

Recurrences

Objective

- running time as recursive function
- solve recurrence for order of growth
- method: substitution
- method: iteration/recursion tree
- method: MASTER method

- prerequisite:
 - mathematical induction, recursive definitions
 - arithmetic manipulations, series, products

Pipeline

Problem



Algorithm



Running Time
Recursion



Solve Recursion

Running time

- will call it $T(n)$ = number of computational steps required to run the algorithm/program for input of size n
- we are interested in order of growth, not exact values
 - for example $T(n) = \Theta(n^2)$ means quadratic running time
 - $T(n) = O(n \log n)$ means $T(n)$ grows not faster than $\text{CONST} * n * \log(n)$
- for simple problems, we know the answer right away
 - example: finding MAX of an array
 - solution: traverse the array, keep track of the max encountered
 - running time: one step for each array element, so n steps for array of size n ; linear time $T(n) = \Theta(n)$

Running time for complex problems

- complex problems involve solving subproblems, usually
 - init/prepare/preprocess, define subproblems
 - solve subproblems
 - put subproblems results together
- thus $T(n)$ cannot be computed straight forward
 - instead, follow the subproblem decomposition

Running time for complex problems

- often, subproblems are the same problem for a smaller input size:

- for example `max(array)` can be solved as:
 - split array in `array_Left`, `array_Right`
 - solve `max(array_Left)`, `max(array_Right)`
 - combine results to get global max

▶ `Max(A = [a1, a2, . . . , an])`

▶ `if (n==1) return a1`

▶ `k = n/2`

▶ `max_left = Max([a1, a2, . . . , ak])`

▶ `max_right = Max([ak+1, ak+2, . . . , an])`

▶ `if (max_left > max_right) return max_left`

▶ `else return max_right`

- $T(n) = 2 * T(n/2) + O(1)$

Running time for complex problems

- many problems can be solved using a **divide-and-conquer** strategy
 - prepare, solve subproblems, combine results
- running time can be written recursively
 - $T(n) = \text{time}(\text{preparation}) + \text{time}(\text{subproblems}) + \text{time}(\text{combine})$
 - for MAX recursive: $T(n) = 2 * T(n/2) + O(1)$

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2 subproblems of size $n/2$
 $\text{max}(\text{array_Left}) ; \text{max}(\text{array_Right})$

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2 subproblems of size $n/2$
 $\text{max}(\text{array_Left}) ; \text{max}(\text{array_Right})$

constant time to check the maximum
out of the two max Left and Right

Recurrence examples

- $T(n) = 2T(n/2) + O(1)$
- $T(n) = 2T(n/2) + O(n)$
 - 2 subproblems of size $n/2$ each, plus $O(n)$ steps to combine results
- $T(n) = 4T(n/3) + n$
 - 4 subproblems of size $n/3$ each, plus n steps to combine results
- $T(n/4) + T(n/2) + n^2$
 - a subproblem of size $n/4$, another of size $n/2$; n^2 to combine
- want to solve such recurrences, to obtain the order of growth of function T

Substitution method

- $T(n) = 4T(n/2) + n$
- STEP1 : **guess solution**, order of growth $T(n) = O(n^3)$
 - that means there is a constant C and a starting value n_0 , such that $T(n) \leq Cn^3$, for any $n \geq n_0$
- STEP2: verify by induction
 - assume $T(k) \leq k^3$, for $k < n$
 - induction step: prove that $T(n) \leq Cn^3$, using $T(k) \leq Ck^3$, for $k < n$

$$T(n) = 4T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + n \quad (1)$$

$$\leq 4c \left(\frac{n}{2}\right)^3 + n \quad (2)$$

$$= \frac{c}{2}n^3 + n \quad (3)$$

$$= cn^3 - \left(\frac{c}{2}n^3 - n\right) \quad (4)$$

$$\leq cn^3; \text{ if } \frac{c}{2}n^3 - n > 0, \text{ choose } c \geq 2 \quad (5)$$

