Divide and Conquer

Tao Hou

The Divide-and-Conquer Paradigm

- Divide phase: Divide the problem into subproblems
- Conquer phase: Conquer/solve the subproblems (recursively)
- **Combine phase:** Combine the solutions to the subproblems into a solution for the whole problem

Example: Merge Sort (Review)

• Divide phase: Divide the array into two halves from the middle

• Conquer Phase: Sort each half recursively

• Combine phase: Merge the two sorted halves

Merge Sort

```
\begin{aligned} & \textbf{MERGESORT}(A) \\ & 1 & \textbf{if } length(A) == 1 \\ & 2 & \textbf{return } A \\ & 3 & m = \lfloor length(A)/2 \rfloor \\ & 4 & A_L = \textbf{MERGESORT}(A[1 \dots m]) \\ & 5 & A_R = \textbf{MERGESORT}(A[m+1 \dots length(A)]) \\ & 6 & \textbf{return MERGE}(A_L, A_R) \end{aligned}
```

- What the MERGE routine does: given two sorted arrays, return a single sorted array containing all elements of the given two arrays
- The Merge routine runs in O(n) time where n is the size of the larger given array

MERGE Algorithm

```
Merge(A, B)
  1 i, j = 1
 X = \emptyset
 3 while i \leq length(A) and j \leq length(B)
         if A[i] \leq B[j]
 5
6
7
8
9
              X = X \circ A[i] // appends A[i] to X
             i = i + 1
      else
              X = X \circ B[j]
             j = j + 1
10 while i \leq length(A)
11 X = X \circ A[i]
12 i = i + 1
13 while j \leq length(B)
14 X = X \circ B[j]
15 j = j + 1
16 return X
```

Run-Time Analysis of Merge Sort

Input Size: n

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} C_1 & \text{if } n=1\\ 2T(n/2) + n * C_2 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Q: How to solve it?

The Master Theorem

Let $a \ge 1$, b > 1, $f(n) = O(n^d)$ where $d \ge 0$, and $c = \log_b a$

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} O(1) & \text{if } n = O(1) \\ aT(n/b) + f(n) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- 1. c < d: $T(n) = \Theta(f(n)) = \Theta(n^d)$
- 2. c > d: $T(n) = \Theta(n^c)$
- 3. c = d: $T(n) = \Theta(n^c \log n)$

The Master Theorem

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- 2. c > d: $T(n) = \Theta(n^c)$
- 3. c = d: $T(n) = \Theta(n^c \log n)$

Remark: For case 1, f(n) must also satisfy a regularity condition which states that there is some C < 1 such that $a \cdot f(n/b) \le C \cdot f(n)$ for sufficiently large n. This regularity condition is almost always true and we will not worry about it.

Run-Time Analysis of Merge Sort using Master Theorem

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} C_1 & \text{if } n=1\\ 2T(n/2) + C_2 \cdot n & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Applying the Master Theorem with a=2, b=2, and d=1, we get $c=\log_2 2=d$ and $T(n)=\Theta(n\log n)$

Master Theorem: Additional Examples

Example 1

$$T(n) = T(n/2) + 5n$$

Applying the Master Theorem with $a=1,\ b=2,\ d=1,$ we get c=0 < d and hence $T(n) = \Theta(n)$

Master Theorem: Additional Examples

Example 1

$$T(n) = T(n/2) + 5n$$

Applying the Master Theorem with a=1, b=2, d=1, we get c=0 < d and hence $T(n) = \Theta(n)$

Example 2

$$T(n) = 4T(n/2) + 2n$$

Applying the Master Theorem with a=4, b=2, d=1, we get c=2>d and hence $T(n)=\Theta(n^2)$

Examples: Using the Master Theorem

Example 3

$$T(n) = T(n-5) + n$$

- The Master Theorem does not apply here.
- The *iteration method* (briefly reviewed next) can be used to solve this equation

Run-Time Analysis of Merge Sort (Iteration Method)

We can also solve T(n) using the *Iteration Method* (aka. keep on expanding the formula by applying T(n) to itself, until reaching the base case):

