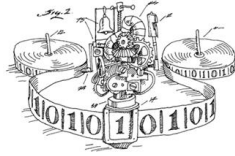


EECS 376: Foundations of Computer Science

Lecture 02 - Potential Method and Divide and Conquer



5/8/24

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Agenda

- Runtime analysis of Euclid's algorithm
 - New analysis tool: **Potential method**
- Divide & Conquer algorithmic paradigm
 - Mergesort
 - Master Theorem
 - Karatuba's Integer Multiplication

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The Potential Method

Today we will analyze the running time of Euclid's algorithm using the **potential method**.

... But first, a toy example to illustrate this method

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A Flipping Game

- 3 x 3 board covered with two-sided chips: **M** / **m**
- Two players, **R** (row) and **C** (column), alternately perform "flips":
 - R** flips every chip in a **row** with # **M** > # **m**
 - C** flips every chip in a **column** with # **M** > # **m**
- If no flip is possible, then the game ends.
- Question:** Must the game always end?



R flips row 3



C flips column 1



因而: 每次 flip, # **M** 一定严格减小
因而一定会有 end, 并且
总局数一定 ≤ 9

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Let's formalize this reasoning into a general-purpose method

Intuitively, a **potential function argument** says:

If I start with a **finite** amount of water in a **leaky** bucket, then **eventually** water must stop leaking out.



4 steps of the argument:

- Define **unit of time** $i = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ (e.g. iteration of algo / recursion depth)
 - Define **potential function** $\Phi(i)$ as **non-negative integer** (i.e. amount of water in bucket at timestep i)
 - Bound **initial potential** $\Phi(0)$ (i.e. water is finite)
 - Show **potential decreases** $\Phi(i+1) < \Phi(i)$ (i.e. water is leaking)
- **Conclude:** Bound the **total time in term of $\Phi(0)$** (i.e. water must stop)

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因而 **potential method** 指:

- 用一个 set A 来表示 **states** (比如 unit of time / iteration) $0, 1, 2, \dots$
- $\varphi: A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ 被定义为一个 **potential function**.
if (1) 它是 strictly decreasing with states 的
(2) 它是 bounded below 的
- 通过这个 def, 我们可以求 number of steps 的 upper bound ($O(?)$) by: establish φ 的 decrease 速度, 从而用 $\varphi(0)$ 来表示 $\varphi(n)$

Analyzing Euclid's Algorithm via a **Bad** Potential Function

- Unit of time = one recursive call.

- Potential function $\Phi(i) = y_i$.

- We have $\Phi(i+1) \leq \Phi(i) - 1$. Why?

So, the total number of calls is at most $\Phi(0) = y$.

$x \bmod y$: remainder
一定 $< y - 1$
divisor

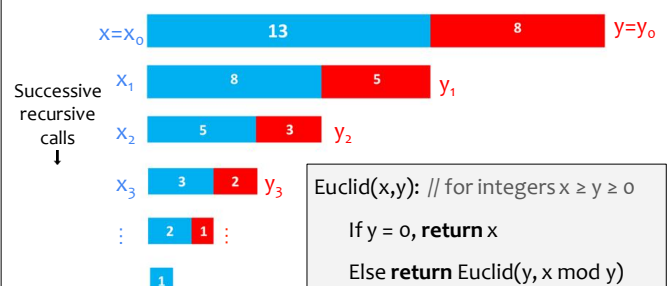
But the runtime bound $y = O(10^n)$ looks bad like before...

因为对于 n 个 digits 的数, 有 $O(10^n)$ 个

What's wrong? Not algorithm. Just need new Φ that decreases faster.

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Pause and Think: What is a **good** potential function?



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Analyzing Euclid's Algorithm via a Potential Function

Finding the right potential function can be a fine art.

- Unit of time = one recursive call.
- New potential function $\Phi(i) = x_i + y_i$.
- Claim 1: $\Phi(i+1) \leq 3/4 \Phi(i)$. (will show) $O(\log)$
- Claim 2: Thus: total # recursive calls is $O(\log(x+y)) = O(n)$. (will show) *digits 位数*

Grade-school algorithm

Euclid running time = (# recursive calls) \times (time to mod of n -digit numbers)
 $= O(n) \times \text{poly}(n) = \text{poly}(n)$

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Analyzing Euclid's Algorithm via a Potential Function

Finding the right potential function can be a fine art.

