

More Recurrences

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Administrative

Group sessions

Assignment 1



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Recurrence

A function that is defined with respect to itself on smaller inputs

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

$$T(n) = 16T(n/4) + n$$

$$T(n) = 2T(n-1) + n^2$$



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The challenge

Recurrences are often easy to define because they mimic the structure of the program

But... they do not directly express the computational cost, i.e. n , n^2 , ...

We want to remove self-recurrence and find a more understandable form for the function



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Three approaches

Substitution method: when you have a good guess of the solution, prove that it's correct

Recursion-tree method: If you don't have a good guess, the recursion tree can help. Then solve with substitution method.

Master method: Provides solutions for recurrences of the form:

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

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Substitution method

Guess the form of the solution
Then prove it's correct by induction

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

Guesses?

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

Guess the solution?

At each iteration, does a linear amount of work (i.e. iterate over the data) and reduces the size by one at each step

$O(n^2)$

Assume $T(k) = O(k^2)$ for all $k < n$

- again, this implies that $T(n-1) \leq c(n-1)^2$

Show that $T(n) = O(n^2)$, i.e. $T(n) \leq c'n^2$

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

$$\leq c(n-1)^2 + n \quad \text{from our inductive hypothesis}$$


$$= c(n^2 - 2n + 1) + n$$

$$= cn^2 - 2cn + c + n \quad \text{residual}$$

$$\text{if } -2cn + c + n \leq 0$$

then let $c' = c$ and there exists a constant such that $T(n) \leq c'n^2$

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$$\begin{aligned}
 T(n) &= T(n-1) + n \\
 &\leq c(n-1)^2 + n \quad \text{from our inductive hypothesis} \\
 &= c(n^2 - 2n + 1) + n \\
 &= cn^2 - 2cn + c + n \quad \text{residual}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 -2cn + c + n &\leq 0 \\
 -2cn + c &\leq -n \\
 c(-2n + 1) &\leq -n \\
 c &\geq \frac{n}{2n-1} \\
 &\geq \frac{1}{2-1/n}
 \end{aligned}$$

which holds for any $c \geq 1$ for $n \geq 1$

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

Guess the solution?
 Recurses into 2 sub-problems that are half the size and performs some operation on all the elements
 $O(n \log n)$


What if we guess wrong, e.g. $O(n^2)$?

Assume $T(k) = O(k^2)$ for all $k < n$

- again, this implies that $T(n/2) \leq c(n/2)^2$

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

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$$\begin{aligned}
 T(n) &= 2T(n/2) + n \\
 &\leq 2c(n/2)^2 + n \quad \text{from our inductive hypothesis} \\
 &= 2cn^2/4 + n \\
 &= 1/2cn^2 + n \\
 &= cn^2 - (1/2cn^2 - n) \quad \text{residual}
 \end{aligned}$$

if

$$\begin{aligned}
 -(1/2cn^2 - n) &\leq 0 \\
 -1/2cn^2 + n &\leq 0 \\
 cn &\geq 2
 \end{aligned}$$

overkill?

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

What if we guess wrong, e.g. $O(n)$?

Assume $T(k) = O(k)$ for all $k < n$

- again, this implies that $T(n/2) \leq c(n/2)$

Show that $T(n) = O(n)$

$$\begin{aligned}
 T(n) &= 2T(n/2) + n \\
 &\leq 2cn/2 + n \\
 &= cn + n \\
 &\leq 2cn
 \end{aligned}$$

factor of n so we can just roll it in?

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

What if we guess wrong, e.g. $O(n)$?

Assume $T(k) = O(k)$ for all $k < n$

- again, this implies that $T(n/2) \leq c(n/2)$

Show that $T(n) = O(n)$

$$\begin{aligned}
 T(n) &= 2T(n/2) + n \\
 &\leq 2cn/2 + n \\
 &= cn + n \\
 &\leq cn
 \end{aligned}$$

Must prove the exact form!
 $cn + n \leq c'n$??

factor of n so we can just roll it in?

