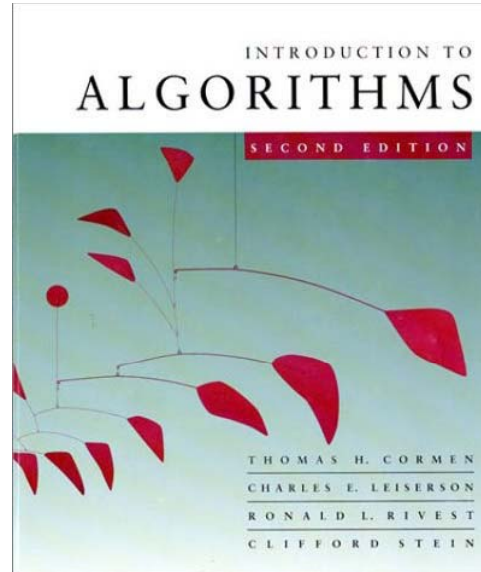


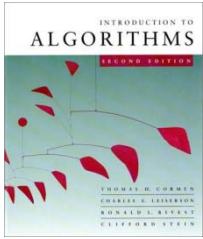
CS 3343 – Fall 2010



Master Theorem

Carola Wenk

Slides courtesy of Charles Leiserson with small changes by Carola Wenk



The divide-and-conquer design paradigm

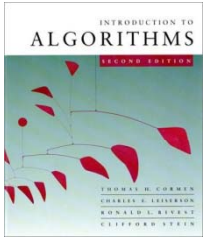
1. **Divide** the problem (instance) into subproblems.

a subproblems, **each** of size n/b

2. **Conquer** the subproblems by solving them recursively.

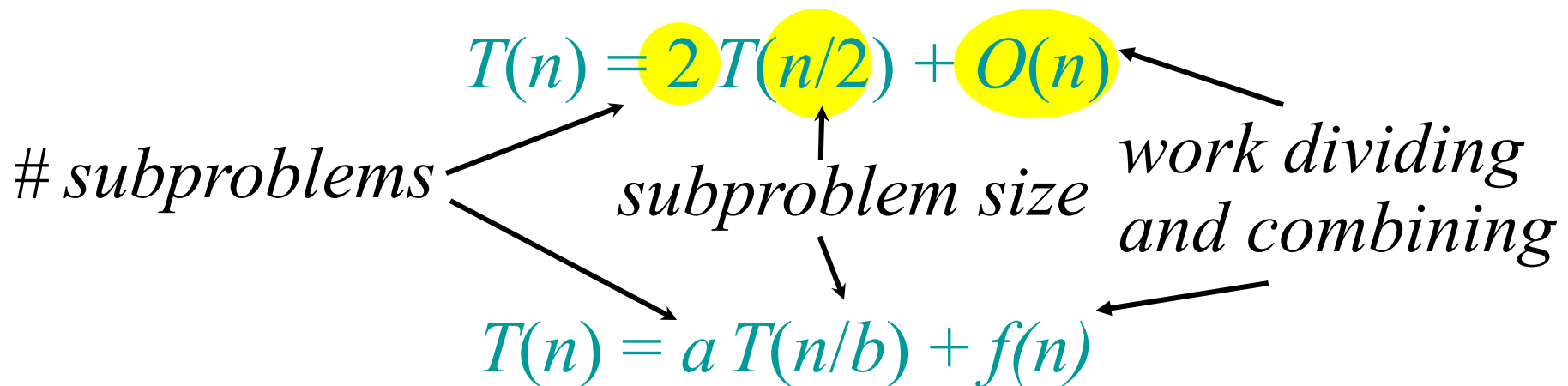
3. **Combine** subproblem solutions.

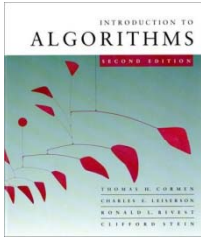
Runtime for divide and combine is $f(n)$



Example: merge sort

- 1. Divide:** Trivial.
- 2. Conquer:** Recursively sort $a=2$ subarrays of size $n/2=n/b$
- 3. Combine:** Linear-time merge, runtime $f(n) \in O(n)$



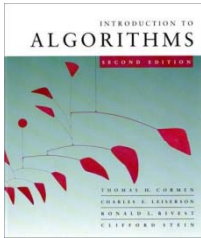


The master method

The master method applies to recurrences of the form

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

where $a \geq 1$, $b > 1$, and f is asymptotically positive.



