

# Algorithms

## Recurrences

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# Recurrences

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- When an algorithm contains a recursive call to itself, its running time can often be described by a recurrence.
- A *recurrence* is an equation or inequality that describes a function in terms of its value of smaller inputs.



# Recurrences—examples

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- Summation

$$\sum_{i=1}^n i = n + \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} i$$

- Factorial

$$n! = n * (n - 1)!$$



# Recurrences—examples

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- Summation

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

- Factorial

$$n! = n * (n - 1)!$$



# Termination conditions (boundary conditions)

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- Summation

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

$$S(1) = 1$$

- Factorial

$$n! = n * (n - 1)!$$

$$1! = 1$$



# Recurrences—CS oriented examples

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- Fibonacci number

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

- Merge sort

$$T(n) = 2T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + \Theta(n)$$



# Influence of the boundary conditions

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- Fibonacci number

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

- Merge sort

$$T(n) = 2T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + \Theta(n)$$



# Recurrences

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

- *Substitution method*
- *Recursion-tree method*
- *Master method*



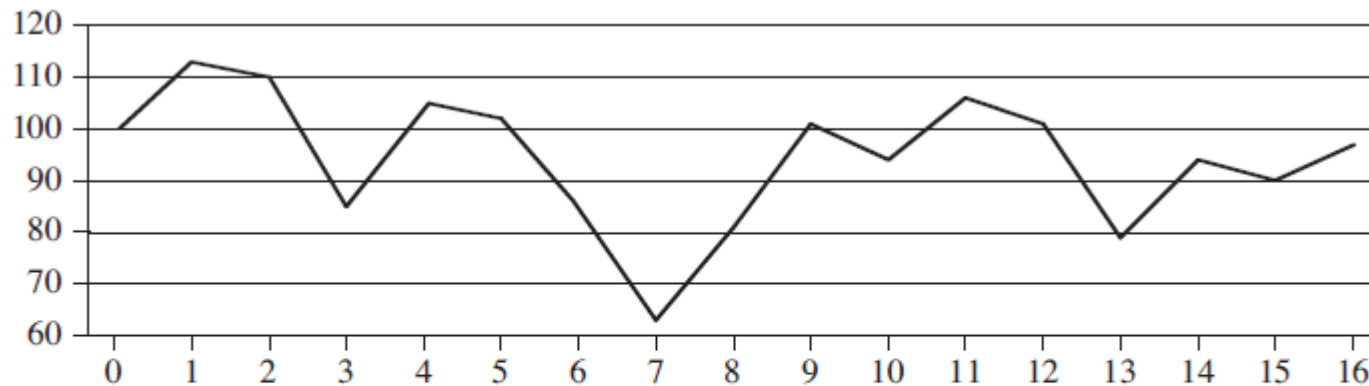


# Technicalities

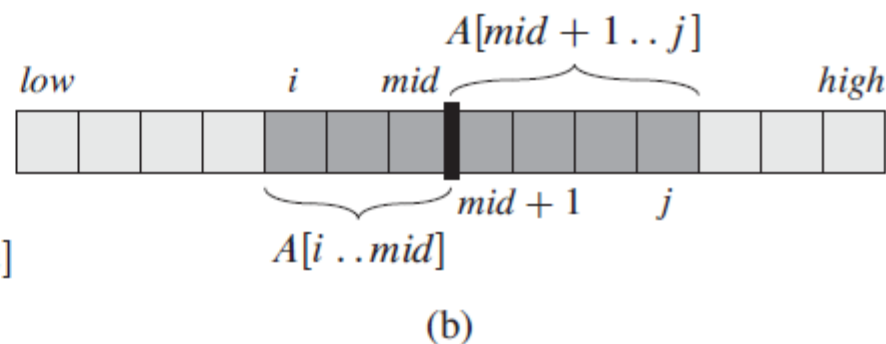
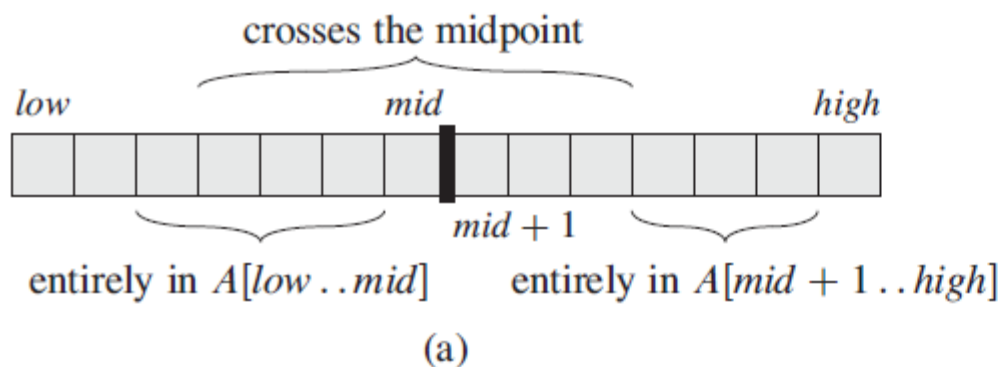
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- Neglect certain technical details when stating and solving recurrences.
- A good example of a detail that is often glossed over is the assumption of integer arguments to functions.
- Boundary conditions is ignored.
- Omit floors, ceilings.

