

# CS3230 Tutorial 2

## Recurrences and Master Theorem

(AY 25/26 Semester 2)

January 26, 2026

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## Recap: Telescoping

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{T(n)}{g(n)} &= \frac{\cancel{T(\frac{n}{b})}}{\cancel{g(\frac{n}{b})}} + h(n) \\ \frac{\cancel{T(\frac{n}{b})}}{\cancel{g(\frac{n}{b})}} &= \frac{\cancel{T(\frac{n}{b^2})}}{\cancel{g(\frac{n}{b^2})}} + h(\frac{n}{b}) \\ \frac{\cancel{T(\frac{n}{b^2})}}{\cancel{g(\frac{n}{b^2})}} &= \frac{\cancel{T(\frac{n}{b^3})}}{\cancel{g(\frac{n}{b^3})}} + h(\frac{n}{b^2}) \\ &\vdots\end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{T(n)}{g(n)} = \boxed{h(n) + h(\frac{n}{b}) + h(\frac{n}{b^2}) + \dots} + \Theta(1)$$

Two challenges: (1) Figure out what to divide in both sides + (2) Compute the sum

## Q1. Telescoping

Use telescoping to give a tight asymptotic bound for

$$T(n) = 4T\left(\frac{n}{4}\right) + \frac{n}{\log n}$$

- A.  $T(n) = \Theta(n)$
- B.  $T(n) = \Theta(n \log n)$
- C.  $T(n) = \Theta(n \log \log n)$
- D.  $T(n) = \Theta(n \log^2 n)$
- E.  $T(n) = \Theta(n^2)$

## Q1. Telescoping

$$T(n) = 4T\left(\frac{n}{4}\right) + \frac{n}{\log n}$$

$$\frac{T(n)}{n} = \frac{\cancel{T\left(\frac{n}{4}\right)}}{\cancel{\frac{n}{4}}} + \frac{1}{\log n}$$

◀ divide both sides by  $n$

$$\frac{\cancel{T\left(\frac{n}{4}\right)}}{\cancel{\frac{n}{4}}} = \frac{\cancel{T\left(\frac{n}{16}\right)}}{\cancel{\frac{n}{16}}} + \frac{1}{\log \frac{n}{4}}$$

$$\frac{\cancel{T\left(\frac{n}{16}\right)}}{\cancel{\frac{n}{16}}} = \frac{\cancel{T\left(\frac{n}{64}\right)}}{\cancel{\frac{n}{64}}} + \frac{1}{\log \frac{n}{16}}$$

⋮

$$\frac{T(n)}{n} = \frac{1}{\log n} + \frac{1}{\log \frac{n}{4}} + \frac{1}{\log \frac{n}{16}} + \dots$$

# Q1. Telescoping

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{T(n)}{n} &= \frac{1}{\log n} + \frac{1}{\log \frac{n}{4}} + \frac{1}{\log \frac{n}{16}} + \dots \\ &= \Theta\left(\frac{1}{\log n} + \frac{1}{\log n - 1} + \frac{1}{\log n - 2} + \dots\right) &< \text{take log base 4} \\ &= \Theta(\log \log n) &< \text{harmonic series}\end{aligned}$$

Hence  $T(n) = \Theta(n \log \log n)$ .

**Asymptotic Analysis Useful Facts Refresher:**

$$\frac{1}{1} + \frac{1}{2} + \dots + \frac{1}{n} = \ln n + O(1) \text{ (harmonic series)}$$

