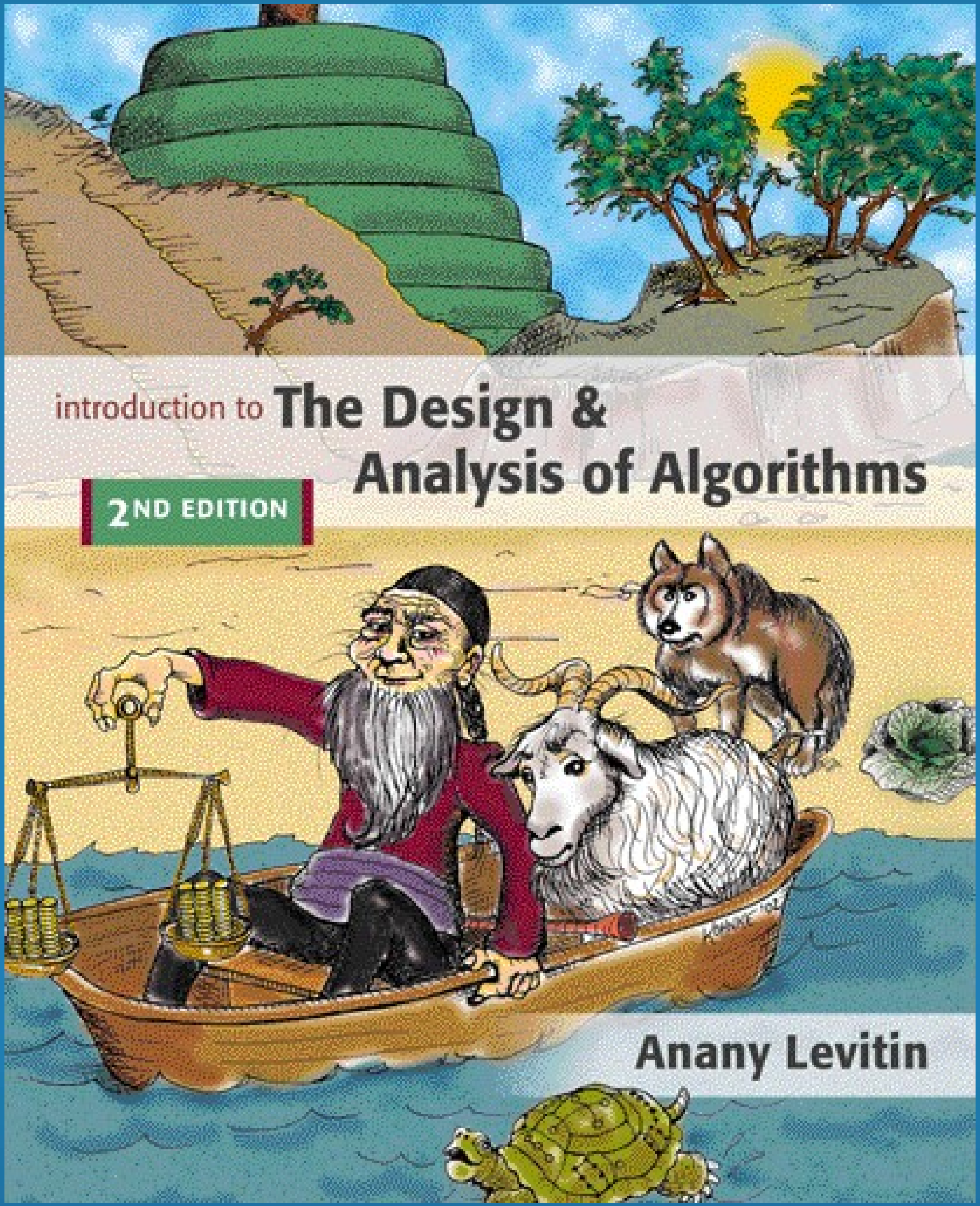
Chapter 4

Divide-and-Conquer

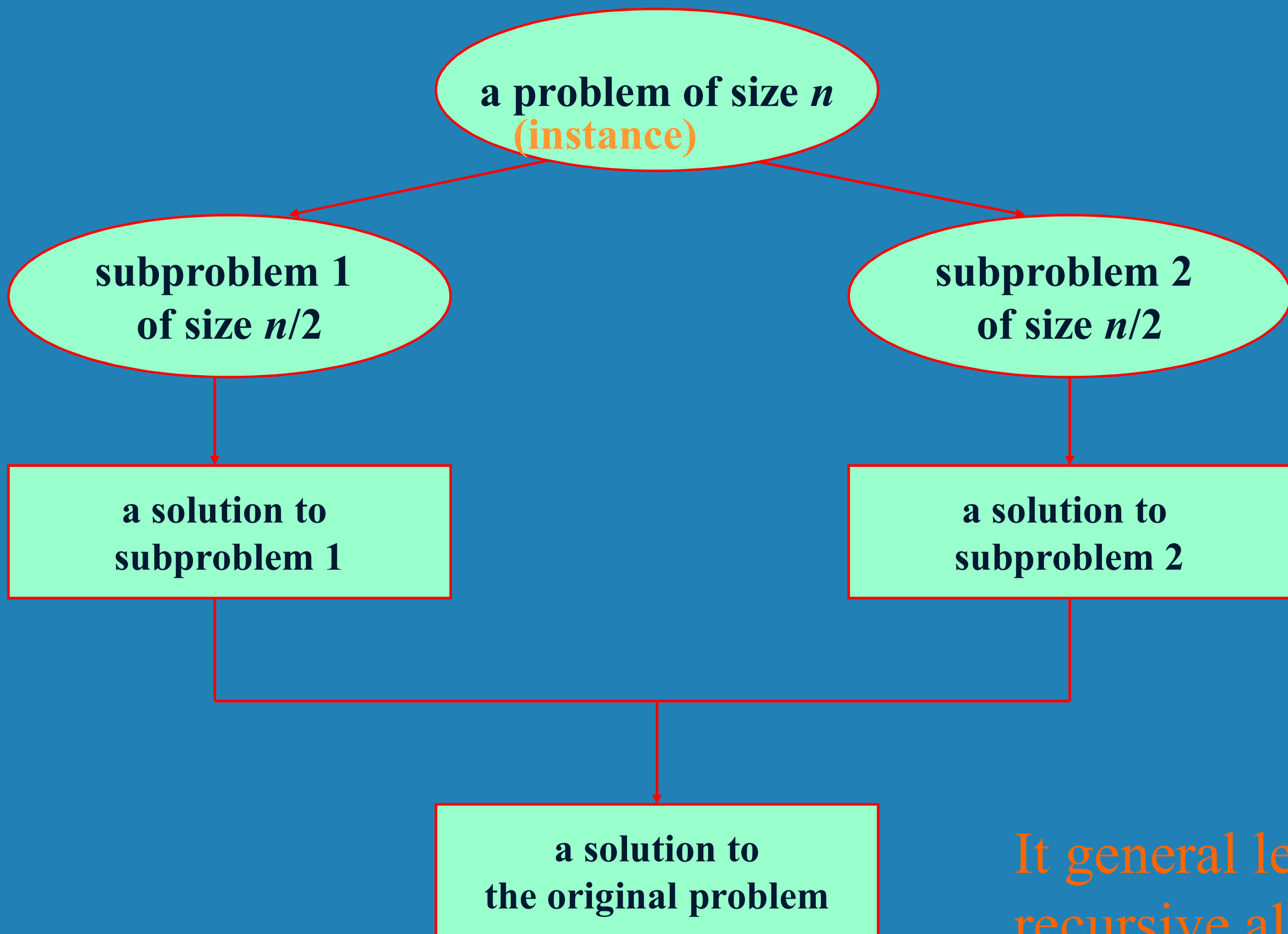


Divide-and-Conquer

The most-well known algorithm design strategy:

1. Divide instance of problem into two or more smaller instances
2. Solve smaller instances recursively
3. Obtain solution to original (larger) instance by combining these solutions

Divide-and-Conquer Technique (cont.)



It general leads to a recursive algorithm!

Divide-and-Conquer Examples

- Sorting: mergesort and quicksort
- Binary tree traversals
- Binary search (?)
- Multiplication of large integers
- Matrix multiplication: Strassen's algorithm
- Closest-pair and convex-hull algorithms

General Divide-and-Conquer Recurrence

$T(n) = aT(n/b) + f(n)$ where $f(n) \in \Theta(n^d)$, $d \geq 0$

Master Theorem: If $a < b^d$, $T(n) \in \Theta(n^d)$

If $a = b^d$, $T(n) \in \Theta(n^d \log n)$

If $a > b^d$, $T(n) \in \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$

Note: The same results hold with O instead of Θ.

Examples: $T(n) = 4T(n/2) + n \Rightarrow T(n) \in ?$ $\Theta(n\hat{}2)$

$T(n) = 4T(n/2) + n^2 \Rightarrow T(n) \in ?$ $\Theta(n\hat{}2log\ n)$

$T(n) = 4T(n/2) + n^3 \Rightarrow T(n) \in ?$ $\Theta(n\hat{}3)$

Mergesort

- Split array A[0..n-1] into about equal halves and make copies of each half in arrays B and C
- Sort arrays B and C recursively
- Merge sorted arrays B and C into array A as follows:
  - Repeat the following until no elements remain in one of the arrays:
    - compare the first elements in the remaining unprocessed portions of the arrays
    - copy the smaller of the two into A, while incrementing the index indicating the unprocessed portion of that array
  - Once all elements in one of the arrays are processed, copy the remaining unprocessed elements from the other array into A.