(1):
$$T(n) = 2T(n/2) + C_2n$$

(2): $T(n) = 2^2T(n/2^2) + 2C_2n$
(3): $T(n) = 2^3T(n/2^3) + 3C_2n$
:
(i): $T(n) = 2^iT(n/2^i) + i \cdot C_2n$

We stop iterating when $n/2^i = 1$ Setting $n/2^i = 1$ gives a number of iterations $i = \log n$ Plugging the value of $i = \log n$ gives:

$$T(n) = 2^{i} T(n/2^{i}) + i \cdot C_{2} n = 2^{\log n} C_{1} + n \cdot \log n = nC_{1} + \log n \cdot C_{2} \cdot n = \Theta(n \log n)$$

Quicksort (Review)

Divide: Partition A into $A[1 \dots q-1]$ and $A[q+1 \dots n]$ such that

$$A[1], \ldots, A[q-1] \le A[q] \le A[q+1], \ldots, A[n]$$

- ► The partition is done by a Partition procedure which may change the positions of elements
- → q is returned from the partition procedure and in general we don't have any control over q
- **Conquer:** Sort $A[1 \dots q-1]$ and $A[q+1 \dots n]$ recursively
- **Combine:** Nothing to do here

```
 \begin{aligned} & \textbf{QUICKSORT}(A, begin, end) \\ & 1 & \textbf{if } begin < end \\ & 2 & q = \textbf{PARTITION}(A, begin, end) \\ & 3 & \textbf{QUICKSORT}(A, begin, q-1) \\ & 4 & \textbf{QUICKSORT}(A, q+1, end) \end{aligned}
```

Partition

```
PARTITION(A, begin, end)

1 q = begin

2 v = A[end]

3 \mathbf{for} i = begin \mathbf{to} \ end - 1

4 \mathbf{if} A[i] < v

5 \mathbf{swap} A[i] \ and \ A[q]

6 q = q + 1

7 \mathbf{swap} A[q] \ and \ A[end]

8 \mathbf{return} \ q
```

- Runs in $\Theta(n)$ time
- Further remarks:
 - Assume a pivot (center of the partition) v to be at the end
 - Loop invariant (always **true** at the beginning of each iteration): q is a separation of A[begin . . . i − 1] s.t.

$$A[begin], \ldots, A[q-1] < v \text{ and } A[q], \ldots, A[i-1] \ge v$$

Worst-Case Run-Time Analysis of Quick Sort (Review)

Input Size: n

Worst Case: The array partition is very skewed: 0 element on one side, pivot, and the rest on the other side (the pivot is the smallest or largest element)

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } n=1 \\ T(n-1) + n & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

We cannot solve T(n) using the master method.

Using the Iteration Method

We solve T(n) by expanding the recursive formula directly:

$$(1): T(n) = T(n-1) + n$$

$$(2): T(n) = T(n-2) + n - 1 + n$$

$$(3): T(n) = T(n-3) + n - 2 + n - 1 + n$$

$$\vdots$$

$$(i): T(n) = T(n-i) + (n-i+1) + (n-i+2) + \dots + n$$

We stop expanding when n - i = 1

Setting n - i = 1 gives i = n - 1

Plugging this value of i in the generic form gives

$$T(n) = T(1) + 2 + 3 + \dots + n = 1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + n = n(n+1)/2 = \Theta(n^2)$$

Average-Case Run-Time Analysis of Quick Sort (Advanced)

- Idea: count the number of comparisons
- Rename elements (assumed to be distinct) in A as $z_1 < z_2 < \cdots < z_n$
- Define a random variable X_{ij} as:

$$X_{ij} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } z_i \text{ and } z_j \text{ does not compare} \\ 1 & \text{if } z_i \text{ and } z_j \text{ does compare} \end{cases}$$

• The random variable for the number of comparison is:

$$X = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \sum_{j=i+1}^{n} X_{ij}$$

Average-Case Run-Time Analysis of Quick Sort (Advanced)