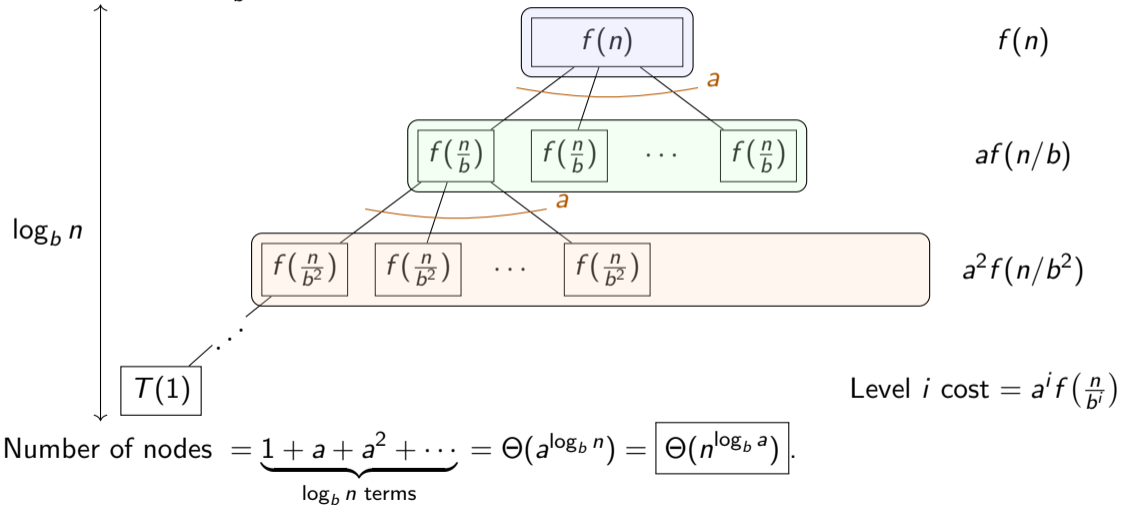
# Recap: Master Theorem

Given  $T(n) = aT(\frac{n}{b}) + f(n)$ . There are 3 cases:

	Case	Results
1	$f(n) = O(n^{\log_b a - \epsilon}), \epsilon > 0$	$T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$
2	$f(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \log^k n), k \geq 0$	$T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \log^{k+1} n)$
3	$f(n) = \Omega(n^{\log_b a + \epsilon}), \epsilon > 0$ <b>Regularity condition:</b> $af(\frac{n}{b}) \leq kf(n), k < 1$	$T(n) = \Theta(f(n))$

# Recap: Master Theorem

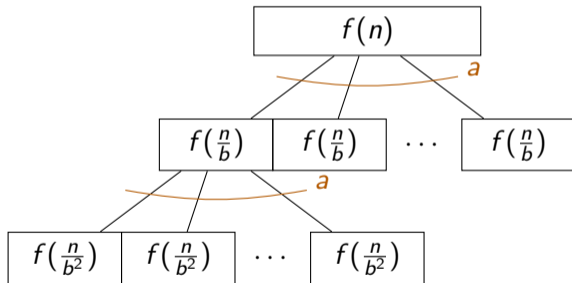
Given  $T(n) = aT(\frac{n}{b}) + f(n)$ .



# Recap: Master Theorem

Given  $T(n) = aT(\frac{n}{b}) + f(n)$ .

- ▶ **Case 1** ( $f(n) = O(n^{\log_b a - \epsilon})$ ,  $\epsilon > 0$ ):  $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$



## Recap: Master Theorem

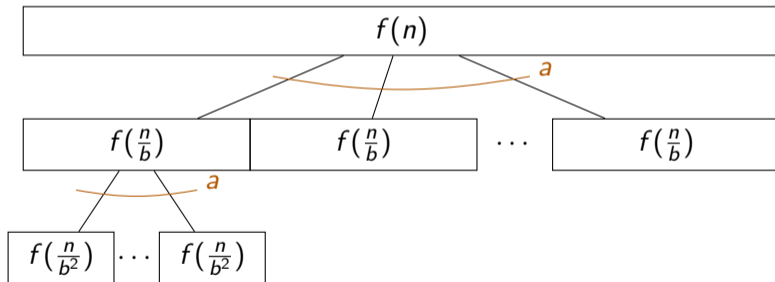
**▲ FAQ: Why don't we use  $o(n^{\log_b a})$  instead of  $O(n^{\log_b a - \epsilon})$ ?**

**They have different meanings.** For example,  $f(n) = \frac{n^3}{\log n}$  is in  $o(n^3)$  but **NOT** in  $O(n^{3-\epsilon})$  for all  $\epsilon > 0$ .

