

Inverse Calculation

Let the vector $(y_0, y_1, \dots, y_{n-1})$ represent the values of polynomial A of degree $n-1$ where the points $x=w_n^k$ be given. We want to restore the coefficients $(a_0, a_1, \dots, a_{n-1})$ of the polynomial.

So the whole FFT process can be shown like the matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \\ 1 & w_n & w_n^2 & \dots & w_n^{n-1} \\ 1 & w_n^2 & w_n^4 & \dots & w_n^{2(n-1)} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 1 & w_n^{n-1} & w_n^{2(n-1)} & \dots & w_n^{(n-1)*(n-1)} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a_0 \\ a_1 \\ | \\ | \\ a_{n-1} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} y_0 \\ y_1 \\ | \\ | \\ y_{n-1} \end{pmatrix}$$

The square matrix on the left is the **Vandermonde Matrix** (V_n), where the (k, j) entry of V_n is w_n^{kj} . Now for finding the inverse, we can write the above equation as

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_0 \\ a_1 \\ | \\ | \\ a_{n-1} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \\ 1 & w_n & w_n^2 & \dots & w_n^{n-1} \\ 1 & w_n^2 & w_n^4 & \dots & w_n^{2(n-1)} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 1 & w_n^{n-1} & w_n^{2(n-1)} & \dots & w_n^{(n-1)*(n-1)} \end{pmatrix}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} y_0 \\ y_1 \\ | \\ | \\ y_{n-1} \end{pmatrix}$$

A quick check can verify that the inverse of the matrix has the following form:

$$\frac{1}{n} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \\ 1 & w_n^{-1} & w_n^{-2} & \dots & w_n^{-(n-1)} \\ 1 & w_n^{-2} & w_n^{-4} & \dots & w_n^{-2(n-1)} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 1 & w_n^{-(n-1)} & w_n^{-2(n-1)} & \dots & w_n^{-(n-1)*(n-1)} \end{pmatrix}$$

Thus we obtain the formula:

$$a_k = 1/n \sum_j y_j w_n^{-kj} \quad \text{for } j = 0 \text{ to } n-1$$

Comparing this to the formula for y_k

$$y_k = 1/n \sum_j a_j w_n^{kj} \quad \text{for } j = 0 \text{ to } n-1$$

We notice that these problems are almost the same, so the coefficients a_k can be found by the same divide and conquer algorithm, only instead of w_n^k we have to use w_n^{-k} , and at the end, we need to divide the resulting coefficients by n .