Pseudocode of Mergesort

ALGORITHM *Mergesort*($A[0..n-1]$)

//Sorts array $A[0..n-1]$ by recursive mergesort
//Input: An array $A[0..n-1]$ of orderable elements
//Output: Array $A[0..n-1]$ sorted in nondecreasing order
if $n > 1$
copy $A[0..\lfloor n/2 \rfloor - 1]$ to $B[0..\lfloor n/2 \rfloor - 1]$
copy $A[\lfloor n/2 \rfloor..n-1]$ to $C[0..\lceil n/2 \rceil - 1]$
Mergesort($B[0..\lfloor n/2 \rfloor - 1]$)
Mergesort($C[0..\lceil n/2 \rceil - 1]$)
Merge(B, C, A)

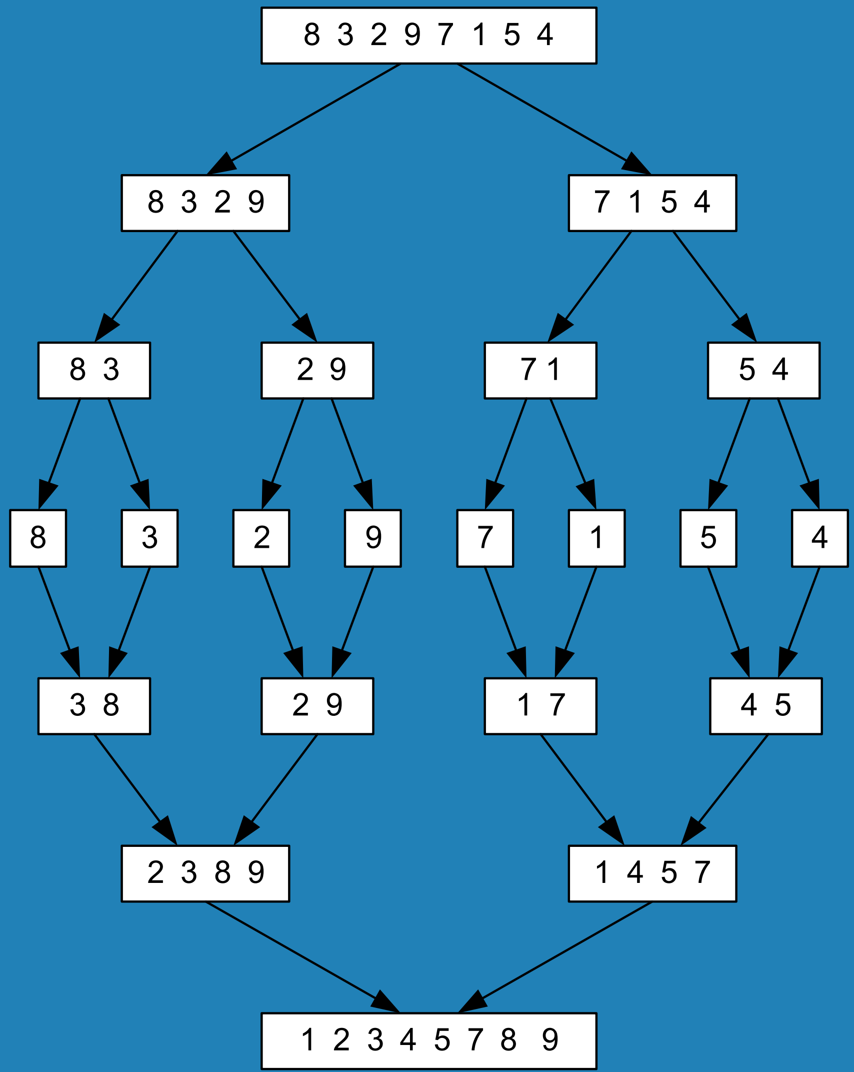
Pseudocode of Merge

ALGORITHM $Merge(B[0..p-1], C[0..q-1], A[0..p+q-1])$

//Merges two sorted arrays into one sorted array
//Input: Arrays $B[0..p-1]$ and $C[0..q-1]$ both sorted
//Output: Sorted array $A[0..p+q-1]$ of the elements of B and C
$i \leftarrow 0$; $j \leftarrow 0$; $k \leftarrow 0$
while $i < p$ **and** $j < q$ **do**
  if $B[i] \leq C[j]$
    $A[k] \leftarrow B[i]$; $i \leftarrow i + 1$
  else $A[k] \leftarrow C[j]$; $j \leftarrow j + 1$
  $k \leftarrow k + 1$
if $i = p$
  copy $C[j..q-1]$ to $A[k..p+q-1]$
else copy $B[i..p-1]$ to $A[k..p+q-1]$

Time complexity: $\Theta(p+q) = \Theta(n)$ comparisons

Mergesort Example



The non-recursive version of Mergesort starts from merging single elements into sorted pairs.