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

Prove $T(n) = O(n \log_2 n)$

Assume $T(k) = O(k \log_2 k)$ for all $k < n$

- again, this implies that $T(k) = ck \log_2 k$

Show that $T(n) = O(n \log_2 n)$

$$\begin{aligned}
 T(n) &= 2T(n/2) + n \\
 &\leq 2cn/2 \log_2(n/2) + n \\
 &\leq cn(\log_2 n - \log_2 2) + n \\
 &\leq cn \log_2 n - \underbrace{cn + n}_{\text{residual}} \\
 &\leq cn \log_2 n
 \end{aligned}$$

if $cn \geq n, c > 1$

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Recursion Tree

Guessing the answer can be difficult

$$\begin{aligned}
 T(n) &= 3T(n/4) + n^2 \\
 T(n) &= T(n/3) + 2T(2n/3) + cn
 \end{aligned}$$

The recursion tree approach

- Draw out the cost of the tree at each level of recursion
- Sum up the cost of the levels of the tree
- Find the cost of each level with respect to the depth
- Figure out the depth of the tree
- Figure out (or bound) the number of leaves
- Verify your answer using the substitution method

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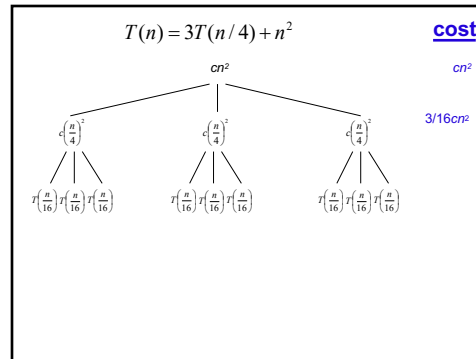
$T(n) = 3T(n/4) + n^2$

cost

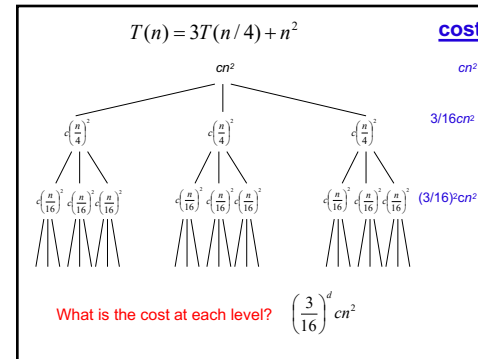
cn^2

cn^2

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What is the depth of the tree?

At each level, the size of the data is divided by 4

$$\frac{n}{4^d} = 1$$

$$\log\left(\frac{n}{4^d}\right) = 0$$

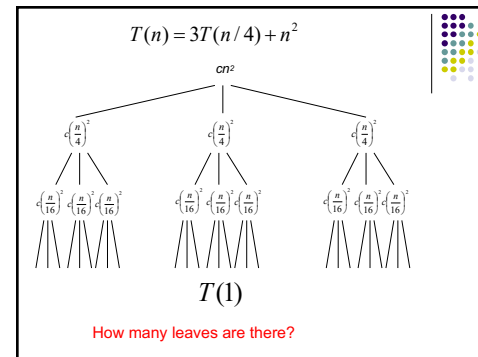
$$\log n - \log 4^d = 0$$

$$d \log 4 = \log n$$

$$d = \log_4 n$$

★

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How many leaves?

How many leaves are there in a complete ternary tree of depth d ?

$$3^d = 3^{\log_4 n}$$

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Total cost

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

$$\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} x^i = \frac{1}{1-x}$$

let $x = 3/16$

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Total cost

$$T(n) = \frac{16}{13} cn^2 + \Theta(3^{\log_4 n})$$

$$\begin{aligned} 3^{\log_4 n} &= 4^{\log_4 3^{\log_4 n}} \\ &= 4^{\log_4 n \log_4 3} \\ &= 4^{\log_4 n^{\log_4 3}} \quad \text{Assignment 0!} \\ &= n^{\log_4 3} \end{aligned}$$

$$T(n) = \frac{16}{13} cn^2 + \Theta(n^{\log_4 3})$$

$$T(n) = O(n^2) \quad \star$$

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Recursion tree

If you went through the exact calculation (like we just did), you can be done!

