

# Why are we interested in recurrences?

• Computational cost of divide and conquer algorithms

$$T(n) = aT(n/b) + D(n) + C(n)$$

- a subproblems of size n/b
- *D(n)* the cost of dividing the data
- *C*(*n*) the cost of recombining the subproblem solutions
- In general, the runtimes of most recursive algorithms can be expressed as recurrences

## 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*<sup>2</sup>, ...
- We want to remove self-recurrence and find a more understandable form for the function

#### **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:

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

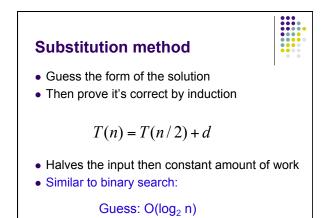


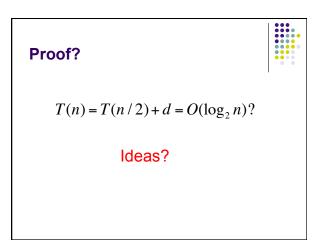
- Guess the form of the solution
- Then prove it's correct by induction

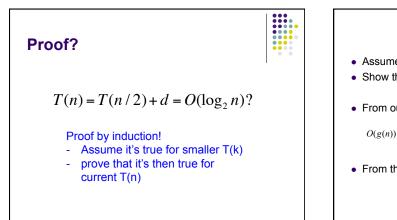
$$T(n) = T(n/2) + d$$

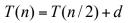
• Halves the input then constant amount of work

#### Guess?

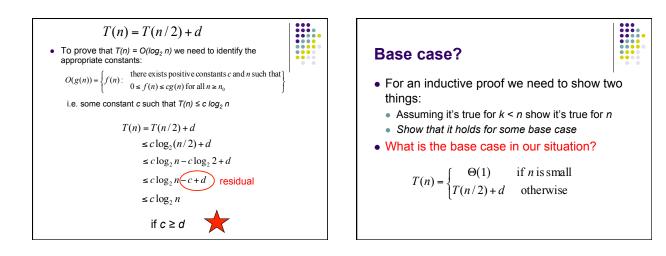


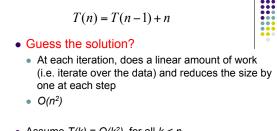






- Assume  $T(k) = O(\log_2 k)$  for all k < n
- Show that  $T(n) = O(\log_2 n)$
- From our assumption,  $T(n/2) = O(\log_2 n)$ :  $O(g(n)) = \begin{cases} f(n): & \text{there exists positive constants } c \text{ and } n \text{ such that} \\ 0 \le f(n) \le cg(n) \text{ for all } n \ge n_0 \end{cases} \end{cases}$
- From the definition of O:  $T(n/2) \le c \log_2(n/2)$





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

- again, this implies that  $T(n-1) \le c(n-1)^2$
- Show that  $T(n) = O(n^2)$ , i.e.  $T(n) \le cn^2$