Analysis of Mergesort

- **All cases have same efficiency: $\Theta(n \log n)$**

$$T(n) = 2T(n/2) + \Theta(n),\ T(1) = 0$$

- **Number of comparisons in the worst case is close to theoretical minimum for comparison-based sorting:**

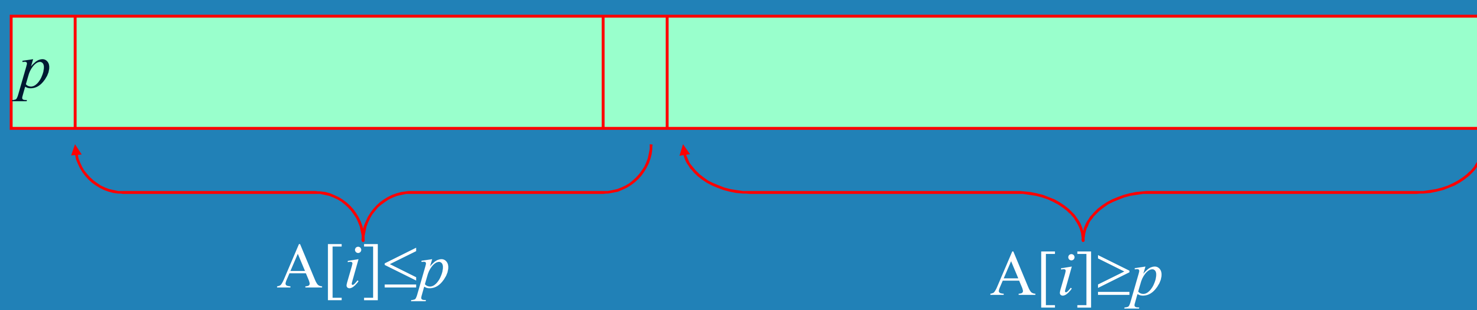
$$\lceil \log_2 n! \rceil \approx n \log_2 n - 1.44n$$

- **Space requirement: $\Theta(n)$ (<u>not</u> in-place)**

- **Can be implemented without recursion (bottom-up)**

Quicksort

- Select a *pivot* (partitioning element) – here, the first element
- Rearrange the list so that all the elements in the first *s* positions are smaller than or equal to the pivot and all the elements in the remaining *n-s* positions are larger than or equal to the pivot (see next slide for an algorithm)



- Exchange the pivot with the last element in the first (i.e., ≤) subarray — the pivot is now in its final position
- Sort the two subarrays recursively

Partitioning Algorithm

```
Algorithm Partition(A[l..r])
//Partitions a subarray by using its first element as a pivot
//Input: A subarray A[l..r] of A[0..n − 1], defined by its left and right
//        indices l and r (l < r)
//Output: A partition of A[l..r], with the split position returned as
//         this function's value
p ← A[l]
i ← l;   j ← r + 1
repeat
    repeat i ← i + 1 until A[i] ≥ p
    repeat j ← j − 1 until A[j] < p
    swap(A[i], A[j])
until i ≥ j
swap(A[i], A[j])   //undo last swap when i ≥ j
swap(A[l], A[j])
return j
```

or $i > r$

or $j = l$

Time complexity: $\Theta(r\text{-}l)$ comparisons

Quicksort Example

5 3 1 9 8 2 4 7

2 3 1 4 5 8 9 7

1 2 3 4 5 7 8 9

1 2 3 4 5 7 8 9

1 2 3 4 5 7 8 9

1 2 3 4 5 7 8 9

Analysis of Quicksort

- **Best case: split in the middle — $\Theta(n \log n)$**
- **Worst case: sorted array! — $\Theta(n^2)$** $\quad T(n) = T(n-1) + \Theta(n)$
- **Average case: random arrays — $\Theta(n \log n)$**

- **Improvements:**
  - **better pivot selection: median of three partitioning**
  - **switch to insertion sort on small subfiles**
  - **elimination of recursion**

  These combine to 20-25% improvement

- **Considered the method of choice for internal sorting of large files ($n \geq 10000$)**

Binary Search

Very efficient algorithm for searching in sorted array:

