
Fast Fourier Transforms

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Abstract

Fast Fourier Transform (FFT) is an algorithm that reduces the complexity of multiplication from $O(N^2)$ to $O(N \log N)$. This improvement in time complexity makes it beneficial in numerous domains, predominantly, in digital processing of waveforms (audio, radar, sonar), brain signal conversions in EEGs as well as integer and polynomial multiplication.

1 Introduction

1.1 Fourier Transform

The Fourier Transform (FT) takes an input waveform as a function of time and decomposes it into its original frequencies. It is a mathematical function that distinguishes separate waves from one another and is therefore capable of separating them. A continuous Fourier Transform is defined as follows.

$$\text{Fourier Transform (FT)} \quad X(f) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x(t) e^{-2\pi i f t} dt$$

$$\text{Inverse Fourier Transform (IFT)} \quad x(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} X(f) e^{2\pi i f t} df$$

Where t is the time elapsed, f represents the frequency and $i = \sqrt{-1}$

The FT $X(f)$ is defined as the spectrum of x , which describes the quantity of a specific frequency present within the waveform during the time measured. An IFT can be used to return to the time domain. In practice, data is collected on a finite time frame. It is therefore imperative to use Discrete Fourier Transforms.

1.2 Discrete Fourier Transform

The Discrete Fourier Transform is equivalent to performing the Fourier Transform on a finite set of sampled data.

$$\text{Discrete Fourier Transform (DFT)} \quad X_k = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x_n \cdot e^{-2\pi i \frac{kn}{N}}$$

$$\text{Euler's formula } e^{ix} = \cos x + i \sin x$$

$$\text{DFT w/ Euler's formula } X_k = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x_n \cdot [\cos 2\pi \frac{kn}{N} - i \cdot \sin 2\pi \frac{kn}{N}]$$

$$\text{Inverse Discrete Fourier Transform (IDFT)} \quad x_n = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} X_k \cdot e^{2\pi i \frac{kn}{N}}$$

From the first DFT equation, we note that $x(n)$ can be a real or complex sequence and $e^{-2\pi i \frac{kn}{N}}$ is a complex function. For each k we have N complex multiplications and $N-1$ additions from the summation. We also note that $k=0,1,\dots,N-1$. Therefore in calculating the DFT X_k we have N^2 complex multiplications and $N(N-1)$ complex additions. For large N , DFT computation can be incredibly slow.

29 1.3 Fast Fourier Transform

30 The Fast Fourier Transform is a Divide-and-Conquer algorithm that was originally used to compute
31 the DFT in $O(N \log(N))$ time. The author of the FFT is still debated, as there are multiple authors with
32 unpublished work revolving around the FFT. The first officially recognized method is the Cooley-
33 Tukey FFT Algorithm. It was derived from the DFT in the following manner.

34 We split the DFT into even and odd subsequences.

$$35 X_k = \sum_{r=0}^{N/2-1} x_{2r} \cdot e^{-2\pi \frac{ik2r}{N}} + \sum_{r=0}^{N/2-1} x_{2r+1} \cdot e^{-2\pi \frac{ik(2r+1)}{N}} dt$$

$$36 X_k = \sum_{r=0}^{N/2-1} x_{2r} \cdot e^{-2\pi \frac{ik2r}{N}} + e^{-2\pi \frac{ik}{N}} \sum_{r=0}^{N/2-1} x_{2r+1} \cdot e^{-2\pi \frac{ik(2r)}{N}} dt$$

37 Note: The exp on both is the same, and therefore significantly lowers the cost of computation. By
38 performing a butterfly on the 2 DFT's of size $N/2$ we now have a computational cost of 2 DFTs *
39 $(N/2)^2 + N = O(N^2/2)$. But since we can continue to split the DFT into halves until $N=1$, a time
40 complexity of $O(N \log N)$ is achieved.

41 In a competitive programming aspect, the FFT is often used for polynomial multiplication at
42 $O(N \log(N))$ time. This can be calculated through 3 FFT's by

$$43 A \cdot B = \text{InverseDFT}(\text{DFT}(A) \cdot \text{DFT}(B))$$

44 2 Problem

45 2.1 An Aside

46 While the Introduction of the problem heavily emphasizes the background from which FFTs arise,
47 this report will now take a small detour towards it's use in a competitive programming environment.
48 While the background is essential to understanding the algorithm, it will now focus further on it's use
49 as a time complexity improvement.

