#### Data Structures Time Complexity and Formal Notations

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Data Structures

- Given an algorithm to solve a problem we ask
- Is it efficient?
- We seek a sensible definition of efficiency
- How much work if the input doubles in size?
- For large input sizes can our algorithm solve the problem in a reasonable time?

## Polynomial Time

• Efficient algorithm = polynomial in the size of the input

#### Definition

**Polynomial Time**: for every input of size  $n \exists a, b$  such that number of computation steps  $< an^b$ 

- a and b are constants that do not depend on n
- True, some algorithms are polynomials with *a* and/or *b* very large
- but for the majority of algorithms, *a* and *d* are relatively small

## Why Polynomial Time ?

	п	$n \log_2 n$	$n^2$	n <sup>3</sup>	1.5 <sup>n</sup>	2 <sup>n</sup>	n!
n = 10	< 1 sec	< 1 sec	< 1 sec	< 1 sec	< 1 sec	< 1 sec	4 sec
n = 30	< 1 sec	< 1 sec	< 1 sec	< 1 sec	< 1 sec	18 min	10 <sup>25</sup> years
n = 50	< 1 sec	< 1 sec	< 1 sec	< 1 sec	11 min	36 years	very long
n = 100	< 1 sec	< 1 sec	< 1 sec	1 sec	12,892 years	$10^{17}$ years	very long
n = 1,000	< 1 sec	< 1 sec	1 sec	18 min	very long	very long	very long
n = 10,000	< 1 sec	< 1 sec	2 min	12 days	very long	very long	very long
n = 100,000	< 1 sec	2 sec	3 hours	32 years	very long	very long	very long
n = 1,000,000	1 sec	20 sec	12 days	31,710 years	very long	very long	very long

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#### Worst Case Analysis

- Usually the running time is the running time of the worst case
- One could analysis the <u>average case</u> but it much more difficult and depends on the chosen distribution.
- Therefore an algorithm is efficient if it has a worst case polynomial time
- There are exceptions the most important being the simplex algorithm that works very well in practice

## Informal Example: Union Find

- We will introduce the cost of algorithms informally by an example: union find.
- We have a set of *n* points and a set of *m* connections between these points.
- For any two points *p* and *q* we would like to answer the questions: is there a path from *p* to *q*?
- Three different algorithms, with different costs, will be presented to solve the above problem.

#### Union Find: attempt number 1

- The basic idea is to associate an identifier with every point, so we maintain an array *id*[*n*].
- The identifier of a given point is the group the point belongs to. Initially there are *n* group with one point in each, namely id[i] = i
- When two points, *p* and *q*, are found to be connected their respective groups are merged (union).

• the function Find(p) returns the group id that p belongs to

Instuctions	cost	times
Find (p)	<i>c</i> <sub>0</sub>	1
<b>Return</b> id[p]	С	1

• therefore the cost of function find(p) is constant (i.e. independent of the number of points )

	Instructions	cost	times
1	Union (p,q)	<i>c</i> <sub>0</sub>	1
2	$idp \leftarrow Find(p)$	<i>c</i> <sub>1</sub>	1
3	$\mathit{idq} \leftarrow Find(q)$	$c_1$	1
4	if $idp = idq$ then	<i>c</i> <sub>2</sub>	1
5	Return	<i>c</i> <sub>3</sub>	1
6	for $i=0$ to $n-1$ do	<i>C</i> 4	n+1
7	if $id[i] = idp$ then	<i>C</i> 5	п
8	$id[i] \leftarrow idq$	<i>c</i> <sub>6</sub>	tp
9	$\textit{count} \leftarrow \textit{count} - 1$	C7	1
10	Return	<i>c</i> <sub>3</sub>	1

• Whe p = q the cost of Union is  $c_0 + 2c_1 + c_2 + c_3 = A$  and when  $p \neq q$  the total cost of Union is

$$c_0 + 2c_1 + c_2 + c_4(n+1) + c_5n + c_6t_p + c_7 + c_3$$

• Which can be written as  $B + Cn + c_6 t_p$  where B and C are constants and  $t_p$  is evaluated next

