The maximum-subarray problem

- Given an array of integers, find a contiguous subarray with the maximum sum.
- Very naïve algorithm:

- Brute force algorithm:

- At best, $\theta(n^2)$ time complexity

Can we do divide and conquer?

- Want to use answers from left and right half subarrays.
- Problem: The answer may not lie in either!

- Key question: What information do we need from (smaller) subproblems to solve the big problem?

- Related question: how do we get this information?

A divide and conquer algorithm

Algorithm in Ch 4.1:

Recurrence:

- $T(1) = C$, and for $n>1$
- $T(n) = 2T(n/2) + \theta(n)$

- $T(n) = \theta(n \log n)$

More divide and conquer : Merge Sort

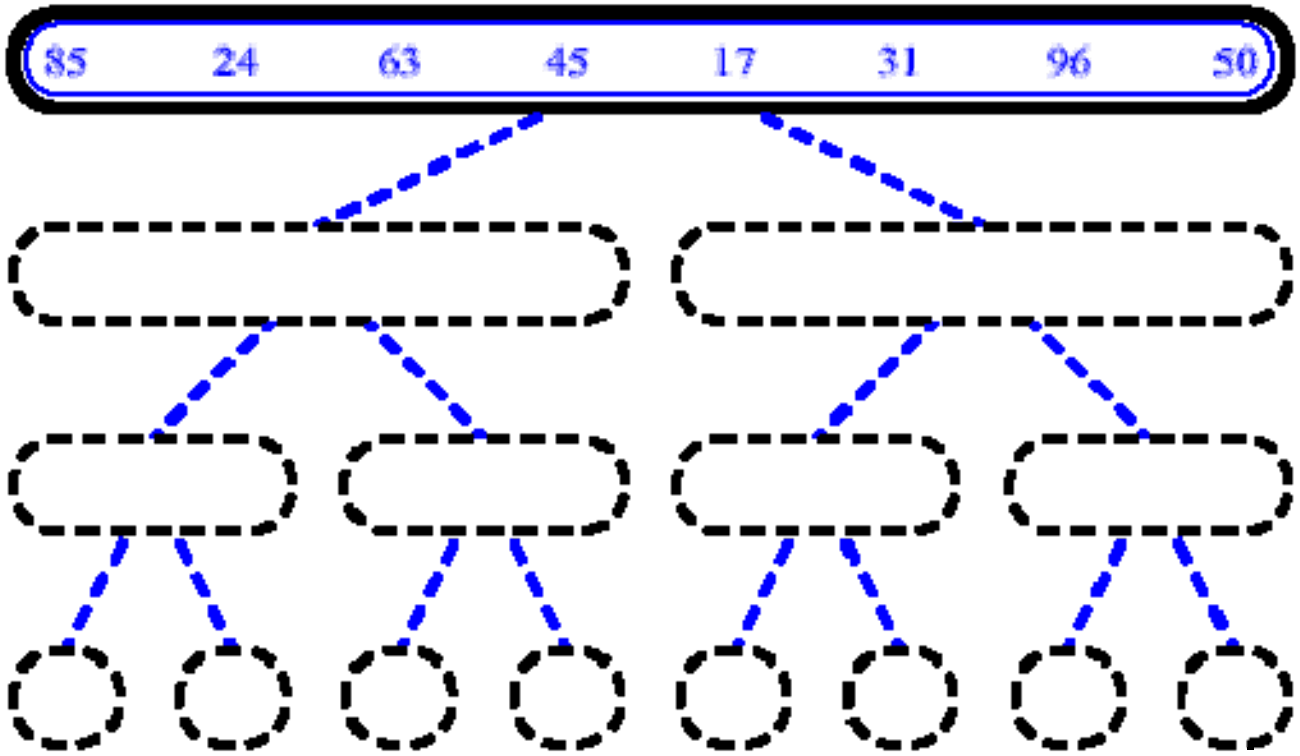
- **Divide**: If *S* has at least two elements (nothing needs to be done if *S* has zero or one elements), remove all the elements from *S* and put them into two sequences, S_1 and S_2 , each containing about half of the elements of S. (i.e. S_1 contains the first $\lceil n/2 \rceil$ elements and S_2 contains the remaining $\lfloor n/2 \rfloor$ elements).
- **Conquer**: Sort sequences S_1 and S_2 using Merge Sort.
- **Combine**: Put back the elements into *S* by merging the sorted sequences S_1 and S_2 into one sorted sequence

Merge Sort: Algorithm

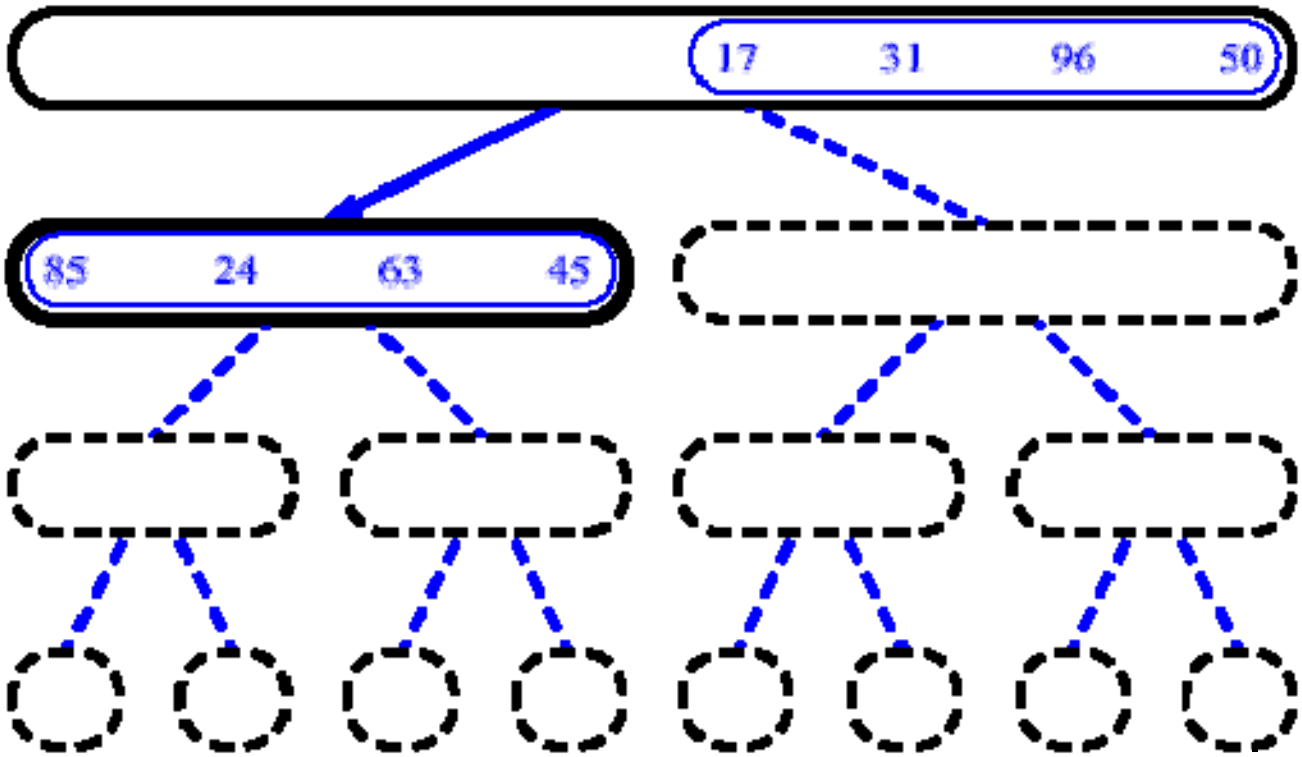
```
Merge-Sort(A, p, r)
   if p < r then
      q←(p+r)/2
      Merge-Sort(A, p, q)
      Merge-Sort(A, q+1, r)
      Merge(A, p, q, r)
```

```
Merge(A, p, q, r)
   Take the smallest of the two topmost elements of
sequences A[p..q] and A[q+1..r] and put into the
resulting sequence. Repeat this, until both sequences
are empty. Copy the resulting sequence into A[p..r].
```