We have

$$E[X] = E\left[\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \sum_{j=i+1}^{n} X_{ij}\right]$$
$$= \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \sum_{j=i+1}^{n} E[X_{ij}]$$

By some analysis (we omit),

$$E[X_{ij}] = \frac{2}{i - i + 1}$$

Average-Case Run-Time Analysis of Quick Sort (Advanced)

Then

$$E[X] = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \sum_{j=i+1}^{n} E[X_{ij}] = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \sum_{j=i+1}^{n} \frac{2}{j-i+1}$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \sum_{k=1}^{n-i} \frac{2}{k+1} < \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \sum_{k=1}^{n-i} \frac{2}{k}$$

$$< \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \left(2\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k}\right) \quad \text{(inner sum harmonic series)}$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} O(\log n) = O(n \log n)$$

Selection

Problem

Given an (unsorted) array $A[1\dots n]$ of numbers and $k\in\mathbb{N}$, find the k-th smallest number in A

A First Random Solution

- (i) **Divide:** Randomly select a pivot from A, partition A into two subarrays L and R s.t. elements in $L \le$ elements in R
- (ii) **Conquer:** If $k \le |L|$, recurse to find the k-th smallest element in L; otherwise, recurse to find the (k |L|)-th smallest element in R

Random select

RandSelect(A, k)

- 1. if |A| == 1 then return A[1];
- 2. L, R = Partition(A);
- 3. if $k \le |L|$ then return RandSelect(L, k);
- 4. **else return** RandSelect(R, k |L|);

Figure 1: The algorithm RandSelect

(Analysis similar to quicksort)

• Best case:

(Analysis similar to quicksort)

• Best case: O(n)

- Best case: O(n)
- Worst case:

- Best case: O(n)
- Worst case: $O(n^2)$

- Best case: O(n)
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- Average case:

- Best case: O(n)
- Worst case: $O(n^2)$
- Average case: O(n)

Linear-Time Selection

Can we have a selection algorithm which runs in linear time in the worst case?

- Observe that the previous random selection runs in quadratic time because sometimes the partition can be unbalanced
- Can we try to choose a "good" pivot for the partition each time so that the partitioned arrays are always balanced?

Linear-Time Selection

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- Observe that the previous random selection runs in quadratic time because sometimes the partition can be unbalanced
- Can we try to choose a "good" pivot for the partition each time so that the partitioned arrays are always balanced?
- The answer is that we can

Linear-Time Selection

Solution:

- (i) Partition the array into $m = \lceil n/5 \rceil$ subarrays, each consisting of 5 (maybe less) consecutive elements
- (ii) Find the median of each of the m arrays by brute force
- (iii) Recursively find the median M of the m medians
- (iv) Using M as pivot, partition A into two subarrays L and R
- (v) If $k \le |L|$, recurse to find the k-th smallest element in L; otherwise, recurse to find the (k |L|)-th smallest element in R

The Selection Algorithm

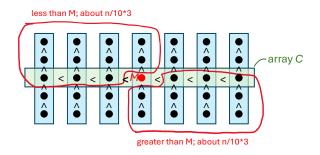
Select(A, k)

- 1. **if** $n \le 25$ **then return** the k-th smallest element in A by brute force;
- 2. $m = \lceil n/5 \rceil$; create an array C[1..m];
- 3. **for** i = 1 **to** m C[i] := the median of A[(5i 4)..(5i)];
- 4. M = Select(C, m/2);
- 5. Partition A using M as the pivot into L and R, where L contains all elements that are smaller or equal to M and R contains the rest;
- 6. if $k \le |L|$ then return Select(L, k);
- 7. **else return** Select(R, k |L|);

Figure 2: The algorithm Select

Run-Time Analysis of Select

- Take n = 35
- For simplicity, assume all elements are distinct
- Order each small array, and then order the 7 small arrays by their medians



Run-Time Analysis of Select

In general:

- Ignore the floors and ceilings
- The number of medians in the array C less than M is: $(1/2) \cdot (n/5) = n/10$
- The number of other elements less than M is at least: 2n/10
- So, at lease 3n/10 elements is less than M
- ullet Similarly, at lease 3n/10 elements is greater than M
- Whether we go to L or R in the algorithm, we drop at least 3n/10 elements (i.e., keep at most 7n/10 elements).