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

$$\leq c(n-1)^{2} + n$$

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

$$= cn^{2} (2cn + c + n) \text{ residual}$$

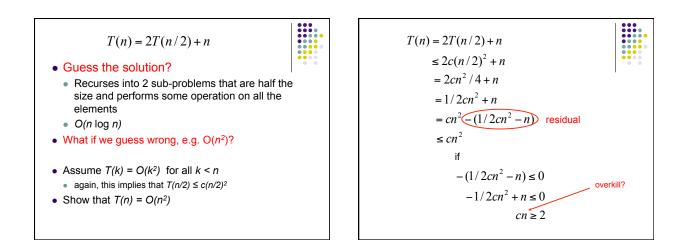
$$\leq cn^{2}$$

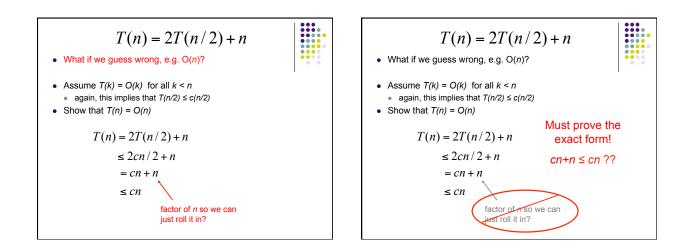
$$\text{if } -2cn + c + n \leq 0$$

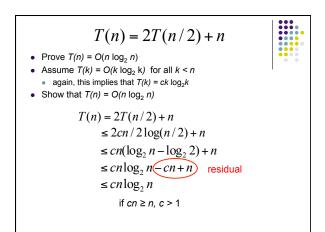
$$-2cn + c \leq -n$$

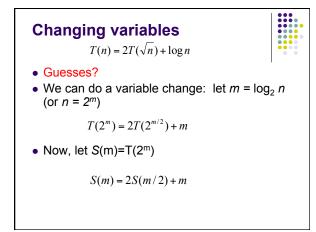
$$c(-2n+1) \leq -n$$

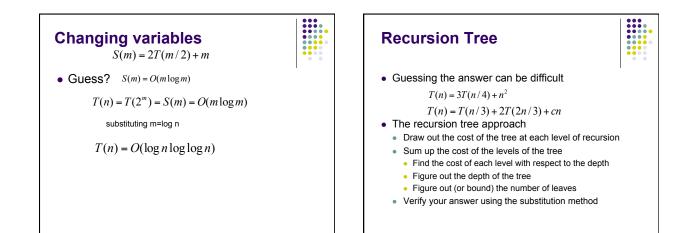
$$c \geq \frac{n}{2n-1}$$
which holds for any
$$c \geq \frac{1}{2-1/n}$$

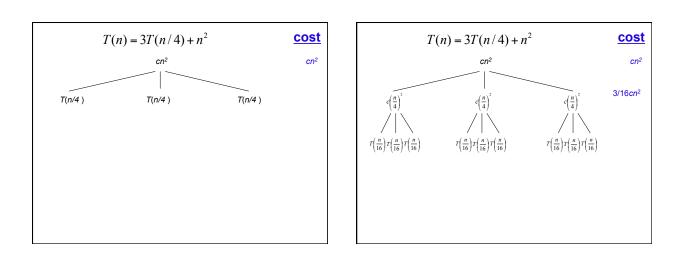


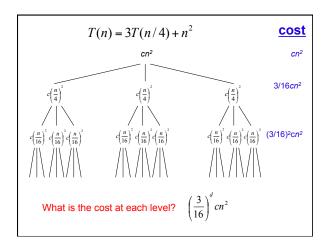


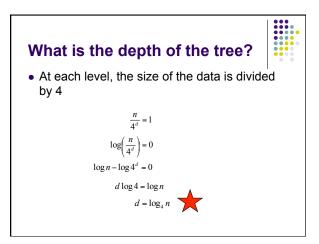


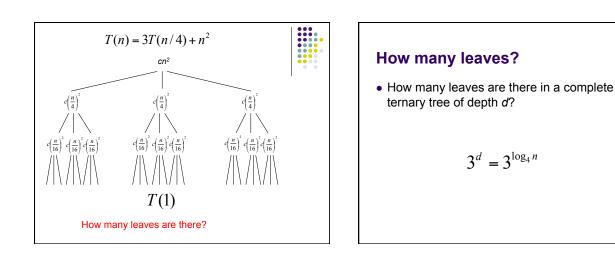


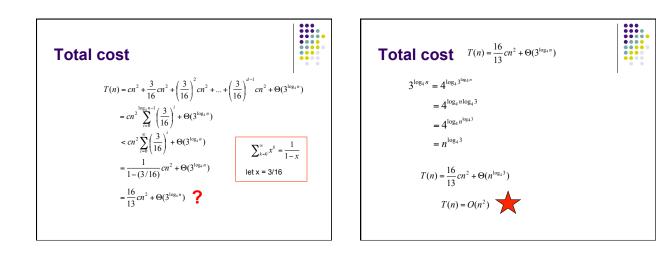


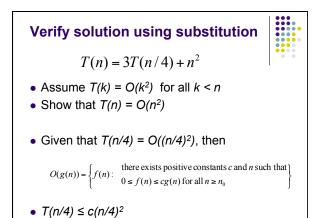


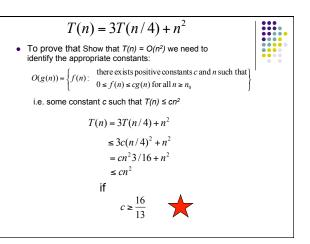












### **Master Method**

• Provides solutions to the recurrences of the form: T(n) = aT(n/b) + f(n)

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

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

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

then  $T(n) = \Theta(f(n))$ 

T(n) = 16T(n/4) + nif  $f(n) = O(n^{\log_a - \epsilon})$  for  $\varepsilon > 0$ , then  $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_a a})$ if  $f(n) = O(n^{\log_a a})$ , then  $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_a a} \log n)$ if  $f(n) = \Omega(n^{\log_a a^{n}})$  for  $\varepsilon > 0$  and  $g((n/b) \le g(n)$  for c < 1then  $T(n) = \Theta(f(n))$  **a** = 16 **b** = 4 f(n) = n =  $n^2$ is  $n = O(n^{2-\varepsilon})$ ? is  $n = \Theta(n^2)$ ? is  $n = \Omega(n^{2+\varepsilon})$ ? **Case 1:**  $\Theta(n^2)$ 

