

Logarithms

We shall use the following notations:

$$\begin{aligned}\lg n &= \log_2 n \quad (\text{binary logarithm}), \\ \ln n &= \log_e n \quad (\text{natural logarithm}), \\ \lg^k n &= (\lg n)^k \quad (\text{exponentiation}), \\ \lg \lg n &= \lg(\lg n) \quad (\text{composition}).\end{aligned}$$

An important notational convention we shall adopt is that *logarithm functions will apply only to the next term in the formula*, so that $\lg n + k$ will mean $(\lg n) + k$ and not $\lg(n + k)$. If we hold $b > 1$ constant, then for $n > 0$, the function $\log_b n$ is strictly increasing.

For all real $a > 0$, $b > 0$, $c > 0$, and n ,

$$\begin{aligned}(3.14) \quad a &= b^{\log_b a}, \\ \log_c(ab) &= \log_c a + \log_c b, \\ \log_b a^n &= n \log_b a, \\ \log_b a &= \frac{\log_c a}{\log_c b},\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}(3.15) \quad \log_b(1/a) &= -\log_b a, \\ \log_b a &= \frac{1}{\log_a b}, \\ a^{\log_b c} &= c^{\log_b a},\end{aligned}$$

where, in each equation above, logarithm bases are not 1.

Solutions to exercises

(1) In mathematica (or python) define the functions and compute the number of operations:

e.g. $f(n) = \text{Sqrt}(n) \rightarrow f(n)/10^6 == x \text{ Sec} \rightarrow n = f^{-1}(x \cdot 10^6)$

Item	1 second	1 minute	1 hour	1 day	1 month	1 year	1 century
$\lg n$	2^{10^6}	$2^{6 \cdot 10^7}$	$2^{36 \cdot 10^8}$	$2^{864 \cdot 10^8}$	$2^{25920 \cdot 10^8}$	$2^{315360 \cdot 10^8}$	$2^{31556736 \cdot 10^8}$
$n^{1/2}$	10^{12}	$36 \cdot 10^{14}$	$1296 \cdot 10^{16}$	$746496 \cdot 10^{16}$	$6718464 \cdot 10^{18}$	$994519296 \cdot 10^{18}$	$995827586973696 \cdot 10^{16}$
n	10^6	$6 \cdot 10^7$	$36 \cdot 10^8$	$864 \cdot 10^8$	$2592 \cdot 10^9$	$31536 \cdot 10^9$	$31556736 \cdot 10^8$
$n \lg n$	62746	2801417	133378058	2755147513	71870856404	797633893349	68654697441062
n^2	1000	7745	60000	293938	1609968	5615692	56175382
n^3	100	391	1532	4420	13736	31593	146677
2^n	19	25	31	36	41	44	51
$n!$	9	11	12	13	15	16	17

(2) Indicate for each pair of expressions (A,B) in the table below, whether A is O, o, Ω , ω , or Θ of B. Assume that $k \geq 1$, $\epsilon > 0$, and $c > 1$ are constants. Your answer should be in the form of the table with "yes" or "no" written in each box.

A	B	O	o	Ω	ω	Θ
a. $lg^k n$	n^ϵ	yes	yes	no	no	no
b. n^k	c^n	yes	yes	no	no	no
c. \sqrt{n}	$n^{\sin n}$	no	no	no	no	no
d. 2^n	$2^{n/2}$	no	no	yes	yes	no
e. $n^{lg c}$	c^{lgn}	yes	no	yes	no	yes
f. $lg(n!)$	$lg(n^n)$	yes	no	yes	no	yes

- (a) Apply L'Hospital's rule repeatedly to see that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(lgn)^k}{n^\epsilon} = 0$ to conclude that $(lgn)^k = o(n^\epsilon)$.

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(lgn)^k}{n^\epsilon} &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{k(lgn)^{k-1} \frac{1}{n}}{\epsilon n^{\epsilon-1}} \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{k(lgn)^{k-1}}{\epsilon n^\epsilon} \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{k \frac{d(lgn)^{k-1}}{dn}}{\epsilon \frac{dn^\epsilon}{dn}} \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{k(k-1)(lgn)^{k-2} \frac{1}{n}}{\epsilon^2 n^{\epsilon-1}} \end{aligned}$$

After k applications of the rule, we get

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{k(k-1)(k-2)\dots1}{\epsilon^k n^\epsilon} = 0$$

- (b) Apply L'Hospital's rule repeatedly to see that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^k}{c^n} = 0$ to conclude that $n^k = o(c^n)$.

