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# Mathematical Algorithms



# Optimizing Mathematical Computations

- Mathematical algorithms can noticeably improve number crunching performance
  - I will show you one such example
  - Numerical Recipes ([www.nr.com](http://www.nr.com)) offers complete solutions so you can avoid writing your own

# Surprising Optimizations

- Consider computing  $x^n = x * x * \dots * x$ 
  - Can you produce same computation with fewer than  $n - 1$  multiplications?
  - Consider  $x^6 = (x * x * x)^2$  which uses only 3!
- Identify algorithm to produce minimal for all  $n$ 
  - EXPONENTIATIONBYSQUARING
  - Surprisingly versatile algorithm

# Demonstrate Small Example

Let's compute  $2^{13}$  as follows

$$\begin{aligned} 2^{13} &= 2 * (2*2)^6 = 2 * 4^6 \\ &= 2 * (4*4)^3 = 2 * 16^3 \\ &= 2 * 16 * (16*16)^1 \\ &= 2 * 16 * 256 = 8192 \end{aligned}$$

**5  
multiplications  
in total**

Identifying proper sub-problems is key to this algorithm

# Algorithm Pseudocode

Reduce problem in half with each recursive call

EXPONENTIATION BY SQUARING			
Best case	Average case	Worst case	
$O(\log n)$	$O(\log n)$	$O(\log n)$	
<pre>def exponent(x, n):     if n == 0: return 1     if n == 1: return x     if n % 2:         return x * exponent(x*x, [n/2] )     return exponent (x*x, n/2)</pre>			$2^6 = 2 * (2 * 2)^3$ $4^3 = (4 * 4)^1$

# Matrix Exponentiation

- Matrices are two-dimensional structures
  - When a matrix is squared, it can be raised to the  $n^{th}$  degree
  - Here matrix  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$  is squared to produce another matrix
- Same approach works
  - Let's review in code

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 4 & 4 \\ 6 & 7 & 6 \\ 6 & 5 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Mathematical Problem

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- Is a given number prime?
- Costly prime factorization proves exact answer
  - Fermat's little theorem suggests probabilistic probe
  - if  $p$  is a prime number, then for any integer  $a$ , the number  $a^p - a$  is an integer multiple of  $p$
  - In other words,  $a^p = a \text{ modulo } p$  or  $a^{p-1} = 1 \text{ modulo } p$
- An estimate which can be run multiple times