# The maximum-subarray problem



Day	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Price	100	113	110	85	105	102	86	63	81	101	94	106	101	79	94	90	97
Change		13	-3	-25	20	-3	-16	-23	18	20	-7	12	-5	-22	15	-4	7

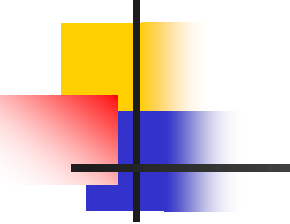


FIND-MAXIMUM-SUBARRAY( $A, low, high$ )

```

1  if  $high == low$ 
2      return ( $low, high, A[low]$ )           // base case: only one element
3  else  $mid = \lfloor (low + high) / 2 \rfloor$ 
4      ( $left-low, left-high, left-sum$ ) =
          FIND-MAXIMUM-SUBARRAY( $A, low, mid$ )
5      ( $right-low, right-high, right-sum$ ) =
          FIND-MAXIMUM-SUBARRAY( $A, mid + 1, high$ )
6      ( $cross-low, cross-high, cross-sum$ ) =
          FIND-MAX-CROSSING-SUBARRAY( $A, low, mid, high$ )
7      if  $left-sum \geq right-sum$  and  $left-sum \geq cross-sum$ 
8          return ( $left-low, left-high, left-sum$ )
9      elseif  $right-sum \geq left-sum$  and  $right-sum \geq cross-sum$ 
10         return ( $right-low, right-high, right-sum$ )
11     else return ( $cross-low, cross-high, cross-sum$ )

```



FIND-MAX-CROSSING-SUBARRAY( $A, low, mid, high$ )

```
1  left-sum =  $-\infty$ 
2  sum = 0
3  for  $i = mid$  downto  $low$ 
4      sum = sum +  $A[i]$ 
5      if sum > left-sum
6          left-sum = sum
7          max-left =  $i$ 
8  right-sum =  $-\infty$ 
9  sum = 0
10 for  $j = mid + 1$  to  $high$ 
11     sum = sum +  $A[j]$ 
12     if sum > right-sum
13         right-sum = sum
14         max-right =  $j$ 
15 return (max-left, max-right, left-sum + right-sum)
```



# Matrix multiplication

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$$c_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^n a_{ik} \cdot b_{kj}$$

SQUARE-MATRIX-MULTIPLY(*A*, *B*)

```
1  n = A.rows
2  let C be a new n × n matrix
3  for i = 1 to n
4      for j = 1 to n
5          cij = 0
6          for k = 1 to n
7              cij = cij + aik · bkj
8  return C
```

$\Theta(n^3)$



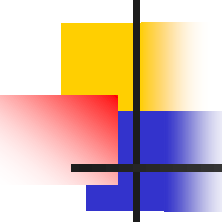
## A simple divide-and-conquer algorithm

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$$A = \begin{pmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} \end{pmatrix}, \quad B = \begin{pmatrix} B_{11} & B_{12} \\ B_{21} & B_{22} \end{pmatrix}, \quad C = \begin{pmatrix} C_{11} & C_{12} \\ C_{21} & C_{22} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} C_{11} & C_{12} \\ C_{21} & C_{22} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} B_{11} & B_{12} \\ B_{21} & B_{22} \end{pmatrix}$$

