Introduction to Algorithms: Lecture 3

Xue Chen xuechen1989@ustc.edu.cn 2025 spring in

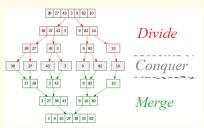


Homework 2

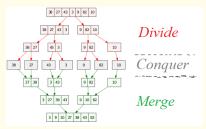
- Experiment 1 will be out next week
- TA office hours are in 3A103 in week 3

Outline

Intro: Recall MERGESORT



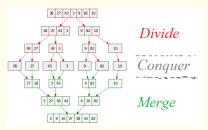
Intro: Recall MERGESORT



Divide & Conquer

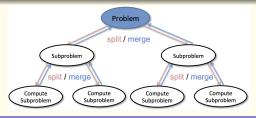
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Intro: Recall MERGESORT



Divide & Conquer

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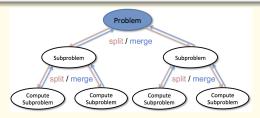


Paradigm

Divide & Conquer

3 steps:

- Divide the problem into subproblems that are smaller instances.
- 2 Conquer subproblems by solving them recursively.
- Merge solutions of subproblems into a solution of the original one.



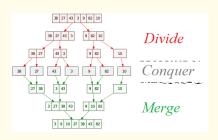
Overview

Recurrences

Let the algorithm divide a problem of size n into a subproblems of size $\lceil n/b \rceil$ and merge solutions in time f(n).

Running time
$$T(n) = a \cdot T(\lceil n/b \rceil) + f(n)$$
.

$$a = b = 2$$
 and $f(n) = O(n)$ in MERGESORT



Overview

Next: Given $T(n) = a \cdot T(\lceil n/b \rceil) + f(n)$ where a and b are not necessarily 1 or 2, how to bound T(n)?

Applications

- Strassen's algorithm for matrix multiplication
- Past Fourier transform
- 3 Closest pair
- 4 Binary search, Fibonacci number

Recurrences relation

Question

Given the relation $T(n) = a \cdot T(\lceil n/b \rceil) + f(n)$, how to compute T(n)?

Three methods:

- Substitution method
- 2 Recursion tree method
- Master method

Substitution Method

Example 1

T(n) = 2T([n/2]) + n.

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Guess $T(n) \le c n \log_2 n$ for c = O(1) and apply induction.

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Guess $T(n) \leqslant c n \log_2 n$ for c = O(1) and apply induction.

- ① Base case: n = 1, T(1) is a constant.
- 2 Induction step:

$$T(n) = 2c[n/2] \log_2[n/2] + n$$

$$\leq 2c \cdot \frac{n}{2} \cdot (\log_2 n - 1) + n$$

$$\leq cn \log_2 n.$$

More about Substitution

Example 2

Question: What is T(n) = 2T([n/2]) + 1?

Remark

While it is simple to apply, guess the tight bound may be non-trivial.

More about Substitution

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Question: What is $T(n) = 2T(\lfloor n/2 \rfloor) + 1$?

If we guess $T(n) \leqslant cn$, $2 \cdot c \cdot \frac{n}{2} + 1 > cn$ for any even n.

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Question: What is T(n) = 2T([n/2]) + 1?

If we guess $T(n) \le cn$, $2 \cdot c \cdot \frac{n}{2} + 1 > cn$ for any even n. Solution: Strengthen the hypothesis to $T(n) \le cn - 1$.

Remark

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Recursion tree method

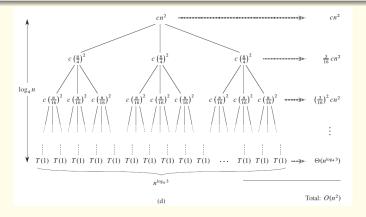
Example 3

$$T(n) = 3T(n/4) + n^2$$
.

Recursion tree method

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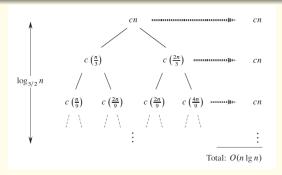


Example 4

T(n) = T(n/3) + T(2n/3) + n.

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- ② If $f(n) = O(n^{\log_b a \Omega(1)}), T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a}).$

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- ③ If $f(n) = \Omega(n^{\log_b a + \Omega(1)})$ and $a \cdot f(n/b) < (1 \epsilon) \cdot f(n)$ for a constant $\epsilon > 0$, $T(n) = \Theta(f(n))$.