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### Computational Cost

- How much does it "cost" to run Find and Union when we have *n* points?
- For Find we already calculated it, it is a constant, d<sub>0</sub> + d<sub>1</sub>, independent of the number of points.
- For Union, we still need to calculated *t<sub>p</sub>* which is the number of times line 8 is executed.
- Line 8 is executed **at least** once since we know that at least id[p] = idp.
- Also, line 8 is executed at most n − 1 times because at least id[q] ≠ idp.
- Therefore 1 ≤ t<sub>p</sub> ≤ n − 1. Inserting the value of t<sub>p</sub> in the previous calculation for Union we get: B + Cn + c<sub>6</sub> ≤ Cost ≤ (B − c<sub>6</sub>) + (C + c<sub>6</sub>)n
- Rearranging terms we get

$$\alpha + \beta \mathbf{n} \le \mathbf{Cost} \le \gamma + \delta \mathbf{n}$$

## Quick Union

- A different approach is to organize all related points in a tree structure.
- Two points belong to the same group iff they belong to the same tree.
- A tree is uniquely identified by its root.
- The array *id*[] has a different meaning: *id*[*i*] = *k* means that site *k* is the parent of site *i*.
- Only the root of a tree has the property id[i] = i;
- In this case *find*(*p*) returns the root of the tree that *p* belongs to.

## Quick Union Pseudo Code

```
Find(p)
while id[p] \neq p do
    p = id[p]
end
return p
Union(p,q)
proot \leftarrow Find(p)
qroot \leftarrow Find(q)
if proot = groot then
    return
end
id[proot] \leftarrow qroot
count \leftarrow count - 1
```

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## Quick Union Cost

- The cost of Find(p) is 2d + 1 where d is the depth of node p.
- This means that the cost of Union(p, q) is between  $(2d_p + 1) + (2d_q + 1) + 1$  and  $(2d_p + 1) + (2d_q + 1) + 3$ .
- The problem is that in some cases the tree degenerates into a linear list.
- In that case the height=size and instead of getting log *n* behavior we get *n*.
- To avoid such a situation we try to keep the trees **balanced**.
- We do this by always attaching the small tree to the large one.
- to this end we introduce a variable *tsize* initialized to 1.

## Union Find: take 3

```
Union(p,q)

proot \leftarrow Find(p)

qroot \leftarrow Find(q)

if proot = qroot then

\mid return
```

#### end

```
 \begin{array}{l|l} \textbf{if } tsize[proot] > tsize[qroot] \textbf{ then} \\ & id[qroot] \leftarrow proot \\ & tsize[proot] \leftarrow tsize[proot] + tsize[qroot] \\ \end{array}
```

else

```
id[proot] \leftarrow qroot
tsize[qroot] \leftarrow tsize[proot] + tsize[qroot]
```

#### end

```
count \leftarrow count - 1
```

#### Weighted Quick Union

- We have shown that in the quick union version UnionFind, "find(p)" costs 2d + 1 where d is the depth of node p.
- we will now show that during the computation of the weighted quick union for *N* sites, the depth of ANY node is at most log *N*.
- It is sufficient to show that the height of ANY tree of size k is at most log k (this is not the case in the original quick union where the height can be up to k 1)

## Proof

- By induction on the size of the tree.
- Base case: k = 1 then there is only one node and the height is log k = 0.
- Assume that for any tree, T of size i < n, the height of T, h<sub>i</sub> is at most log i and consider two trees of size i ≤ j.
- So we have  $h_i \leq \log i$  and  $h_j \leq \log j$ .

- The size of the combined tree is i + j = k.
- Using the weighted quick union method we know that the height of the combined tree is at most max(1 + log i, log j) (why?)
- in the first case  $1 + \log i = \log 2i \le \log(i+j) = \log k$
- in the second case  $\log j \leq \log(i+j) = \log k$ .

