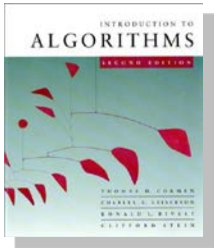
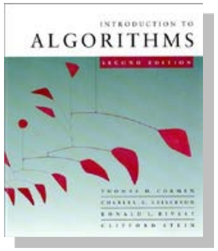


Solving recurrences

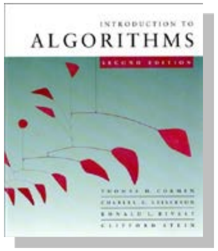
- The analysis of merge sort from ***Lecture 1*** required us to solve a recurrence.
- Recurrences are like solving integrals, differential equations, etc.
  - Learn a few tricks.
- ***Lecture 3***: Applications of recurrences to divide-and-conquer algorithms.



Substitution method

The most general method:

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



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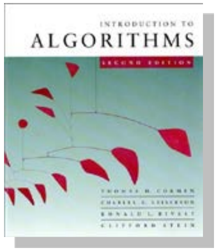
2. ***Verify*** by induction.
3. ***Solve*** for constants.

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

- [Assume that $T(1) = \Theta(1)$.]
- Guess $O(n^3)$. (Prove O and Ω separately.)
- Assume that $T(k) \le ck^3$ for $k < n$.
- Prove $T(n) \le cn^3$ by induction.

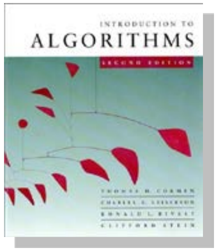


Example of substitution

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

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 $1 \le n < n_0$, we have "$\Theta(1)$" $\le cn^3$, if we pick c big enough.

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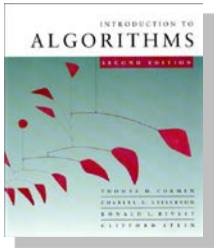
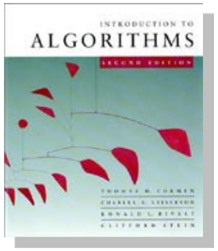
This bound is not tight!



A tighter upper bound?

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



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

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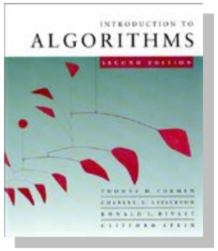
\begin{aligned}
T(n) &= 4T(n/2) + n \\
&\le 4c(n/2)^2 + n \\
&= cn^2 + n \\
&= O(n^2)
\end{aligned}
$$



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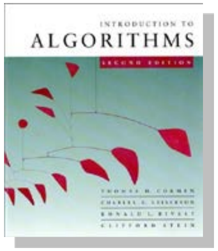
Wrong! We must prove the I.H.



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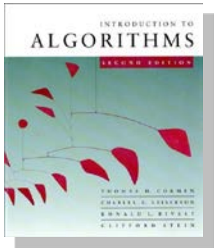
&= \cancel{O(n^2)} \quad \textbf{\textit{Wrong!}} \text{ We must prove the I.H.} \\
&= cn^2 - (-n) \quad [\text{ desired} - \text{residual }] \\
&\le cn^2 \quad \text{for } \textbf{\textit{no}} \text{ choice of } c > 0. \text{ Lose!}
\end{aligned}
$$

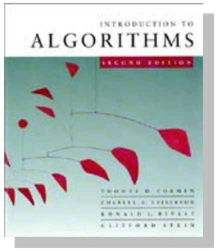


A tighter upper bound!

IDEA: Strengthen the inductive hypothesis.

- ***Subtract*** a low-order term.

Inductive hypothesis: $T(k) \le c_1k^2 - c_2k$ for $k < n$.



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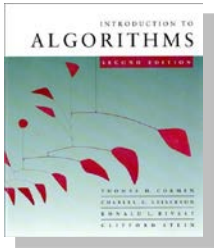
$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= 4T(n/2) + n \\ &= 4(c_1(n/2)^2 - c_2(n/2)) + n \\ &= c_1 n^2 - 2c_2 n + n \\ &= c_1 n^2 - c_2 n - (c_2 n - n) \\ &\leq c_1 n^2 - c_2 n \quad \text{if } c_2 \geq 1. \end{aligned}$$



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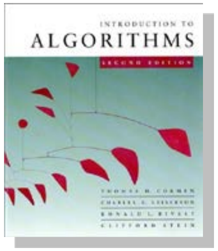
Pick c_1 big enough to handle the initial conditions.