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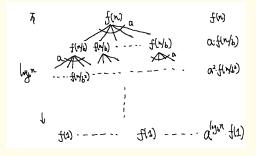
- ① If $f(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$, $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \log n)$.
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- 3 If $f(n) = \Omega(n^{\log_b a + \Omega(1)})$ and $a \cdot f(n/b) < (1 \epsilon) \cdot f(n)$ for a constant $\epsilon > 0$, $T(n) = \Theta(f(n))$.

All conditions $\Omega(1)$ and $a \cdot f(n/b) < f(n)$ are necessary.

Proof of Master THM

Proof by the recursion tree method:

- Case 1: each level contributes n^{log_b a}.
- Case 2: the bottom level dominates.
- Case 3: the top node dominates.



Outline

Matrix Multiplication

Problem

Given two $n \times n$ matrices A and B, compute C = AB where

$$C[i,j] = \sum_{k=1}^{n} A[i,k] \cdot B[k,j].$$
 (1)

Most fundamental problem in CS and math:

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- 3 Solving linear equations and linear programming in time $O(n^{\omega \pm o(1)})$.
- Graph problem: Max-flow, . . .
- Machine learning and data science: Linear regression, SVD & PCA, ...

First try

Motivating Question

It takes $O(n^3)$ time to compute C directly. Can we design faster algorithms?

On the other hand, it takes $\Omega(n^2)$ time to output C. So $\omega \in [2,3]$.

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Try divide and conquer

Say
$$A = \begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} \end{bmatrix}$$
 for four $\frac{n}{2} \times \frac{n}{2}$ matrices A_{11} , A_{12} , A_{21} , A_{22} and $B = \begin{bmatrix} B_{11} & B_{12} \\ B_{21} & B_{22} \end{bmatrix}$ vice versa.

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So
$$\begin{bmatrix} C_{11} & C_{12} \\ C_{21} & C_{22} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} B_{11} & B_{12} \\ B_{21} & B_{22} \end{bmatrix}.$$

Naive Method

Consider
$$C_{11} = A_{11} \cdot B_{11} + A_{12} \cdot B_{21}$$

 $C_{12} = A_{11} \cdot B_{12} + A_{12} \cdot B_{22}$
 $C_{21} = A_{21} \cdot B_{11} + A_{22} \cdot B_{21}$
 $C_{22} = A_{21} \cdot B_{12} + A_{22} \cdot B_{22}$.

There are 8 submatrix-multiplications of size $\frac{n}{2} \times \frac{n}{2}$. The naive method will have

$$T(n) = 8T(n/2) + O(n^2) = O(n^3).$$

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Key Question

Can we save some submatrix-multiplications?

Strassen's idea

$$\begin{vmatrix} C_{11} & C_{12} \\ C_{21} & C_{22} \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} \end{vmatrix} \begin{vmatrix} B_{11} & B_{12} \\ B_{21} & B_{22} \end{vmatrix}$$

$$P_{1} = (A_{11} + A_{22})(B_{11} + B_{22}) \qquad C_{11} = P_{1} + P_{4} - P_{5} + P_{7}$$

$$P_{2} = (A_{21} + A_{22}) * B_{11} \qquad C_{12} = P_{3} + P_{5}$$

$$P_{3} = A_{11} * (B_{12} - B_{22}) \qquad C_{21} = P_{2} + P_{4}$$

$$P_{4} = A_{22} * (B_{21} - B_{11}) \qquad C_{22} = P_{1} + P_{3} - P_{2} + P_{6}$$

$$P_{5} = (A_{11} + A_{12}) * B_{22}$$

$$P_{6} = (A_{21} - A_{11}) * (B_{11} + B_{12})$$

$$P_{7} = (A_{12} - A_{22}) * (B_{21} + B_{22})$$

Running Time

$$T(n) = \frac{7}{3} \cdot T(n/2) + O(n^2) = O(n^{\log_2 7}).$$

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- 4 O-constant is relatively large compared to the naive $O(n^3)$.
- **1** Matrix multiplication \equiv matrix inversion [CLRS].
- For structured matrices, faster algorithms via Fast Fourier transform (FFT).