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## Asymptotic Growth of Functions

#### Definition

<u>Big Oh</u>: The set O(g(n)) is defined as all functions f(n) with the property  $\exists c, n_0$  such that  $f(n) \leq cg(n)$  for all  $n \geq n_0$ 



#### Figure : Graphical definition of O taken from the CLRS book

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#### Example

• 
$$f(n) = 2n^2 + n = O(n^2)$$
 because let  $c = 3$  and  $n_0 = 1$   
 $\forall n \ge n_0 = 1$   
 $n \le n^2$   
 $2n^2 + n \le 3n^2$   
 $f(n) \le cn^2$   
 $f(n) = O(n^2)$ 

• On the other hand  $f(n) = 2n^2 + n \neq O(n)$ 

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#### Definition

## <u>Big Omega</u>: The set $\Omega(g(n))$ is defined as all functions f(n) with the property $\exists c, n_0$ such that $f(n) \ge cg(n)$ for all $n \ge n_0$



#### Figure : Graphical definition of $\boldsymbol{\Omega}$ taken from the CLRS book

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#### Example

- Consider  $f(n) = \sqrt{n}$  and  $g(n) = \log n$ .
- $f(n) = \Omega(g(n))$  because for  $c = 1, n_0 = 16$  we have

$$\sqrt{16} = 4 = \log 2^4$$

• Note that between n=4 and n=16 the value of  $\log_2 n \ge \sqrt{n}$ 



- Abuse of notation: if  $h(n) \in O(g(n))$  we write h(n) = O(g(n))
- similarly if  $h(n) \in \Omega(g(n))$  we write  $h(n) = \Omega(g(n))$
- If h(n) = O(g(n)) we say g(n) is an <u>upper bound</u> for f(n).
- If  $h(n) = \Omega(g(n))$  we say g(n) is a lower bound for f(n).

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#### Definition

<u>Big</u>  $\Theta$ : The set  $\Theta(g(n))$  is defined as all functions f(n) with the property  $\exists c_1, c_2, n_0$  such that  $c_1g(n) \leq f(n) \leq c_2g(n)$  for all  $n \geq n_0$ 



Figure : Graphical definition of  $\Theta$  taken from the CLRS book

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#### Example

• Consider  $c_1 = 1$ ,  $c_2 = 3$  and  $n_0 = 1$  it is obvious that

$$c_1n^2 \leq 2n^2 + n \leq c_2n^2 \ \forall n \geq n_0$$

- We can show that  $f(n) = \Theta(g(n))$  iff f(n) = O(g(n)) and  $f(n) = \Omega(g(n))$
- If  $f(n) = \Theta(g(n))$  we say g(n) is a <u>tight bound</u> for f(n).

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#### Definition

<u>Little Oh</u>: The set o(g(n)) is defined as all functions f(n) with the property for all c,  $\exists n_0$  such that f(n) < cg(n) for all  $n \ge n_0$ 

We can show that the above definition is equivalent to

$$\lim_{n\to\infty}\frac{f(n)}{g(n)}=0$$

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#### Definition

Little omega: The set  $\omega(g(n))$  is defined as all functions f(n) with the property for all c,  $\exists n_0$  such that cg(n) < f(n) for all  $n \ge n_0$ 

We can show that the above definition is equivalent to

$$\lim_{n\to\infty}\frac{f(n)}{g(n)}=\infty$$

#### Examples

$$\lim_{n\to\infty}\frac{2n^2+n}{n}=\infty$$

$$\lim_{n\to\infty}\frac{2n^2+n}{n^3}=0$$

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## Using Limits

- Sometimes it is easier to determine the relative growth rate of two functions f(n) and g(n) by using limits
  - if  $\lim_{n\to\infty} \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} = 0$  then f(n) = o(g(n)).

• if 
$$\lim_{n\to\infty} \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} = \infty$$
 then  $f(n) = \omega(g(n))$ .

- if  $\lim_{n\to\infty} \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} = c$ , for some constant c, then  $f(n) = \Theta(g(n))$ .
- Can we always do that?No
- In many situations the complexity cannot be written in an analytic form.