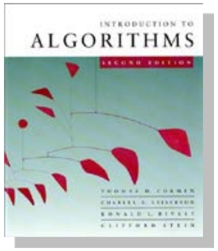


Recursion-tree method

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



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

$$T(n)$$

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$$n^2$$

$$T(n/4) \qquad\qquad T(n/2)$$

Example of recursion tree

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

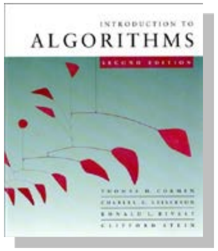
n^2

$(n/4)^2$ $\quad$ $(n/2)^2$

$(n/16)^2$ $\quad$ $(n/8)^2$ $\quad$ $(n/8)^2$ $\quad$ $(n/4)^2$

$\vdots$

$\Theta(1)$



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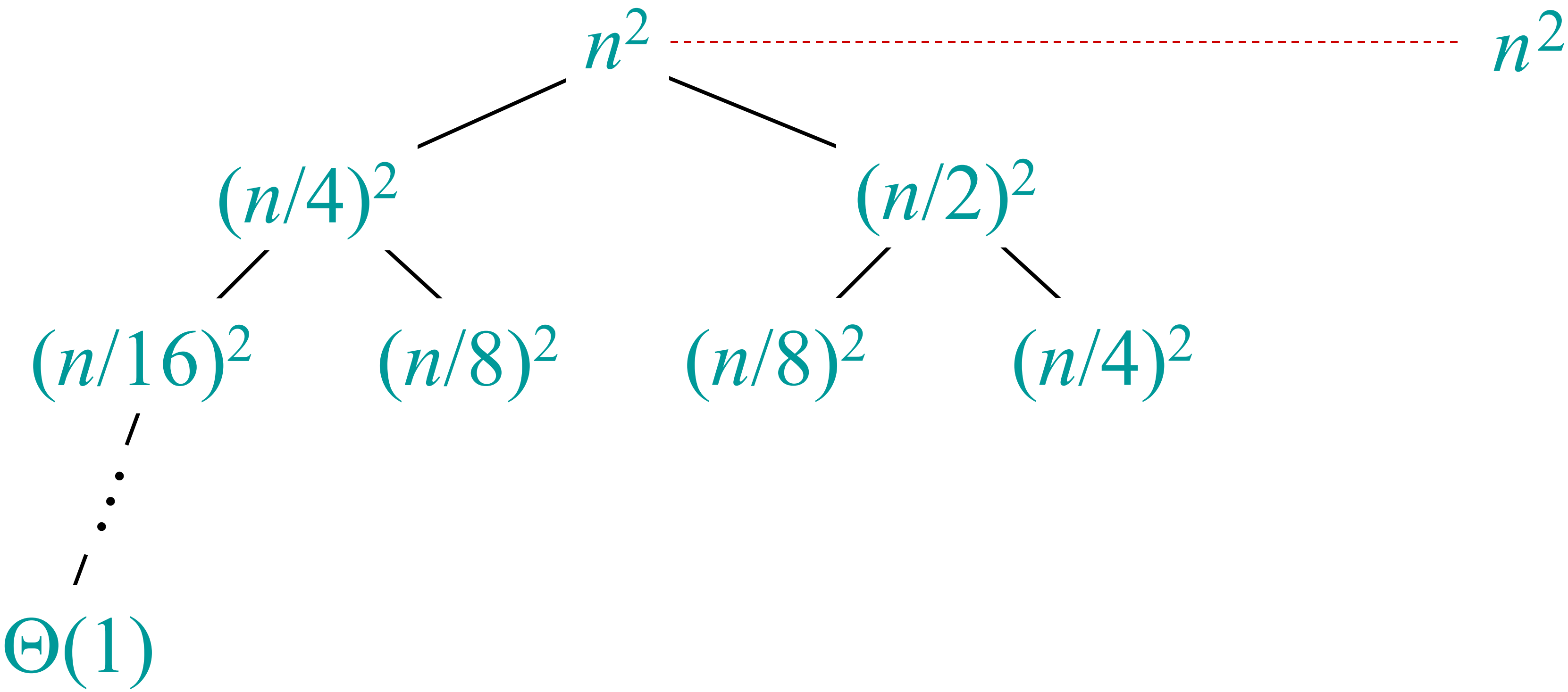