Outline

Introduction

Several ways to understand FFT:

 $oldsymbol{0}$ Fast matrix multiplication (with a vector) for structured matrices V.

$$\begin{bmatrix} V_{1,1} & V_{1,2} & \dots & V_{1,n} \\ V_{2,1} & V_{2,2} & \dots & V_{2,n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ V_{n,1} & V_{n,2} & \dots & V_{n,n} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_1 \\ \alpha_2 \\ \vdots \\ \alpha_n \end{bmatrix}$$

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Lots of applications: Algorithm design, data science, machine learning, signal processing, numerical computation, . . .

History

- Dates back to Gauss in 1805.
- Cooley and Tukey rediscovered it in 1965.
- Most important numerical algorithm of our life time — Gilbert Strang
- Top 10 Algorithms of 20th Century by IEEE.

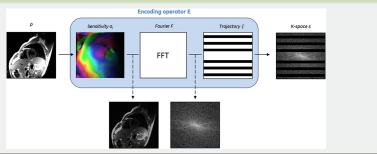


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Applications in MRI

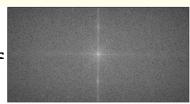


Applications in Data Compression

Many natural data sets are sparse on the frequency domain:

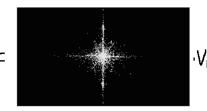






original image and its FT.



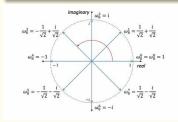


After sparsification,

Formal Definition

Complex roots of unity

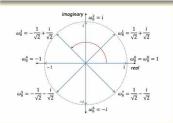
Given a 2-power N, let $\omega_N := e^{2\pi i/N}$ s.t. $\omega_N^0, \omega_N, \ldots, \omega_N^{N-1}$ are roots of $x^N - 1 = 0$, called Nth roots of unity.



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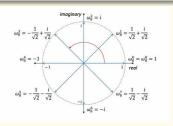
Define their Vandermonde matrix

$$V_N := \begin{bmatrix} \omega_N^{0.0} & \omega_N^{0.1} & \dots & \omega_N^{0.(N-1)} \\ \omega_N^{0.0} & \omega_N^{1.1} & \dots & \omega_N^{0.(N-1)} \\ \omega_N^{1.0} & \omega_N^{1.1} & \dots & \omega_N^{1.(N-1)} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \omega_N^{(N-1)\cdot 0} & \omega_N^{(N-1)\cdot 1} & \dots & \omega_N^{(N-1)\cdot (N-1)} \end{bmatrix}$$

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Problem

Given N and vector $\vec{\alpha} = (\alpha_1, ..., \alpha_N)$, how to compute $V_N \cdot \vec{\alpha}$ efficiently?

Main Result of FFT

FFT algorithm computes $V_N \cdot \vec{\alpha}$ in time $O(N \log N)$.

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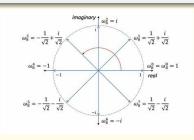
Before we describe FFT, review basic facts about the roots of unity $\omega_N := e^{2\pi \mathbf{i}/N}$

Properties of ω

Property 1

Let $\omega_N := e^{2\pi \mathbf{i}/N}$ for a 2-power N.

① $\omega_N^N = 1$. So $\omega_N^j = \omega_N^{j \mod N}$ and focus on remainder.

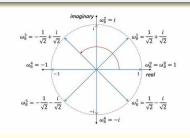


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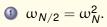
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- ① $\omega_N^N =$ 1. So $\omega_N^j = \omega_N^{j \mod N}$ and focus on remainder.
- 2 $\omega_N^{N/2} = -1$.
- 3 ω_N^2 is the $\frac{N}{2}$ -root of unity.



Properties of ω (II)

Plan: compute $y = V_N \cdot \alpha$ by divide & conquer — consider ω_N and V_N in terms of $\omega_{N/2}$ and $V_{N/2}$.



