



# CS 170 Section 2

## Fast Fourier Transform

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# Agenda

- Logistics
- Fast fourier transform



# Logistics

# Logistics

- Homework 2 due next Monday (02/05)
- Midterm 1 in 13 days (< 2 weeks!)
  - right now, assume that everything up to the midterm (i.e. the first five chapters) are in-scope
  - from the calendar, topics include **D&Q, FFT, decompositions of graphs, paths in graphs**, and **greedy algorithms**
  - for free points, be able to do anything mechanical



# Fast Fourier Transform

# Background: Polynomial Multiplication

- In this class, we use the FFT in order to perform efficient polynomial multiplication.

HOW TO COMPUTE  $C(x) = A(x) \cdot B(x)$

1. Pick  $n$  points, where  $n \geq [\text{the degree of } C(x)] + 1$ .
2. Evaluate  $A(x_k)$  at each of the  $n$  points.
3. Evaluate  $B(x_k)$  at each of the  $n$  points.
4. Evaluate  $C(x_k) = A(x_k) \cdot B(x_k)$  for each of the  $n$  points.
5. Convert our newfound value representation for  $C(x_k)$  into a coefficient representation.

# What's Slow?

- Assuming a naive approach,

HOW TO COMPUTE  $C(x) = A(x) \cdot B(x)$

1. Pick  $n$  points, where  $n \geq [\text{the degree of } C(x)] + 1$ .
2. Evaluate  $A(x_k)$  at each of the  $n$  points.  $O(n^2)$
3. Evaluate  $B(x_k)$  at each of the  $n$  points.  $O(n^2)$
4. Evaluate  $C(x_k) = A(x_k) \cdot B(x_k)$  for each of the  $n$  points.  $O(n)$
5. Convert our newfound value representation for  $C(x_k)$  into a coefficient representation.  $O(\text{wtf})$

Naively, polynomial multiplication will take **at least**  $O(n^2)$  time!

# Enter the FFT

- With the fast Fourier transform,

HOW TO COMPUTE  $C(x) = A(x) \cdot B(x)$

1. Pick  $n$  points, where  $n \geq [\text{the degree of } C(x)] + 1$ .
2. Evaluate  $A(x_k)$  at each of the  $n$  points.  $O(n \log n)$
3. Evaluate  $B(x_k)$  at each of the  $n$  points.  $O(n \log n)$
4. Evaluate  $C(x_k) = A(x_k) \cdot B(x_k)$  for each of the  $n$  points.  $O(n)$
5. Convert our newfound value representation for  $C(x_k)$  into a coefficient representation.  $O(n \log n)$

Using the FFT, polynomial multiplication can be performed in  $O(n \log n)$  time!



# The Fourier Transform

- The Fourier transform (FT) turns a polynomial in coefficient representation into a value representation.
  - Say we have the polynomial  $A(x) = 1 + 2x + 3x^2 + 4x^3$ . We can compute the value representation (namely, the polynomial evaluated at the fourth roots of unity 1,  $i$ ,  $-1$ , and  $-i$ ) as

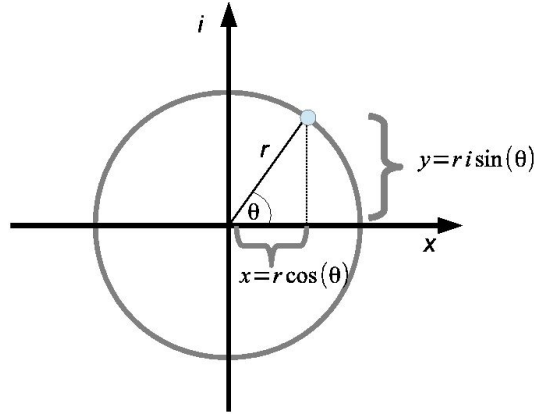
$$\begin{aligned} A(1) &= 1 + 2(1) + 3(1)^2 + 4(1)^3 \\ A(i) &= 1 + 2(i) + 3(i)^2 + 4(i)^3 \\ A(-1) &= 1 + 2(-1) + 3(-1)^2 + 4(-1)^3 \\ A(-i) &= 1 + 2(-i) + 3(-i)^2 + 4(-i)^3 \end{aligned} \quad \text{or} \quad \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1^2 & 1^3 \\ 1 & i & i^2 & i^3 \\ 1 & -1 & (-1)^2 & (-1)^3 \\ 1 & -i & (-i)^2 & (-i)^3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

We find that  $\text{FT}((1, 2, 3, 4)) = (10, -2 - 2i, -2, -2 + 2i)$ .

- Formally, the discrete Fourier transform is defined as the mapping  $DFT : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n, (f_0, \dots, f_{n-1}) \mapsto (f(1), f(\omega), f(\omega^2), \dots, f(\omega^{n-1}))$  where  $\omega$  is the  $n^{\text{th}}$  primitive root of unity.

## (side note) Finding $\omega$ , the $n^{\text{th}}$ Primitive Root of Unity

- The  $n^{\text{th}}$  primitive root of unity will be  $e^{2\pi i/n} = \cos(2\pi/n) + i\sin(2\pi/n)$ .



# The Inverse Fourier Transform

- The inverse of the FT transforms a polynomial in *value* representation into *coefficient* representation.
- We can use this for the final step of polynomial multiplication (interpolation).