## SQUARE-MATRIX-MULTIPLY-RECURSIVE( $A, B$ )



```
1   $n = A.rows$ 
2  let  $C$  be a new  $n \times n$  matrix
3  if  $n == 1$ 
4       $c_{11} = a_{11} \cdot b_{11}$ 
5  else partition  $A, B$ , and  $C$  as in equations (4.9)
6       $C_{11} = \text{SQUARE-MATRIX-MULTIPLY-RECURSIVE}(A_{11}, B_{11})$ 
            $+ \text{SQUARE-MATRIX-MULTIPLY-RECURSIVE}(A_{12}, B_{21})$ 
7       $C_{12} = \text{SQUARE-MATRIX-MULTIPLY-RECURSIVE}(A_{11}, B_{12})$ 
            $+ \text{SQUARE-MATRIX-MULTIPLY-RECURSIVE}(A_{12}, B_{22})$ 
8       $C_{21} = \text{SQUARE-MATRIX-MULTIPLY-RECURSIVE}(A_{21}, B_{11})$ 
            $+ \text{SQUARE-MATRIX-MULTIPLY-RECURSIVE}(A_{22}, B_{21})$ 
9       $C_{22} = \text{SQUARE-MATRIX-MULTIPLY-RECURSIVE}(A_{21}, B_{12})$ 
            $+ \text{SQUARE-MATRIX-MULTIPLY-RECURSIVE}(A_{22}, B_{22})$ 
10 return  $C$ 
```

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} \Theta(1) & \text{if } n = 1, \\ 8T(n/2) + \Theta(n^2) & \text{if } n > 1. \end{cases} \quad \Theta(n^3)$$



# Strassen's method

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$$T(n) = \begin{cases} \Theta(1) & \text{if } n = 1, \\ 7T(n/2) + \Theta(n^2) & \text{if } n > 1. \end{cases} \quad T(n) = \Theta(n^{\lg 7}).$$



$$\begin{array}{r}
 A_{11} \cdot B_{11} + A_{11} \cdot B_{22} + A_{22} \cdot B_{11} + A_{22} \cdot B_{22} \\
 \quad - A_{22} \cdot B_{11} \quad \quad \quad + A_{22} \cdot B_{21} \\
 \quad - A_{11} \cdot B_{22} \quad \quad \quad - A_{12} \cdot B_{22} \\
 \quad \quad \quad - A_{22} \cdot B_{22} - A_{22} \cdot B_{21} + A_{12} \cdot B_{22} + A_{12} \cdot B_{21}
 \end{array}$$


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$$\begin{array}{r}
 A_{11} \cdot B_{11} \quad \quad \quad + A_{12} \cdot B_{21}
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r}
 A_{11} \cdot B_{12} - A_{11} \cdot B_{22} \\
 \quad + A_{11} \cdot B_{22} + A_{12} \cdot B_{22}
 \end{array}$$


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$$\begin{array}{r}
 A_{11} \cdot B_{12} \quad \quad \quad + A_{12} \cdot B_{22}
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r}
 A_{21} \cdot B_{11} + A_{22} \cdot B_{11} \\
 \quad - A_{22} \cdot B_{11} + A_{22} \cdot B_{21}
 \end{array}$$


---

$$\begin{array}{r}
 A_{21} \cdot B_{11} \quad \quad \quad + A_{22} \cdot B_{21}
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r}
 A_{11} \cdot B_{11} + A_{11} \cdot B_{22} + A_{22} \cdot B_{11} + A_{22} \cdot B_{22} \\
 \quad - A_{11} \cdot B_{22} \quad \quad \quad + A_{11} \cdot B_{12} \\
 \quad \quad \quad - A_{22} \cdot B_{11} \quad \quad \quad - A_{21} \cdot B_{11} \\
 - A_{11} \cdot B_{11} \quad \quad \quad - A_{11} \cdot B_{12} + A_{21} \cdot B_{11} + A_{21} \cdot B_{12}
 \end{array}$$


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$$\begin{array}{r}
 A_{22} \cdot B_{22} \quad \quad \quad + A_{21} \cdot B_{12}
 \end{array}$$

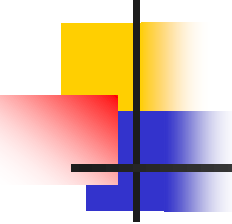


# The substitution method: Mathematical induction

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- The substitution method for solving recurrence has two steps:
  1. **Guess** the form of the solution.
  2. Use **mathematical induction** to find the constants and show that the solution works.
- Powerful but can be applied only in cases when it is easy to guess the form of solution.