Run-Time Analysis of Select

$$T(n) \le \left\{ egin{array}{ll} O(1) & ext{if } n \le 25 \\ T(7n/10) + T(n/5) + O(n) & ext{otherwise} \end{array}
ight.$$

We cannot solve T(n) using the master method.

Instead, use the *substitution* method:

- Guess the solution
- Plug in the guess and prove the equation to be true based on the assumption that the equation is true for sub-cases

Notice: The substitution method is in some sense a proof by induction

Run-Time Analysis of Select

- Our induction hypothesis:
 - Suppose that $T(i) \le c \cdot i$ for any i < n, where c is a constant
 - Want to prove that $T(n) \le c \cdot n$, which means T(n) = O(n) by definition

Run-Time Analysis of Select

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- We have

$$T(n) \le T(7n/10) + T(n/5) + O(n)$$

 $\le c \cdot (7n/10) + c \cdot (n/5) + c'n$
 $= 9cn/10 + c'n = cn \cdot (9/10 + c'/c)$

Run-Time Analysis of Select

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 $\le c \cdot (7n/10) + c \cdot (n/5) + c'n$
 $= 9cn/10 + c'n = cn \cdot (9/10 + c'/c)$

• So we only need to choose a c s.t. $c'/c + 9/10 \le 1$, which is $c \ge 10c'$, so that we will have

$$T(n) \le cn \cdot (9/10 + c'/c) \le cn$$

The Closest Pair of Points

Problem

Given a set $S = \{p_1, \ldots, p_n\}$ of points in the plane, where $p_i = (x_i, y_i)$, compute a closest-pair of points in S, that is, a pair of distinct points $p_i, p_j \in S$ such that $|p_ip_j| = \min\{|p_rp_s| : p_r \neq p_s \in S\}$

Note: we assume the points in S to have distinct coordinates; if there are duplicate points in S, this is easy to pre-check and the answer is O

The Closest-Pair Algorithm: Overview

- **Divide:** Partition the input set S into two sets S_L and S_R of the same size s.t. points in S_L are to the left of points in S_R
- Conquer: Recursively find the minimum distances of S_L and S_R
- Combine: Find the minimum distance of point pairs where one is from S_L and the other is from S_R ; return the minimum of the three minimums

We aim to achieve O(n) time for both the divide and combine phase so that the entire complexity is $O(n \log n)$

Preprocessing Step

Let X be a list containing the points in S sorted w.r.t. their x-coordinates, and Y a list containing the points in S sorted w.r.t. their y-coordinates. Clearly, X and Y can be obtained in O(n log n) time (we only do this once at the beginning).

So the input to the algorithm, i.e., the set of points, is encoded as a tuple of three arrays (S, X, Y)

Divide Phase

- Partition S into S_L and S_R of equal size s.t. points in S_L are to the left of S_R using a central vertical line D
- Let X_L , Y_L each represent the set of points in S_L sorted by x- and y-coordinates respectively; X_R and Y_R are similarly defined for S_R

Divide Phase: Pseudocode

```
1. m = |X|/2

2. D = X[m].x

3. X_L = X[1...m]

4. X_R = X[m+1...|X|]

5. for i = 1...|Y|:

6. if Y[i].x \le D:

7. append Y[i] to Y_L

8. else:

9. append Y[i] to Y_R

10. separate S into S_L, S_R similarly
```

Figure 3: Divide phase

Conquer Phase

• Recursively call the algorithm on (S_L, X_L, Y_L) to obtain the min-distance δ_L for S_L , and on (S_R, X_R, Y_R) to obtain the min-distance δ_R for S_R .