Substitution method

- STEP 3 : identify constants, in our case $c=2$ works
- so we proved $T(n)=O(n^3)$
- that's correct, but the result is too weak
 - technically we say the bound $O(n^3)$ "cubic" is too loose
 - can prove better bounds like $T(n)$ "quadratic" $T(n)=O(n^2)$
 - Our guess was wrong ! (too big)
- let's try again : STEP1: guess $T(n)=O(n^2)$
- STEP2: verify by induction
 - assume $T(k) \leq Ck^2$, for $k < n$
 - induction step: prove that $T(n) \leq Cn^2$, using $T(k) \leq Ck^2$, for $k < n$

Substitution method

● Fallacious argument

$$T(n) = 4T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + n \quad (1)$$

$$\leq 4c\left(\frac{n}{2}\right)^2 + n \quad (2)$$

$$= cn^2 + n \quad (3)$$

$$= O(n^2) \quad (4)$$

$$\leq cn^2 \quad (5)$$

- cant prove $T(n)=O(n^2)$ this way: need same constant steps 3-4-5
- maybe its not true? Guess $O(n^2)$ was too low?
- or maybe we dont have the right proof idea

● common trick: if math doesnt work out, make a stronger assumption (subtract a lower degree term)

- assume instead $T(k) \leq C_1k^2 - C_2k$, for $k < n$
- then prove $T(n) \leq C_1n^2 - C_2n$, using induction

Substitution method

$$\begin{aligned}T(n) &= 4T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + n \\ &\leq 4\left(c_1\left(\frac{n}{2}\right)^2 - c_2\frac{n}{2}\right) + n \\ &= c_1n^2 - 2c_2n + n \\ &= c_1n^2 - c_2n - (c_2n - n) \\ &\leq c_1n^2 - c_2n \text{ for } c_2 > 1\end{aligned}$$

- So we can prove $T(n)=O(n^2)$, but is that **asymptotically** correct?
 - maybe we can prove a lower upper bound, like $O(n\log n)$? NOPE
- to make sure its the asymptote, prove its also the lower bound
 - $T(n)=\Omega(n^2)$ or there is a different constant d s.t. $T(n) \geq dn^2$

Substitution method: lower bound

- induction step

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

- now we know its asymptotically close, $T(n)=\Theta(n^2)$

- hard to make the initial guess $\Theta(n^2)$

- need another method to educate our guess

Iteration method

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

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

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

$$= \dots$$

$$= n + 2n + 2^2n + \dots + 2^{k-1}n + 4^kT\left(\frac{n}{2^k}\right)$$

$$= \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} 2^i n + 4^k T\left(\frac{n}{2^k}\right);$$

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$$\text{want } k = \log(n) \Leftrightarrow \frac{n}{2^k} = 1$$

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$$= n \sum_{i=0}^{\log(n)-1} 2^i + 4^{\log(n)} T(1)$$

$$= n \frac{2^{\log(n)} - 1}{2 - 1} + n^2 T(1)$$

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

Iteration method

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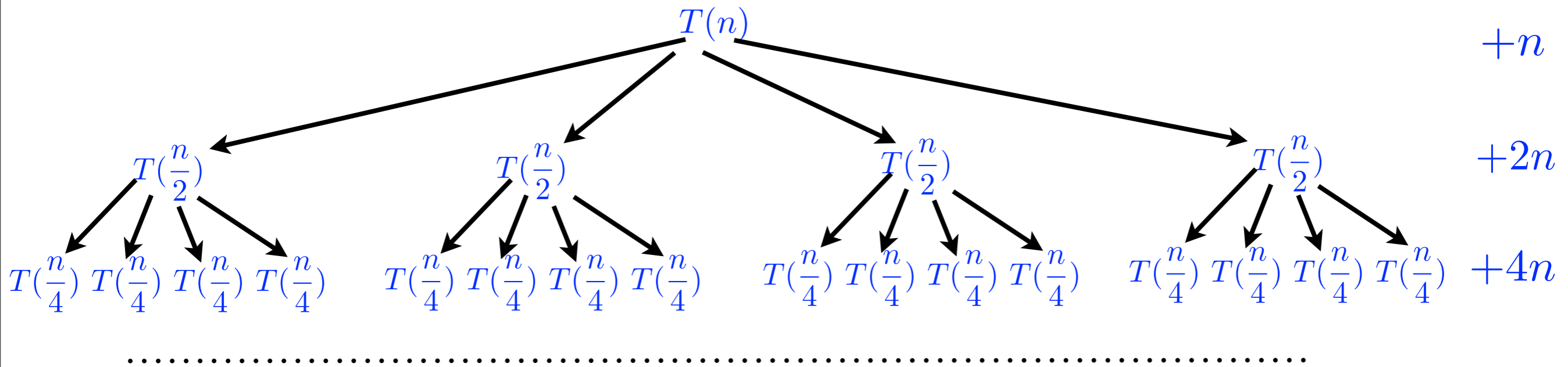
● math can be messy

