

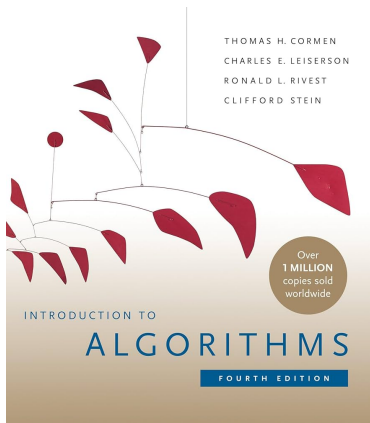
Introduction to Algorithms

Lecture 3: Divide and Conquer

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Massachusetts Institute of Technology

February 18, 2025

Introduction to Algorithms



Content has been extracted from *Introduction to Algorithms*, Fourth Edition, by Cormen, Leiserson, Rivest, and Stein. MIT Press. 2022.

Visit <https://mitpress.mit.edu/9780262046305/introduction-to-algorithms/>.

Original slides from *Introduction to Algorithms 6.046J/18.401J*, Fall 2005 Class by Prof. Charles Leiserson and Prof. Erik Demaine. MIT OpenCourseWare Initiative available at <https://ocw.mit.edu/courses/6-046j-introduction-to-algorithms-sma-5503-fall-2005/>.

The Divide & Conquer Design Paradigm

1. **Divide** the problem (instance) into subproblems.
2. **Conquer** the subproblems by solving them recursively.
3. **Combine** subproblems solutions.

Merge-sort

1. **Divide:** Trivial.
2. **Conquer:** Recursively sort 2 subarrays.
3. **Combine:** Linear-time merge.

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The diagram illustrates the recurrence relation $T(n) = 2T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + \Theta(n)$. A red arrow points from the text "Number of subproblems." to the coefficient "2". A blue arrow points from the text "Subproblem size." to the fraction $\frac{n}{2}$. An orange arrow points from the text "Work dividing and combining." to the $\Theta(n)$ term.

Master Theorem (reprise)

$$T(n) = aT\left(\frac{n}{b}\right) + f(n)$$

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Case 1

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Case 2

$$\begin{aligned} f(n) &= \Theta\left(n^{\log_b a} \lg^k n\right), \text{ constant } k \geq 0 \\ \implies T(n) &= \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \lg^{k+1} n). \end{aligned}$$

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Case 3

$$f(n) = \Omega\left(n^{\log_b(a) + \varepsilon}\right), \text{ constant } \varepsilon > 0, \text{ and regularity condition} \\ \implies T(n) = \Theta(f(n)).$$

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$$\begin{aligned} \text{MERGE-SORT: } a = 2, b = 2 &\implies n^{\log_b a} = n^{\log_2 2} = n \\ \implies \text{Case 2 } (k = 0) &\implies T(n) = \Theta(n \lg n). \end{aligned}$$

Plan

Binary Search

Powering a Number

Fibonacci Numbers

Matrix Multiplication

Strassen's Algorithm

VLSI Tree Layout

Binary Search

Find an element in a sorted array:

1. **Divide:** Check middle element.
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Example:

Find 9

3	5	7	8	9	12	15
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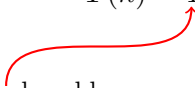
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$$\begin{aligned}\text{BINARY SEARCH: } a = 1, b = 2 &\implies n^{\log_b a} = n^{\log_2 1} = n^0 = 1 \\ &\implies \text{Case 2 } (k = 0) \implies T(n) = \Theta(\lg n).\end{aligned}$$

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Powering a Number

Problem:

Compute a^n , where $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

Naive algorithm:

$\Theta(n)$.

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$$a^n = \begin{cases} a^{\frac{n}{2}} \cdot a^{\frac{n}{2}} & \text{if } n \text{ is even;} \\ a^{\frac{n-1}{2}} \cdot a^{\frac{n-1}{2}} \cdot a & \text{if } n \text{ is odd.} \end{cases}$$

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$$T(n) = T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + \Theta(1) \dots$$

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Fibonacci Numbers

Recursive definition:

$$F_n = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } n = 0; \\ 1 & \text{if } n = 1; \\ F_{n-1} + F_{n-2} & \text{if } n \geq 2. \end{cases}$$

0 1 1 2 3 5 8 13 21 34 ...