- (c) You can visually inspect the plots to see that $n^{\sin n}$ is an oscillating function. $\sin n$ oscillates between 1 and -1. When at its maximum value, $n^{\sin n} > c\sqrt{n}$ and thus $n^{\sin n} \neq O(\sqrt{n})$. When $\sin n$ is at its minimum, $n^{\sin n} < c\sqrt{n}$ and thus $n^{\sin n} \neq \Omega(\sqrt{n})$.

(d) $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2^n}{2^{n/2}} = \infty$ and therefore $2^n = \omega(2^{n/2})$.

(e) Recall that $n^{lg c} = c^{lg c}$.

(f) Note $lg(n^n) = nlg(n)$, and using Stirling's formula it is shown in the text that $lg(n!) = \Theta(nlg(n))$.

(3) Suppose we are comparing implementations of insertion sort and merge sort on the same machine. For inputs of size n , insertion sort runs in $8 n^2$ steps, while merge sort runs in $64 n \log(n)$ steps. For which values of n does insertion sort beat merge sort?

Check the numerical solution of $n=8 \log[n]$

(log is the natural log, \ln)

(4) What is the smallest value of n such that an algorithm whose running time is $100 n^2$ runs faster than an algorithm whose running time is 2^n on the same machine?

Check the numerical solution of $n=2 \log[n] + \log[100]$

(5) show that for any real constants a, b , with $b > 0$, $(n+a)^b = \Theta(n^b)$

(hint: to show that $f(n) = \Theta(g(n))$ you need to show that it is both $O(g(n))$ and $\Omega(g(n))$).

Solution

By the definition of $\Theta(\cdot)$, we need find the constants c_1, c_2, n_0 such that $0 \leq c_1 n^b \leq (n+a)^b \leq c_2 n^b$ for all $n \geq n_0$.

Note that for large values of n , $n \geq |a|$ we have

$$n + a \leq n + |a| \leq 2n$$

and for further large values of n , $n \geq 2|a|$, (i.e., $|a| \leq \frac{1}{2}n$)

$$n + a \geq n - |a| \geq \frac{1}{2}n$$

Thus, when $n \geq 2|a|$, we have

$$0 \leq \frac{1}{2}n \leq n + a \leq 2n$$

Since b is a positive constant, we can raise the quantities to the b^{th} power with out affecting the inequality. thus

$$0 \leq \left(\frac{1}{2}n\right)^b \leq (n+a)^b \leq (2n)^b$$

$$0 \leq \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^b n^b \leq (n+a)^b \leq (2)^b (n)^b$$

Thus, with $c_1 = (\frac{1}{2})^b$, $c_2 = 2^b$, and $n_0 = 2|a|$ we satisfy the definition.

Simpler solution:

just prove that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(n+a)^b}{n^b} = \text{constant}$$

(6) show that the function $\lg(n)$ is polynomially bounded. Show the same for $\lg(\lg(n))$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\lg n}{n^c} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1/n}{cn^{c-1}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{cn^c} = 0 \quad \forall c > 0$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\lg \lg n}{n^c} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{1}{\lg n} 1/n}{cn^{c-1}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{cn^c \lg n} = 0 \quad \forall c > 0$$

(7) Is $2^{n+1} = O(2^n)$? Is $2^{2n} = O(2^n)$?

a) $0 \leq 2^{n+1} \leq c2^n \quad c > 0, \quad n \geq n_0$

YES, for any $c > 2$

(b) NO, the limit of the ratio diverges

(8) —

(1) Express the function $n^3/1000 - 100n^2 - 100n + 3$ in terms of Θ -notation.

$$f(n) = n^3/1000 - 100n^2 - 100n + 3 = \Theta(n^3)$$

Both upper and lower bounded by n^3 for n large enough

$$(9) \quad \text{Let } p(n) = \sum_{i=0}^d a_i n^i$$

where $a_d > 0$, be a degree- d polynomial in n , and let k be a constant. Use the definitions of the asymptotic notations to prove the following properties.