- recap sum, product, series, logarithms
- iteration method good for guess, but usually unreliable for an exact result
- use iteration for guess, and substitution for proofs

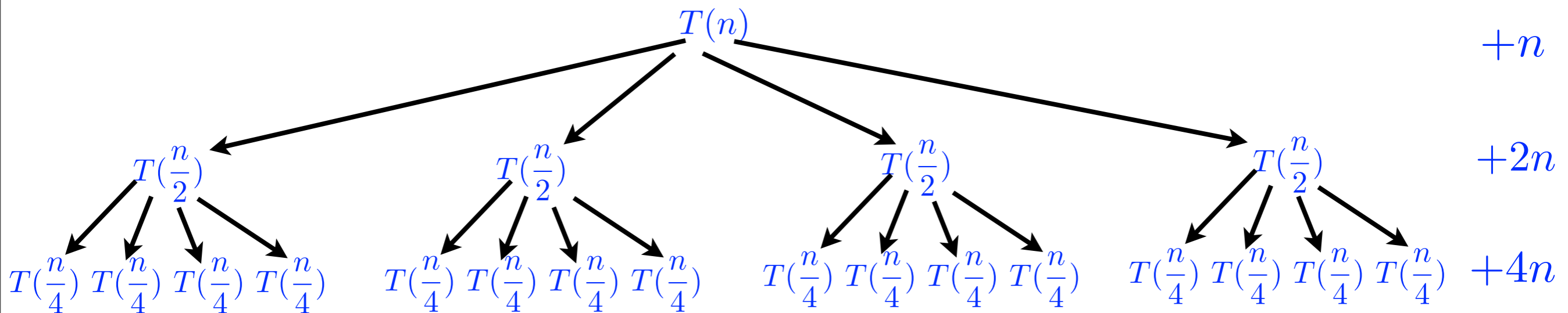
● stopping condition

- $T(\dots) = T(1)$, solve for k

Iteration method: visual tree



Iteration method: visual tree



- compute the tree depth: how many levels till nodes become leaves $T(1)$? $\log(n)$
- compute the total number of leaves $T(1)$ in the tree (last level): $4^{\log(n)}$
- compute the total additional work (right side) $n+2n+4n+\dots = n(n-1)$
- add the work $4^{\log(n)} + n(n-1) = \Theta(n^2)$

