

# Recurrences: Methods and Examples

CSE 3318 – Algorithms and Data Structures  
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# Background

- Solving Summations
  - Needed for the Tree Method
- Math substitution
  - Needed for Methods: Tree and Substitution(induction)
  - E.g. If  $T(n) = 3T(n/8) + 4n^{2.5}\lg n$ ,  
 $T(n/8) = \dots\dots\dots$   
 $T(n-1) = \dots\dots\dots$
- Theory on trees
  - Given tree height & branching factor, compute:  
nodes per level  
total nodes in tree
- Logarithms
  - Needed for the Tree Method
- Notation: TC = Time Complexity (cost may also be used instead of time complexity)
- We will use different methods than what was done for solving recurrences in CSE 2315, but one may still benefit from reviewing that material.

# Recurrences

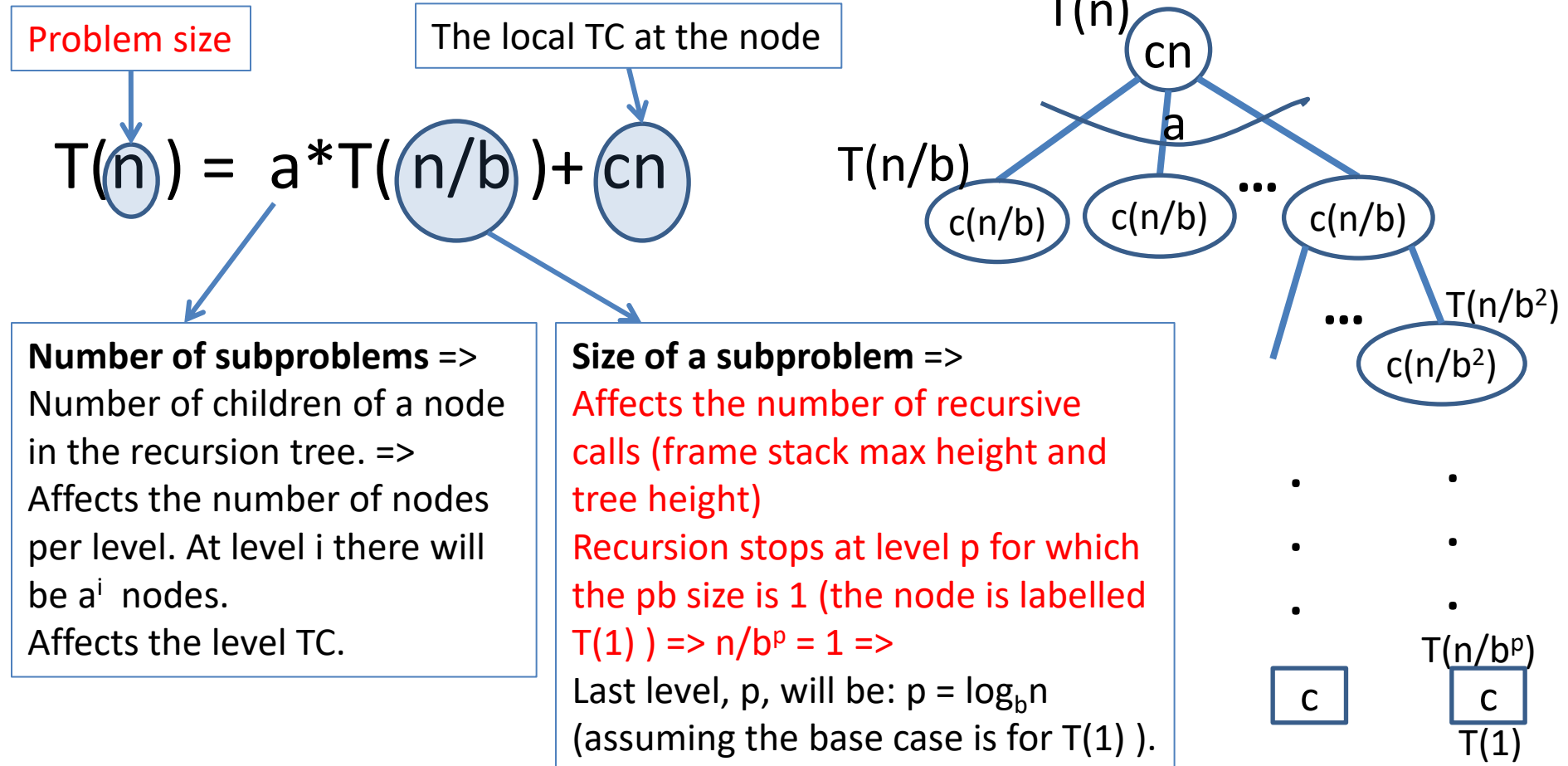
- Recursive algorithms
  - It may not be clear what the complexity is, by just looking at the algorithm.
  - To find their complexity, we need to:
    - Express the TC of the algorithm as a recurrence formula. E.g.:  
 $f(n) = n + f(n-1)$
    - Find the complexity of the recurrence:
      - Expand it to a summation with no recursive term.
      - Find a concise expression (or upper bound),  $E(n)$ , for the summation.
      - Find  $\Theta$ , ideally, or  $O$  (big-Oh) for  $E(n)$ .
- Recurrence formulas may be encountered in other situations:
  - Compute the number of nodes in certain trees.
  - Express the complexity of non-recursive algorithms (e.g. selection sort).

# Solving Recurrences Methods

- The Master Theorem
- The Recursion-Tree Method
  - Useful for guessing the bound.
- The Induction Method – not covered
  - Guess the bound, use induction to prove it.
  - Note that the book calls this the substitution method, but I prefer to call it the induction method

# Recurrence - Recursion Tree Relationship

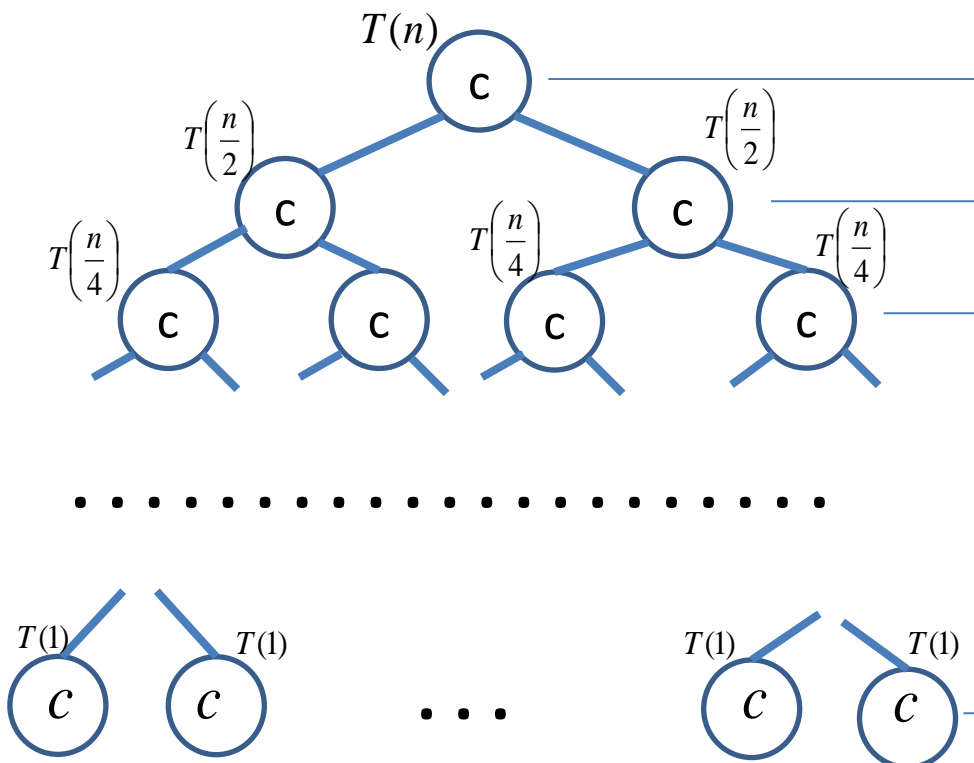
$$T(1) = c$$



TC = time complexity

# Recursion Tree for: $T(n) = 2T(n/2)+c$

Base case:  $T(1) = c$



Level	Arg/ pb size	TC of 1 node	Nodes per level	Level TC
0	n	c	1	c
1	n/2	c	2	2c
2	n/4	c	4	4c
...				
i	$n/2^i$	c	$2^i$	$2^i c$
...				
$p = \lg n$	1 ( $=n/2^p$ )	c	$2^p$ ( $=n$ )	$2^p c$

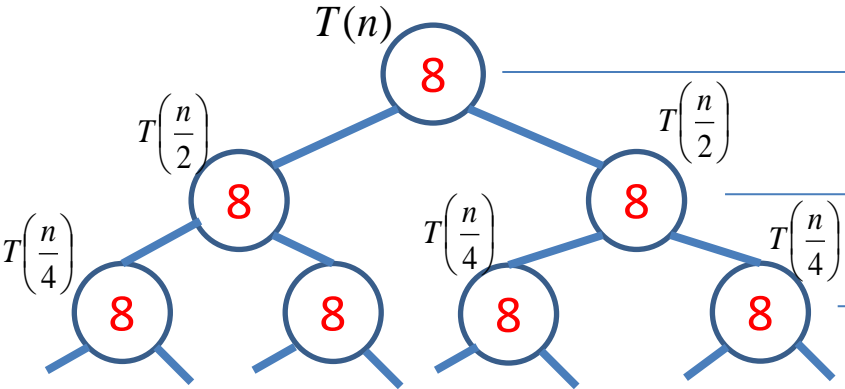
Stop at level  $p$ , when the subtree is  $T(1)$ .  
 $\Rightarrow$  The problem size is 1, but the general formula for the problem size, at level  $p$  is:  
 $n/2^p \Rightarrow n/2^p = 1 \Rightarrow p = \lg n$

Tree TC =  $c(1+2+2^2+2^3+\dots+2^i+\dots+2^p) = c2^{p+1}/(2-1)$   
 $= 2c2^p = 2cn = \Theta(n)$

# Recursion Tree for: $T(n) = 2T(n/2) + 8$

If specific value is given instead of  $c$ , use that. Here  $c=8$ .

Base case:  $T(1) = 8$



.....