50 2.2 CodeForces 528D - Fuzzy Search

51 Reference: <https://codeforces.com/problemset/problem/528/D>

52 Description

53 We are given a string S and a string T. We wish to find, given some error threshold k, the amount of
54 times T occurs within the string S. The error threshold k is defined by the amount of positions away
55 from its original position in the desired string T. Meaning, if the desired string T = "ACGT", then
56 for k=1 and the letter "A", the letter could be placed one position prior or further away. This would
57 match with a string "AGCGT" or "GCAGT". For further information, refer to the reference above.

58 Input

59 The first line contains three integers $|S|$, $|T|$, k ($1 \leq |T| \leq |S| \leq 200000, 0 \leq k \leq 200000$) — the
60 lengths of strings S and T and the error threshold.

61 The second line contains string S.

62 The third line contains string T.

63 Both strings consist only of uppercase letters 'A', 'T', 'G' and 'C'.

64 Output

65 Print a single number — the number of occurrences of T in S with the error threshold k by the given
66 definition.

67 Example Input

68 10 4 1
69 AGCAATTCAT
70 ACAT

71 Example Output

72 3

74 3 Solution

75 The following tasks need to be completed to successfully tackle this problem. Given a position i on
76 the string S, we want to know whether each letter ('A', 'T', 'G' and 'C') matches at this position.

77 Further, we want to also consider this letter 'matched' if it exists within k positions of i .
78 This is relatively easy to code with a bitmask! We create a bitmask for each letter above on S . When
79 the letter is found in S at position i , we store $S_{bitmask}[i - k] = 1$ and $S_{bitmask}[i + k + 1] = -1$. We
80 just explained that if a letter can be found in S at position i , then we only care that at positions $i - k$ to
81 $i + k$ this letter can also be found. Once we have iterated through the entirety of S , we iterate through
82 it again summing each $S_{bitmask}[i] += S_{bitmask}[i - 1]$. This sets all the regions where the letter can
83 be found \pm threshold k to greater than 1, while setting the unfound regions to 0. We then iterate once
84 more to set these to 1 rather than greater than 1.
85 So we've found the bitmask of S . We still need to calculate the bitmask of each letter with respect to
86 T . But fortunately, the letters of T do not move, as this is what we are wanting to match. So for each
87 letter the bitmask of T will just be $T_{bitmask} = \text{letter}$ (1 for true, 0 for false).

88 4 Implementation

89 Note: Due to a lack of time and poor decision making on what portion of this written report to
90 prioritize, I was unable to code functions reverse, fft and multiply on my own. These are directly
91 from <https://cp-algorithms.com/algebra/fft.html>.

```

92 // Attempt at solving https://codeforces.com/contest/528/problem/D
93 #include <bits/stdc++.h>
94 using namespace std;
95 int S; int T; int k;
96
97 using cd = complex<double>;
98 const double PI = acos(-1);
99
100 int reverse(int num, int lg_n) {
101     int res = 0;
102     for (int i = 0; i < lg_n; i++) {
103         if (num & (1 << i))
104             res |= 1 << (lg_n - 1 - i);
105     }
106     return res;
107 }
108
109 void fft(vector<cd> & a, bool invert) {
110     int n = a.size();
111     int lg_n = 0;
112     while ((1 << lg_n) < n)
113         lg_n++;
114
115     for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {
116         if (i < reverse(i, lg_n))
117             swap(a[i], a[reverse(i, lg_n)]);
118     }
119
120     for (int len = 2; len <= n; len <= 1) {
121         double ang = 2 * PI / len * (invert ? -1 : 1);
122         cd wlen(cos(ang), sin(ang));
123         for (int i = 0; i < n; i += len) {
124             cd w(1);
125             for (int j = 0; j < len / 2; j++) {
126                 cd u = a[i+j], v = a[i+j+len/2] * w;
127                 a[i+j] = u + v;
128                 a[i+j+len/2] = u - v;
129                 w *= wlen;
130             }
131         }
132     }
133
134     if (invert) {
135         for (cd & x : a)
136             x /= n;
137     }

