

# Matrix Chain Multiplication

CSE 300: Technical Writing and Presentation

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## Description

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## **Aim**

- | To find the most efficient way to multiply a sequence of matrices**

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**| To find the most efficient way to multiply a sequence of matrices**

A :  $5 \times 20$

B :  $20 \times 10$

C :  $10 \times 50$

## **Aim**

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A : 5x20

B: 20x10

C: 10x50

**Compute ABC**

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## Compute ABC

- (AB)C

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## Compute ABC

- (AB)C     $5*20*10 + 5*10*50$
- A(BC)     $20*10*50 + 5*20*50$

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A : 5x20      B: 20x10      C: 10x50

## Compute ABC

- (AB)C     $5*20*10 + 5*10*50 = 3500$  operations
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# Brute Force Algorithm

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## Brute Force Approach :

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- Consider all possible cases.
- Not a good idea since the number of operations increases exponentially with the number of matrices to multiply.
- **EXPONENTIAL-TIME Algorithm**  
Very slow and not practical





**Effective Solution?**

# Dynamic Programming Algorithm

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## Dynamic Programming Approach

To compute  $A_1 A_2 \dots A_n$

$n$  : # matrices to multiply

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To compute  $A_1 A_2 \dots A_n$

$n$  : # matrices to multiply

$A_i \rightarrow (d_{i-1} \times d_i)$  matrix

$A_i A_{i+1} \dots A_j \rightarrow (d_{i-1} \times d_j)$  matrix

$m(i,j)$  : Min number of operations required to compute product of  $A_i$  to  $A_j$

## Algorithm

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- **Step 2:**  $\forall 1 \leq i \leq j \leq n$

$$m(i, j) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } i = j \\ \min_{i \leq k < j} \{ m(i, k) + m(k+1, j) + d_{i-1}d_kd_j \} & \text{if } i \neq j \end{cases}$$

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- **Step 3:** Return  $m(1, n)$

## Example

Let us consider an example,

$$A \rightarrow 40 \times 20$$

$$B \rightarrow 20 \times 30$$

$$C \rightarrow 30 \times 10$$

$$D \rightarrow 10 \times 30$$

We create a  $4 \times 4$  table for implementing the algorithm



## Example

A     ×     B     ×     C     ×     D  
40×20     20×30     30×10     10×30

i/j	0	1	2	3
0				
1	x			
2	x	x		
3	x	x	x	

## Example

A    ×    B    ×    C    ×    D  
40×20      20×30      30×10      10×30

**Step 1 :** Fill the table for  $i = j$  (All zero values)

i/j	0	1	2	3
0	0			
1	x	0		
2	x	x	0	
3	x	x	x	0

## Example

A    ×    B    ×    C    ×    D  
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i/j	0	1	2	3
0	0	24000		
1	x	0	6000	
2	x	x	0	9000
3	x	x	x	0

**Step 1 :** Fill the table for  $i = j$  (All zero values)

**Step 2 :**

$$m(0,1) = 40 \times 20 \times 30 = 24000$$

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## Example

A    ×    B    ×    C    ×    D  
40×20      20×30      30×10      10×30

i/j	0	1	2	3
0	0	24000	14000	26000
1	x	0	6000	12000
2	x	x	0	9000
3	x	x	x	0

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$$m(1,3) = 12000$$

$$m(0,3) = \min(26000, 38000) = 26000$$

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i/j	0	1	2	3
0	0	24000	14000	26000
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$$m(1,3) = 12000$$

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**Step 3 :** return 26000

## Summery

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### COMPUTATION OF MATRIX CHAIN PRODUCTS. PART I\*

T. C. HU† AND M. T. SHING†

**Abstract.** This paper considers the computation of matrix chain products of the form  $M_1 \times M_2 \times \cdots \times M_{n-1}$ . If the matrices are of different dimensions, the order in which the product is computed affects the number of operations. An optimum order is an order which minimizes the total number of operations. We present some theorems about an optimum order of computing the matrices. **Based on these theorems, an  $O(n \log n)$  algorithm for finding an optimum order will be presented** in Part II.

**Key words.** matrix multiplication, polygon partition, dynamic programming

**1. Introduction.** Consider the evaluation of the product of  $n - 1$  matrices

$$(1) \quad M = M_1 \times M_2 \times \cdots \times M_{n-1},$$

where  $M_i$  is a  $w_i \times w_{i+1}$  matrix. Since matrix multiplication satisfies the associative law, the final result  $M$  in (1) is the same for all orders of multiplying the matrices. However, the order of multiplication greatly affects the total number of operations to evaluate

Time Complexity :  $O(n^3)$

Seems most optimal?

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An algorithm published by Hu and Shing (1982) achieves  $O(n \log n)$   
computational complexity

They reduced the problem into **Triangulation of a Regular Polygon.**

## References

- [Wikipedia/Matrix Chain Multiplication](#)
- [Introduction to Algorithms by Cormen](#)
- [stackoverflow.com](#)