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- 1 $\omega_{N/2} = \omega_N^2$.
- ② V_N is constituted by 4 submatrices $\approx V_{N/2}$.

$$V_{N} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & \cdots & 1 & 1 & \cdots & 1 \\ 1 & \omega_{N}^{1.1} & \omega_{N}^{1.2} & \cdots & \omega_{N}^{1\cdot(\frac{N}{2}-1)} & \omega_{N}^{1\cdot\frac{N}{2}} & \cdots & \omega_{N}^{1\cdot(N-1)} \\ 1 & \omega_{N}^{2\cdot1} & \omega_{N}^{2\cdot2} & \cdots & \omega_{N}^{2\cdot(\frac{N}{2}-1)} & \omega_{N}^{2\cdot\frac{N}{2}} & \cdots & \omega_{N}^{2\cdot(N-1)} \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 & \omega_{N}^{(N-2)\cdot1} & \omega_{N}^{(N-2)\cdot2} & \cdots & \omega_{N}^{(N-2)\cdot(\frac{N}{2}-1)} & \omega_{N}^{(N-2)\cdot\frac{N}{2}} & \cdots & \omega_{N}^{(N-2)\cdot(N-1)} \\ 1 & \omega_{N}^{(N-1)\cdot1} & \omega_{N}^{(N-1)\cdot2} & \cdots & \omega_{N}^{(N-1)\cdot(\frac{N}{2}-1)} & \omega_{N}^{(N-1)\cdot\frac{N}{2}} & \cdots & \omega_{N}^{(N-1)\cdot(N-1)} \end{bmatrix}$$

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Plan: compute $y = V_N \cdot \alpha$ by divide & conquer — consider ω_N and V_N in terms of $\omega_{N/2}$ and $V_{N/2}$.

- ② V_N is constituted by 4 submatrices $\approx V_{N/2}$.

$$V_N = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & \cdots & 1 & 1 & \cdots & 1 \\ 1 & \omega_N^{1\cdot 1} & \omega_N^{1\cdot 2} & \cdots & \omega_N^{1\cdot (\frac{N}{2}-1)} & \omega_N^{1\cdot \frac{N}{2}} & \cdots & \omega_N^{1\cdot (N-1)} \\ 1 & \omega_N^{2\cdot 1} & \omega_N^{2\cdot 2} & \cdots & \omega_N^{2\cdot (\frac{N}{2}-1)} & \omega_N^{2\cdot \frac{N}{2}} & \cdots & \omega_N^{2\cdot (N-1)} \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 & \omega_N^{(N-2)\cdot 1} & \omega_N^{(N-2)\cdot 2} & \cdots & \omega_N^{(N-2)\cdot (\frac{N}{2}-1)} & \omega_N^{(N-2)\cdot \frac{N}{2}} & \cdots & \omega_N^{(N-2)\cdot (N-1)} \\ 1 & \omega_N^{(N-1)\cdot 1} & \omega_N^{(N-1)\cdot 2} & \cdots & \omega_N^{(N-1)\cdot (\frac{N}{2}-1)} & \omega_N^{(N-1)\cdot \frac{N}{2}} & \cdots & \omega_N^{(N-1)\cdot (N-1)} \end{bmatrix}$$

Observation:

- (1) Red submatrix $V_N(\text{odd}, [0, \dots, \frac{N}{2} 1])$ is $V_{N/2}$, same for $V_N(\text{odd}, [\frac{N}{2}, \dots, N 1])$.
- (2) Blue submatrix $V_N(\text{even}, [0, \dots, \frac{N}{2} 1])$ is $V_{N/2} \cdot \text{diag}[1, \omega_N, \omega_N^2, \dots, \omega_N^{N/2 1}]$.

28 / 1

We shall exploit its symmetric properties to speed-up $V_N \cdot \vec{\alpha}$.

Idea (I):

Since $V[i,j] = \omega^{i\cdot j}$, rewrite the calculation $y = V \cdot \vec{\alpha}$ as

$$y[i] = \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} \omega^{i \cdot j} \cdot \alpha[j] \text{ for } i = 0, 1, ..., N-1.$$
 (*)

Consider the toy examples of y[0] and y[N/2]: By the definition,

$$y[0] = \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} \omega^{0 \cdot j} \cdot \alpha[j] = \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} \alpha[j].$$

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Question: Do we need 2N steps to compute them?

