

CS 341: ALGORITHMS

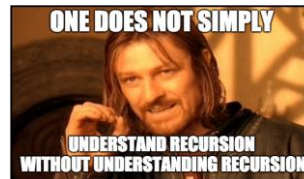
Lecture 2: divide & conquer I

Readings: see website

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DIVIDE AND CONQUER

Notable algorithms: mergesort, quicksort, binary search, ...

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DIVIDE-AND-CONQUER DESIGN STRATEGY

divide: Given a problem instance I , construct one or more smaller problem instances I_1, \dots, I_a

- These are called **subproblems**
- Usually, want subproblems to be small compared to the size of I (e.g., half the size)

conquer: For $1 \leq j \leq a$, solve instance I_j **recursively**, obtaining solutions S_1, \dots, S_a

combine: Given solutions S_1, \dots, S_a , use an appropriate combining function to find the solution S to the problem instance I

- i.e., $S = \text{Combine}(S_1, \dots, S_a)$.

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D&C PROTO-ALGORITHM

```

1 DnC_template(I)
2   if BaseCase(I) return Result(I)
3   subproblems = [I_1, I_2, ..., I_a]
4   subsolutions = []
5   for j = 1..a
6     subsolutions[j] = DnC_template(I_j)
7   return Combine(subsolutions)

```

CORRECTNESS

```

1 DnC_template(I)
2   if BaseCase(I) return Result(I)
3   subproblems = [I_1, I_2, ..., I_a]
4   subsolutions = []
5   for j = 1..a
6     subsolutions[j] = DnC_template(I_j)
7   return Combine(subsolutions)

```

Prove base cases are correct

- Inductively assume subproblems are solved correctly
- Show they are correctly assembled into a solution

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RUNTIME/SPACE COMPLEXITY?

```

1 DnC_template(I)
2   if BaseCase(I) return Result(I)
3   subproblems = [I_1, I_2, ..., I_a]
4   subsolutions = []
5   for j = 1..a
6     subsolutions[j] = DnC_template(I_j)
7   return Combine(subsolutions)

```

- Techniques covered in this lecture
 - Model complexities using recurrence relations
 - Solve with substitution, master theorem, etc.

WORKED EXAMPLE: DESIGN OF MERGESORT

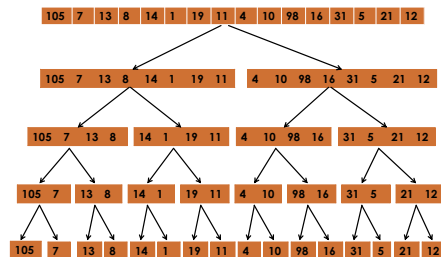
Here, a problem instance consists of an array A of n integers, which we want to sort in increasing order. The size of the problem instance is n .

divide: Split A into two subarrays: A_L consists of the first $\lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil$ elements in A and A_R consists of the last $\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor$ elements in A .

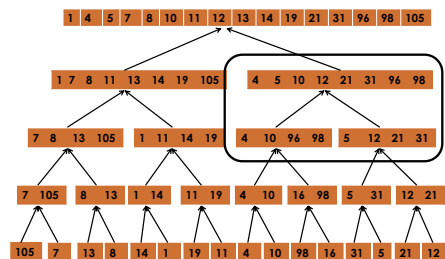
conquer: Run *Mergesort* on A_L and A_R .

combine: After A_L and A_R have been sorted, use a function *Merge* to merge A_L and A_R into a single sorted array. Recall that this can be done in time $\Theta(n)$ with a single pass through A_L and A_R . We simply keep track of the "current" element of A_L and A_R , always copying the smaller one into the sorted array.

