Unit 5: Divide and Conquer

## Agenda:

- Divide and Conquer technique
  - ► The classic example: Merge Sort (CLRS p.30-39)
  - Exponentiation (CLRS p.956-958 [ mod p])
  - Karatsuba's algorithm for multiplying large integers
  - Strassen's algorithm for matrix multiplication (CLRS Ch.4.2)

#### Divide and Conquer:

- ► To solve a problem:
  - ▶ Break problem into smaller subproblems (Divide)
  - Solve each subproblem recursively
  - Solve the problem for the entire instance using partial solutions (Conquer)

# Divide and Conquer and recursive programs

- ▶ A useful design technique for algorithms is *divide-and-conquer*
- ▶ These algorithms are often recursive and consist of the following steps:
  - Divide: Partition the input into two or more disjoint (smaller) pieces & recursively solve the subproblems
  - Conquer: Leverage on the solutions for the subproblems to get a solution for the original problem.
  - ► (Of course, if input's size is small, just "conquer" using a simple method.)
- ► To analyze (the running time of) a recursive program we express their running time as a recurrence
- We then solve the recurrence to find a closed form for the running time of the algorithm.

## Merge-Sort

Merge(A; lo, mid, hi)

```
**post-condition: A[lo, hi] sorted
Merge-Sort(A; lo, hi)
   if (lo < hi) then
       mid \leftarrow |(lo + hi)/2|
       Merge-Sort(A; lo, mid)
       Merge-Sort(A; mid + 1, hi)
       Merge(A; lo, mid, hi)
```

\*\*pre-condition: lo < mid < hi

\*\*pre-condition: A[lo, mid] and A[mid+1, hi] sorted

```
Merge(A, p, q, r)
 1 \quad n_1 = q - p + 1
2 n_2 = r - a
 3 let L[1..n_1+1] and R[1..n_2+1] be new arrays
 4 for i = 1 to n_1
        L[i] = A[p+i-1]
6 for j = 1 to n_2
        R[j] = A[q+j]
8 L[n_1 + 1] = \infty
9 R[n_2 + 1] = \infty
   i = 1
    for k = p to r
13
        if L[i] \leq R[j]
14
            A[k] = L[i]
15
            i = i + 1
16 else A[k] = R[i]
            i = j + 1
17
```

# Merge sort, the big idea — divide-and-conquer:

- ▶ Divide the whole array into 2 subarrays of equal size;
- Recursively merge sort the 2 subarrays;
- ▶ Merge: Combine the 2 sorted subarrays into a sorted array
  - ▶ Copy A[lo, ..., mid] (or A[p, q]) to array L
  - ightharpoonup Copy A[mid+1,..,hi] (or A[q+1,r]) to array R
  - If we have still haven't exhausted all elements in L and in R: Copy the smallest of L[i], R[j] into A[k] and advance k and either i or j (depends on which element was copied)
  - ▶ Once we traversed all elements of either L or R copy the remaining elements in the non-exhausted array (If we exhausted all of L, copy remaining elements from R; if we exhausted R, copy all remaining elements in L.)
  - ▶ CLRS version: avoids checking that either L or R have been exhausted using the clever trick of a sentinel  $\infty$  (some dummy element greater than all elements in  $L \cup R$ )
- ► An example:

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
A	[31	23	01	17	19	28	09	03	13	15	22	08	29]

# Merge sort — Example:

31 23 01 17 19 28 09 03 13 15 22 08 29

31 23 01 17 19 28 09 03 13 15 22 08 29

31 23 01 17 19 28 09 03 13 15 22 08 29

31 23 01 17 19 28 09 03 13 15 22 08 29

 31
 23
 01
 17
 19
 28
 03
 13
 22
 08

23 31 01 17 19 28 03 13 08 22

01 09 17 19 23 28 31 03 08 13 15 22 29

01 03 08 09 13 15 17 19 22 23 28 29 31

### Merge Sort Correctness

- ▶ Claim 1: MergeSort correctly sorts all arrays of size n.
- ▶ Proof: By induction.
- ▶ Base case: n = 1. Trivially, input is sorted and MergeSort does nothing.
- ▶ Induction Step: Use full induction.

