

Solutions of "counting problem"

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1 Solution via matrix multiplication

The problem from YouTube video "Olympiad level counting - How many subsets of $\{1, \dots, 2000\}$ have a sum divisible by 5" by 3Blue1Brown (url: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bOXCLR3Wric>) can be described via matrix multiplication.

We want to name the counts of sums congruent to $(0, 1, \dots, d-1)$ modulo d ($d=5$ in the video) as

$$c_0, c_1, \dots, c_{d-1}.$$

As per definition in video, an empty set has a sum of 0 and is a multiple of d .

If we know the counts c_0, c_1, \dots, c_{d-1} in a set of given numbers (set C), and we've got another set with counts a_0, a_1, \dots, a_{d-1} (set A), the total counts t_0, t_1, \dots, t_{d-1} for the union (set T) of these two sets will be (e. g. $d=5$):

$$\begin{pmatrix} t_0 \\ t_1 \\ t_2 \\ t_3 \\ t_4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} c_0 & c_4 & c_3 & c_2 & c_1 \\ c_1 & c_0 & c_4 & c_3 & c_2 \\ c_2 & c_1 & c_0 & c_4 & c_3 \\ c_3 & c_2 & c_1 & c_0 & c_4 \\ c_4 & c_3 & c_2 & c_1 & c_0 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} a_0 \\ a_1 \\ a_2 \\ a_3 \\ a_4 \end{pmatrix}.$$

For example, for the count of sums congruent to 2 in the new set T, we can combine:

- sums congruent to 2 from set C and sums congruent to 0 from set A,
- sums congruent to 1 from set C and sums congruent to 1 from set A,
- sums congruent to 0 from set C and sums congruent to 2 from set A,
- sums congruent to 4 from set C and sums congruent to 3 from set A, and
- sums congruent to 3 from set C and sums congruent to 4 from set A.

In total, it will be $c_2 \cdot a_0 + c_1 \cdot a_1 + c_0 \cdot a_2 + c_4 \cdot a_3 + c_3 \cdot a_4$, which is third row (t_2) from the result of matrix multiplication.

1.1 Calculation for any number

First of all, we know that for an empty set, there is one sum ($= 0$), so c_0 is 1 and $c_1 = c_2 = c_3 = c_4 = 0$.

Then we combine this set with a set with only the number "1". We've got two possibilities here to:

- either don't use the new number (congruent 0 mod 5, $a_0=1$), or

- or use the new number (congruent 1 mod 5, $a_1=1$).

So for the new set as union of empty set and number “1”, we’ve got the following new counts in a solution vector.

$$\begin{pmatrix} t_0 \\ t_1 \\ t_2 \\ t_3 \\ t_4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} .$$

It works similarly when combining this set with number “2”:

$$\begin{pmatrix} t_0 \\ t_1 \\ t_2 \\ t_3 \\ t_4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} .$$

For sets with 3, 4, and 5 numbers:

$$n=3: \begin{pmatrix} t_0 \\ t_1 \\ t_2 \\ t_3 \\ t_4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \\ 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, n=4: \begin{pmatrix} t_0 \\ t_1 \\ t_2 \\ t_3 \\ t_4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 3 \\ 3 \\ 3 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}, n=5: \begin{pmatrix} t_0 \\ t_1 \\ t_2 \\ t_3 \\ t_4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 8 \\ 6 \\ 6 \\ 6 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix} .$$

For sets with numbers $n > 5$, we can repeat the matrix generation and matrix multiplication with the solution vector for $n=5$. If there is remainder for n divided by 5, we will apply another matrix multiplication with solution vector of $n=1, \dots, 4$.

For $n = 2000$, we will need $2000 / 5 = 400$ steps.

But we can also calculate solution vectors for $n=5^1, 5^2, 5^4$, etc. by multiplying the generated matrix with the new solution vector coming out from the matrix multiplication.

For $n = 2000 = 5 * 400$ and $400 = 1\ 1001\ 0000_b$, we need to multiply with solution vectors of 5^{16} , 5^{128} , and 5^{256} .