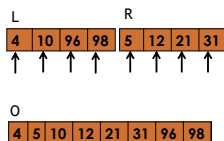
DIVIDE



MERGE: CONQUER AND COMBINE



MERGE SIMULATION



PSEUDOCODE FOR MERGESORT

```

1 MergeSort(A[1..n])
2   if n == 1 then return A
3   nL = ceil(n/2)
4   aL = A[1..nL]
5   aR = A[(nL+1)..n]
6   sL = MergeSort(aL)
7   sR = MergeSort(aR)
8   return Merge(sL, sR)

```

PSEUDOCODE FOR MERGE

```

1 Merge(aL[1..nL], aR[1..nR])
2   aOut[1..(nL+nR)] = empty array
3   iL = 1 ; iR = 1 ; iOut = 1
4
5   while iL < nL and iR < nR
6     if aL[iL] < aR[iR]
7       aOut[iOut] = aL[iL]
8       iL++ ; iOut++
9     else
10      aOut[iOut] = aR[iR]
11      iR++ ; iOut++
12  while iL < nL
13    aOut[iOut] = aL[iL]
14    iL++ ; iOut++
15  while iR < nR
16    aOut[iOut] = aR[iR]
17    iR++ ; iOut++
18  return aOut

```

Annotations for the pseudocode:

- "There are still elements left in both arrays" (points to the while loop condition).
- "Right array is out of elements" (points to the while loop condition for the right array).
- "Left array is out of elements" (points to the while loop condition for the left array).

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ANALYSIS OF MERGESORT

```

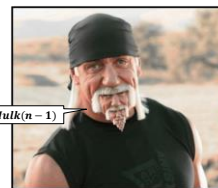
1 MergeSort(A[1..n])
2   if n == 1 then return A
3   nL = ceil(n/2)
4   aL = A[1..nL]
5   aR = A[(nL+1)..n]
6   sL = MergeSort(aL)
7   sR = MergeSort(aR)
8   return Merge(sL, sR)
    
```

Annotations:

- Line 1: $O(1)$
- Line 2: $O(1)$
- Line 3: $O(1)$
- Line 4: $O(n)$ or $O(1)$
- Line 5: $O(n)$ or $O(1)$
- Line 6: ???
- Line 7: ???
- Line 8: $O(n)$

Text boxes:

- So, MergeSort(A) takes $O(n)$ time, **plus** the time for its **two recursive calls!**
- How can we **analyze** this recursive program structure?



Hulk(n) = Face - Chin + Hulk(n-1)

RECURRENCE RELATIONS

A crucial analysis tool for recursive algorithms

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RECURRENCE RELATIONS

Suppose a_1, a_2, \dots is an infinite sequence of real numbers.

A **recurrence relation** is a formula that expresses a general term a_n in terms of one or more previous terms a_1, \dots, a_{n-1} .

A recurrence relation will also specify one or more **initial values** starting at a_1 .

Solving a recurrence relation means finding a formula for a_n that does **not** involve any previous terms a_1, \dots, a_{n-1} .

There are many methods of solving recurrence relations. Two important methods are **guess-and-check** and the **recursion tree method**.

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MATHEMATICALLY EXPRESSING THE COMPLEXITY OF MERGESORT

Let $T(n)$ denote the time to run **MergeSort** on an array of length n .

divide takes time $\Theta(1)$

conquer takes time $T(\lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil) + T(\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor)$

combine takes time $\Theta(n)$

Recurrence relation:

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} T(\lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil) + T(\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor) + \Theta(n) & \text{if } n > 1 \\ \Theta(1) & \text{if } n = 1. \end{cases}$$

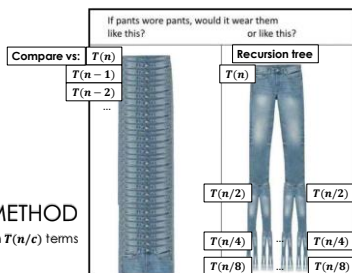
Annotations:

- $T(n)$ is a function of $T(\dots)$ so T is a **recurrence relation**
- How can we compute/solve for $T(n)$?
- To make this easier, assume $n = 2^k$, which lets us ignore floors/ceilings

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RECURRENCE TREE METHOD

Evaluating recurrences with $T(n/c)$ terms



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RECURRENCE TREE METHOD

Diagram of a recursion tree for MergeSort:

- Level 0: $m\text{sort}(n) \rightarrow cn$
- Level 1: $m\text{sort}(n/2)$ and $m\text{sort}(n/2) \rightarrow 2(cn/2) = cn$
- Level 2: $m\text{sort}(n/4)$, $m\text{sort}(n/4)$, $m\text{sort}(n/4)$, $m\text{sort}(n/4) \rightarrow 4(cn/4) = cn$
- Level 3: ...
- Level 4: $m\text{sort}(1)$, $m\text{sort}(1)$, $m\text{sort}(1)$, $m\text{sort}(1) \rightarrow n(c) = cn$