Iteration Method : derivation

● $T(n) = n^2 + T(n/2) + T(n/4)$

$$\begin{aligned}T(n) &= n^2 + T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + T\left(\frac{n}{4}\right) \\&= n^2 + \left(\frac{n}{2}\right)^2 + T\left(\frac{n}{4}\right) + T\left(\frac{n}{8}\right) + \left(\frac{n}{4}\right)^2 + T\left(\frac{n}{8}\right) + T\left(\frac{n}{16}\right) \\&= n^2 + \frac{5}{16}n^2 + T\left(\frac{n}{4}\right) + 2T\left(\frac{n}{8}\right) + T\left(\frac{n}{16}\right) \\&= n^2 + \frac{5}{16}n^2 + \left(\frac{n}{4}\right)^2 + T\left(\frac{n}{8}\right) + T\left(\frac{n}{16}\right) + 2\left(\frac{n}{8}\right)^2 + 2T\left(\frac{n}{16}\right) + 2T\left(\frac{n}{32}\right) + \left(\frac{n}{16}\right)^2 + \\&T\left(\frac{n}{32}\right) + T\left(\frac{n}{64}\right) \\&= n^2 + \frac{5}{16}n^2 + \left(\frac{5}{16}\right)^2n^2 + T\left(\frac{n}{8}\right) + 3T\left(\frac{n}{16}\right) + 3T\left(\frac{n}{32}\right) + T\left(\frac{n}{64}\right)\end{aligned}$$

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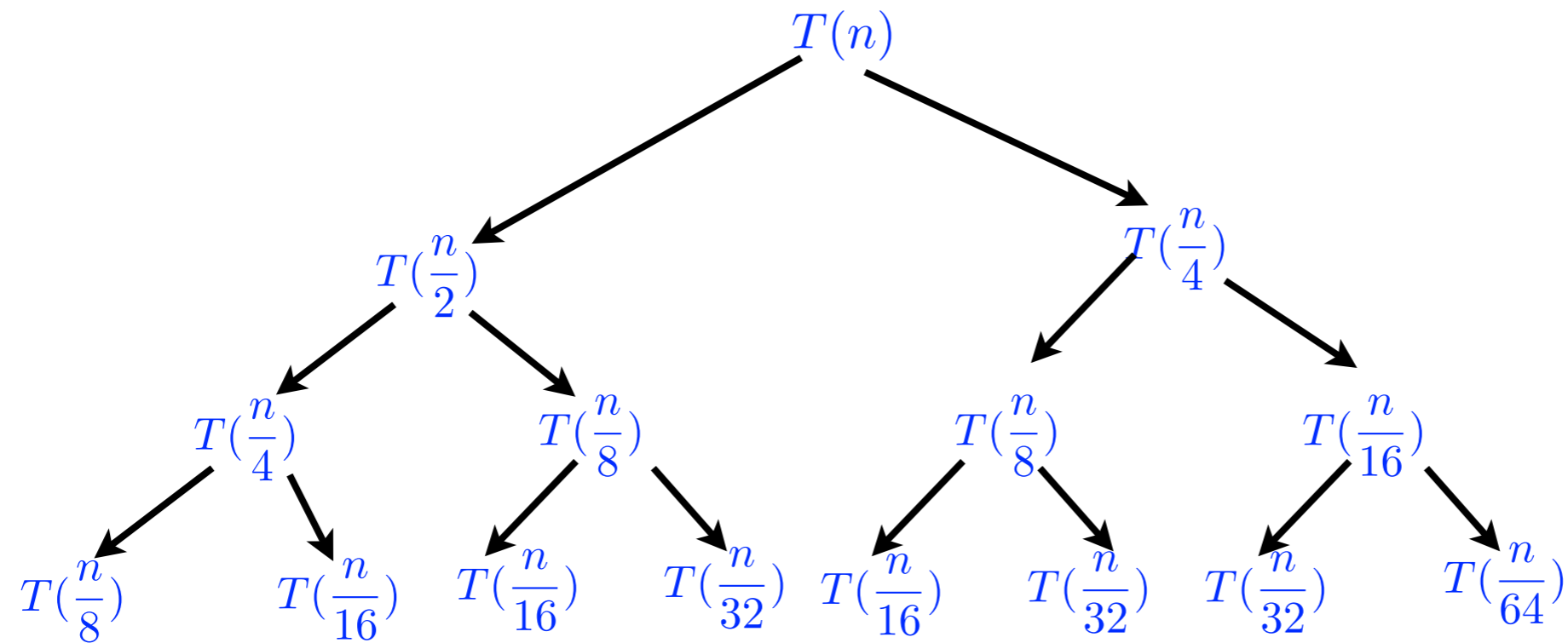
$$\begin{aligned}
 T(n) &= n^2 + T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + T\left(\frac{n}{4}\right) \\
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 &\quad 3T\left(\frac{n}{64}\right) + 3T\left(\frac{n}{128}\right) + 3\left(\frac{n}{32}\right)^2 + T\left(\frac{n}{128}\right) + T\left(\frac{n}{256}\right) + \left(\frac{n}{64}\right)^2
 \end{aligned}$$