Often, this isn't feasible (or desirable)

Instead, use the recursion tree to get a good guess

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Verify solution using substitution

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

Assume $T(k) = O(k^2)$ for all $k < n$

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

Given that $T(n/4) = O((n/4)^2)$, then

$$O(g(n)) = \left\{ f(n) : \begin{array}{l} \text{there exists positive constants } c \text{ and } n \text{ such that} \\ 0 \leq f(n) \leq cg(n) \text{ for all } n \geq n_0 \end{array} \right\}$$

$$T(n/4) \leq c(n/4)^2$$

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

To prove that Show that $T(n) = O(n^2)$ we need to identify the appropriate constants:

$$O(g(n)) = \left\{ f(n) : \begin{array}{l} \text{there exists positive constants } c \text{ and } n \text{ such that} \\ 0 \leq f(n) \leq cg(n) \text{ for all } n \geq n_0 \end{array} \right\}$$

i.e. some constant c such that $T(n) \leq cn^2$

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

$$\leq 3c(n/4)^2 + n^2$$

$$= cn^2 \frac{3}{16} + n^2$$

$$= cn^2 - cn^2 \frac{13}{16} + n^2 \quad \text{residual}$$

$$\text{a constant exists if } -cn^2 \frac{13}{16} + n^2 \leq 0$$

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

To prove that Show that $T(n) = O(n^2)$ we need to identify the appropriate constants:

$$O(g(n)) = \left\{ f(n) : \begin{array}{l} \text{there exists positive constants } c \text{ and } n \text{ such that} \\ 0 \leq f(n) \leq cg(n) \text{ for all } n \geq n_0 \end{array} \right\}$$

i.e. some constant c such that $T(n) \leq cn^2$

$$-cn^2 * \frac{13}{16} + n^2 \leq 0$$

$$cn^2 * \frac{13}{16} \geq n^2$$

$$c \geq \frac{16}{13}$$

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Master Method

Provides solutions to the recurrences of the form:

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

if $f(n) = O(n^{\log_b a - \epsilon})$ for $\epsilon > 0$, then $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$

if $f(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$, then $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \log n)$

if $f(n) = \Omega(n^{\log_b a + \epsilon})$ for $\epsilon > 0$ and $af(n/b) \leq cf(n)$ for $c < 1$
then $T(n) = \Theta(f(n))$

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$T(n) = 16T(n/4) + n$

if $f(n) = O(n^{\log_b a - \epsilon})$ for $\epsilon > 0$, then $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$
 if $f(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$, then $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \log n)$
 if $f(n) = \Omega(n^{\log_b a + \epsilon})$ for $\epsilon > 0$ and $a f(n/b) \leq c f(n)$ for $c < 1$
 then $T(n) = \Theta(f(n))$

$a = 16$ $n^{\log_b a} = n^{\log_4 16}$
 $b = 4$ $= n^2$
 $f(n) = n$

is $n = O(n^{2-\epsilon})$?
 is $n = \Theta(n^2)$? **Case 1: $\Theta(n^2)$**
 is $n = \Omega(n^{2+\epsilon})$?

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

if $f(n) = O(n^{\log_b a - \epsilon})$ for $\epsilon > 0$, then $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$
 if $f(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$, then $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \log n)$
 if $f(n) = \Omega(n^{\log_b a + \epsilon})$ for $\epsilon > 0$ and $a f(n/b) \leq c f(n)$ for $c < 1$
 then $T(n) = \Theta(f(n))$

$a = 1$ $n^{\log_b a} = n^{\log_2 1}$
 $b = 2$ $= n^0$
 $f(n) = 2^n$

is $2^n = O(n^{0-\epsilon})$? **Case 3?**
 is $2^n = \Theta(n^0)$? is $2^{n/2} \leq c 2^n$ for $c < 1$?
 is $2^n = \Omega(n^{0+\epsilon})$?