Combine Phase

Idea

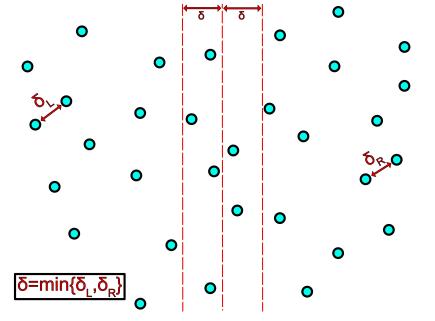
- We have:
 - δ_L : The min dis of pairs in S_L
 - δ_R : The min dis of pairs in S_R
- Aim of combine phase: Compute the min-dis of the pairs where one point is from S_L and the other is from S_R (i.e., pairs of points from different sides)
- Answer: The minimum of above three minimums

Details of Combine Phase

The first observation

- Let $\delta = \min\{\delta_L, \delta_R\}$
- We only need to consider pairs within a 2δ -wide vertical strip centered around D

Consider only 2δ -wide vertical strip centered around D



Explanation

- \bullet We have computed min-dis of points from the same side, which is $\delta.$
- So, to compute the overall min-dis, we can ignore those point pairs whose distances are greater than δ .
- If two points from different sides are not both from the 2δ -wide vertical strip (at least one point is outside the strip), then their distance is greater than δ , and so we can ignore them.

The Combine Phase

- Let $\delta = \min\{\delta_L, \delta_R\}$
- \bullet From Y, create Y_{mid} (also sorted by y-coordinates) which is the set of points within the $2\delta\text{-wide}$ vertical strip centered around D

The Combine Phase

- Let $\delta = \min\{\delta_L, \delta_R\}$
- From Y, create Y_{mid} (also sorted by y-coordinates) which is the set of points within the 2δ -wide vertical strip centered around D
- Go over Y_{mid} , and for each point p, compute its distance to **at most** 7 points in Y_{mid} that follow p, and keep track of the min-distance
- ullet Return the smaller of δ and what we have by scanning Y_{mid}

Combine Phase: Pseudocode

```
1. for i=1\ldots |Y|:

2. if Y[i].x \geq D-\delta and Y[i].x \leq D+\delta:

3. append Y[i] to Y_{mid}

4. \bar{\delta}=\infty

5. for i=1\ldots |Y_{mid}|:

6. for j=1\ldots 7:

7. if i+j\leq |Y_{mid}| and \operatorname{dis}(Y_{mid}[i],Y_{mid}[i+j])<\bar{\delta} then

8. \bar{\delta}=\operatorname{dis}(Y_{mid}[i],Y_{mid}[i+j])

9. return \min\{\delta,\bar{\delta}\}
```

Figure 4: Combine phase

Why only scan 7 points?

• For each point p in Y_{mid} , we only need to consider other points in Y_{mid} whose distances to p is $<\delta$. This means we only need to consider points within a $2\delta \times 2\delta$ square of p.

Why only scan 7 points?

- For each point p in Y_{mid} , we only need to consider other points in Y_{mid} whose distances to p is $<\delta$. This means we only need to consider points within a $2\delta \times 2\delta$ square of p.
- **Key observation**: Each $\delta \times \delta$ square contains at most 4 points
 - This square is totally within the left or right side of the vertical separator D, meaning that points in the square are either all from S_L or all from S_R , so these points are at least δ -distance apart
 - A fact from computational geometry says that such a square cannot fit in more than 4 points

Why only scan 7 points?

- Therefore, each $2\delta \times \delta$ square contains at most 8 points (including p)
- So we only need to scan the 7 points that precede p (ones that are in the upper $2\delta \times \delta$ square) and the 7 points that follow p (ones that are in the lower $2\delta \times \delta$ square) in Y_{mid} .
- Further observation: we only need to scan the 7 points that follow *p*, and ignore the 7 points that precede *p*:
 - Suppose there is a point q preceding p in Y_{mid} falling within the upper $2\delta \times \delta$ square for p. Then p also falls in the lower $2\delta \times \delta$ square for q. So we have checked the pair p,q when we scan q.