Iteration Method : derivation

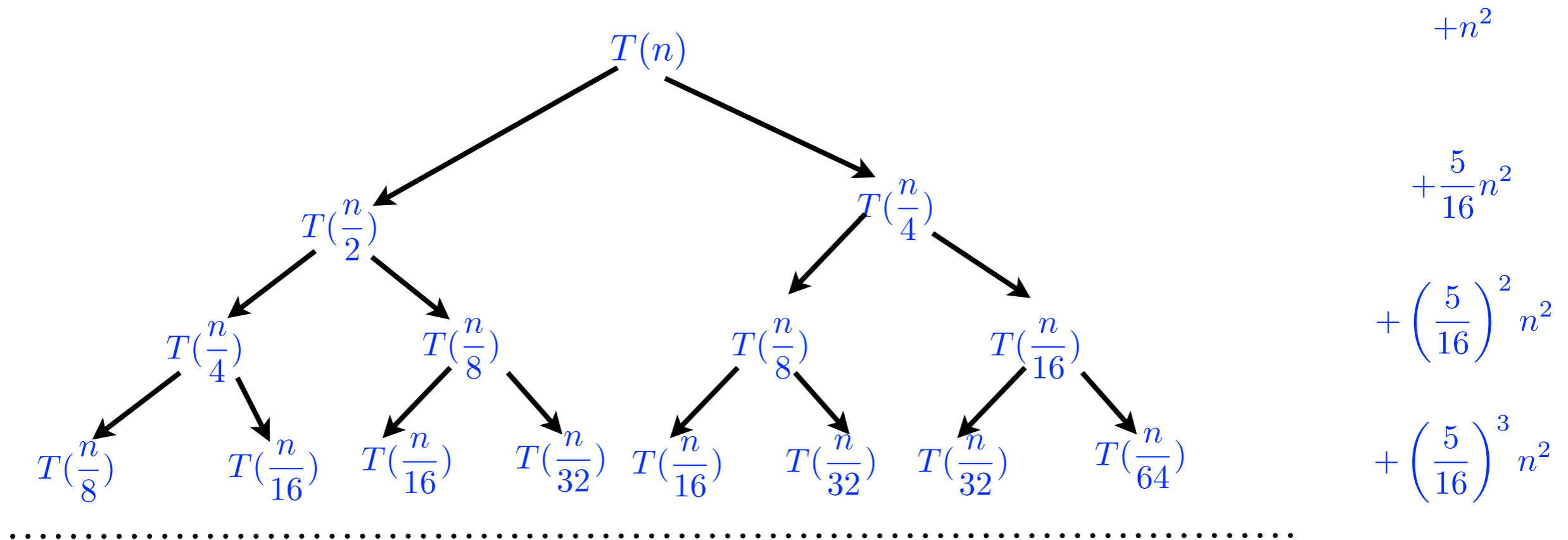
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 &\quad T\left(\frac{n}{256}\right)
 \end{aligned}$$

