

(1) SUBSTITUTION METHOD:

- In substitution method, we guess a bound or answer of the problem and then use mathematical induction to prove that our guess is correct.
- It involves guessing the form of the solution and then using mathematical induction to find the constants and show that the solution works. This method can be applied only when it is easy to guess the form of the answer.
- The substitution method can be used to establish either upper or lower bounds on a recurrence.

→ Example 1: Consider the recurrence $T(n) = 2T(n/2) + n$
we have to show that it is asymptotically bound by $O(n \log n)$

Solution: The recurrence is $T(n) = 2T(n/2) + n$ — (1)

Let guess the solution of recurrence is

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

Here, we have to prove that $T(n) \leq c n \log n$ for an appropriate choice of the constant $c > 0$.

$$T(n) \leq c n \log n \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

$$T(n/2) \leq c (n/2) \log(n/2) \quad \text{--- (3) (By Induction)}$$

put eqn (3) on eqn (1)

$$T(n) \leq 2 \left(c \cdot \frac{n}{2} \log \left(\frac{n}{2} \right) \right) + n$$

$$\leq c n \log(n/2) + n$$

$$= c n \log n - c n \log 2 + n$$

$$= c n \log n - c n + n \quad (\because \log 2 = 1)$$

$$T(n) \leq c n \log n, \quad c > 1$$

13

By mathematical induction, we have to show that our solution holds for the boundary conditions.

$$T(n) \leq cn \log n$$

Let $n=1$, $T(1) \leq c \cdot 1 \cdot \log 1 = 0$ ($\because \log 1 = 0$)

Thus for any value of c , this will not hold.

By asymptotic definition, we need to prove

$$T(n) \leq cn \log n \text{ for } n > n_0$$

$$T(2) \leq c \cdot 2 \cdot \log 2$$

$$T(3) \leq c \cdot 3 \cdot \log 3$$

Here, n can't be 1.

But n can be 2 or 3.

Thus we can replace $T(1)$ by $T(2)$ and $T(3)$ as the base case.

The relation holds for $c > 2$. Thus $T(n) \leq cn \log n$ holds.
Hence our guess $T(n) = O(n \log n)$ is true.

→ Example 2: Consider the recurrence $T(n) = T(\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor) + 1$
we have to show that it is asymptotically bound by $O(\log n)$

Solution: $T(n) = O(\log n)$

$$T(n) \leq c \cdot \log n$$

$$T(n/2) \leq c \cdot \log n/2$$

Now, the recurrence relation becomes

$$T(n) \leq c \cdot \log(\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor) + 1$$

$$\leq c \cdot \log(n/2) + 1 = c \log n - c \log_2 2 + 1 = c \log n - c + 1$$

$$\leq c \log n \text{ for } c > 1$$

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

→ Example 3: Show that solution of $T(n) = 2T(n/2) + n$ is $O(n^2)$

Solution: $T(n) = O(n^2)$

$$T(n) \leq c \cdot n^2$$

$$T(n/2) \leq c(n/2)^2 \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

Put eqn (1) in recurrence relation

$$T(n) \leq 2 \cdot c(n/2)^2 + n$$

$$\Rightarrow T(n) \leq \frac{cn^2}{2} + n$$

$$T(n) \leq n^2$$

$$T(n) = O(n^2)$$

14

→ Example 4: Consider the recurrence $T(n) = 2T(\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor + 16) + n$
 we have to show that it is asymptotically bound by $O(n \log n)$

Solution: $T(n) = O(n \log n)$

$$T(n) \leq c \cdot n \log n$$

$$T(n/2) \leq c \cdot (n/2) \log(n/2) \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

put eqⁿ (1) in recurrence relation

$$T(n) \leq 2 \cdot \left[c \cdot \left(\frac{n}{2} \right) \log \left(\frac{n}{2} \right) + 16 \right] + n \quad \left\{ c \cdot \frac{n}{2} \log \left(\frac{n}{2} \right) + 16 \right\} + n$$

$$= cn \log \left(\frac{n}{2} \right) + 32 + n = cn \log n - cn \log 2 + 32 + n$$

$$T(n) \leq (cn + 32) \log \frac{n}{2}$$

$$= cn \log n - cn + 32 + n = cn \log n - (c-1)n + 32$$

$$\leq cn \log n \quad (\text{for } c > 1)$$

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

→ Example 5: Consider the recurrence

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} 1 & n=1 \\ 2T(\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor) + n & n > 1 \end{cases}$$

find the asymptotic bound on T .

Solution: we guess the solution is $O(n \log n)$

$$T(n) \leq cn \log n$$

$$T(n/2) \leq c(n/2) \log(n/2) \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

put eqⁿ (1) in recurrence relation

$$T(n) \leq 2c \left\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \right\rfloor \log \left\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \right\rfloor + n$$

$$\leq cn \log n - cn \log 2 + n$$

$$\leq cn \log n - cn + n = cn \log n - n(c-1)$$

$$T(n) \leq cn \log n \quad \forall c > 1$$

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

Hence our guess $T(n) = O(n \log n)$ is true.