K

vs

$A[0] \; . \; . \; . \; A[m] \; . \; . \; . \; A[n-1]$

If $K = A[m]$, stop (successful search); otherwise, continue searching by the same method in $A[0..m-1]$ if $K < A[m]$ and in $A[m+1..n-1]$ if $K > A[m]$

```
l ← 0;   r ← n-1
while l ≤ r do
    m ← ⌊(l+r)/2⌋
    if  K = A[m]  return m
    else if K < A[m]  r ← m-1
    else l ← m+1
return -1
```

Analysis of Binary Search

- Time efficiency
  - worst-case recurrence: $C_w(n) = 1 + C_w(\lfloor n/2 \rfloor)$, $C_w(1) = 1$
    solution: $C_w(n) = \lceil \log_2(n+1) \rceil$

    This is VERY fast: e.g., $C_w(10^6) = 20$

- Optimal for searching a sorted array

- Limitations: must be a sorted array (not linked list)

- Bad (degenerate) example of divide-and-conquer because only one of the sub-instances is solved

- Has a continuous counterpart called *bisection method* for solving equations in one unknown $f(x) = 0$ (see Sec. 12.4)

Binary Tree Algorithms

Binary tree is a divide-and-conquer ready structure!

Ex. 1: Classic traversals (preorder, inorder, postorder)

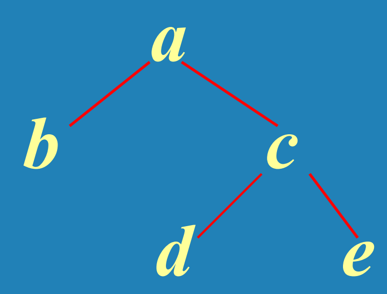
Algorithm *Inorder*(*T*)

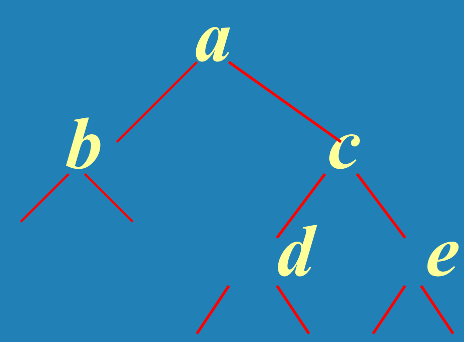
if $T \neq \varnothing$

  $Inorder(T_{left})$

  print(root of T**)**

  $Inorder(T_{right})$

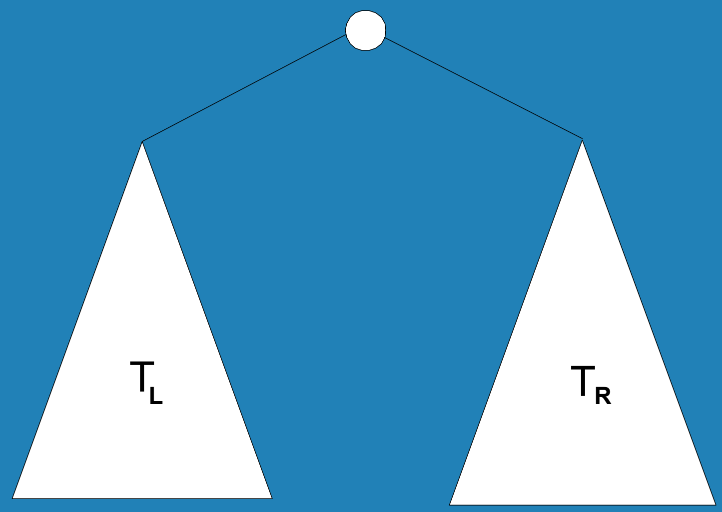




Efficiency: Θ(*n*). Why? Each node is visited/printed once.

Binary Tree Algorithms (cont.)

Ex. 2: Computing the height of a binary tree



$h(T) = \max\{h(T_L), h(T_R)\} + 1$ if $T \neq \varnothing$ and $h(\varnothing) = -1$

Efficiency: $\Theta(n)$. Why?