Fix n > 1. Assuming that for any array of size i,  $1 \le i < n$ , MergeSort sorts it correctly, we show it also sorts correctly an array of size n.

First note that since n > 1 then lo < hi. This means that:

(1)  $mid = \lfloor \frac{lo+hi}{2} \rfloor \leq \frac{lo+hi}{2} < \frac{hi+hi}{2} < hi$ , so A[lo,mid] has fewer elements than A[lo,hi].

(2) Similarly,  $mid+1=\lfloor (lo+hi)/2\rfloor+1\geq \lfloor (lo+lo)/2\rfloor+1\geq lo+1$  so A[mid+1,hi] has fewer elements than A[lo,hi].

Hence, IH implies that each of the recursive calls  $\mathtt{Merge-Sort}(A; lo, mid)$ ,  $\mathtt{Merge-Sort}(A; mid+1, hi)$  sorts the respective part of the array. The

following claim concludes the proof.

- ▶ Claim 2: Given an array A and 3 indices  $lo \le mid < hi$  such that A[lo, mid] and A[mid + 1, hi] are both sorted, Merge(A, lo, mid, hi) sorts all elements in A[lo, hi].
- all elements in A[lo, hi]. ► How to prove Claim 2?
  - ▶ 3 loops in the code, so use 3 Lls. (State and prove them formally!)
  - ► LI1 + LI2 : the invariants of copying one array onto another
  - ▶ LI3: A[p,k-1] contains the smallest (k-p+1) elements of  $L \cup R$  in order, and  $L[i,n_1] \cup R[j,n_2]$  contain the remaining r-k  $\big(=(r-p+1)-(k-p+1)\big)$  elements.

### Recurrence relations — Merge Sort analysis

- MergeSort:
  - Divide the whole list into 2 sublists of equal size; recursively sort each sublist;
  - Merge the 2 sorted sublists into a sorted list.
- ▶ Let T(n) denote #KC for a list of size n
- ► Assumptions:
  - n (number of keys in the whole list) is a power of 2;
     This makes the analysis easier (since each time we are dividing by 2)
- ▶ Deriving recurrence relation:
  - ▶ Merge sort on 2 sublists  $2 \times T(\frac{n}{2})$
  - Assembling needs n-1 KC (in the WC)

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} 0 & , & \text{if } n = 1\\ (n-1) + 2 \cdot T(\frac{n}{2}) & , & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- ► How to solve this?
- ▶ Master Theorem (case 2):  $T(n) = \Theta(n \log(n))$ .

### Divide and Conquer and More!

- It turns out that the idea of using multiple recursions on a partition of the instance is a very helpful idea.
  - ▶ It reduced the naïve sorting from  $O(n^2)$  to  $O(n \log(n))$ .
  - We will later see a similar D&C idea with QuickSort. There are other problems when D&C give an immediate improvement over the naïve algorithm.
- ▶ But there are also case where the D&C idea is just the first step.
- ▶ The second step is to seek how to reduce the number of recursive calls.
- Remember our toy example:

with runtime 
$$T(n) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } n{=}1\\ 5+3T(n/2), & \text{o/w} \end{cases}$$
 that solved to  $\Theta(n^{\log_2(3)})$ 

## Divide and Conquer — Reducing No. of Recursive Calls

- ▶ Remember our toy example, QZ(n) with runtime  $\Theta(n^{\log_2(3)})$ .
- Now consider the alternative:

```
\begin{array}{l} \text{procedure } \mathbb{Q}\mathbb{Z}(n) \\ \text{if } (n>1) \text{ then} \\ a \leftarrow n \times n + 37 \\ x \leftarrow \mathbb{Q}\mathbb{Z}(\frac{n}{2}) \\ b \leftarrow a \times x \\ \text{return } x \times x + n \\ \text{else} \\ \text{return } n \times n \end{array}
```

▶ The number of arithmetic operations now is:

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } n = 1\\ 5 + T(\frac{n}{2}), & \text{o/w} \end{cases}$$

- Master theorem: a=1, b=2,  $f(n)=5\in\Theta(n^0(\log(n))^0)$  so case 2 applies and we get  $T(n)=\Theta(n^0(\log(n))^1)=\Theta(\log(n))$
- ▶ Note the dramatic improvement: from  $n^{1.58}$  to  $\log(n)$ .