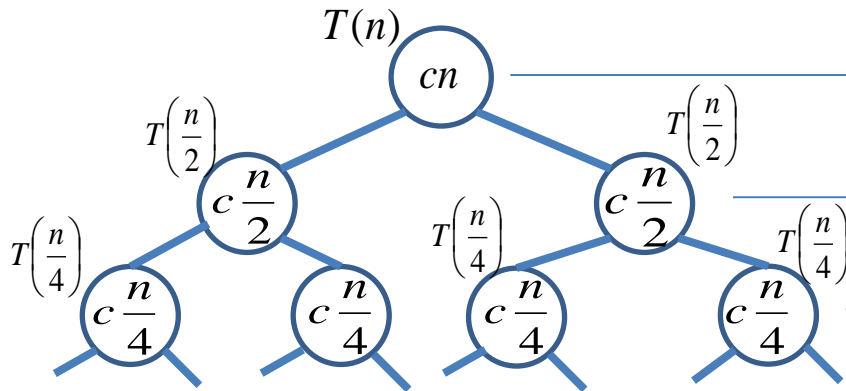
Stop at level  $p$ , when the subtree is  $T(1)$ .  
 $\Rightarrow$  The problem size is 1, but the general formula for the problem size, at level  $p$  is:  
 $n/2^p \Rightarrow n/2^p = 1 \Rightarrow 2^p = n \Rightarrow p = \lg n$

Level	Arg/ pb size	TC of 1 node	Nodes per level	Level TC
0	$n$	8	1	8
1	$n/2$	8	2	$2 \cdot 8$
2	$n/4$	8	4	$4 \cdot 8$
...				
$i$	$n/2^i$	8	$2^i$	$2^i \cdot 8$
...				
$k = \lg n$	1 ( $=n/2^k$ )	8	$2^k$ ( $=n$ )	$2^k \cdot 8$

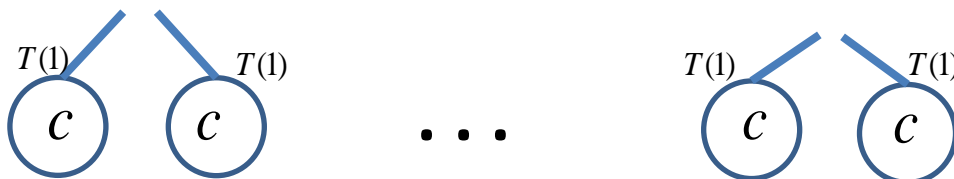
Tree TC =  $c(1+2+2^2+2^3+\dots+2^i+\dots+2^p) = 8 \cdot 2^{p+1} / (2-1)$   
 $= 2 \cdot 8 \cdot 2^p = 16n = \Theta(n)$

# Recursion Tree for: $T(n) = 2T(n/2) + cn$

Base case:  $T(1) = c$



Level	Arg/ pb size	TC of 1 node	Nodes per level	Level TC
0	$n$	$c*n$	1	$c*n$
1	$n/2$	$c*n/2$	2	$2*c*n/2 = c*n$
2	$n/4$	$c*n/4$	4	$4*c*n/4 = c*n$
...				
$i$	$n/2^i$	$c*n/2^i$	$2^i$	$2^i*c*n/2^i = c*n$
...				
$p = \lg n$	1 ( $=n/2^p$ )	$c=c*1 = c*n/2^p$	$2^p$ ( $=n$ )	$2^p*c*n/2^p = c*n$



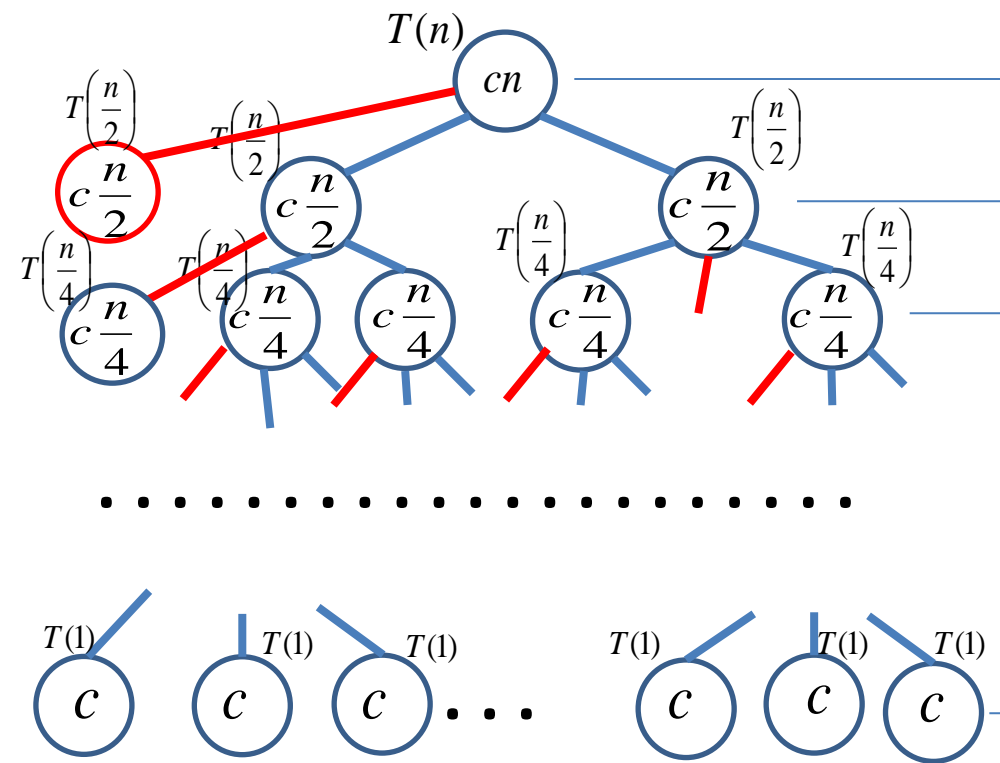
Stop at level  $p$ , when the subtree is  $T(1)$ .  
 $\Rightarrow$  The problem size is 1, but the general formula for the problem size, at level  $p$  is:  $n/2^p \Rightarrow n/2^p=1 \Rightarrow 2^p=n \Rightarrow p = \lg n$

Tree TC =  $cn(p + 1) = cn(1 + \lg n)$   
 $= cn \lg n + cn = \theta(n \lg n)$



# Recursion Tree for $T(n) = 3T(n/2) + c$

Base case:  $T(1) = c$

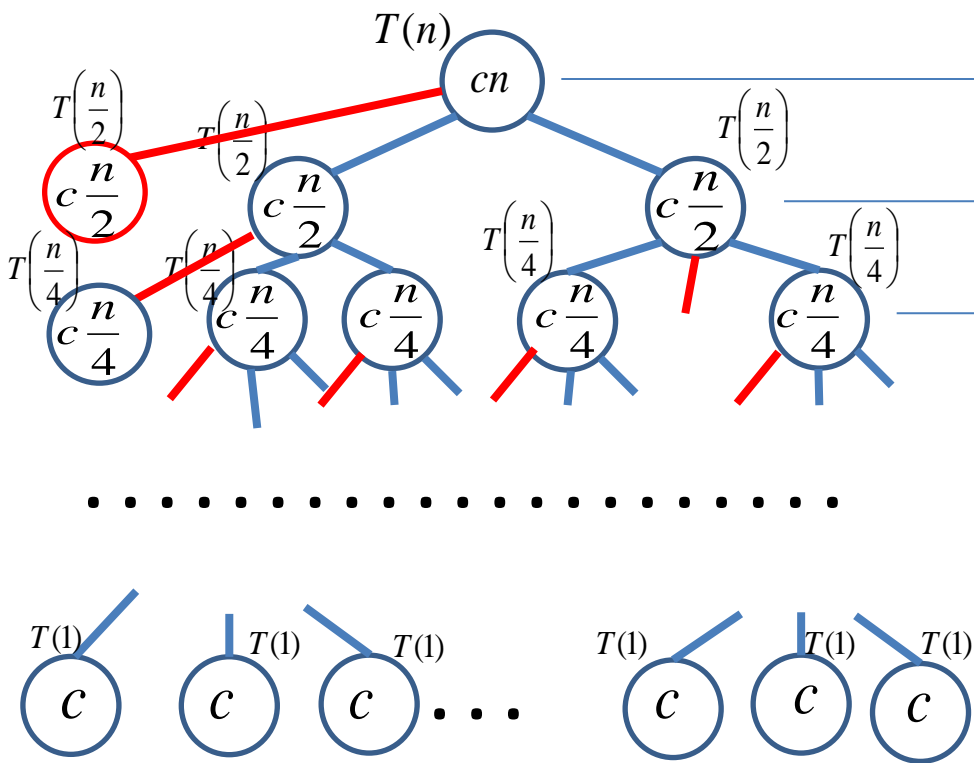


Level	Arg/ pb size	TC of 1 node	Nodes per level	Level TC
0	n	$c*n$	1	c
1	$n/2$	$c*n/2$	3	$3*c$ $= (3)*c$
2	$n/4$	$c*n/4$	9	$(3)^2*c$
...				
i	$n/2^i$	$c*n/2^i$	$3^i$	$(3)^i*c$
...				
$p = \lg n$	1 ( $= n/2^p$ )	$c = c*1 =$ $c*n/2^p$	$3^p$ ( $\neq n$ )	$(3)^p*c$

Stop at level  $p$ , when the subtree is  $T(1)$ .  
 $\Rightarrow$  The problem size is 1, but the general formula for the problem size, at level  $p$  is:  
 $n/2^p \Rightarrow n/2^p = 1 \Rightarrow 2^p = n \Rightarrow p = \lg n$

# Recursion Tree for $T(n) = \underline{3}T(n/2) + \underline{cn}$

Base case:  $T(1) = c$



Level	Arg/ pb size	TC of 1 node	Nodes per level	Level TC
0	n	$c*n$	<u>1</u>	$c*n$
1	$n/2$	$c*n/2$	<u>3</u>	$3*c*n/2$ $= (3/2)*c*n$
2	$n/4$	$c*n/4$	<u>9</u>	$(3/2)^2*c*n$
...				
i	$n/2^i$	$c*n/2^i$	<u><math>3^i</math></u>	$(3/2)^i*c*n$
...				
$p = \lg n$	1 ( $=n/2^p$ )	$c=c*1=$ $c*n/2^p$	<u><math>3^p</math></u> ( $\neq n$ )	$(3/2)^p*c*n$

Stop at level  $p$ , when the subtree is  $T(1)$ .  
 $\Rightarrow$  The problem size is 1, but the general formula for the problem size, at level  $p$  is:  
 $n/2^p \Rightarrow n/2^p = 1 \Rightarrow 2^p = n \Rightarrow p = \lg n$