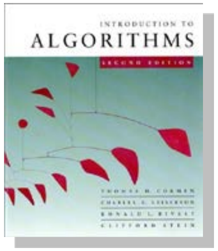

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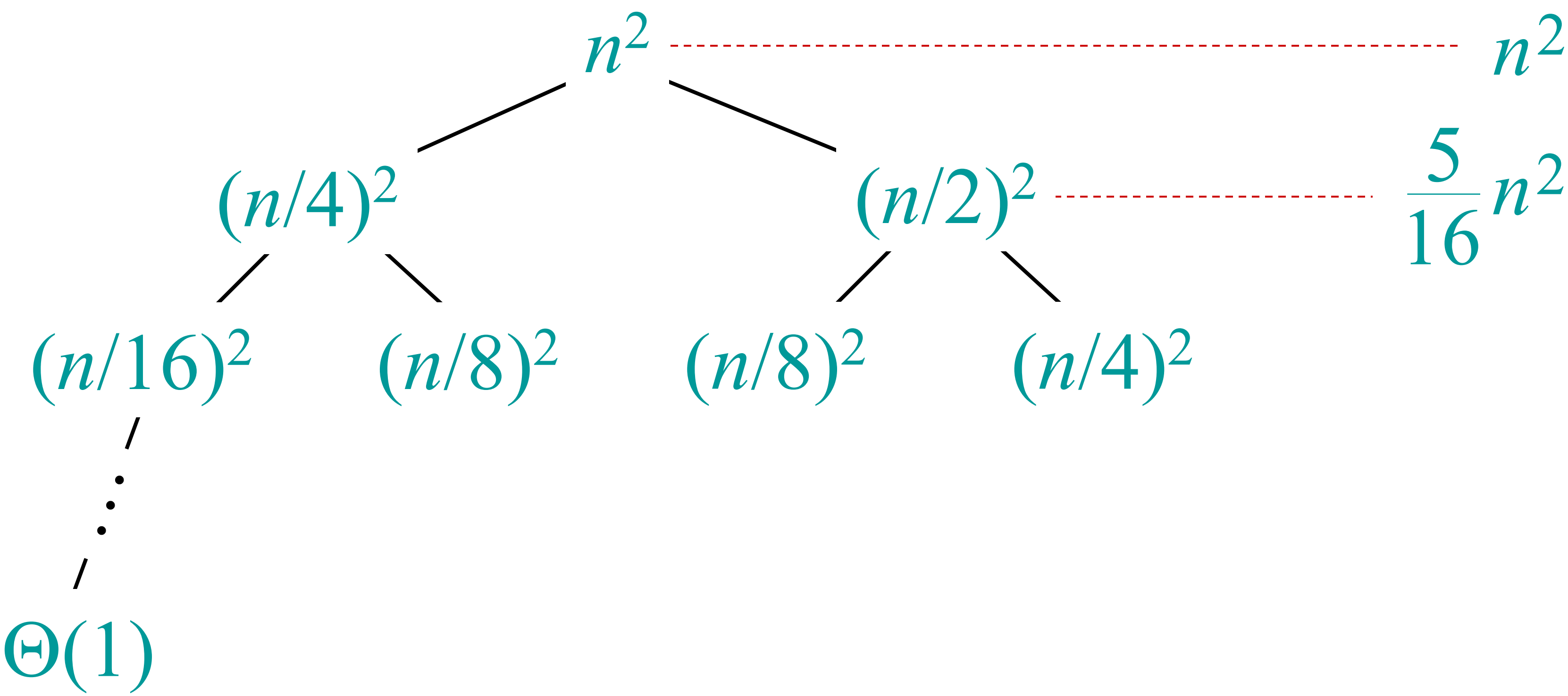