Level	# of nodes	runtime per node	total runtime for level
0	1	cn	cn
1	2	$c(n/2)$	$2c(n/2) = cn$
2	4	$c(n/4)$	$4c(n/4) = cn$
...
$\log n$	n	$c(n/n) = c$	$nc(n/n) = cn$

Summary:

- Total = $cn * \# \text{levels}$
- Total = $cn \log_2(n)$
- So, mergesort has runtime $O(n \log n)$
- Can also compute using a table...

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RECURSION TREE METHOD FORMALIZED

Sample recurrence for two recursive calls on problem size $n/2$

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} 2T(n/2) + cn & \text{if } n > 1 \text{ is a power of 2} \\ d & \text{if } n = 1. \end{cases}$$

where c and d are constants.

We can solve this recurrence relation when n is a power of two, by constructing a **recursion tree**, as follows:

- Step 1** Start with a **one-node tree**, say N , having the value $T(n)$.
- Step 2** Grow **two children** of N . These children, say N_1 and N_2 , have the value $T(n/2)$, and the value of N is replaced by cn .
- Step 3** Repeat this process recursively, terminating when a node receives the value $T(1) = d$.
- Step 4** Sum the values on each level of the tree, and then compute the **sum of all these sums**; the result is $T(n)$.

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GUESS-AND-CHECK METHOD

In Math,
I use the
GUESS & HOPE
Method

- Suppose we have the following recurrence
 $T(0) = 4; \quad T(n) = T(n-1) + 6n - 5$
- Guess** the form of the solution **any** way you like
- My approach: **the substitution method**
 - Recursively substitute the formula into itself
 - Try to identify patterns to **guess** the final closed form
- Prove** that the guess was correct

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SUBSTITUTION METHOD: WORKED EXAMPLE

Recurrence: $T(0) = 4; \quad T(n) = T(n-1) + 6n - 5$

$T(n-1) = T((n-1)-1) + 6(n-1) - 5$ Compare: new terms?
+(6n-5) -6

$T(n) = (T(n-2) + 6(n-1) - 5) + 6n - 5$ (substitute)

$= T(n-2) + 2(6n-5) - 6$ [try to preserve structure]

$= (T(n-3) + 6(n-2) - 5) + 2(6n-5) - 6$ (substitute)

$= T(n-3) + 3(6n-5) - 6(1+2)$ [new terms? +(6n-5) -2(6)]

... identify patterns and **guess** what happens in the limit

$= T(0) + n(6n-5) - 6(1+2+3+\dots+(n-1)) = \text{guess}(n)$

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- $\text{guess}(n) = T(0) + n(6n-5) - 6(1+2+3+\dots+(n-1))$
- Use $1+2+\dots+(n-1) = \frac{n(n-1)}{2}$
- $\text{guess}(n) = 4 + 6n^2 - 5n - 6n(n-1)/2$ (simplify)
- $= 3n^2 - 2n + 4$
- Are we done?
- The form of $\text{guess}(n)$ was an **educated guess**.
- To be sure, we must **prove** it correct using **induction**

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Recall: $T(0) = 4; T(n) = T(n-1) + 6n - 5; \text{guess}(n) = 3n^2 - 2n + 4$

Want to prove: $\text{guess}(n) = T(n)$ for all n

PROOF

Base case: $\text{guess}(0) = 3(0)^2 - 2(0) + 4 = T(0)$

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Recall: $T(0) = 4; T(n) = T(n-1) + 6n - 5; \text{guess}(n) = 3n^2 - 2n + 4$

Want to prove: $\text{guess}(n) = T(n)$ for all n

PROOF

Inductive case: **suppose** $\text{guess}(n) = T(n)$ for $n \geq 0$,
show $\text{guess}(n+1) = T(n+1)$.