- a. If $k \geq d$, then $p(n) = O(n^k)$.
- b. If $k \leq d$, then $p(n) = \Omega(n^k)$.
- c. If $k = d$, then $p(n) = \Theta(n^k)$.
- d. If $k > d$, then $p(n) = o(n^k)$.
- e. If $k < d$, then $p(n) = \omega(n^k)$.

Solution: keep just the largest power (d) and discuss limits.

(10) Rank the following functions by order of growth; that is, find an arrangement g_1, g_2, \dots of the functions satisfying $g_1 = \Omega(g_2), g_2 = \Omega(g_3), \dots$,

$$n^2, (\sqrt{2})^{\lg n}, n!, (\lg n)^2, \ln n, 2^n, n \lg n, n^3, \ln \ln n$$

$$\text{Sqrt}[2]^{\lg(n)} = (2^{1/2})^{\lg(n)} = 2^{1/2 \lg(n)} = 2^{\lg(n^{1/2})} = n^{1/2} = \text{Sqrt}[n]$$

Solution:

$$n! > 2^n > n^3 > n^2 > n \lg n > (\sqrt{2})^{\lg n} = \sqrt{n} > \ln n > \ln \ln n$$

$$n^n$$

$$(a^m)^n = a^{mn}$$

$$a \lg b = \lg(b^a)$$

Reminder: Stirling approximation

$$n! \sim \sqrt{2\pi n} \left(\frac{n}{e}\right)^n \sim e^{n \ln n - n}$$

The substitution method for solving recurrences entails two steps:

1. Guess the form of the solution.
2. Use mathematical induction to find the constants and show that the solution works.

- (11) Not for the exam, you may skip
- (12) Study by substitution

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

where a is a constant $a >= 1$. For simplicity set $a=1$.

Hint: Let's solve the case $a = 1$; I'll leave the generalization to you:

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= n + T(n-1) \\ &= n + (n-1) + T(n-2) \\ &= n + (n-1) + (n-2) + T(n-3) \\ &= \dots \\ &= n + (n-1) + (n-2) + \dots + (1) + T(0) \\ &= \frac{n(n+1)}{2} + T(0). \end{aligned}$$

In a **recursion tree**, each node represents the cost of a single subproblem somewhere in the set of recursive function invocations. We sum the costs within each level of the tree to obtain a set of per-level costs, and then we sum all the per-level costs to determine the total cost of all levels of the recursion. Recursion trees are particularly useful when the recurrence describes the running time of a divide-and-conquer algorithm.

(13-14) Use a recursion tree to determine a good asymptotic upper bound on the recurrence $T(n) = 3T(\lfloor n/2 \rfloor) + n$.

Use the substitution method to verify your answer.

