursion tree

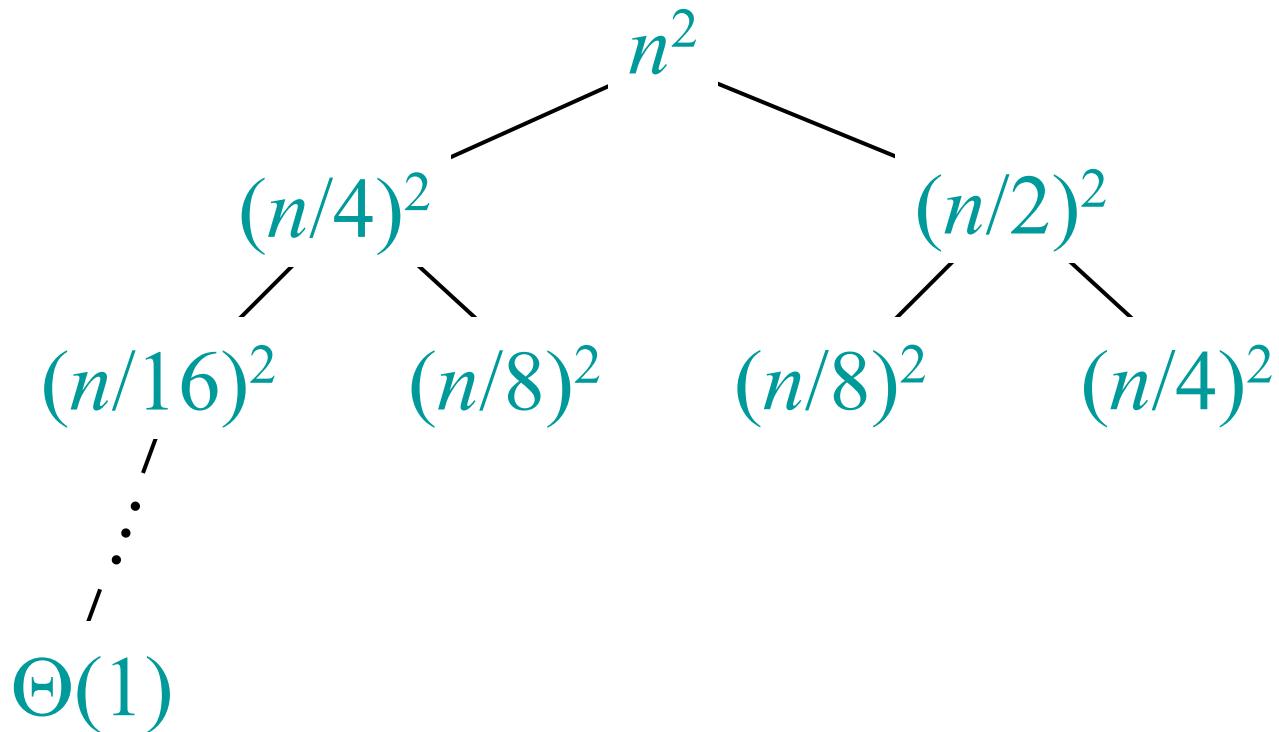
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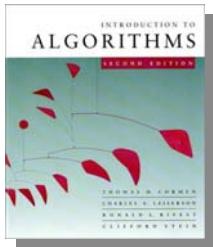




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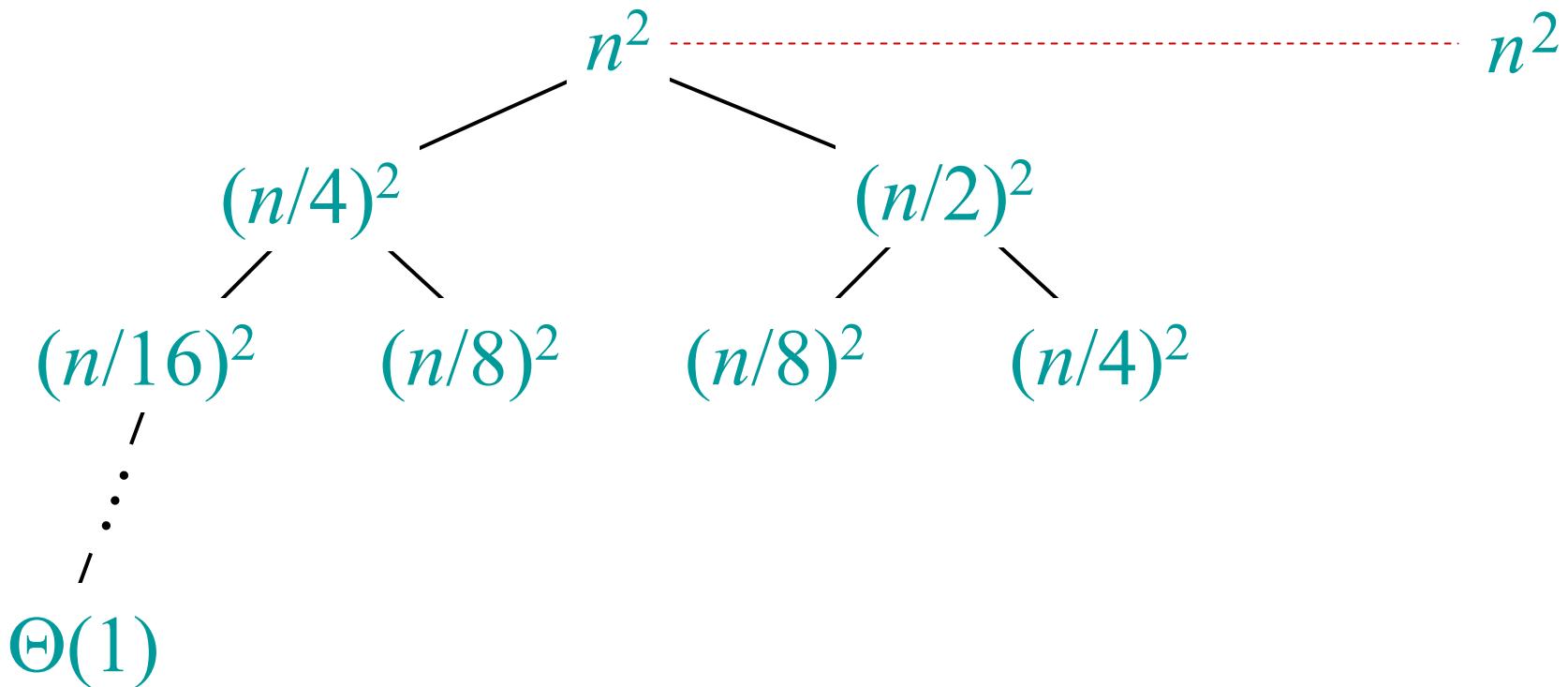
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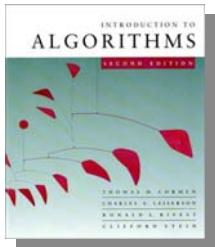