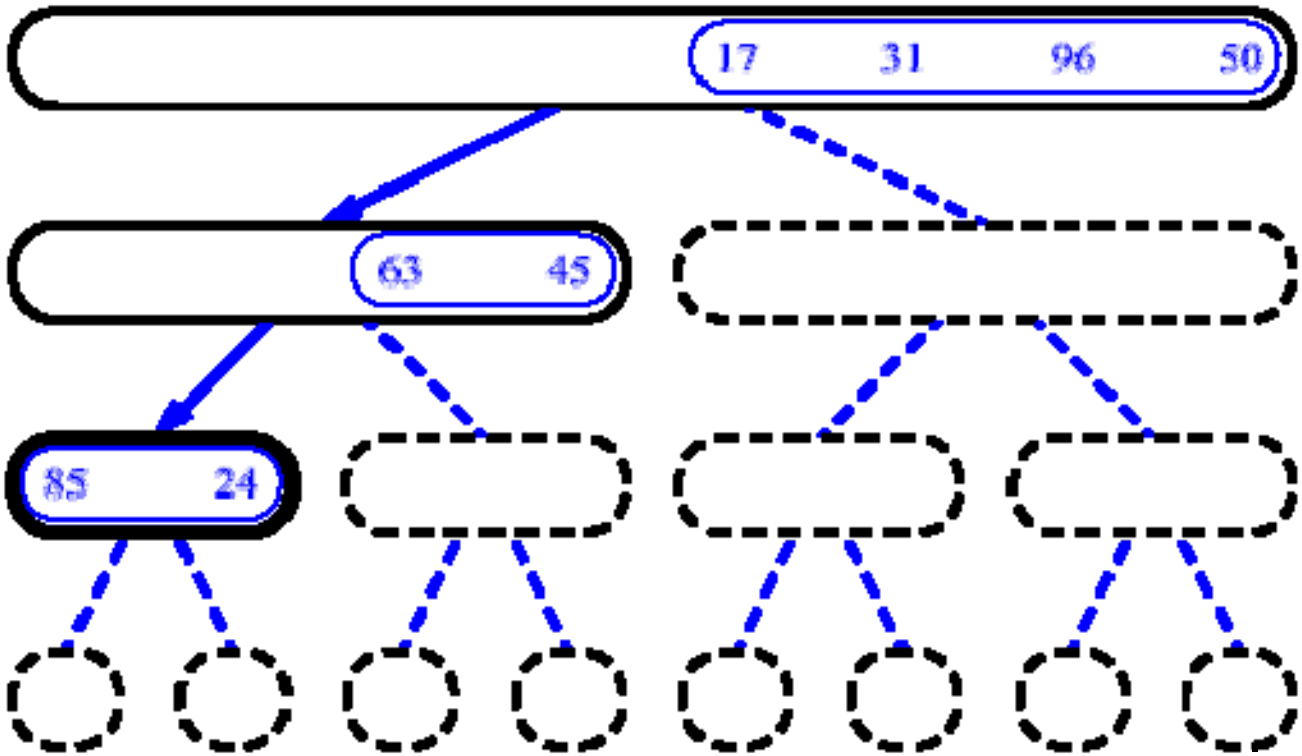
Merge Sort: example



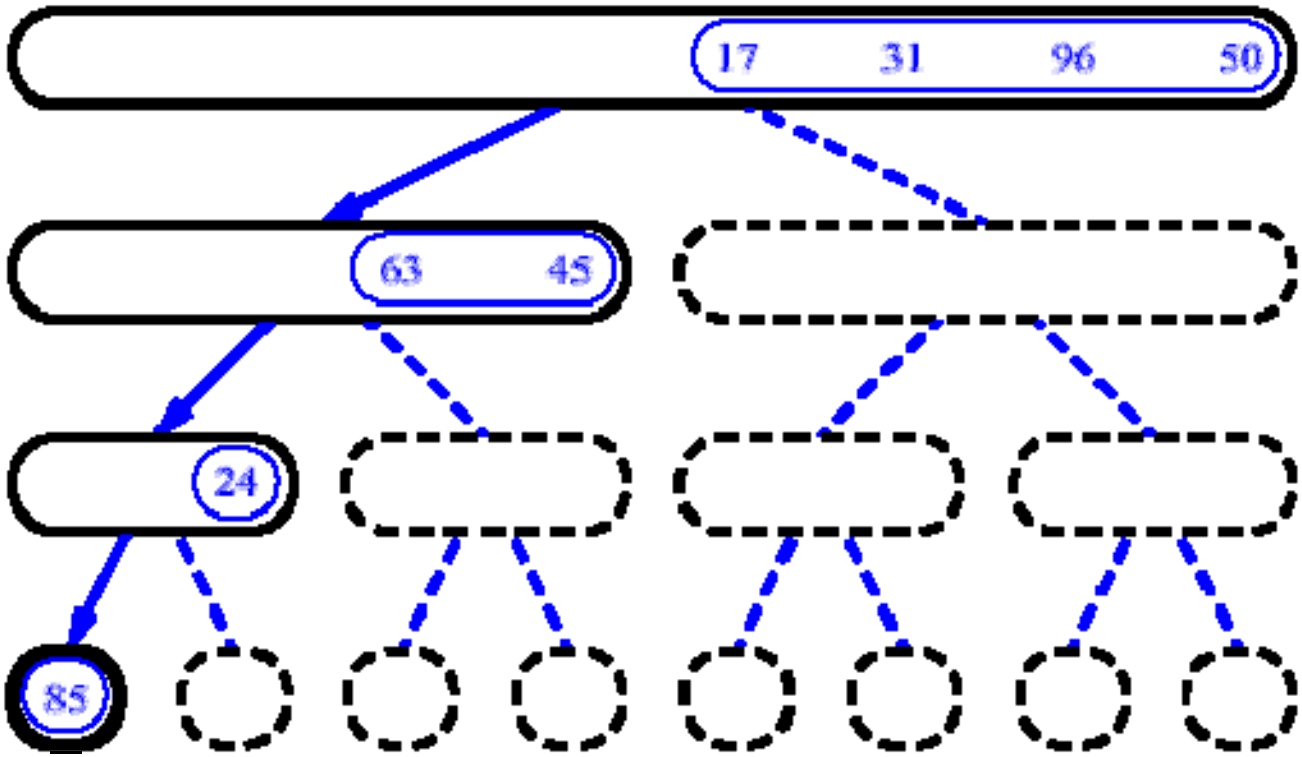
Merge Sort: example



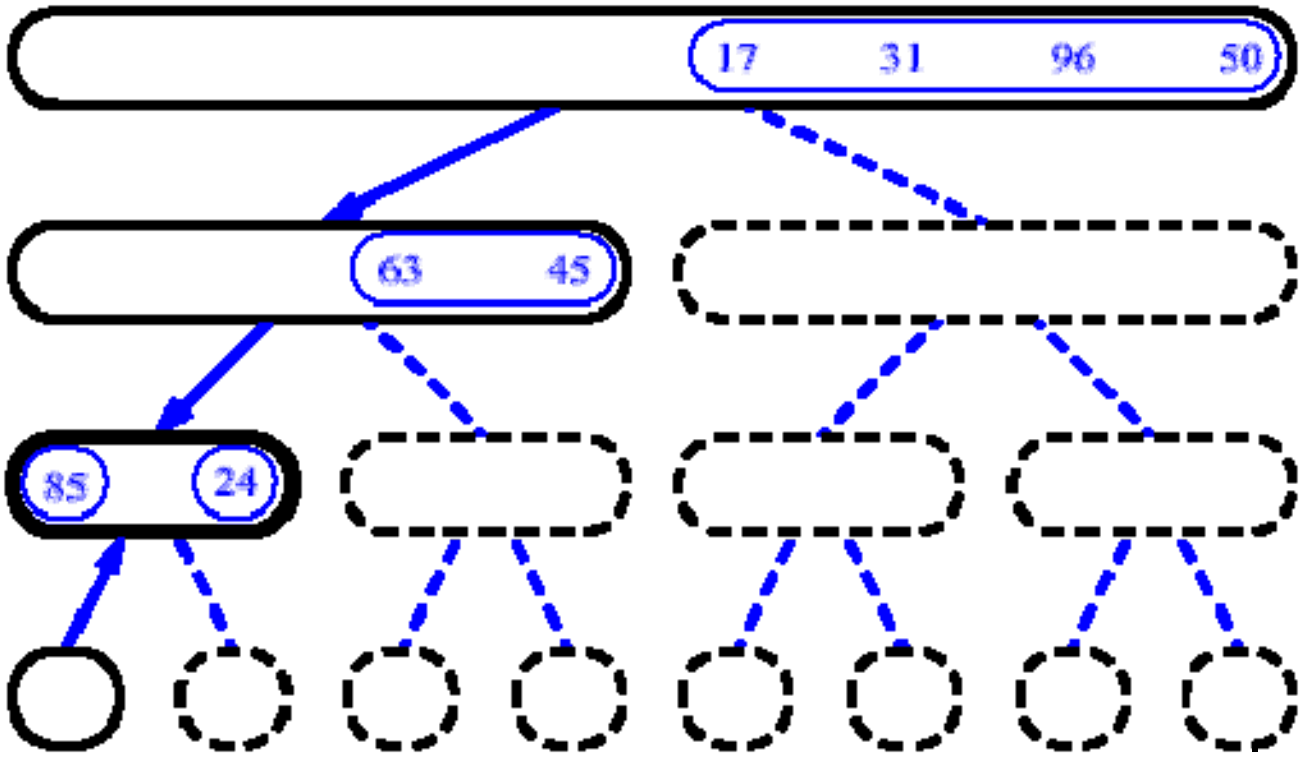
Merge Sort: example



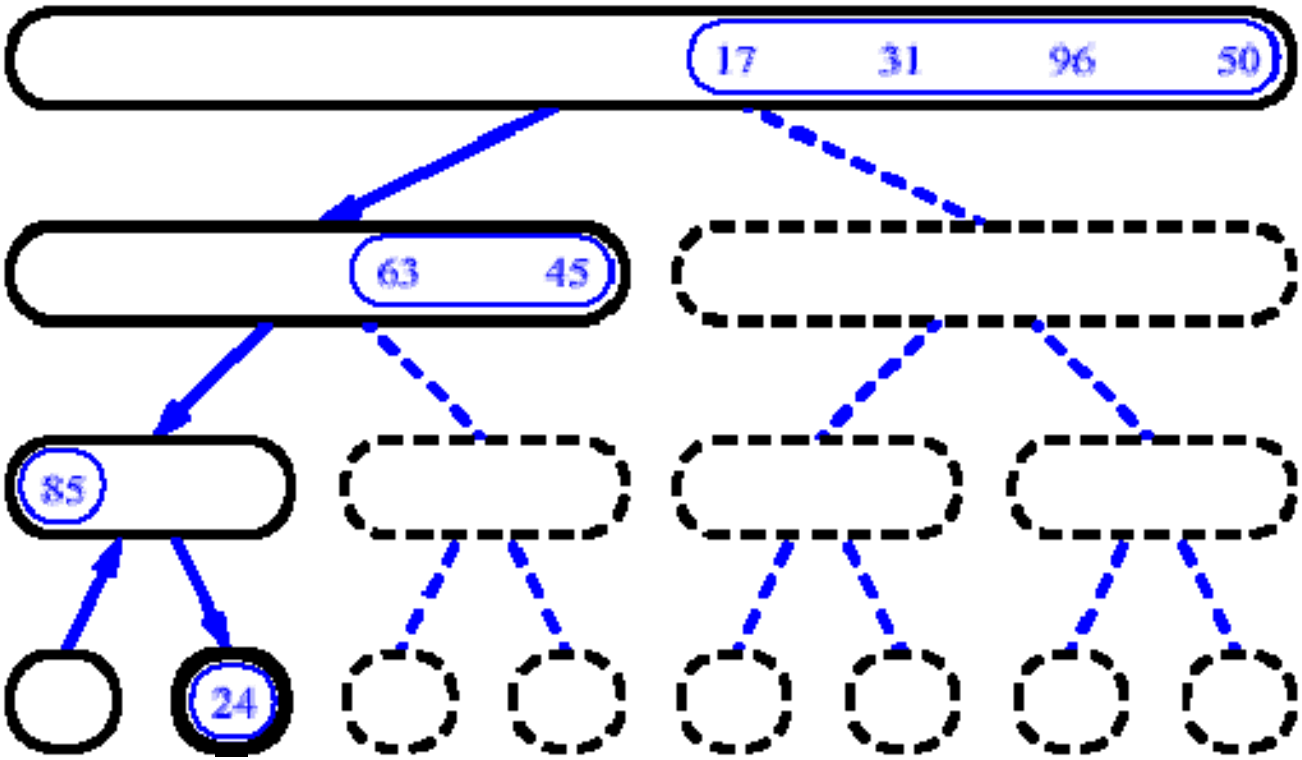
Merge Sort: example



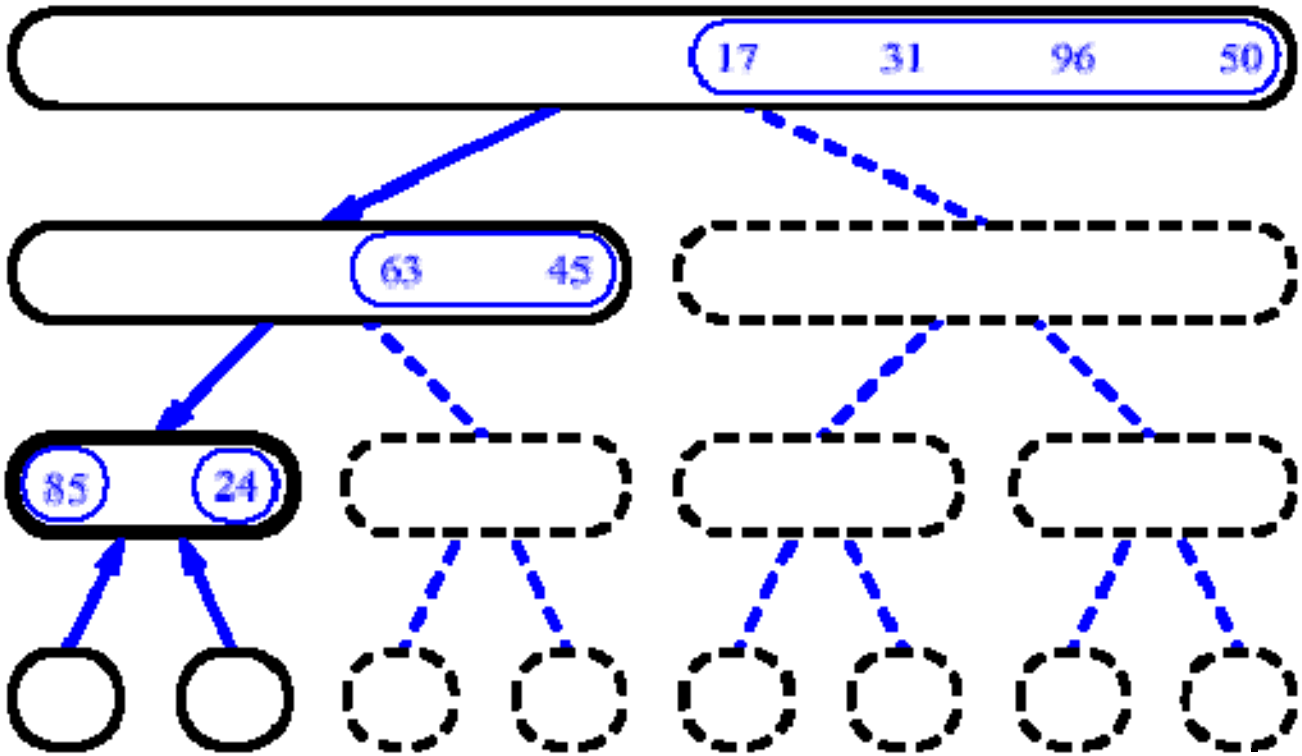
Merge Sort: example



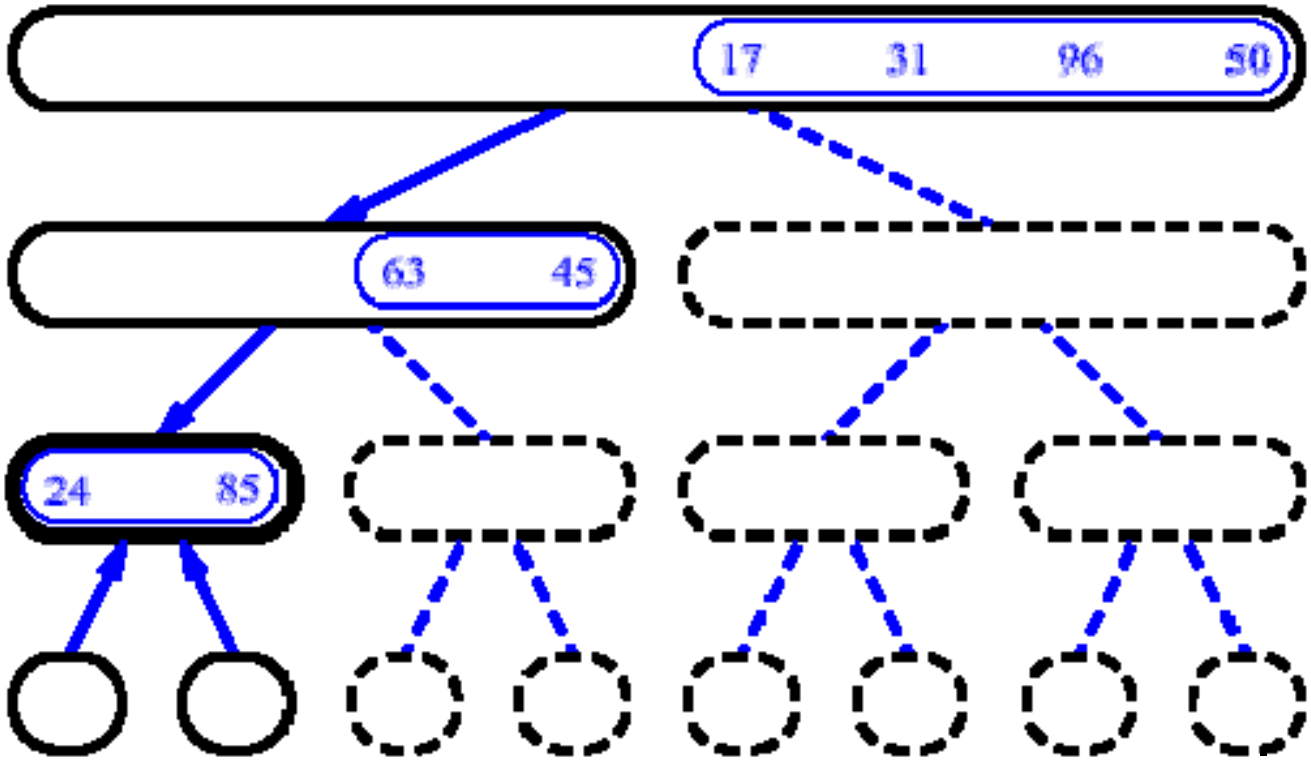
Merge Sort: example



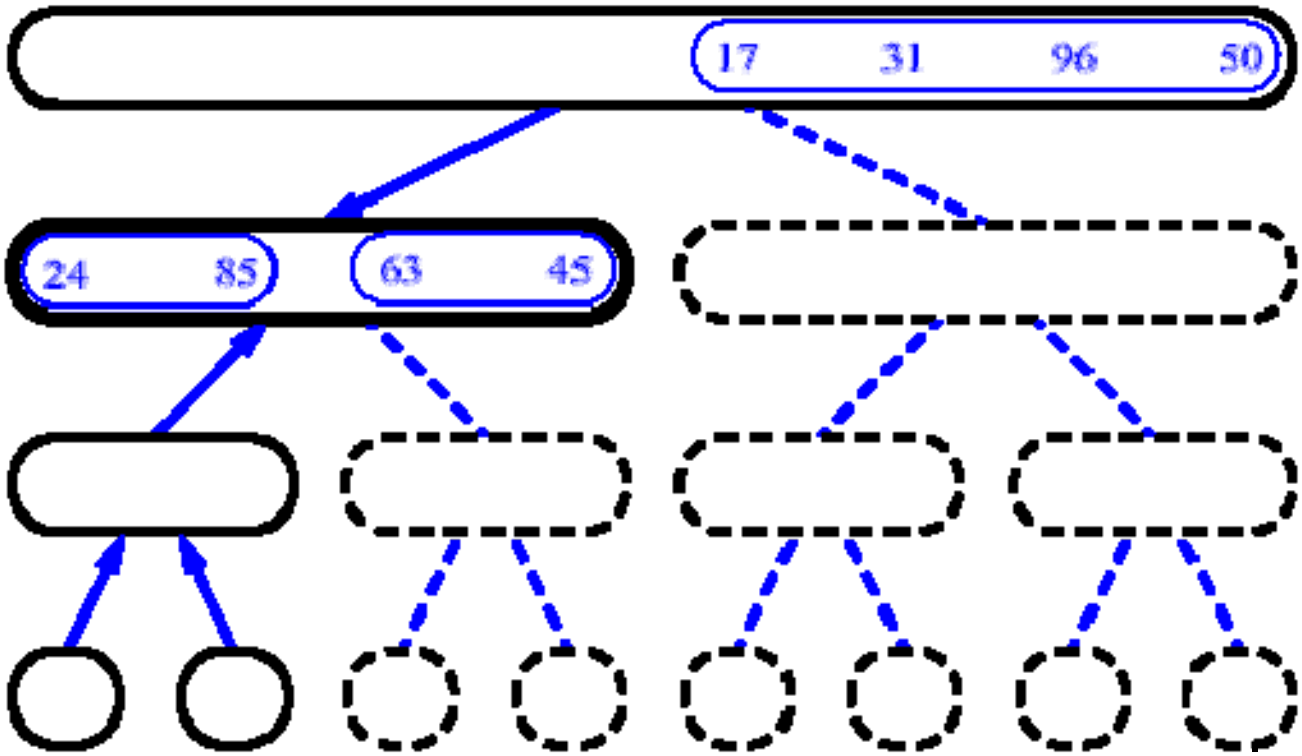
Merge Sort: example



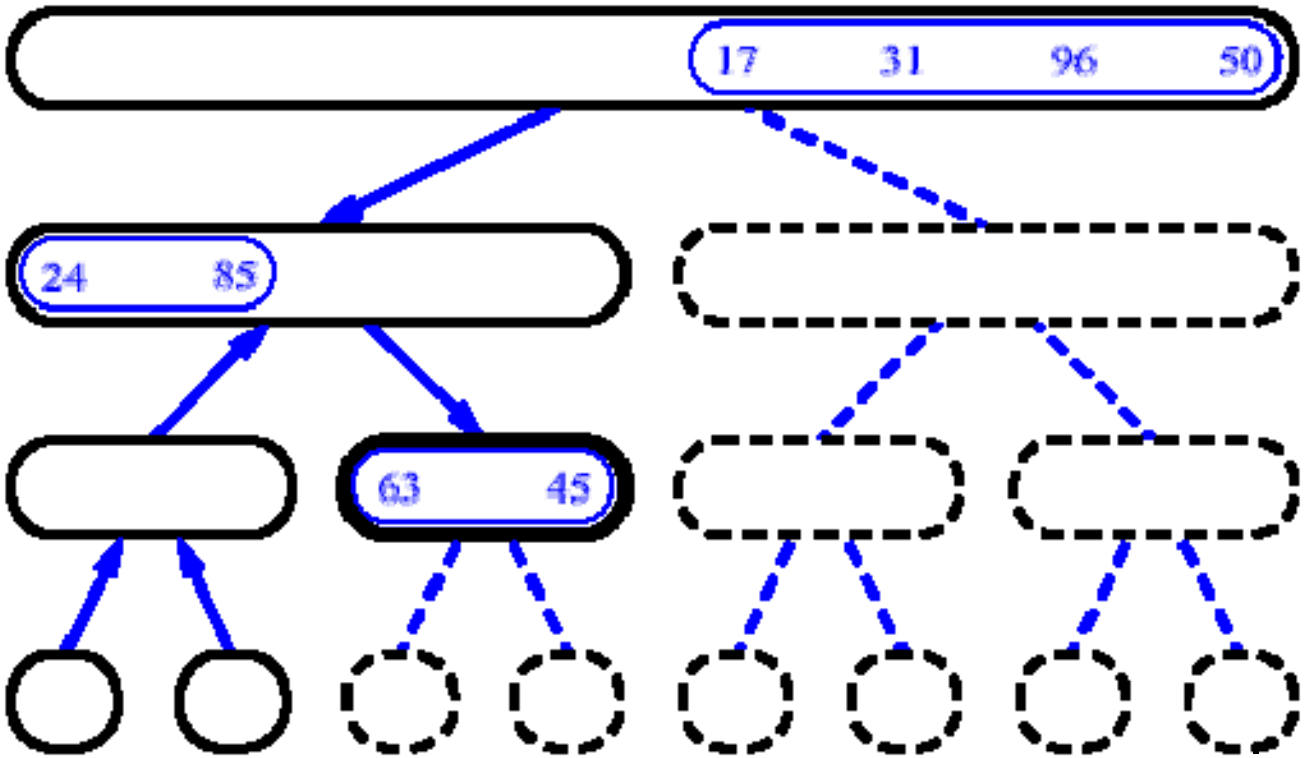
Merge Sort: example



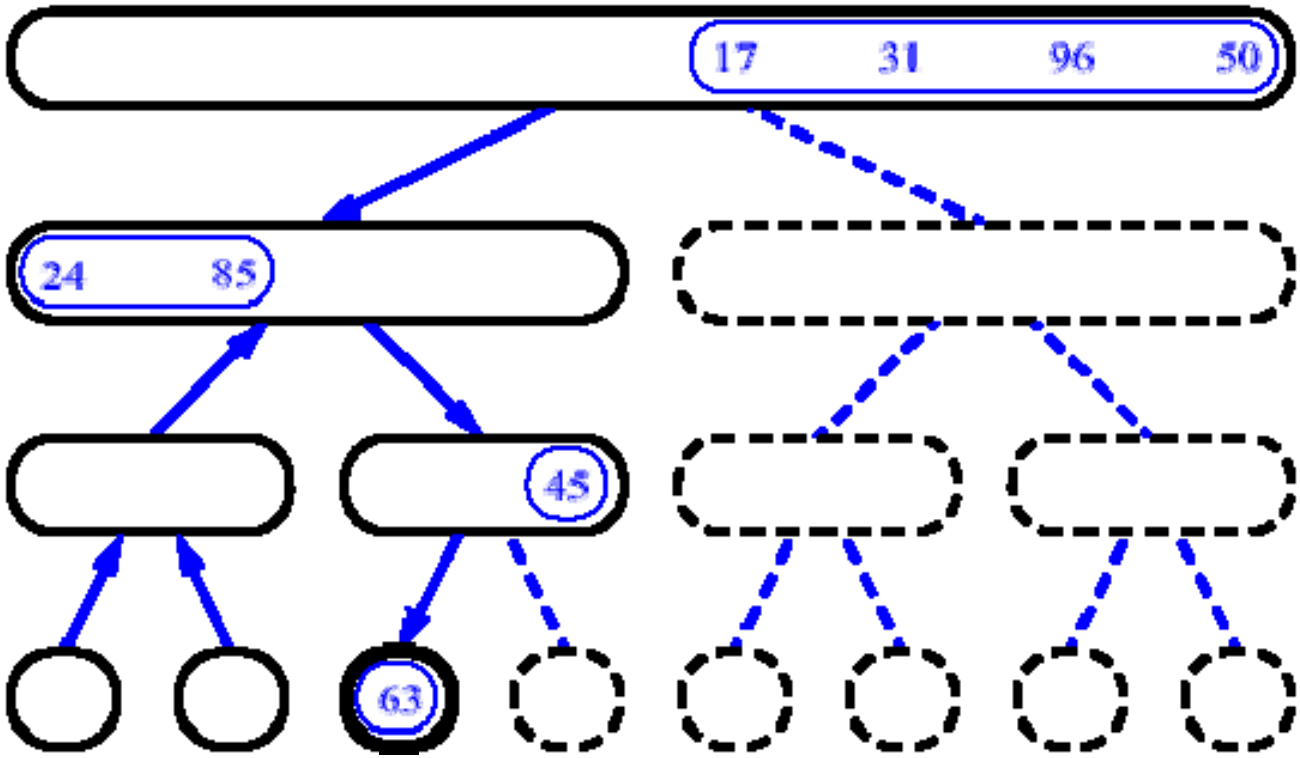