Multiplication of Large Integers

Consider the problem of multiplying two (large) n-digit integers represented by arrays of their digits such as:

A = 12345678901357986429   B = 87654321284820912836

The grade-school algorithm:

$$
\begin{array}{r}
a_1\ a_2 \ldots\ a_n \\
\underline{b_1\ b_2 \ldots\ b_n} \\
(d_{10})\ d_{11}d_{12} \ldots d_{1n} \\
(d_{20})\ d_{21}d_{22} \ldots d_{2n} \qquad \\
\ldots\ \ldots\ \ldots\ \ldots\ \ldots\ \ldots\ \ldots \qquad \\
\underline{(d_{n0})\ d_{n1}d_{n2} \ldots d_{nn} \qquad\qquad}
\end{array}
$$

Efficiency: $\Theta(n^2)$ single-digit multiplications

First Divide-and-Conquer Algorithm

A small example: $A * B$ where $A = 2135$ and $B = 4014$

$A = (21 \cdot 10^2 + 35)$, $B = (40 \cdot 10^2 + 14)$

So, $A * B = (21 \cdot 10^2 + 35) * (40 \cdot 10^2 + 14)$

$= 21 * 40 \cdot 10^4 + (21 * 14 + 35 * 40) \cdot 10^2 + 35 * 14$

In general, if $A = A_1A_2$ and $B = B_1B_2$ (where A and B are n-digit, A_1, A_2, B_1, B_2 are $n/2$-digit numbers),

$A * B = A_1 * B_1 \cdot 10^n + (A_1 * B_2 + A_2 * B_1) \cdot 10^{n/2} + A_2 * B_2$

Recurrence for the number of one-digit multiplications $M(n)$:

$$M(n) = 4M(n/2), \quad M(1) = 1$$

Solution: $M(n) = n^2$

Second Divide-and-Conquer Algorithm

$$A * B = A_1 * B_1 \cdot 10^n + (A_1 * B_2 + A_2 * B_1) \cdot 10^{n/2} + A_2 * B_2$$

The idea is to decrease the number of multiplications from 4 to 3:

$$(A_1 + A_2) * (B_1 + B_2) = A_1 * B_1 + (A_1 * B_2 + A_2 * B_1) + A_2 * B_2,$$

I.e., $(A_1 * B_2 + A_2 * B_1) = (A_1 + A_2) * (B_1 + B_2) - A_1 * B_1 - A_2 * B_2,$ **which requires only 3 multiplications at the expense of (4-1) extra add/sub.**

Recurrence for the number of multiplications M(*n*):

$$M(n) = 3M(n/2), \quad M(1) = 1$$

Solution: $M(n) = 3^{\log_2 n} = n^{\log_2 3} \approx n^{1.585}$

What if we count both multiplications and additions?

Example of Large-Integer Multiplication

2135 ∗ 4014

= (21*10^2 + 35) * (40*10^2 + 14)

= (21*40)*10^4 + c1*10^2 + 35*14

where c1 = (21+35)*(40+14) - 21*40 - 35*14, and

21*40 = (2*10 + 1) * (4*10 + 0)

= (2*4)*10^2 + c2*10 + 1*0

where c2 = (2+1)*(4+0) - 2*4 - 1*0, etc.

This process requires 9 digit multiplications as opposed to 16.

Conventional Matrix Multiplication

- Brute-force algorithm

$$\begin{pmatrix} c_{00} & c_{01} \\ c_{10} & c_{11} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a_{00} & a_{01} \\ a_{10} & a_{11} \end{pmatrix} * \begin{pmatrix} b_{00} & b_{01} \\ b_{10} & b_{11} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} a_{00} * b_{00} + a_{01} * b_{10} & a_{00} * b_{01} + a_{01} * b_{11} \\ a_{10} * b_{00} + a_{11} * b_{10} & a_{10} * b_{01} + a_{11} * b_{11} \end{pmatrix}$$

8 multiplications

4 additions

Efficiency class in general: $\Theta(n^3)$

Strassen's Matrix Multiplication

- Strassen's algorithm for two 2x2 matrices (1969):

$$\begin{pmatrix} c_{00} & c_{01} \\ c_{10} & c_{11} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a_{00} & a_{01} \\ a_{10} & a_{11} \end{pmatrix} * \begin{pmatrix} b_{00} & b_{01} \\ b_{10} & b_{11} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} m_1 + m_4 - m_5 + m_7 & m_3 + m_5 \\ m_2 + m_4 & m_1 + m_3 - m_2 + m_6 \end{pmatrix}$$

- $m_1 = (a_{00} + a_{11}) * (b_{00} + b_{11})$
- $m_2 = (a_{10} + a_{11}) * b_{00}$
- $m_3 = a_{00} * (b_{01} - b_{11})$
- $m_4 = a_{11} * (b_{10} - b_{00})$
- $m_5 = (a_{00} + a_{01}) * b_{11}$
- $m_6 = (a_{10} - a_{00}) * (b_{00} + b_{01})$
- $m_7 = (a_{01} - a_{11}) * (b_{10} + b_{11})$

