

# Divide and Conquer: Polynomial Multiplication

Version of October 7, 2014



## Outline:

- Introduction
- The polynomial multiplication problem
- An  $O(n^2)$  brute force algorithm
- An  $O(n^2)$  first divide-and-conquer algorithm
- An improved divide-and-conquer algorithm
- Remarks

# Divide-and-Conquer

Already saw some divide and conquer algorithms

## Divide

- Divide a given problem into  $a$  or more subproblems (ideally of approximately equal size  $n/b$ )

## Conquer

- Solve each subproblem (directly if small enough or **recursively**)  
 $a \cdot T(n/b)$

## Combine

- Combine the solutions of the subproblems into a global solution  $f(n)$

**Cost satisfies  $T(n) = aT(n/b) + f(n)$ .**

# Divide and Conquer Examples

- Two major examples so far
  - Maximum Contiguous Subarray
  - Mergesort
- Both satisfied  $T(n) = 2T(n/2) + O(n)$ 
  - $\Rightarrow T(n) = O(n \log n)$
- Also saw Quicksort
  - Divide and Conquer, but unequal size problems

# Divide and Conquer Analysis

Main tool is the *Master Theorem* for solving recurrences of form

$$T(n) = aT(n/b) + f(n)$$

where

- $a \geq 1$  and  $b \geq 1$  are constants and
- $f(n)$  is a (asymptotically) positive function.
- Note: Initial conditions  $T(1), T(2), \dots, T(k)$  for some  $k$ .  
They don't contribute to asymptotic growth
- $n/b$  could be either  $\lfloor n/b \rfloor$  or  $\lceil n/b \rceil$

# The Master Theorem

$$T(n) = aT(n/b) + f(n), \quad c = \log_b a$$

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- If  $f(n) = \Theta(n^{c+\epsilon})$  for some  $\epsilon > 0$   
and if  $af(n/b) \leq df(n)$  for some  $d < 1$  and large enough  $n$   
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  - If  $T(n) = T(n/2) + n$  then  $T(n) = \Theta(n)$

# More Master Theorem

There are many variations of the Master Theorem.  
Here's one...

- If  $T(n) = T(3n/4) + T(n/5) + n$  then  $T(n) = \Theta(n)$

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- More generally, given constants  $\alpha_i > 0$  with  $\sum_i \alpha_i < 1$ ,  
if  $T(n) = n + \sum_{i=1}^k T(\alpha_i n)$   
then  $T(n) = \Theta(n)$ .

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# The Polynomial Multiplication Problem

## Definition (Polynomial Multiplication Problem)

Given two polynomials

$$A(x) = a_0 + a_1x + \cdots + a_nx^n$$

$$B(x) = b_0 + b_1x + \cdots + b_mx^m$$

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- **Cost**: number of scalar multiplications and additions

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Then

$$c_k = \sum_{\substack{0 \leq i \leq n, \\ 0 \leq j \leq m, \\ i+j=k}} a_i b_j \quad \text{for all } 0 \leq k \leq m+n$$

## Definition

The vector  $(c_0, c_1, \dots, c_{m+n})$  is the **convolution** of the vectors  $(a_0, a_1, \dots, a_n)$  and  $(b_0, b_1, \dots, b_m)$

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While polynomial multiplication is interesting, real goal is to calculate convolutions. *Major* subroutine in digital signal processing

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- Total number of multiplications:  $\Theta(n^2)$
- Total number of additions:  $\Theta(n^2)$
- Complexity:  $\Theta(n^2)$

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Assume  $n$  is a power of 2

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$$A_0(x) = a_0 + a_1x + \cdots + a_{\frac{n}{2}-1}x^{\frac{n}{2}-1}$$

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The original problem (of size  $n$ ) is divided into  
4 problems of input size  $n/2$

## Example

$$A(x) = 2 + 5x + 3x^2 + x^3 - x^4$$

$$B(x) = 1 + 2x + 2x^2 + 3x^3 + 6x^4$$

$$\begin{aligned} A(x)B(x) &= 2 + 9x + 17x^2 + 23x^3 + 34x^4 + 39x^5 \\ &\quad + 19x^6 + 3x^7 - 6x^8 \end{aligned}$$