#### Exponential vs Polynomial vs Logarithmic

it is easy to show that for all a>0 , b>1

$$\lim_{n\to\infty}\frac{n^a}{b^n}=0$$

And polynomials grow faster(use  $m = \log n$  and the previous result) than logarithms  $(\log^a x = (\log x)^a)$ 

$$\lim_{n\to\infty}\frac{\log^a n}{n^b}=0$$

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#### Arithmetic Properties

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## **Code Fragments**

```
sum = 0<br/>for i = 1 \dots n do<br/>| sum \leftarrow sum + 1<br/>end
```

- the operation sum = 0 is independent of the input thus it costs a constant time c<sub>1</sub>.
- the operation sum ← sum + 1 is independent of the input thus it cost some constant time c<sub>2</sub>.
- Regardless of the input the loop runs n times therefore the total cost is c<sub>1</sub> + c<sub>2</sub>n = Θ(n).

The algorithm below for finding the maximum of *n* numbers is  $\Theta(n)$ . Input:  $a_1, \ldots, a_n$ Output:  $max(a_1, \ldots, a_n)$ 

```
Initially max = a_1
for i = 2...n do
if a_i > max then
max = a_i
end
```

end

- Try 89,47,80,50,67,102 and 19,15,13,10,8,3
- Do they have the "same" running time?

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## Sequential Search

Given an array a check if element x is in the array.

```
for i = 1 \dots n do

if a[i] = x then

return True

end
```

end

return False

- What is the running time of the above algorithm?
- Consider the two extreme cases: x is the first or the last element of the array.

- If x is the first element than we perform a single operation. This is the best-case.
- If x is the <u>last</u> element than we perform <u>n</u> operation. This is the worst-case.
- Now if we run the algorithm on many different (random) input and average out the results we get the average-case.
- Which one do we use?
  - Depends on the application and the feasibility.
  - Real-time and critical applications usually require worst-case
  - In most other situations we prefer average-case, but difficult to calculate and depends on the random distribution!
- In light of the above, what is the best-case, average-case and worst-case for the compute max algorithm we had before?

#### Nested Loops

- What is the complexity of nested loops?
- The cost of a stmt in a nested loop is the cost of the statement multiplied by the product of the size of the loops

```
for i = 1 \dots n do

for j = 1 \dots m do

\mid k \leftarrow k + 1

end

end
```

• The cost is O(n \* m)

#### Factorial

- Consider the recursive implementation of the factorial function. factorial(n)
- The cost of size n? T(n) = T(n-1) + C
- Thus  $T(n) = \Theta(n)$ .

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#### Complexity of Factorial

$$T(n) = T(n-1) + C$$
  
= T(n-2) + 2C  
= ...  
= T(n-i) + i \* C  
= ...  
= T(1) + (n-1) \* C  
= n \* C + T(1) - C  
= \Theta(n)

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#### Fibonacci

• Computing the *n*<sup>th</sup> Fibonacci number can be done recursively fib(*n*)

```
if n = 0 then
    return 0
end
if n = 1 then
    return 1
end
return fib(n-1)+fib(n-2)
```

• If T(n) is the cost of computing Fib(n) then

$$T(n) = T(n-1) + T(n-2) + 3$$

We will show, by induction on n, that T(n) ≥ fib(n) i.e. the cost of computing Fibonacci number n is greater than the number itself.

- We are assuming that all operations cost the same so the 3 comes from executing the two if stmts and the sum.
- First the base cases. If n = 0 then the algorithm costs 1 (if stmt), if n = 1 it costs 2 (2 if stmts) thus T(0) = 1, T(1) = 2.
- In the other cases we have T(n) = T(n-1) + T(n-2) + 3. This means  $T(2) = 6 \ge fib(2) = 1$ .
- Assume that  $T(n) \ge fib(n)$  then

$$egin{aligned} T(n+1) &= T(n) + T(n-1) + 3 \ &\geq fib(n) + fib(n-1) \ &\geq fib(n+1) \end{aligned}$$
 hyp.

