

Master Method

finds asymptotic solutions to

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

where: $a \geq 1$, $b > 1$, $f(n)$ is a.p. . Also

$\frac{n}{b}$ denotes either $\lfloor \frac{n}{b} \rfloor$ or $\lceil \frac{n}{b} \rceil$, note.

the asymp. soln. doesn't depend on whether it's $\lfloor \cdot \rfloor$ or $\lceil \cdot \rceil$. Also asymp. soln. doesn't depend on initial value.

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} c & n = \text{---} \\ aT\left(\underbrace{\lfloor \frac{n}{b} \rfloor}_{\text{or } \lceil \frac{n}{b} \rceil}\right) + f(n) & n \geq \text{---} \end{cases}$$

Master Theorem

Let $T(n) = aT(\frac{n}{b}) + f(n)$ where $a \geq 1$, $b > 1$ and $f(n)$ is a.p. Then

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

(2) If $f(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b(a)})$ then

$$T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b(a)} \cdot \log n) = \Theta(f(n) \cdot \log n)$$

(3) If $f(n) = \Omega(n^{\log_b(a) + \epsilon})$ for some $\epsilon > 0$,

and if $a f(n/b) \leq c f(n)$ for some $0 < c < 1$
and for all suff. large n , then

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

↑
Regularity
condition

Rules

In all cases we compare

$$f(n) \text{ to } n^{\log_b(a)}$$

case 1: $n^{\log_b(a)}$ 'wins' by polynomial factor n^2 .

case 2: tie.

case 3: $f(n)$ 'wins' by poly factor n^2

Ex. $T(n) = 8T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + n^3$

compare: n^3 to $n^{\log_2(8)} = n^3$.

case 2: $T(n) = \Theta(n^3 \log n)$

Ex. $T(n) = 5T(\frac{n}{4}) + n$

Compare: n to $\underline{n^{\log_4(5)}}$

Pick: $\varepsilon = \log_4(5) - 1$. Then

$1 = \log_4 5 - \varepsilon$, and

$n = n' = O(n') = O(n^{\log_4(5) - \varepsilon})$

so by case 1:

$T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_4(5)})$

Ex. $T(n) = 5T(\frac{n}{4}) + n^2$

comp. $\underline{n^2}$ to $n^{\log_4(5)}$

let $\varepsilon = 2 - \log_4(5)$. Then $2 = \log_4(5) + \varepsilon$,

$n^2 = \Omega(n^2) = \Omega(n^{\log_4(5) + \varepsilon})$

we must find c st. $0 < c < 1$ and

$$5\left(\frac{n}{4}\right)^2 \leq cn^2$$

for all suff. large n .

$$\frac{5}{16} \cancel{n^2} \leq c \cancel{n^2}$$

$$\frac{5}{16} \leq c < 1 \leftarrow \text{Pick any } c \text{ in this range.}$$

note: such c exist since $\frac{5}{16} < 1$

i.e. $5 < 16$. $\therefore$ reg. cond. holds.

$\therefore$ by case 3:

$$T(n) = \Theta(n^2)$$

Exercise

Prove that if $f(n) = \Theta(n^d)$ and if $d > \log_b(a)$, then case 3 applies and reg. cond. necessarily holds.

Ex. $T(n)$ not polynomial

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} 6 & \text{if } n = 1 \\ 11 & \text{if } n = 2 \\ T(\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor) + 2T(\lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil) + \log(n!) & \text{if } n \geq 3 \end{cases}$$

simplify: $T(n) = 3T(\frac{n}{2}) + \underbrace{\log(n!)}_{\Theta(n \log n)}$

simplify: $T(n) = 3T(\frac{n}{2}) + n \log n$

comp: $n \log n$ to $\frac{n^{\log_2(3)}}{\quad}$

let $\varepsilon = \frac{1}{2}(\log_2(3) - 1) > 0$. Then

$2\varepsilon = \log_2(3) - 1$, $\therefore 1 + \varepsilon = \log_2(3) - \varepsilon$.

$$\frac{n \log n}{n^{\log_2(3) - \varepsilon}} = \frac{n \log n}{n^{1 + \varepsilon}} = \frac{\log n}{n^{\varepsilon}} \rightarrow 0$$

$$\infty \quad n \log n = o(n^{\log_2(3) - \varepsilon}) \subseteq O(n^{\log_2(3) - \varepsilon})$$

$\therefore$ By case 1: $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_2(3)})$.