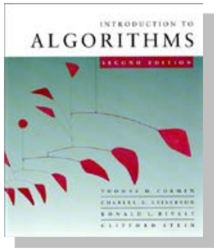

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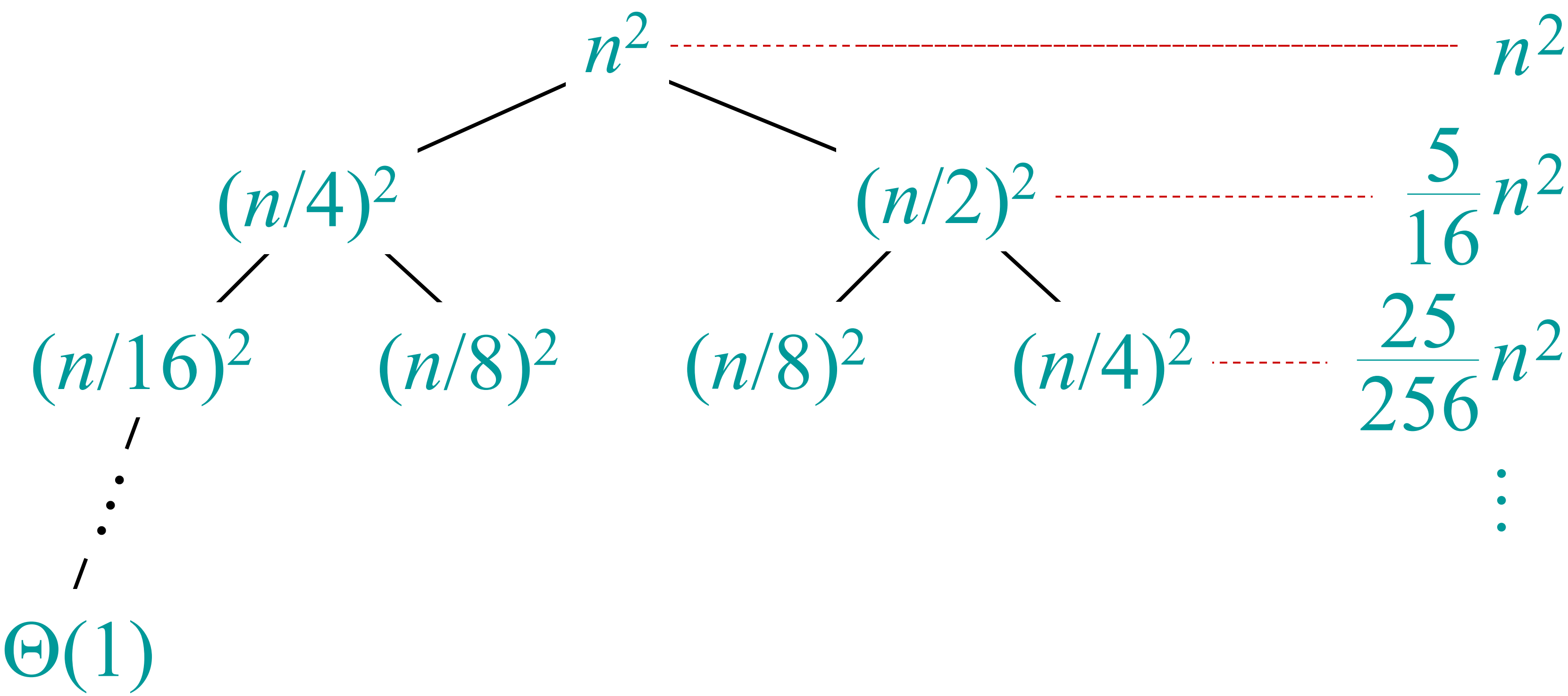
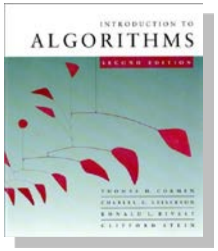




Example of recursion tree

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

$$n^2 \quad \cdots\cdots \quad n^2$$

$$(n/4)^2 \qquad (n/2)^2 \quad \cdots\cdots \quad \frac{5}{16}n^2$$

$$(n/16)^2 \qquad (n/8)^2 \qquad (n/8)^2 \qquad (n/4)^2 \quad \cdots\cdots \quad \frac{25}{256}n^2$$

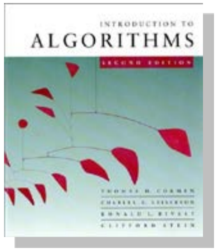
$$\vdots \qquad\qquad\qquad\qquad \vdots$$

$$\Theta(1)$$

$$\text{Total} = n^2\left(1 + \frac{5}{16} + \left(\frac{5}{16}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{5}{16}\right)^3 + \cdots\right)$$

$$= \Theta(n^2)$$

geometric series

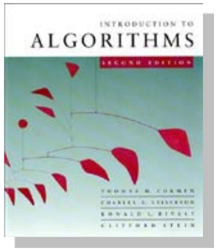


The master method

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.