Fibonacci Numbers

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Naive recursive algorithm:

$$\Omega(\phi^n)$$

(exponential time), where $\phi = \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}$ is the golden ratio.

Computing Fibonacci Numbers

Bottom-up:

- ▶ Compute $F_0, F_1, F_2, \dots, F_n$ in order, forming each number by summing the two previous.
- ▶ Running time: $\Theta(n)$.

¹Computer Floating-Point Arithmetic and round-off errors, Kaluarachchi, 2022.

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Naïve recursive squaring:

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- ▶ Recursive squaring: $\Theta(\lg n)$ time.
- ▶ This method is unreliable, since floating-point arithmetic is prone to round-off errors¹.

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Recursive Squaring

Theorem:

$$\begin{bmatrix} F_{n+1} & F_n \\ F_n & F_{n-1} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}^n.$$

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Proof of theorem. (Induction on n .)

Base ($n = 1$):

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Proof of theorem. (Induction on n .)

Base ($n = 1$):

$$\begin{bmatrix} F_2 & F_1 \\ F_1 & F_0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}^1$$

Recursive Squaring

Proof of theorem. (Induction on n .)

Inductive step ($n \geq 2$):

Recursive Squaring

Proof of theorem. (Induction on n .)

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$$\begin{aligned} \begin{bmatrix} F_{n+1} & F_n \\ F_n & F_{n-1} \end{bmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} F_n & F_{n-1} \\ F_{n-1} & F_{n-2} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}^{n-1} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}^n \quad \blacksquare \end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{bmatrix} c_{11} & c_{12} & \cdots & c_{1n} \\ c_{21} & c_{22} & \cdots & c_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ c_{n1} & c_{n2} & \cdots & c_{nn} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \cdots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & \cdots & a_{nn} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} b_{11} & b_{12} & \cdots & b_{1n} \\ b_{21} & b_{22} & \cdots & b_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ b_{n1} & b_{n2} & \cdots & b_{nn} \end{bmatrix}$$

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$$c_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^n a_{ik} \cdot b_{kj}$$

Standard Algorithm

```
for  $i \leftarrow 1$  to  $n$  do  
  for  $j \leftarrow 1$  to  $n$  do  
     $c_{ij} \leftarrow 0$   
    for  $k \leftarrow 1$  to  $n$  do  
       $c_{ij} \leftarrow c_{ij} + a_{ik} \cdot b_{kj}$   
    end for  
  end for  
end for
```

Running time $= \Theta(n^3)$

Divide-and-Conquer Algorithm

IDEA:

$n \times n$ matrix = 2×2 matrix of $\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) \times \left(\frac{n}{2}\right)$ submatrices:

$$\begin{bmatrix} r & s \\ t & u \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} e & f \\ g & h \end{bmatrix}$$
$$C = A \cdot B$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{lcl} r & = & ae + bg \\ s & = & af + bh \\ t & = & ce + dg \\ u & = & cf + dh \end{array} \right\}$$

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$$\left. \begin{array}{lcl} r & = & ae + bg \\ s & = & af + bh \\ t & = & ce + dg \\ u & = & cf + dh \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \text{recursive} \\ \uparrow \\ 8 \text{ mults of } \left(\frac{n}{2}\right) \times \left(\frac{n}{2}\right) \text{ submatrices.} \\ 4 \text{ adds of } \left(\frac{n}{2}\right) \times \left(\frac{n}{2}\right) \text{ submatrices.} \end{array}$$

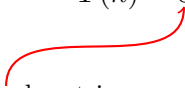
Analysis of D&C Algorithm

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$$T(n) = 8T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + \Theta(n^2)$$

Number of submatrices. Submatrix size. Work adding submatrices.

$$n^{\log_b a} = n^{\log_2 8} = n^3 \implies \text{Case 1} \implies T(n) = \Theta(n^3).$$

No better than the ordinary algorithm.