The Closest-Pair Algorithm

Closest-Pair-Algo

- 1. **if** $|S| \leq 3$ **return** a closes pair (p_{min}, q_{min}) in S by brute force;
- 2. using X, compute a vertical line D of equation $x = \ell$ that partitions S into S_L , S_R of equal size such that all points in S_L are on D or to the left of it, and all points in S_R are on D or to the right of it;
- 3. using X and Y, create the arrays X_L , Y_L and X_R , Y_R ;
- 4. recurse on S_L, X_L, Y_L to compute a closest pair (p_L, q_L) ; let $\delta_L = |p_L q_L|$;
- 5. recurse on S_R , X_R , Y_R to compute a closest pair (p_R, q_R) ; let $\delta_R = |p_R q_R|$;
- 6. let $\delta = \min \{\delta_L, \delta_R\}$;
- 7. let S_{mid} be the set of points in S whose x-coordinate satisfies $\ell \delta \le x \le x + \delta$;
- 8. using Y, compute the list of points in S_{mid} sorted by their y-coordinates;
- 9. go over Y_{mid} (in the sorted order), and for each point, compute its distance to the next (at most) 7 points in Y_{mid} and keep track of the pair of points (p_{mid}, q_{mid}) of minimum distance;
- 10. return the closest pair (p_{min}, q_{min}) among, $(p_L, q_L), (p_R, q_R)$, and (p_{mid}, q_{mid}) ;

Figure 5: The algorithm Closest Pair

Run-Time Analysis of Closest-Pair

Let T(n) be the running time of Closest-Pair in the worst case on n points.

- Divide phase takes O(n) time.
- Combine phase takes O(n) time.
- Recursive call on (S_L, X_L, Y_L) takes T(n/2) time; recursive call on (S_R, X_R, Y_R) takes T(n/2) time.

Therefore, T(n) obeys the following recurrence relation:

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} O(1) & \text{if } n \leq 3\\ 2T(n/2) + O(n) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

We can solve T(n) using the Master Theorem to obtain $T(n) = O(n \lg n)$

Integer Multiplication

Problem

Multiply two integers x, y represented as sequences (e.g., arrays) of 0-1 bits where the lengths of the sequences can be **arbitrarily** large (assume the length of the two to be both n, with possibly padding 0's)

Notice: This cannot be simply done in constant time: the multiplication of provided by the CPU only supports a *fixed* length on the sequence (e.g., 64).

An Algorithm Everybody Knows

Solution:

- Compute a "partial product" by multiplying each digit of y separately by x, and then you add up all the partial products.
- Only this time we do the binary version, i.e., we multiplying each bit
 of y by x and then add up.

	1100
	× 1101
12	1100
× 13	0000
36	1100
12	1100
156	10011100
(a)	(b)

(Figure taken from [Kleinberg&Tardos - Algorithm Design])

Time complexity:

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Time complexity: $O(n^2)$

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- Write x as $x = x_1 \cdot 2^{n/2} + x_0$, where x_1 is the "high-order" half bits x_0 is the "low-order" half bits
- Similarly write y as $y = y_1 \cdot 2^{n/2} + y_0$

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- Rewrite xy as

$$xy = (x_1 \cdot 2^{n/2} + x_0)(y_1 \cdot 2^{n/2} + y_0)$$

= $x_1y_1 \cdot 2^n + (x_1y_0 + x_0y_1) \cdot 2^{n/2} + x_0y_0$

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- Rewrite xy as

$$xy = (x_1 \cdot 2^{n/2} + x_0)(y_1 \cdot 2^{n/2} + y_0)$$

= $x_1y_1 \cdot 2^n + (x_1y_0 + x_0y_1) \cdot 2^{n/2} + x_0y_0$

So, to compute xy (multiplying two n-sequences), we only need to:

• Recursively compute four multiplications of n/2-sequences:

$$x_1y_1$$
, x_1y_0 , x_0y_1 , and x_0y_0

• Then take the sum $x_1y_1 \cdot 2^n + (x_1y_0 + x_0y_1) \cdot 2^{n/2} + x_0y_0$ (which can be done in O(n) time)