- Unit of time = one recursive call.
- New potential function $\Phi(i) = x_i + y_i$.
- ✓ Claim 1: $\Phi(i+1) \leq 3/4 \Phi(i)$. (will show)
- ✓ Claim 2: Thus: total # recursive calls is $O(\log(x+y)) = O(n)$. (will show) *(later)*

Grade-school algorithm

Euclid running time = (# recursive calls) \times (time to mod of n -digit numbers)
 $= O(n) \times \text{poly}(n) = \text{poly}(n)$

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Analyzing Euclid's Algorithm via a Potential Function

Claim 1. $\Phi(i+1) \leq 3/4 \Phi(i)$.

Idea: The larger number is halved in each call: $x \rightarrow x \bmod y$.

Proof. Show $(x \bmod y) + y \leq 3/4 (x+y)$ for all integers $x \geq y \geq 0$.

Let's first show:

If $x \geq 2y$, then

$x \bmod y \leq x/2$.

$x \bmod y < y \leq x/2$.

If $x < 2y$, then

$x \bmod y = x - y \leq x - x/2 = x/2$.

• This implies: $(x \bmod y) + y \leq y + x/2 \leq 3/4 (x+y)$.

(since $x \geq y$)

Optional Challenges:

- Show $\Phi(i+1) \leq 2/3 \Phi(i)$.
- Show $\Phi(i+1) \leq \phi \Phi(i)$ where $\phi = 0.618...$ is the golden ratio

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(2)

Next:

Introduction to Divide and Conquer

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Overview: Divide-and-Conquer Algorithms

Main Idea:

- Divide the problem into smaller sub-problems *(creative step)*
- Conquer (solve) each sub-problem recursively (easy step)
- Combine the solutions *(creative step)*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZRPoEKHXTJg>

Analyzing Euclid's Algorithm via a Potential Function

Claim 2: Total # recursive calls is $1 + \log_{4/3}(x+y) = O(\log(x+y))$.

Proof. $\Phi(0) = x+y$,

$\Phi(1) \leq (x+y) \cdot \frac{3}{4}$

$\Phi(i) \leq (x+y) \cdot \left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^i$

When $i > \log_{4/3}(x+y)$: $(4/3)^i > (4/3)^{\log_{4/3}(x+y)} = (x+y)^{\log_{4/3} 4/3} = x+y$.

So, $\Phi(i) \leq (x+y) \cdot (3/4)^i < 1$.

即 $O(\log(x+y))$

So, after $1 + \log_{4/3}(x+y)$ recursive calls, $\Phi(i) < 1$.

- So $\Phi(i) = 0$ as $\Phi(i)$ is always an integer,
- At this point the algorithm terminates.

Thm 13.

Euclid (x,y) perform $O(\log(x+y))$ iterations.

Mergesort

Input: Array of numbers

1	2	3	4	n
6	0	4	6	3

Output: Sorted

1	2	3	4
0	3	4	6	6



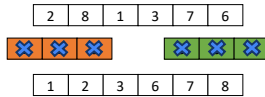
Discovered by John von Neumann in 1945

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Code and Example

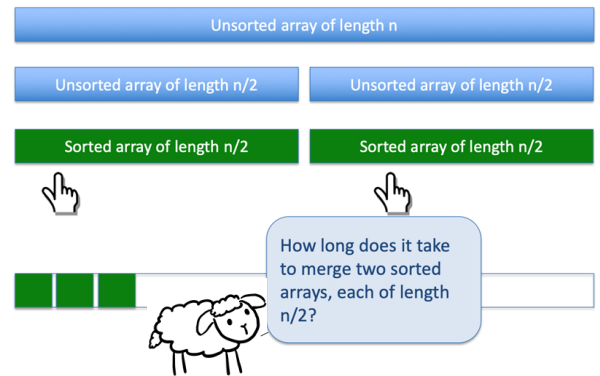
```

MergeSort(A[1..n]): // sorts a list of integers
if n = 1 then return A // base case
L = MergeSort(A[1..n/2]) // recursively sort 1st half
R = MergeSort(A[n/2+1..n]) // recursively sort 2nd half
return Merge(L, R) // combine solutions
    
```