- $T(n+1) = T(n) + 6(n+1) - 5$ (by definition)
- $= \text{guess}(n) + 6(n+1) - 5$ (by inductive hypothesis)
- $= 3n^2 - 2n + 4 + 6(n+1) - 5$ (substitute)
- $= 3n^2 + 4n + 5$ (simplify)
- $\text{guess}(n+1) = 3(n+1)^2 - 2(n+1) + 4$ (by definition)
- $= 3n^2 + 4n + 5 = T(n+1)$ (simplify)

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ANOTHER APPROACH

Suppose you look for a while at the previous recurrence:

$T(0) = 4 ; T(n) = T(n - 1) + 6n - 5$

With some experience, you might just **guess** it's **quadratic**

If you're right, it should have the form:

$an^2 + bn + c$ for some **unknown** constants **a, b, c**

So, just carry the unknown constants **into the proof!**

- You can then determine what the constants **must be** for the proof to work out

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$T(0) = 4 ; T(n) = T(n - 1) + 6n - 5 ; guess(n) = an^2 + bn + c$

Want to prove: $guess(n) = T(n)$ for all n

Base case: $guess(0) = a(0)^2 + b(0) + c = T(0) = 4$

this holds **iff** $c = 4$ (a, b are not constrained)

Inductive case: **suppose** $guess(n) = T(n)$ for $n \geq 0$, **show** $guess(n + 1) = T(n + 1)$.

$T(n + 1) = T(n) + 6(n + 1) - 5$ (by definition)

$= guess(n) + 6(n + 1) - 5$ (by inductive hypothesis)

$= an^2 + bn + 4 + 6(n + 1) - 5$ (substitute)

$= an^2 + (b + 6)n + 5$ (simplify)

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- Recall:** $guess(n) = an^2 + bn + c$ where $c = 4$
- Inductive case: **suppose** $guess(n) = T(n)$ for $n \geq 0$, **show** $guess(n + 1) = T(n + 1)$.
- $T(n + 1) = an^2 + (b + 6)n + 5$ (continue previous slide)
- $guess(n + 1) = a(n + 1)^2 + b(n + 1) + 4$ (by definition and $c = 4$)
- $= a(n^2 + 2n + 1) + bn + b + 4$ (simplify, and...)
- $= an^2 + (2a + b)n + (a + b + 4)$ (rearrange polynomial)
- We want this to be equal to $T(n + 1)$
- $an^2 + (2a + b)n + (a + b + 4) = an^2 + (b + 6)n + 5$
- equivalent to $(2a + b) = (b + 6)$ and $(a + b + 4) = 5$
- first implies $a = 3$ plug a into second to get $b = 5 - 4 - 3 = -2$

So, inductive hypothesis is **correct** for $a = 3, b = -2, c = 4$

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MASTER THEOREM FOR RECURRENCES

- Provides a formula for solving many recurrence relations
- We start with a **simplified version**
- Consider recurrence: $T(1) = d ; T(n) = aT(\frac{n}{b}) + \theta(n^y)$ where $a \geq 1, b \geq 2$ and n is a power of b [i.e., $n = b^j$ for integer j]

```

Example corresponding algorithm
1 if BaseCase(i) return Result(i)
2
3 subsolutions = []
4 for j = 1..n
5     let a = subproblem of size n/b
6     subsolutions[j] = DnC_algo(s)
7
8 solution = combine in n^y time
9 return solution
    
```

Simplified Master Theorem

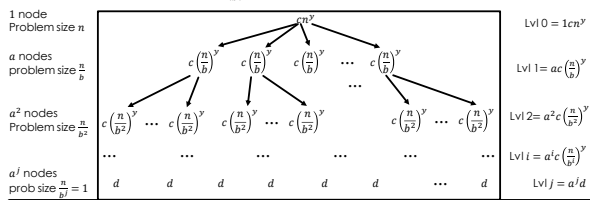
$$T(n) \in \begin{cases} \Theta(n^x) & \text{if } y < x \\ \Theta(n^x \log n) & \text{if } y = x \\ \Theta(n^y) & \text{if } y > x. \end{cases}$$

where $x = \log_b a$.