Mechanics-wise, the inverse of the Fourier transform just runs the FT on the value representation [e.g. (10, -2 - 2i, -2, -2 + 2i)], but substitutes  $\omega^{-1}$  for  $\omega$  and divides the output by n.

e.g.  $\text{FT}^{-1}((10, -2 - 2i, -2, -2 + 2i))$  can be computed as

$$f_0 = [10 + (-2 - 2i)(1) - 2(1)^2 + (-2 + 2i)(1)^3] / 4$$

$$f_1 = [10 + (-2 - 2i)(-i) - 2(-i)^2 + (-2 + 2i)(-i)^3] / 4$$

$$f_2 = [10 + (-2 - 2i)(-1) - 2(-1)^2 + (-2 + 2i)(-1)^3] / 4$$

$$f_3 = [10 + (-2 - 2i)(i) - 2(i)^2 + (-2 + 2i)(i)^3] / 4$$

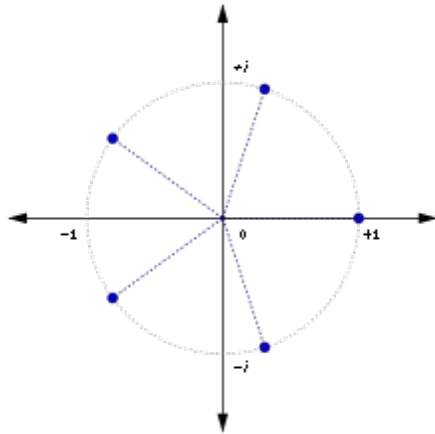
or

$$\frac{1}{4} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1^2 & 1^3 \\ 1 & -i & (-i)^2 & (-i)^3 \\ 1 & -1 & (-1)^2 & (-1)^3 \\ 1 & i & i^2 & i^3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 10 \\ -2 - 2i \\ -2 \\ -2 + 2i \end{bmatrix}$$

which gives  
(1, 2, 3, 4).

## (side note) Finding $\omega^{-1}$

- The **inverse** of the  $n^{\text{th}}$  primitive root of unity will be  $(e^{2\pi i/n})^{-1} = e^{-2\pi i/n} = \cos(-2\pi/n) + i\sin(-2\pi/n)$ .



# The Fast Fourier Transform

- The **fast** Fourier transform is just a faster version of the Fourier transform.  
I bet you never would have guessed that.
- It does the same thing as the FT.

Its approach? Divide-and-conquer!

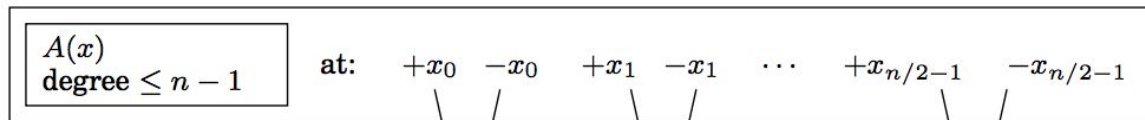
# The Fast Fourier Transform, elaborated

- Observation: any polynomial  $A(x)$  is equal to  $A_e(x^2) + xA_o(x^2)$ 
  - e.g.  $A(x) = 1 + 2x + 3x^2 + 4x^3 = (1 + 3x^2) + x(2 + 4x^2)$ ,  
so  $A_e(x) = 1 + 3x$  and  $A_o(x) = 2 + 4x$
- By splitting polynomials into even and odd components, we end up with two polynomials of degree  $n / 2$ , which only need to be evaluated at  $n / 2$  points (because  $x^2$  will be the same for plus-minus pairs).
- Thus we have two problems of size  $n / 2$ , along with a linear combination step [multiplying  $A_o(x^2)$  by  $x$  and adding  $A_e(x^2)$  and  $xA_o(x^2)$  together]. Our recurrence is  $T(n) = 2T(n / 2) + O(n)$ , and our runtime is  **$O(n \log n)$** .

# The Fast Fourier Transform, elaborated

- This works at every step of the recurrence because
  - the  $n^{\text{th}}$  roots of unity are always plus-minus paired ( $\omega^{n/2+j} = -\omega^j$ ), and
  - the squares of the  $n^{\text{th}}$  roots of unity are the  $(n/2)^{\text{th}}$  roots of unity

Evaluate:



Equivalently,  
evaluate:



# FFT Pseudocode

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**Figure 2.7** The fast Fourier transform (polynomial formulation)

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function FFT( $A, \omega$ )

Input: Coefficient representation of a polynomial  $A(x)$   
of degree  $\leq n-1$ , where  $n$  is a power of 2  
 $\omega$ , an  $n$ th root of unity

Output: Value representation  $A(\omega^0), \dots, A(\omega^{n-1})$

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if  $\omega = 1$ : return  $A(1)$ 
express  $A(x)$  in the form  $A_e(x^2) + xA_o(x^2)$ 
call FFT( $A_e, \omega^2$ ) to evaluate  $A_e$  at even powers of  $\omega$ 
call FFT( $A_o, \omega^2$ ) to evaluate  $A_o$  at even powers of  $\omega$ 
for  $j = 0$  to  $n-1$ :
    compute  $A(\omega^j) = A_e(\omega^{2j}) + \omega^j A_o(\omega^{2j})$ 

return  $A(\omega^0), \dots, A(\omega^{n-1})$ 
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