Idea (II):

For general i < N/2,

$$y[i] = \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} \omega^{i \cdot j} \cdot \alpha[j]$$

$$= \sum_{\substack{\text{even } j \\ S_0(i)}} \omega^{i \cdot j} \cdot \alpha[j] + \sum_{\substack{\text{odd } j \\ S_1(i)}} \omega^{i \cdot j} \cdot \alpha[j].$$

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$$y[N/2 + i] = \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} \omega^{(i+N/2) \cdot j} \cdot \alpha[j]$$

$$= \sum_{\text{even } j} \omega^{(i+N/2) \cdot j} \cdot \alpha[j] + \sum_{\text{odd } j} \omega^{(i+N/2) \cdot j} \cdot \alpha[j]$$

$$= S_0(j) + S_1(j) \cdot \omega^{N/2} = S_0(j) - S_1(j).$$

This saves the whole calculation by a factor of 2.

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Can we push this idea more?

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$$y[i] = \underbrace{\sum_{\text{even } j} \omega^{i \cdot j} \cdot \alpha[j]}_{S_0(i)} + \underbrace{\sum_{\text{odd } j} \omega^{i \cdot j} \cdot \alpha[j]}_{S_1(i)},$$

$$S_0(i) = \underbrace{\sum_{\text{even } j} \omega^{2 \cdot i \cdot j/2} \cdot \alpha[j]}_{\text{even } i}.$$

Observation

① ω^2 is the $\frac{N}{2}$ th root of unity s.t. $S_0 = V_{N/2} \cdot (\alpha[0], \alpha[2], \dots, \alpha[N-2]) \in \mathbb{R}^{N/2}$.

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- ① ω^2 is the $\frac{N}{2}$ th root of unity s.t. $S_0 = V_{N/2} \cdot (\alpha[0], \alpha[2], \dots, \alpha[N-2]) \in \mathbb{R}^{N/2}$.
- ② $S_1(i) = \omega^i \cdot \sum_{odd \ j} \omega^{i \cdot 2 \cdot (j-1)/2} \cdot \alpha[j]$ where sum is in $V_{N/2} \cdot (\alpha[1], \alpha[3], \dots, \alpha[N-1])$.

Algorithm Description

Algorithm FFT(N, $\alpha[0]$, ..., $\alpha[N-1]$)

 $y[i+N/2] = S_0[i] - S_1'[i] \cdot \omega^i$

```
1: if N = 1 then
2: Return \alpha[0]
3: S_0 \leftarrow FFT(N/2, \alpha[0], \alpha[2], \dots, \alpha[N-2])
4: S_1' \leftarrow FFT(N/2, \alpha[1], \alpha[3], \dots, \alpha[N-1]) //S_1(i) = S_1'(i) \cdot \omega^i
5: \omega = e^{2\pi i/N}
6: for i = 0 to N/2 - 1 do
7: y[i] = S_0[i] + S_1'[i] \cdot \omega^i
```

9: Return y

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Correctness

Follows from the above discussion.

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Time Complexity

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$$T(N) = 2T(N/2) + O(N) = O(N \log N).$$

Next: Extensions.

Polynomial Interpolation

$$V_N \cdot \vec{\alpha} \text{ is } \begin{bmatrix} \omega_N^{0.0} & \omega_N^{0.1} & \dots & \omega_N^{0.(N-1)} \\ \omega_N^{1.0} & \omega_N^{1.1} & \dots & \omega_N^{1.(N-1)} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \omega_N^{(N-1)\cdot 0} & \omega_N^{(N-1)\cdot 1} & \dots & \omega_N^{(N-1)\cdot (N-1)} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \alpha[0] \\ \alpha[1] \\ \vdots \\ \alpha[N-1] \end{bmatrix}$$

Fast polynomial evaluation

 $y = V_N \cdot \vec{\alpha}$ is the evaluation of degree-(N-1) polynomial $p(x) = \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} \alpha[j] \cdot x^j$ at roots of unity $\omega_N^0, \ldots, \omega_N^{N-1}$.

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Question: Discrete Fourier transform on \mathbb{Z}_N ?

Inverse FFT

Another useful fact: $V_N^{-1} = \frac{1}{N} \cdot \overline{V_N}$.

$$V_{N} := \begin{bmatrix} \omega_{N}^{0.0} & \omega_{N}^{0.1} & \dots & \omega_{N}^{0.(N-1)} \\ \omega_{N}^{1.0} & \omega_{N}^{1.1} & \dots & \omega_{N}^{1.(N-1)} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \omega_{N}^{(N-1)\cdot 0} & \omega_{N}^{(N-1)\cdot 1} & \dots & \omega_{N}^{(N-1)\cdot (N-1)} \end{bmatrix}$$

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Property 2

Since $\omega_N^0, \ldots, \omega_N^{N-1}$ are symmetric, $\sum_j \omega_N^{j \cdot k} = 0$ for any $k \in [1, \ldots, N-1]$; otherwise the sum is N for k = 0.

