



More Divide & Conquer

Carola Wenk

Slides courtesy of Charles Leiserson with small changes by Carola Wenk



The divide-and-conquer design paradigm

1. **Divide** the problem (instance) into subproblems.
2. **Conquer** the subproblems by solving them recursively.
3. **Combine** subproblem solutions.

Example: merge sort

1. **Divide:** Trivial.
2. **Conquer:** Recursively sort 2 subarrays.
3. **Combine:** Linear-time merge.

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

subproblems → subproblem size → work dividing and combining

$$n^{\log_b a} = n^{\log_2 2} = n^1 = n \Rightarrow \text{CASE 2 } (k = 0) \\ \Rightarrow T(n) = \Theta(n \log n).$$



Recurrence for binary search

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

subproblems → subproblem size → work dividing and combining

$$n^{\log_b a} = n^{\log_2 1} = n^0 = 1 \Rightarrow \text{CASE 2 } (k = 0) \\ \Rightarrow T(n) = \Theta(\log n).$$



Powering a number

Problem: Compute a^n , where $n \in \mathbf{N}$.

Naive algorithm: $\Theta(n)$.

Divide-and-conquer algorithm: (recursive squaring)

$$a^n = \begin{cases} a^{n/2} \cdot a^{n/2} & \text{if } n \text{ is even;} \\ a^{(n-1)/2} \cdot a^{(n-1)/2} \cdot a & \text{if } n \text{ is odd.} \end{cases}$$

$$T(n) = T(n/2) + \Theta(1) \Rightarrow T(n) = \Theta(\log n).$$



Fibonacci numbers

Recursive definition:

$$F_n = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } n = 0; \\ 1 & \text{if } n = 1; \\ F_{n-1} + F_{n-2} & \text{if } n \geq 2. \end{cases}$$

0 1 1 2 3 5 8 13 21 34 ...

Naive recursive algorithm: $\Omega(\phi^n)$ (exponential time), where $\phi = (1 + \sqrt{5})/2$ is the *golden ratio*.



Computing Fibonacci numbers

Naive recursive squaring:

$F_n = \phi^n / \sqrt{5}$ rounded to the nearest integer.

- Recursive squaring: $\Theta(\log n)$ time.
- This method is unreliable, since floating-point arithmetic is prone to round-off errors.

Bottom-up (one-dimensional dynamic programming):

- Compute $F_0, F_1, F_2, \dots, F_n$ in order, forming each number by summing the two previous.
- Running time: $\Theta(n)$.



Recursive squaring

Theorem: $\begin{bmatrix} F_{n+1} & F_n \\ F_n & F_{n-1} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}^n$.

Algorithm: Recursive squaring.
Time = $\Theta(\log n)$.

Proof of theorem. (Induction on n .)

Base ($n = 1$): $\begin{bmatrix} F_2 & F_1 \\ F_1 & F_0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}^1$.



Recursive squaring

Inductive step ($n \geq 2$):

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{bmatrix} F_{n+1} & F_n \\ F_n & F_{n-1} \end{bmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} F_n & F_{n-1} \\ F_{n-1} & F_{n-2} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}^{n-1} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}^n \quad \blacksquare \end{aligned}$$



Matrix multiplication

Input: $A = [a_{ij}], B = [b_{ij}].$ } $i, j = 1, 2, \dots, n.$
Output: $C = [c_{ij}] = A \cdot B.$

$$\begin{bmatrix} c_{11} & c_{12} & \dots & c_{1n} \\ c_{21} & c_{22} & \dots & c_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ c_{n1} & c_{n2} & \dots & c_{nn} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & \dots & a_{nn} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} b_{11} & b_{12} & \dots & b_{1n} \\ b_{21} & b_{22} & \dots & b_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ b_{n1} & b_{n2} & \dots & b_{nn} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$c_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^n a_{ik} \cdot b_{kj}$$



Standard algorithm

```

for  $i \leftarrow 1$  to  $n$ 
  do for  $j \leftarrow 1$  to  $n$ 
    do  $c_{ij} \leftarrow 0$ 
      for  $k \leftarrow 1$  to  $n$ 
        do  $c_{ij} \leftarrow c_{ij} + a_{ik} \cdot b_{kj}$ 

```

Running time = $\Theta(n^3)$



Divide-and-conquer algorithm

IDEA:
 $n \times n$ matrix = 2×2 matrix of $(n/2) \times (n/2)$ submatrices:

$$\begin{bmatrix} r & s \\ t & u \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} e & f \\ g & h \end{bmatrix}$$

$$C = A \cdot B$$

$r = ae + bg$
 $s = af + bh$
 $t = ce + dh$
 $u = cf + dg$

8 mults of $(n/2) \times (n/2)$ submatrices
 4 adds of $(n/2) \times (n/2)$ submatrices

Analysis of D&C algorithm

$$T(n) = 8T(n/2) + \Theta(n^2)$$

submatrices

submatrix size

work adding
submatrices

$$n^{\log_b a} = n^{\log_2 8} = n^3 \Rightarrow \text{CASE 1} \Rightarrow T(n) = \Theta(n^3).$$

No better than the ordinary algorithm.



Strassen's idea

- Multiply 2×2 matrices with only 7 recursive mults.

$$P_1 = a \cdot (f - h)$$

$$P_2 = (a + b) \cdot h$$

$$P_3 = (c + d) \cdot e$$

$$P_4 = d \cdot (g - e)$$

$$P_5 = (a + d) \cdot (e + h)$$

$$P_6 = (b - d) \cdot (g + h)$$

$$P_7 = (a - c) \cdot (e + f)$$

$$r = P_5 + P_4 - P_2 + P_6$$

$$s = P_1 + P_2$$

$$t = P_3 + P_4$$

$$u = P_5 + P_1 - P_3 - P_7$$

7 mults, 18 adds/subs.

Note: No reliance on commutativity of mult!

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$$P_4 = d \cdot (g - e)$$

$$P_5 = (a + d) \cdot (e + h)$$

$$P_6 = (b - d) \cdot (g + h)$$

$$P_7 = (a - c) \cdot (e + f)$$

$$r = P_5 + P_4 - P_2 + P_6$$

$$= (a + d)(e + h)$$

$$+ d(g - e) - (a + b)h$$

$$+ (b - d)(g + h)$$

$$= ae + ah + de + dh$$

$$+ dg - de - ah - bh$$

$$+ bg + bh - dg - dh$$

$$= ae + bg$$



Strassen's algorithm

- Divide:** Partition A and B into $(n/2) \times (n/2)$ submatrices. Form terms to be multiplied using $+$ and $-$.
- Conquer:** Perform 7 multiplications of $(n/2) \times (n/2)$ submatrices recursively.
- Combine:** Form C using $+$ and $-$ on $(n/2) \times (n/2)$ submatrices.

$$T(n) = 7T(n/2) + \Theta(n^2)$$



Analysis of Strassen

$$T(n) = 7 T(n/2) + \Theta(n^2)$$

$$n^{\log_b a} = n^{\log_2 7} \approx n^{2.81} \Rightarrow \text{CASE 1} \Rightarrow T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log 7}).$$

The number 2.81 may not seem much smaller than 3, but because the difference is in the exponent, the impact on running time is significant. In fact, Strassen's algorithm beats the ordinary algorithm on today's machines for $n \geq 30$ or so.

Best to date (of theoretical interest only): $\Theta(n^{2.376\dots})$.



Conclusion

- Divide and conquer is just one of several powerful techniques for algorithm design.
- Divide-and-conquer algorithms can be analyzed using recurrences and the master method (so practice this math).
- Can lead to more efficient algorithms