Pseudocode

Recursive-Multiply(x,y)

- 1. write $x = x_1 \cdot 2^{n/2} + x_0$, $y = y_1 \cdot 2^{n/2} + y_0$
- 2. $x_1y_1 = \text{Recursive-Multiply}(x_1, y_1)$
- 3. $x_1y_0 = \text{Recursive-Multiply}(x_1, y_0)$
- 4. $x_0y_1 = \text{Recursive-Multiply}(x_0, y_1)$
- 5. $x_0y_0 = \text{Recursive-Multiply}(x_0, y_0)$
- 6. **return** $x_1y_1 \cdot 2^n + (x_1y_0 + x_0y_1) \cdot 2^{n/2} + x_0y_0$

Figure 6: Recursive Multiply

Time complexity:

Pseudocode

Recursive-Multiply(x,y)

- 1. write $x = x_1 \cdot 2^{n/2} + x_0$, $y = y_1 \cdot 2^{n/2} + y_0$
- 2. $x_1y_1 = \text{Recursive-Multiply}(x_1, y_1)$
- 3. $x_1y_0 = \text{Recursive-Multiply}(x_1, y_0)$
- 4. $x_0y_1 = \text{Recursive-Multiply}(x_0, y_1)$
- 5. $x_0 y_0 = \text{Recursive-Multiply}(x_0, y_0)$
- 6. **return** $x_1y_1 \cdot 2^n + (x_1y_0 + x_0y_1) \cdot 2^{n/2} + x_0y_0$

Figure 6: Recursive Multiply

Time complexity:

• T(n) = 4T(n/2) + O(n) which is $O(n^2)$ (no improvement at all!)

- The problem with the previous divide-and-conquer approach is that it involves **four** recursive calls
- If we can reduce the number of recursive calls to three, we would have

$$T(n) = 3T(n/2) + O(n)$$

which is $O(n^{1.59})$ (quite an improvement!)

Notice that our goal is to compute the sum

$$xy = x_1y_1 \cdot 2^n + (x_1y_0 + x_0y_1) \cdot 2^{n/2} + x_0y_0 \tag{1}$$

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Consider another multiplication

$$p = (x_1 + x_0)(y_1 + y_0) = x_1y_1 + x_1y_0 + x_0y_1 + x_0y_0$$

where we observe $x_1y_0 + x_0y_1 = p - x_1y_1 - x_0y_0$

Notice that our goal is to compute the sum

$$xy = x_1y_1 \cdot 2^n + (x_1y_0 + x_0y_1) \cdot 2^{n/2} + x_0y_0 \tag{1}$$

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where we observe $x_1y_0 + x_0y_1 = p - x_1y_1 - x_0y_0$

• So, to get the three components in the sum (1), we only need the three multiplications of n/2-sequences:

$$x_1y_1$$
, x_0y_0 , and $p = (x_1 + x_0)(y_1 + y_0)$

by letting
$$x_1y_0 + x_0y_1 = p - x_1y_1 - x_0y_0$$

And then we can get xy with only three recursive calls!

Pseudocode (Improved)

Recursive-Multiply(x,y)

- 1. write $x = x_1 \cdot 2^{n/2} + x_0$ and $y = y_1 \cdot 2^{n/2} + y_0$
- 2. compute $x_1 + x_0$ and $y_1 + y_0$
- 3. $p = \text{Recursive-Multiply}(x_1 + x_0, y_1 + y_0)$
- 4. $x_1y_1 = \text{Recursive-Multiply}(x_1, y_1)$
- 5. $x_0y_0 = \text{Recursive-Multiply}(x_0, y_0)$
- 6. **return** $x_1y_1 \cdot 2^n + (p x_1y_1 x_0y_0) \cdot 2^{n/2} + x_0y_0$

Figure 7: Recursive Multiply (Improved)

Time complexity:

• T(n) = 3T(n/2) + O(n) which is $O(n^{1.59})$