## **Example 1: Exponentiation**

- ▶ Given integers b, n, want to compute  $b^n \mod p$ .
- ► This problem has application in cryptography (we compute power mod p, more details in CMPUT 304).
- $\blacktriangleright$  Assume that n is a huge integer with hundreds of bits (e.g. 1024 bits).
- ▶ Naive approach: multiply b with itself n times (using a for-loop)
- $\blacktriangleright$  We are doing n multiplication
  - ▶ If each multiplication take O(1) time overall O(n) time.
- ▶ Fine, let's do a recursive divide-and-conquer call

procedure 
$$\exp(b,n)$$
  
if  $(n=0)$  then  
return 1  
else  
return  $\exp(b, \lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil) \times \exp(b, \lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil)$ 

▶ The recurrence relation we get

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } n = 0\\ 1 + T(\lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil) + T(\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor), & \text{o/w} \end{cases}$$
 or, if  $n$  is even:  $T(n) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } n = 0\\ 1 + 2T(\frac{n}{2}), & \text{o/w} \end{cases}$ 

This solves to T(n) = n (Master Theorem, case 1). (no improvement)

#### **Example 1: Exponentiation**

Observation:

For even n — reduce the number of recursive call by saving the result of  $\exp(b, \frac{n}{2})$ , and squaring it.

For odd  $n - \exp(b, \lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil) = b \times \exp(b, \lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil)$ , so save  $\exp(b, \lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil)$ , square it, and make one more multiplication with b.

▶ Note that taking square of a number only takes one multiplication. I.e., we reduce the number of recursive calls by adding more less-costly operations (in this case, multiplications), and the runtime has vastly improved.

E.g., to compute  $b^{50}$  we need only 7 multiplications (instead of 50 multiplications, naïvely):  $b^{25} \cdot b^{25}$ ;  $b \cdot b^{24}$ ;  $b^{12} \cdot b^{12}$ ;  $b^{6} \cdot b^{6}$ ;  $b^{3} \cdot b^{3}$ ;  $b \cdot b^{2}$ :  $b \cdot b$ 

▶ procedure Power(b, n) if (n=0) then return 1 else

if (n is odd) then  $x \leftarrow \text{Power}(b, n-1)$ 

else  $x \leftarrow \text{Power}(b, n/2)$ return  $x \times x$ 

return  $x \times b$  \*\* inductively,  $x = b^{n-1}$  so  $x \cdot b = b^n$ \*\* inductively,  $x=b^{n/2}$  so  $x\cdot x=b^{\frac{n}{2}+\frac{n}{2}}=b^n$ 

## **Example 1: Exponentiation**

- Let T(n) be the number of multiplications required to compute  $b^n$ .
- Assume  $n = 2^k$  for some k > 1.

$$T(n) = T(\frac{n}{2}) + 1 = T(\frac{n}{4}) + 1 + 1 = \dots = T(\frac{n}{2^k}) + k = k + 1$$

Now assume  $n = 2^k - 1$  for some k > 1.

$$T(n) = T(n-1) + 1 = T(\frac{n-1}{2}) + 1 + 1 = T(2^{k-1} - 1) + 2$$
$$= T(2^{k-1} - 2) + 3 = T(2^{k-2} - 1) + 4$$
$$\dots = T(1) + 2k = 2k + 1$$

▶ Therefore,  $T(n) \in O(\log n)$ .

## Example 2: Multiplication of large integers :

- Suppose we are dealing with integers that have hundreds of bits (e.g. 256, 512, 1024 or 2048 bits).
- $\blacktriangleright$  The naive algorithm for multiplication, the elementary algorithm takes  $O(n^2)$  steps.
- ▶ Goal: do it faster, i.e.  $o(n^2)$ .
- ightharpoonup Suppose that I and J are the two n bit integers to be multiplied.
- ▶ Break I into two parts: w denotes the  $\frac{n}{2}$  MSBs, x denotes the  $\frac{n}{2}$  LSBs.

$$I = \boxed{ \quad w \quad | \quad x }$$

So  $I = w \cdot 2^{n/2} + x$ .