Merge Sort: example



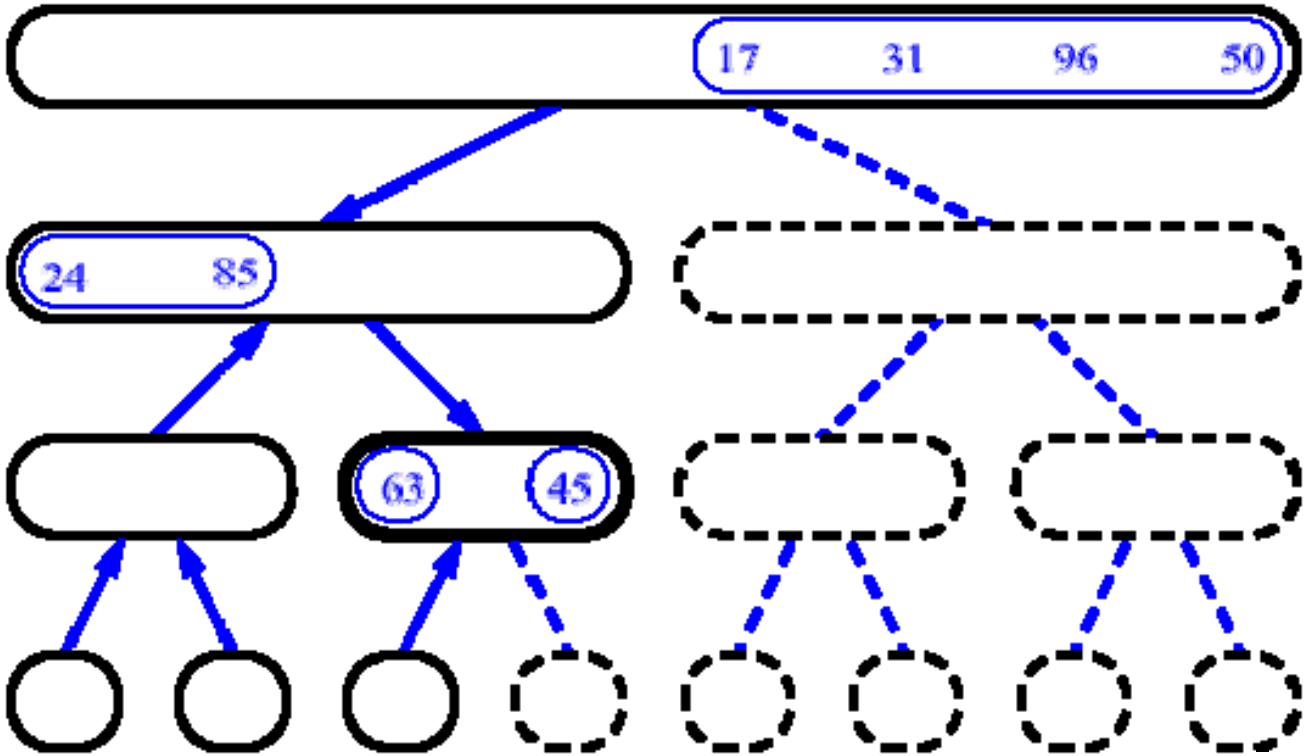
Merge Sort: example



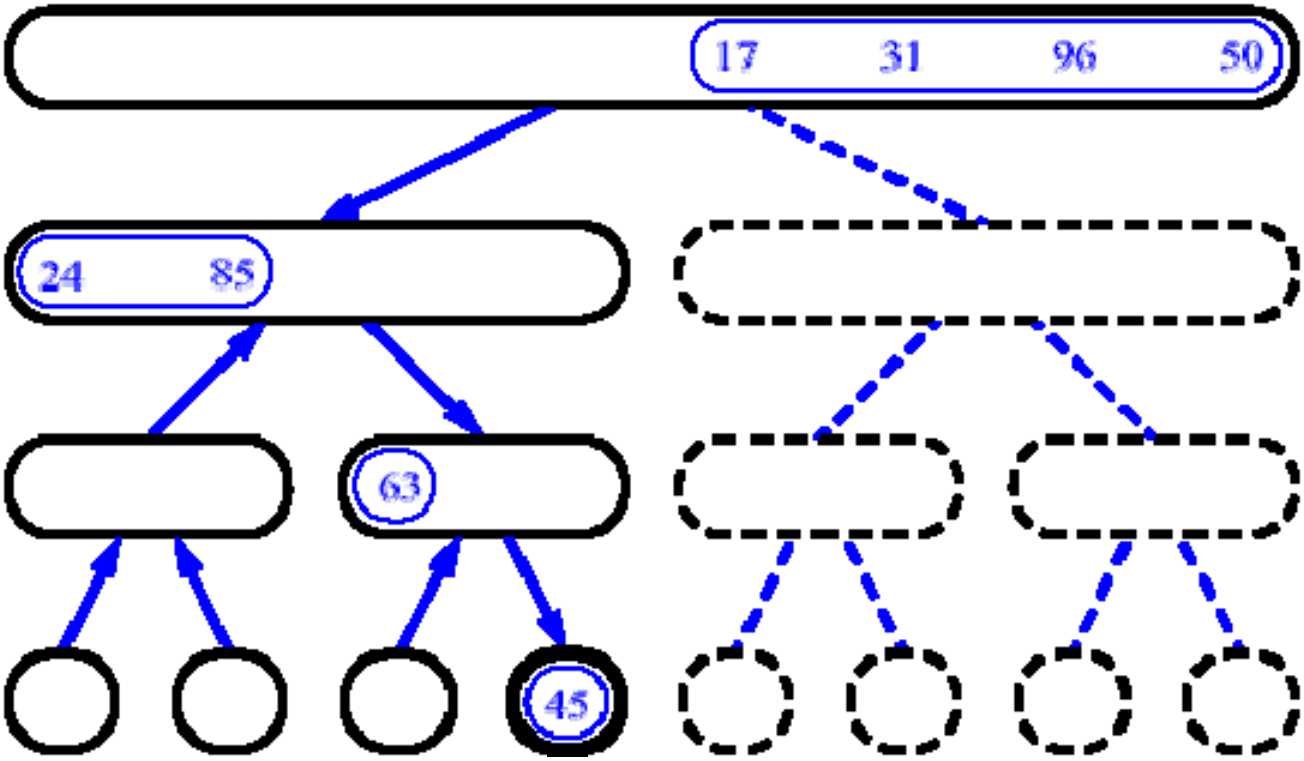
Merge Sort: example



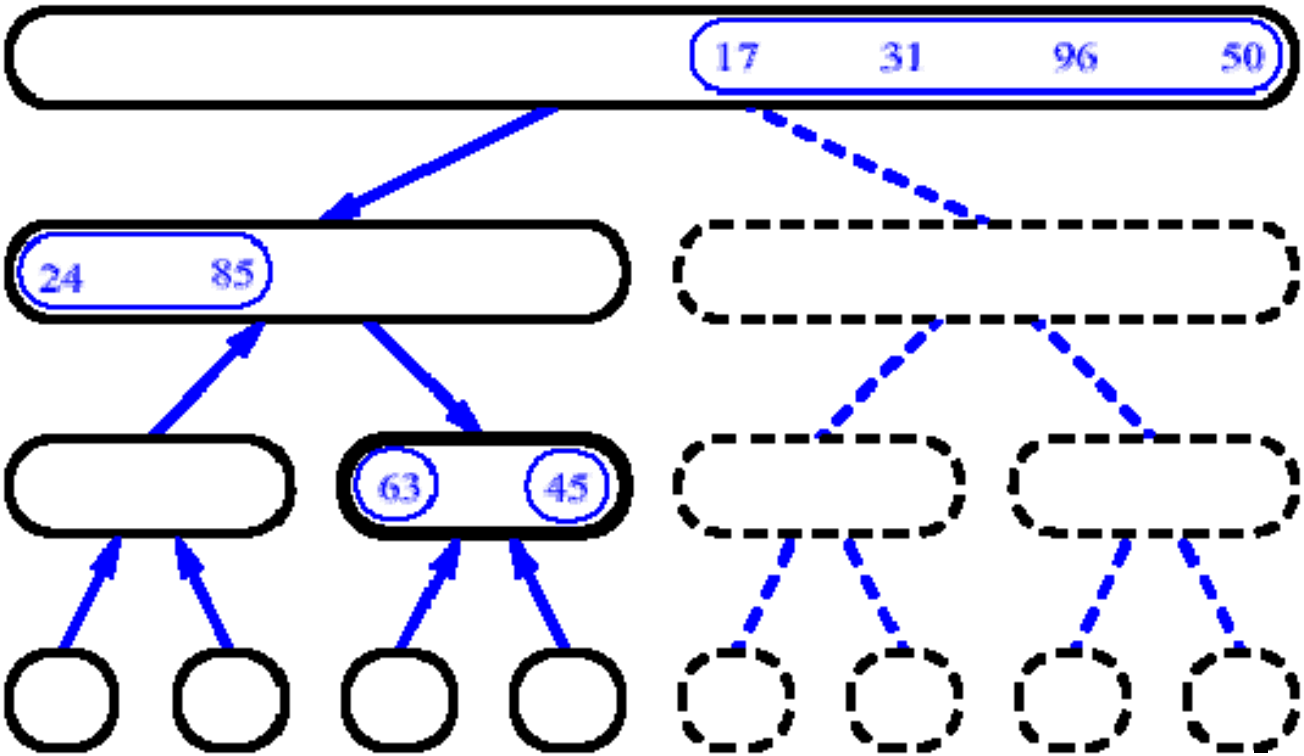
Merge Sort: example



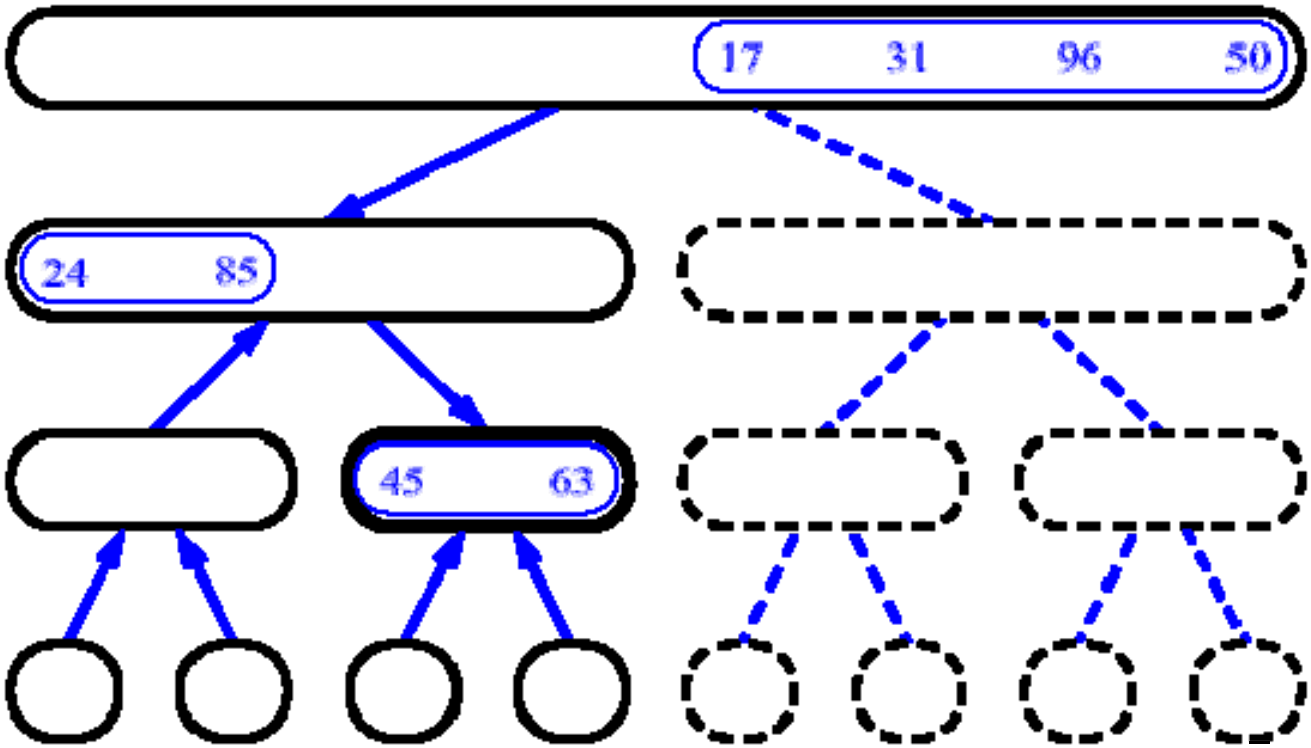
Merge Sort: example



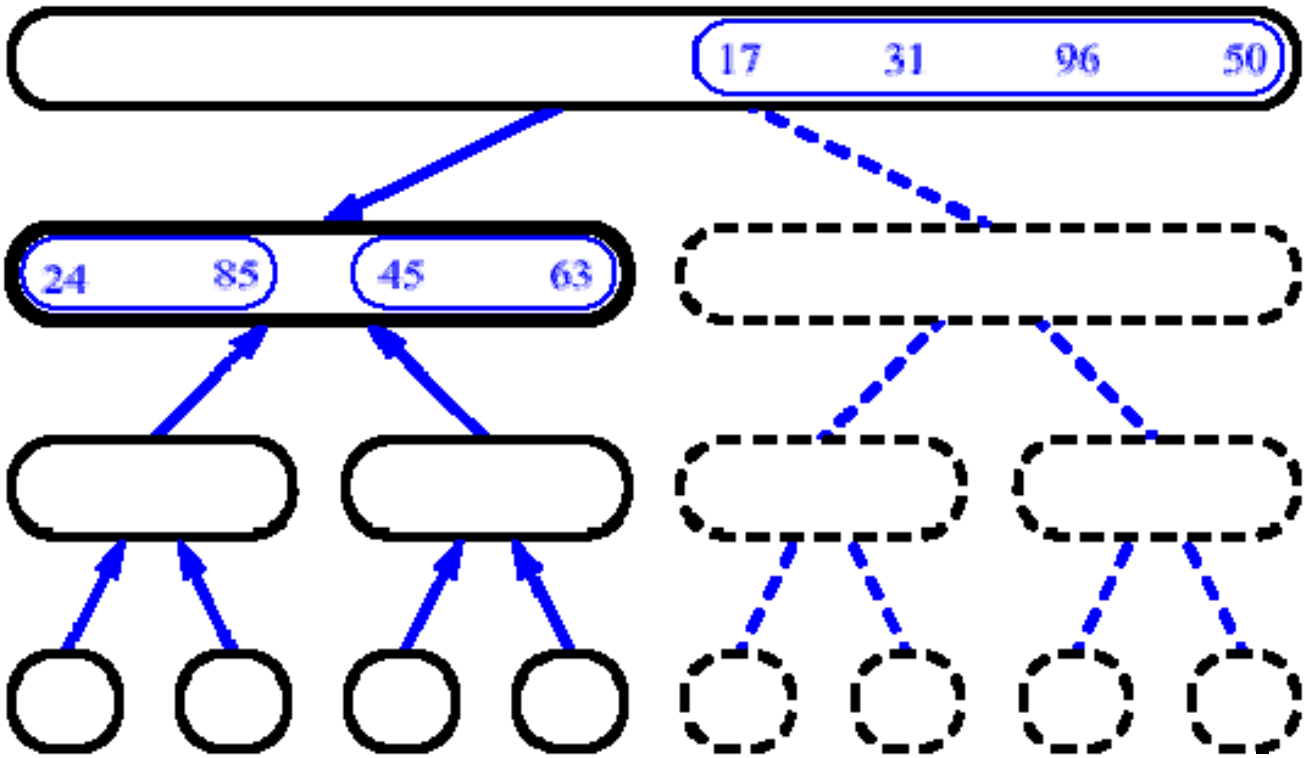
Merge Sort: example



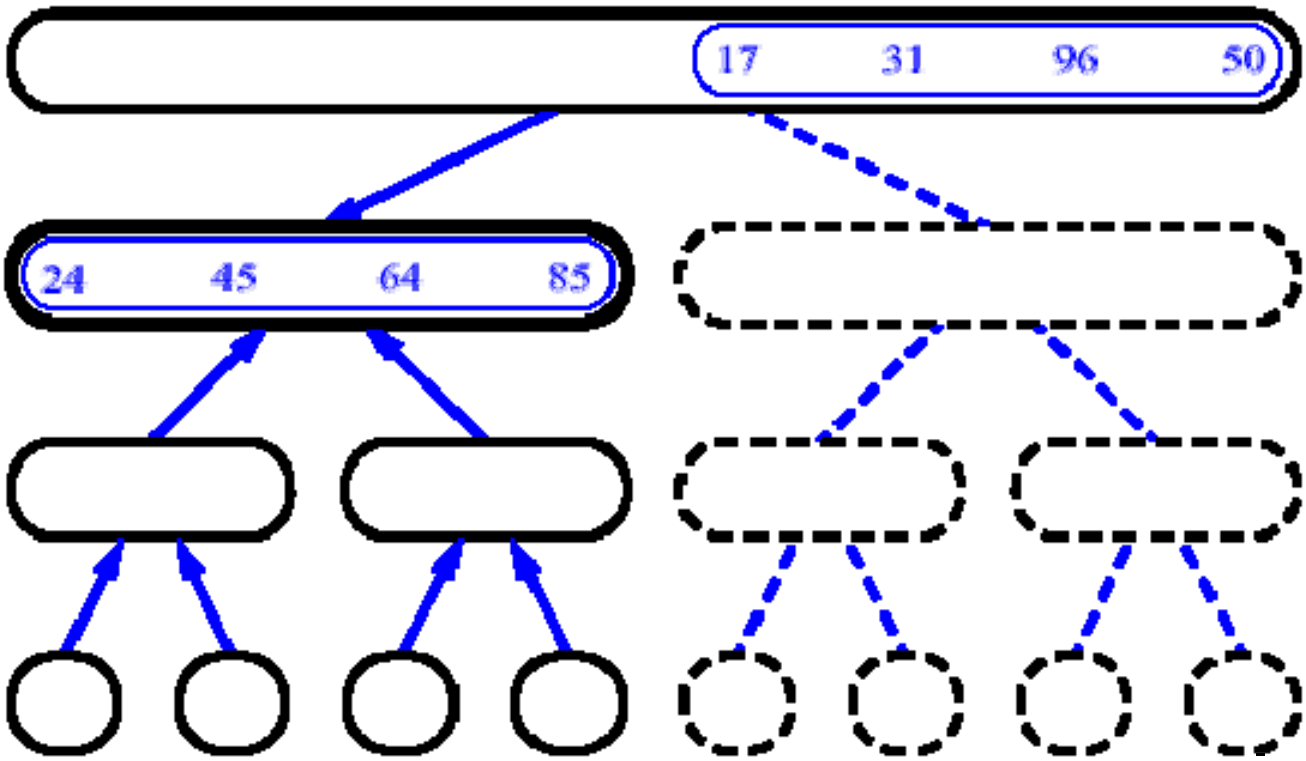
Merge Sort: example



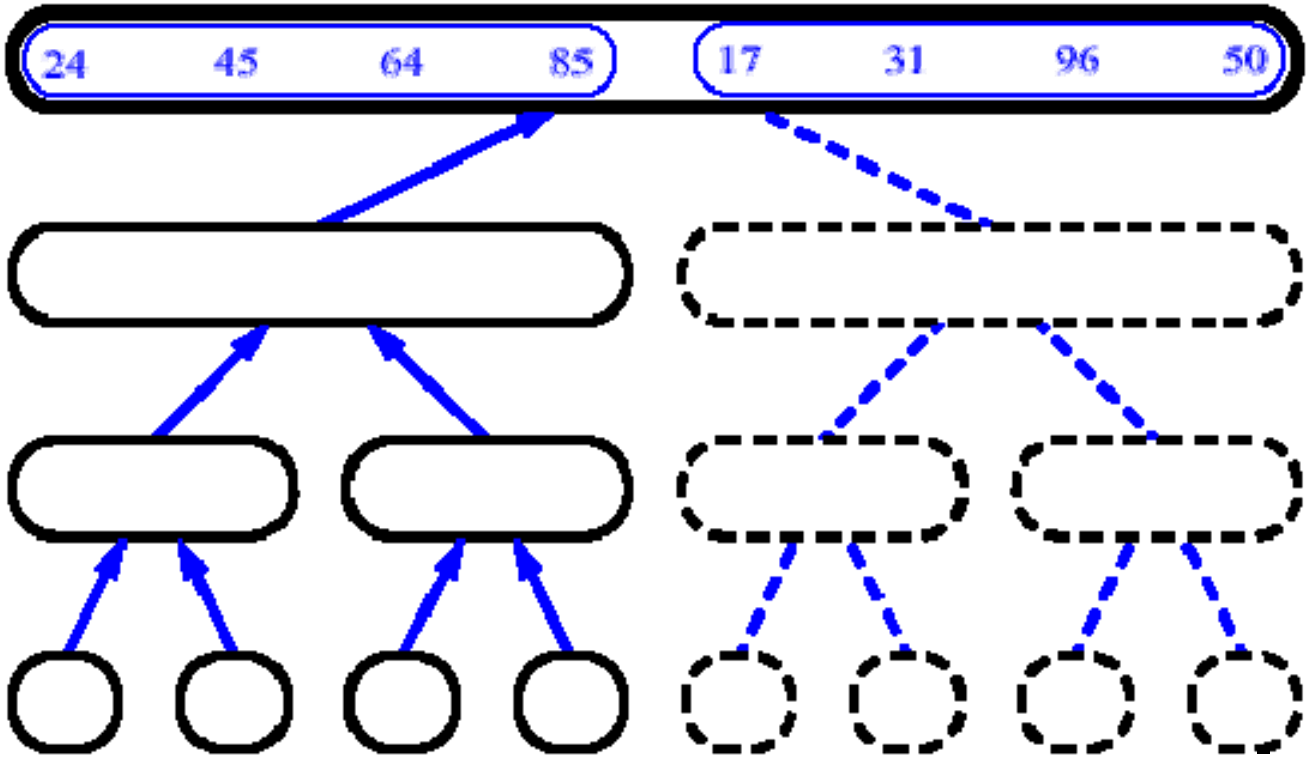
Merge Sort: example



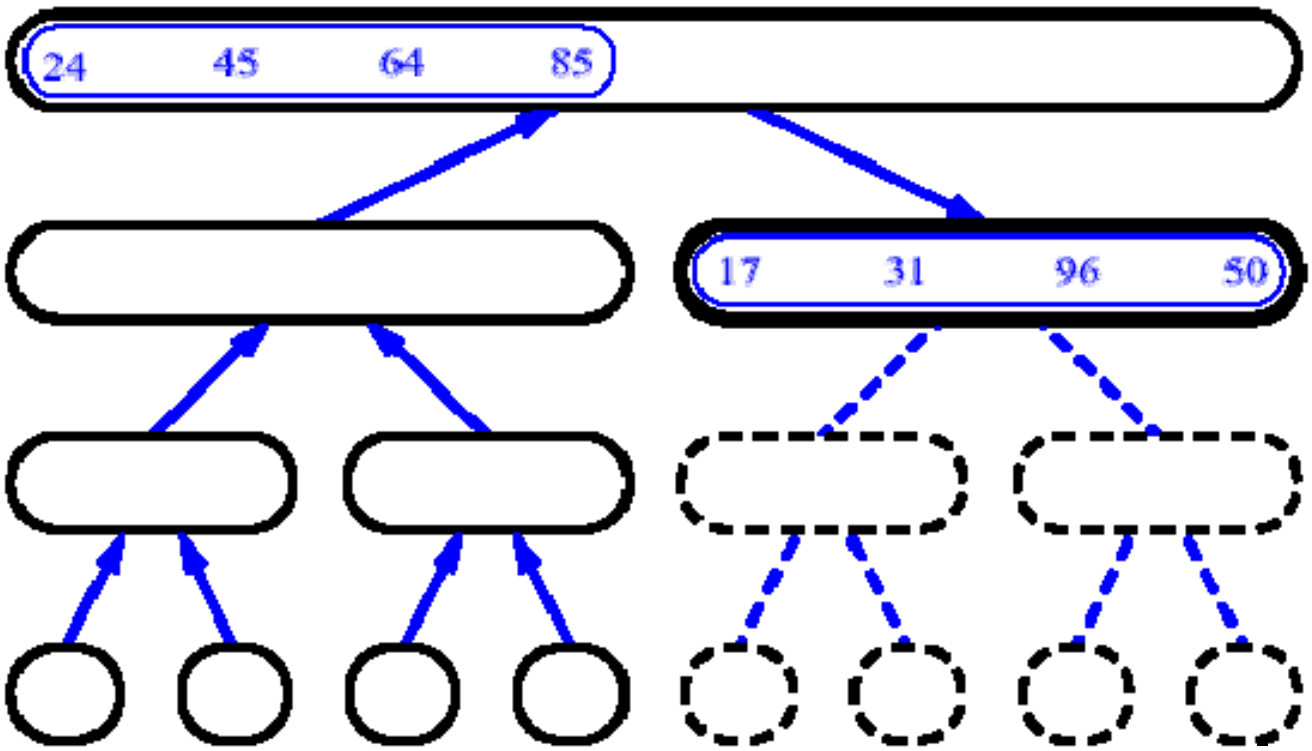
Merge Sort: example