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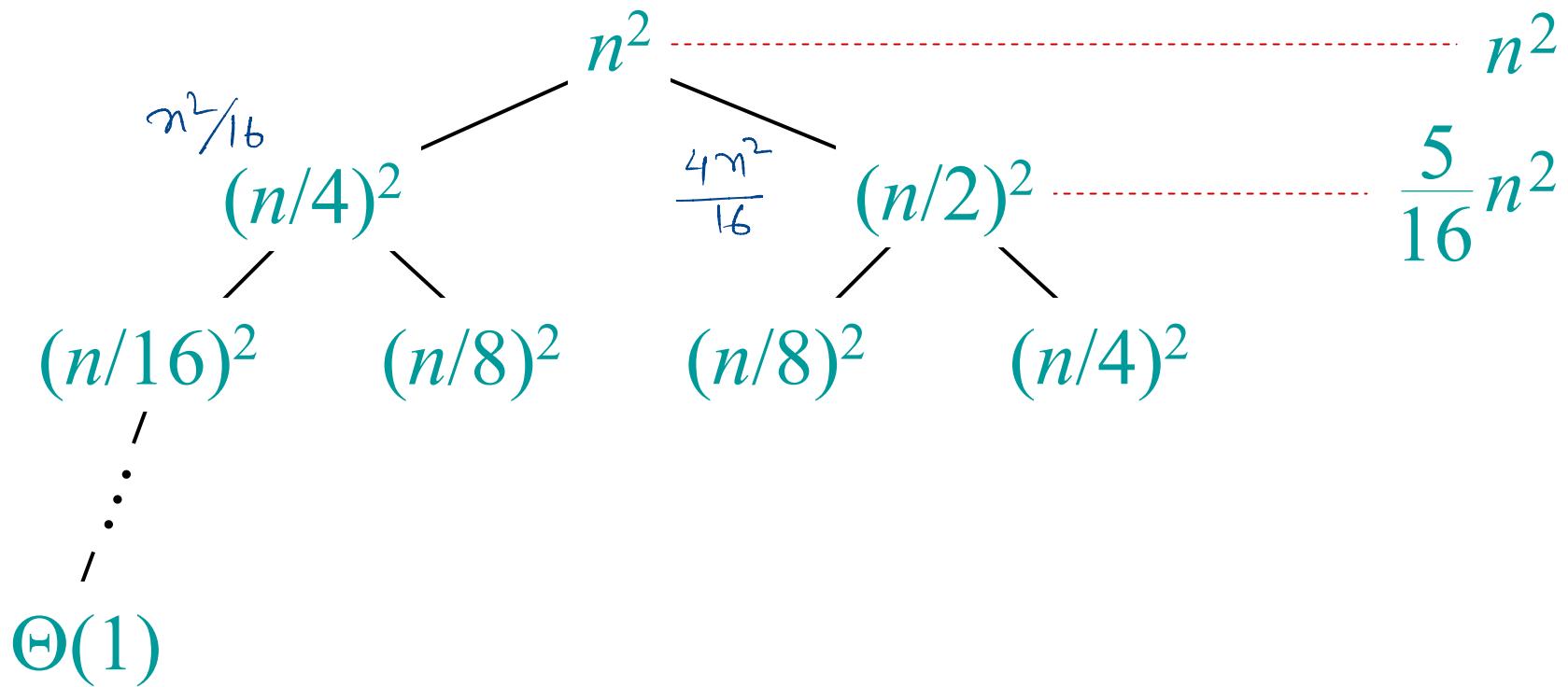
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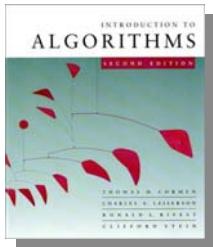




