

# Lecture Notes

on

## Divide and Conquer with examples such as Sorting, Matrix Multiplication



(Established under Galgotias University Uttar Pradesh Act No. 14 of 2011)

July 2020

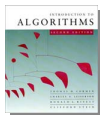
**(Be safe and stay at home)**





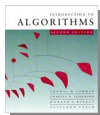
# The divide-and-conquer design paradigm

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



# Merge sort

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

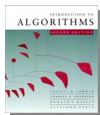


# Merge sort

1. **Divide:** Trivial.
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$$T(n) = 2T(n/2) + \Theta(n)$$

*# subproblems*      *subproblem size*      *work dividing and combining*



# Master theorem (reprise)

$$T(n) = a T(n/b) + f(n)$$

**CASE 1:**  $f(n) = O(n^{\log_b a - \epsilon})$ , constant  $\epsilon > 0$

$$\Rightarrow T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a}) .$$

**CASE 2:**  $f(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \lg^k n)$ , constant  $k \geq 0$

$$\Rightarrow T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \lg^{k+1} n) .$$

**CASE 3:**  $f(n) = \Omega(n^{\log_b a + \epsilon})$ , constant  $\epsilon > 0$ ,  
and regularity condition

$$\Rightarrow T(n) = \Theta(f(n)) .$$



## Master theorem (reprise)

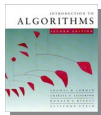
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**CASE 3:**  $f(n) = \Omega(n^{\log_b a + \epsilon})$ , constant  $\epsilon > 0$ ,  
 and regularity condition  
 $\Rightarrow T(n) = \Theta(f(n))$ .

**Merge sort:**  $a = 2, b = 2 \Rightarrow n^{\log_b a} = n^{\log_2 2} = n$   
 $\Rightarrow$  **CASE 2** ( $k = 0$ )  $\Rightarrow T(n) = \Theta(n \lg n)$ .



# Binary search

Find an element in a sorted array:

- 1. *Divide:*** Check middle element.
- 2. *Conquer:*** Recursively search 1 subarray.
- 3. *Combine:*** Trivial.





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**Example:** Find 9

3 5 7 8 9 12 15



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# Recurrence for binary search

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

*# subproblems*

*subproblem size*

*work dividing  
and combining*



# Recurrence for binary search

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

# subproblems

subproblem size

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and combining

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

$$\Rightarrow T(n) = \Theta(\lg n) .$$

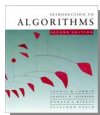




# Powering a number

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

**Naive algorithm:**  $\Theta(n)$ .



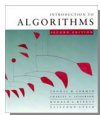
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**Divide-and-conquer algorithm:**

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



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



# 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 ...



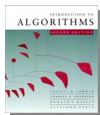
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**Naive recursive algorithm:**  $\Omega(\phi^n)$   
 (exponential time), where  $\phi = (1 + \sqrt{5})/2$   
 is the *golden ratio*.



# Computing Fibonacci numbers

## Bottom-up:

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



# Computing Fibonacci numbers

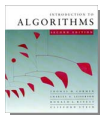
## Bottom-up:

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

## Naive recursive squaring:

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

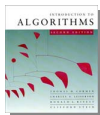
- Recursive squaring:  $\Theta(\lg n)$  time.
- This method is unreliable, since floating-point arithmetic is prone to round-off errors.



# Recursive squaring

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



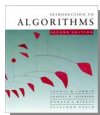


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**Algorithm:** Recursive squaring.

Time =  $\Theta(\lg n)$  .



# Recursive squaring

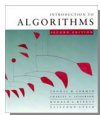
**Theorem:** 
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**Algorithm:** Recursive squaring.

Time =  $\Theta(\lg n)$  .

*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 ( $n \geq 2$ ):

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



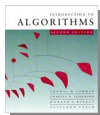


# Matrix multiplication

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

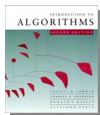
$$\begin{bmatrix} c_{11} & c_{12} & \cdots & c_{1n} \\ c_{21} & c_{22} & \cdots & c_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ c_{n1} & c_{n2} & \cdots & c_{nn} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \cdots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots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

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



# 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  $c_{ij} \leftarrow c_{ij} + a_{ik} \cdot b_{kj}$ 
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```

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



# Divide-and-conquer algorithm

## IDEA:

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

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

$$C = A \cdot B$$

$$r = ae + bg$$

$$s = af + bh$$

$$t = ce + dg$$

$$u = cf + dh$$

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

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



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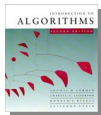
$$u = cf + dg$$

recursive

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

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# Analysis of D&C algorithm

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

*# submatrices*

*submatrix size*

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



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

***No better than the ordinary algorithm.***



# Strassen's idea

- Multiply  $2 \times 2$  matrices with only 7 recursive mults.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

$$s = P_1 + P_2$$

$$t = P_3 + P_4$$

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



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7 mults, 18 adds/subs.

**Note:** No reliance on commutativity of mult!



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

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

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

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

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

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

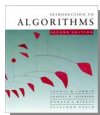
$$= ae + bg$$





# Strassen's algorithm

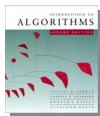
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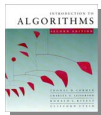
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The number **2.81** may not seem much smaller than **3**, but because the difference is in the exponent, the impact on running time is significant. In fact, Strassen's algorithm beats the ordinary algorithm on today's machines for  $n \geq 32$  or so.



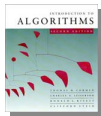
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**Best to date** (of theoretical interest only):  $\Theta(n^{2.376\dots})$ .



# 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).
- The divide-and-conquer strategy often leads to efficient algorithms.