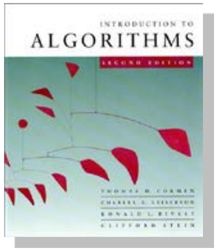


Three common cases

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

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^{ε} 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: $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \lg^{k+1} n)$.

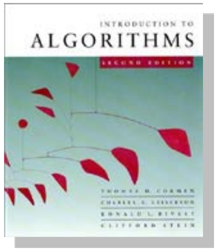
Three common cases (cont.)

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^{ε} factor),

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

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



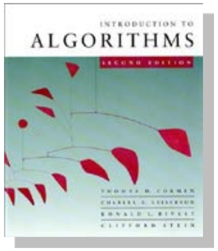
Examples

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 $\varepsilon = 1$.

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



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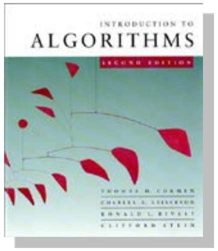
$a = 4,\ b = 2 \Rightarrow n^{\log_b a} = n^2;\ f(n) = n^2.$

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

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



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

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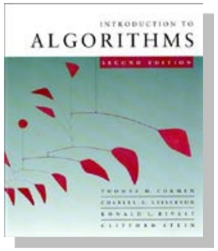
Case 3: $f(n) = \Omega(n^{2+\varepsilon})$ for $\varepsilon = 1$

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

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



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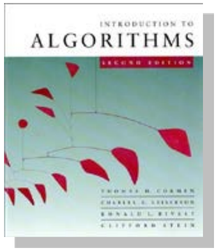
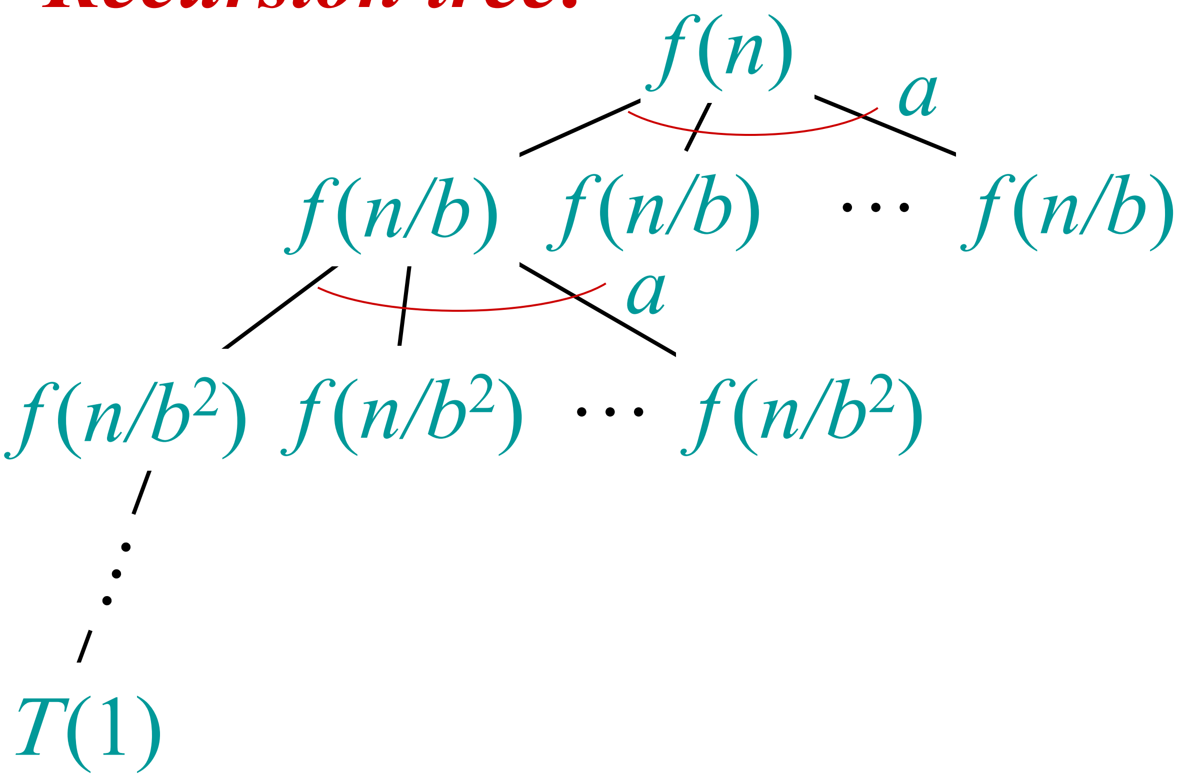
$\therefore\ T(n) = \Theta(n^3)$.