# Recap: Master Theorem

Given  $T(n) = aT(\frac{n}{b}) + f(n)$ .

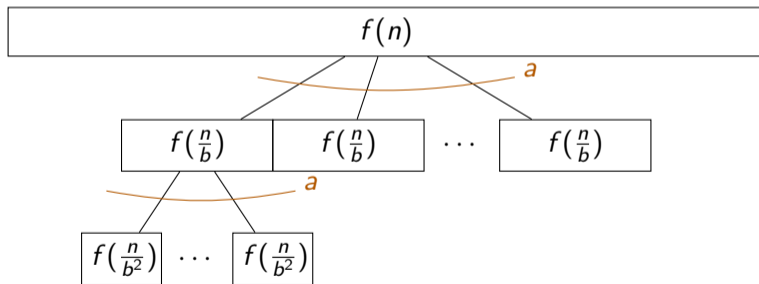
- ▶ **Case 2** ( $f(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \log^k n)$ ,  $k \geq 0$ ):  $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \log^{k+1} n)$



# Recap: Master Theorem

Given  $T(n) = aT(\frac{n}{b}) + f(n)$ .

- ▶ **Case 3** ( $f(n) = \Omega(n^{\log_b a + \epsilon})$ ,  $\epsilon > 0$  **AND**  $af(\frac{n}{b}) \leq kf(n)$ ,  $k < 1$ ):  
 $T(n) = \Theta(f(n))$



## Q2. Master Theorem?

Give a tight asymptotic bound for  $T(n) = 5T\left(\frac{n}{3}\right) + n$ .

- A.  $T(n) = \Theta(n^2)$
- B.  $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_5 3})$
- C.  $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_3 5})$
- D.  $T(n) = \Theta(n \log n)$
- E.  $T(n) = \Theta(n)$

Given  $T(n) = af\left(\frac{n}{b}\right) + f(n)$ .

1.  $f(n) = O(n^{\log_b a - \epsilon})$ ,  $\epsilon > 0$ :  $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$
2.  $f(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \log^k n)$ ,  $k \geq 0$ :  $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \log^{k+1} n)$
3.  $f(n) = \Omega(n^{\log_b a + \epsilon})$ ,  $\epsilon > 0$  **and**  $af\left(\frac{n}{b}\right) \leq kf(n)$ ,  $k < 1$ :  $T(n) = \Theta(f(n))$

## Q2. Master Theorem Case 1

$$T(n) = 5T\left(\frac{n}{3}\right) + n$$

- ▶ Apply Master Theorem with  $a = 5$ ,  $b = 3$ ,  $f(n) = n$ .
- ▶ Let  $k = \log_3 5$ .  $f(n) = n^1 = O(n^{k-\epsilon})$ .  $\Rightarrow$  Case 1 applies.
- ▶  $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_3 5})$ .

Given  $T(n) = af\left(\frac{n}{b}\right) + f(n)$ .

1.  $f(n) = O(n^{\log_b a - \epsilon})$ ,  $\epsilon > 0$ :  $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$
2.  $f(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \log^k n)$ ,  $k \geq 0$ :  $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \log^{k+1} n)$
3.  $f(n) = \Omega(n^{\log_b a + \epsilon})$ ,  $\epsilon > 0$  **and**  $af\left(\frac{n}{b}\right) \leq kf(n)$ ,  $k < 1$ :  $T(n) = \Theta(f(n))$

### Q3. Master Theorem?

Give a tight asymptotic bound for  $T(n) = 9T\left(\frac{n}{3}\right) + n^3$ .

- A.  $T(n) = \Theta(n^9)$
- B.  $T(n) = \Theta(n^3 \log n)$
- C.  $T(n) = \Theta(n^2)$
- D.  $T(n) = \Theta(n^3)$
- E.  $T(n) = \Theta(n \log^2 n)$

Given  $T(n) = af\left(\frac{n}{b}\right) + f(n)$ .

