



Design and Analysis  
of Algorithms I

# Master Method Proof (Part II)

# The Story So Far/Case 1

Total work:  $\leq cn^d \times \sum_{j=0}^{\log_b n} \left( \frac{a}{b^d} \right)^j$  (\*)

If  $a = b^d$ , then

$$(*) = cn^d (\log_b n + 1)$$

$$= O(n^d \log n)$$

[ end Case 1 ]

= 1 for  
all j

= 1

= (log<sub>b</sub> n + 1)

# Basic Sums Fact

For  $r \neq 1$ , we have

$$1 + r + r^2 + r^3 + \dots + r^k = \frac{r^{k+1} - 1}{r - 1}$$

Proof : by induction (you check)

Upshot:

1. If  $r < 1$  is constant, RHS is  $\leq \frac{1}{1 - r} = \text{a constant}$   
**i.e., 1<sup>st</sup> term of sum dominates**

2. If  $r > 1$  is constant, RHS is  $\leq r^k \cdot \left(1 + \frac{1}{r - 1}\right)$   
**i.e., last term of sum dominates**

Independent of  $k$

## Case 2

$$\text{Total work: } \leq cn^d \times \sum_{j=0}^{\log_b n} \left( \frac{a}{b^d} \right)^j \quad (*)$$

If  $a < b^d$  [ $RSP < RWS$ ]

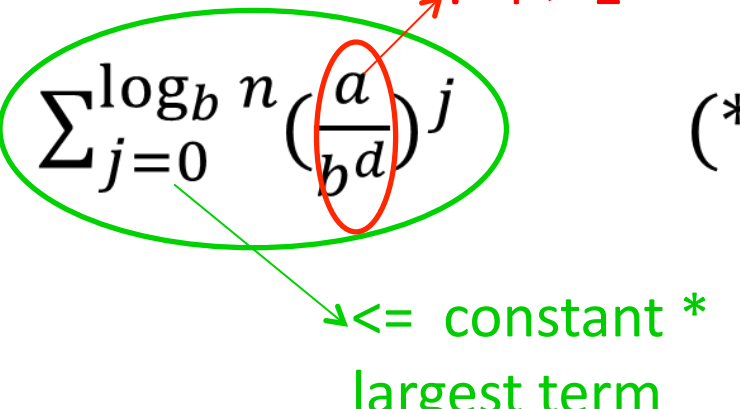
$$= O(n^d)$$

$\leq$  a constant  
( independent of n )  
[ by basic sums fact ]

[ total work dominated by top level ]

## Case 3

Total work:  $\leq cn^d \times \sum_{j=0}^{\log_b n} \left(\frac{a}{b^d}\right)^j$  (\*)



If  $a > b^d$  [ $RSP > RWS$ ]

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

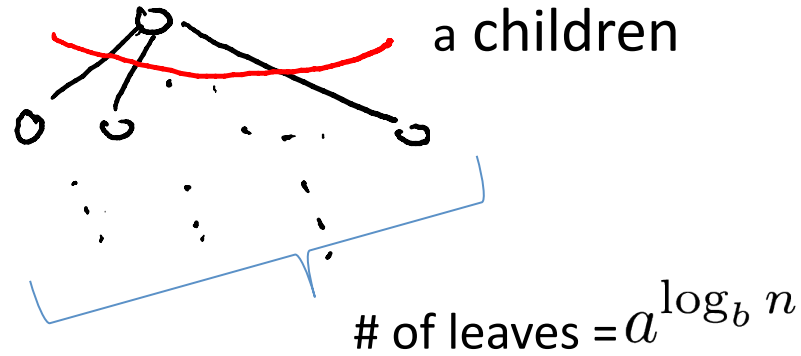
Note :  $b^{-d \log_b n} = (b^{\log_b n})^{-d} = n^{-d}$

So :  $(*) = O(a^{\log_b n})$

Level 0

Level 1

Level  $\log_b n$



Which of the following quantities is equal to  $a^{\log_b n}$ ?

- ☐ The number of levels of the recursion tree.
- ☐ The number of nodes of the recursion tree.
- ☐ The number of edges of the recursion tree.
- ☒ The number of leaves of the recursion tree.

## Case 3 continued

$$\text{Total work: } \leq cn^d \times \sum_{j=0}^{\log_b n} \left(\frac{a}{b^d}\right)^j \quad (*)$$

$$\text{So : } (*) = O(a^{\log_b n}) = O(\# \text{ leaves})$$

*Note :*  $a^{\log_b n} = n^{\log_b a}$

More intuitive  
Simpler to apply

$$[\text{Since } (\log_b n)(\log_b a) = (\log_b a)(\log_b n)]$$

[End Case 3]

# The Master Method

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

then

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} O(n^d \log n) & \text{if } a = b^d \quad (\text{Case 1}) \\ O(n^d) & \text{if } a < b^d \quad (\text{Case 2}) \\ O(n^{\log_b a}) & \text{if } a > b^d \quad (\text{Case 3}) \end{cases}$$