

# Master Method

Way to solve certain recurrences

$$T(n) = a T\left(\frac{n}{b}\right) + O(n^d)$$

$$T(n) \leq C \text{ for } n < n^*$$

a, b, d don't depend on n

Q: If  $T(n)$  is runtime of an algorithm,

What are a, b, d in words?

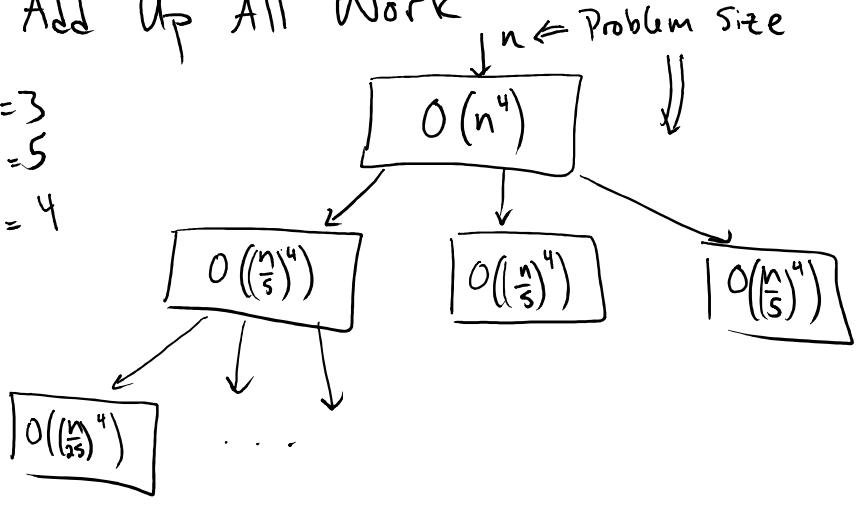
A: a: # of recursive calls

b: factor by which problem shrinks in recursive call

d: characterizes extra work outside recursive call

Let's Add Up All Work

ex: a=3  
b=5  
d=4

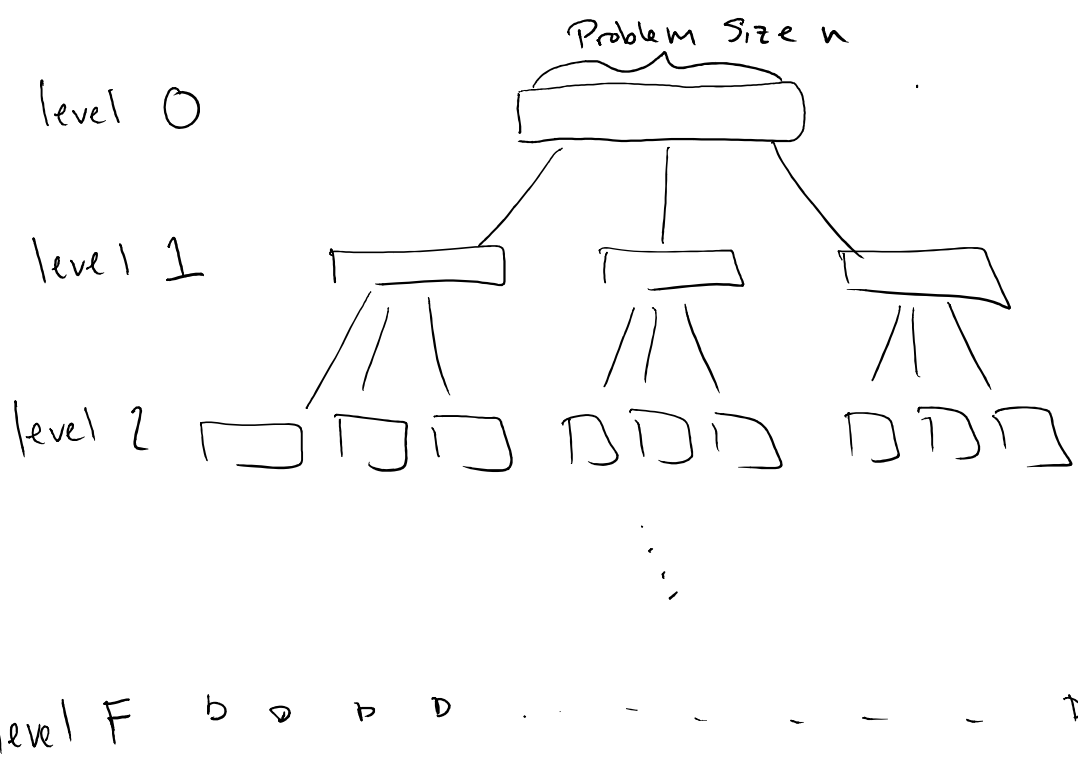


Input size  
n

$\frac{n}{5}$

$\frac{n}{25}$   
...