1.  $f(n) = O(n^{\log_b a - \epsilon})$ ,  $\epsilon > 0$ :  $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$
2.  $f(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \log^k n)$ ,  $k \geq 0$ :  $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \log^{k+1} n)$
3.  $f(n) = \Omega(n^{\log_b a + \epsilon})$ ,  $\epsilon > 0$  **and**  $af\left(\frac{n}{b}\right) \leq kf(n)$ ,  $k < 1$ :  $T(n) = \Theta(f(n))$

## Q3. Master Theorem Case 3

$$T(n) = 9T\left(\frac{n}{3}\right) + n^3$$

- ▶ Apply Master Theorem with  $a = 9$ ,  $b = 3$ ,  $f(n) = n^3$ .
- ▶ Let  $k = \log_3 9 = 2$ .  $f(n) = n^3 = \Omega(n^{k+\epsilon})$ .
- ▶  $af\left(\frac{n}{b}\right) = 9 \cdot \left(\frac{n}{3}\right)^3 = \frac{n^3}{3} \leq \frac{1}{3}f(n)$ , so regularity condition holds.  $\Rightarrow$  Case 3 applies.
- ▶  $T(n) = \Theta(n^3)$ .

Given  $T(n) = af\left(\frac{n}{b}\right) + f(n)$ .

1.  $f(n) = O(n^{\log_b a - \epsilon})$ ,  $\epsilon > 0$ :  $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$
2.  $f(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \log^k n)$ ,  $k \geq 0$ :  $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \log^{k+1} n)$
3.  $f(n) = \Omega(n^{\log_b a + \epsilon})$ ,  $\epsilon > 0$  **and**  $af\left(\frac{n}{b}\right) \leq kf(n)$ ,  $k < 1$ :  $T(n) = \Theta(f(n))$

## Q4. Master Theorem?

Give a tight asymptotic bound for  $T(n) = 16T\left(\frac{n}{4}\right) + n^2 \log n$ .

- A.  $T(n) = \Theta(n^2 \log n)$
- B.  $T(n) = \Theta(n^2 \log^2 n)$
- C.  $T(n) = \Theta(n^2)$
- D.  $T(n) = \Theta(n^3)$
- E.  $T(n) = \Theta(n^4 \log n)$

Given  $T(n) = af\left(\frac{n}{b}\right) + f(n)$ .

1.  $f(n) = O(n^{\log_b a - \epsilon})$ ,  $\epsilon > 0$ :  $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$
2.  $f(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \log^k n)$ ,  $k \geq 0$ :  $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \log^{k+1} n)$
3.  $f(n) = \Omega(n^{\log_b a + \epsilon})$ ,  $\epsilon > 0$  **and**  $af\left(\frac{n}{b}\right) \leq kf(n)$ ,  $k < 1$ :  $T(n) = \Theta(f(n))$

## Q4. Master Theorem Case 2

$$T(n) = 16T\left(\frac{n}{4}\right) + n^2 \log n$$

- ▶ Apply Master Theorem with  $a = 16$ ,  $b = 4$ ,  $f(n) = n^2 \log n$ .
- ▶ Let  $k = \log_4 16 = 2$ . Then  $f(n) = \Theta(n^k \log n)$ .  $\Rightarrow$  Case 2 applies.
- ▶  $T(n) = \Theta(n^2 \log^2 n)$ .

Given  $T(n) = af\left(\frac{n}{b}\right) + f(n)$ .

1.  $f(n) = O(n^{\log_b a - \epsilon})$ ,  $\epsilon > 0$ :  $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$
2.  $f(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \log^k n)$ ,  $k \geq 0$ :  $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \log^{k+1} n)$
3.  $f(n) = \Omega(n^{\log_b a + \epsilon})$ ,  $\epsilon > 0$  **and**  $af\left(\frac{n}{b}\right) \leq kf(n)$ ,  $k < 1$ :  $T(n) = \Theta(f(n))$

# Recap: Substitution Method

- ▶ **Key idea.** Start with a guess and attempt to prove it with induction.
- ▶ Example:  $T(n) = 4T(\frac{n}{2}) + n$ . You guess that  $T(n) = \Theta(n^2)$  and you want to prove it.
  - ▶ **Upper bound:** Show that  $T(n) = O(n^2)$ .
  - ▶ **Lower bound:** Show that  $T(n) = \Omega(n^2)$ .