7 multiplications

18 additions

Strassen's Matrix Multiplication

Strassen observed [1969] that the product of two matrices can be computed in general as follows:

$$\begin{pmatrix} C_{00} & C_{01} \\ C_{10} & C_{11} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} A_{00} & A_{01} \\ A_{10} & A_{11} \end{pmatrix} * \begin{pmatrix} B_{00} & B_{01} \\ B_{10} & B_{11} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} M_1 + M_4 - M_5 + M_7 & M_3 + M_5 \\ M_2 + M_4 & M_1 + M_3 - M_2 + M_6 \end{pmatrix}$$

Formulas for Strassen's Algorithm

$M_1 = (A_{00} + A_{11}) * (B_{00} + B_{11})$

$M_2 = (A_{10} + A_{11}) * B_{00}$

$M_3 = A_{00} * (B_{01} - B_{11})$

$M_4 = A_{11} * (B_{10} - B_{00})$

$M_5 = (A_{00} + A_{01}) * B_{11}$

$M_6 = (A_{10} - A_{00}) * (B_{00} + B_{01})$

$M_7 = (A_{01} - A_{11}) * (B_{10} + B_{11})$

Analysis of Strassen's Algorithm

If n is not a power of 2, matrices can be padded with zeros.

What if we count both multiplications and additions?

Number of multiplications:

$$M(n) = 7M(n/2), \quad M(1) = 1$$

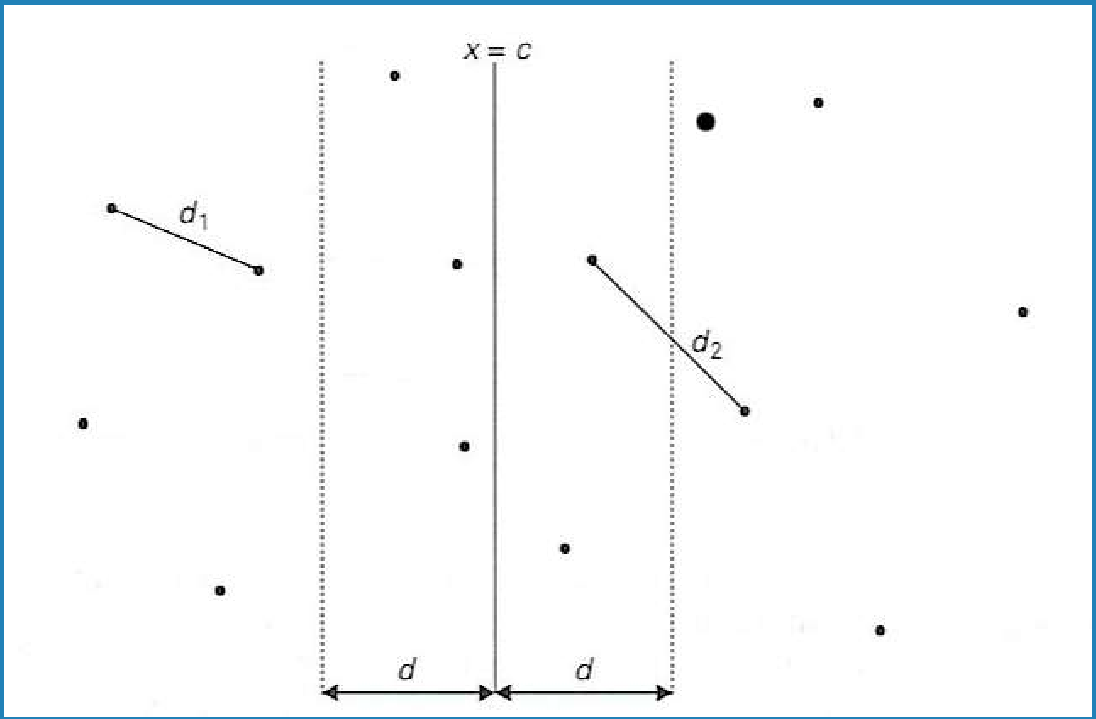
Solution: $M(n) = 7^{\log_2 n} = n^{\log_2 7} \approx n^{2.807}$ **vs.** n^3 **of brute-force alg.**

Algorithms with better asymptotic efficiency are known but they are even more complex and not used in practice.

Closest-Pair Problem by Divide-and-Conquer

Step 0 Sort the points by x (list one) and then by y (list two).

Step 1 Divide the points given into two subsets S_1 and S_2 by a vertical line $x = c$ so that half the points lie to the left or on the line and half the points lie to the right or on the line.



Closest Pair by Divide-and-Conquer (cont.)

Step 2 Find recursively the closest pairs for the left and right subsets.