# Total Tree TC for $T(n) = 3T(n/2) + cn$

Closed form

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= cn + (3/2)cn + (3/2)^2 cn + \dots (3/2)^i cn + \dots (3/2)^{\lg n} cn = \\ &= cn * [1 + (3/2) + (3/2)^2 + \dots + (3/2)^{\lg n}] = cn \sum_{i=0}^{\lg n} (3/2)^i = \\ &= cn * \frac{(3/2)^{\lg n + 1} - 1}{(3/2) - 1} = 2cn[(3/2) * (3/2)^{\lg n} - 1] = 3cn * (3/2)^{\lg n} - 2cn \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{use : } c^{\lg n} = n^{\lg c} \Rightarrow (3/2)^{\lg n} = n^{\lg(3/2)} = n^{\lg 3 - \lg 2} = n^{\lg 3 - 1} \Rightarrow$$

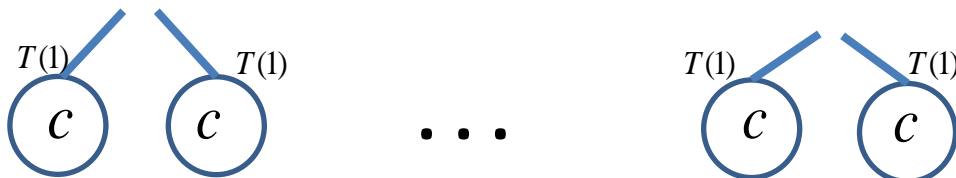
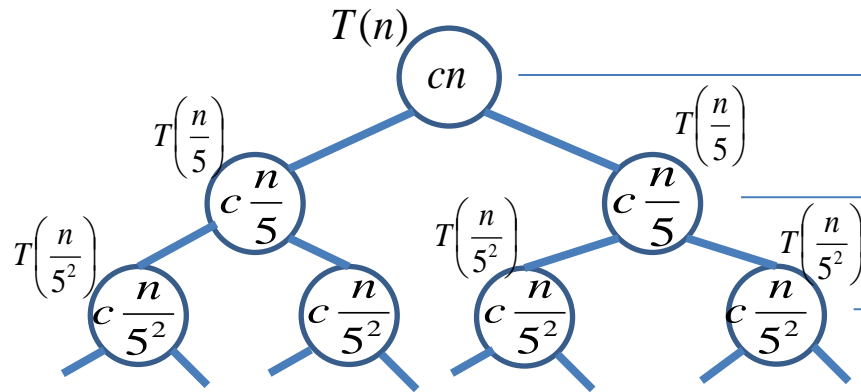
$$= 3cn * n^{\lg 3 - 1} - 2cn = 3cn^{1 + \lg 3 - 1} - 2cn = 3cn^{\lg 3} - 2cn = \Theta(n^{\lg 3})$$

Explanation: since we need  $\Theta$ , we can eliminate the constants and non-dominant terms earlier (after the closed form expression):

$$\dots = cn * \frac{(3/2)^{\lg n + 1} - 1}{(3/2) - 1} = \Theta(n * (3/2) * (3/2)^{\lg n}) = \Theta(n * (3/2)^{\lg n})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{use: } c^{\lg n} &= n^{\lg c} \Rightarrow (3/2)^{\lg n} = n^{\lg(3/2)} = n^{\lg 3 - \lg 2} = n^{\lg 3 - 1} \Rightarrow \\ &= \Theta(n * n^{\lg 3 - 1}) = \Theta(n^{\lg 3}) \end{aligned}$$

# Recursion Tree for: $T(n) = 2T(n/5) + cn$



Stop at level  $p$ , when the subtree is  $T(1)$ .  
 $\Rightarrow$  The problem size is 1, but the general formula for the problem size, at level  $p$  is:  
 $n/5^p \Rightarrow n/5^p = 1 \Rightarrow 5^p = n \Rightarrow p = \log_5 n$

Level	Arg/ pb size	TC of 1 node	Nodes per level	Level TC
0	$n$	$c*n$	1	$c*n$
1	$n/5$	$c*n/5$	2	$2*c*n/5$ $= (2/5)*cn$
2	$n/5^2$	$c*n/5^2$	4	$4*c*n/5^2$ $= (2/5)^2*cn$
...				
$i$	$n/5^i$	$c*n/5^i$	$2^i$	$2^i*c*n/5^i$ $= (2/5)^i*cn$
...				
$p = \log_5 n$	1 ( $=n/5^p$ )	$c=c*1 = c*n/5^p$	$2^p$ ( $=n$ )	$2^p*c*n/5^p$ $= (2/5)^p*cn$

Tree TC  
 (derivation similar to TC for  $T(n) = 3T(n/2) + cn$ )

# Total Tree TC for $T(n) = 2T(n/5) + cn$

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= cn + (2/5)cn + (2/5)^2 cn + \dots (2/5)^i cn + \dots (2/5)^{\log_5 n} cn = \\ &= cn * [1 + (2/5) + (2/5)^2 + \dots + (2/5)^{\log_5 n}] = \\ &= cn \sum_{i=0}^{\log_5 n} (2/5)^i \leq cn \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} (2/5)^i = \\ &= cn * \frac{1}{1 - (2/5)} = (5/3)cn = O(n) \end{aligned}$$

*Also*

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) = cn + \dots &\Rightarrow T(n) \geq cn \Rightarrow T(n) = \Omega(n) \\ &\Rightarrow T(n) = \Theta(n) \end{aligned}$$

## Code => Recurrence

In the recursive case of the recurrence formula capture the number of times the recursive call **ACTUALLY EXECUTES** as you run the instructions in the function.

```
int foo(int N){
    int a,b,c;
    if(N<=3) return 1500; // Note N<=3
    a = 2*foo(N-1);
    // a = foo(N-1)+foo(N-1);
    printf("A");
    b = foo(N/2);
    c = foo(N-1);
    return a+b+c;
}
```

Base case:  $T(\underline{\quad}) = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

Recursive case:  $T(\underline{\quad}) = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

$T(N)$  gives us the Time Complexity for  $\text{foo}(N)$ . We need to solve it (find the closed form)

## Code => Recurrence => $\Theta$

```
void bar(int N){
    int i,k,t;
    if(N<=1) return;
    bar(N/5);
    for(i=1;i<=5;i++){
        bar(N/5);
    }
    for(i=1;i<=N;i++){
        for(k=N;k>=1;k--){
            for(t=2;t<2*N;t=t+2)
                printf("B");
        }
    }
    bar(N/5);
}
```

T(N) = .....  
Solve T(N)

In the recursive case of the recurrence formula capture the number of times the recursive call **ACTUALLY EXECUTES** as you run the instructions in the function.

# Compare

```
void fool(int N){
    if (N <= 1) return;
    for(int i=1; i<=N; i++){
        fool(N-1);
    }
}
```

$T(0) = T(1) = c$

$T(N) = N * T(N-1) + cN$

```
void foo2(int N){
    if (N <= 5) return;
    for(int i=1; i<=N; i++){
        printf("A");
    }
    foo2(N-1); //outside of the loop
}
```

$T(N) = c$  for all  $0 \leq N \leq 5$  (BaseCase(s))

$T(N) = T(N-1) + cN$  (Recursive Case)

```
int foo3(int N){
    if (N <= 20) return 500;
    for(int i=1; i<=N; i++){
        return foo3(N-1);
    }
    // No loop. Returns after the first iteration.
}
```

$T(N) = c$  for all  $0 \leq N \leq 20$  Do not confuse what the function returns with its time complexity. For the base case,  $c$  is not 500. At most,  $c$  is 2 (from the 2 instructions: one comparison,  $N \leq 20$ , and one return, `return 500`)

$T(N) = T(N-1) + c$

In the recursive case of the recurrence formula captures the number of times the recursive call **ACTUALLY EXECUTES** as you run the instructions in the function. E.g. pay attention to  $2 * \text{foo}(N/3)$  vs  $\text{foo}(N/3) + \text{foo}(N/3)$



# Code => recurrence

```
int search(int A[], int L, int R, int v){
    int m = (L+R)/2;
    if (L > R) return -1;
    if (v == A[m]) return m;
    if (L == R) return -1;
    if (v < A[m]) return search(A, L, m-1, v);
    else          return search(A, m+1, R, v);
}
```

(Use:  $N = R - L + 1$ )

Here, for the same value of  $N$ , the behavior depends also on data in  $A$  and  $val$ .

Best case  $T(N) = c \Rightarrow$  search is  $\Theta(1)$  in best case

Worst case:  $T(N) = T(N/2) + c \Rightarrow T(N) = \Theta(\lg(N)) \Rightarrow$  search is  $\Theta(\lg(N))$  in worst case

$\Rightarrow$  We will report in general: search is  $O(\lg(N))$

# Code => recurrence

```
int weird(int A[], int N){
    if (N<=4) return 100;
    if (N%5==0) return weird(A,N/5);
    else      return weird(A,N-4)+weird(A, N-4);
}
```

Here, the behavior depends on N so we can explicitly capture that in the recurrence formulas:

Base case(s):  $T(N) = c$  for all  $0 \leq N \leq 4$  (BC)

Recursive case(s):

$T(N) = T(N/5) + c$  for all  $N > 4$  that are multiples of 5 (RC1)

$T(N) = 2 * T(N-4) + c$  for all other N (RC2)

For any N, in order to solve, we need to go through a mix of the 2 recursive cases => cannot easily solve. => try to find lower and upper bounds.

Note that RC1 has the best behavior: only one recurrence and smallest subproblem size (i.e. N/5) => use this for a lower bound =>

$T_{\text{lower}}(N) = T(N/5) + c = \Theta(\log_5 N)$  , (and  $T(N) \geq T_{\text{lower}}(N)$ ) =>  **$T(N) = \Omega(\log_5 N)$**

Note that RC2 has the worst behavior: 2 recurrences and both of larger subproblem size (i.e. N-4) => use this for an upper bound =>

$T_{\text{upper}}(N) = 2 * T(N-4) + c = \Theta(2^{N/4})$  , (and  $T(N) \leq T_{\text{upper}}(N) = \Theta(2^{N/4})$ ) =>  **$T(N) = O(2^{N/4})$**

We have  **$\Omega$**  and  **$O$**  for  $T(N)$ , but we cannot compute  **$\Theta$**  for it.