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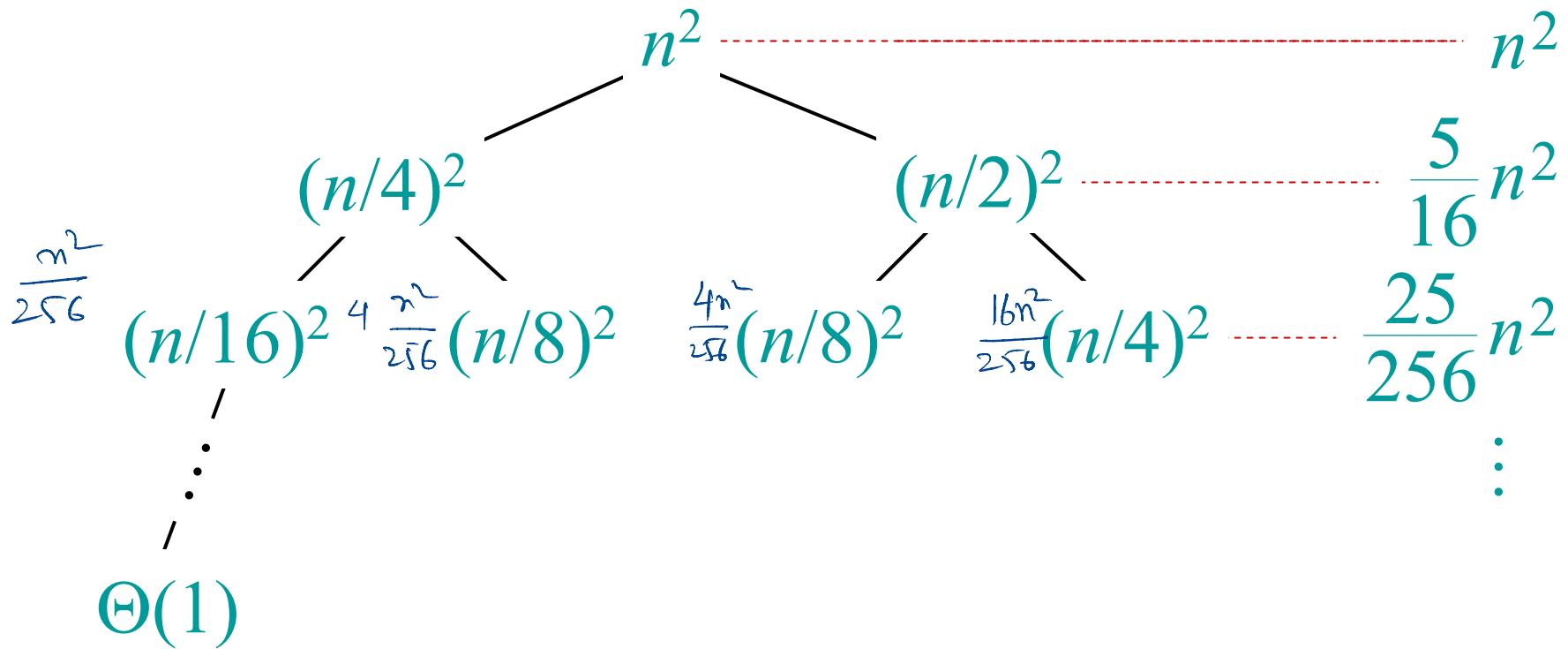
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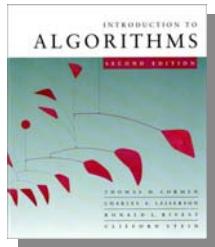




# Example of recursion tree

Solve  $T(n) = T(n/4) + T(n/2) + n^2$ :





# Example of recursion tree

$$GP: (1+k+k^2+\dots+k^n) = S; k \in \mathbb{C}$$

Solve  $T(n) = T(n/4) + T(n/2) + n^2$ :  $\Rightarrow \frac{1}{1-k} = \frac{1}{1-\frac{1}{4}} = \frac{4}{3}$

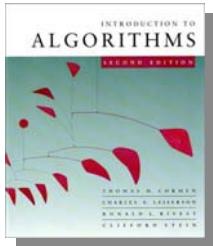
Recurrence tree diagram for  $T(n) = T(n/4) + T(n/2) + n^2$ :

- Root node:  $n^2$
- Level 1:  $(n/4)^2$  and  $(n/2)^2$
- Level 2:  $(n/16)^2$ ,  $(n/8)^2$ ,  $(n/8)^2$ , and  $(n/4)^2$
- Cost at each level:  $n^2$
- Total cost:  $n^2 \left(1 + \frac{5}{16} + \left(\frac{5}{16}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{5}{16}\right)^3 + \dots\right)$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Total} &= n^2 \left( 1 + \frac{5}{16} + \left(\frac{5}{16}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{5}{16}\right)^3 + \dots \right) \\
 &= \Theta(n^2) \quad \text{geometric series} \quad \text{info icon}
 \end{aligned}$$

September 12, 2005

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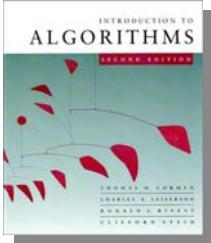


# The master method

The master method applies to recurrences of the form

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

where  $a \geq 1$ ,  $b > 1$ , and  $f$  is asymptotically positive.



$$T(n) = aT(n/b) + f(n)$$

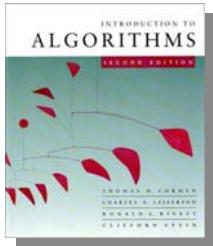
# Three common cases

Compare  $f(n)$  with  $n^{\log_b a}$ : n<sup>log<sub>b</sub> a</sup> Polynomial

1.  $f(n) = O(n^{\log_b a - \varepsilon})$  for some constant  $\varepsilon > 0$ .

- $f(n)$  grows polynomially slower than  $n^{\log_b a}$  (by an  $n^\varepsilon$  factor).

Solution:  $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$ .



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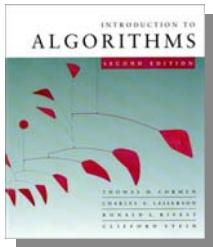
**Solution:**  $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log b a})$  .

2.  $f(n) = \Theta(n^{\log b a} \lg^k n)$  for some constant  $k \geq 0$ .

- $f(n)$  and  $n^{\log b a}$  grow at similar rates.

**Solution:**  $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log b a} \lg^{k+1} n)$  .

$\overbrace{\hspace{10em}}$  *base 2*



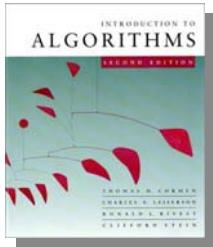
# Three common cases (cont.)

Compare  $f(n)$  with  $n^{\log_b a}$ :

3.  $f(n) = \Omega(n^{\log_b a + \varepsilon})$  for some constant  $\varepsilon > 0$ .
  - $f(n)$  grows polynomially faster than  $n^{\log_b a}$  (by an  $n^\varepsilon$  factor),

and  $f(n)$  satisfies the **regularity condition** that  $af(n/b) \leq cf(n)$  for some constant  $c < 1$ .