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- 
- Can be used to establish either upper bound or lower bound on a recurrence.



# General principle of the Mathematical Induction

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- True for the trivial case,  
problem size = 1.
- If it is true for the case of  
problem at step  $k$ ,  
we can show that it is true for the case of  
problem at step  $k+1$ .



# Example

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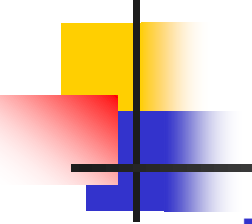
Determine the upper bound on the recurrence

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

(We may omit the initial condition later.)

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

Prove  $T(n) \leq cn \log n$  for some  $c > 0$ .

- 
- **Inductive hypothesis:** assume this bound holds for

$$T(\lfloor n / 2 \rfloor) \leq c \lfloor n / 2 \rfloor \log \lfloor n / 2 \rfloor$$

- The **recurrence** implies

$$T(n) = 2T\left(\left\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \right\rfloor\right) + n$$

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

$$= cn \log n - cn \log 2 + n \leq cn \log n \quad (\text{if } c \geq 1.)$$

- 
- 
- Initial condition

$$T(1) = 1$$

$$T(1) \leq cn \log 1 = 0 \quad (\rightarrow \leftarrow)$$

- However

$$T(2) = 4$$

$$< cn \log 2 \quad (\text{if } c \geq 4)$$

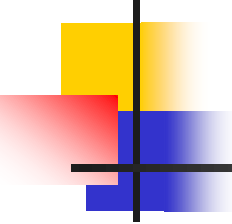
- 
- 
- Making a good guess

$$T(n) = 2T(\lfloor n / 2 \rfloor + 17) + n$$

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

Making guess provides loose upper bound and lower bound. Then improve the gap.





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

Solution:

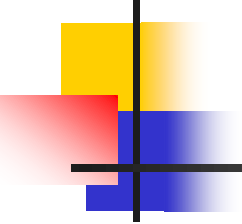
assume  $a > 0$ ,  $b > 0$ ,  $c > 0$  and  $T(n) \leq an \lg n - b \lg n - c$

$$T(n) \leq 2[(\frac{n}{2} + 17)\lg(\frac{n}{2} + 17) - b\lg(\frac{n}{2} + 17) - c] + n$$

$$\leq (an + 34a)\lg(\frac{n}{2} + 17) - 2b\lg(\frac{n}{2} + 17) - 2c + n$$

$$\leq an\lg(\frac{n}{2} + 17) + an\lg 2^{1/a} + (34a - 2b)\lg(\frac{n}{2} + 17) - 2c$$

$$\leq an\lg(n) 2^{1/a} + (34a - 2b)\lg(n) - 2c$$




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$$a \lg(n) 2^{1/a} + (34a - 2b) \lg(n) - 2c$$

$$\rightarrow n \geq \frac{n}{2} + 17, n \geq 34$$

$$\rightarrow n \geq \left(\frac{n}{2} + 17\right) 2^{1/a}, \because 2^{1/2} \leq 1.5 \therefore n \geq 12$$

$$\rightarrow 34a - 2b \leq -b, b \geq 34a$$

$$\rightarrow c > 0, -c > -2c$$

$$\rightarrow T(n) \leq a \lg n - b \lg n - c, T(n) \leq a \lg n$$

$$\rightarrow T(n) = O(n \lg n)$$



# Subtleties

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$$T(n) = T(\lfloor n / 2 \rfloor) + T(\lceil n / 2 \rceil) + 1$$

■ **Guess**  $T(n) = O(n)$

■ **Assume**  $T(n) \leq cn$

$$T(n) \leq c\lfloor n / 2 \rfloor + c\lceil n / 2 \rceil + 1 \leq cn + 1 \not\leq cn$$

■ **However, assume**  $T(n) \leq cn - b$

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &\leq (c\lfloor n / 2 \rfloor - b) + (c\lceil n / 2 \rceil - b) + 1 \\ &\leq cn - 2b + 1 \leq cn - b \quad (\text{Choose } b \geq 1) \end{aligned}$$



# Avoiding pitfalls

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

- Assume  $T(n) \leq O(n)$

- Hence  $T(n) \leq cn$

$$T(n) \leq 2(c\lfloor n/2 \rfloor) + n \leq cn + n = O(n)$$

(Since  $c$  is a constant)

- **(*WRONG!*)** You cannot find such a  $c$ .