# Recurrence => Code Answers

- Give a piece of code/pseudocode for which the time complexity recursive formula is:
  - $T(1) = c$  and
  - $T(N) = N * T(N/2) + cN$

```
void foo(int N){  
    if (N <= 1) return;  
    for(int i=1; i<=N; i++)  
        foo(N/2);  
}
```

# Recurrences:

## Recursion-Tree Method

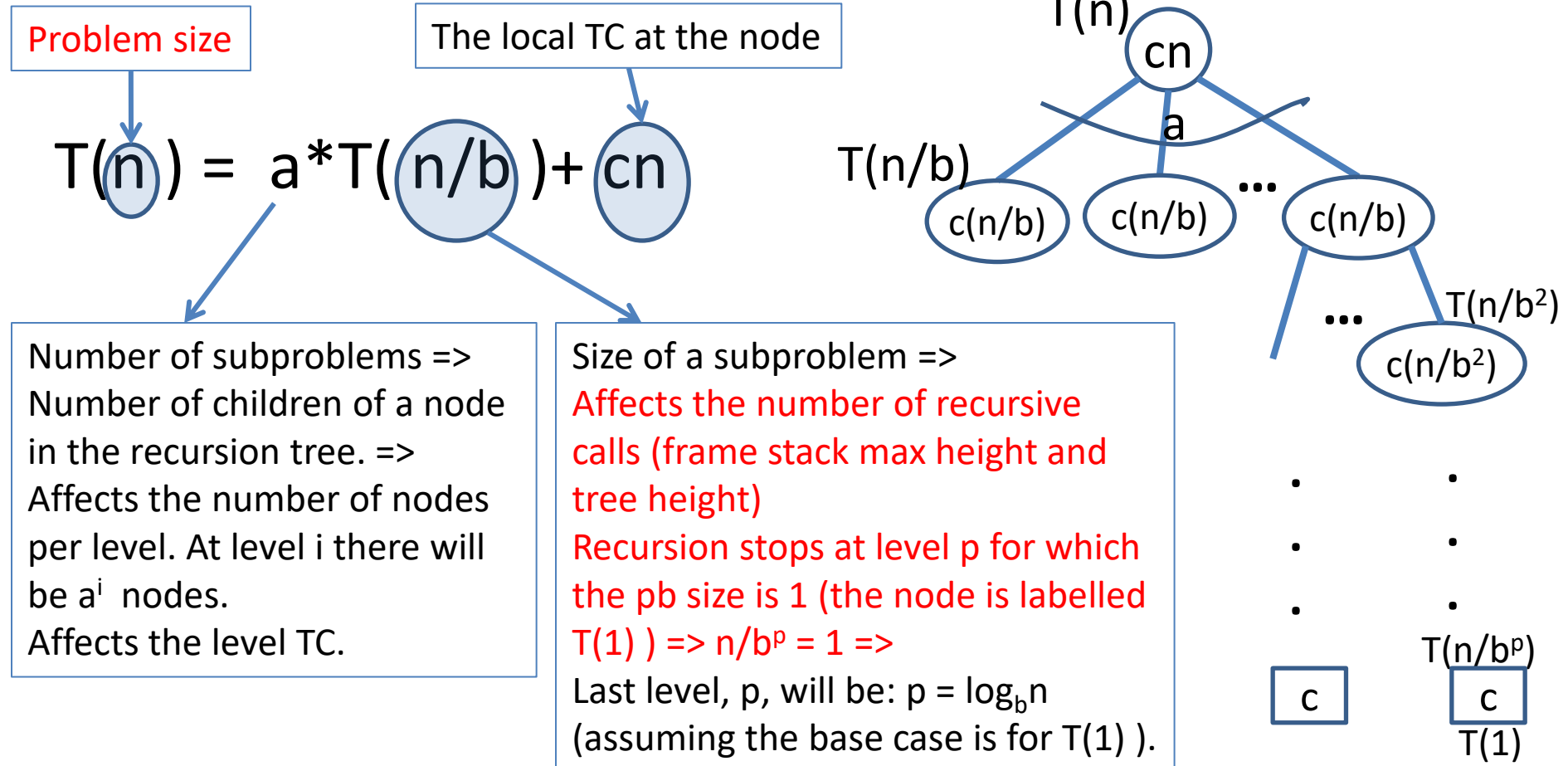
1. Build the tree & fill-out the table
2. Compute TC per level
3. Compute number of levels (find last level as a function of N)
4. Compute total over levels.
  - \* Find closed form of that summation.

Example 1 : Solve  $T(n) = 3T(\lfloor n/4 \rfloor) + \Theta(n^2)$

Example 2 : Solve  $T(n) = T(n/3) + T(2n/3) + O(n)$

# Recurrence - Recursion Tree Relationship

$$T(1) = c$$



$T(n) = 7T(n/5) + cn^3$ , If  $n$  is not a multiple of 5, use round down for  $n/5$

$T(1) = c, T(0) = c$

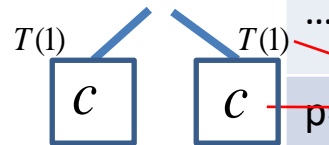
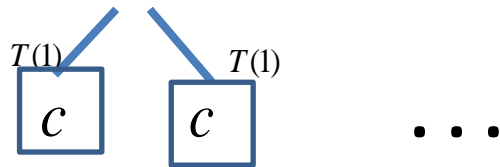
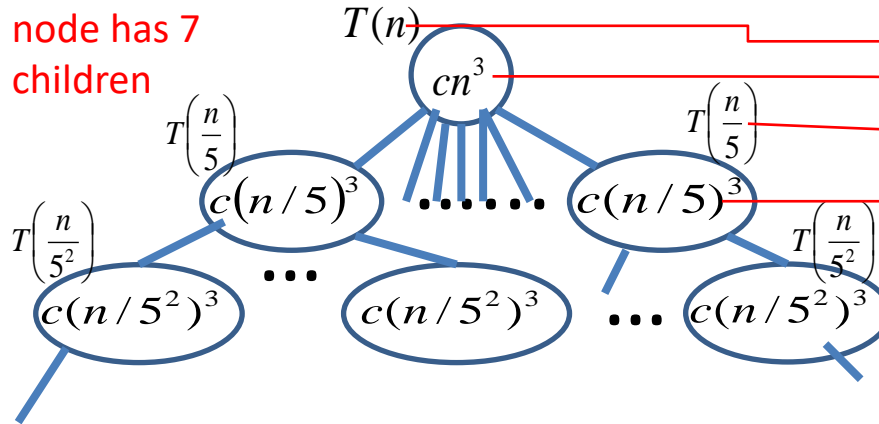
Level	Arg/ pb size	TC of 1 node	Nodes per level	Level TC
0				
1				
2				
...				
i				
...				
p=				

Work it out by hand in class.  
Draw tree, fill out table.

$$T(n) = 7T(n/5) + cn^3, \text{ If } n \text{ is not a multiple of } 5, \text{ use round down for } n/5$$

$$T(1) = c, T(0) = c$$

Each internal node has 7 children



Level	Arg/ pb size	TC of 1 node	Nodes per level	Level TC
0	n	$cn^3$	1	$c \cdot n^3$
1	$n/5$	$c(n/5)^3$	7	$7 \cdot c \cdot (n/5)^3 = cn^3 (7/5^3)$
2	$n/5^2$	$c(n/5^2)^3$	$7^2$	$7^2 \cdot c \cdot (n/5^2)^3 = cn^3 (7/5^3)^2$
...				
i	$n/5^i$	$c(n/5^i)^3$	$7^i$	$7^i \cdot c \cdot (n/5^i)^3 = cn^3 (7/5^3)^i$
...				
p = $\log_5 n$	$(=n/5^p)$	$c = c \cdot 1 = c(n/5^p)^3$	$7^p$	$7^p \cdot c \cdot (n/5^p)^3 = cn^3 (7/5^3)^p$

Stop at level p, when the subtree is T(1).  $\Rightarrow$  The problem size is 1, but the general formula for the problem size, at level p is:  $n/5^p \Rightarrow n/5^p = 1 \Rightarrow p = \log_5 n$

Where we used:  $7^i \left(\frac{n}{5^i}\right)^3 = 7^i n^3 \left(\frac{1}{5^i}\right)^3 = 7^i n^3 \left(\frac{1}{5^3}\right)^i = n^3 \left(\frac{7}{5^3}\right)^i$

Tree TC:  $T(n) = \sum_{i=0}^{\log_5 n} cn^3 \left(\frac{7}{5^3}\right)^i = cn^3 \sum_{i=0}^{\log_5 n} \left(\frac{7}{5^3}\right)^i =$

$$cn^3 \frac{1 - (7/125)^{1 + \log_5 n}}{1 - (7/125)} < cn^3 \frac{1}{1 - 7/125} = \Theta(n^3) \Rightarrow T(n) = O(n^3)$$

But  $T(n) = \Omega(n^3) \Rightarrow T(n) = \Theta(n^3)$

$T(n) = 7T(n/5) + cn^3$ , If  $n$  is not a multiple of 5, use round down for  $n/5$   
 $T(1) = c, T(0) = c$

$T(n) = 7T(n/5) + cn^3$  (RC)  
 $T(0) = T(1) = c$  (BC)

E.g. for  $c=4$ , calculate  $T(25)$ :  
 $T(25) \stackrel{RC}{=} 7 \cdot T(5) + 4 \cdot 25^3 = 7 \cdot 528 + 4 \cdot 25^3 = \dots$   
 $T(5) \stackrel{RC}{=} 7 \cdot T(1) + 4 \cdot 5^3 = 7 \cdot 4 + 500 = 528$   
 $T(1) \stackrel{BC}{=} 4$

Tree (for general  $c$  and  $n=5^r$  ( $n$  is a power of 5))