**Solution:**  $T(n) = \Theta(f(n))$  .



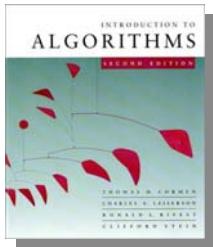
# Examples

**Ex.**  $T(n) = 4T(n/2) + n$

$a = 4, b = 2 \Rightarrow n^{\log_b a} = n^2; f(n) = n.$

**CASE 1:**  $f(n) = O(n^{2-\varepsilon})$  for  $\varepsilon = 1$ .

$\therefore T(n) = \Theta(n^2).$



# Examples

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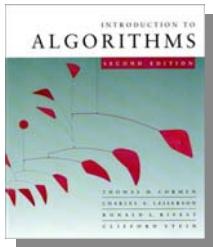
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**Ex.**  $T(n) = 4T(n/2) + n^2$

$a = 4, b = 2 \Rightarrow n^{\log_b a} = n^2; f(n) = n^2.$

**CASE 2:**  $f(n) = \Theta(n^2 \lg^0 n)$ , that is,  $k = 0$ .

$\therefore T(n) = \Theta(n^2 \lg n).$



# Examples

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

$a = 4, b = 2 \Rightarrow n^{\log_b a} = n^2; f(n) = n^3.$

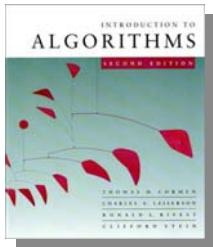
CASE 3:  $f(n) = \Omega(n^{2+\varepsilon})$  for  $\varepsilon = 1$

and  $4(n/2)^3 \leq cn^3$  (reg. cond.) for  $c = 1/2$ .

$$\therefore T(n) = \Theta(n^3)$$

$$\frac{n^3}{2} \leq cn^3$$

$$\begin{array}{l} af\left(\frac{n}{b}\right) \\ \Downarrow \\ 4\left(\frac{n}{2}\right)^3 \end{array}$$



# Examples

**Ex.**  $T(n) = 4T(n/2) + n^3$

$a = 4, b = 2 \Rightarrow n^{\log_b a} = n^2; f(n) = n^3.$

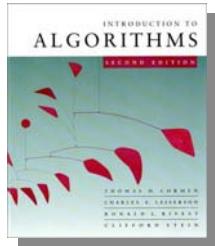
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 $\therefore T(n) = \Theta(n^3)$ .

**Ex.**  $T(n) = 4T(n/2) + n^2/\lg n$

$a = 4, b = 2 \Rightarrow n^{\log_b a} = n^2; f(n) = n^2/\lg n.$

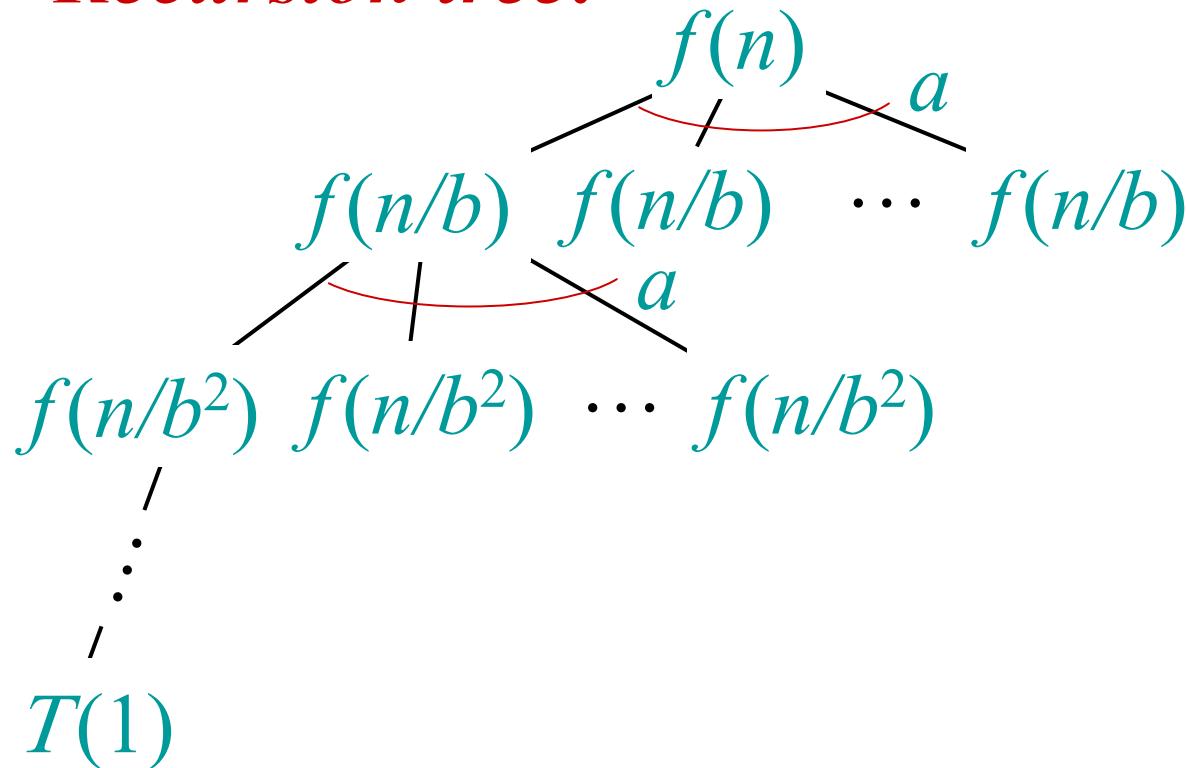
Master method does not apply. In particular, for every constant  $\varepsilon > 0$ , we have  $n^\varepsilon = \omega(\lg n)$ .