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DERIVING THE SIMPLIFIED MASTER THEOREM

$T(1) = d ; T(n) = aT(\frac{n}{b}) + \theta(n^y)$ where $a \geq 1, b \geq 2$ and $n = b^j$



Sum over all levels we get $T(n) = da^j + \sum_{i=0}^{j-1} ca^i (\frac{n}{b^i})^y$
 Let's rearrange this into a **geometric sequence** and solve

REARRANGING

- $T(n) = da^j + \sum_{i=0}^{j-1} ca^i (\frac{n}{b^i})^y$
- $= da^j + \sum_{i=0}^{j-1} ca^i \frac{n^y}{(b^i)^y}$
- $= da^j + \sum_{i=0}^{j-1} ca^i \frac{n^y}{(b^y)^i}$
- $= da^j + \sum_{i=0}^{j-1} cn^y \frac{a^i}{(b^y)^i}$
- $= da^j + \sum_{i=0}^{j-1} cn^y (\frac{a}{b^y})^i$
- $= da^j + cn^y \sum_{i=0}^{j-1} (\frac{a}{b^y})^i$
- Let $x = \log_b a$
- x relates # of subproblems to their size
- Rearranging we have $b^x = a$
- So $T(n) = da^j + cn^y \sum_{i=0}^{j-1} (\frac{b^x}{b^y})^i$
- $= da^j + cn^y \sum_{i=0}^{j-1} (b^{x-y})^i$
- Also $da^j = d(b^x)^j = d(b^j)^x$
- Since $n = b^j$ this is just dn^x
- So $T(n) = dn^x + cn^y \sum_{i=0}^{j-1} (b^{x-y})^i$
- and we can simplify: let $r = b^{x-y}$**

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SOLVING THE GEOMETRIC SEQ

$T(n) = dn^x + cn^y \sum_{i=0}^{j-1} r^i$ where $r = b^{x-y}$

• **Geo. Seq. formula:** $\sum_{i=0}^{j-1} ar^i = \begin{cases} a \frac{r^j - 1}{r - 1} \in \Theta(r^j) & \text{if } r > 1 \\ ja \in \Theta(j) & \text{if } r = 1 \\ a \frac{1 - r^j}{1 - r} \in \Theta(1) & \text{if } 0 < r < 1 \end{cases}$

So different solutions depending on r

- **Case 1:** $r = b^{x-y} > 1 \Leftrightarrow x - y > 0 \Leftrightarrow x > y$
- **Case 2:** $r = b^{x-y} = 1 \Leftrightarrow x - y = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = y$
- **Case 3:** $0 < r = b^{x-y} < 1 \Leftrightarrow x - y < 0 \Leftrightarrow x < y$

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SOLVING THE GEOMETRIC SEQ

• Formula: $\sum_{i=0}^{j-1} ar^i = \begin{cases} a \frac{r^j - 1}{r - 1} \in \Theta(r^j) & \text{if } r > 1 \\ ja \in \Theta(j) & \text{if } r = 1 \\ a \frac{1 - r^j}{1 - r} \in \Theta(1) & \text{if } 0 < r < 1 \end{cases}$

- **Case 1:** $r = b^{x-y} > 1 \Leftrightarrow x - y > 0 \Leftrightarrow x > y$
- $T(n) = dn^x + cn^y \sum_{i=0}^{j-1} r^i \in dn^x + cn^y \Theta(r^j)$
- $T(n) \in \Theta(n^x + n^y r^j) = \Theta(n^x + n^y (b^{x-y})^j) = \Theta(n^x + n^y (b^j)^{x-y})$
- Recall $b^j = n$, so $T(n) \in \Theta(n^x + n^y n^{x-y}) = \Theta(n^x + n^{y+x-y})$
- So $T(n) \in \Theta(n^x)$

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SOLVING THE GEOMETRIC SEQ

• Formula: $\sum_{i=0}^{j-1} ar^i = \begin{cases} a \frac{r^j - 1}{r - 1} \in \Theta(r^j) & \text{if } r > 1 \\ ja \in \Theta(j) & \text{if } r = 1 \\ a \frac{1 - r^j}{1 - r} \in \Theta(1) & \text{if } 0 < r < 1 \end{cases}$

Case 2: $r = b^{x-y} = 1 \Leftrightarrow x - y = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = y$

$T(n) = dn^x + cn^y \sum_{i=0}^{j-1} r^i \in dn^x + cn^y \Theta(j)$

$T(n) \in \Theta(n^x + jn^y) = \Theta(n^x + n^x)$ since $x = y$

Recall $b^j = n$, so $\log_b b^j = \log_b n$. This means $j \in \Theta(\log n)$.