# Changing variables

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

Let  $m = \lg n$ .

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

Then  $S(m) = 2S(m/2) + m$ .

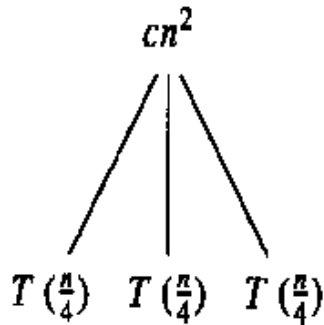
$$\Rightarrow S(m) = O(m \lg m)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow T(n) &= T(2^m) = S(m) = O(m \lg m) \\ &= O(\lg n \lg \lg n) \end{aligned}$$

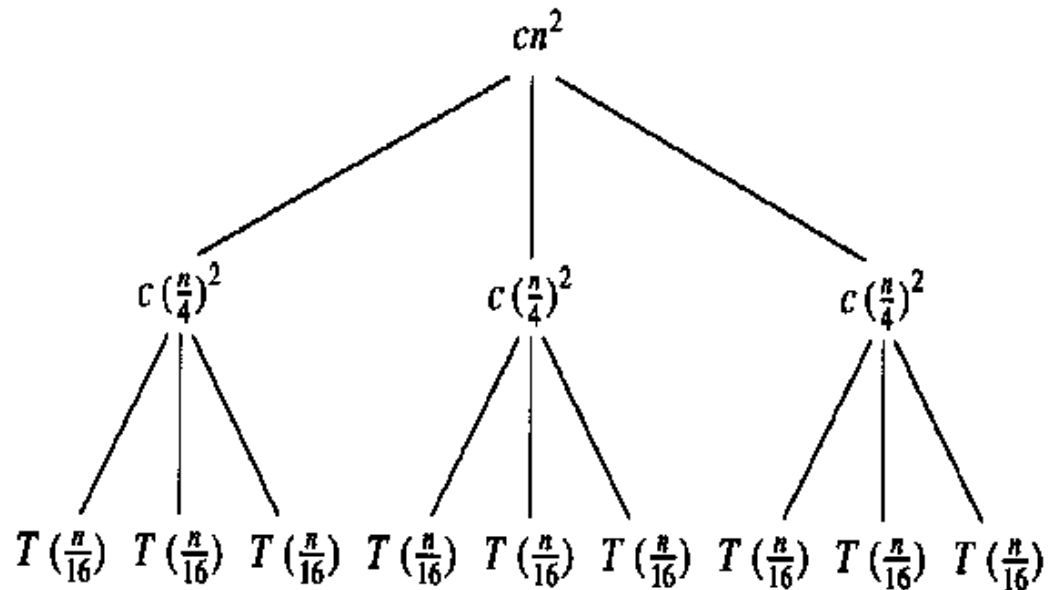
## 4.4 the Recursion-tree method

$$T(n) = 3T(\lfloor n/4 \rfloor) + \Theta(n^2)$$

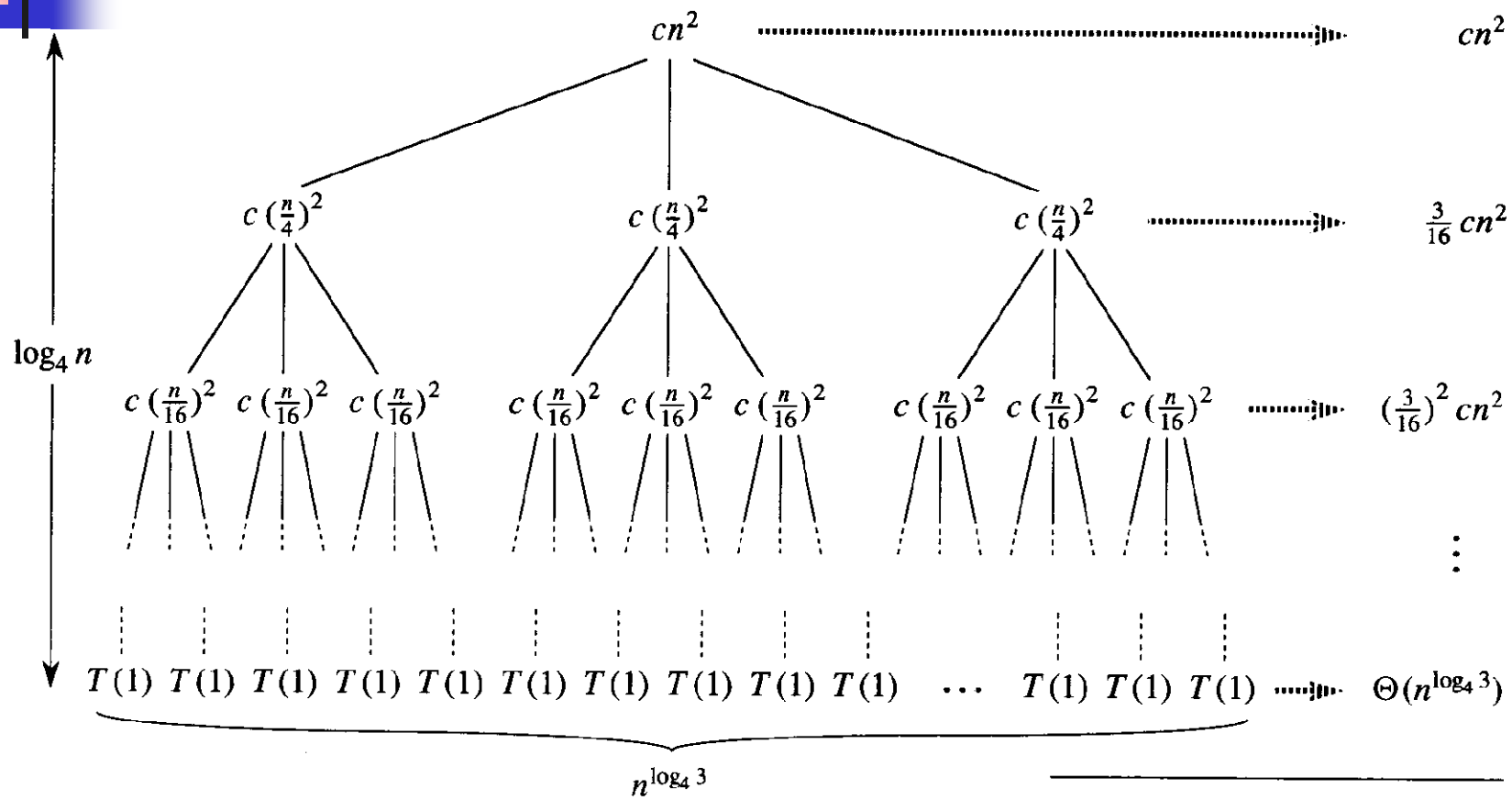
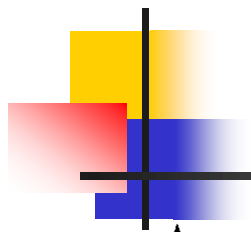
$T(n)$



(a)



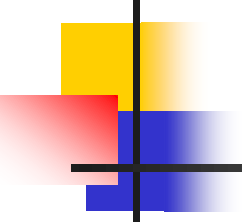
(c)



(d)

Ch4 Recurrences

Total:  $O(n^2)$

- 
- 
- Subproblem size for a node at depth  $i$   $\frac{n}{4^i}$
  - Total level of tree  $\log_4 n + 1$
  - Number of nodes at depth  $i$   $3^i$
  - Cost of each node at depth  $i$   $c(\frac{n}{4^i})^2$
  - Total cost at depth  $i$   $3^i c(\frac{n}{4^i})^2 = (\frac{3}{16})^i cn^2$
  - Last level, depth  $\log_4 n$ , has  $3^{\log_4 n} = n^{\log_4 3}$  nodes





Prove of  $3^{\log_4 n} = n^{\log_4 3}$

---

$$\begin{aligned}\log_4 3^{\log_4 n} &= (\log_4 n)(\log_4 3) \\ &= (\log_4 3)(\log_4 n) \\ &= \log_4 n^{\log_4 3}\end{aligned}$$

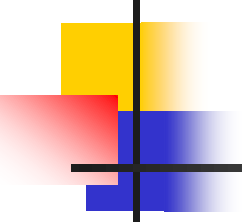
We conclude,  $3^{\log_4 n} = n^{\log_4 3}$