2 Solution via generating function

In the YouTube video "Olympiad level counting - How many subsets of $\{1, \dots, 2000\}$ have a sum divisible by 5" by 3Blue1Brown (url: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bOXCLR3Wric>), it shows a solution by using a generating function:

$$f(x) = (1+x)(1+x^2)(1+x^3)\dots(1+x^{2000})$$

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^N c_n x^n = 1 + x + x^2 + 2x^3 + 2x^4 + \dots$$

With $\zeta = e^{\frac{2\pi i}{5}}$, the sum $f(\zeta^0) + f(\zeta^1) + f(\zeta^2) + f(\zeta^3) + f(\zeta^4)$ results in 5 times of the sum of coefficients which is multiple of 5:

$$f(\zeta^0) + f(\zeta^1) + f(\zeta^2) + f(\zeta^3) + f(\zeta^4) = 5 \cdot (c_0 + c_5 + c_{10} + \dots)$$

For numbers n which is multiple of 5, the video gives the answer that there are $\frac{1}{5} \left(2^n + 4 \cdot 2^{\frac{n}{5}} \right)$ sums which are divisible by 5. E. g. for n=2000, there are $\frac{1}{5} \left(2^{2000} + 4 \cdot 2^{400} \right)$ of them.

This approach works similarly with every divisor $d \geq 2$ and when n is multiple of d.

2.1 Calculation for remainder of sums other than 0

I've have modified this approach by adding factors while adding the generating functions. With

$\alpha_{l,k} = \zeta^{k(d-l)}$ and k is the remainder of sums when dividing by d (e. g. 5), the sum

$\alpha_{0,k}f(\zeta^0) + \alpha_{1,k}f(\zeta^1) + \alpha_{2,k}f(\zeta^2) + \alpha_{3,k}f(\zeta^3) + \alpha_{4,k}f(\zeta^4)$ results in 5 times of the sum of coefficients with remainders is $k = (0, \dots, 4)$ when divided by 5:

$$k=0: \alpha_{0,0}f(\zeta^0) + \alpha_{1,0}f(\zeta^1) + \alpha_{2,0}f(\zeta^2) + \alpha_{3,0}f(\zeta^3) + \alpha_{4,0}f(\zeta^4) = 5 \cdot (c_0 + c_5 + c_{10} + \dots)$$

$$k=1: \alpha_{0,1}f(\zeta^0) + \alpha_{1,1}f(\zeta^1) + \alpha_{2,1}f(\zeta^2) + \alpha_{3,1}f(\zeta^3) + \alpha_{4,1}f(\zeta^4) = 5 \cdot (c_1 + c_6 + c_{11} + \dots)$$

$$k=2: \alpha_{0,2}f(\zeta^0) + \alpha_{1,2}f(\zeta^1) + \alpha_{2,2}f(\zeta^2) + \alpha_{3,2}f(\zeta^3) + \alpha_{4,2}f(\zeta^4) = 5 \cdot (c_2 + c_7 + c_{12} + \dots)$$

$$k=3: \alpha_{0,3}f(\zeta^0) + \alpha_{1,3}f(\zeta^1) + \alpha_{2,3}f(\zeta^2) + \alpha_{3,3}f(\zeta^3) + \alpha_{4,3}f(\zeta^4) = 5 \cdot (c_3 + c_8 + c_{13} + \dots)$$

$$k=4: \alpha_{0,4}f(\zeta^0) + \alpha_{1,4}f(\zeta^1) + \alpha_{2,4}f(\zeta^2) + \alpha_{3,4}f(\zeta^3) + \alpha_{4,4}f(\zeta^4) = 5 \cdot (c_4 + c_9 + c_{14} + \dots)$$

For k=0, the formula $\frac{1}{5} \left(2^n + 4 \cdot 2^{\frac{n}{5}} \right)$ remains the same since all factors $\alpha_{l,0}$ equal to 1. For

k=1..4, we've got the formula $\frac{1}{5} \left(2^n - 2^{\frac{n}{5}} \right)$ for number of sums with remainder k when divided by 5.

This approach works similarly with every divisor $d \geq 2$ and when n is multiple of d. If n is not a multiple of d, we'll have to apply matrix multiplication with solution vector of $n=1, \dots, d-1$ (see 1.1).