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Property 2

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Corollary: $V_N^{-1} \cdot \vec{\alpha}$ is in time $O(N \log N)$.

Convolution

Definition

Given two vectors $(\alpha[0], \ldots, \alpha[N-1])$ and $(\beta[0], \ldots, \beta[N-1])$, their convolution is

$$(\alpha * \beta)[k] = \sum_{\ell=0}^{N-1} \alpha[\ell] \cdot \beta[(k-\ell) \mod N].$$

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Key fact: $V_N(\alpha * \beta) = (V_N \alpha) \cdot (V_N \beta)$ where \cdot denotes dot-product $(v \cdot u)[i] = v[i]u[i]$.

So FFT computes convolution in time $O(N \log N)$.

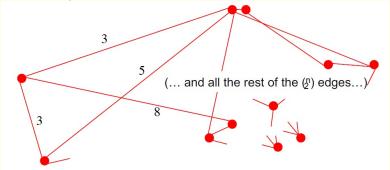
Summary about FFT

- Elegant and Efficient!
- ② Fundamental algorithm in machine learning, data science, signal processing, . . .
- 3 Lots of variations: cryptography, compressed sensing,...

Outline

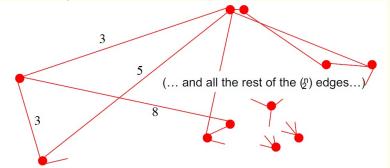
Introduction

Basic question: Given n points and a metric/distance between them, find the closest pair.



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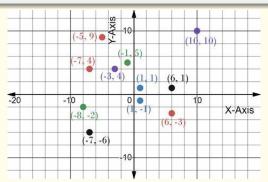
Lower bound

If the metric is arbitrary, $\Omega(n^2)$ because it must look at all pairswise distances.

Our problem in 2-dimension

Description

Given n points in the plane \mathbb{R}^2 , find a pair with smallest Euclidean distance between them.



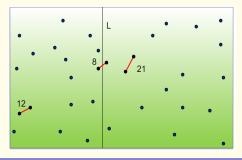
Fundamental geometric primitive: Graphics, computer vision, traffic control, nearest neighbor, Euclidean MST, ...

Main Result

Theorem

Divide & conquer solves the closest pair problem in 2-dimension in time $O(n \log n)$.

① The trivial algorithm is in time $O(n^2)$.



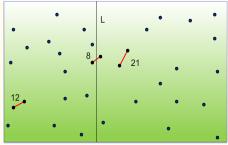
Main Result

Theorem

Divide & conquer solves the closest pair problem in 2-dimension in time $O(n \log n)$.

- ① The trivial algorithm is in time $O(n^2)$.
- ② For ease of exposition, assume no two points have same x or y coordinates and present $O(n \log^2 n)$ -time algorithm.

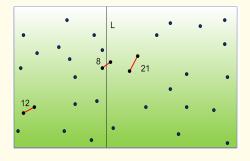
Let us apply the divide & conquer paradigm.



Three Steps

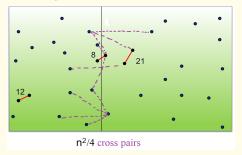
① Divide: Draw a line with n/2 points on each side

2 Conquer: Find closest pair on each side



Three Steps

- ① Divide: Draw a line with n/2 points on each side
- Conquer: Find closest pair on each side
- Merge: Find closest pair overall check all cross pairs?

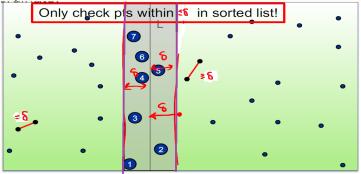


Key Observation

No need to check all cross pairs.

Key Idea

OBS: Let δ be the shortest distance from subproblems. Suffices to consider points within δ to L.



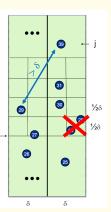
Next question: How many cross pairs in the 2δ -strip?