## Upper bound: Failed Attempt.

Show that  $T(n) \leq cn^2$  for some constant  $c$ .

Induction Step:

$$\begin{aligned}T(n) &= 4T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + n \\ &\leq 4c\left(\frac{n}{2}\right)^2 + n \quad \blacktriangleleft \text{by inductive hypothesis} \\ &= cn^2 \boxed{+n} \quad \blacktriangleleft \text{this is not } \leq cn^2!\end{aligned}$$

## Upper bound: Fixed Attempt.

Show that  $T(n) \leq c_2n^2 - c_1n$  for some  $c_1, c_2$ .

Induction Step:

$$\begin{aligned}T(n) &= 4T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + n \\ &\leq 4c_2\left(\frac{n}{2}\right)^2 - 4c_1\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + n \quad \blacktriangleleft \text{by inductive hy.} \\ &= c_2n^2 \boxed{-2c_1n + n} \\ &\leq c_2n^2 - c_1n \quad \blacktriangleleft \text{pick } c_1 \geq 1\end{aligned}$$

# Recap: Substitution Method

- ▶ **Key idea.** Start with a guess and attempt to prove it with induction.
- ▶ Example:  $T(n) = 4T(\frac{n}{2}) + n$ . You guess that  $T(n) = \Theta(n^2)$  and you want to prove it.
  - ▶ **Upper bound:** Show that  $T(n) = O(n^2)$ .
  - ▶ **Lower bound:** Show that  $T(n) = \Omega(n^2)$ .

## Lower bound:

Show that  $T(n) \geq cn^2$  for some constant  $c$ .

Induction Step:

$$\begin{aligned}T(n) &= 4T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + n \\&\geq 4c\left(\frac{n}{2}\right)^2 + n \quad \blacktriangleleft \text{by inductive hypothesis} \\&= cn^2 + n \\&\geq cn^2 \quad \blacktriangleleft \text{all good now!}\end{aligned}$$

# Recap: Substitution Method

How to check if your guess is good?

- ▶ Consider  $T(n) = \mathbf{Recursive\ calls} + \mathbf{“Merging”\ time}$
- ▶ Substitute your guess into the recurrence and check:
  1. Time contributed by **recursive calls** (Constants matter here).
  2. Time contributed by **merging** (Constants don't matter).
- ▶ Compare both against your guess:
  - ▶ If either one is larger than your guess (**including by a constant factor for recursive calls**), try **larger** guesses.
  - ▶ If both are smaller than your guess, try **smaller** guesses.
  - ▶ If one of them is equal to your guess, and the other is smaller than your guess, then your guess is **just right!**
  - ▶ If both of them are equal to your guess, **add a  $\log n$  factor** (Case 2 of Master Theorem, to account for recursive calls).

# Substitution Method Guessing — Example 1

Examples:

$$\blacktriangleright T(n) = \underbrace{2T(n/2) + 8T(n/4)}_{\text{recursive calls}} + \underbrace{3n^2}_{\text{"Merging"}}$$

Guess:  $T(n) = \Theta(n^3)$

► Substitute your guess

1. Recursive calls (constants matter):

$$2\left(\frac{n}{2}\right)^3 + 8\left(\frac{n}{4}\right)^3 = \frac{3}{8}n^3 \quad (< n^3)$$

2. Merging (constants don't matter):

$$3n^2 \quad (= o(n^3))$$

► Since both terms are smaller than our guess, our guess was **too large**

Refined Guess:  $T(n) = \Theta(n^2)$

► Substitute your guess

1. Recursive calls:

$$2\left(\frac{n}{2}\right)^2 + 8\left(\frac{n}{4}\right)^2 = n^2 \quad (= n^2)$$

2. Merging:  $3n^2 \quad (= \Theta(n^2))$

► Since both terms are equal to our guess, we should **add a log factor** and prove  $T(n) = \Theta(n^2 \log n)$