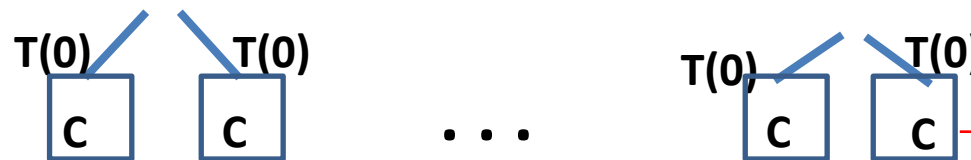
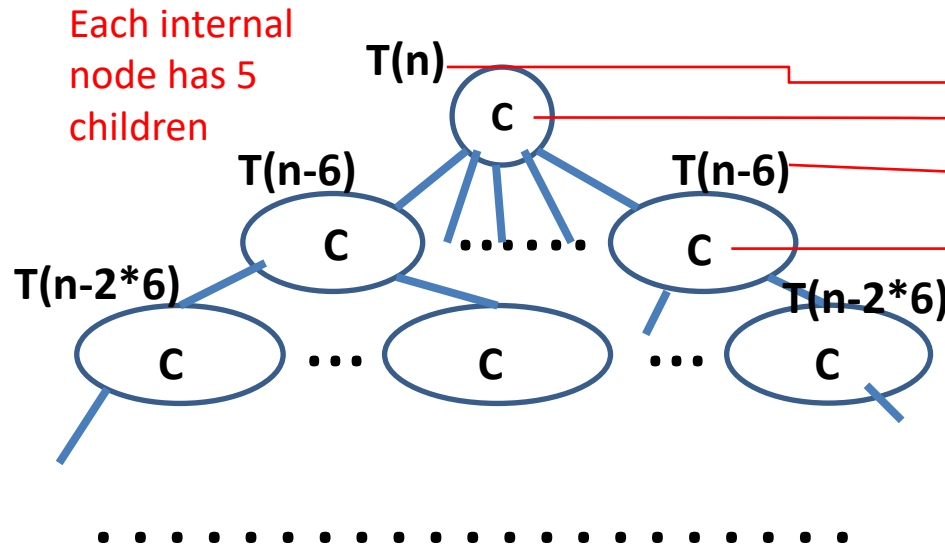
$T(n^3)$   
 $T(\frac{n}{5})^3$   
 $T(\frac{n}{5})^3$   
 $T(\frac{n}{5^2})^3$   
 $T(\frac{n}{5})^3$   
 $T(\frac{n}{5^i})^3$   
 $T(\frac{n}{5^{i-1}}) = T(5)$   
 $T(1)$   $T(1)$   $T(1)$   $T(1)$   $T(1)$   $T(1)$   $T(1)$   
 uses base case  $n=1$   
 (also:  $T(\frac{n}{5^r}) =$ )



$$T(n) = 5T(n-6) + c$$

$$T(n) = c \text{ for all } 0 \leq n \leq 5 \text{ (i.e. } T(0)=T(1)=T(2)=T(3)=T(4)=T(5)=c \text{)}$$

Assume  $n$  is a multiple of 6



Stop at level  $p$ , when the subtree is  $T(0)$ .  
 $\Rightarrow$  The problem size is 0, but the general formula for the problem size, at level  $p$  is:  
 $n - 6p \Rightarrow n - 6p = 0 \Rightarrow p = n/6$

Level	Arg/ pb size	TC of 1 node	Nodes per level	Level TC
0	$n$	$c$	1	$c$
1	$n-6$	$c$	5	$5*c$
2	$n-2*6$	$c$	$5^2$	$5^2*c$
...				
$i$	$n-6i$	$c$	$5^i$	$5^i*c$
...				
$p = n/6$	0 ( $=n-6p$ )	$c$	$5^p$	$5^p*c$

$$T(n) = c(1 + 5 + 5^2 + 5^3 + \dots + 5^i + \dots + 5^p) = c \frac{5^{(p+1)} - 1}{5 - 1} = \Theta(5^p) = \Theta(5^{n/6})$$

- Rounding up or down the size of subproblems does not affect Theta. All four recurrences below have the same Theta:

$$T(N) = 2T\left(\frac{N}{3}\right) + c,$$

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

$$T(N) = 2T\left(\left\lceil\frac{N}{3}\right\rceil\right) + c,$$

$$T(N) = T\left(\left\lfloor\frac{N}{3}\right\rfloor\right) + T\left(\left\lceil\frac{N}{3}\right\rceil\right) + c$$

- See more solved examples later in the presentation. Look for page with title:

**More practice/ Special cases**

# Tree Method for lower/upper bounds

$$T(n) = T(n/3) + T(2n/3) + O(n)$$

- Draw the tree, notice the shape, see length of shortest and longest paths.
- Notice that:
  - as long as the levels are full (all nodes have 2 children) the level TC is  $cn$  (the sum of TC of the children equals the parent:  $(1/3)*p_{TC} + (2/3)*p_{TC}$ )  
⇒ Total TC for those:  $cn * \log_3 n = \Theta(n \lg n)$
  - The number of incomplete levels should also be a multiple of  $\lg n$  and the TC for each of those levels will be less than  $cn$
  - ⇒ Guess that  $T(n) = O(n \lg n)$
- Use the substitution method to show  $T(n) = O(n \lg n)$
- If the recurrence was given with  $\Theta$  instead of  $O$ , we could have shown  $T(n) = \Theta(n \lg n)$ 
  - with  $O$ , we only know that:  $T(n) \leq T(n/3) + T(2n/3) + cn$
  - The local TC could even be constant:  $T(n) = T(n/3) + T(2n/3) + c$
- Exercise: Solve
  - $T_1(n) = 2T_1(n/3) + cn$  (Why can we use  $cn$  instead of  $\Theta(n)$  in  $T_1(n) = 2T_1(n/3) + cn$  ?)
  - $T_2(n) = 2T_2(2n/3) + cn$  (useful:  $\lg 3 \approx 1.59$ )
  - Use them to bound  $T(n)$ . How does that compare to the analysis in this slide? (The bounds are looser).

# Common Recurrences Review

1. Halve problem in constant time :

$$T(n) = T(n/2) + c \quad \Theta(\lg(n))$$

2. Halve problem in linear time :

$$T(n) = T(n/2) + n \quad \Theta(n) \quad (\sim 2n)$$

3. Break (and put back together) the problem into 2 halves in constant time:

$$T(n) = 2T(n/2) + c \quad \Theta(n) \quad (\sim 2n)$$

4. Break (and put back together) the problem into 2 halves in linear time:

$$T(n) = 2T(n/2) + n \quad \Theta(n \lg(n))$$

5. Reduce the problem size by 1 in constant time:

$$T(n) = T(n-1) + c \quad \Theta(n)$$

6. Reduce the problem size by 1 in linear time:

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

# Master theorem

- We will use the Master Theorem from wikipedia as it covers more cases:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Master\\_theorem\\_\(analysis\\_of\\_algorithms\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Master_theorem_(analysis_of_algorithms))

- Check the above webpage and the notes handwritten in class.
- Discussion:

On Wikipedia, below the inadmissible equations there is the justification pasted below.

However the cases given for the Master Theorem on Wikipedia, do not include any  $\epsilon$  in the discussion. Where does that  $\epsilon$  come from? Can you do math derivations that start from the formulation of the relevant case of the Theorem and result in the  $\epsilon$  and the inequality shown above?

In the second inadmissible example above, the difference between  $f(n)$  and  $n^{\log_b a}$  can be expressed with the ratio  $\frac{f(n)}{n^{\log_b a}} = \frac{n/\log n}{n^{\log_2 2}} = \frac{n}{n \log n} = \frac{1}{\log n}$ . It is clear that  $\frac{1}{\log n} < n^\epsilon$  for any constant  $\epsilon > 0$ . Therefore, the difference is not polynomial and the basic form of the Master Theorem does not apply. The extended form (case 2b) does apply, giving the solution  $T(n) = \Theta(n \log \log n)$ .



# Recurrences: Induction Method

1. Guess the solution
2. Use induction to prove it.
3. Check it at the boundaries (recursion base cases)

Example: Find upper bound for:  $T(n) = 2T(\lfloor n/2 \rfloor) + n$

1. Guess that  $T(n) = O(n \lg n) \Rightarrow$
2. Prove that  $T(n) = O(n \lg n)$  using  $T(n) \leq c n \lg n$  (for some  $c$ )
  1. Assume it holds for all  $m < n$ , and prove it holds for  $n$ .
3. Assume base case (boundary):  $T(1) = 1$ .

Pick  $c$  and  $n_0$  s.t. it works for sufficient base cases and applying the inductive hypotheses.

# Recurrences: Induction Method

$$T(n) = 2T(\lfloor n/2 \rfloor) + n$$

2. Prove that  $T(n) = O(n \lg n)$ , using the definition:

find  $c$  and  $n_0$  s.t.  $T(n) \leq c * n \lg n$

(here:  $f(n) = T(n)$ ,  $g(n) = n \lg n$ )

Show with induction:  $T(n) \leq c * n \lg n$  (for some  $c > 0$ )

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= 2T(\lfloor n/2 \rfloor) + n \leq 2 * c * \lfloor n/2 \rfloor * \lg(\lfloor n/2 \rfloor) + n \leq \\ &\leq 2 * c * (n/2) * \lg(n/2) + n = cn \lg(n/2) + n = \\ &= cn(\lg n - \lg 2) + n = cn(\lg n - 1) + n = cn \lg n - cn + n = \\ &= cn \lg n + n(1 - c) \end{aligned}$$

want :

$$\leq cn \lg n \Rightarrow$$

$$n(1 - c) \leq 0 \Rightarrow 1 - c \leq 0 \Rightarrow c \geq 1$$

Pick  $c = 2$  (the largest of both 1 and 2).

Pick  $n_0 = 2$

3. Base case (boundary):

Assume  $T(1) = 1$

Find  $n_0$  s.t. the induction holds for all  $n \geq n_0$ .

$$n=1: 1=T(1) \leq c * 1 * \lg 1 = c * 0 = 0$$

FALSE.  $\Rightarrow n_0$  cannot be 1.

$$n=2: T(2) = 2 * T(1) + 2 = 2 + 2 = 4$$

Want  $T(2) \leq c * 2 \lg 2 = 2c$ , True

for:  $c \geq 2$

$$n=3: T(3) = 2 * T(1) + 3 = 2 + 3 = 5$$

Want  $5 = T(3) \leq c * 3 * \lg 3$

True for:  $c \geq 2$

Here we need 2 base cases for the induction:  $n=2$ , and  $n=3$



# Recurrences: Induction Method

## Various Issues

- Subtleties (stronger condition needed)
  - Solve:  $T(n) = T(\lfloor n/2 \rfloor) + T(\lceil n/2 \rceil) + 1$  with  $T(1) = 1$  and  $T(0) = 1$
  - Use a stronger condition: off by a constant, subtract a constant
- Avoiding pitfalls
  - Wrong: In the above example, stop at  $T(n) \leq cn+1$  and conclude that  $T(n) = O(n)$
  - See also book example of wrong proof for  $T(n) = 2T(\lfloor n/2 \rfloor) + n$  is  $O(n)$
- Making a good guess
  - Solve:  $T(n) = 2T(\lfloor n/2 \rfloor) + 17 + n$
  - Find a similar recursion
  - Use looser upper and lower bounds and gradually tighten them
- Changing variables
  - Recommended reading, not required (page 86)

# Stronger Hypothesis for

$$T(n) = T(\lfloor n/2 \rfloor) + T(\lceil n/2 \rceil) + 1$$

Show  $T(n) = O(n)$  using the definition: find  $c$  and  $n_0$  s.t.  $T(n) \leq c \cdot n$

(here:  $f(n) = T(n)$ ,  $g(n) = n$ ). Use induction to show  $T(n) \leq c \cdot n$ .