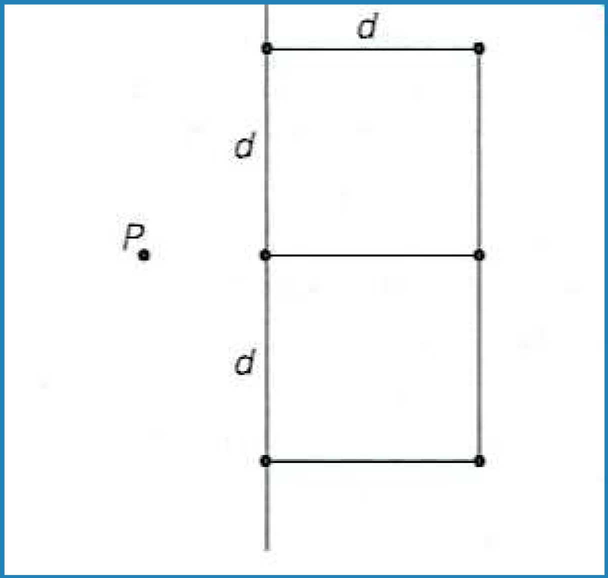
Step 3 Set $d = \min\{d_1, d_2\}$

We can limit our attention to the points in the symmetric vertical strip of width $2d$ as possible closest pair. Let C_1 and C_2 be the subsets of points in the left subset S_1 and of the right subset S_2, respectively, that lie in this vertical strip. The points in C_1 and C_2 are stored in increasing order of their y coordinates, taken from the second list.

Step 4 For every point $P(x,y)$ in C_1, we inspect points in C_2 that may be closer to P than d. There can be no more than 6 such points (because $d \le d_2$)!

Closest Pair by Divide-and-Conquer: Worst Case

The worst case scenario is depicted below:



Efficiency of the Closest-Pair Algorithm

Running time of the algorithm (without sorting) is:

$$T(n) = 2T(n/2) + M(n), \text{ where } M(n) \in \Theta(n)$$

By the Master Theorem (with $a = 2$, $b = 2$, $d = 1$)

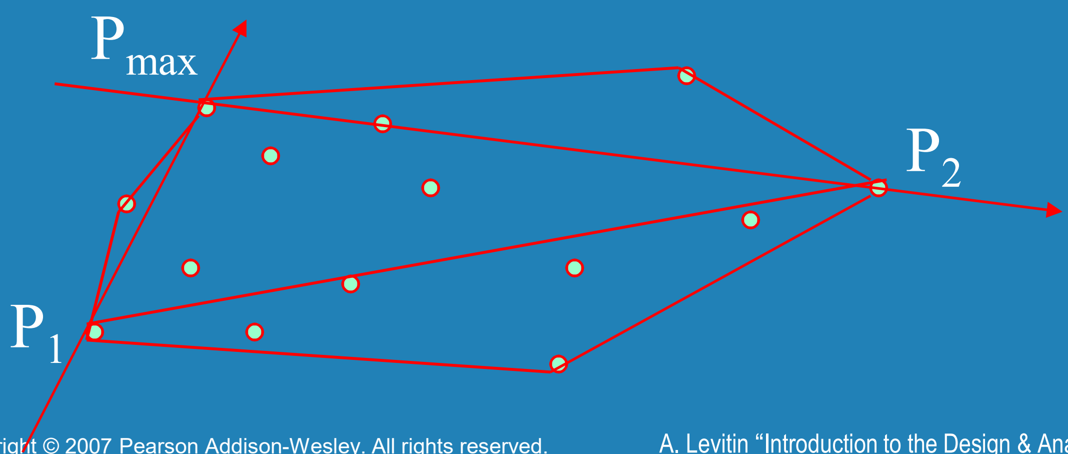
$$T(n) \in \Theta(n \log n)$$

So the total time is $\Theta(n \log n)$.

Quickhull Algorithm

Convex hull: smallest convex set that includes given points. An O(n^3) bruteforce time is given in Levitin, Ch 3.

- Assume points are sorted by *x*-coordinate values
- Identify *extreme points* P_1 and P_2 (leftmost and rightmost)
- Compute *upper hull* recursively:
  - find point P_{max} that is farthest away from line P_1P_2
  - compute the upper hull of the points to the left of line P_1P_{max}
  - compute the upper hull of the points to the left of line $P_{max}P_2$
- Compute *lower hull* in a similar manner



Efficiency of Quickhull Algorithm

- Finding point farthest away from line P_1P_2 can be done in linear time
- Time efficiency: $T(n) = T(x) + T(y) + T(z) + T(v) + O(n)$, where $x + y + z + v <= n$.
  - worst case: $\Theta(n^2)$ $\quad T(n) = T(n-1) + O(n)$
  - average case: $\Theta(n)$ (under reasonable assumptions about distribution of points given)
- If points are not initially sorted by x-coordinate value, this can be accomplished in $O(n \log n)$ time
- Several $O(n \log n)$ algorithms for convex hull are known