# Substitution Method Guessing — Example 2

Examples:

$$\blacktriangleright T(n) = \underbrace{2T(n/2) + 8T(n/4)}_{\text{recursive calls}} + \underbrace{3n}_{\text{"Merging"}} .$$

Guess:  $T(n) = \Theta(n)$

▶ Substitute your guess

1. Recursive calls (constants matter):

$$2\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + 8\left(\frac{n}{4}\right) = 3n \quad (> n)$$

2. Merging (constants don't matter):

$$3n \quad (= \Theta(n))$$

▶ Since the recursive calls are larger than our guess, our guess was **too small**

Refined Guess:  $T(n) = \Theta(n^2)$

▶ Substitute your guess

1. Recursive calls:

$$2\left(\frac{n}{2}\right)^2 + 8\left(\frac{n}{4}\right)^2 = n^2 \quad (= n^2)$$

2. Merging:  $3n \quad (= o(n^2))$

▶ Since one term equals our guess and the other is smaller, our guess is **just right** and we should prove  $T(n) = \Theta(n^2)$

## Q5. Substitution Method

Give a tight asymptotic bound for  $T(n) = 4T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + \sqrt{n}$  using the substitution method.

## Q5. Substitution Method

$$T(n) = 4T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + \sqrt{n}$$

Guess:  $T(n) = \Theta(n^2)$ .

- ▶ (Upper bound) Want to show:  $T(n) \leq c_2 n^2 - c_1 n$
- ▶ (Lower bound) Want to show:  $T(n) \geq cn^2$

**Question 5B:** What is a good choice of  $c_1$ ,  $c_2$  and  $c$ ?

## Q5. Substitution Method

$$T(n) = 4T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + \sqrt{n}$$

Guess:  $T(n) = \Theta(n^2)$ .

(Upper bound) Want to show:  $T(n) \leq c_2 n^2 - c_1 n$  for  $c_1 = 1$ ,  $c_2 = T(1) + c_1$ .

**Basis Step:**  $T(1) = c_2 - c_1$ .

**Induction Step:**

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= 4T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + \sqrt{n} \\ &\leq 4\left(c_2\left(\frac{n}{2}\right)^2 - c_1\left(\frac{n}{2}\right)\right) + \sqrt{n} && \blacktriangleleft \text{by induction hypothesis} \\ &= c_2 n^2 - 2c_1 n + \sqrt{n} \\ &= c_2 n^2 - c_1 n - (c_1 n - \sqrt{n}) \\ &\leq c_2 n^2 - c_1 n && \blacktriangleleft \text{Note that } n - \sqrt{n} \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

## Q5. Substitution Method

$$T(n) = 4T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + \sqrt{n}$$

Guess:  $T(n) = \Theta(n^2)$ .

(Lower bound) Want to show:  $T(n) \geq cn^2$  for  $c = T(1)$ .

**Basis Step:**  $T(1) = c$ .

**Induction Step:**

$$\begin{aligned}T(n) &= 4T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + \sqrt{n} \\&\geq 4\left(c\left(\frac{n}{2}\right)^2\right) + \sqrt{n} \\&= cn^2 + \sqrt{n} \\&\geq cn^2\end{aligned}$$