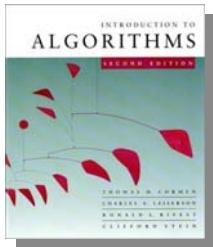


# Idea of master theorem

$$T(n) = aT(n/b) + f(n)$$

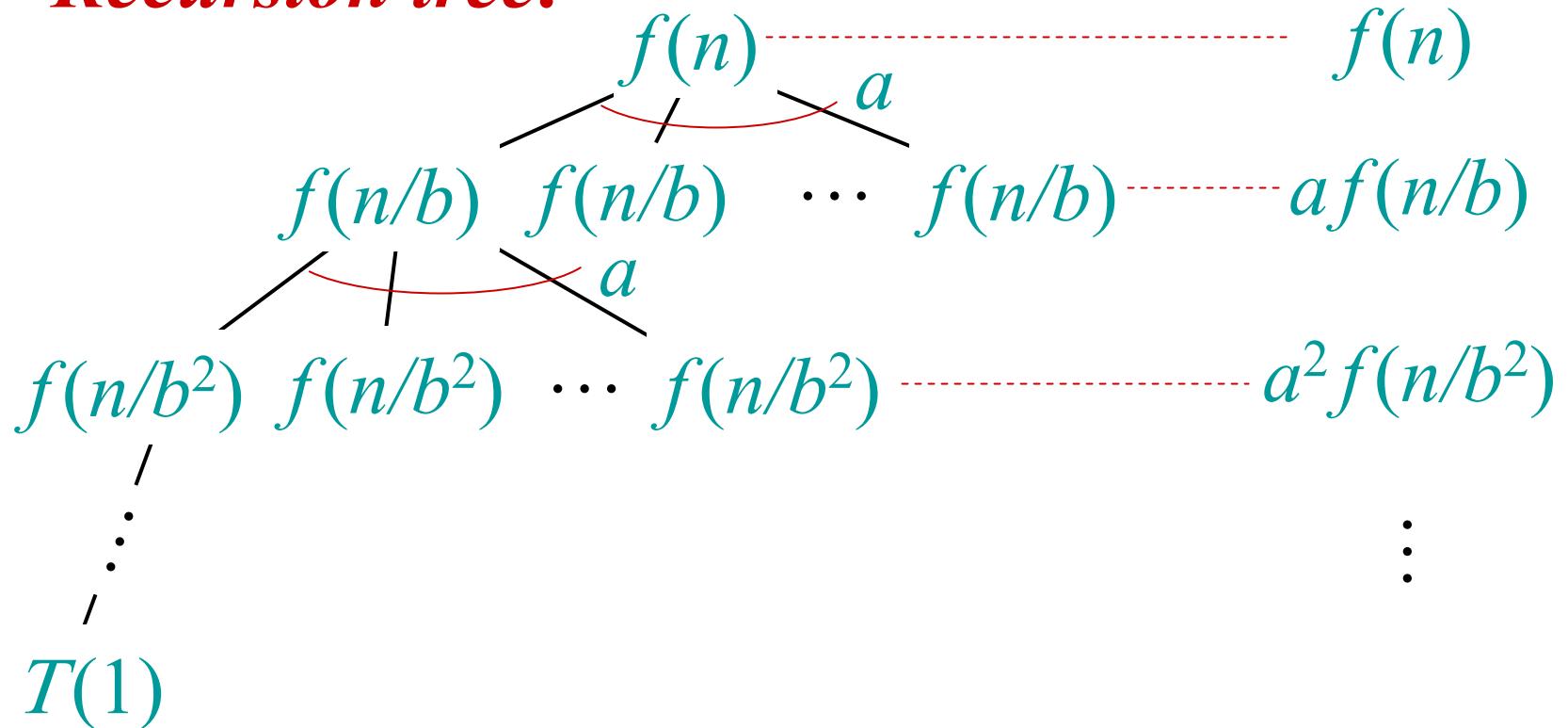
*Recursion tree:*

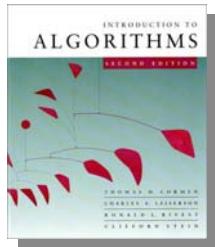




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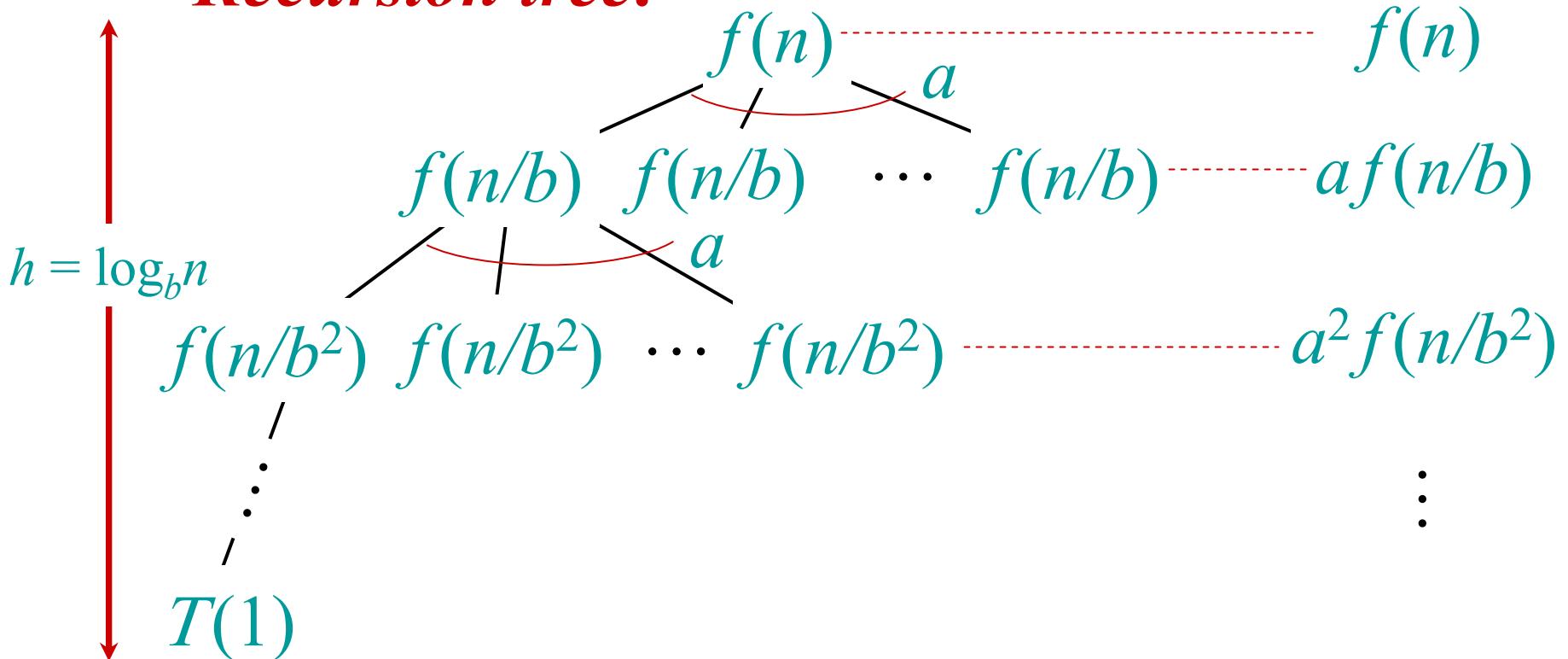
*Recursion tree:*