• One can show that (for  $n \ge 5$ )  $fib(n) \ge (3/2)^n$  thus  $T(n) \ge (3/2)^n$  which is exponential!

#### Fibonacci: take two

- can we compute Fibonacci numbers more efficiently?
- It turns out yes. By just "remembering" the values we already computed.
- A simple iterative algorithm

```
FiboIter(n)

f[0] \leftarrow 0

f[1] \leftarrow 1

for i \leftarrow 2 to n do

| f[i] \leftarrow f[i-1] + f[i-2]

end
```

#### Comparison

- We had two different algorithms to compute Fibonacci number n
- One was  $\Omega((3/2)^n)$  while the other was O(n).
- In the first one we did not need to "save" anything.
- In the second algorithm we used an array of size n: space complexity: O(n).
- This is a trade off between time and space.
- Obviously in this case the trade off is worth it.

#### Exponentiation

- Exponentiation is another example where the simplest algorithm is much less than optimal.
- The simplest way to compute  $x^n$  is  $\underline{x \dots x}$

n times

- therefore the complexity of the above algorithm is  $\Theta(n)$ .
- We can do (much) better by observing that
- if *n* is even then  $x^n = (x^{n/2})^2$
- if n is odd then  $x^n = (x^{n/2})^2 \cdot x$
- Note the integer division,  $n/2 \equiv \lfloor n/2 \rfloor$ , e.g. 7/2=3

#### Implementation

```
int power(int x, int n){
    if(n==0)return 1;
    int half=power(x,n/2);
    half=half*half;
    if( (n%2)!=0)half=half*x;
    return half;
}
```

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#### Complexity of Exponentiation

- The analysis is simplified by assuming  $n = 2^k$  (other cases are similar, albeit more complicated)
- Assume: n/2, half \* half and the if stmt each costs 1.
- for a total of 4 (including the test for x==0) when *n* is even and 5 when it is odd.
- Let T(n) be the computational cost for  $x^n$  then

$$T(n) = T(n/2) + 4$$
  
=  $T(n/4) + 8$   
=  $T(n/2^i) + 4i$   
= ...  
=  $T(1) + 4k$   
=  $\Theta(k) = \Theta(\log n)$ 

#### Exponentiation

- In the general case we perform one extra computation every time the exponent is odd.
- Let  $\beta(n)$  be the number of times such computation is performed.
- It is easy to check that β(n) = is one less than the number of 1's in the binary representation of n
- For example if n = 21 then  $21 \rightarrow 10 \rightarrow 5 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 1$  which means the intermediate value is odd twice.
- Compare with the binary representation 21 = 1011.
- Clearly β(n) is at most equal to the number of bits in the binary representation of n which is log n
- So even in the general case the complexity is  $\Theta(\log n)$ .

#### General case

• In general the problem has the following recursion relation

$$T(n) = T(\lfloor n/2 \rfloor) + 4 + (n \mod 2)$$

We will show that the general form

$$T(n) = T(\lfloor n/2 \rfloor) + M + (n \mod 2) \tag{1}$$

Has solution

$$T(n) = M \lfloor \log n \rfloor + \beta(n)$$
(2)

- Where  $\beta(n)$  is the number of 1's in the binary representation of n.
- Using the fact that ⌊log⌊n/2⌋⌋ = ⌊log n⌋ − 1 it is easy to check that
   (2) satisfies (1).

#### Fibonacci: Take Three

- The previous method for exponentiation can be used to compute Fibonacci (n) in  $O(\log n)$ .
- The key is that

$$\left(\begin{array}{cc}F_{n+1}&F_n\\F_n&F_{n-1}\end{array}\right) = \left(\begin{array}{cc}1&1\\1&0\end{array}\right)^n$$

- The above is shown by induction on *n*.
- We know how to compute the power in log *n*.