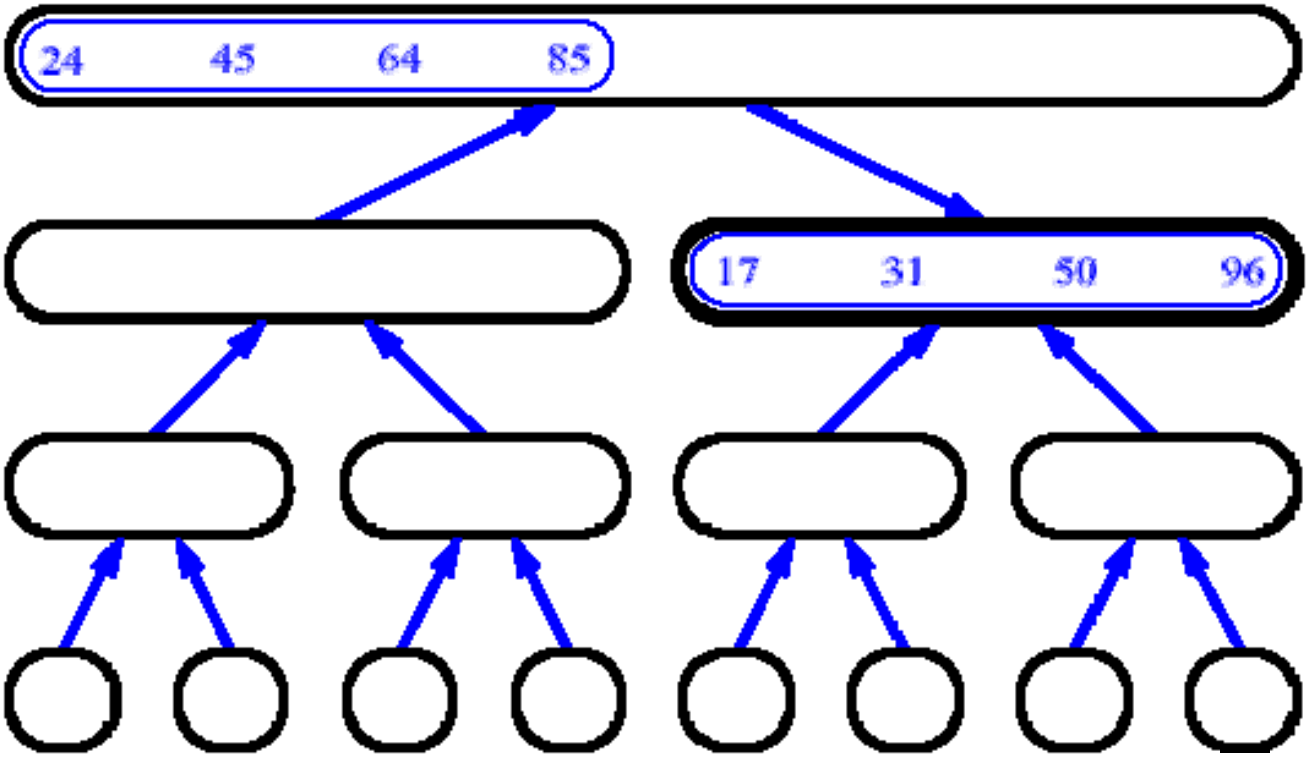
Merge Sort: example



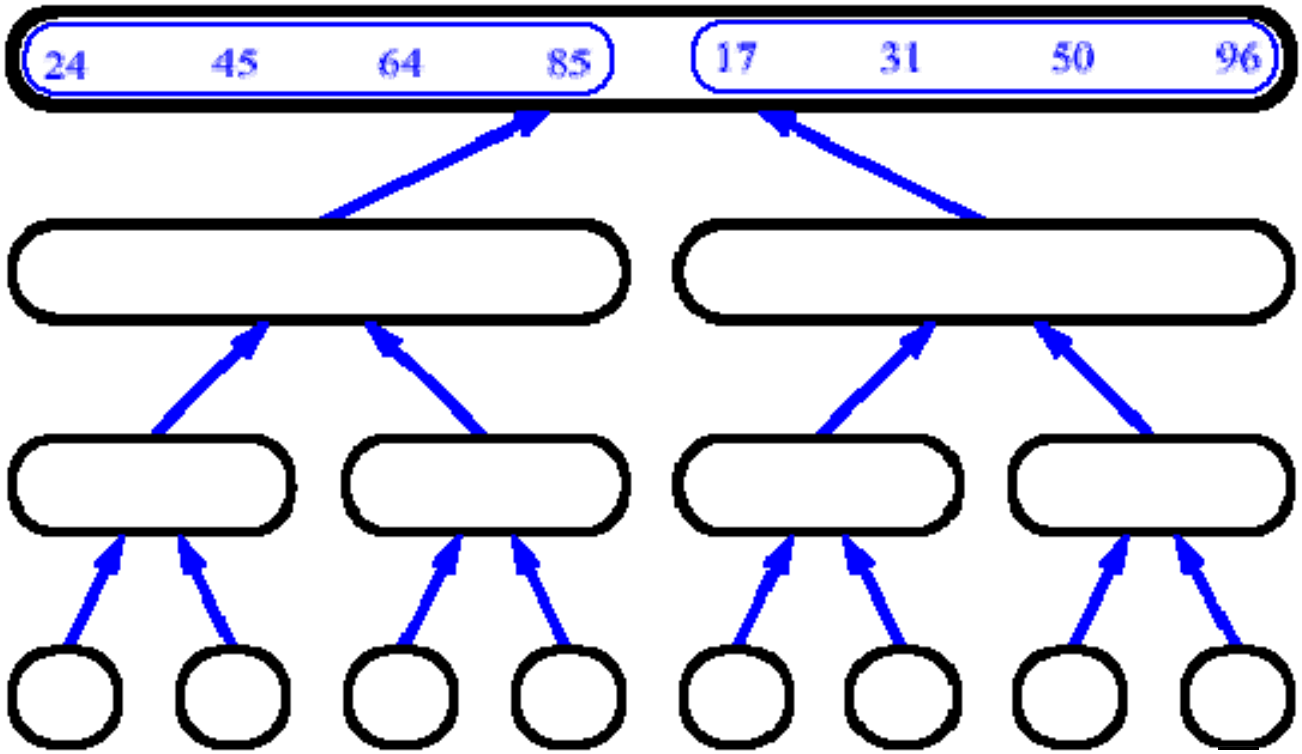
Merge Sort: example



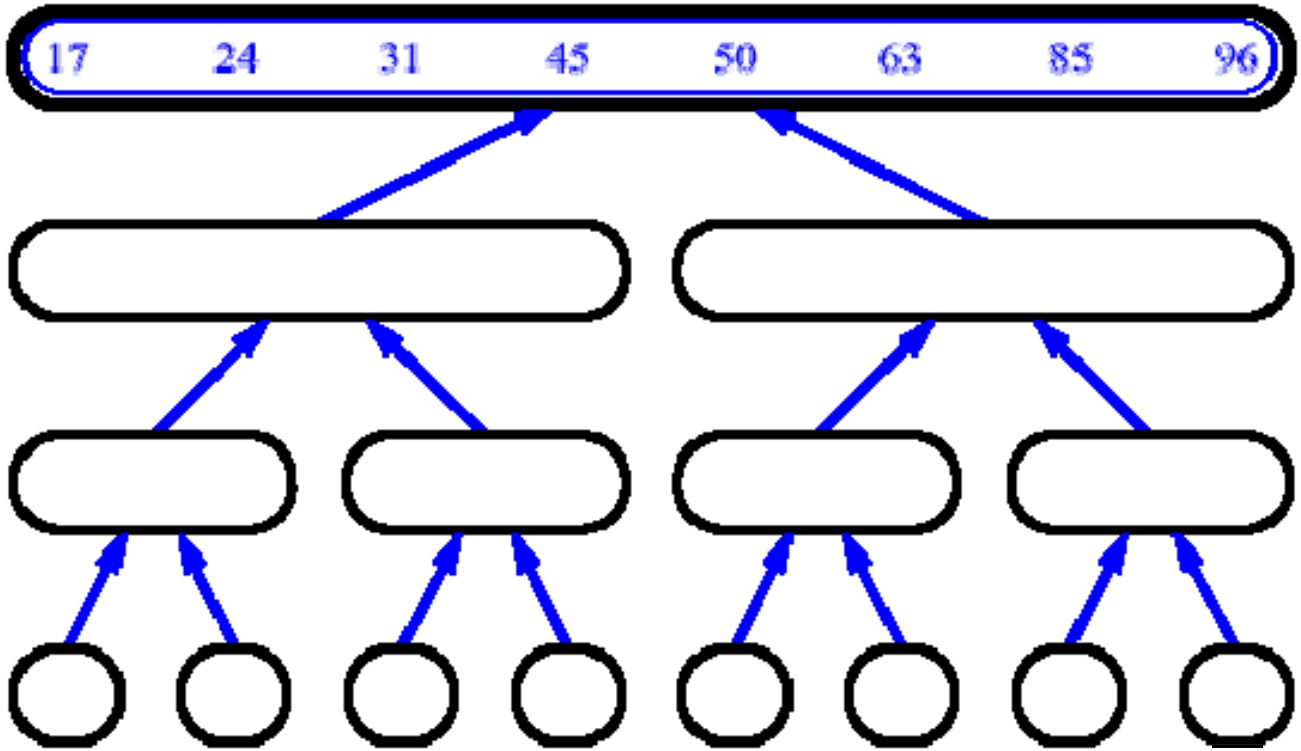
Merge Sort: example



Merge Sort: example

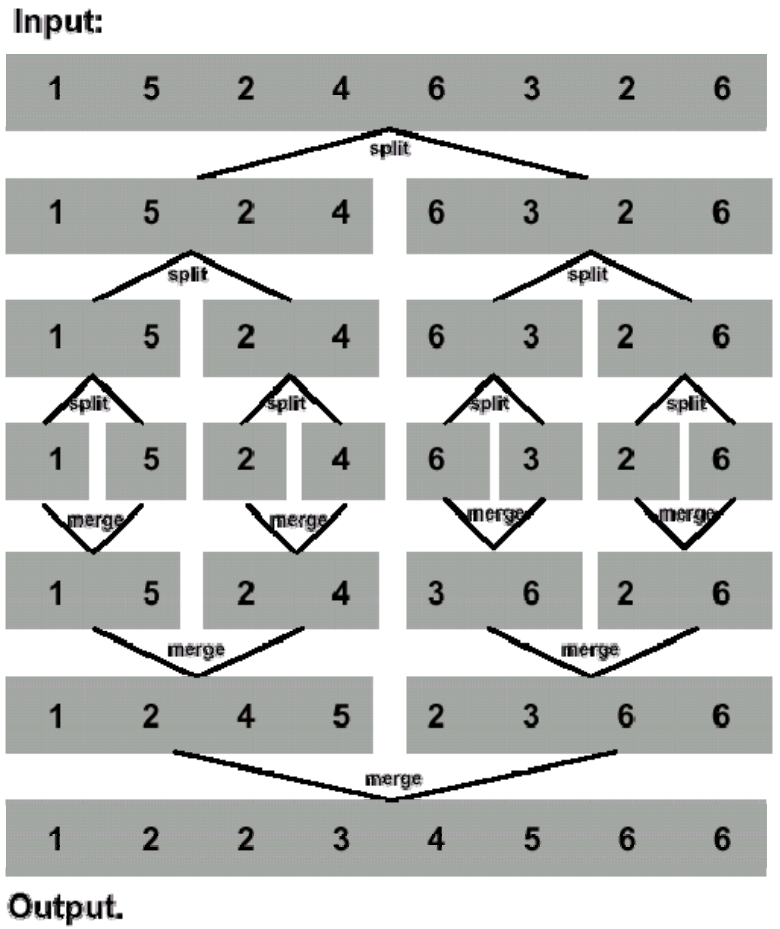


Merge Sort: example



Merge Sort: summary

- To sort *n* numbers
  - if n=1 done!
  - recursively sort 2 lists of numbers $\lceil n/2 \rceil$ and $\lfloor n/2 \rfloor$ elements
  - merge 2 sorted lists in $\Theta(n)$ time
- Strategy
  - break problem into similar (smaller) subproblems
  - recursively solve subproblems
  - combine solutions to answer



Recurrences

- Running times of algorithms with **Recursive calls** can be described using recurrences
- A **recurrence** is an equation or inequality that describes a function in terms of its value on smaller inputs

Example: Merge Sort

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} \text{solving\_trivial\_problem} & \text{if } n = 1 \\ \text{num\_pieces } T(n/\text{subproblem\_size\_factor}) + \text{dividing} + \text{combining} & \text{if } n > 1 \end{cases}$$

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} \Theta(1) & \text{if } n = 1 \\ 2T(n/2) + \Theta(n) & \text{if } n > 1 \end{cases}$$

Solving recurrences

- Repeated substitution method
  - Expanding the recurrence by substitution and noticing patterns
- Substitution method
  - guessing the solutions
  - verifying the solution by the mathematical induction
- Recursion-trees
- Master method
  - templates for different classes of recurrences

Repeated Substitution Method

- Let's find the running time of merge sort (let's assume that $n=2^b$, for some b).