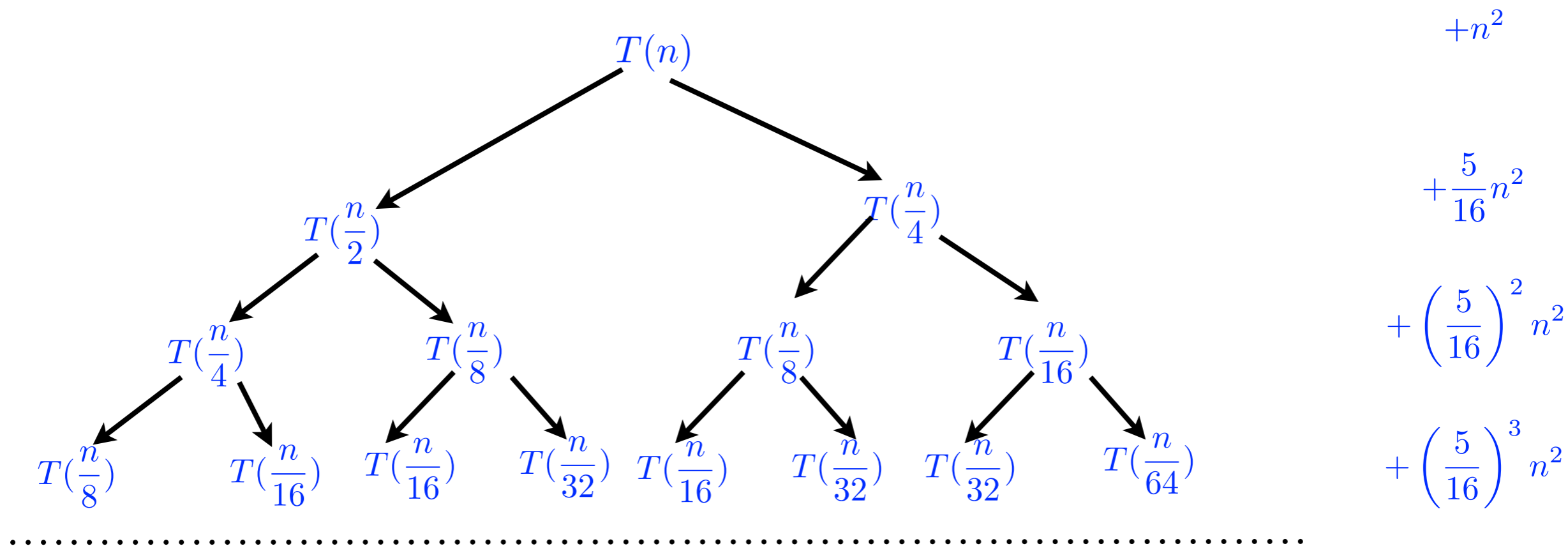
Iteration Method : tree



Iteration Method : tree



Iteration Method : tree



- depth : at most $\log(n)$
- leaves: at most $2^{\log(n)} = n$; computational cost $nT(1) = O(n)$
- work : $n^2 + \frac{5}{16}n^2 + \left(\frac{5}{16}\right)^2 n^2 + \left(\frac{5}{16}\right)^3 n^2 + \dots \leq n^2 \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{5}{16}\right)^i = \frac{16}{11}n^2 = \Theta(n^2)$
- total $\Theta(n^2)$

Master Theorem – simple

- **simple** general case $T(n) = aT(n/b) + \Theta(n^c)$

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- $R = a/b^c$, compare R with 1, or c with $\log_b(a)$

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Case 1:	$c < \log_b a$	$T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$
Case 2:	$c = \log_b a$	$T(n) = \Theta(n^c \log n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \log n)$
Case 3:	$c > \log_b a$	$T(n) = \Theta(n^c)$

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- MergeSort $T(n) = 2T(n/2) + \Theta(n)$; $a=2$ $b=2$ $c=1$
case 2 ; $T(n) = \Theta(n \log n)$

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- MergeSort $T(n) = 2T(n/2) + \Theta(n)$; $a=2$ $b=2$ $c=1$
case 2 ; $T(n) = \Theta(n \log n)$
- Strassen's $T(n) = 7T(n/2) + \Theta(n^2)$; $a=7$ $b=2$ $c=2$
case 1, $T(n) = \Theta(n \log_2(7))$

