

# Recurrences and Solving recurrence equations

# Complexity Analysis of Recursive Functions

- Decide on a parameter indicating size of input
- Identify the basic operation
- Check whether the number of times the basic op. is executed may vary on different inputs of the same size.
  - If it may, the worst, average, and best cases must be investigated separately
- Set up a recurrence relation with an appropriate initial condition
- Solve the recurrence

# Factorial Function – Recursive Definition

$n! = 1 * 2 * \dots * (n-1) * n$  for  $n \geq 1$

$0! = 1$

Recursive definition of  $n!$

$F(n) = F(n-1) * n$  for  $n \geq 1$

$F(0) = 1$

**ALGORITHM**  $F(n)$

*//Computes  $n!$  recursively*

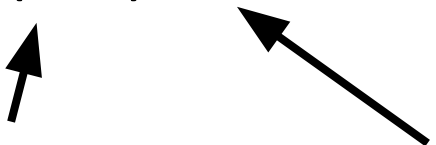
*//Input: A nonnegative integer  $n$*

*//Output: The value of  $n!$*

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

**else return  $F(n - 1) * n$**

# Factorial Function – Recursive Definition

$$T(n) = T(n-1) + 1 \quad ; n > 0$$


To calculate  $F(n-1)$       To multiply  $F(n-1)$  by  $n$

$$T(0) = 0 \quad \text{No multiplication when } n = 0$$

$$T(n) = T(n-1) + 1 \quad ; n > 0$$
$$T(0) = 0$$

## **ALGORITHM** $F(n)$

*//Computes  $n!$  recursively*

*//Input: A nonnegative integer  $n$*

*//Output: The value of  $n!$*

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

**else return  $F(n - 1) * n$**

# Solving Recurrence Relation – Substitution method

$$\begin{aligned}T(n) &= T(n-1) + 1 \\&= T(n-2) + 1 + 1 = T(n-2) + 2 \\&= T(n-3) + 1 + 2 = T(n-3) + 3 \\&= T(n-i) + i\end{aligned}$$

When  $n - i = 0$ , ( $n = i$ )

$$T(n) = T(0) + n$$

$$T(n) = n$$

$T(n)$  is  $O(n)$

$\begin{aligned}T(n) &= T(n-1) + 1 && ; n > 0 \\T(0) &= 0\end{aligned}$
---

# Solving Recurrence Relation – Substitution method

$$\begin{aligned}T(n) &= T(n/2) + 1 \\&= T(n/4) + 1 + 1 = T(n/4) + 2 \\&= T(n/8) + 1 + 2 = T(n/8) + 3 \\&= T(n/2^i) + i\end{aligned}$$

When  $n / 2^i = 1$ , ( $n = 2^i$ ,  $i = \log n$ )

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

$$T(n) = \log n$$

$$T(n) \text{ is } O(\log n)$$

$$\begin{aligned}T(n) &= T(n/2) + 1 \quad ; n > 1 \\T(1) &= 1\end{aligned}$$

# Solving Recurrence Relation – Substitution method

$$T(n) = 2T(n/2) + 1 \quad ; n > 1$$

$$T(1) = 1$$

# Solving Recurrence Relation – Substitution method

$$\begin{aligned}T(n) &= 2T(n/2) + 1 \\&= 2[2T(n/4) + 1] + 1 = 4T(n/4) + 3 \\&= 4[2T(n/8) + 1] + 3 = 8T(n/8) + 7 \\&= i T(n/i) + (i-1)\end{aligned}$$

When  $n/i = 1$ , ( $n = i$ )

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

$$T(n) = n + n - 1 = 2n - 1$$

$T(n)$  is  $O(n)$

$\begin{aligned}T(n) &= 2T(n/2) + 1 && ; n > 1 \\T(1) &= 1\end{aligned}$
--



# Solving Recurrence Relation – Substitution method

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= T(n-1) + n && ; n > 1 \\ T(0) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

# Solving Recurrence Relation – Substitution method

$$\begin{aligned}T(n) &= T(n-1) + n \\&= T(n-2) + (n-1) + n = T(n-2) + (n-1) + n \\&= T(n-3) + (n-2) + (n-1) + n \\&= T(n-i) + (n-i+1) + (n-i+2) + \dots + (n-i+i)\end{aligned}$$