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } n = 1 \\ 2T(n/2) + n & \text{if } n > 1 \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
T(n) &= 2T(n/2) + n && \text{substitute} \\
&= 2\left(2T(n/4) + n/2\right) + n && \text{expand} \\
&= 2^2 T(n/4) + 2n && \text{substitute} \\
&= 2^2(2T(n/8) + n/4) + 2n && \text{expand} \\
&= 2^3 T(n/8) + 3n && \text{observe the pattern} \\
T(n) &= 2^i T(n/2^i) + in \\
&= 2^{\lg n} T(n/n) + n\lg n = n + n\lg n
\end{aligned}$$

Repeated Substitution Method

- The procedure is straightforward:
  - Substitute
  - Expand
  - Substitute
  - Expand
  - …
  - Observe a pattern and write how your expression looks after the *i*-th substitution
  - Find out what the value of *i* (e.g., lg *n*) should be to get the base case of the recurrence (say *T*(1))
  - Insert the value of *T*(1) and the expression of *i* into your expression

Substitution method

Solve $T(n) = 4T(n/2) + n$

1) Guess that $T(n) = O(n^3)$, i.e., that T of the form cn^3

2) Assume $T(k) \le ck^3$ for $k \le n/2$ and

3) Prove $T(n) \le cn^3$ by induction

$$
\begin{aligned}
T(n) &= 4T(n/2) + n \quad \text{(recurrence)} \\
&\le 4c(n/2)^3 + n \quad \text{(ind. hypoth.)} \\
&= \frac{c}{2}n^3 + n \quad \text{(simplify)} \\
&= cn^3 - \left(\frac{c}{2}n^3 - n\right) \quad \text{(rearrange)} \\
&\le cn^3 \text{ if } c \ge 2 \text{ and } n \ge 1 \quad \text{(satisfy)}
\end{aligned}
$$

Thus $T(n) = O(n^3)$!

Subtlety: Must choose c big enough to handle

$T(n) = \Theta(1)$ for $n < n_0$ for some n_0

Substitution method

- Achieving tighter bounds

Try to show $T(n) = O(n^2)$

Assume $T(k) \le ck^2$

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= 4T(n/2) + n \\ &\le 4c(n/2)^2 + n \\ &= cn^2 + n \\ &\le cn^2 \text{ for no choice of } c > 0. \end{aligned}$$

Substitution method

The problem: We could not rewrite the equality

$$T(n) = cn^2 + (\text{something positive})$$

as:

$$T(n) \leq cn^2$$

in order to show the inequality we wanted

- Sometimes to prove inductive step, try to strengthen your hypothesis
  - T(n) $\leq$ (answer you want) - (something > 0)

Substitution method

- Corrected proof: the idea is to strengthen the inductive hypothesis by subtracting lower-order terms!

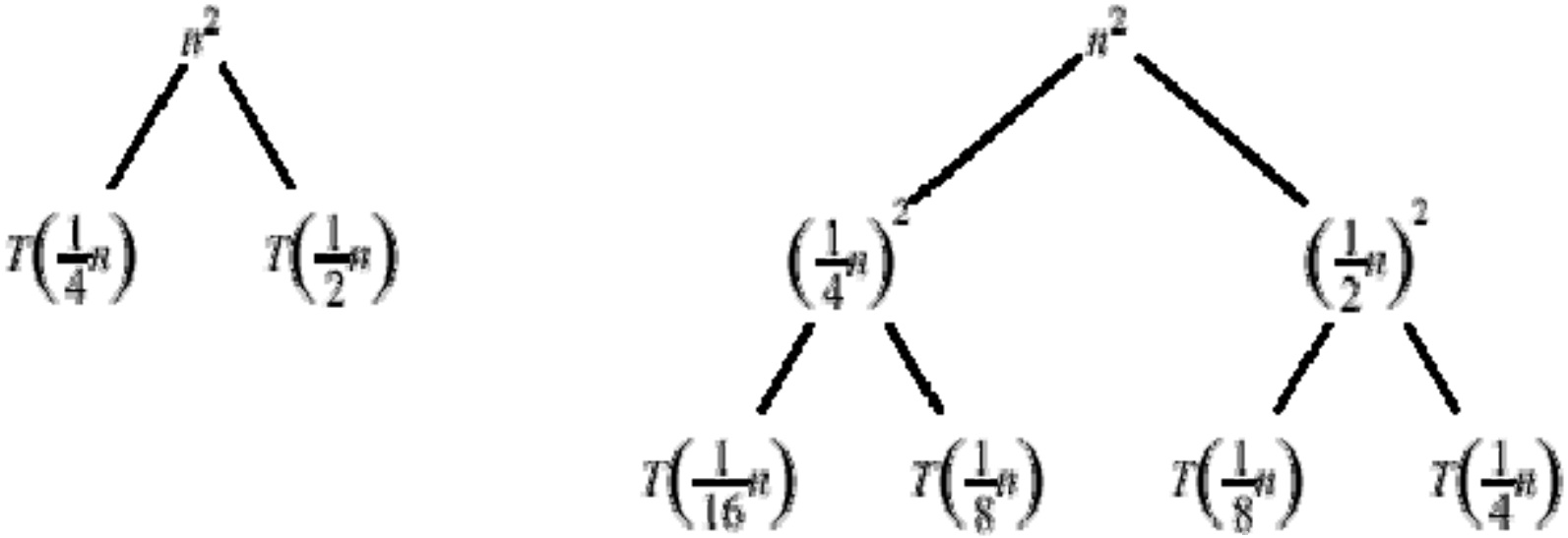
$$\text{Assume } T(k) \le c_1 k^2 - c_2 k \text{ for } k < n$$

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= 4T(n/2) + n \\ &\le 4(c_1 (n/2)^2 - c_2 (n/2)) + n \\ &= c_1 n^2 - 2c_2 n + n \\ &= c_1 n^2 - c_2 n - (c_2 n - n) \\ &\le c_1 n^2 - c_2 n \text{ if } c_2 \ge 1 \end{aligned}$$

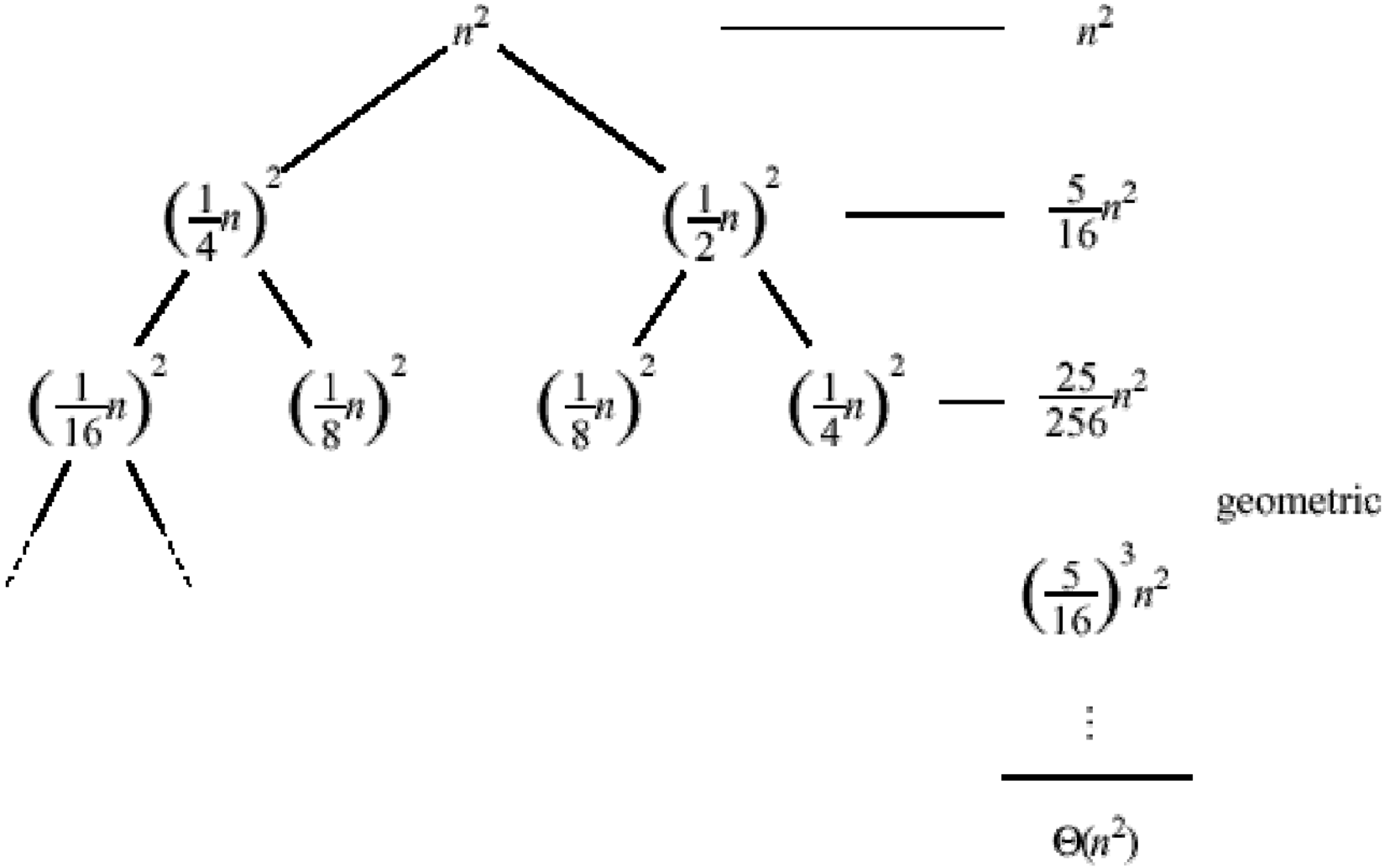
Recursion Tree

- A recursion tree is a convenient way to visualize what happens when a recurrence is iterated
- Construction of a recursion tree