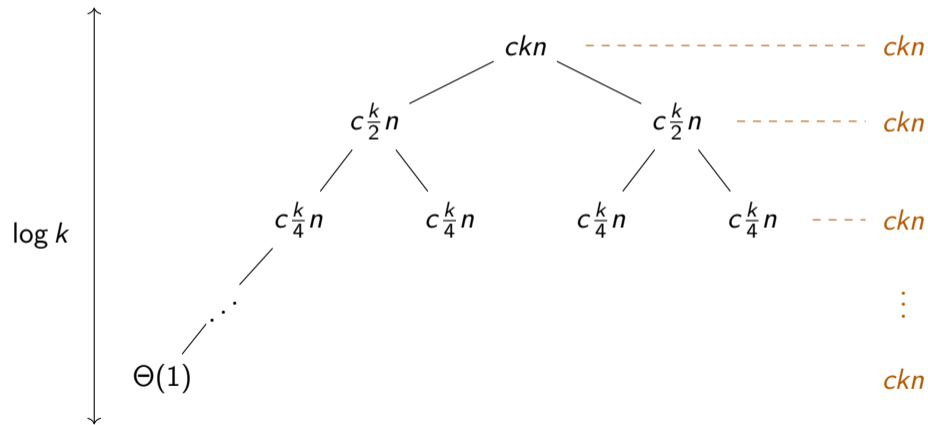
◀ by induction hypothesis

## Q6. Merging Sorted Arrays

- ▶ Suppose you are given  $k$  sorted arrays,  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_k$ , with  $n$  elements each, and you are to merge them.
- ▶ Let  $T(k, n)$  denote the complexity of merging  $k$  arrays of size  $n$ .
- ▶ Suppose you decide the best way to do above is recursion (when  $k > 1$ )
  1. Merge the first  $\lceil \frac{k}{2} \rceil$  arrays of size  $n$
  2. Merge the remaining  $\lfloor \frac{k}{2} \rfloor$  arrays of size  $n$
  3. Merge the two arrays obtained in the first two steps above
- ▶ Give a formula for  $T(k, n)$  based on the above. Solve your recursion formula.

## Q6. Merging Sorted Arrays

$$T(k, n) = 2T\left(\frac{k}{2}, n\right) + ckn \text{ (for some constant } c)$$



Total cost:  $\Theta(kn \log k)$ .

# Extended Master Theorem

**Disclaimer:** You CANNOT quote this directly in assignments / exams.

Given  $T(n) = aT(\frac{n}{b}) + f(n)$ .

- ▶ **Case 2:**  $f(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \log^k n)$ ,  $k \geq 0$ . What if  $k < 0$ ?

Extended Master Theorem:

- ▶ If  $k < -1$ , then  $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$ .
- ▶ If  $k = -1$ , then  $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \log \log n)$ .
- ▶ If  $k > -1$ , then  $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \log^{k+1} n)$ .

# Extended Master Theorem

$$T(n) = aT\left(\frac{n}{b}\right) + n^{\log_b a} \log^k n$$

$$\frac{T(n)}{n^{\log_b a}} = \frac{T\left(\frac{n}{b}\right)}{\left(\frac{n}{b}\right)^{\log_b a}} + \log^k n$$

$$\frac{T\left(\frac{n}{b}\right)}{\left(\frac{n}{b}\right)^{\log_b a}} = \frac{T\left(\frac{n}{b^2}\right)}{\left(\frac{n}{b^2}\right)^{\log_b a}} + \log^k\left(\frac{n}{b}\right)$$

$$\frac{T\left(\frac{n}{b^2}\right)}{\left(\frac{n}{b^2}\right)^{\log_b a}} = \frac{T\left(\frac{n}{b^3}\right)}{\left(\frac{n}{b^3}\right)^{\log_b a}} + \log^k\left(\frac{n}{b^2}\right)$$

$$\frac{T\left(\frac{n}{b^3}\right)}{\left(\frac{n}{b^3}\right)^{\log_b a}} = \frac{T\left(\frac{n}{b^4}\right)}{\left(\frac{n}{b^4}\right)^{\log_b a}} + \log^k\left(\frac{n}{b^3}\right)$$

$$\vdots$$

$$\frac{T(n)}{n^{\log_b a}} = \log^k n + \log^k\left(\frac{n}{b}\right) + \log^k\left(\frac{n}{b^2}\right) + \cdots + \Theta(1)$$

◀ Divide  $n^{\log_b a}$  on both sides

◀ Telescoping series

# Extended Master Theorem

Assuming logarithms are in base  $b$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{T(n)}{n^{\log_b a}} &= \log^k n + \log^k\left(\frac{n}{b}\right) + \log^k\left(\frac{n}{b^2}\right) + \cdots + \Theta(1) \\ &= (\log n)^k + (\log n - 1)^k + (\log n - 2)^k + \cdots + \Theta(1)\end{aligned}$$