Almost 1D Problem

Claim:

No two points lie in the same $\frac{\delta}{2} \times \frac{\delta}{2}$ box. So there are at most 11 pairs to check for each point.

Proof: Such pair will have distance $\leq \delta/\sqrt{2}$. This contradicts with the definition of δ .



```
Closest-Pair (p_1, ..., p_n) {
   if(n <= ??) return ??
   Compute separation line L such that half the points
   are on one side and half on the other side.
   \delta_1 = Closest-Pair(left half)
   \delta_2 = Closest-Pair(right half)
   \delta = \min(\delta_1, \delta_2)
   Delete all points further than \delta from separation line L
   Sort remaining points p[1]...p[m] by y-coordinate.
   for i = 1..m
       for k = 1.11
         if i+k \le m
             \delta = \min(\delta, \operatorname{distance}(p[i], p[i+k]));
   return \delta.
```

Running Time

Recurrence Relation

 $O(n \log^2 n)$: $T(n) = 2T(n/2) + O(n \log n)$ since we need to sort points in the strip.

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 $O(n \log^2 n)$: $T(n) = 2T(n/2) + O(n \log n)$ since we need to sort points in the strip.

 $O(n \log n)$ -time algorithm: Sort them according to y at the beginning such that we could compute the closest pair in the strip without sorting.

Outline

Binary Search

Recall InsertionSort:

Problem

Given $A[1] \leqslant A[2] \leqslant \cdots \leqslant A[n]$ and k, find # elements in A less than k.

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Instead of enumerating j from 1 to n, we can apply a binary search.

$$A[1] \le A[2] \le A[3] \le \dots \le A\left[\frac{n}{2}\right] \le A\left[\frac{n}{2} + 1\right] \le \dots \le A[n]$$

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Given $A[1] \leqslant A[2] \leqslant \cdots \leqslant A[n]$ and k, find # elements in A less than k.

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Two cases depending on $k \ge A\left[\frac{n}{2}\right]$ or not:

$$A[1] \le A[2] \le A[3] \le \dots \le A\left[\frac{n}{2}\right] \le A\left[\frac{n}{2} + 1\right] \le \dots \le A[n]$$

$$k > A\left[\frac{n}{2}\right]$$

Pseudo-code

```
1: function BINARYSEARCH(\ell, r, k)
2: if \ell = r then
3: Return (A[\ell] < k)
4: j = [(\ell + r)/2]
5: if A[j] \le k then
6: Return BINARYSEARCH(\ell, \ell, k)
7: else
8: Return j - \ell + 1 + \text{BINARYSEARCH}(j + 1, r, k)
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```

Running time: $T(n) = T(n/2) + O(1) = O(\log n)$. Also could be implemented via a while loop.

Extensions

Question

How to compute a^n in time $O(\log n)$?

Assume all integer-operations are in O(1)

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How to compute a^n in time $O(\log n)$?

Assume all integer-operations are in O(1)

```
1: function SQUARING(a, n)
2: if n = 1 then
3: Return a
4: else
5: Return SQUARING(a, [n/2])^2 \cdot a^{n \mod 2}
```

Fibonacci Numbers

Question

Can we extend this idea to compute $F_n = F_{n-1} + F_{n-2}$?

Fibonacci Numbers

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Can we extend this idea to compute $F_n = F_{n-1} + F_{n-2}$?

While $F_n \approx (\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2})^n/\sqrt{5}$, it is very unstable.

Matrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} F_n \\ F_{n+1} \end{bmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}}_{A} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} F_{n-1} \\ F_n \end{bmatrix} \text{ s.t. } \begin{bmatrix} F_n \\ F_{n+1} \end{bmatrix} = A^n \cdot \begin{bmatrix} F_0 \\ F_1 \end{bmatrix}$$

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Now we can apply the squaring trick to compute A^n !

Summary: Divide and Conquer

- Recursion tree method: Works for any recurrent relation.
- 2 Master Theorem: A handknife to solve most recurrent relations.

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- Master Theorem: A handknife to solve most recurrent relations.
- Matrix Multiplication: An intriguing application of divide and conquer, which is still an active research area.
- Fast Fourier transform one of the most important algorithm
- Nearest neighbor search how to reduce the time of combining
- More examples: binary search, counting inversions, ...

Questions?