Master Theorem – simple

- **simple** general case $T(n) = aT(n/b) + \Theta(n^c)$
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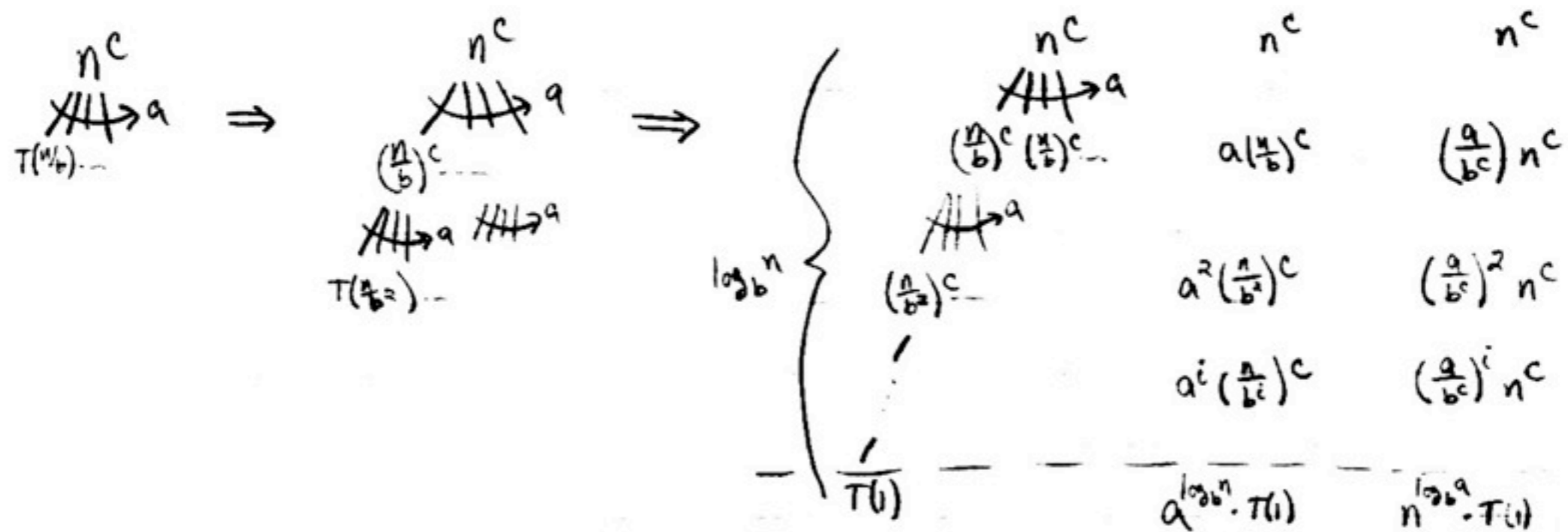
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- Strassen's $T(n) = 7T(n/2) + \Theta(n^2)$; $a=7$ $b=2$ $c=2$
case 1, $T(n) = \Theta(n \log_2(7))$
- Binary Search $T(n) = T(n/2) + \Theta(1)$; $a=1$ $b=2$ $c=0$
case 2, $T(n) = \Theta(\log n)$

Master Theorem - why 3 cases

$$T(n) = aT(n/b) + n^c \quad (\text{for simplicity, eliminate } \Theta)$$

Recursion tree:



So, total is $n^c \sum_{i=0}^{\log_b n - 1} (\frac{a}{b^c})^i + \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$

- that sum is geometric progression with base $R = a/b^c$
- it comes down to R being <1 , $=1$, >1 . So three cases

Master Theorem - why 3 cases

Case 1 $c < \log_b a \iff \frac{a}{b^c} > 1$ - work increases geometrically

$$\text{Sum} = n^c \sum_{i=0}^{\log_b n - 1} \left(\frac{a}{b^c}\right)^i + \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$$

$$= n^c \frac{\left(\frac{a}{b^c}\right)^{\log_b n} - 1}{\left(\frac{a}{b^c}\right) - 1} + \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$$

$$\begin{array}{l} (b^c)^{\log_b n} \\ \parallel \\ b^{c \cdot \log_b n} \end{array} \quad = \quad \Theta\left(n^c \frac{a^{\log_b n}}{(b^c)^{\log_b n}}\right) + \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \parallel \\ (b^{\log_b n})^c \end{array} \quad = \quad \Theta\left(n^c \frac{n^{\log_b a}}{n^c}\right) + \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \parallel \\ n^c \end{array} \quad = \quad \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$$

\therefore work at each level increases geometrically;
constant fraction of work is in leaves...