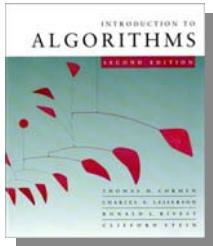




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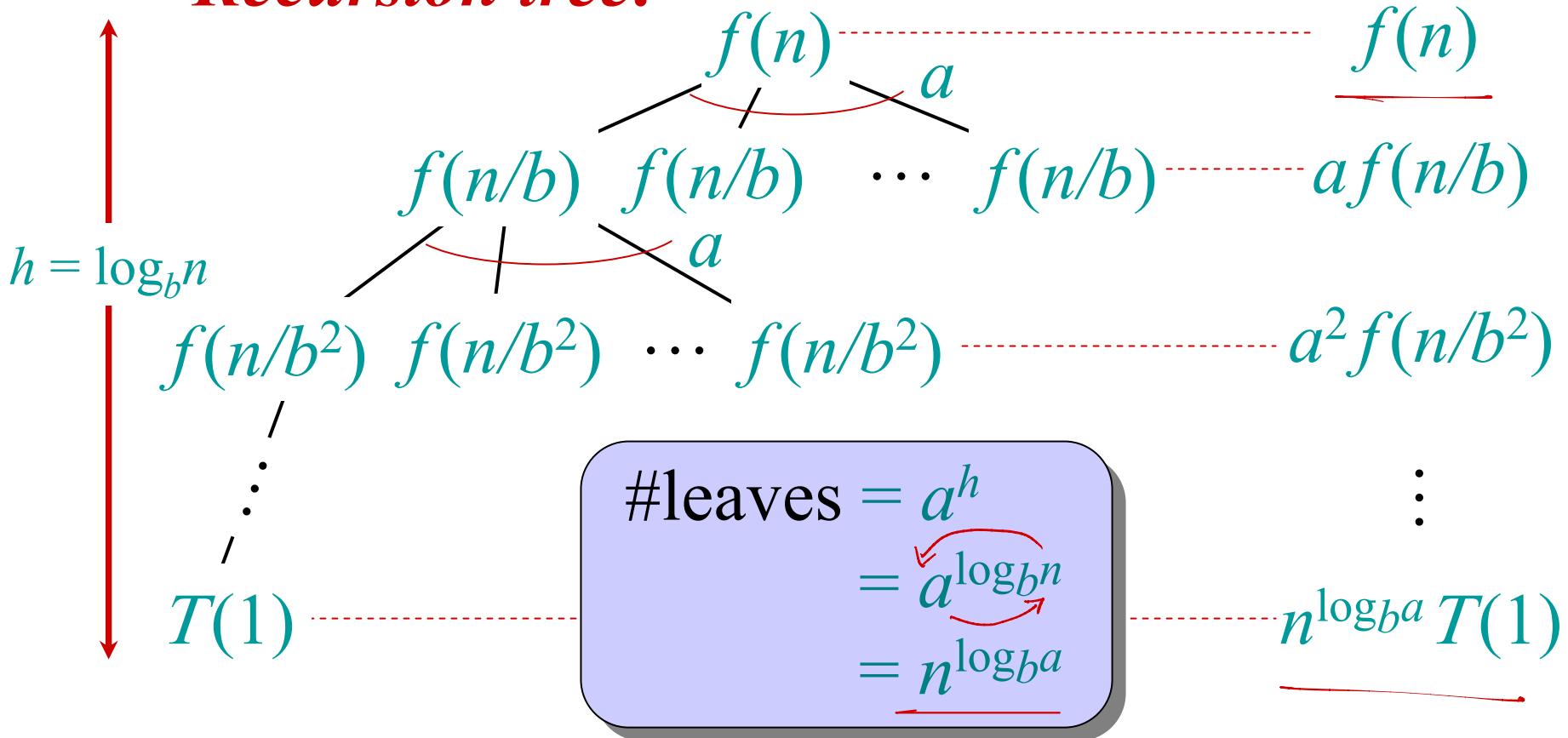
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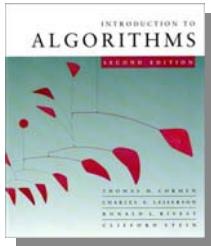