Inductive step: assume it holds for all  $m < n$ , show for  $n$ :

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= T(\lfloor n/2 \rfloor) + T(\lceil n/2 \rceil) + 1 \leq c \lfloor n/2 \rfloor + c \lceil n/2 \rceil + 1 = \\ &= c(\lfloor n/2 \rfloor + \lceil n/2 \rceil) + 1 = cn + 1 \end{aligned}$$

We're stuck. We CANNOT say that  $T(n) = O(n)$  at this point. We must prove the hypothesis exactly:  $T(n) \leq cn$  (not:  $T(n) \leq cn + 1$ ).

Use a stronger hypothesis: prove that  $T(n) \leq cn - d$ , for some const  $d > 0$ :

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= T(\lfloor n/2 \rfloor) + T(\lceil n/2 \rceil) + 1 \leq c \lfloor n/2 \rfloor - d + c \lceil n/2 \rceil - d + 1 = \\ &= c(\lfloor n/2 \rfloor + \lceil n/2 \rceil) + 1 - 2d = cn - d + 1 - d \end{aligned}$$

want:

$$\leq cn - d \Rightarrow$$

$$1 - d \leq 0 \Rightarrow d \geq 1$$

## Extra material – Solve:

$$T(n) = 3T(\lfloor n/4 \rfloor) + \Theta(n^2)$$

- Use the tree method to make a guess for:

$$T(n) = 3T(n/4) + \Theta(n^2)$$

- Use the induction method for the original recurrence (with rounding down):

$$T(n) = 3T(\lfloor n/4 \rfloor) + \Theta(n^2)$$

# More practice/ Special cases

# Recurrences solved in following slides

Recurrences solved in following slides:

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

$$T(n) = T(n-4)+c$$

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

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

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

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

$$T(n) = 2T(n/2)+8$$

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

$$T(n) = 3T(n/2)+cn$$

$$T(n) = 3T(n/5)+cn$$

Recurrences left as individual practice:

$$T(n) = 7T(n/3)+cn$$

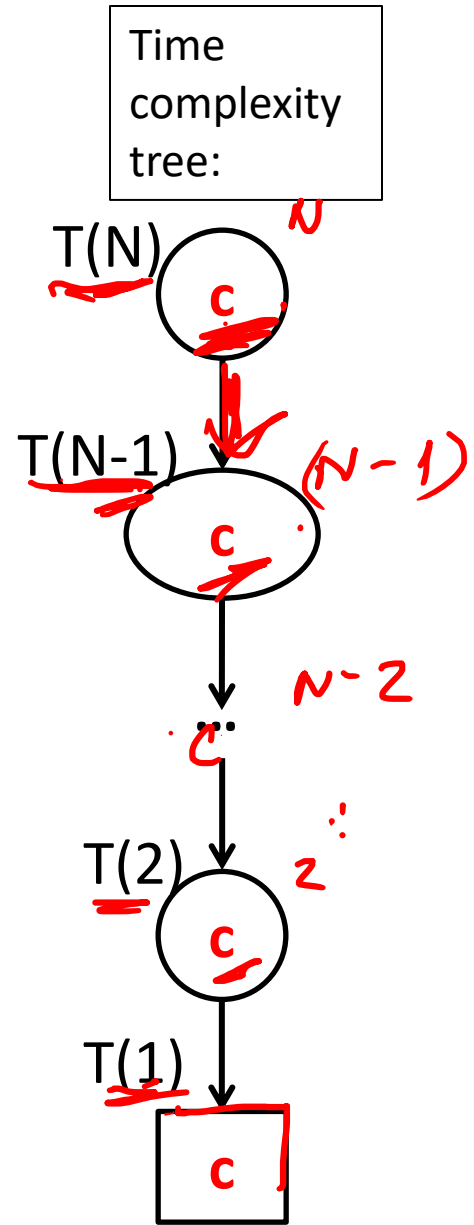
$$T(n) = 7T(n/3)+cn^3$$

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

See also “recurrences practice” problems on the Exams page.

$$\underline{T(N) = T(N-1) + c}$$

**fact(N)**



```
int fact(int N)
{
    if (N <= 1) return 1;
    return N * fact(N-1);
}
```

Time complexity of fact(N) ?  $T(N) = \dots$

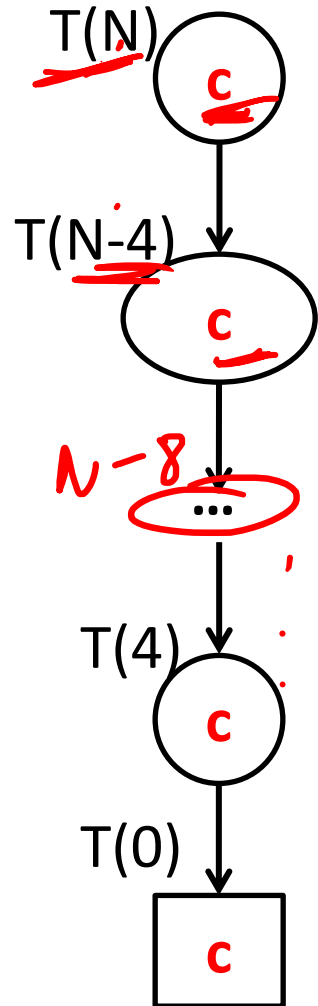
$T(N) = T(N-1) + c$   
 $T(1) = c$   
 $T(0) = c$

Levels: N  
 Each node has TC c =>  
 $T(N) = c * N = \Theta(N)$



$$T(N) = T(N-4) + c$$

Time complexity tree:



```
int fact4(int N)
{
    if (N <= 1) return 1;
    if (N == 2) return 2;
    if (N == 3) return 6;
    return N * (N-1) * (N-2) * (N-3) * fact4(N-4);
}
```

Time complexity of fact4(N) ?  $T(N) = \dots$

$$T(N) = T(N-4) + c$$

$$T(3) = c$$

$$T(2) = c$$

$$T(1) = c$$

$$T(0) = c$$

$$T(N) = c \quad \forall N \leq 3$$

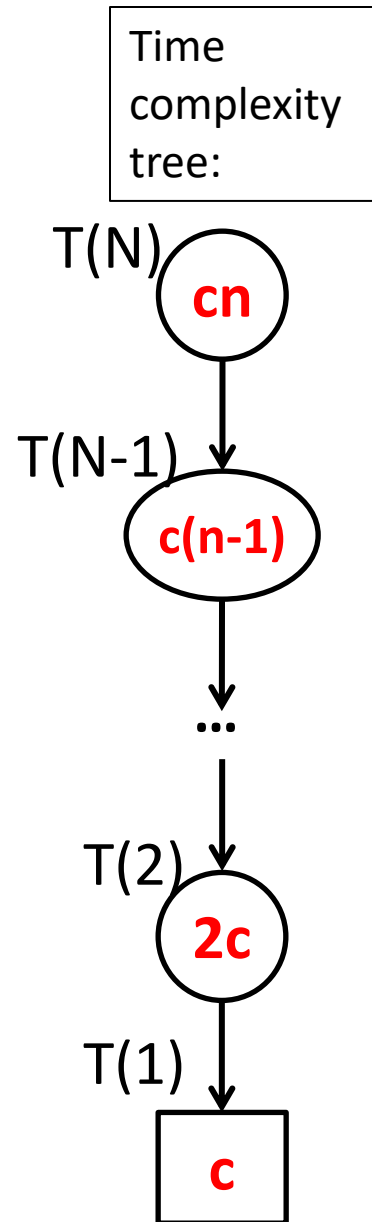
Levels:  $\approx N/4$

Each node has  $T c \Rightarrow$

$$T(N) = c * N/4 = \Theta(N)$$

# $T(N) = T(N-1) + cN$

## selection\_sort\_rec(N)



```
int fact(int N, int st, int[] A, ){  
    if (st >= N-1) return;  
    idx = min_index(A, st, N); //  $\Theta(N-st)$   
    A[st] <-> A[idx]  
    return sel_sort_rec(A, st+1, N);  
}
```

$$T(N) = T(N-1) + cN$$

$$T(1) = c$$

$$T(0) = c$$

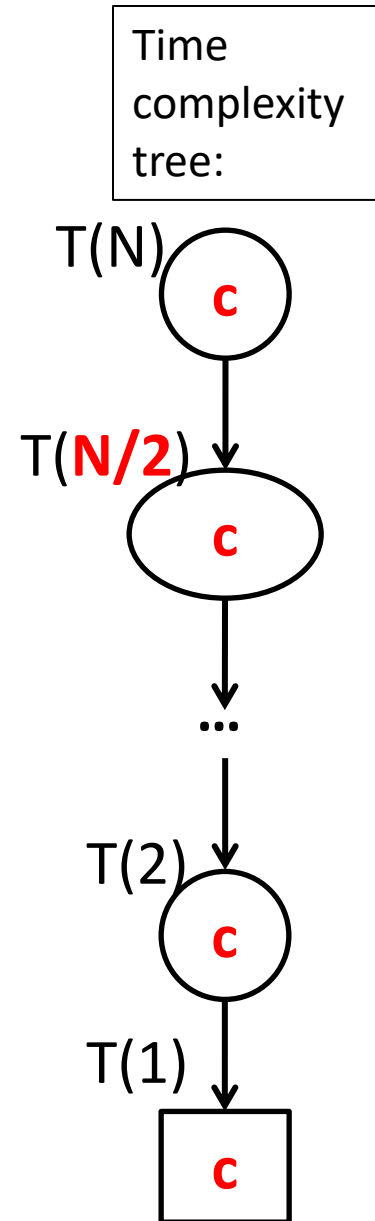
Levels: N

Node at level  $i$  has TC  $c(N-i) \Rightarrow$

$$T(N) = cN + c(N-1) + \dots + ci + \dots + c = cN(N+1)/2 = \Theta(N^2)$$



$$T(N) = T(N/2) + c$$



$$T(N) = T(N/2) + c$$

$$T(1) = c$$

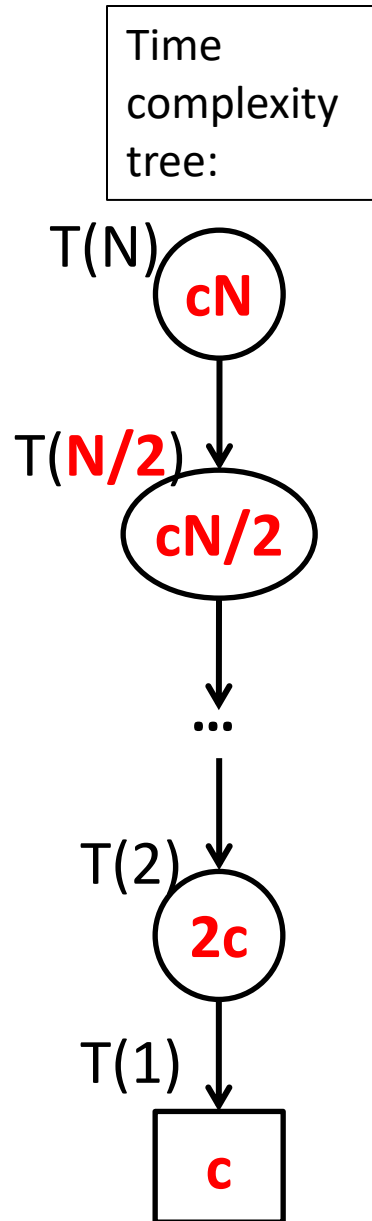
$$T(0) = c$$

Levels:  $\approx \lg N$  ( from base case:  $N/2^p=1 \Rightarrow p=\lg N$  )