→ Example 6: show that solution of $T(n) = 2T(\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor) + n$ is $\Omega(n \log n)$. Conclude that the solution is $\Theta(n \log n)$

Solution: Let the solution to $T(n)$ is $\Omega(n \log n)$, then we need to prove $T(n) \geq cn \log n$

$$T(n/2) \geq c(n/2) \log(n/2) \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

put eqⁿ (1) in recurrence relation.

15

$$\begin{aligned}
 T(n) &\geq 2T(n/2) + n \\
 \Rightarrow T(n) &\geq 2\left(c\left(\frac{n}{2}\right)\log\left(\frac{n}{2}\right)\right) + n \\
 \Rightarrow T(n) &\geq cn\log n - cn\log 2 + n \\
 \Rightarrow T(n) &\geq cn\log n - cn + n
 \end{aligned}$$

for $c \geq 1$

$$T(n) \geq cn\log n$$

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

for $c \leq 1$ but for large values of n and c

$$T(n) \leq cn\log n \text{ also holds}$$

$$\text{so, } T(n) = \Theta(n\log n)$$

Changing Variable Concept:

→ Example 7: Solve $T(n) = 2T(\sqrt{n}) + 1$ by making a change of variable

Solution: Let $m = \log n$

$$n = 2^m$$

$$n^{1/2} = 2^{m/2}$$

$$\sqrt{n} = 2^{m/2}$$

Thus, recurrence relation becomes

$$T(2^m) = 2T(2^{m/2}) + 1$$

Changing the recurrence $T(2^m)$ to $S(m)$, we get

$$S(m) = 2S(m/2) + 1 \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

Let the solution to the recurrence is $O(\log m)$

$$S(m) \leq c \cdot \log m$$

$$S(m/2) \leq c \cdot \log m/2 \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

put eqⁿ (2) in eqⁿ (1), it becomes

$$S(m) \leq 2 \cdot c \cdot \log m/2 + 1$$

$$\leq 2c \log m - 2c \log 2 + 1$$

$$\leq 2c \log m - 2c + 1 \quad (\because \log 2 = 1)$$

$$S(m) \leq 2c \log m$$

$$S(m) = O(\log m)$$

$$T(2^m) = O(\log \log n)$$

Therefore, $T(n) = O(\log \log n)$

Example 8: Consider the following recurrence

$$T(n) = 2T(\sqrt{n}) + \log n$$

Solve it by changing variable

Solution: $T(n) = 2T(\sqrt{n}) + \log n$ — (1)

Suppose $m = \log_2 n \Rightarrow n = 2^m$

$\therefore n^{1/2} = 2^{m/2}$

$\Rightarrow \sqrt{n} = 2^{m/2}$

put the values in eqⁿ (1), we get

$T(2^m) = 2T(2^{m/2}) + m$

changing the recurrence $T(2^m)$ to $S(m)$, we get

$S(m) = 2S(m/2) + m$ — (2)

Let the solution of eqⁿ (2) is $O(m \log m)$

$S(m) = O(m \log m)$

$S(m) \leq C \cdot m \log m$

$S(m/2) \leq C \cdot \frac{m}{2} \log \frac{m}{2}$ — (3)

put eqⁿ (3) in eqⁿ (2); it becomes

$S(m) \leq 2 \cdot C \cdot \frac{m}{2} \log \frac{m}{2} + m$

$\Rightarrow S(m) \leq C m \log m - C m \log 2 + m$

$\Rightarrow S(m) \leq C m \log m - C m + m$ ($\because \log 2 = 1$)

$\Rightarrow S(m) \leq C m \log m - m(C - 1)$

$\Rightarrow S(m) \leq C m \log m$

$\Rightarrow S(m) = O(m \log m)$

$\Rightarrow T(2^m) = O(\log n \log \log n)$

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

\rightarrow Show that solution to $T(n) = 2T(\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor + 17) + n$ is $O(n \log n)$

sol: Given that $T(n) = 2T(\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor + 17) + n$

We guess that solution is $O(n \log n)$. Then we have to prove that

$T(n) \leq cn \log n$

~~$T(n) \leq c n \log n$~~

$\Rightarrow T(\lfloor n/2 \rfloor) \leq c \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor \log \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor$

$\Rightarrow T(\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor + 17) \leq c(\frac{n}{2}) \log(\frac{n}{2}) + 17$

$\Rightarrow T(n) \leq 2[c(\frac{n}{2}) \log(\frac{n}{2}) + 17] + n$

$\leq cn \log(\frac{n}{2}) + 34 + n$

$\leq cn \log n - cn \log 2 + 34 + n$

$\leq cn \log n - cn + 34 + n$

$\leq cn \log n - n(C - 1) + 34$

$\leq cn \log n - b$

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

17