# The cost of the entire tree

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$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= cn^2 + \frac{3}{16}cn^2 + \left(\frac{3}{16}\right)^2 cn^2 + \dots + \left(\frac{3}{16}\right)^{\log_4 n - 1} cn^2 + \Theta(n^{\log_4 3}) \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^{\log_4 n - 1} \left(\frac{3}{16}\right)^i cn^2 + \Theta(n^{\log_4 3}) \\ &= \frac{(3/16)^{\log_4 n} - 1}{(3/16) - 1} cn^2 + \Theta(n^{\log_4 3}). \end{aligned}$$



---

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= \sum_{i=0}^{\log_4 n - 1} \left( \frac{3}{16} \right)^i cn^2 + \Theta\left(n^{\log_4 3}\right) \\ &< \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \left( \frac{3}{16} \right)^i cn^2 + \Theta\left(n^{\log_4 3}\right) \\ &= \frac{1}{1 - (3/16)} cn^2 + \Theta\left(n^{\log_4 3}\right) \\ &= \frac{16}{13} cn^2 + \Theta\left(n^{\log_4 3}\right) \\ &= O(n^2) \end{aligned}$$



# Substitution method

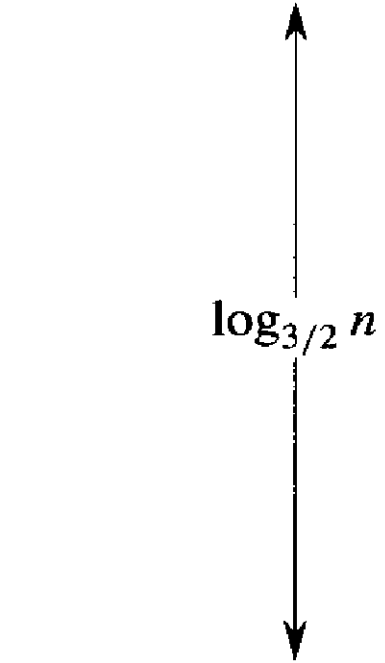
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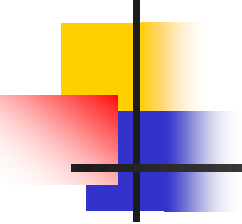
We want to Show that  $T(n) \leq dn^2$  for some constant  $d > 0$ .

Using the same constant  $c > 0$  as before, we have

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &\leq 3T(\lfloor n/4 \rfloor) + cn^2 \\ &\leq 3d\lfloor n/4 \rfloor^2 + cn^2 \\ &\leq 3d(n/4)^2 + cn^2 \\ &= \frac{3}{16}dn^2 + cn^2 \\ &\leq dn^2, \end{aligned}$$

Where the last step holds as long as  $d \geq (16/13)c$ .



- 
- 
- Subproblem size for a node at depth  $i$   $\left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^i n$
  - Total level of tree  $\log_{3/2} n + 1$



# substitution method

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$$\begin{aligned}T(n) &\leq T(n/3) + T(2n/3) + cn \\&\leq d(n/3)\lg(n/3) + d(2n/3)\lg(2n/3) + cn \\&= (d(n/3)\lg n - d(n/3)\lg 3) + (d(2n/3)\lg n - d(2n/3)\lg(3/2)) + cn \\&= dn\lg n - d((n/3)\lg 3 + (2n/3)\lg(3/2)) + cn \\&= dn\lg n - d((n/3)\lg 3 + (2n/3)\lg 3 - (2n/3)\lg 2) + cn \\&= dn\lg n - dn(\lg 3 - 2/3) + cn \\&\leq dn\lg n,\end{aligned}$$

As long as  $d \geq c/(\lg 3 - (2/3))$ .