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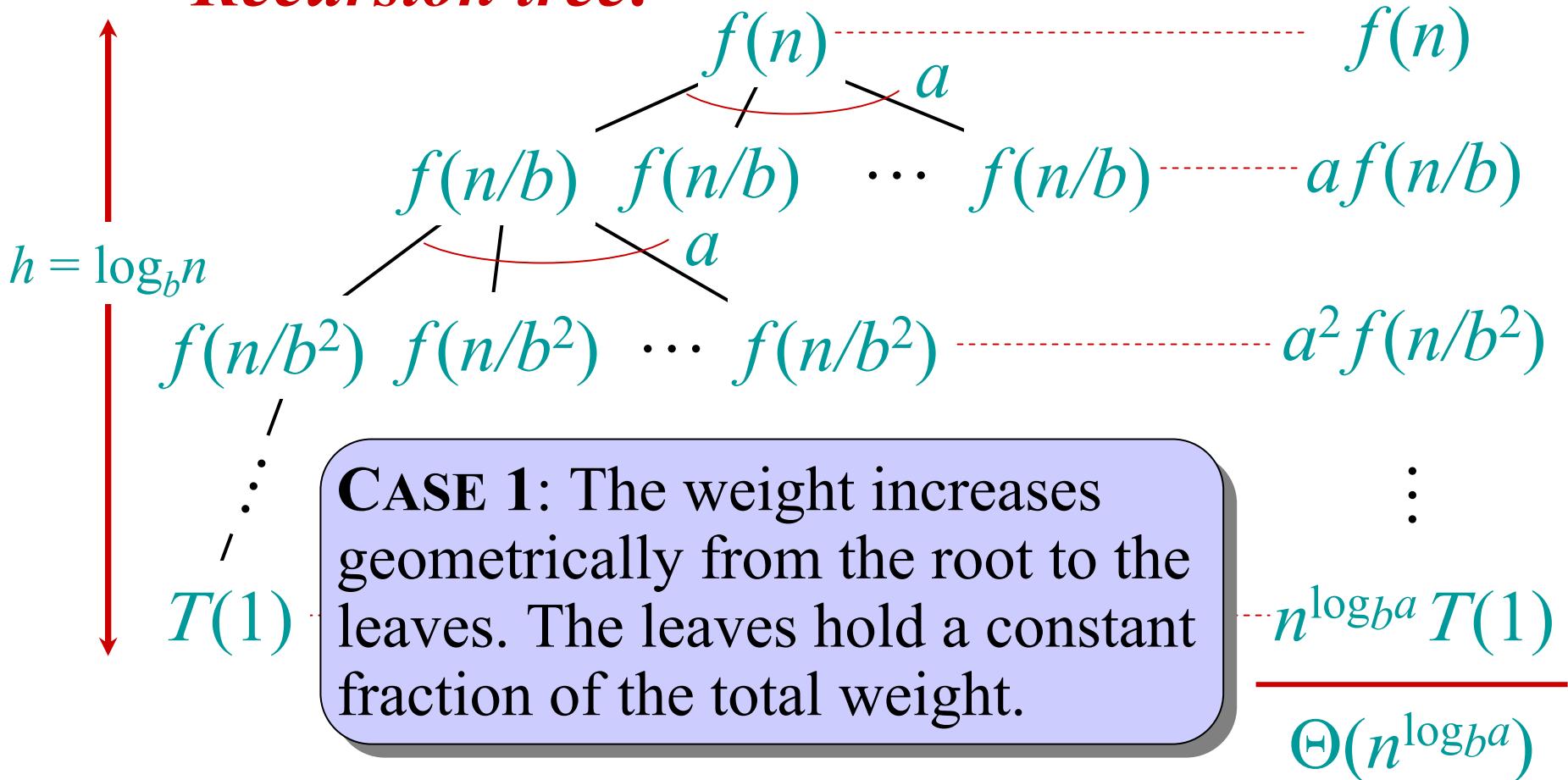
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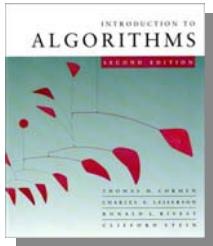




# Idea of master theorem

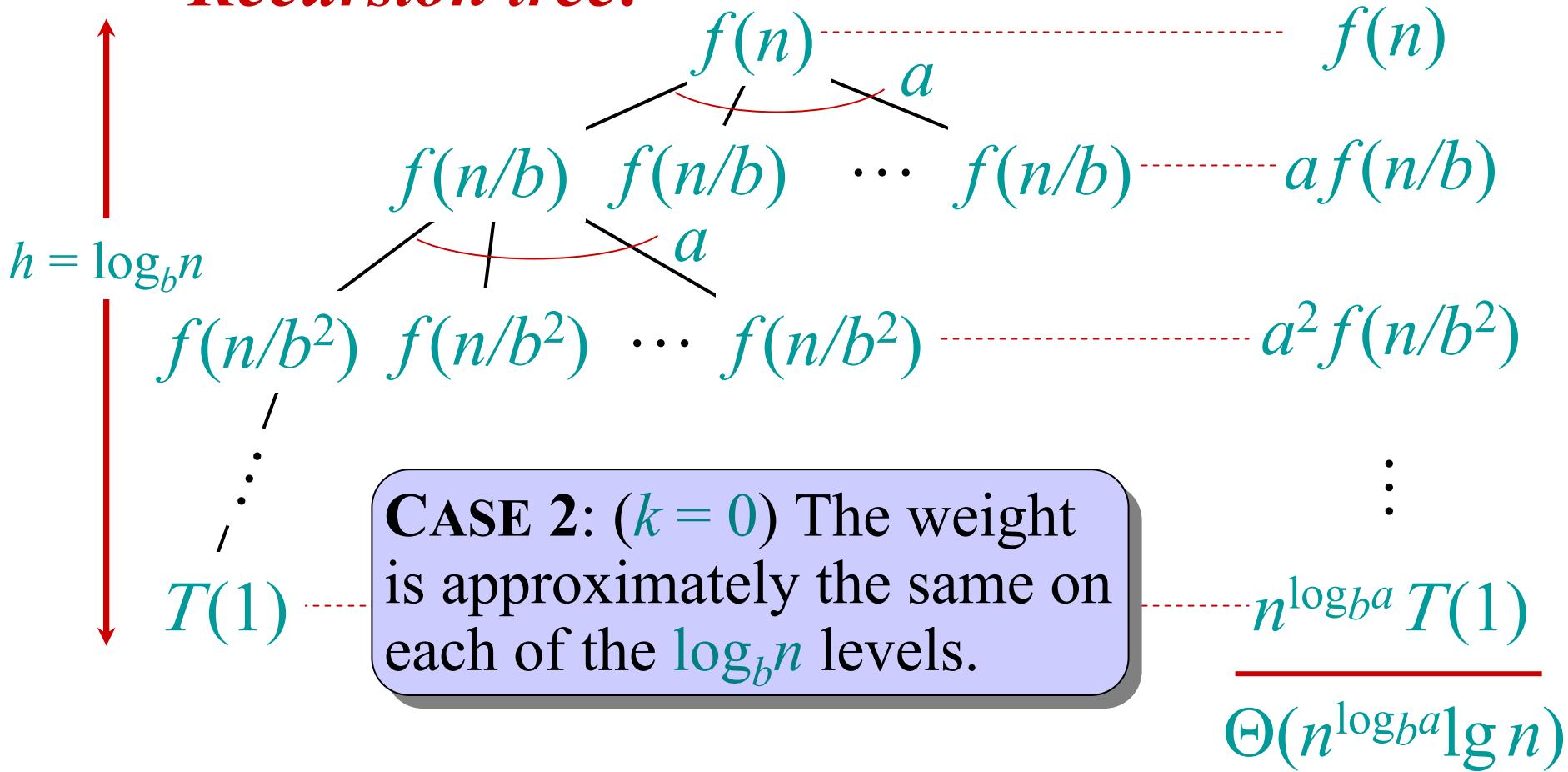
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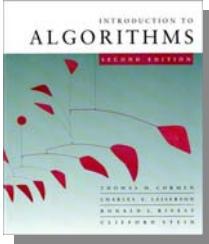