Master Theorem - why 3 cases

Case 2 $c = \log_b a \Leftrightarrow a/b^c = 1$ - work constant at each level

$$\text{sum} = n^c \sum_{i=0}^{\log_b n - 1} (1)^i + \Theta(n^{\log_b a}) = n^c \log_b n + \Theta(n^{\log_b a}) = \Theta(n^c \log_b n)$$

\therefore work at each level is $n^c (= n^{\log_b a})$; $\log_b n$ levels;
answer is $\Theta(n^c \log_b n)$

Master Theorem - why 3 cases

Case 3 $c > \log_b a \Leftrightarrow \frac{a}{b^c} < 1$ - work decreases geometrically

$$\begin{aligned} \text{sum} &= n^c \sum_{i=0}^{\log_b n - 1} \left(\frac{a}{b^c}\right)^i + \Theta(n^{\log_b a}) \\ &= n^c \Theta(1) + \Theta(n^{\log_b a}) \\ &= \Theta(n^c) + \Theta(n^{\log_b a}) \\ &= \Theta(n^c) \end{aligned}$$

Note:

① $\sum_{i=0}^{\log_b n - 1} \left(\frac{a}{b^c}\right)^i \geq \left(\frac{a}{b^c}\right)^0 = 1$
 $\Rightarrow \sum_{i=0}^{\log_b n - 1} \left(\frac{a}{b^c}\right)^i = \Omega(1)$

② $\sum_{i=0}^{\log_b n - 1} \left(\frac{a}{b^c}\right)^i < \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{a}{b^c}\right)^i$
 $= \frac{1}{1 - a/b^c}$ (constant)
 $\Rightarrow \sum_{i=0}^{\log_b n - 1} \left(\frac{a}{b^c}\right)^i = O(1)$

$\therefore \sum_{i=0}^{\log_b n - 1} \left(\frac{a}{b^c}\right)^i = \Theta(1)$

\therefore work at each level decreases geometrically ;
constant fraction of work is at root...

Master Theorem

● general case $T(n) = aT(n/b) + f(n)$

● CASE 1 :

$$f(n) = O(n^{\log_b a - \epsilon}) \Rightarrow T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$$

● CASE 2:

$$f(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \log^k n) \Rightarrow T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \log^{k+1} n)$$

● CASE 3:

$$f(n) = \Omega(n^{\log_b a + \epsilon}); \frac{af(n/b)}{f(n)} < 1 - \epsilon \Rightarrow T(n) = \Theta(f(n))$$

Master Theorem Example

- recurrence: $T(n) = 4T(n/2) + \Theta(n^2 \log n)$
- Master Theorem: $a=4; b=2; f(n) = n^2 \log n$
 - $f(n) / n^{\log_b a} = f(n)/n^2 = \log n$, so case 2 with $k=1$
- solution $T(n) = \Theta(n^2 \log^2 n)$

Master Theorem Example

- $T(n) = 4T(n/2) + \Theta(n^3)$
- Master Theorem: $a=4$; $b=2$; $f(n)=n^3$
 - $f(n) / n^{\log_b a} = f(n)/n^2 = n$, so case 3
 - check case 3 condition:
 - $4f(n/2)/f(n) = 4(n/2)^3/n^3 = 1/2 < 1-\epsilon$
- solution $T(n) = \Theta(n^3)$

NON-Master Theorem Example

- $T(n) = 4T(n/2) + n^2/\log n$; $f(n) = n^2/\log n$
- $f(n) / n^{\log_b a} = f(n)/n^2 = 1/\log n$
 - case1:
 - case2:
 - case3:
- no case applies – cant use Master Theorem
- use iteration method for guess, and substitution for a proof
 - see attached pdf