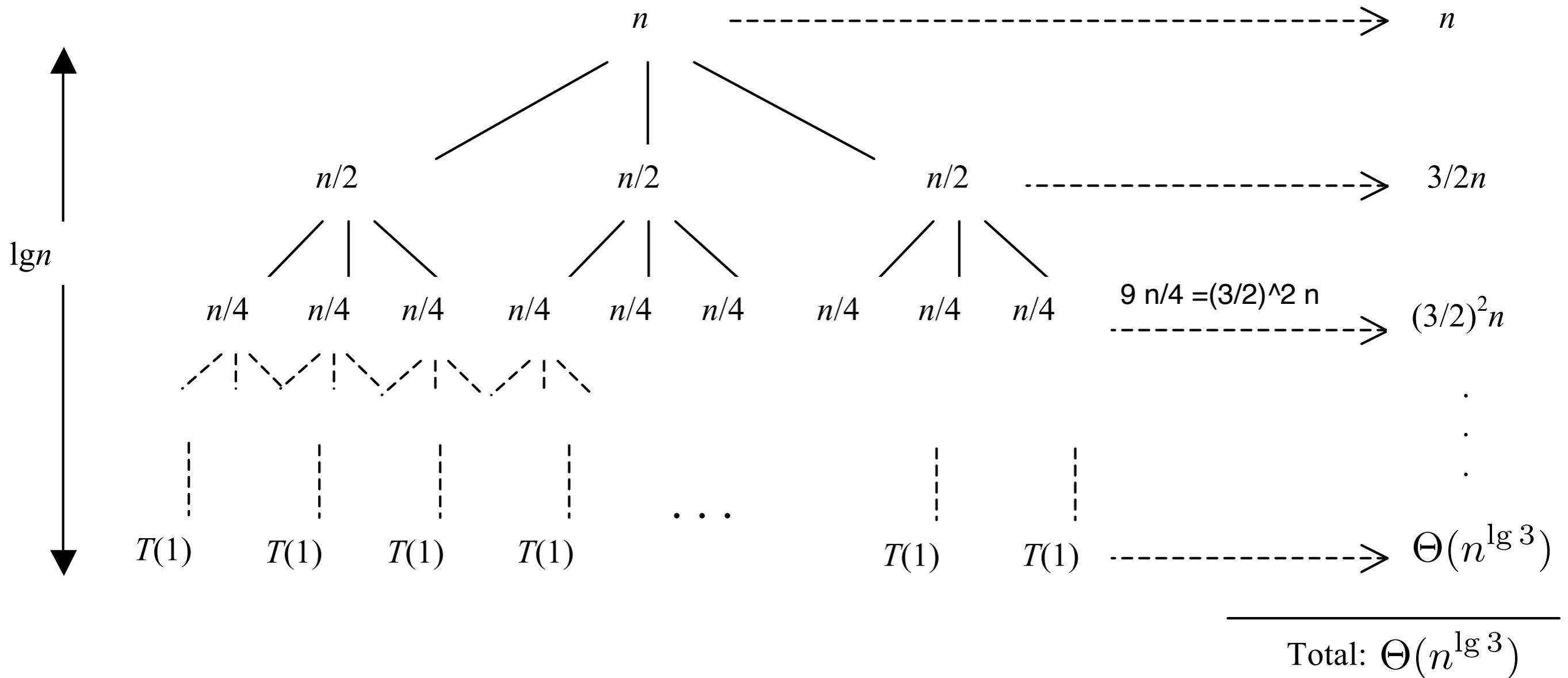
The recurrence is $T(n) = 3T(\lfloor n/2 \rfloor) + n$. We use a recurrence tree to determine the asymptotic upper bound on this recurrence.

Because we know that floors and ceilings usually do not matter when solving recurrences, we create a recurrence tree for the recurrence $T(n) = 3T(n/2) + n$. For convenience, we assume that n is an exact power of 2 so that all subproblem sizes are integers.

Because subproblem sizes decrease by a factor of 2 each time we go down one level, we eventually must reach a boundary condition $T(1)$. To determine the depth of the tree, we find that the subproblem size for a node at depth i is $n/2^i$. Thus, the subproblem size hits $n = 1$ when $n/2^i = 1$ or, equivalently, when $i = \lg n$. Thus, the tree has $\lg n + 1$ levels (at depth 0, 1, 2, 3, ..., $\lg n$).

