

# Divide and Conquer Algorithms

- A general paradigm for algorithm design; inspired by emperors and colonizers.
1. Divide the problem into smaller problems.
  2. Conquer by solving these problems.
  3. Combine these results together.

## Binary Search

- Search for  $x$  in sorted array  $A$ .
- If  $x$  is equal to the middle element of  $A$ , search is complete
- If  $x$  is less than the middle element of  $A$ , search on the left half of  $A$
- Else, search on the right half of  $A$

### Time Complexity

- Let  $T(n)$  denote the worst-case time to binary search in an array of length  $n$ .
- Recurrence is  $T(n) = T(n/2) + O(1)$ .
- $T(n) = O(\log n)$

```
In [2]: def binarySearch(target: int, arr: list, left: int, right: int) -> int:
        if left > right:
            return -1

        middle = (left + right) // 2
        if target == arr[middle]:
            return middle
        elif target < arr[middle]:
            return binarySearch(target, arr, left, middle - 1)
        else: #target > arr[middle]
            return binarySearch(target, arr, middle + 1, right)

print(binarySearch(-1, list(range(10)), 0, 9))
print(binarySearch(10, list(range(10)), 0, 9))
print(binarySearch(5, list(range(10)), 0, 9))
```

## Merge Sort

- Sort an unsorted array of numbers  $A$
- If array is one element, return  $A$
- Otherwise, recursively call mergesort on the left and right halves of  $A$
- Then, merge the sorted result of the left and right halves of  $A$

### Time Complexity

- Let  $T(n)$  denote the worst-case time to merge sort an array of length  $n$ .

- Recurrence is  $T(n) = 2T(n/2) + O(n)$ .
- $T(n) = O(n \log n)$

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## Multiplying Numbers

- We want to multiply two  $n$ -bit numbers. Cost is number of elementary bit steps.
- Grade school method has  $O(n^2)$  cost:  $n^2$  multiplies,  $n^2/2$  additions, plus some carries.

### Karatsuba's Algorithm

- Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be two  $n$ -bit numbers. Write  $X = ab$ ,  $Y = cd$  where  $ab$  and  $cd$  are concatenated to form an  $n$ -bit number.
- $a, b, c, d$  are  $n/2$  bit numbers. (Assume  $n = 2^k$ .)  

$$XY = (a2^{n/2} + b)(c2^{n/2} + d) = ac2^n + (ad + bc)2^{n/2} + bd$$
- Note that  $(a - b)(c - d) = (ac + bd) - (ad + bc)$ .
- Solve 3 subproblems:  $ac, bd, (a - b)(c - d)$ .
- We can get all the terms needed for  $XY$  by addition and subtraction!

### Time Complexity

- The recurrence for this algorithm is  $T(n) = 3T(n/2) + O(n) = O(n^{\log_2(3)})$ .
- The complexity is  $O(n^{\log_2(3)}) = O(n^{1.59})$ .

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## Recurrence Solving

- Expand terms until a general formula is reached.
- Substitute for base case and solve.
- Can also use tree view with number of levels and work per level.
- Can solve by induction.

### Master Method

- Recurrence in the form

$$T(n) = O(n^{\log_b(a)}) + \sum_{i=0}^{\log_b(n)-1} a^i f\left(\frac{n}{b^i}\right)$$

- Let  $f(n) = O(n^p \log^k(n))$  where  $p, k \geq 0$
- Condition:  $a \geq 1, b > 1$  must be constant
- Case 1:  $p < \log_b a \Rightarrow n^{\log_b(a)}$  grows faster than  $f(n)$ . Thus,  $T(n) = O(n^{\log_b(a)})$ .
- Case 2:  $p = \log_b a \Rightarrow$  both terms have same growth rates, thus  $O(n^{\log_b(a)} \log^{k+1}(n))$
- Case 3:  $p > \log_b a \Rightarrow n^{\log_b(a)}$  grows slower than  $f(n)$ . Thus,  $T(n) = O(f(n))$

## Matrix Multiplication

- Multiply two  $n \times n$  matrices:  $C = A \times B$ .

### Traditional Algorithm

- Standard Method:  $C[i][j] = \sum_{k=1}^n A[i][k] \times B[k][j]$
- For every element in  $C$ , it takes  $O(n)$  computations.
- There are  $n^2$  elements in  $C$  so it takes  $O(n^3)$ .

### Strassen's Algorithm

- Let  $A, B$  be two  $n \times n$  matrices.
- Divide matrices  $A, B, C$  into four  $n/2 \times n/2$  submatrices.

