
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

68 Example Input

69 10 4 1

70 AGCAATTCAT

71 ACAT

72 Example Output

73 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). FFT's are then used to
88 calculate the polynomial multiplication between bitmasks.

89 4 Implementation

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

```

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

```

```

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

```

```

202 vector<int> a = bitmask(s, 'A'); // 1 where s[i] = A +/- k
203 vector<int> Ta = Tbitmask(t, 'A'); // 1 where t[i] = A
204 vector<int> res1 = multiply(a, Ta);
205 // T Bitmasks
206 vector<int> tarr = bitmask(s, 'T');
207 vector<int> Tt = Tbitmask(t, 'T');
208 vector<int> res2 = multiply(tarr, Tt);
209 // G Bitmasks
210 vector<int> g = bitmask(s, 'G');
211 vector<int> Tg = Tbitmask(t, 'G');
212 vector<int> res3 = multiply(g, Tg);
213 // C Bitmasks
214 vector<int> c = bitmask(s, 'C');
215 vector<int> Tc = Tbitmask(t, 'C');
216 vector<int> res4 = multiply(c, Tc);
217 // Count #scenarios in which result == |T|
218 int count = 0;
219 for(int i=0; i<S; i++) {
220     if (res1[i]+res2[i]+res3[i]+res4[i] == T) {
221         count++;
222     }
223 }
224 printf("%d", count);
225 return 0;
226 }

```

227 5 Evaluation of Complexity

228 We have two types of bitmasks.

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

232
233 For each $T_{bitmask}$ the function iterates through T once. Within the for loop, all operations
234 take $O(1)$ time to complete. We then reverse the bitmask, which takes linear $O(T)$ time. We calculate
235 4 of these masks, so the time complexity is $4 * O(2T) = 8 * O(T)$.

236
237 We have 4 polynomial multiplications that need to be performed.

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

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

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

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

249
250 Returning to the multiply function, we therefore have $O(S\log S) + O(T\log T) + O(S\log S)$
251 time complexity for the three separate fft's.

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

253 Since the multiply is the clear bottleneck here, the final time complexity of this solution is
254 $4 * O(2S\log S + T\log T)$.

255 References

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