

MAXIMUM CONTIGUOUS SUM - DIVIDE AND CONQUER!

① Divide and Conquer

In DAC - we generally split our list into two (or more) sublists (generally equal size, not always).

Do something w/ those sublists - generally recursive.

Combine the results.

Often other work!

② Applying to MCS

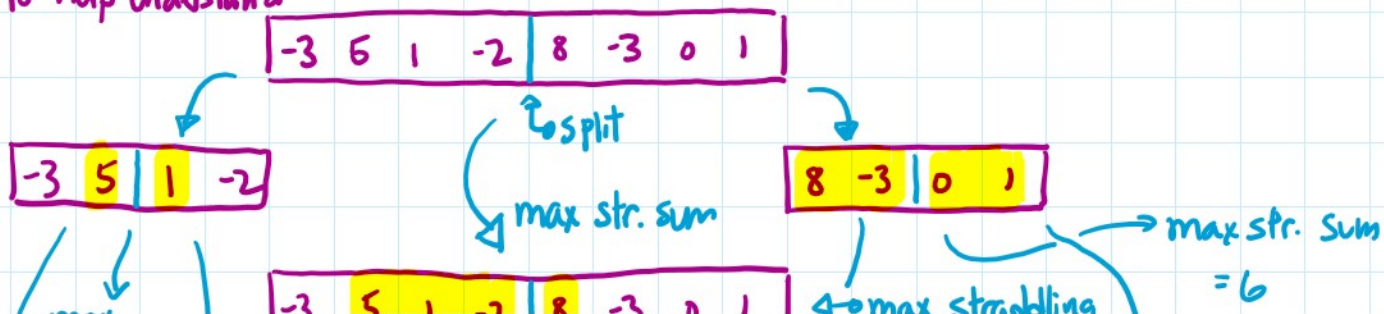
observe: For a list of length = 1, MCS = that single element ⊗

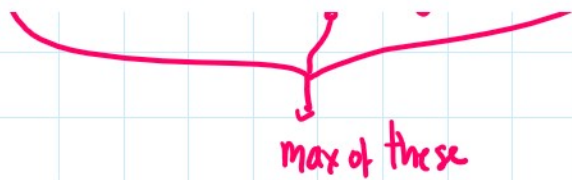
Thus we proceed as follows:

Given a list of length n we:

- divide in half (or as close as possible)
- find MCS via recursion for each of those, noting ⊗ which is where recursion ends
- w/ the list we've split in half we find the maximum straddling sum - max sum which "straddles" the splitting point.
- at each step we take the max from among our recursive calls and our max. straddling sum.

ex to help understand!





③ Pseudocode!

```

function mcs(A,L,R)
  if L == R
    return(A[L])
  else
    C = (L+R) // 2
    Lmax = mcs(A,L,C)
    Rmax = mcs(A,C+1,R)
    \\ Calculate the straddle max
    Lhsum = -infinity
    Lhsum = 0
    for i = C downto L
      Lhsum = Lhsum + A[i]
      if Lhsum > Lhmax
        Lhmax = Lhsum
    end
    Rhsum = -infinity
    Rhsum = 0
    for i = C+1 to R
      Rhsum = Rhsum + A[i]
      if Rhsum > Rhmax
        Rhmax = Rhsum
    end
    Smax = Lhmax + Rhmax
    \\ Return the overall max
    return(max([Lmax,Rmax,Smax]))
  end
end
result = mcs(A,0,len(A)-1)

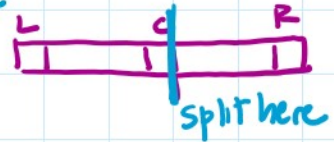
```

list = A. L,R = indices of the part of the list we're looking at

if length=1, return the element

splits at c

Recursive calls



Finds the max. Straddling sum!

$C - L + 1$ times
c

Finds max



$R - (C + 1) + 1 = R - C$ times
c

Find max



add those

choose maximum!

call on list!

④ Time Complexity

How can we do this w/ a recursive alg?

- At 0th Level of recursion (top level)

we do some $\Theta(1)$ things like $C = (L+R) // 2$ ← ignore b/c of the c_n below

we make 2 recursive calls (don't count yet!)

we find max straddling sum → do n steps (half on each side)

and each takes $\Theta(1)$ time (in fact time c)

total time at 0th level essentially c_n

- At 1st Level we have 2 lists of length $\frac{n}{2}$
w/ each, same as above.

total time at 1st level essentially $c(\frac{n}{2}) + c(\frac{n}{2}) = c_n$

- At 2nd Level we have 4 lists of length $\frac{n}{4}$

total time at 1st level essentially $c(\frac{n}{2}) + c(\frac{n}{2}) = cn$

- At 2nd level we have 4 lists of length $\frac{n}{4}$

w/ each, same as above

total time at 2nd level essentially $c(\frac{n}{4}) + c(\frac{n}{4}) + c(\frac{n}{4}) + c(\frac{n}{4}) = cn$

- Each level of rec: time = cn

Q: when does this stop?!

✓ stop at some k

A: Levels of rec. go $0, 1, 2, \dots, k$

At level k , list length is $\frac{n}{2^k}$

rec. ends when length = 1, so

$$\frac{n}{2^k} = 1 \quad \underline{\text{so}} \quad 2^k = n \quad \underline{\text{so}} \quad k = \lg n$$

we have levels $0, 1, 2, \dots, \lg n \leftarrow 1 + \lg n$ levels total!

Each level takes cn time. for a total of
 $cn(1 + \lg n)$

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

Note this is "better" = faster than $\Theta(n^2)$ we had
for brute force!

⑤ Can we do still better? yes!