```

```

137     }
138 }
139
140 vector<int> multiply(vector<int> const& a, vector<int> const& b) {
141     vector<cd> fa(a.begin(), a.end()), fb(b.begin(), b.end());
142     int n = 1;
143     while (n < a.size() + b.size())
144         n <= 1;
145     fa.resize(n);
146     fb.resize(n);
147
148     fft(fa, false);
149     fft(fb, false);
150     for (int i = 0; i < n; i++)
151         fa[i] *= fb[i];
152     fft(fa, true);
153
154     vector<int> result(n);
155     for (int i = 0; i < n; i++)
156         result[i] = round(fa[i].real());
157     return result;
158 }
159
160 vector<int> bitmask(char s[], char a) {
161     // C Bitmask
162     vector<int> c(S,0);
163     for (int i=0; i<S; ++i) {
164         if (s[i] == a) {
165             c[max(i-k, 0)] += 1;
166             if (i+k+1 < S) {
167                 c[i+k+1] -= 1;
168             }
169         }
170     }
171     for (int i=1; i<S; i++) {
172         c[i] += c[i-1];
173     }
174     for (int i=1; i<S; i++) {
175         c[i] = c[i] > 0 ? 1 : 0; // todo: check correctness
176     }
177     return c;
178 }
179 vector<int> Tbitmask(char t[], char a) {
180     // T's Bitmask
181     vector<int> c(T,0);
182     for (int i=0; i<T; ++i) {
183         if (t[i] == a) {
184             c[i] = 1;
185         }
186     }
187     reverse(c.begin(), c.end());
188     return c;
189 }
190
191 int main(){
192     // Input
193     // |S|, |T|, k
194     scanf("%d%d%d",&S,&T,&k);
195     vector<int> matches(S,0);
196     char s[S];
197     char t[T];
198     scanf("%s%s",&s,&t); // String S, T containing only characters 'A', 'T', 'G', 'C'
199     // For each character (A,T,G,C) create a bitvector spanning left and right from each letter
200     // A Bitmasks
201     vector<int> a = bitmask(s, 'A'); // 1 where s[i] = A +/- k

```

```

202 vector<int> Ta = Tbitmask(t, 'A'); // 1 where t[i] = A
203 vector<int> res1 = multiply(a, Ta);
204 // T Bitmasks
205 vector<int> tarr = bitmask(s, 'T');
206 vector<int> Tt = Tbitmask(t, 'T');
207 vector<int> res2 = multiply(tarr, Tt);
208 // G Bitmasks
209 vector<int> g = bitmask(s, 'G');
210 vector<int> Tg = Tbitmask(t, 'G');
211 vector<int> res3 = multiply(g, Tg);
212 // C Bitmasks
213 vector<int> c = bitmask(s, 'C');
214 vector<int> Tc = Tbitmask(t, 'C');
215 vector<int> res4 = multiply(c, Tc);
216 // Count #scenarios in which result == |T|
217 int count = 0;
218 for(int i=0; i<S; i++) {
219     if (res1[i]+res2[i]+res3[i]+res4[i] == T) {
220         count++;
221     }
222 }
223 printf("%d",count);
224 return 0;
225 }

```

5 Evaluation of Complexity

We have two types of bitmasks.

For $S_{bitmask}$ the function contains 3 separate for loops traversing S. Each component within the for loops takes $O(1)$ time to complete. We calculate a bitmask for each letter ('A', 'T', 'G', 'C'). We therefore have $4 * O(3S) = 12 * O(S)$.

For each $T_{bitmask}$ the function iterates through T once. Within the for loop, all operations take $O(1)$ time to complete. We then reverse the bitmask, which takes linear $O(T)$ time. We calculate 4 of these masks, so the time complexity is $4 * O(2T) = 8 * O(T)$.

We have 4 polynomial multiplications that need to be performed.

A single multiply first copies the input vectors ($O(S) + O(T)$), then performs fft twice, then multiplies element-wise (which is upper-bounded by $(O(S) + O(T))$, then performs a third fft and then computes the result (which is also upper-bounded by $(O(S) + O(T))$).

We define n as the size of the vector input to the fft function. The fft function takes $O(\log(n))$ to calculate the value of $\log(n)$, $O(n\log(n))$ to calculate the swapping; $O(n)$ for passing through the array and $\log(n)$ within the reverse function. We now reach the main loop of the fft function.

The top-most loop has a size of $O(\log(n))$. The first inner-loop has an initial size of $n/2$ and diminishes on every iteration of the top-most loop. The final loop has an initial size of 1 and grows to a maximum size of $n/2$. This loop therefore has a size of $O(n\log(n))$.

The fft function therefore takes a total of $O(2n\log(n) + \log(n)) = O(n\log(n))$ Note: the inverse fft has one more traversal of size $O(n)$ with $O(1)$ operations.

Returning to the multiply function, we therefore have $O(S\log S) + O(T\log T) + O(S\log S)$ time complexity for the three separate fft's.

The time complexity of multiply is therefore $O(2S\log S + T\log T)$.

Since the multiply is the clear bottleneck here, the final time complexity of this solution is $4 * O(2S\log S + T\log T)$.

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