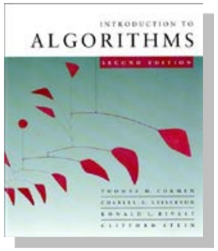
Ex. $T(n) = 4T(n/2) + n^2/\lg n$
$a = 4,\ b = 2 \Rightarrow n^{\log_b a} = n^2;\ f(n) = n^2/\lg n.$
Master method does not apply. In particular, for every constant $\varepsilon > 0$, we have $n^{\varepsilon} = \omega(\lg n)$.



Idea of master theorem

Recursion tree:





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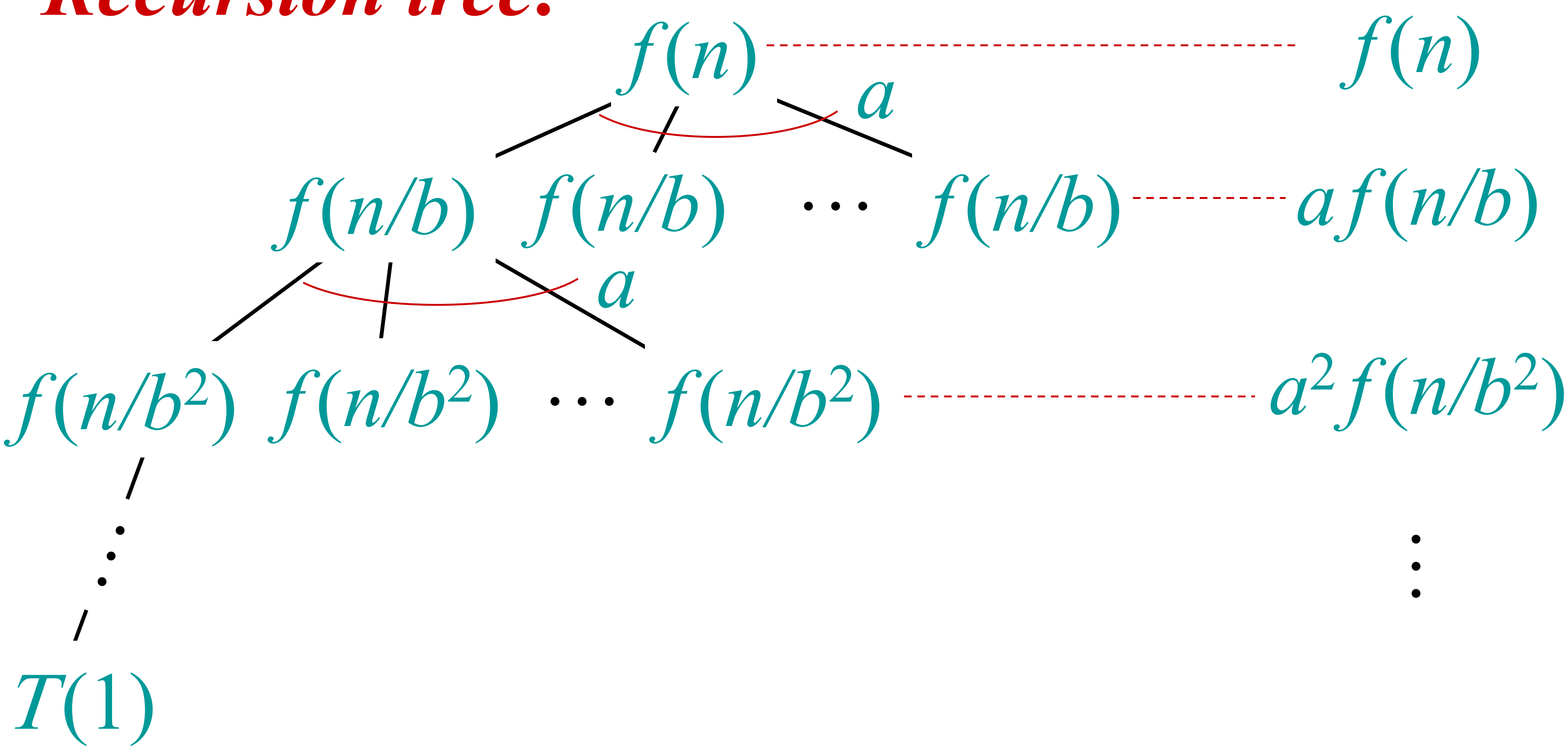
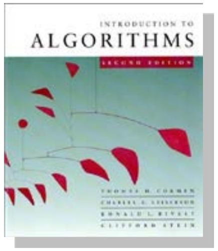