▶ Similarly, we denote  $J = y \cdot 2^{n/2} + z$ .

$$J = \boxed{ y }$$

▶ It is easy to see that  $I \cdot J = w \cdot y \cdot 2^n + (w \cdot z + x \cdot y)2^{n/2} + x \cdot z$ .

## Example 2: Multiplication of Large Integers (cont'd)

- $I \cdot J = w \cdot y \cdot 2^n + (w \cdot z + x \cdot y)2^{n/2} + x \cdot z.$
- ▶ In binary: Multiplying by  $2^i \Leftrightarrow$  left-shift i bits; each left-shift takes O(1) time.
- ▶ So to multiply by  $2^n$ , and  $2^{n/2}$  (for the second term), and add the results: O(n) time.
- ▶ We have 4 multiplications of integers of  $\frac{n}{2}$  bits each:  $w \cdot y$ ,  $w \cdot z$ ,  $x \cdot y$ , and  $x \cdot z$ .
- ▶ So, the time required for multiplying I and J is:  $T(n) = 4T(\frac{n}{2}) + n$ .
- ▶ Using master theorem:  $T(n) \in \Theta(n^2)$ .
- ▶ This is not better than the naive algorithm...

# Example 2: Karatsuba's Algorithm for Multiplying Large Integers

- $I \cdot J = w \cdot y \cdot 2^n + (w \cdot z + x \cdot y)2^{n/2} + x \cdot z.$
- ▶ The bottleneck here is: too many recursive calls Let's aim to make  $\leq 3$  recursive calls to multiply two  $\frac{n}{2}$ -bit integers.
- ▶ **Observation:** Let  $r = (w + x)(y + z) = w \cdot y + (w \cdot z + x \cdot y) + x \cdot z$ .
- ightharpoonup So r contains all 3 terms we need to compute  $I \cdot J$ , but not individually.
- ▶ So here's the plan:
  - 1. Compute  $a \leftarrow w + x$ . (Addition in time O(n))
  - 2. Compute  $b \leftarrow y + z$ . (Addition in time O(n))
  - 3. Recurse to find  $c \leftarrow w \cdot y$ . (recursive call on two  $\frac{n}{2}$ -bits integers)
  - 4. Recurse to find  $d \leftarrow x \cdot z$ . (recursive call on two  $\frac{\bar{n}}{2}$ -bits integers)
  - 5. Recurse to find  $r \leftarrow a \cdot b$ . (recursive call on two  $\frac{\tilde{n}}{2}$ -bits integers)
  - 6. Compute  $e \leftarrow r c d$ . (Addition / subtraction in time O(n))
  - 7. Do left-shifts and return  $2^n \cdot c + 2^{n/2} \cdot e + d$ . (Shift / addition in time O(n))
- ▶ Recursive formula for this algorithm's run-time:  $T(n) = 3T(\frac{n}{2}) + O(n)$
- ▶ Using Master theorem:  $T(n) \in \Theta(n^{\log_2 3})$ . Thus: **Theorem:** We can multiply two n bit integers in  $O(n^{1.585})$  time.

#### **Example 3: Matrix multiplication:**

- lacktriangle Assume we are given two  $n \times n$  matrix X and Y to multiply.
- ▶ These are huge matrices, say  $n \approx 50,000$ .
- ▶ The native algorithm: traverse each row i of X and each column j of Y  $(n^2$  choices) and compute  $\sum_{k=1}^n X_{i,k} \cdot Y_{k,j}$  (O(n) multiplications per coordinate).
- ▶ Total time will be  $O(n^3)$ .
- Want to use divide and conquer to speed things up.
- $\blacktriangleright$  For simplicity assume n is a power of 2.
- ▶ Break each of X and Y into 4 submatrices of size  $\frac{n}{2} \times \frac{n}{2}$  each:

$$\begin{bmatrix}
A & B \\
C & D
\end{bmatrix}
\begin{bmatrix}
E & F \\
G & H
\end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix}
I & J \\
K & L
\end{bmatrix}$$