Each node has TC  $c \Rightarrow$

$$T(N) = c * \lg N = \Theta(\lg N)$$

$$T(N) = T(N/2) + cN$$



$$T(N) = T(N/2) + cN$$

$$T(1) = c$$

$$T(0) = c$$

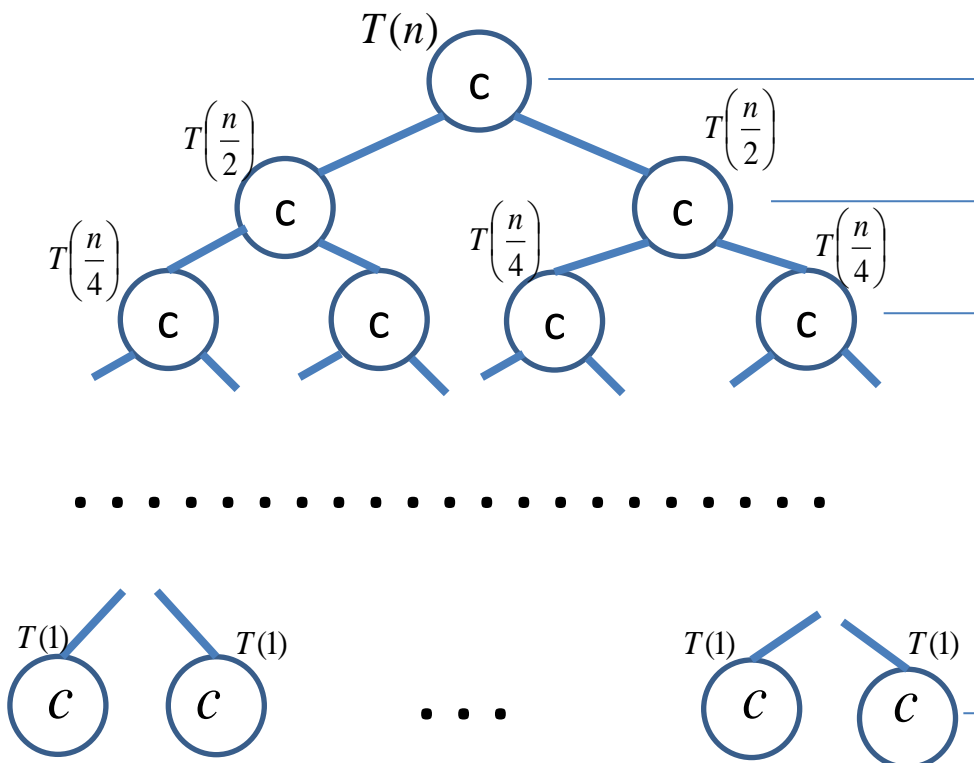
Levels:  $\approx \lg N$  ( from base case:  $N/2^p=1 \Rightarrow p=\lg N$  )

Node at level  $i$  has TC  $cN/2^i \Rightarrow$

$$\begin{aligned} T(N) &= c(N + N/2 + N/2^2 + \dots + N/2^i + \dots + N/2^k) = \\ &= cN(1 + 1/2 + 1/2^2 + \dots + 1/2^i + \dots + 1/2^k) = \\ &= cN[1 + (1/2) + (1/2)^2 + \dots + (1/2)^i + \dots + (1/2)^p] = \\ &= cN * \text{constant} \\ &= \Theta(N) \end{aligned}$$

# Recursion Tree for: $T(n) = 2T(n/2)+c$

Base case:  $T(1) = c$



Level	Arg/ pb size	TC of 1 node	Nodes per level	Level TC
0	n	c	1	c
1	n/2	c	2	2c
2	n/4	c	4	4c
...				
i	$n/2^i$	c	$2^i$	$2^i c$
...				
$p = \lg n$	1 ( $=n/2^p$ )	c	$2^p$ ( $=n$ )	$2^p c$

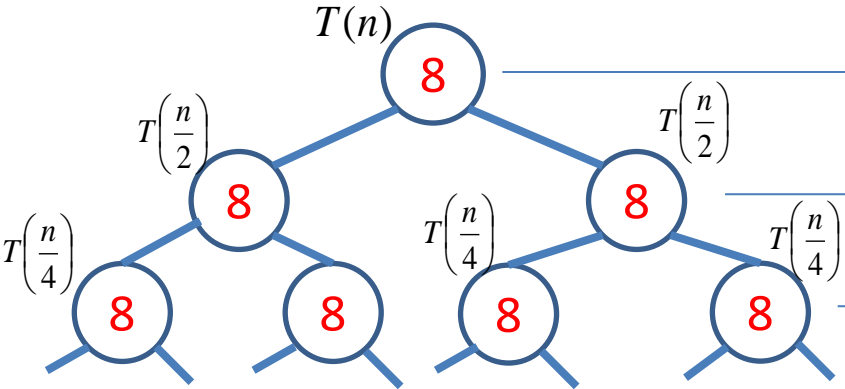
Stop at level  $p$ , when the subtree is  $T(1)$ .  
 $\Rightarrow$  The problem size is 1, but the general formula for the problem size, at level  $p$  is:  
 $n/2^p \Rightarrow n/2^p = 1 \Rightarrow p = \lg n$

Tree TC =  $c(1+2+2^2+2^3+\dots+2^i+\dots+2^p) = c2^{p+1}/(2-1)$   
 $= 2c2^p = 2cn = \Theta(n)$

# Recursion Tree for: $T(n) = 2T(n/2) + 8$

If specific value is given instead of  $c$ , use that. Here  $c=8$ .

Base case:  $T(1) = 8$



.....



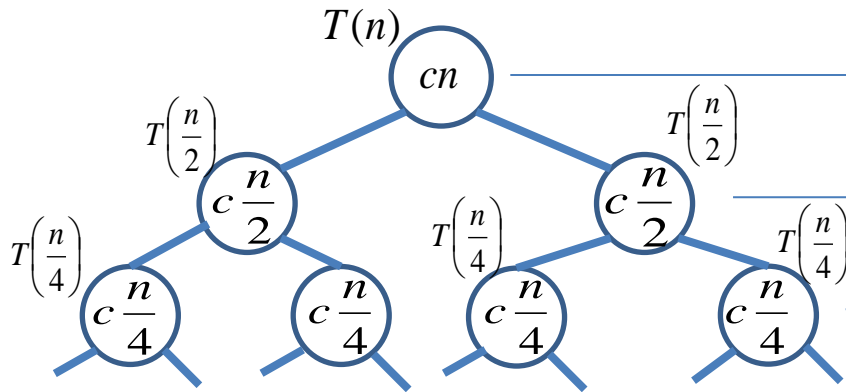
Level	Arg/ pb size	TC of 1 node	Nodes per level	Level TC
0	$n$	8	1	8
1	$n/2$	8	2	$2 \cdot 8$
2	$n/4$	8	4	$4 \cdot 8$
...				
$i$	$n/2^i$	8	$2^i$	$2^i \cdot 8$
...				
$k = \lg n$	1 ( $=n/2^k$ )	8	$2^k$ ( $=n$ )	$2^k \cdot 8$

Stop at level  $p$ , when the subtree is  $T(1)$ .  
 $\Rightarrow$  The problem size is 1, but the general formula for the problem size, at level  $p$  is:  
 $n/2^p \Rightarrow n/2^p = 1 \Rightarrow 2^p = n \Rightarrow p = \lg n$

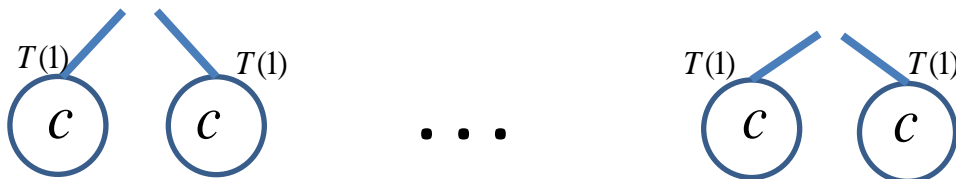
Tree TC =  $c(1+2+2^2+2^3+\dots+2^i+\dots+2^p) = 8 \cdot 2^{p+1} / (2-1)$   
 $= 2 \cdot 8 \cdot 2^p = 16n = \Theta(n)$

# Recursion Tree for: $T(n) = 2T(n/2) + cn$

Base case:  $T(1) = c$



.....