Idea of master theorem

Recursion tree:

$f(n)$ .... $f(n)$

a

$f(n/b) \quad f(n/b) \quad \cdots \quad f(n/b)$ .... $a\,f(n/b)$

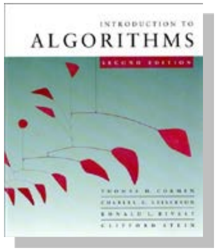
a

$f(n/b^2) \quad f(n/b^2) \quad \cdots \quad f(n/b^2)$ .... $a^2 f(n/b^2)$

$\vdots$ $\qquad\qquad\qquad\qquad$ $\vdots$

$T(1)$

$h = \log_b n$



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$$a$$

$$f(n/b) \quad f(n/b) \quad \cdots \quad f(n/b) \quad\cdots\quad a\,f(n/b)$$

$$a$$

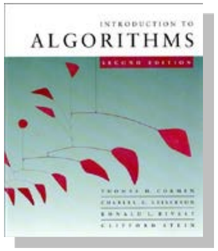
$$h = \log_b n$$

$$f(n/b^2) \quad f(n/b^2) \quad \cdots \quad f(n/b^2) \quad\cdots\quad a^2 f(n/b^2)$$

$$\vdots$$

$$T(1) \quad\cdots\quad n^{\log_b a}\,T(1)$$

$$\begin{aligned}\#\text{leaves} &= a^h \\ &= a^{\log_b n} \\ &= n^{\log_b a}\end{aligned}$$



Idea of master theorem

Recursion tree:

$$f(n) \quad\cdots\cdots\quad f(n)$$

$$a$$

$$f(n/b) \quad f(n/b) \quad \cdots \quad f(n/b) \quad\cdots\cdots\quad a\,f(n/b)$$

$$a$$

$$h = \log_b n$$

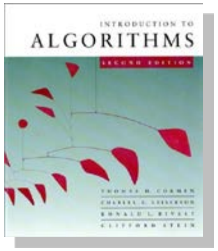
$$f(n/b^2) \quad f(n/b^2) \quad \cdots \quad f(n/b^2) \quad\cdots\cdots\quad a^2 f(n/b^2)$$

$$\vdots \qquad\qquad \vdots$$

$$T(1) \quad\cdots\cdots\quad n^{\log_b a}\, T(1)$$

CASE 1: The weight increases geometrically from the root to the leaves. The leaves hold a constant fraction of the total weight.