Remark: $\varepsilon = \log_2(3) - 1$ does not work in this example! why?

$$\frac{n \log n}{n^{\log_2 3 - \varepsilon}} = \frac{\cancel{n} \log n}{\cancel{n}} = \log n \rightarrow \infty$$

$$\therefore n \log n = \omega(n^{\log_2 3 - \varepsilon})$$

$\therefore n \log n \neq O(n^{\log_2 3 - \varepsilon})$ for this ε .

Ex. $T(n) = 2T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + \frac{n}{\log n}$

Comp. $\frac{n}{\log n}$ to $\frac{n^{\log_2(2)}}{\text{winner}} = n$

observe

$$\frac{n}{\log n} = \omega(n^{1-\varepsilon}) \text{ for any } \varepsilon > 0$$

since

$$\frac{n / \log n}{n / n^\varepsilon} = \frac{n^\varepsilon}{\log n} \rightarrow \infty$$

$$\text{and } \omega(n^{1-\varepsilon}) \cap O(n^{1-\varepsilon}) = \emptyset.$$

$$\therefore \frac{n}{\log n} \neq O(n^{1-\varepsilon}) \text{ for any } \varepsilon > 0.$$

$\therefore$ case 1 never applies.

$\therefore$ Master Theorem does not apply.

Exercise

find an example where $f(n)$ wins over $n^{\log_b(a)}$, but not by a poly. factor.

Exercise (hard)

find an example where

$$f(n) = \Omega(n^{\log_b a + \varepsilon})$$

for some $\varepsilon > 0$ (so would be in case 3), but regularity cond. fails.

Iteration method

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Ex.

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} 1 & 1 \leq n < 3 \\ 2T(\lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor) + n & n \geq 3 \end{cases}$$

re-write:

$$T(\odot) = \odot + 2T(\lfloor \frac{\odot}{3} \rfloor)$$

$$T(n) = n + 2T(\lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor)$$

$$= n + 2 \left(\lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor + 2T(\lfloor \frac{\lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor}{3} \rfloor) \right)$$

$$= n + 2 \lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor + 2^2 T(\lfloor \frac{n}{3^2} \rfloor)$$

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

$$= n + 2 \lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor + 2^2 \lfloor \frac{n}{3^2} \rfloor + 2^3 T(\lfloor \frac{n}{3^3} \rfloor)$$

⋮

$$= \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} 2^i \lfloor \frac{n}{3^i} \rfloor + 2^k T(\lfloor \frac{n}{3^k} \rfloor)$$

Recursion halts when

$$1 \leq \left\lfloor \frac{n}{3^k} \right\rfloor < 3$$

$$\therefore 1 \leq \frac{n}{3^k} < 3$$

$$\therefore 3^k \leq n < 3^{k+1}$$

$$\therefore k \leq \log_3(n) < k+1$$

$\therefore$

$$k = \left\lfloor \log_3(n) \right\rfloor$$

depth at which rec. 'bottoms out'.

For this k , $T(\left\lfloor \frac{n}{3^k} \right\rfloor) = 1$, Thus

$$T(n) = \sum_{i=0}^{\left\lfloor \log_3 n \right\rfloor - 1} 2^i \left\lfloor \frac{n}{3^i} \right\rfloor + 2^{\left\lfloor \log_3 n \right\rfloor}$$

iterative algorithm for computing $T(n)$.

asym. upper bound.

$$\begin{aligned}
 T(n) &\leq \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} 2^i \left(\frac{n}{3^i}\right) + 2^{\log_3 n} \\
 &\leq n \cdot \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^i + n^{\log_3 2} \\
 &= n \left(\frac{1}{1 - \frac{2}{3}} \right) + n^{\log_3 2} \\
 &= 3n + n^{\log_3 2} \\
 &= O(n)
 \end{aligned}$$

∴ $T(n) = O(n)$.