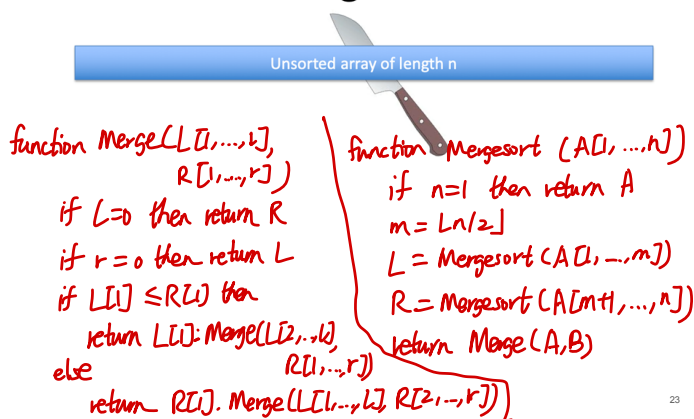
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Mergesort



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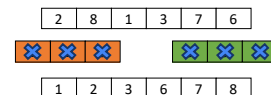
Mergesort



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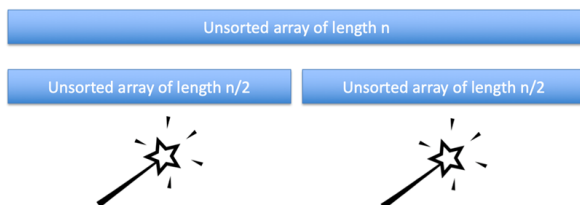
Correctness

- Strong induction on size of list, n .
- Base case:
 - **MS** is correct on lists of size 1.
- Inductive step:
 - Suppose **MS** is correct on lists of size $< n$.
 - Then **MS** is correct on 1st/2nd half, by assumption.
 - Since **Merge** is correct, **MS** is correct on n .



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Mergesort



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Recurrence of Running Time

Let $T(n)$ be worst-case running time on input of size n

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} O(1) & n = 1 \\ T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + O(n) & n > 1 \end{cases}$$

time to MS a list of n integers time to MS 1st half time to MS 2nd half time to Merge

Note: we typically omit the base case

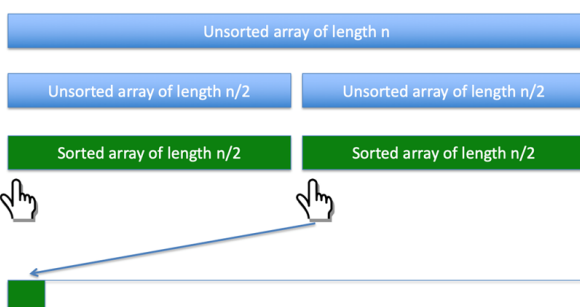
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if n = 1 then return A // base case
L = MergeSort(A[1..n/2]) // recursively sort 1st half
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return Merge(L, R) // combine solutions
    
```

How do we solve this recurrence?

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Mergesort



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The Master Theorem

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Master Theorem

(Runtime of Divide and Conquer Algorithms)

- Given an input of size n , an algorithm
 - makes k recursive calls,
 - Each on an input of size n/b , and
 - then “combines” the results in $O(n^d)$ time.
- Let $T(n)$ be the runtime of the algorithm on inputs of size n .

- **Theorem:**

if $T(n) = kT(n/b) + O(n^d)$
then,

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} O(n^d) & \text{if } k < b^d \\ O(n^d \log n) & \text{if } k = b^d \\ O(n^{\log_b k}) & \text{if } k > b^d \end{cases}$$

Will prove the theorem if time³⁶ permitted

Example: MergeSort