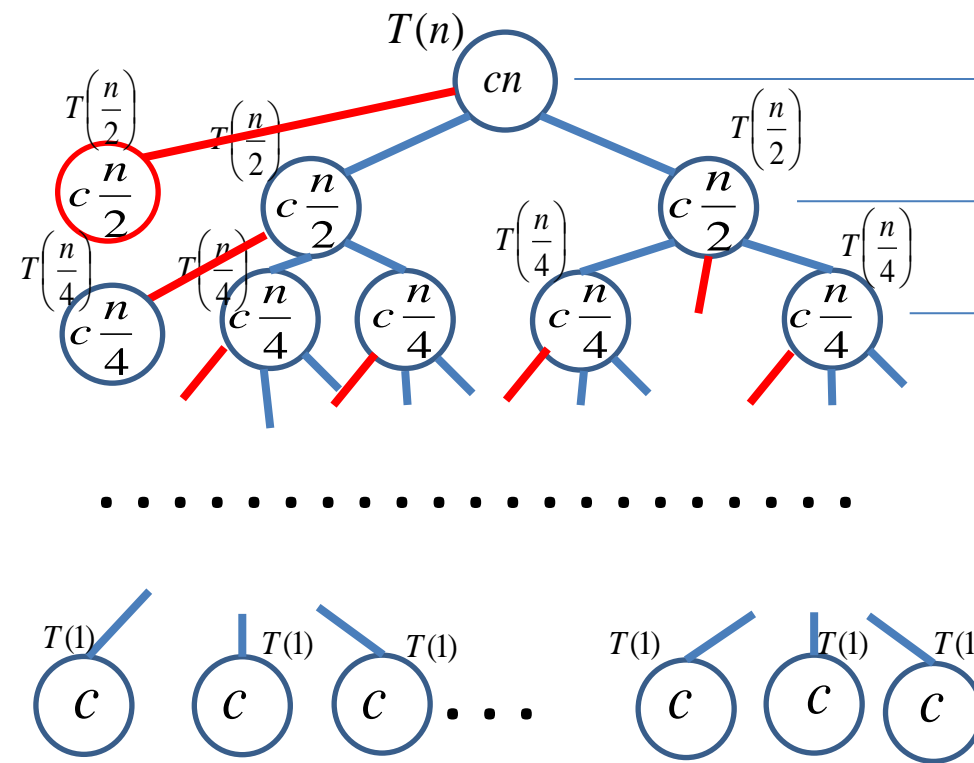
Stop at level  $p$ , when the subtree is  $T(1)$ .  
 $\Rightarrow$  The problem size is 1, but the general formula for the problem size, at level  $p$  is:  
 $n/2^p \Rightarrow n/2^p = 1 \Rightarrow 2^p = n \Rightarrow p = \lg n$

Level	Arg/ pb size	TC of 1 node	Nodes per level	Level TC
0	$n$	$c*n$	1	$c*n$
1	$n/2$	$c*n/2$	2	$2*c*n/2 = c*n$
2	$n/4$	$c*n/4$	4	$4*c*n/4 = c*n$
...				
$i$	$n/2^i$	$c*n/2^i$	$2^i$	$2^i*c*n/2^i = c*n$
...				
$p = \lg n$	1 ( $=n/2^p$ )	$c=c*1 = c*n/2^p$	$2^p$ ( $=n$ )	$2^p*c*n/2^p = c*n$

Tree TC =  $cn(p + 1) = cn(1 + \lg n)$   
 $= cn \lg n + cn = \theta(n \lg n)$

# Recursion Tree for $T(n) = 3T(n/2) + cn$

Base case:  $T(1) = c$



Level	Arg/ pb size	TC of 1 node	Nodes per level	Level TC
0	n	$c*n$	1	$c*n$
1	$n/2$	$c*n/2$	3	$3*c*n/2 = (3/2)*c*n$
2	$n/4$	$c*n/4$	9	$(3/2)^2*c*n$
...				
i	$n/2^i$	$c*n/2^i$	$3^i$	$(3/2)^i*c*n$
...				
$p = \lg n$	1 ( $=n/2^p$ )	$c=c*1 = c*n/2^p$	$3^p$ ( $\neq n$ )	$(3/2)^p*c*n$

Stop at level  $p$ , when the subtree is  $T(1)$ .  
 $\Rightarrow$  The problem size is 1, but the general formula for the problem size, at level  $p$  is:  
 $n/2^p \Rightarrow n/2^p = 1 \Rightarrow 2^p = n \Rightarrow p = \lg n$

# Total Tree TC for $T(n) = 3T(n/2) + cn$

Closed form

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= cn + (3/2)cn + (3/2)^2 cn + \dots (3/2)^i cn + \dots (3/2)^{\lg n} cn = \\ &= cn * [1 + (3/2) + (3/2)^2 + \dots + (3/2)^{\lg n}] = cn \sum_{i=0}^{\lg n} (3/2)^i = \\ &= cn * \frac{(3/2)^{\lg n + 1} - 1}{(3/2) - 1} = 2cn[(3/2) * (3/2)^{\lg n} - 1] = 3cn * (3/2)^{\lg n} - 2cn \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{use : } c^{\lg n} = n^{\lg c} \Rightarrow (3/2)^{\lg n} = n^{\lg(3/2)} = n^{\lg 3 - \lg 2} = n^{\lg 3 - 1} \Rightarrow$$

$$= 3cn * n^{\lg 3 - 1} - 2cn = 3cn^{1 + \lg 3 - 1} - 2cn = 3cn^{\lg 3} - 2cn = \Theta(n^{\lg 3})$$

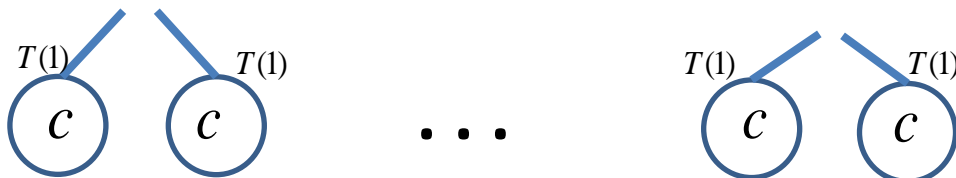
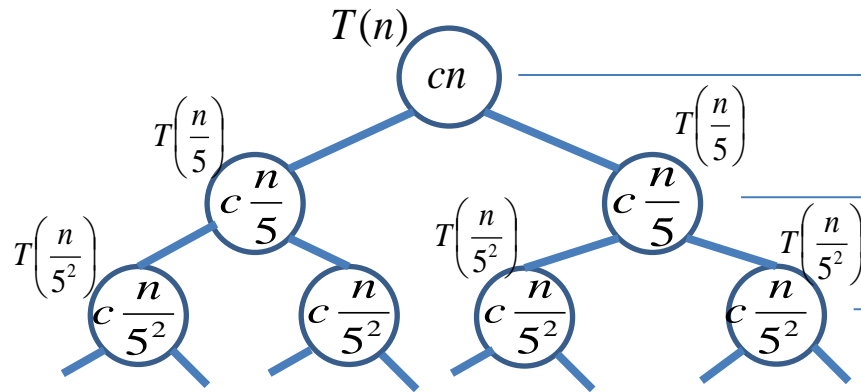
Explanation: since we need  $\Theta$ , we can eliminate the constants and non-dominant terms earlier (after the closed form expression):

$$\dots = cn * \frac{(3/2)^{\lg n + 1} - 1}{(3/2) - 1} = \Theta(n * (3/2) * (3/2)^{\lg n + 1}) = \Theta(n * (3/2)^{\lg n})$$

$$\text{use : } c^{\lg n} = n^{\lg c} \Rightarrow (3/2)^{\lg n} = n^{\lg(3/2)} = n^{\lg 3 - \lg 2} = n^{\lg 3 - 1} \Rightarrow$$

$$= \Theta(n * n^{\lg 3 - 1}) = \Theta(n^{\lg 3})$$

# Recursion Tree for: $T(n) = 2T(n/5) + cn^3$



Stop at level  $p$ , when the subtree is  $T(1)$ .  
 $\Rightarrow$  The problem size is 1, but the general formula for the problem size, at level  $p$  is:  
 $n/5^p \Rightarrow n/5^p = 1 \Rightarrow 5^p = n \Rightarrow p = \log_5 n$

Level	Arg/ pb size	TC of 1 node	Nodes per level	Level TC
0	$n$	$c*n$	1	$c*n$
1	$\underline{n/5}$	$c*(n/5)^3$	2	$2*c*n/5 = (2/5)*cn$
2	$\underline{n/5^2}$	$c*(n/5^2)^3$	4	$4*c*n/5^2 = (2/5)^2*cn$
...				
$i$	$n/5^i$	$c*n/5^i$	$2^i$	$2^i*c*n/5^i = (2/5)^i*cn$
...				
$p = \log_5 n$	1 ( $=n/5^p$ )	$c=c*1 = c*n/5^p$	$2^p$ ( $=n$ )	$2^p*c*n/5^p = (2/5)^p*cn$

Tree TC  
 (derivation similar to TC for  $T(n) = 3T(n/2) + cn$ )



# Total Tree TC for $T(n) = 2T(n/5) + cn$

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= cn + (2/5)cn + (2/5)^2 cn + \dots (2/5)^i cn + \dots (2/5)^{\log_5 n} cn = \\ &= cn * [1 + (2/5) + (2/5)^2 + \dots + (2/5)^{\log_5 n}] = \\ &= cn \sum_{i=0}^{\log_5 n} (2/5)^i \leq cn \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} (2/5)^i = \\ &= cn * \frac{1}{1 - (2/5)} = (5/3)cn = O(n) \end{aligned}$$

*Also*

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= cn + \dots \Rightarrow T(n) \geq cn \Rightarrow T(n) = \Omega(n) \\ &\Rightarrow T(n) = \Theta(n) \end{aligned}$$

# Other Variations

- $T(n) = 7T(n/3) + cn$
- $T(n) = 7T(n/3) + cn^5$ 
  - Here instead of  $(7/3)$  we will use  $(7/3^5)$
- $T(n) = T(n/2) + n$ 
  - The tree becomes a chain (only one node per level)

# Additional materials

# Practice/Strengthen understanding Problem

- Look into the derivation if we had:  $T(1) = d \neq c$ .
  - In general, at most, it affects the constant for the dominant term.

# Practice/Strengthen understanding

## Answer

- Look into the derivation if we had:  $T(1) = d \neq c$ .
  - At most, it affects the constant for the dominant term.

Level	Arg/ pb size	TC of 1 node	Nodes per level	Level TC
0	n	$c*n$	1	$c*n$
1	$n/2$	$c*n/2$	2	$2*c*n/2$ $=c*n$
2	$n/4$	$c*n/4$	4	$4*c*n/4$ $=c*n$
...				
i	$n/2^i$	$c*n/2^i$	$2^i$	$2^i*c*n/2^i$ $=c*n$
...				
$p=\lg n$	1 ( $=n/2^p$ )		$2^p$ ( $=n$ )	$=d*n$

$$\text{Tree TC} = cnp + dn = cn \lg n + dn = \theta(n \lg n)$$

# Permutations without repetitions (Harder Example)

- Covering this material is subject to time availability
- Time complexity
  - Tree, intuition (for moving the local TC in the recursive call TC), math justification
  - induction

# More Recurrences

## Extra material – not tested on

*M1.* Reduce the problem size by 1 in logarithmic time

- E.g. Check  $\lg(N)$  items, eliminate 1

*M2.* Reduce the problem size by 1 in  $N^2$  time

- E.g. Check  $N^2$  pairs, eliminate 1 item

*M3.* Algorithm that:

- takes  $\Theta(1)$  time to go over  $N$  items.
- calls itself 3 times on data of size  $N-1$ .
- takes  $\Theta(1)$  time to combine the results.

*M4.* \*\* Algorithm that:

- calls itself  $N$  times on data of size  $N/2$ .
- takes  $\Theta(1)$  time to combine the results.
- This generates a difficult recursion.