# Proof of Master Method



Q. What is  $F$  (in terms of  $a, b, d$ )?

- A)  $O(\log_b n)$
- B)  $O(\log_d n)$
- C)  $O(n^{\log_b d})$
- D)  $O(b^{\log_d n})$



Because at each level, problem size is divided by  $b$ .  $\log_b n$  is number of times  $n$  can be divided by  $b$  before reaching a constant.

$$\text{constant} \cdot \underbrace{b \cdot b \cdot \dots \cdot b}_F = n$$

$$c b^F = n$$

$$b^F = \frac{n}{c}$$

$$F = \log_b n - \log_b c$$

take  $\log_b$  of both sides  $\rightarrow F \log_b b = \log_b n - \log_b c$   
 $F = \log_b n + \text{constant}$

Q. What is the ~~total~~ work done at level  $k$  (outside of recursive calls & in terms of  $a, b, d$ )?

- $a^k$  subproblems at level  $k$ .
  - level  $k$  subproblem size:  $\frac{n}{b^k}$
  - Work outside of recursive call required to solve 1 subproblem:  $\left(\frac{n}{b^k}\right)^d$
- $\Rightarrow$  Total work  $a^k \left(\frac{n}{b^k}\right)^d = \left(\frac{a}{b^d}\right)^k n^d$

Now we add up work done at all levels:

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\log_b n} \left(\frac{a}{b^d}\right)^k n^d$$

$$T(n) = n^d \left[ \sum_{k=0}^{\log_b n} \left(\frac{a}{b^d}\right)^k \right]$$

Multiplicative  
Distributive property

Geometric Series:

$$\sum_{k=0}^F r^k = \begin{cases} F+1 & \text{if } r = 1 \\ \frac{1-r^{F+1}}{1-r} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

2 cases:

$$\bullet \frac{a}{b^d} = 1 \rightarrow n^d \sum_{k=0}^{\log_b n} \left(\frac{a}{b^d}\right)^k = O(n^d \log_b n)$$

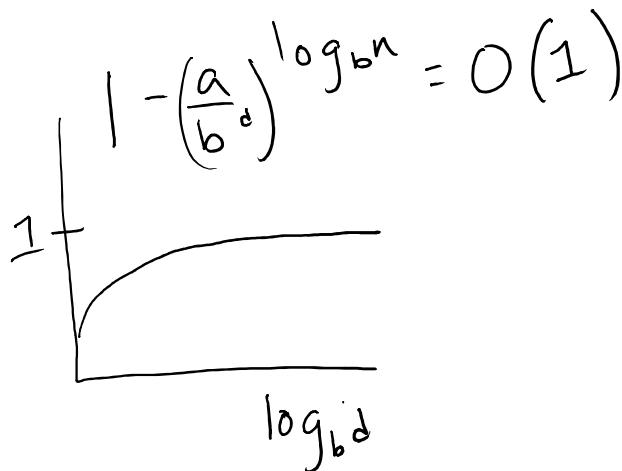
$$\bullet \frac{a}{b^d} \neq 1 \rightarrow n^d \sum_{k=0}^{\log_b n} \left(\frac{a}{b^d}\right)^k = \frac{n^d \left(1 - \left(\frac{a}{b^d}\right)^{\log_b n}\right)}{\boxed{1 - \frac{a}{b^d}}}$$

↑ constant = C

Look at:

2 cases

$$\bullet \left(\frac{a}{b^d}\right) < 1 \rightarrow$$



$$T(n) = O(n^d)$$

$$\bullet \left(\frac{a}{b^d}\right) > 1 \quad \frac{1 - \left(\frac{a}{b^d}\right)^{\log_b n}}{1 - \frac{a}{b^d}} = O\left(\left(\frac{a}{b^d}\right)^{\log_b n}\right)$$

$$\left(\frac{a}{b^d}\right)^{\log_b n} \stackrel{\left(\frac{x}{z}\right)^y = \frac{x^y}{z^y}}{=} \frac{a^{\log_b n}}{b^{d \log_b n}} \stackrel{x^{yz} = x^{zy}}{=} \frac{a^{\log_b n}}{\left(b^{\log_b n}\right)^d}$$

$$\stackrel{x^{\log_y z} = z^{\log_y x}}{=} \frac{a^{\log_b n}}{n^d}$$

$$\stackrel{\implies}{=} \frac{n^{\log_b a}}{n^d}$$

$$T(n) = O\left(n^d \left(\frac{n^{\log_b a}}{n^d}\right)\right) = O\left(n^{\log_b a}\right)$$

$$T(n) = aT\left(\frac{n}{b}\right) + O(n^d)$$

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} a = b^d & O(n^d \log n) \\ a < b^d & O(n^d) \\ a > b^d & O(n^{\log_b a}) \end{cases}$$

$\parallel$   
 $a^{\log_b n}$   
 $\parallel$   
 # of vertices in final level of tree

Q: Interpret

- Balance between current work + recursive work.
- Run-time dominated by work outside recursive calls
- Runtime dominated by work in bottom level of tree