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{pmatrix}; B = \begin{pmatrix} b_{11} & b_{12} \\ b_{21} & b_{22} \end{pmatrix}; C = \begin{pmatrix} c_{11} & c_{12} \\ c_{21} & c_{22} \end{pmatrix}$$

- We can rewrite the product matrices as the following:

$$c_{11} = a_{11} * b_{11} + a_{12} * b_{21}$$

$$c_{12} = a_{11} * b_{12} + a_{12} * b_{22}$$

$$c_{21} = a_{21} * b_{11} + a_{22} * b_{21}$$

$$c_{22} = a_{21} * b_{12} + a_{22} * b_{22}$$

- However, the recurrence for this relation listed below solves to  $O(n^3)$ :

$$T(n) = 8T(n/2) + O(n^2)$$

- Can reduce to seven multiplications using the following matrices:

$$P_1 = (a_{11} + a_{22})(b_{11} + b_{22})$$

$$P_2 = (a_{21} + a_{22})(b_{11})$$

$$P_3 = (a_{11})(b_{12} - b_{22})$$

$$P_4 = (a_{22})(b_{21} - b_{11})$$

$$P_5 = (a_{11} + a_{12})(b_{22})$$

$$P_6 = (a_{21} - a_{11})(b_{11} + b_{12})$$

$$P_7 = (a_{12} - a_{22})(b_{21} + b_{22})$$

- We can rewrite the product matrices as the following:

$$c_{11} = P_1 + P_4 - P_5 + P_7$$

$$c_{12} = P_3 + P_5$$

$$c_{21} = P_2 + P_4$$

$$c_{22} = P_1 + P_3 - P_2 + P_6$$

- The recurrence for this relation listed below solves to  $O(n^{\log_2(7)}) = O(n^{2.81})$ :

$$T(n) = 7T(n/2) + O(n^2)$$

## Quicksort

- Simple, fast, and does not require extra space

## Algorithm

- Partition around a pivot, splitting into elements smaller than the pivot, denoted  $L$ , and elements greater than the pivot, denoted  $R$
- Sort  $L$  and  $R$  recursively
- Combine by appending  $R$  to  $L$

## Time Complexity

- $T(n)$  denotes the randomized runtime of Quicksort
- Each element randomly likely to be chosen as a pivot so there is  $1/n$  probability that  $i$  is the pivot.
- Recurrence denoted by the following relation:

$$T(n) = 1/n * \sum_{i=1}^n (T(i-1) + T(n-i)) + n + 1$$

$$T(n) = 2/n * \sum_{i=1}^n T(i-1) + n + 1$$

$$T(n) = 2/n * \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} T(i) + n + 1$$

$$(1) : n * T(n) = 2 * \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} T(i) + n^2 + n$$

$$(2) : (n-1) * T(n-1) = 2 * \sum_{i=0}^{n-2} T(i) + (n-1)^2 + (n-1)$$

- Subtract (2) from (1) to arrive at the following:

$$n * T(n) = (n+1) * T(n-1) + 2n$$

$$\frac{T(n)}{n+1} = \frac{T(n-1)}{n} + \frac{2}{n+1}$$

$$\frac{T(n)}{n+1} = \frac{T(n-2)}{n-1} + \frac{2}{n} + \frac{2}{n+1}$$

$$\frac{T(n)}{n+1} = \frac{T(2)}{3} + \sum_{i=3}^n \frac{2}{i}$$

$$\frac{T(n)}{n+1} = O(1) + 2 \ln(n)$$

- Thus,  $T(n) \leq 2(n+1) \ln(n)$ , which is linearithmic.

## Extrema Finding

- We can find the maximum and minimum in linear time with  $n$  comparisons.
- We can divide and conquer to find both the min and max in  $3n/2$  comparisons.

### Min Algorithm

- Initialize current minimum to be the first element.
- Iterate through the rest of the elements; if any element is less than the current minimum, set it as the new current minimum.

### Min Max Algorithm

- If the list  $A$  contains a single element,  $\min = \max = A[0]$ .
- Divide into two equal sublists  $A_1, A_2$  and recursively find both the min and the max of both sublists. Then, return the more extreme of the two results for each min and max.

### Time Complexity

- 2 calls on half the list + 2 comparisons has a recurrence of the following:

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

Using the recurrence expansion method, we get...

