

# 1 Karatsuba Multiplication

Two numbers  $l$  and  $r$ , can be written in the following way:

$$\begin{aligned}l &= a * 10^N + b \\ r &= c * 10^N + d\end{aligned}$$

In this case their multiplication can be written

$$\begin{aligned}l * r &= (a * 10^N + b) * (c * 10^N + d) \\ &= (a * c * 10^{2N}) + (a * d * 10^N) + (b * c * 10^N) + (b * d) \\ &= (a * c * 10^{2N}) + ((a * d) + (b * c)) * 10^N + (b * d)\end{aligned}$$

but  $(a * d) + (b * c)$  is equal to

$$\begin{aligned}&= (a * d) + (b * c) \\ &= (a + b) * (c + d) - a * c - b * d \\ &= a * c + a * d + b * c + b * d - a * c - b * d \\ &= a * d + b * c\end{aligned}$$

now we can change two multiplications  $(a*d)$  and  $(b*c)$  to just one:  $(a+b)*(c+d)$ , given that we have already calculated  $a * c$  and  $b * d$ .

This gives us the final form:

$$\begin{aligned}l * r &= (a * c * 10^{2N}) \\ &\quad + ((a + b) * (c + d) - a * c - b * d) * 10^N \\ &\quad + (b * d)\end{aligned}$$

See:

<https://academic.microsoft.com/#/detail/204623740>

[https://scholar.google.co.uk/scholar?q=Multiplication+of+Many-Digital+Numbers+by+Automatic+Computers&btnG=&hl=en&as\\_sdt=0%2C5](https://scholar.google.co.uk/scholar?q=Multiplication+of+Many-Digital+Numbers+by+Automatic+Computers&btnG=&hl=en&as_sdt=0%2C5)

<http://cstheory.stackexchange.com/questions/21564/why-did-kolmogorov-publish-karatsubas-al>

The Art of Computer Programming, Volume II, page 294, section 4.3.3