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

if $f(n) = O(n^{\log_b a - \epsilon})$ for $\epsilon > 0$, then $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$
 if $f(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$, then $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \log n)$
 if $f(n) = \Omega(n^{\log_b a + \epsilon})$ for $\epsilon > 0$ and $a f(n/b) \leq c f(n)$ for $c < 1$
 then $T(n) = \Theta(f(n))$

is $2^{n/2} \leq c 2^n$ for $c < 1$?
 Let $c = 1/2$
 $2^{n/2} \leq (1/2)2^n$
 $2^{n/2} \leq 2^{-1}2^n$ **$T(n) = \Theta(2^n)$**
 $2^{n/2} \leq 2^{n-1}$

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

if $f(n) = O(n^{\log_b a - \epsilon})$ for $\epsilon > 0$, then $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$
 if $f(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$, then $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \log n)$
 if $f(n) = \Omega(n^{\log_b a + \epsilon})$ for $\epsilon > 0$ and $a f(n/b) \leq c f(n)$ for $c < 1$
 then $T(n) = \Theta(f(n))$

$a = 2$ $n^{\log_b a} = n^{\log_2 2}$
 $b = 2$ $= n^1$
 $f(n) = n$

is $n = O(n^{1-\epsilon})$?
 is $n = \Theta(n^1)$? **Case 2: $\Theta(n \log n)$**
 is $n = \Omega(n^{1+\epsilon})$?

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$T(n) = 16T(n/4) + n!$

if $f(n) = O(n^{\log_b a - \epsilon})$ for $\epsilon > 0$, then $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$
 if $f(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$, then $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \log n)$
 if $f(n) = \Omega(n^{\log_b a + \epsilon})$ for $\epsilon > 0$ and $a/(n/b) \leq c f(n)$ for $c < 1$
 then $T(n) = \Theta(f(n))$

$a = 16$ $n^{\log_b a} = n^{\log_4 16}$
 $b = 4$ $= n^2$
 $f(n) = n!$

is $n! = O(n^{2-\epsilon})$? **Case 3?**
 is $n! = \Theta(n^2)$? is $16(n/4)! \leq cn!$ for $c < 1$?
 is $n! = \Omega(n^{2+\epsilon})$?

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$T(n) = 16T(n/4) + n!$

if $f(n) = O(n^{\log_b a - \epsilon})$ for $\epsilon > 0$, then $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$
 if $f(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$, then $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \log n)$
 if $f(n) = \Omega(n^{\log_b a + \epsilon})$ for $\epsilon > 0$ and $a/(n/b) \leq c f(n)$ for $c < 1$
 then $T(n) = \Theta(f(n))$

is $16(n/4)! \leq cn!$ for $c < 1$?

Let $c = 1/2$
 $cn! = 1/2n!$ **$T(n) = \Theta(n!)$**
 $> (n/2)!$

therefore,
 $16(n/4)! \leq (n/2)! < 1/2n!$

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

if $f(n) = O(n^{\log_b a - \epsilon})$ for $\epsilon > 0$, then $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$
 if $f(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$, then $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \log n)$
 if $f(n) = \Omega(n^{\log_b a + \epsilon})$ for $\epsilon > 0$ and $a/(n/b) \leq c f(n)$ for $c < 1$
 then $T(n) = \Theta(f(n))$

$a = \sqrt{2}$ $n^{\log_b a} = n^{\log_2 \sqrt{2}}$
 $b = 2$ $= n^{\log_2 2^{1/2}}$
 $f(n) = \log n$ $= \sqrt{n}$

is $\log n = O(n^{1/2-\epsilon})$? **Case 1: $\Theta(\sqrt{n})$**
 is $\log n = \Theta(n^{1/2})$?
 is $\log n = \Omega(n^{1/2+\epsilon})$?

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

if $f(n) = O(n^{\log_b a - \epsilon})$ for $\epsilon > 0$, then $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$
 if $f(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$, then $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \log n)$
 if $f(n) = \Omega(n^{\log_b a + \epsilon})$ for $\epsilon > 0$ and $a/(n/b) \leq c f(n)$ for $c < 1$
 then $T(n) = \Theta(f(n))$

$a = 4$ $n^{\log_b a} = n^{\log_2 4}$
 $b = 2$ $= n^2$
 $f(n) = n$

is $n = O(n^{2-\epsilon})$? **Case 1: $\Theta(n^2)$**
 is $n = \Theta(n^2)$?
 is $n = \Omega(n^{2+\epsilon})$?