# **Example 3: Matrix multiplication:**

- ▶ Divide and conquer.
- ▶ Therefore:

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} I = AE + BG \\ J = AF + BH \\ K = CE + DG \\ L = CF + DH \end{array} \right\} \longrightarrow \mathsf{need} \ \mathsf{8} \ \mathsf{multiplications} \ \mathsf{of} \ \tfrac{n}{2} \times \tfrac{n}{2} \ \mathsf{submatrices}.$$

- We also need to spend  $O(n^2)$  time to add up these results.
- ▶ If T(n) is the time to multiply two matrices of size  $n \times n$  each, then:

$$T(n) = 8T(\frac{n}{2}) + O(n^2)$$

- ▶ Using master theorem:  $T(n) \in \Theta(n^{\log_2 8}) = \Theta(n^3)$ .
- ▶ So this is as bad as the naive algorithm. No improvement yet.
- We use an idea similar to the one for multiplication of large integers: reduce the number of subproblems using a clever trick.

# Matrix multiplication — Strassen's Algorithm (cont'd):

► Compute the following 7 multiplications (each consisting of two subproblems of size  $\frac{n}{2}$  each):

$$S_{1} = A(F - H)$$

$$S_{2} = (A + B)H$$

$$S_{3} = (C + D)E$$

$$S_{4} = D(G - E)$$

$$S_{5} = (A + D)(E + H)$$

$$S_{6} = (B - D)(G + H)$$

$$S_{7} = (A - C)(E + F)$$

► Then:

$$I = S_5 + S_6 + S_4 - S_2$$
=  $(A+D)(E+H) + (B-D)(G+H) + D(G-E) - (A+B)H$   
=  $AE + DE + AH + DH + BG - DG + BH - DH + DG - DE - AH - BH$   
=  $AE + BG$ 

## Matrix multiplication (cont'd):

Similarly, it can be verified easily that:

$$J = S_1 + S_2$$

$$K = S_3 + S_4$$

$$L = S_1 - S_7 - S_3 + S_5$$

- (No, I do not expect you to remember by heart the different terms and additions.)
- ▶ So to compute I, J, K, and L, we only need to compute  $S_1, \ldots, S_7$ ; this requires solving seven subproblems of size  $\frac{n}{2}$ , plus a constant (at most 16) number of addition each taking  $O(n^2)$  time.

$$T(n) = 7T(\frac{n}{2}) + O(n^2)$$

▶ Using master theorem and since  $\log_2 7 \approx 2.808$ :

$$T(n) \in O(n^{2.808})$$

- Matrix multiplication is still an active research topic to this day.
  - ▶ Current best algorithm [V14] is  $O(n^\omega)$  for  $\omega=2.3728...$ ▶ For n=60,000:  $n^3\approx 2\cdot 10^{14}$  and  $n^{2.3728}\approx 2\cdot 10^{11}$ ;
  - $n \approx 60,000$ :  $n^{\circ} \approx 2 \cdot 10^{-3}$  and  $n^{\circ} \approx 2 \cdot 10^{-3}$ ;  $\Rightarrow$  this algorithm is about 1,000 times faster than the naive algorithm.
    - ▶ Still open can we get  $O(n^{2+\epsilon})$  for any  $\epsilon > 0$ ?

### Summary for Divide-and-Conquer:

- We think of recursion as "solve the problem for instance of size n assuming that a subinstance of size n-1 is already solved." That should be your initial approach.
- But after the initial recurssion, try the Divide-and-Conquer approach (multiple recursive calls on much smaller subinstances), which might substantially improve runtime:
  - break that input of size n to multiple subinstances (e.g., two subinstances of size  $\frac{n}{2}$ , three subinstances of size  $\frac{n}{3}$ , or several subinstances of different size)
  - solve each subproblem recursively
  - ightharpoonup leverage on the solved subinstances to solve the entire, size n, instance.
- ▶ And after the initial D&C design (especially when the run-time recurrence relation falls into Case 1 of Master Theorem) see if you can find clever tricks to reduce the number of recursive calls, at the expense of more (but not asymptotically more) non-recursive operations.