Plan

Binary Search

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Strassen's Idea

- Multiply 2 matrices with only 7 recursive multiplications.

$$P_1 = a \cdot (f - h)$$

$$P_2 = (a + b) \cdot h$$

$$P_3 = (c + d) \cdot e$$

$$P_4 = d \cdot (g - e)$$

$$P_5 = (a + d) \cdot (e + h)$$

$$P_6 = (b - d) \cdot (g + h)$$

$$P_7 = (a - c) \cdot (e + f)$$

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$$P_7 = (a - c) \cdot (e + f)$$

$$r = P_5 + P_4 - P_2 + P_6$$

$$s = P_1 + P_2$$

$$t = P_3 + P_4$$

$$u = P_5 + P_1 - P_3 - P_7$$

7 mults, 18 adds/subs.

NOTE:

No reliance on commutativity of multiplication!

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$$P_7 = (a - c) \cdot (e + f)$$

$$r = P_5 + P_4 - P_2 + P_6$$

$$= (a + d)(e + h)$$

$$+ d(g - e) - (a + b)h$$

$$+ (b - d)(g + h)$$

$$= ae + ah + de + dh$$

$$+ dg - de - ah - bh$$

$$+ bg + bh - dg - dn$$

$$= ae + bg$$

Strassen's Algorithm

1. **Divide:** Partition A and B into $\frac{n}{2} \times \frac{n}{2}$ submatrices. Form terms to be multiplied using $+$ and $-$.
2. **Conquer:** Perform 7 multiplications of $\frac{n}{2} \times \frac{n}{2}$ submatrices recursively.
3. **Combine:** Form C using $+$ and $-$ on $\frac{n}{2} \times \frac{n}{2}$ submatrices.

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$$T(n) = 7T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + \Theta(n^2)$$

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$$n^{\log_b a} = n^{\log_2 7} = n^{2.81} \implies \text{Case 1} \implies T(n) = \Theta(n^{\lg 7}).$$

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Best to date (of theoretical interest only): $\Theta(n^{2.376\dots})$.

Plan

Binary Search

Powering a Number

Fibonacci Numbers

Matrix Multiplication

Strassen's Algorithm

VLSI Tree Layout

VLSI Layout

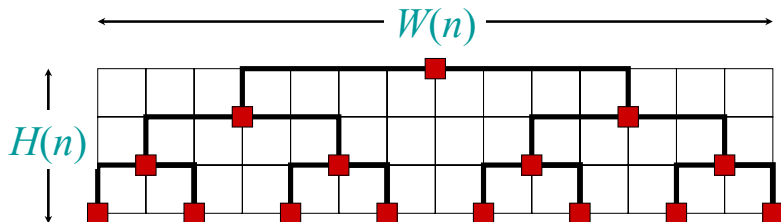
Problem:

Embed a complete binary tree with n leaves in a grid using minimal area.

VLSI Layout

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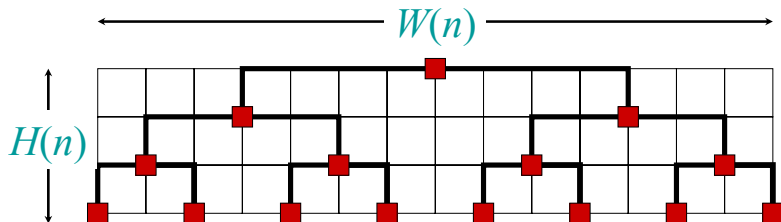
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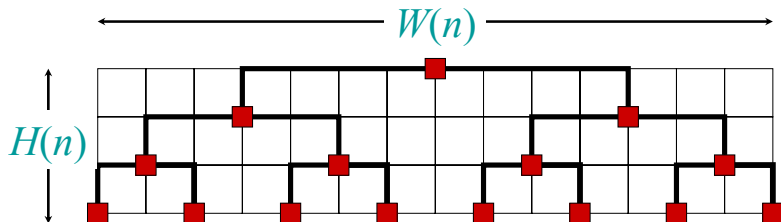


$$\begin{aligned} H(n) &= H\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + \Theta(1) \\ &= \Theta(\lg n) \end{aligned}$$