# Idea of master theorem

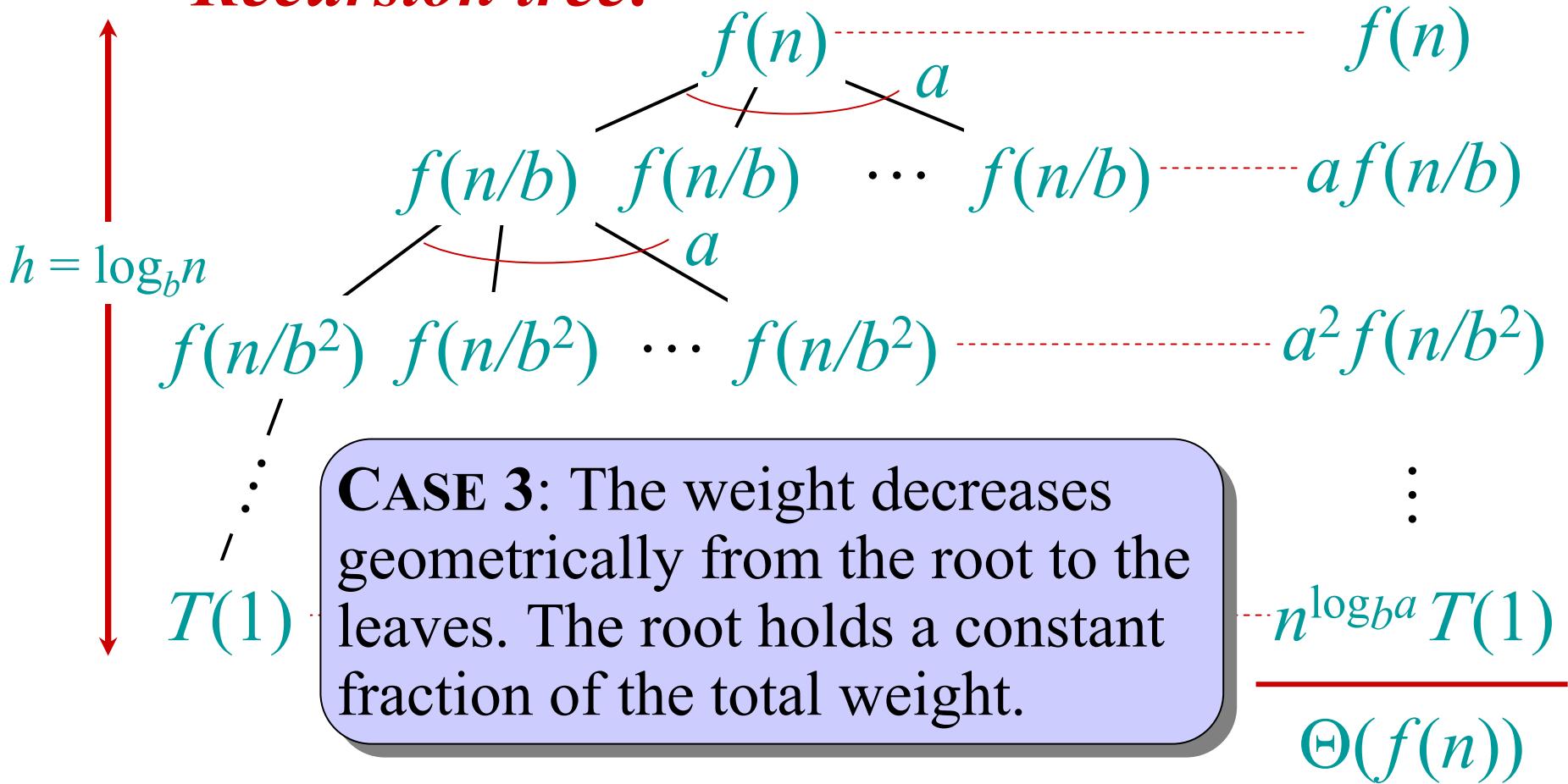
*Recursion tree:*

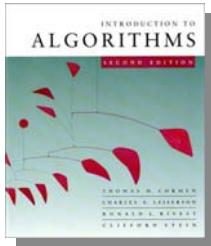




# Idea of master theorem

*Recursion tree:*





# Appendix: geometric series

$$1 + x + x^2 + \cdots + x^n = \frac{1 - x^{n+1}}{1 - x} \text{ for } x \neq 1$$

$$1 + x + x^2 + \cdots = \frac{1}{1 - x} \text{ for } |x| < 1$$

Return to last  
slide viewed.