So $T(n) = \Theta(n^x + n^x \log n) = \Theta(n^x \log n)$

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SOLVING THE GEOMETRIC SEQ

• Formula: $\sum_{i=0}^{j-1} ar^i = \begin{cases} a \frac{r^j - 1}{r - 1} \in \Theta(r^j) & \text{if } r > 1 \\ ja \in \Theta(j) & \text{if } r = 1 \\ a \frac{1 - r^j}{1 - r} \in \Theta(1) & \text{if } 0 < r < 1 \end{cases}$

- **Case 3:** $0 < r = b^{x-y} < 1 \Leftrightarrow x - y < 0 \Leftrightarrow x < y$
- $T(n) = dn^x + cn^y \sum_{i=0}^{j-1} r^i \in dn^x + cn^y \Theta(1)$
- $T(n) \in \Theta(n^x + n^y)$
- Since $x < y$, we simply have $T(n) \in \Theta(n^y)$

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MASTER THEOREM FOR RECURRENCES

Simplified version

Consider recurrence:

$T(n) = aT(\frac{n}{b}) + \Theta(n^y)$ where $a \geq 1, b \geq 2$ and $n = b^j$

And let $x = \log_b a$.

$$T(n) \in \begin{cases} \Theta(n^x) & \text{if } y < x \\ \Theta(n^x \log n) & \text{if } y = x \\ \Theta(n^y) & \text{if } y > x. \end{cases}$$

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SOME BONUS INTUITION FOR R CASES

Recall: $T(n) = dn^x + cn^y \sum_{i=0}^{j-1} r^i$ where $r = b^{x-y}$
 $x = \log_b a$ i.e. $\log_{\text{subproblem size}} |\text{subproblems}|$

case	r	y, x	complexity of T(n)
heavy leaves	$r > 1$	$y < x$	$T(n) \in \Theta(n^x)$
balanced	$r = 1$	$y = x$	$T(n) \in \Theta(n^x \log n)$
heavy top	$r < 1$	$y > x$	$T(n) \in \Theta(n^y)$

heavy leaves: means that the value of the recursion tree is dominated by the values of the leaf nodes.

balanced: means that the values of the levels of the recursion tree are constant (except for the last level).

heavy top: means that the value of the recursion tree is dominated by the value of the root node.

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WORKED EXAMPLES

Recall: simplified master theorem

Suppose that $a \geq 1$ and $b > 1$. Consider the recurrence

$$T(n) = aT\left(\frac{n}{b}\right) + \Theta(n^x), \text{ where } n \text{ is a power of } b.$$

Denote $x = \log_b a$. Then

$$T(n) \in \begin{cases} \Theta(n^x) & \text{if } y < x \\ \Theta(n^x \log n) & \text{if } y = x \\ \Theta(n^y) & \text{if } y > x. \end{cases}$$

Questions: $a=?$ $b=?$ $y=?$ $x=?$
which θ function?

$T(n) = 2T(n/2) + cn$	$a=2; b=2; y=1; x=1$ $\theta(n^x \log n) = \theta(n \log n)$
$T(n) = 3T(n/4) + cn$	$a=3; b=2; y=1; x=\log_2 3$ $\theta(n^x) = \theta(n^{\log_2 3})$
$T(n) = 4T(n/2) + cn$	$a=4; b=2; y=1; x=\log_2 4$ $\theta(n^x) = \theta(n^2)$
$T(n) = 2T(n/2) + cn^{3/2}$	$a=2; b=2; y=3/2; x=1$ $\theta(n^y) = \theta(n^{3/2})$

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MASTER THEOREM WHEN $b^{j-1} < n < b^j$

- n/b is not always an integer!
 - ceilings/floors are hard
 - not a geometric sequence
- Suppose we get a **big-O** bound for $b^{j-1} < n < b^j$ by instead considering the **larger problem size b^j**

