

# CSCI 3100

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## MASTER THEOREM FOR RECURRENCES

## Review and Overview

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Previously, we solved recurrences with:

- Substitution method
- Recurrence trees/iteration

This time:

- Master theorem – recipe for some recurrences
- Does not apply to some cases

## Master theorem

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

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

If $f(n)$ is	Then $T(n)$ is
$O(n^{\log_b a - \varepsilon})$	$\Theta(n^{\log_b a})$
$\Theta(n^{\log_b a})$	$\Theta(n^{\log_b a} * \lg(n))$
$\Omega(n^{\log_b a + \varepsilon})$	$\Theta(f(n))$

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

If $f(n)$ is	Then $T(n)$ is
$O(n^{\log_b a - \varepsilon})$	$\Theta(n^{\log_b a})$
$\Theta(n^{\log_b a})$	$\Theta(n^{\log_b a} * \lg(n))$
$\Omega(n^{\log_b a + \varepsilon})$	$\Theta(f(n))$

$a = 9, b = 3, f(n) = n$

$n^{\log_3 9} = n^2$  let  $\varepsilon = 0.1$

$n^{\log_3 9 - \varepsilon} = n^{1.9}$

$f(n) = n = O(n^{1.9}) \Rightarrow T(n) = \Theta(n^2)$

$$T(n) = T\left(\frac{2n}{3}\right) + 1$$

If $f(n)$ is	Then $T(n)$ is
$O(n^{\log_b a - \varepsilon})$	$\Theta(n^{\log_b a})$
$\Theta(n^{\log_b a})$	$\Theta(n^{\log_b a} * \lg(n))$
$\Omega(n^{\log_b a + \varepsilon})$	$\Theta(f(n))$

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

$$\begin{aligned} a &= 1, b = \frac{3}{2}, f(n) = 1 \\ n^{\log_b a} &= n^{\log_{3/2} 1} = n^0 = 1 \\ f(n) &= \Theta(n^{\log_b a}) \Rightarrow T(n) = n^{\log_b a} * \lg n = \\ &= \Theta(\lg(n)) \end{aligned}$$

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

If $f(n)$ is	Then $T(n)$ is
$O(n^{\log_b a - \varepsilon})$	$\Theta(n^{\log_b a})$
$\Theta(n^{\log_b a})$	$\Theta(n^{\log_b a} * \lg(n))$
$\Omega(n^{\log_b a + \varepsilon})$	$\Theta(f(n))$

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

$$a = 3, b = 4, f(n) = n \lg(n)$$

$$\varepsilon < \lg_4 3$$

$$n^{\log_b a} = n^{\log_4 3} \quad \text{Let } \varepsilon = 0.1$$

$$n^{\log_b a + \varepsilon} = n^{\log_4 3 + 0.1} = \mathcal{O}(n)$$

$$= \mathcal{O}(n \lg n) \Rightarrow$$

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

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

If $f(n)$ is	Then $T(n)$ is
$O(n^{\log_b a - \varepsilon})$	$\Theta(n^{\log_b a})$
$\Theta(n^{\log_b a})$	$\Theta(n^{\log_b a} * \lg(n))$
$\Omega(n^{\log_b a + \varepsilon})$	$\Theta(f(n))$

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

$$a = 2, b = 2, f(n) = n \lg(n)$$

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

$$n \lg(n) \neq \sum (n^{1+\varepsilon})$$

$$n^{1+\varepsilon} = n \cdot n^\varepsilon \quad \frac{f(n)}{n^{\log_b a + \varepsilon}} = \frac{n \lg n}{n \cdot n^\varepsilon} < 1 \quad n \rightarrow \infty$$

Master theorem  
does NOT  
apply

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

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

$$a = 2, b = 2, f(n) = \Theta(n)$$

$$n^{\log_b a} = n^{\log_2 2} = n$$

$$f(n) = \Theta(n) \Rightarrow T(n) = \Theta(n \cdot \lg(n))$$

If $f(n)$ is	Then $T(n)$ is
$O(n^{\log_b a - \varepsilon})$	$\Theta(n^{\log_b a})$
$\Theta(n^{\log_b a})$	$\Theta(n^{\log_b a} * \lg(n))$
$\Omega(n^{\log_b a + \varepsilon})$	$\Theta(f(n))$

←

If $f(n)$ is	Then $T(n)$ is
$O(n^{\log_b a - \varepsilon})$	$\Theta(n^{\log_b a})$
$\Theta(n^{\log_b a})$	$\Theta(n^{\log_b a} * \lg(n))$
$\Omega(n^{\log_b a + \varepsilon})$	$\Theta(f(n))$

$T(n) = 2T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + \Theta(n^2)$   
 $T(n) = aT\left(\frac{n}{b}\right) + f(n)$

$a = 2, b = 2, f(n) = \Theta(n^2)$   
 $n^{\log_b a} = n^{\log_2 2} = n^3$   
 $\Theta(n^2) = O(n^{3-\varepsilon}) \quad \varepsilon = 1$   
 $O(n^2) \Rightarrow T(n) = \Theta(n^3)$

If $f(n)$ is	Then $T(n)$ is
$O(n^{\log_b a - \varepsilon})$	$\Theta(n^{\log_b a})$
$\Theta(n^{\log_b a})$	$\Theta(n^{\log_b a} * \lg(n))$
$\Omega(n^{\log_b a + \varepsilon})$	$\Theta(f(n))$

$T(n) = 2T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + \Theta(n^2)$   
 $T(n) = aT\left(\frac{n}{b}\right) + f(n)$

$a = 2, b = 2, f(n) = \Theta(n^2)$   
 $n^{\log_b a} = n^{\log_2 2} \approx n^{2.8} = n^2 \cdot n^{0.8}$  Let  $\varepsilon = 0.8$   
 $n^{\log_b a} \approx n^2$   
 $f(n) = \Theta(n^2) = O(n^{\log_b a - \varepsilon}) \Rightarrow T(n) \approx \Theta(n^{2.8})$