#### Maximum Subarray Sum

• Given an array A of n elements we ask for the maximum value of

# $\sum_{k=i}^{j} A_k$

• For example if A is -2,11,-4,13,-5,-2 then the answer is  $20 = \sum_{k=2}^{4}$ 

#### Brute Force

- Compute the sum of all subarrays of an array A of size n and return the largest.
- A subarray starts at index *i* and ends at index *j* where  $0 \le i < n$  and  $0 \le j < n$ .
- Therefore for each possible *i* and *j* compute the sum of  $A[i] \dots A[j]$ .

```
int maxSubarray(int *A, int n){
    int sum=0, max=A[0];
    for(int i=0;i<n;i++){
        for(j=i;j<n;j++){
            sum=0;
            for(int k=i;k<=j;k++)
                 sum+=A[k];</pre>
```

#### Complexity

- To determine the complexity of the brute force approach we can see that there are 3 nested loop therefore the complexity of the problem depends on how many times line 14 is executed
- The number of executions is

$$\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \sum_{j=i}^{n-1} \sum_{k=i}^{j} 1 = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \sum_{j=i}^{n-1} j - i + 1$$

• To evaluate the first sum let m = j - i + 1 then

$$\sum_{j=i}^{n-1} j - i + 1 = \sum_{m=1}^{n-i} m = (n-i)(n-i+1)/2$$

• Finally, we get

$$\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} (n-i)(n-i+1)/2 = \frac{n^3 + 3n^2 + 2n}{6}$$
$$= \Theta(n^3)$$

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## **Divide and Conquer**

- general technique that divides a problem in 2 or more parts (divide) and patch the subproblems together (conquer).
- In this context if we divide an array in two subarrays. We have 3 possibilities:
  - 1 max is entirely in the first half
  - 2 max is entirely in the second half
  - 3 max spans both halves.
- Therefore the solution is max(left,right,both)

#### Both halves

- If the sum spans both halves it means it includes the last element of the first half and the first element of the second half
- This means that the we are looking for the sum of
  - Max subsequence in first half that includes the last element
  - 2 Max subsequence in the second half that includes the first element

$$S_{3} = \max_{\substack{0 \le i < n/2 \\ n/2 \le j < n}} \sum_{\substack{k=i \\ k=i}}^{j} A[k]$$
  
= 
$$\max_{\substack{0 \le i < n/2 \\ n/2 \le j < n}} \left[ \sum_{\substack{k=i \\ k=i}}^{n/2-1} A[k] + \sum_{\substack{k=n/2 \\ n/2 \le j < n}}^{j} A[k] \right]$$
  
= 
$$\max_{\substack{0 \le i < n/2 \\ k=i}} \sum_{\substack{k=i \\ k=i}}^{n/2-1} A[k] + \max_{\substack{n/2 \le j < n \\ k=n/2}} \sum_{\substack{k=n/2 \\ k=n/2}}^{j} A[k]$$

Computing max that spans both halves

```
computeBoth (A,left,right)
```

```
\begin{array}{c} sum_1 \leftarrow sum_2 \leftarrow 0\\ \textbf{for } i = center \textbf{ to } left \textbf{ do}\\ & \\ sum_1 \leftarrow sum_1 + A[i]\\ \textbf{if } sum_1 > max_1 \textbf{ then}\\ & \\ & \\ max_1 \leftarrow sum_1\\ \textbf{end} \end{array}
```

end

```
for j = center + 1 to right do

sum_2 \leftarrow sum_2 + A[j]

if sum_2 > max_2 then

max_2 \leftarrow sum_2

end
```

end

return  $max_1 + max_2$ 

```
\begin{array}{l} \max \texttt{Subarray}(A, \textit{left}, \textit{right}) \\ \textit{center} \leftarrow (\textit{left} + \textit{right})/2 \\ S_1 \leftarrow \max \texttt{Subarray}(A, \textit{left}, \textit{center}) \\ S_2 \leftarrow \max \texttt{Subarray}(A, \textit{center} + 1, \textit{right}) \\ S_3 \leftarrow \textit{computeBoth}(A, \textit{left}, \textit{right}) \\ \textit{return} \max(S_1, S_2, S_3) \end{array}
```