## 4.5 Master method

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### Master Theorem

Let  $a \geq 1$  and  $b > 1$  be constants, let  $f(n)$  be a function, and let  $T(n)$  be defined on the nonnegative integers by the recurrence

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

where we interpret  $n/b$  to mean either  $\lfloor n/b \rfloor$  or  $\lceil n/b \rceil$ . Then  $T(n)$  has the following asymptotic bounds:

1. If  $f(n) = O(n^{\log_b a - \epsilon})$  for some constant  $\epsilon > 0$ , then  $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$ .
2. If  $f(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$ , then  $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \lg n)$ .
3. If  $f(n) = \Omega(n^{\log_b a + \epsilon})$  for some constant  $\epsilon > 0$ , and if  $af(n/b) \leq cf(n)$  for some constant  $c < 1$  and all sufficiently large  $n$ , then  $T(n) = \Theta(f(n))$ . ■





# Remarks 1:

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- In the first case,  $f(n)$  must be **polynomailly smaller** than  $n^{\log_b a}$
  - That is,  $f(n)$  must be asymptotically smaller than  $n^{\log_b a}$  by a factor of  $n^\epsilon$
- 
- Similarly, in the third case,  $f(n)$  must be polynomailly larger than  $n^{\log_b a}$
  - Also, the condition  $a f(n/b) \leq c f(n)$  must be hold.



## Remarks 2:

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- The three cases in the master theorem do not cover all the possibilities.
- There is a gap between cases 1 and 2 when  $f(n)$  is smaller than  $n^{\log_b a}$  but not polynomially smaller.
- Similarly, there is a gap between cases 2 and 3 when  $f(n)$  is larger than  $n^{\log_b a}$  but not polynomially larger (or the additional condition does not hold.)



# Example 1:

---

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

$$a = 9, b = 3, f(n) = n$$

$$n^{\log_3 9} = n^2, \quad f(n) = O(n^{\log_3 9 - 1})$$

$$\text{Case } 1 \Rightarrow T(n) = \Theta(n^2)$$



## Example 2:

---

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

$$a = 1, b = 3 / 2, f(n) = 1$$

$$n^{\log_{3/2} 1} = n^0 = 1 = f(n),$$

$$\text{Case } 2 \Rightarrow T(n) = \Theta(\log n)$$



## Example 3:

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$$T(n) = 3T(n/4) + n \log n$$

$$a = 3, b = 4, f(n) = n \log n$$

$$n^{\log_4 3} = n^{0.793}, f(n) = \Omega(n^{\log_4 3 + \varepsilon})$$

*Case 3*

Check

$$af(n/b) = 3\left(\frac{n}{4}\right) \log\left(\frac{n}{4}\right) \leq \frac{3n}{4} \log n = cf(n)$$

for  $c = \frac{3}{4}$ , and sufficiently large  $n$

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



## Example 4:

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$$T(n) = 5T(n/2) + \Theta(n^2)$$

$n^{\log_2 5}$  vs.  $n^2$

Since  $\log_2 5 - \epsilon = 2$  for some constant  $\epsilon > 0$ , use Case 1  $\Rightarrow T(n) = \Theta(n^{\lg 5})$



## Example 5:

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$$T(n) = 5T(n/2) + \Theta(n^3)$$

$n^{\log_2 5}$  vs.  $n^3$

Now  $\lg 5 + \epsilon = 3$  for some constant  $\epsilon > 0$

Check regularity condition (don't really need to since  $f(n)$  is a polynomial):

$$af(n/b) = 5(n/2)^3 = 5n^3/8 \leq cn^3 \text{ for } c = 5/8 < 1$$

Use Case 3  $\Rightarrow T(n) = \Theta(n^3)$



## Remarks 3:

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- The master theory does not apply to the recurrence  $T(n) = 2T(n/2) + n \lg n$ , even though it has the proper form:  $a = 2$ ,  $b=2$ ,  $f(n) = n \lg n$ , and  $n^{\log_b a} = n$ .
- It might seem that case 3 should apply, since  $f(n) = n \lg n$  is asymptotically larger than  $n^{\log_b a} = n$ .
- But it is not polynomially larger.





## Remarks 3 (continue)

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- However, the master method augments the conditions
- Case 2 can be applied.



## Example 6:

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$$T(n) = 27T(n/3) + \Theta(n^3 \lg n)$$

$$n^{\log_3 27} = n^3 \text{ vs. } n^3 \lg n$$

$$\text{Use Case 2 with } k = 1 \Rightarrow T(n) = \Theta(n^3 \lg^2 n)$$



## Example 7:

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$$T(n) = 27T(n/3) + \Theta(n^3 / \lg n)$$

$$n^{\log_3 27} = n^3 \text{ vs. } n^3 / \lg n = n^3 \lg^{-1} n \neq \Theta(n^3 \lg^k n) \text{ for any } k \geq 0.$$

*Cannot use the master method.*