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$$A_0(x)B_0(x) + (A_0(x)B_1(x) + A_1(x)B_0(x))x^2 + A_1(x)B_1(x)x^4$$

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$$A_0(x)B_1(x) + A_1(x)B_0(x) = 7 + 23x + 28x^2 + 28x^3$$

$$\begin{aligned} &A_0(x)B_0(x) + (A_0(x)B_1(x) + A_1(x)B_0(x))x^2 + A_1(x)B_1(x)x^4 \\ &= 2 + 9x + 17x^2 + 23x^3 + 34x^4 + 39x^5 + 19x^6 + 3x^7 - 6x^8 \end{aligned}$$

# Divide-and-Conquer: Conquer

**Conquer:** Solve the four subproblems

- compute

$$A_0(x)B_0(x), \quad A_0(x)B_1(x), \quad A_1(x)B_0(x), \quad A_1(x)B_1(x)$$

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**Combine**

- adding the following four polynomials

$$A_0(x)B_0(x) + A_0(x)B_1(x)x^{\frac{n}{2}} + A_1(x)B_0(x)x^{\frac{n}{2}} + A_1(x)B_1(x)x^n$$

- takes  **$O(n)$**  operations (Why?)

# The First Divide-and-Conquer Algorithm

PolyMulti1(A(x), B(x))

**begin**

$$A_0(x) = a_0 + a_1x + \cdots + a_{\frac{n}{2}-1}x^{\frac{n}{2}-1};$$

$$A_1(x) = a_{\frac{n}{2}} + a_{\frac{n}{2}+1}x + \cdots + a_nx^{\frac{n}{2}};$$

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$$\text{return } (U(x) + [V(x) + W(x)]x^{\frac{n}{2}} + Z(x)x^n)$$

**end**

# Analysis of Running Time

Assume that  $n$  is a power of 2

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} 4T(n/2) + n, & \text{if } n > 1, \\ 1, & \text{if } n = 1. \end{cases}$$

By the Master Theorem for recurrences

$$T(n) = \Theta(n^2).$$

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Same order as the brute force approach!

No improvement!

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- Remarks

# Two Observations

Observation 1:

*We said that we need the 4 terms:*

$$A_0B_0, A_0B_1, A_1B_0, A_1B_1.$$

*What we really need are the 3 terms:*

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- $A_0B_1 + A_1B_0 = Y - U - Z$

# The Second Divide-and-Conquer Algorithm

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**begin**

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$$Y(x) = \text{PolyMulti2}(A_0(x) + A_1(x), B_0(x) + B_1(x));$$

$$U(x) = \text{PolyMulti2}(A_0(x), B_0(x));$$

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$$\text{return } (U(x) + [Y(x) - U(x) - Z(x)]x^{\frac{n}{2}} + Z(x)x^{2\frac{n}{2}})$$

**end**

## Running Time of the Modified Algorithm

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} 3T(n/2) + n, & \text{if } n > 1, \\ 1, & \text{if } n = 1. \end{cases}$$

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**Much** better than previous  $\Theta(n^2)$  algorithms!



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# Remarks

- This algorithm can also be used for (long) integer multiplication
  - Really designed by Karatsuba (1960, 1962) for that purpose.
  - Response to conjecture by Kolmogorov, founder of modern probability, that this would require  $\Theta(n^2)$ .
- Similar to technique developed by Strassen a few years later to multiply 2  $n \times n$  matrices in  $O(n^{\log_2 7})$  operations, instead of the  $\Theta(n^3)$  that a straightforward algorithm would use.
- Takeaway from this lesson is that divide-and-conquer doesn't always give you faster algorithm. Sometimes, you need to be more clever.
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- Takeaway from this lesson is that divide-and-conquer doesn't always give you faster algorithm. Sometimes, you need to be more clever.
- **Coming up.** An  $O(n \log n)$  solution to the polynomial multiplication problem
  - It involves strange recasting of the problem and solution using the **Fast Fourier Transform** algorithm as a subroutine
  - The FFT is another classic D & C algorithm that we will learn soon.