## Complexity

- Given an array of size *n* the cost of the call to *maxSubarray* is divided into two computations
  - **1** The work of *computeBoth* which is  $\Theta(n)$ .
  - 2 Two recursive calls on the problem with half the size
  - Therefore the total cost can be written as

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

• to solve the above recurrence, we assume for simplicity that  $n = 2^k$ 

• Thus

$$T(2^{k}) = 2T(2^{k-1}) + C \cdot 2^{k}$$
  
= 2(2T(2^{k-2}) + 2^{k-1}) + C \cdot 2^{k}  
= 2^{2}T(2^{k-2}) + 2 \times C \cdot 2^{k}  
= .....  
= 2^{i}T(2^{k-i}) + i \cdot C \cdot 2^{k}  
= 2^{k}T(1) + k \cdot C \cdot 2^{k}  
=  $\Theta(n \log n)$ 

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#### Running time comparison

• There is an  $\Theta(n)$  algorithm for max subarray. Can you find it?



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## Master Theorem (special case)

• A generalization of the previous cases is done using a **simplified** version of the Master theorem

$$T(n) = aT(n/b) + \Theta(n^d)$$

$$T(n) = aT(n/b) + cn^{d}$$
  
=  $a \left[ aT(n/b^{2}) + c(n/b)^{d} \right] + cn^{d}$   
=  $a^{2}T(n/b^{2}) + cn^{d}(a/b^{d}) + cn^{d}$   
=  $a^{2} \left[ aT(n/b^{3}) + c(n/b^{2})^{d} \right] + cn^{d}(a/b^{d}) + cn^{d}$   
=  $a^{3}T(n/b^{3}) + cn^{d}(a/b^{d})^{2} + cn^{d}(a/b^{d}) + cn^{d}$   
=  $a^{i}T(n/b^{i}) + cn^{d}\sum_{l=0}^{i-1} (a/b^{d})^{l}$ 

The above reaches T(1) when  $b^k = n$  for some k. We get

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$$T(n) = a^k T(1) + cn^d \sum_{l=0}^{k-1} (a/b^d)^l$$

There are three cases

• 
$$a = b^d$$
  
•  $a < b^d$ 

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case 1:  $a = b^d$ 

If  $a = b^d$  (i.e  $\frac{a}{b^d} = 1$ ) then we get  $T(n) = a^k T(1) + cn^d \cdot k$ 

Since  $k = \log_b n$  then

$$T(n) = a^{\log_b n} T(1) + cn^d \log_b n$$
$$= n^{\log_b a} T(1) + cn^d \log_b n$$
$$= n^d T(1) + cn^d \log_b n$$
$$= \Theta(n^d \log n)$$

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#### case 2: $a < b^{d}$

$$T(n) = a^{k} T(1) + cn^{d} \sum_{l=0}^{k-1} (a/b^{d})^{l}$$
$$= a^{k} T(1) + cn^{d} \frac{(a/b^{d})^{k} - 1}{(a/b^{d}) - 1}$$

for large n, i.e.  $n \to \infty$  then  $k = \log_b n \to \infty$  and since  $a < b^d$  then  $a/b^d \to 0$  Therefore

$$T(n) = n^{\log_b a} T(1) + c n^d$$

but  $a < b^d \Rightarrow \log_b a < d$  and finally

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

## case 3: $a > b^d$

In this case we can write

$$T(n) = a^{k} \frac{a}{b} T(n) = a^{k} T(1) + gn^{d} (a/b^{d})^{k} = n^{\log_{b} a} T(1) + gn^{d} (a/b^{d})^{\log_{b} n} = n^{\log_{b} a} T(1) + gn^{d} (a/b^{d})^{\log_{b} n} = n^{\log_{b} a} T(1) + gn^{d} n^{\log_{b} (a/b^{d})} = n^{\log_{b} a} T(1) + gn^{d} n^{(-d+\log_{b} a)} = \Theta(n^{\log_{b} a})$$

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