When  $n - i = 0$ , ( $n = i$ )

$$T(n) = T(0) + 1 + 2 + \dots + n$$

$$T(n) = n(n+1) / 2$$

$$T(n) \text{ is } O(n^2)$$

$\begin{aligned}T(n) &= T(n-1) + n && ; n > 1 \\T(0) &= 0\end{aligned}$
---

# Solving Recurrence Relation – Substitution method

$$T(n) = 2T(n/2) + n \quad ; n > 1$$

$$T(1) = 1$$

# Solving Recurrence Relation – Substitution method

$$T(n) = 2T(n/2) + n \quad ; n > 1$$
$$T(1) = 1$$

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

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

$$= 4[2T(n/8) + n/4] + 2n = 8T(n/8) + 3n$$

$$= 2^i T(n/2^i) + i.n$$

When  $n/2^i = 1$ , ( $n = 2^i$ ,  $i = \log n$ )

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

$$T(n) = n \log n$$

$$T(n) \text{ is } O(n \log n)$$

# Mergesort

```
Merge_sort(A,le,r) //n = r-le+1
  if (le>=r) return
  else
    m = floor((le+r)/2)
    Merge_sort(A,le,m);
    Merge_sort(A,m+1,r);
    Merge(A,le,m,r);
```

# Writing Recurrence Relation : Example 1

## Mergesort

```
Merge_sort(A,le,r) //n = r-le+1
  if (le>=r) return
  else
    m = floor((le+r)/2)
    Merge_sort(A,le,m);
    Merge_sort(A,m+1,r);
    Merge(A,le,m,r);
```

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

$$T(1) = c$$

# Writing Recurrence Relation : Example 2

## Binary Search - recursive

```
/* Adapted from Sedgewick, n = right-left+1 */
int search(int A[], int left, int right, int v)
{ int m = (left+right)/2;
  if (left > right) return -1;
  if (v == A[m]) return m;
  if (left == right) return -1;
  if (v < A[m])
    return search(A, left, m-1, v);
  else
    return search(A, m+1, right, v);
}
```

# Common recurrence relations

Recurrence	Algorithm	Big O Solution
$T(n) = T(n/2) + O(1)$	Binary Search	$O(\log n)$
$T(n) = T(n-1) + O(1)$	Linear Search	$O(n)$
$T(n) = 2T(n/2) + O(1)$	Tree traversal	$O(n)$
$T(n) = T(n-1) + O(n)$	Selection Sort	$O(n^2)$
$T(n) = 2T(n/2) + O(n)$	Merge Sort	$O(n \log n)$



# Master Theorem

## Theorem (Master Theorem)

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

$$\begin{aligned}T(n) &= aT\left(\frac{n}{b}\right) + f(n) \\ T(1) &= c\end{aligned}$$

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

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

# Master Theorem - Pitfalls

You cannot use the Master Theorem if

- $T(n)$  is not monotone, ex:  $T(n) = \sin(n)$
- $f(n)$  is not a polynomial, ex:  $T(n) = 2T(n/2) + 2^n$
- $b$  cannot be expressed as a constant, ex:  $T(n) = T(\sqrt{n})$
- The Master Theorem does not solve a recurrence relation.
- It describes only the asymptotic behaviour.
  - Rather than solving exactly the recurrence relation

# Master Theorem : Example 1

Let  $T(n) = T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + \frac{1}{2}n^2 + n$ . What are the parameters?

$$a = 1$$

$$b = 2$$

$$d = 2$$

$$f(n) = \frac{1}{2}n^2 + n$$

Therefore which condition?

Since  $1 < 2^2$ , case 1 applies.

Thus we conclude that

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

## Theorem (Master Theorem)

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

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= aT\left(\frac{n}{b}\right) + f(n) \\ T(1) &= c \end{aligned}$$

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

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

# Master Theorem : Example 2

Let  $T(n) = 2T\left(\frac{n}{4}\right) + \sqrt{n} + 42$ . What are the parameters?

$$\begin{aligned}a &= 2 \\b &= 4 \\d &= \frac{1}{2}\end{aligned}$$

Therefore which condition?

Since  $2 = 4^{\frac{1}{2}}$ , case 2 applies.

Thus we conclude that

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

## Theorem (Master Theorem)

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

$$\begin{aligned}T(n) &= aT\left(\frac{n}{b}\right) + f(n) \\T(1) &= c\end{aligned}$$

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

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

# Exercise

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

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

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

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

5.  $T(n) = 16T(n/4) + n$

6.  $T(n) = 2T(n/2) + n \log n$

# Exercise - Solution

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

1.  $\Theta(n^2)$  Case 3

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

2.  $\Theta(n^2 \log n)$  Case 2

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

3.  $\Theta(2^n)$  Case 3

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

4. Does not apply.  $a$  is not a constant

5.  $T(n) = 16T(n/4) + n$

5.  $\Theta(n^2)$  Case 1

6.  $T(n) = 2T(n/2) + n \log n$

6.  $\Theta(n \log^{2+n})$  Case 3