$$\Theta(n^{\log_b a})$$



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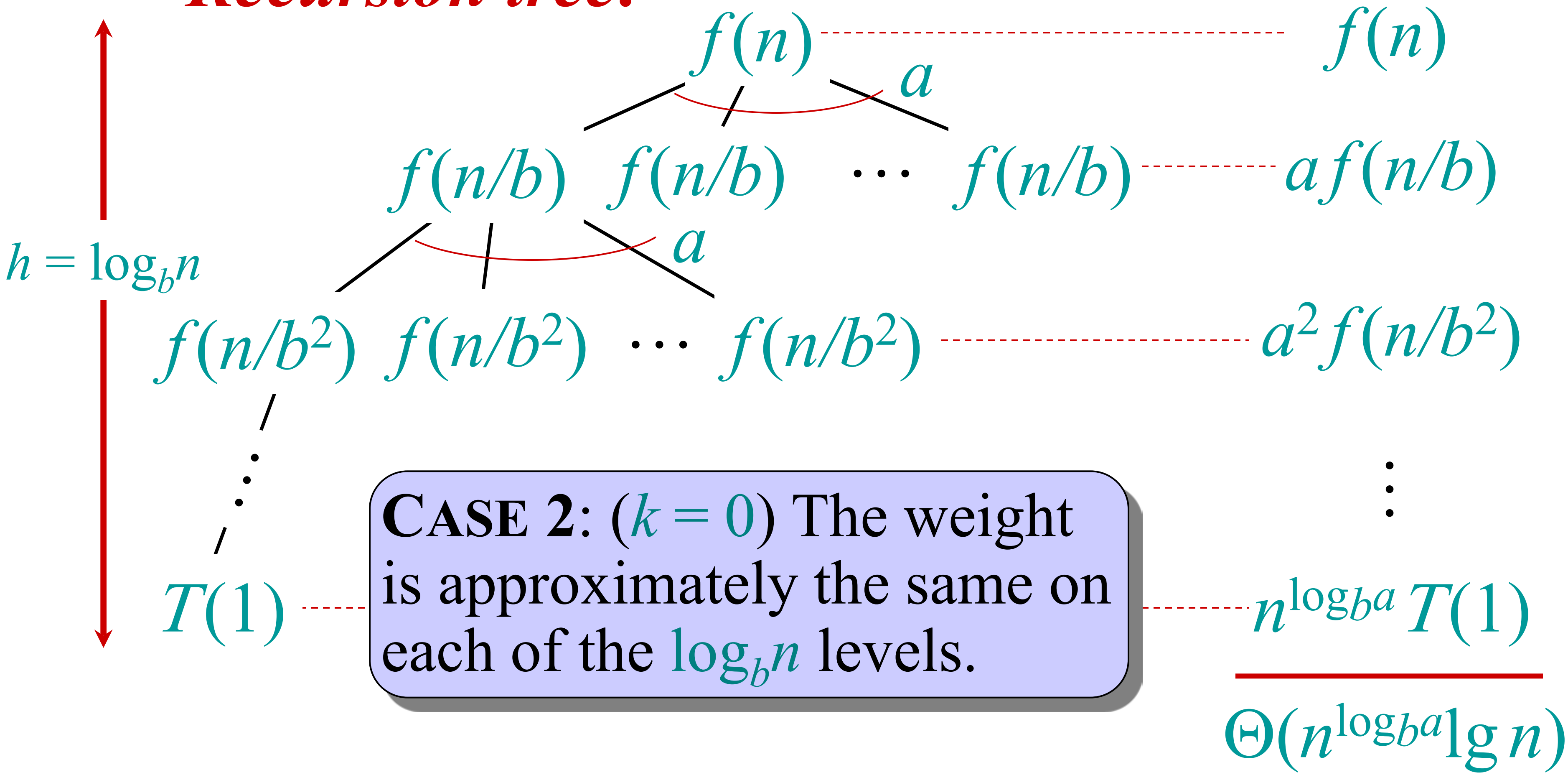
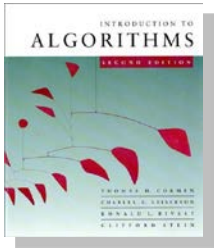


Case 2: ($k = 0$) The weight is approximately the same on each of the $\log_b n$ levels.



Idea of master theorem

Recursion tree:

$f(n)$ .... $f(n)$

a

$f(n/b)$ $f(n/b)$ $\cdots$ $f(n/b)$ .... $a f(n/b)$

$h = \log_b n$

a

$f(n/b^2)$ $f(n/b^2)$ $\cdots$ $f(n/b^2)$ .... $a^2 f(n/b^2)$

$\vdots$

$T(1)$ .... $n^{\log_b a}\, T(1)$

$\Theta(f(n))$

CASE 3: The weight decreases geometrically from the root to the leaves. The root holds a constant fraction of the total weight.