```
MergeSort(A[1..n]): // sorts a list of integers
if n = 1 then return A           // base case
L = MergeSort(A[1..n/2])         // recursively sort 1st half
R = MergeSort(A[n/2+1..n])       // recursively sort 2nd half
return Merge(L, R)               // combine solutions
```

- On an input of size n , the **MergeSort** algorithm makes
 - $k = 2$ recursive calls,
 - each on an input of size $n/b = n/2$,
 - and then spends $O(n^d) = O(n^1)$ time “combining” the results.

• So,

$$T(n) = \underbrace{k}_{\text{分治子问题数量}} T(\underbrace{n/b}_{\text{子问题分割大小}}) + \underbrace{O(n^d)}_{\text{recurr step effect}} = \begin{cases} O(n^d) & \text{if } k < b^d \\ O(n^d \log n) & \text{if } k = b^d \\ O(n^{\log_b k}) & \text{if } k > b^d \end{cases}$$

∴ The runtime of **MergeSort** is $O(n \log n)$.

∴ The runtime of **MergeSort** is $O(n \log n)$.

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(Another example of divide and conquer)

Karatsuba's integer multiplication

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General Goal: Fast Integer Arithmetic

- **Goal:**
 - implement basic arithmetic operations, e.g., +, -, *, /, <<, etc.
 - on **big integers** with a **non-constant number of digits**
- Many programming languages support this.
- **Want:** fast algo in term of the input size ($n = \# \text{ digits}$)?

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Integer Addition

- Given n -digit integers x and y
- **Goal:** compute $x + y$ and $x - y$
- **Easy:** add digits one at a time and keep a “carry” digit
- **Q:** What’s the runtime?
 - $O(n)$. Nice!

$$\begin{array}{r} 1196 \\ + 985 \\ \hline 2181 \end{array}$$

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Today's Goal: Integer Multiplication

- Given n -digit *positive* integers x and y
- **Goal:** compute $x * y$
- **Easy:** do “grade-school” method
- **Q:** What’s the runtime?
 - $O(n^2)$. Yikes!

		3	4
*		3	9
	3	0	6
1	0	2	
1	3	2	6

				1	2	3	4	5
x				5	4	3	2	1
+				1	2	3	4	5
+			2	4	6	9	0	
+		3	7	0	3	5		
+		4	9	3	8	0		
+	6	1	7	2	5			
=	6	7	0	5	9	2	4	5

Splitting a Number

- Let's try to apply Divide & Conquer approach for Multiplication.
- **Starting point:** we can “divide” number...

$$\bullet 376280 = 376 \cdot 10^3 + 280$$

- **Observation 1:** N an n -digit number (assume n is even)
- N can be split into $n/2$ low-order digits & $n/2$ high-order digits:

$$N = a \cdot 10^{\frac{n}{2}} + b$$

$\leftarrow n/2 \text{ digits} \rightarrow$
 N

a	b
-----	-----

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Divide and Conquer Multiplication

- **Input:** x and y , two n -digit numbers (assume n is a power of 2)
- Split x and y into $n/2$ low-order digits & $n/2$ high-order digits:
 - $x = a \cdot 10^{n/2} + b$
 - $y = c \cdot 10^{n/2} + d$

	$\leftarrow n/2 \text{ digits} \rightarrow$	$\leftarrow n/2 \text{ digits} \rightarrow$
x	a	b
y	c	d

- Compute $x \times y = a \times c \cdot 10^n + (a \times d + b \times c) \cdot 10^{n/2} + b \times d$

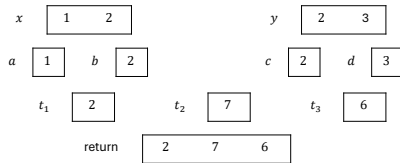
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Divide and Conquer?

```

Mult(x, y): // x, y are n-digit positive integers
if n = 1 then return x · y           // base case; hard-code
(a, b) ← split digits of x into halves // x = a · 10n/2 + b
(c, d) ← split digits of y into halves // y = c · 10n/2 + d
t1 ← Mult(a, c)                     // = ac
t2 ← Mult(a, d) + Mult(b, c)        // = ad + bc
t3 ← Mult(b, d)                     // = bd
return (t1 << n) + (t2 << n/2) + t3

```



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Analysis

• Correctness: Clear

- **Input:** x and y
- We correctly compute

$$x \times y = a \times c \cdot 10^n + (a \times d + b \times c) \cdot 10^{n/2} + b \times d$$

where $x = a \cdot 10^{n/2} + b$
 $y = c \cdot 10^{n/2} + d$

• Runtime:

- 4 (recursive) multiplications of $n/2$ -digit numbers
- 2 left shifts ($O(n)$ time)
- 3 additions ($O(n)$ time)
- $T(n)$ = time to multiply two n -digit numbers
- $T(n) = 4T(n/2) + O(n)$. So $k = 4, b = 2, d = 1 \Rightarrow k/b^d = 2 > 1$
- **Conclusion:** $T(n) = O(n^{\log_2 4}) = O(n^2)$.

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} O(n^d) & \text{if } (k/b^d) < 1 \\ O(n^d \log n) & \text{if } (k/b^d) = 1 \\ O(n^{\log_b k}) & \text{if } (k/b^d) > 1 \end{cases}$$

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Divide and Conquer Multiplication

Conclusion:

- Simple, well-known long-multiplication algorithm: $O(n^2)$
- Complicated and scary Divide and Conquer algorithm: $O(n^2)$



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(Earlier, Gauss used the same trick in a different context)

Karatsuba's idea!

$O(n^2)$

Around 1956, the famous Soviet mathematician **Andrey Kolmogorov** conjectured that this is the *best possible way* to multiply two numbers together.

Just a few years later, Kolmogorov's conjecture was shown to be spectacularly wrong.

In 1960, Anatoly Karatsuba, a 23-year-old mathematics student in Russia, discovered a **sneaky algebraic trick** that reduces the number of multiplications needed.

We can multiply using 3 recursive calls, not 4!

$$O(n^{\log_2 3})$$



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Previous slow algo