Bonus slide, for you at home

$$\text{So } T(n) \leq T(b^j) \in \begin{cases} \theta((b^j)^x) & \text{if } y < x \\ \theta((b^j)^x \log b^j) & \text{if } y = x \\ \theta((b^j)^y) & \text{if } y > x \end{cases}$$

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MASTER THEOREM WHEN $b^{j-1} < n < b^j$

$$T(n) \leq T(b^j) \in \begin{cases} \theta((b^j)^x) & \text{if } y < x \\ \theta((b^j)^x \log b^j) & \text{if } y = x \\ \theta((b^j)^y) & \text{if } y > x \end{cases}$$

Bonus slide, for you at home

Observation: $b^j < bn$ since n is between b^{j-1} and b^j

$$\text{So } T(n) \leq T(b^j) \in \begin{cases} \theta((bn)^x) & \text{if } y < x \\ \theta((bn)^x \log bn) & \text{if } y = x \\ \theta((bn)^y) & \text{if } y > x \end{cases}$$

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MASTER THEOREM WHEN $b^{j-1} < n < b^j$

$$T(n) \in \begin{cases} \theta((bn)^x) & \text{if } y < x \\ \theta((bn)^x \log bn) & \text{if } y = x \\ \theta((bn)^y) & \text{if } y > x \end{cases}$$

Bonus slide, for you at home

- Case 1** ($y < x$): $(bn)^x = b^x n^x$ and b^x is a constant
 - So $T(n) \in O(n^x)$
- Case 2** ($y = x$): $(bn)^x \log bn = b^x n^x (\log b + \log n)$
 - $T(n) \in \theta(b^x n^x \log b + b^x n^x \log n) = \theta(n^x + n^x \log n)$
 - So $T(n) \in O(n^x \log n)$
- Case 3** ($y > x$): $(bn)^y = b^y n^y$
 - So $T(n) \in O(n^y)$

Can tackle θ similarly to get θ

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GENERAL MASTER THEOREM

Suppose that $a \geq 1$ and $b > 1$. Consider the recurrence

$$T(n) = aT\left(\frac{n}{b}\right) + f(n),$$

where n is a power of b . Denote $x = \log_b a$. Then

$$T(n) \in \begin{cases} \Theta(n^x) & \text{if } f(n) \in O(n^{x-\epsilon}) \text{ for some } \epsilon > 0 \\ \Theta(n^x \log n) & \text{if } f(n) \in \Theta(n^x) \\ \Theta(f(n)) & \text{if } f(n)/n^{x+\epsilon} \text{ is an increasing function of } n \text{ for some } \epsilon > 0. \end{cases}$$

Example recurrence:

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

Arbitrary function of n (not just cn^y)

Must reason about relationship between $f(n)$ and n^x

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REVISITING THE RECURSION TREE METHOD

- Some recurrences with complex $f(n)$ functions (such as $f(n) = \log n$) can still be solved "by hand"
- Example: Let $n = 2^j$; $T(1) = 1$; $T(n) = 2T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + n \log n$

level	# nodes	value at each node	value of the level
j	1	$j2^j$	$j2^j$
$j-1$	2	$(j-1)2^{j-1}$	$(j-1)2^j$
$j-2$	2^2	$(j-2)2^{j-2}$	$(j-2)2^j$
\vdots	\vdots	\vdots	\vdots
1	2^{j-1}	2^1	2^j
0	2^j	1	2^j

Note $\log_2 n = j$
So $j2^j = n \log_2 n$
And $(j-1)2^{j-1} = \frac{n}{2} \log_2 \frac{n}{2}$

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REVISITING THE RECURSION TREE METHOD

Recall: $n = 2^j$; $T(1) = 1$; $T(n) = 2T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + n \log n$

Summing the values at all levels of the recursion tree, we have

$$T(n) = 2^j \left(1 + \sum_{i=1}^j i \right) = 2^j \left(1 + \frac{j(j+1)}{2} \right).$$

Since $n = 2^j$, we have $j = \log_2 n$ and $T(n) \in \Theta(n(\log n)^2)$.

value of the level
2^j
$(j-1)2^j$
$(j-2)2^j$
\vdots
2^j
2^j