► If  $k < -1$ ,

$$\sum_{x=1}^{\log n} x^k = \Theta(1) \quad \blacktriangleleft \text{ } p\text{-series (Check MA1521/MA2002 Notes)}$$

► If  $k = -1$ ,

$$\frac{1}{\log n} + \frac{1}{\log n - 1} + \frac{1}{\log n - 2} + \cdots = \Theta(\log(\log n)) \quad \blacktriangleleft \text{ harmonic series}$$

# Q1 (again). Extended Master Theorem

Use telescoping Extended Master Theorem to give a tight asymptotic bound for

$$T(n) = 4T\left(\frac{n}{4}\right) + \frac{n}{\log n}$$

- ▶ Apply extended master theorem with  $f(n) = n \log^{-1} n$ .
- ▶  $T(n) = \Theta(n \log \log n)$ .

Given  $T(n) = aT\left(\frac{n}{b}\right) + f(n)$ , where  $f(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \log^k n)$ .

2a. If  $k < -1$ , then  $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$ .

2b. If  $k = -1$ , then  $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \log \log n)$ .

2c. If  $k > -1$ , then  $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \log^{k+1} n)$ .

**Exercises:** (try them out at home using telescoping series)

1. (AY 19/20 Sem 2 Midterm;  $k = -1$ )  $T(n) = 9T(n/3) + n^2 / \log n$
2. (AY 20/21 Sem 2 Midterm;  $k < -1$ )  $T(n) = 27T(n/3) + n^3 / \log^2 n$

**Note:** Bonus questions are entirely optional. They can get very challenging and/or fall outside the course curriculum. Interested individuals may attempt.

Solve the following recurrences (using Master Theorem indirectly):

1.  $T(n) = T(n/3) + T(n/6) + 5n^{\sqrt{\log n}}$ .
2.  $T(n) = 4T(\sqrt{n}) + 6 \log^2 n$ .

1.  $T(n) = T(n/3) + T(n/6) + 5n^{\sqrt{\log n}}$ .

Solution:

- ▶ Note that  $T(n) \leq 2T(n/3) + 5n^{\sqrt{\log n}}$ .
  - ▶ Apply Master Theorem with  $a = 2$ ,  $b = 3$ ,  $f(n) = 5n^{\sqrt{\log n}}$ .
  - ▶  $f(n) = \Omega(n^{\log_3 2})$  and  $2T(n/3) = 10 \left(\frac{n}{3}\right)^{\sqrt{\log \frac{n}{3}}} < 10 \cdot \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^{\sqrt{\log n/3}} \cdot n^{\sqrt{\log n}} < \frac{2}{3} \cdot 5n^{\sqrt{\log n}}$  (when  $n > 8$ ).  $\Rightarrow$  Case 3 applies.
  - ▶ Therefore,  $T(n) = O(5n^{\sqrt{\log n}})$ .
- ▶ It is also easy to see that  $T(n) \geq 5n^{\sqrt{\log n}}$ . Therefore,  $T(n) = \Omega(5n^{\sqrt{\log n}})$ .
- ▶ Hence  $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\sqrt{\log n}})$ .

2.  $T(n) = 4T(\sqrt{n}) + 6 \log^2 n$ .

Solution:

- ▶ Substitute  $n = 2^m$ , we have  $T(2^m) = 4T(2^{m/2}) + 6m^2$ .
- ▶ Next, substitute  $S(m) = T(2^m)$ , we have  $S(m) = 4S(m/2) + 6m^2$ .
- ▶ Apply Master Theorem with  $a = 4$ ,  $b = 2$  and  $f(n) = 6m^2$ .
- ▶  $f(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a}) \Rightarrow$  Case 2 applies.
- ▶ Therefore,  $S(m) = \Theta(m^2 \log m)$ .
- ▶ Substituting back, we have  $T(2^m) = \Theta(m^2 \log m)$ , i.e.  
 $T(n) = \Theta((\log n)^2 \log \log n)$ .