```

Mult(x, y): // x, y are n-digit positive integers
...           // split x, y
t1 ← Mult(a, c) // = ac
t2 ← Mult(a, d) + Mult(b, c) // = ad + bc
t3 ← Mult(b, d) // = bd
return (t1 << n) + (t2 << n/2) + t3

```

A Neat Trick

- Let's stare at this identity again:

$$xy = (a \cdot 10^{n/2} + b)(c \cdot 10^{n/2} + d) = ac \cdot 10^n + (ad + bc) \cdot 10^{n/2} + bd$$

- **Think:**

- Could we write $ad + bc$ in terms of ac (t_1), bd (t_3), and *something else* that only uses **one multiplication** (not two)?

$$ad + bc = (a + b)(c + d) - ac - bd$$

- **So:** can compute $t_2 = ad + bc$ as $(a + b)(c + d) - t_1 - t_3$, using only a **one recursive call** to **Mult** (not two)!

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Karatsuba's Algorithm

```

Karatsuba(x, y): // x, y are n-digit positive integers
if n = 1 then return x · y           // base case; hard-code
(a, b) ← split digits of x into halves // x = a · 10n/2 + b
(c, d) ← split digits of y into halves // y = c · 10n/2 + d
t1 ← Karatsuba(a, c)                 // = ac
t4 ← Karatsuba(a + b, c + d)         // = (a + b)(c + d)
t3 ← Karatsuba(b, d)                 // = bd
t2 ← t4 - t1 - t3                 // = ad + bc
return (t1 << n) + (t2 << n/2) + t3

```

Next: The runtime of **Karatsuba** is $O(n^{1.585})$.

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Example: Karatsuba

- On an input of size n , the **Mult** algorithm makes
 - $k = 3$ recursive calls,
 - each on an input of size $n/b = n/2$, and then
 - spends $O(n^d) = O(n^1)$ time "combining" the results.
- Let $T(n)$ be the runtime of the algorithm on inputs of size n .
- Then we can write:

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} kT(n/b) + O(n^d) & \text{if } k < b^d \\ O(n^d \log n) & \text{if } k = b^d \\ O(n^{\log_b k}) & \text{if } k > b^d \end{cases}$$

∴ The runtime of **Mult** is $O(n^{\log_2 3})$.

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Question: It is possible to do even better than Karatsuba multiplication?

Answer: Yes - the best known result is $O(n \log n)$ by Harvey and van der Hoeven. It's from 2019!

Unfortunately, the hidden constants are *enormous*:

"...the proof given in our paper only works for ludicrously large numbers. Even if each digit was written on a hydrogen atom, there would not be nearly enough room available in the observable universe to write them down." - [David Harvey](#)

Open problem: Can this be improved to $O(n)$?

Conjecture: No (but we don't know—maybe possible!)

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History

- 1960: **Kolmogorov** conjectured “you need $\Omega(n^2)$ ops.”
- Within a week: **Karatsuba** $O(n^{\log_2 3}) = O(n^{1.58})$

- 1971: **Schönhage, Strassen** $O(n \log n \log \log n)$
- 2007: **Fürer** and some more works after... $O(n \log n 2^{O(\log^* n)})$
- 2019: **Harvey, Hoeven** $O(n \log n)$
- 2019: **Afshani et al.** $\Omega(n \log n)$ assuming the **network coding conjecture!**

Based on
Fast Fourier Transform
(take EECS 477)

Surprising connection!

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Upshot: Divide-and-Conquer Algorithms

Main Idea:

1. **Divide** the problem into smaller sub-problems (creative step)
2. **Conquer** (solve) each sub-problem *recursively* (easy step)
3. **Combine** the solutions (creative step)

Designing the Algorithm + Proving Correctness: an “art”

- Depends on problem structure, ad-hoc, creative

Running time Analysis: “mechanical”

- Express runtime using a recurrence
- Can often solve using the “Master Theorem”