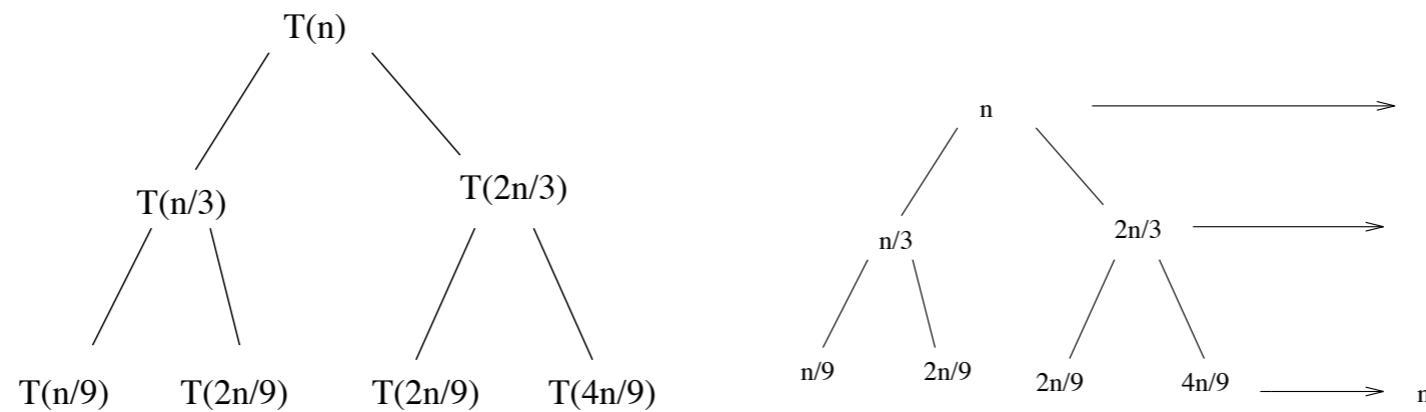
$$T(n) = 3 T(n/2) + n$$

$$T(n) = 3 (3 T(n/4) + n/2) + n = 9 T(n/4) + 3 n/2 + n$$



(14) Show that the solution to $T(n)=T(n/3)+T(2 n/3)+n$ is $\Omega(n \lg n)$ by analyzing the recursion tree.

Draw the recursion tree.



How many levels does the tree have? This is equal to the longest path from the root to a leaf.

The shortest path to a leaf occurs when we take the heavy branch each time. The height k is given by $n(1/3)^k < 1$, meaning $n < 3^k$ or $k > \lg_3 n$.

The longest path to a leaf occurs when we take the light branch each time. The height k is given by $n(2/3)^k \leq 1$, meaning $n \leq (3/2)^k$ or $k \geq \lg_{3/2} n$.

The problem asks to show that $T(n) = \Omega(n \lg n)$, meaning we are looking for a lower bound

On any *full* level, the additive terms sums to n . There are $\log_3 n$ full levels. Thus $T(n) \geq n \log_3 n = \Omega(n \lg n)$

$$T(n) = 4 T(n/2) + 3 n \lg n$$

$$a=4, b=2, \quad \log_b(a) = \lg(4) = \lg(2^2) = 2 \lg(2) = 2$$

$$f(n) = 3 n \lg n = O(n^{2-\epsilon})$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n \lg n / (n^{2-\epsilon}) = 0$$

(15)

The recurrence $T(n) = 7T(n/2) + n^2$ describes the running time of an algorithm A . A competing algorithm A' has a running time of $T'(n) = aT'(n/4) + n^2$. What is the largest integer value for a such that A' is asymptotically faster than A ?

Algorithm A: $a = 7$, $b = 2$, $\lg 7 \simeq 2.8$ $\log_b(a)$

$$f(n) = n^2 = O(n^{2.8-\epsilon}) \quad \xrightarrow{\substack{2.8-\epsilon > 2 \\ 0 < \epsilon < 0.8}} \quad \text{Case 1.} \quad T(n) = \Theta(n^{\lg 7})$$

Algorithm A': a , $b = 4$, $\log_4 a > 2$ $\log_b(a)$ $f(n) = n^2 \stackrel{?}{=} O(n^{(\log_b(a) - \epsilon)})$

$$f(n) = n^2 = O(n^{\log_4 a - \epsilon}) \quad \xrightarrow{\substack{\log_4 a - \epsilon > 2 \\ 0 < \epsilon < \log_4 a}} \quad \text{Case 1.} \quad T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_4 a})$$

Largest value of a : $\log_4 a = \lg 7$ $\rightarrow a \simeq 2^{2 \lg 7}$

$$\log_4 a = \frac{\lg a}{\lg 4} = \frac{\lg a}{2}$$

$$T(n) = \Theta(n^{\lg 7})$$

$$T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_4 a})$$

$$A' < A, \quad \log_4 a = \lg 7$$

$$\log_4 a = \lg 7$$

$$a = 4^{\lg 7} = 2^{2 \lg 7}$$

$$a \leq 4^{\lg 7} = 2^{2 \lg 7} = 49$$

- (16) Can the master method be applied to the recurrence $T(n) = 4T(n/2) + n^2 \lg n$? Why or why not? Give an asymptotic upper bound for this recurrence.

$\lg 4 = 2$ then yes! Case 2 with $a=4, b=2$ and $k=1$

$$\longrightarrow \quad T(n) = \Theta(n^2(\lg n)^2)$$