Master theorem (summary)

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

CASE 1: $f(n) = O(n^{\log_b a - \varepsilon})$ $\varepsilon > 0$

$$\Rightarrow T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a}) .$$

CASE 2: $f(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \log^k n)$ $k \geq 0$

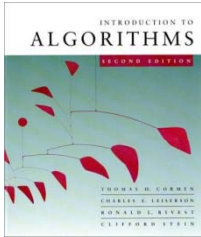
$$\Rightarrow T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \log^{k+1} n) .$$

CASE 3: $f(n) = \Omega(n^{\log_b a + \varepsilon})$ and $a f(n/b) \leq c f(n)$

for some constant $c < 1$.

$$\varepsilon > 0$$

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



Three common cases

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

1. $f(n) = O(n^{\log_b a - \varepsilon})$ for some constant $\varepsilon > 0$.

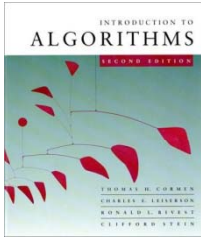
- $f(n)$ grows polynomially slower than $n^{\log_b a}$ (by an n^ε factor).

Solution: $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$.

2. $f(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \log^k n)$ for some constant $k \geq 0$.

- $f(n)$ and $n^{\log_b a}$ grow at similar rates.

Solution: $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \log^{k+1} n)$.



Three common cases (cont.)

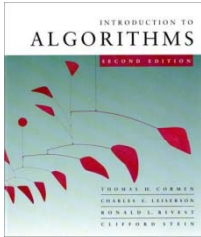
Compare $f(n)$ with $n^{\log_b a}$:

3. $f(n) = \Omega(n^{\log_b a + \varepsilon})$ for some constant $\varepsilon > 0$.

- $f(n)$ grows polynomially faster than $n^{\log_b a}$ (by an n^ε factor),

and $f(n)$ satisfies the **regularity condition** that $af(n/b) \leq cf(n)$ for some constant $c < 1$.

Solution: $T(n) = \Theta(f(n))$.



Examples

Ex. $T(n) = 4T(n/2) + \text{sqrt}(n)$

$$a = 4, b = 2 \Rightarrow n^{\log_b a} = n^2; f(n) = \text{sqrt}(n).$$

CASE 1: $f(n) = O(n^{2-\epsilon})$ for $\epsilon = 1.5$.

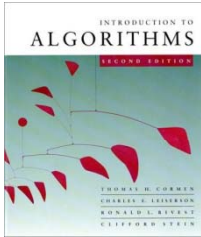
$$\therefore T(n) = \Theta(n^2).$$

Ex. $T(n) = 4T(n/2) + n^2$

$$a = 4, b = 2 \Rightarrow n^{\log_b a} = n^2; f(n) = n^2.$$

CASE 2: $f(n) = \Theta(n^2 \log^0 n)$, that is, $k = 0$.

$$\therefore T(n) = \Theta(n^2 \log n).$$



Examples

Ex. $T(n) = 4T(n/2) + n^3$

$a = 4, b = 2 \Rightarrow n^{\log_b a} = n^2; f(n) = n^3.$

CASE 3: $f(n) = \Omega(n^{2 + \epsilon})$ for $\epsilon = 1$

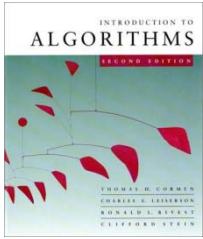
and $4(n/2)^3 \leq cn^3$ (reg. cond.) for $c = 1/2.$

$\therefore T(n) = \Theta(n^3).$

Ex. $T(n) = 4T(n/2) + n^2/\log n$

$a = 4, b = 2 \Rightarrow n^{\log_b a} = n^2; f(n) = n^2/\log n.$

Master method does not apply. In particular, for every constant $\epsilon > 0$, we have $\log n \in o(n^\epsilon).$



Example: merge sort

- 1. Divide:** Trivial.
- 2. Conquer:** Recursively sort 2 subarrays.
- 3. Combine:** Linear-time merge.

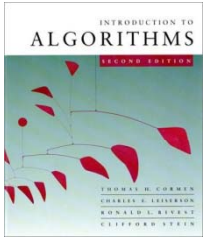
$$T(n) = 2T(n/2) + O(n)$$

subproblems \nearrow 2 \nearrow $T(n/2)$ \nearrow $O(n)$ \longleftarrow work dividing and combining

subproblem size

$$n^{\log_b a} = n^{\log_2 2} = n^1 = n \Rightarrow \text{CASE 2 } (k = 0)$$

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



Recurrence for binary search

$$T(n) = 1T(n/2) + \Theta(1)$$

subproblems

subproblem size

work dividing
and combining

$$n^{\log_b a} = n^{\log_2 1} = n^0 = 1 \Rightarrow \text{CASE 2 } (k = 0) \\ \Rightarrow T(n) = \Theta(\log n).$$