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Recurrences

$$T(n) = 2T(n/3) + d \quad T(n) = 7T(n/7) + n$$

if $f(n) = O(n^{\log_b a - \epsilon})$ for $\epsilon > 0$, then $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$
 if $f(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$, then $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \log n)$
 if $f(n) = \Omega(n^{\log_b a + \epsilon})$ for $\epsilon > 0$ and $af(n/b) \leq cf(n)$ for $c < 1$
 then $T(n) = \Theta(f(n))$

$$T(n) = T(n-1) + \log n \quad T(n) = 8T(n/2) + n^3$$

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Why does the master method work?

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

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What is the depth of the tree?

At each level, the size of the data is divided by b

$$\frac{n}{b^d} = 1$$

$$\log\left(\frac{n}{b^d}\right) = 0$$

$$\log n - \log 4^d = 0$$

$$d \log b = \log n$$

$$d = \log_b n$$

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How many leaves?

How many leaves are there in a complete a-ary tree of depth d?

$$a^d = a^{\log_b n}$$

$$= n^{\log_b a}$$

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Total cost

- if $f(n) = O(n^{\log_b a - \epsilon})$ for $\epsilon > 0$, then $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$
- if $f(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$, then $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \log n)$
- if $f(n) = \Omega(n^{\log_b a + \epsilon})$ for $\epsilon > 0$ and $af(n/b) \leq cf(n)$ for $c < 1$ then $T(n) = \Theta(f(n))$

$$T(n) = cf(n) + af(n/b) + a^2 f(n/b^2) + \dots + a^{d-1} f(n/b^{d-1}) + \Theta(n^{\log_b a^3})$$

$$= \sum_{i=0}^{\log_b n-1} a^i f(n/b^i) + \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$$

Case 1: cost is dominated by the cost of the leaves

$$= \sum_{i=0}^{\log_b n-1} a^i f(n/b^i) < \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$$

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Total cost

- if $f(n) = O(n^{\log_b a - \epsilon})$ for $\epsilon > 0$, then $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$
- if $f(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$, then $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \log n)$
- if $f(n) = \Omega(n^{\log_b a + \epsilon})$ for $\epsilon > 0$ and $af(n/b) \leq cf(n)$ for $c < 1$ then $T(n) = \Theta(f(n))$

$$T(n) = cf(n) + af(n/b) + a^2 f(n/b^2) + \dots + a^{d-1} f(n/b^{d-1}) + \Theta(n^{\log_b a^3})$$

$$= \sum_{i=0}^{\log_b n-1} a^i f(n/b^i) + \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$$

Case 2: cost is evenly distributed across tree

As we saw with mergesort, $\log n$ levels to the tree and at each level $f(n)$ work

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Total cost

- if $f(n) = O(n^{\log_b a - \epsilon})$ for $\epsilon > 0$, then $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$
- if $f(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$, then $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \log n)$
- if $f(n) = \Omega(n^{\log_b a + \epsilon})$ for $\epsilon > 0$ and $af(n/b) \leq cf(n)$ for $c < 1$ then $T(n) = \Theta(f(n))$

$$T(n) = cf(n) + af(n/b) + a^2 f(n/b^2) + \dots + a^{d-1} f(n/b^{d-1}) + \Theta(n^{\log_b a^3})$$

$$= \sum_{i=0}^{\log_b n-1} a^i f(n/b^i) + \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$$

Case 3: cost is dominated by the cost of the root

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Other forms of the master method

$$T(n) = aT(n/b) + O(n^d)$$

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} O(n^d) & \text{if } d > \log_b a \\ O(n^d \log n) & \text{if } d = \log_b a \\ O(n^{\log_b a}) & \text{if } d < \log_b a \end{cases}$$

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