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= 2 * (2 * T(n/2^2) + 2) + 2 = 2^2 * T(n/2^2) + 2^2 + 2 \\ T(n) &= 2^2 * (2 * T(n/2^3) + 2) + 2^2 + 2 = 2^3 * T(n/2^3) + 2^3 + 2^2 + 2 \end{aligned}$$

...

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= 2^i * T(n/2^i) + 2^i + \dots + 2 = 2^i * T(n/2^i) + 2(2^{i-1} + \dots + 2 + 1) \\ T(n) &= 2^i * T(n/2^i) + 2(2^i - 1) = 2^i * T(n/2^i) + 2 * 2^i - 2 \end{aligned}$$

Use  $T(2) = 1$ . Then  $n/2^i = 2$  when  $i = \log_2 n/2$

Substitute  $i$  to get the recursion  $T(n) = n/2 + 2 * n/2 - 2 = 3n/2 - 2$

```
In [3]: def findMin(l: list) -> float:
         minimum = l[0]
         for element in l[1:]:
             minimum = element if element < minimum else minimum
         return minimum
print(findMin(list(range(10, 0, -1))))
```

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```
In [6]: def minMax(l: list) -> tuple:
        if len(l) == 1:
            return (l[0], l[0])
        elif len(l) == 2:
            return (l[0], l[1]) if l[0] < l[1] else (l[1], l[0])
        else:
            half = len(l) // 2
            min1, max1 = minMax(l[:half])
            min2, max2 = minMax(l[half:])
            minimum = min1 if min1 < min2 else min2
            maximum = max1 if max1 > max2 else max2
            return (minimum, maximum)
print(minMax(list(range(20))))
```

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## Linear Time Selection

- Find the item of rank  $k$  in the list (indexed 1 as smallest and  $n$  as largest).

### Algorithm

- Divide items into  $n/5$  groups of 5 each.
- Find the median of each group using sorting.
- Recursively find median of  $n/5$  group medians.
- Partition using median-of-medians,  $x$ , as a pivot.
- Let low side have  $s$  items and high side have  $n - s$  items. If  $k \leq s$ , call this algorithm on the low side. Else, call this algorithm on the high side for rank  $k - s$ .

### Correctness Proof

- The base case is trivial.
- If we call the low side, when  $k \leq x$ , we consider all items not in the quadrant greater than  $x$ . We use the inductive hypothesis to assume this recursion returns the correct result.
- Without loss of generality, we can apply this to the high side as well.

### Time Complexity

- Recursively finding the group median is a recursive call of  $T(n/5)$ .
- Recursively calling the low or high side is a recursive call of  $T(7n/10)$  as there are  $1/2 * n/5$  groups contributing at least 3 items to the opposite side.
- All other work can be done in linear time.
- The recurrence relation is the following:

$$T(n) \leq T(n/5) + T(7n/10) + O(n)$$

- We can inductively verify  $T(n) \leq cn$  for some constant  $c$ :

$$T(n) \leq c(n/5) + c(7n/10) + O(n)$$

$$T(n) \leq (9/10)cn + O(n) \leq cn$$

$$T(n) \leq O(n) \leq cn/10$$

- Choose  $c$  so that  $cn/10$  beats  $O(n)$  for all  $n$ . Thus,  $T(n) \leq cn$ , meaning it runs in linear time.

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## Convex Hulls

- Smallest convex shape that contains a set of points

### Algorithm

- Sort points by x-coordinates.
- Partition points into equal halves  $A$  (left) and  $B$  (right).
- Recursively compute the convex hull of  $A$  and  $B$ .
- Merge the convex hulls of  $A$  and  $B$  to arrive at the overall convex hull: start at the rightmost point  $a$  of  $A$  and leftmost point  $b$  of  $B$ ; while  $a, b$  is not the lower tangent of the convex hulls of  $A$  and  $B$ : move  $A$  clockwise around points of  $A$  until it is a tangent of  $A$ , move  $b$  counter clockwise until it is a tangent of  $B$ . Then, repeat the process for the upper tangent in the reverse direction. Remove edges that were travelled in the rotation.

### Correctness Proof

- Tangent of both objects does not cutoff any point
- Tangent of both objects also does not add any additional unnecessary space
- We explicitly check for tangent of both sides and remove unnecessary edges

### Time Complexity

- Initial sorting takes  $O(n \log(n))$ .
- Recurrence =  $T(n) = 2T(n/2) + O(n)$  with  $O(n)$  for tangent merging.
- Recurrence solves to  $O(n \log(n))$ .

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