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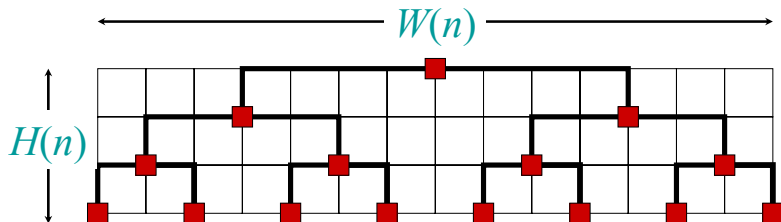
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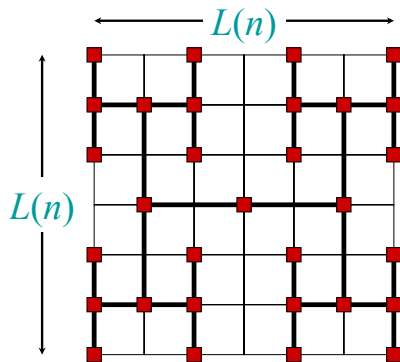


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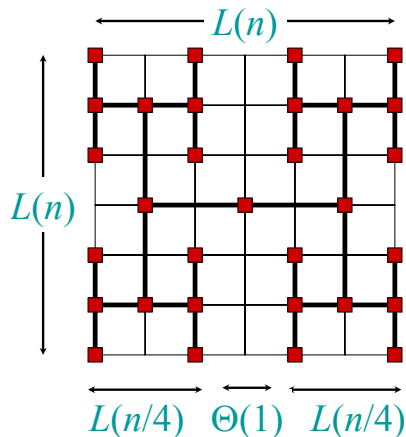
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$$\mathbf{Area:} = \Theta(n \ln n)$$

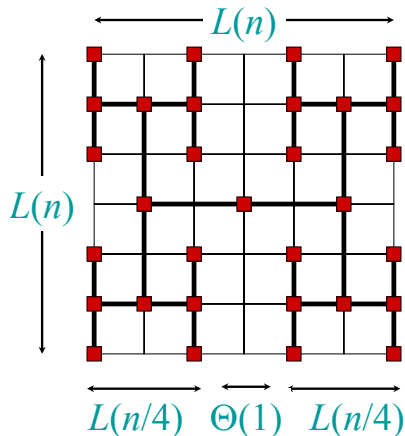
H-tree Embedding



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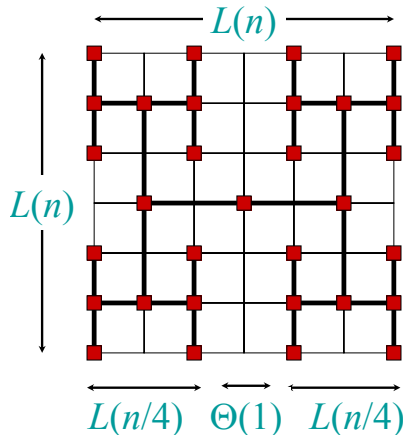


H-tree Embedding



$$\begin{aligned} L(n) &= 2L\left(\frac{n}{4}\right) + \Theta(1) \\ &= \Theta(\sqrt{n}) \end{aligned}$$

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$$\text{Area} = \Theta(n)$$

Conclusions

- ▶ Divide and conquer is just one of several powerful techniques for algorithm design.
- ▶ Divide-and-conquer algorithms can be analyzed using recurrences and the master method (so practice this math).
- ▶ The divide-and-conquer strategy often leads to efficient algorithms.

End of Lecture 3.



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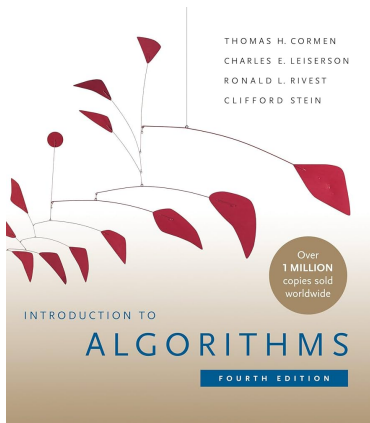
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Introduction to Algorithms



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