

6.1 Guessing+Induction

First we need to get rid of the \mathcal{O} -notation in our recurrence:

$$T(n) \leq \begin{cases} 2T(\lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil) + cn & n \geq 2 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Assume that instead we had

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Formally one would make an induction proof, where the above is the induction step. The base case is usually trivial.

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We prove it for n :

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Hence, statement is **true** if we choose $d \geq c$.

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If we do not do this we instead consider the following recurrence:

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Note that we can do this as for constant-sized inputs the running time is always some constant (b in the above case).

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for a suitable choice of d .