$$T(n) = T(n/4) + T(n/2) + n^2$$

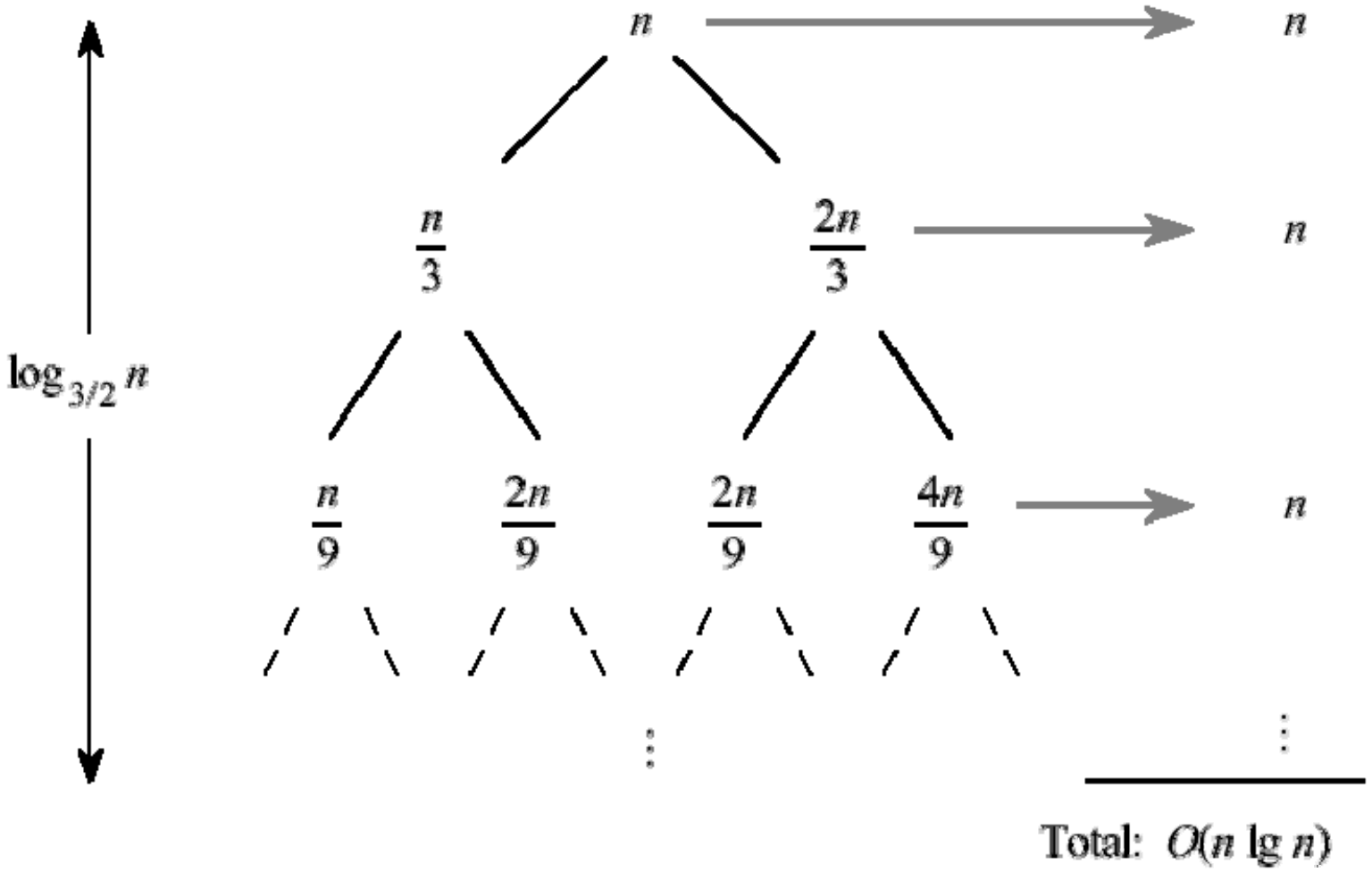


Recursion Tree



Recursion Tree

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



Master Method

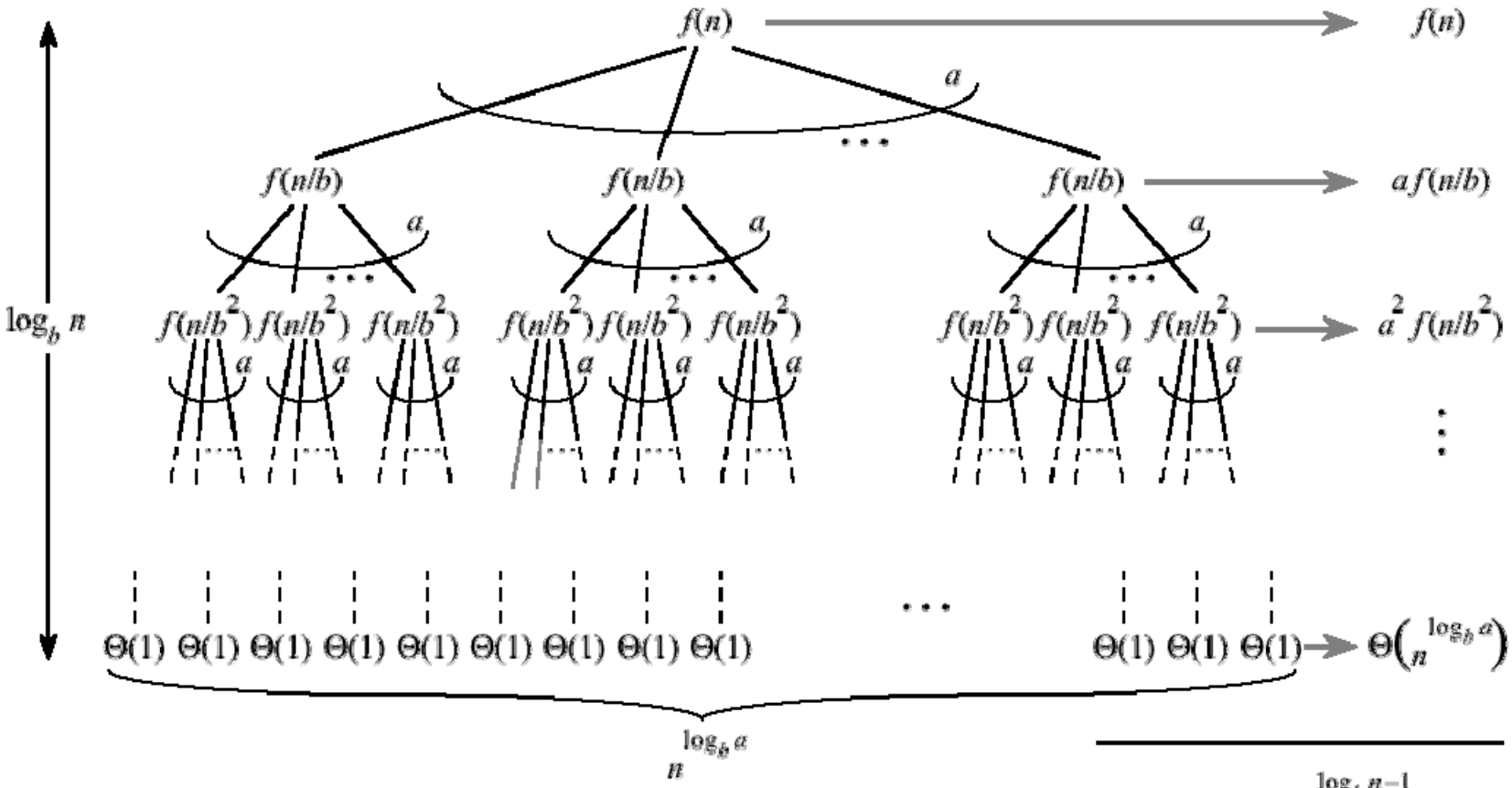
- The idea is to solve a class of recurrences that have the form

$$T(n) = aT(n/b) + f(n)$$

- a $\geq$ 1 and b > 1, and f is asymptotically positive!
- Abstractly speaking, T(n) is the runtime for an algorithm and we know that
  - a subproblems of size n/b are solved recursively, each in time T(n/b)
  - f(n) is the cost of dividing the problem and combining the results. In merge-sort

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

Master method



Split problem into a parts at $\log_b n$ levels. There are $a^{\log_b n} = n^{\log_b a}$ leaves

Master method

- Number of leaves:
- Iterating the recurrence, expanding the tree yields

$$a^{\log_b n} = n^{\log_b a}$$

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= f(n) + aT(n/b) \\ &= f(n) + af(n/b) + a^2 T(n/b^2) \\ &= f(n) + af(n/b) + a^2 T(n/b^2) + \ldots \\ &\quad + a^{\log_b n - 1} f(n/b^{\log_b n - 1}) + a^{\log_b n} T(1) \end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$T(n) = \sum_{j=0}^{\log_b n - 1} a^j f(n/b^j) + \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$$

  - The first term is a division/recombination cost (totaled across all levels of the tree)
  - The second term is the cost of doing all $n^{\log_b a}$ subproblems of size 1 (total of all work pushed to leaves)

Master method intuition

- Three common cases:
  - Running time dominated by cost at leaves
  - Running time evenly distributed throughout the tree
  - Running time dominated by cost at root
- Consequently, to solve the recurrence, we need only to characterize the dominant term
- In each case compare $f(n)$ with $O(n^{\log_b a})$

Master method Case 1

- $f(n) = O(n^{\log_b a - \varepsilon})$ for some constant $\varepsilon > 0$
  - f(n) grows polynomially (by factor n^{ε}) slower than $n^{\log_b a}$

- **The work at the leaf level dominates**
  - Summation of recursion-tree levels $O(n^{\log_b a})$
  - Cost of all the leaves $\Theta(n^{\log_b a})$
  - Thus, the overall cost $\Theta(n^{\log_b a})$

Master method Case 2

- $f(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \lg n)$
  - $f(n)$ and $n^{\log_b a}$ are asymptotically the same

- **The work is distributed equally throughout the tree** $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \lg n)$
  - (level cost) × (number of levels)

Master method Case 3

- $f(n) = \Omega(n^{\log_b a + \varepsilon})$ for some constant $\varepsilon > 0$
  - Inverse of Case 1
  - $f(n)$ grows polynomially faster than $n^{\log_b a}$
  - Also need a regularity condition

    $\exists c < 1$ and $n_0 > 0$ such that $af(n/b) \le cf(n)\ \forall n > n_0$
- **The work at the root dominates**

  $T(n) = \Theta(f(n))$

Master Theorem Summarized

- Given a recurrence of the form $T(n) = aT(n/b) + f(n)$

  1. $f(n) = O\left(n^{\log_b a - \varepsilon}\right)$

     $\Rightarrow T(n) = \Theta\left(n^{\log_b a}\right)$

  2. $f(n) = \Theta\left(n^{\log_b a}\right)$

     $\Rightarrow T(n) = \Theta\left(n^{\log_b a} \lg n\right)$

  3. $f(n) = \Omega\left(n^{\log_b a + \varepsilon}\right)$ and $af(n/b) \le cf(n)$, for some $c < 1, n > n_0$

     $\Rightarrow T(n) = \Theta\left(f(n)\right)$

- The master method cannot solve every recurrence of this form; there is a gap between cases 1 and 2, as well as cases 2 and 3

Using the Master Theorem

- Extract a, b, and f(n) from a given recurrence
- Determine $n^{\log_b a}$
- Compare f(n) and $n^{\log_b a}$ asymptotically
- Determine appropriate MT case, and apply
- Example merge sort

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

$$a = 2,\ b = 2;\ n^{\log_b a} = n^{\log_2 2} = n = \Theta(n)$$

$$\text{Also } f(n) = \Theta(n)$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Case 2: } T(n) = \Theta\left(n^{\log_b a} \lg n\right) = \Theta\left(n \lg n\right)$$

Examples

$T(n) = T(n/2) + 1$

$a = 1, b = 2;\ n^{\log_2 1} = 1$

also $f(n) = 1,\ f(n) = \Theta(1)$

$\Rightarrow$ Case 2: $T(n) = \Theta(\lg n)$

```
Binary-search(A, p, r, s):
    q←(p+r)/2
    if A[q]=s then return q
    else if A[q]>s then
         Binary-search(A, p, q-1, s)
    else Binary-search(A, q+1, r, s)
```

$T(n) = 9T(n/3) + n$

$a = 9, b = 3;$

$f(n) = n,\ f(n) = O(n^{\log_3 9 - \varepsilon})$ with $\varepsilon = 1$

$\Rightarrow$ Case 1: $T(n) = \Theta\left(n^2\right)$

Examples

$T(n) = 3T(n/4) + n \lg n$

$a = 3, b = 4;\ n^{\log_4 3} = n^{0.793}$

$f(n) = n \lg n,\ f(n) = \Omega(n^{\log_4 3 + \varepsilon})$ with $\varepsilon \approx 0.2$

$\Rightarrow$ Case 3:

Regularity condition

$af(n/b) = 3(n/4)\lg(n/4) \le (3/4)n \lg n = cf(n)$ for $c = 3/4$

$T(n) = \Theta(n \lg n)$

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

$a = 2, b = 2;\ n^{\log_2 2} = n^1$

$f(n) = n \lg n,\ f(n) = \Omega(n^{1+\varepsilon})$ with ε?

also $n \lg n / n^1 = \lg n$

$\Rightarrow$ neither Case 3 nor Case 2!

Examples

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

$a = 4, b = 2;\ n^{\log_2 4} = n^2$

$f(n) = n^3;\ f(n) = \Omega(n^2)$

$\Rightarrow$ Case 3: $T(n) = \Theta\left(n^3\right)$

Checking the regularity condition

$4f(n/2) \le cf(n)$

$4n^3/8 \le cn^3$

$n^3/2 \le cn^3$

$c = 3/4 < 1$

A quick review of logarithms

Properties to remember

1. $\log (ab) = \log a + \log b$
2. $\log (a/b) = \log a - \log b$
3. $\log (1/a) = - \log a$
4. $\log a^n = n \log a$
5. $a = 2^{\log_2 a}$

It follows that :

1. $n^n = 2^{n \log_2 n}$
2. $2^n n = 2^{n + \log_2 n}$
3. $n^{\log_2 n} = 2^{(\log_2 n)^2}$

Next...

1. Covered basics of a simple design technique (Divide-and-conquer) – Ch. 4 of the text.
2. Next, more sorting algorithms.