
Strassen's Algorithm for Matrix Multiplication

Chapter 4

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Matrix Multiplication

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Matrix Multiplication

Input: Two $n \times n$ (square) matrices, $A = (a_{ij})$ and $B = (b_{ij})$.
Output: $n \times n$ matrix $C = (c_{ij})$, where $C = A \cdot B$, i.e.,

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

for $i, j = 1, 2, \dots, n$.

Need to compute n^2 entries of C . Each entry is the sum of n values.

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Obvious Algorithm

```

SQUARE-MAT-MULT( $A, B, n$ )
  let  $C$  be a new  $n \times n$  matrix
  for  $i = 1$  to  $n$ 
    for  $j = 1$  to  $n$ 
       $c_{ij} = 0$ 
      for  $k = 1$  to  $n$ 
         $c_{ij} = c_{ij} + a_{ik} \cdot b_{kj}$ 
  return  $C$ 
    
```

Running Time?

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o-Notation (Little-Oh)

- Not to be confused with O-notation (Big-Oh)
- Big-Oh
 - Asymptotic upper bound may or may not be asymptotically tight
 - $2n^2 = O(n^2)$ $2n = O(n^2)$
- Little-Oh
 - Upper bound that is not asymptotically tight
 - $2n^2 \neq o(n^2)$ $2n = o(n^2)$

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Matrix Multiplication

- Running time: $\Theta(n^3)$
- Question: is it $\Omega(n^3)$?
 - Must compute n^2 entries
 - Each entry is the sum of n terms
- Answer: no! It is $o(n^3)$

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Strassen's Algorithm

- Strassen reduced the asymptotic complexity to $\Theta(n^{\lg 7})$
- $2.80 > \lg 7 > 2.81$
- This is asymptotically better than the simple algorithm

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Divide-and-Conquer

- To keep things simple, assume that n is a power of 2

Partition each of A, B, C into four $n/2 \times n/2$ matrices:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} \end{pmatrix}, \quad B = \begin{pmatrix} B_{11} & B_{12} \\ B_{21} & B_{22} \end{pmatrix}, \quad C = \begin{pmatrix} C_{11} & C_{12} \\ C_{21} & C_{22} \end{pmatrix}$$

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Divide and Conquer

Rewrite $C = A \cdot B$ as

$$\begin{pmatrix} C_{11} & C_{12} \\ C_{21} & C_{22} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} B_{11} & B_{12} \\ B_{21} & B_{22} \end{pmatrix},$$

giving the four equations

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

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

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

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

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Divide and Conquer

```

REC-MAT-MULT(A, B, n)
let C be a new n x n matrix
if n == 1
    c11 = a11 · b11
else partition A, B, and C into n/2 x n/2 submatrices
    C11 = REC-MAT-MULT(A11, B11, n/2) + REC-MAT-MULT(A12, B21, n/2)
    C12 = REC-MAT-MULT(A11, B12, n/2) + REC-MAT-MULT(A12, B22, n/2)
    C21 = REC-MAT-MULT(A21, B11, n/2) + REC-MAT-MULT(A22, B21, n/2)
    C22 = REC-MAT-MULT(A21, B12, n/2) + REC-MAT-MULT(A22, B22, n/2)
return C
    
```

How to Partition a Matrix?

- How long would it take to create 12 new n/2 x n/2 matrices?
- $\Theta(n^2)$
- Trick: use index calculations!

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} \end{pmatrix}, \quad B = \begin{pmatrix} B_{11} & B_{12} \\ B_{21} & B_{22} \end{pmatrix}, \quad C = \begin{pmatrix} C_{11} & C_{12} \\ C_{21} & C_{22} \end{pmatrix}$$

Analysis

- Dividing takes $\Theta(1)$ time, using index calculations. [Otherwise, $\Theta(n^2)$ time.]
- Conquering makes 8 recursive calls, each multiplying $n/2 \times n/2$ matrices $\Rightarrow 8T(n/2)$.
- Combining takes $\Theta(n^2)$ time to add $n/2 \times n/2$ matrices four times. [Doesn't even matter asymptotically whether we use index calculations or copy: would be $\Theta(n^2)$ either way.]

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} \Theta(1) & \text{if } n = 1, \\ 8T(n/2) + \Theta(n^2) & \text{if } n > 1. \end{cases}$$

Analysis

- $T(n) = \Theta(n^3)$
- No better than simple matrix multiply ☹

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Strassen's Method

- Idea: Make the recursion tree less bushy
 - Perform only 7 recursive multiplications of $n/2 \times n/2$ matrices, rather than 8.
 - Will cost several additions of $n/2 \times n/2$ matrices, but just a constant number more
 - can still absorb the constant factor for matrix additions into the $\Theta(n^2)$ term.

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The Algorithm

1. As in the recursive method, partition each of the matrices into four $n/2 \times n/2$ submatrices. Time: $\Theta(1)$.
2. Create 10 matrices S_1, S_2, \dots, S_{10} . Each is $n/2 \times n/2$ and is the sum or difference of two matrices created in previous step. Time: $\Theta(n^2)$ to create all 10 matrices.
3. Recursively compute 7 matrix products P_1, P_2, \dots, P_7 , each $n/2 \times n/2$.
4. Compute $n/2 \times n/2$ submatrices of C by adding and subtracting various combinations of the P_i . Time: $\Theta(n^2)$.

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Analysis

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} \Theta(1) & \text{if } n = 1, \\ 7T(n/2) + \Theta(n^2) & \text{if } n > 1. \end{cases}$$

$$T(n) = \Theta(n^{\lg 7})$$

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Details

Step 2: Create the 10 matrices

$$\begin{aligned} S_1 &= B_{12} - B_{22}, \\ S_2 &= A_{11} + A_{12}, \\ S_3 &= A_{21} + A_{22}, \\ S_4 &= B_{21} - B_{11}, \\ S_5 &= A_{11} + A_{22}, \\ S_6 &= B_{11} + B_{22}, \\ S_7 &= A_{12} - A_{22}, \\ S_8 &= B_{21} + B_{22}, \\ S_9 &= A_{11} - A_{21}, \\ S_{10} &= B_{11} + B_{12}. \end{aligned}$$

Add or subtract $n/2 \times n/2$ matrices 10 times \Rightarrow time is $\Theta(n/2)$.

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Details

Step 3: Create the 7 matrices

$$\begin{aligned} P_1 &= A_{11} \cdot S_1 = A_{11} \cdot B_{12} - A_{11} \cdot B_{22}, \\ P_2 &= S_2 \cdot B_{22} = A_{11} \cdot B_{22} + A_{12} \cdot B_{22}, \\ P_3 &= S_3 \cdot B_{11} = A_{21} \cdot B_{11} + A_{22} \cdot B_{11}, \\ P_4 &= A_{22} \cdot S_4 = A_{22} \cdot B_{21} - A_{22} \cdot B_{11}, \\ P_5 &= S_5 \cdot S_6 = A_{11} \cdot B_{11} + A_{11} \cdot B_{22} + A_{22} \cdot B_{11} + A_{22} \cdot B_{22}, \\ P_6 &= S_7 \cdot S_8 = A_{12} \cdot B_{21} + A_{12} \cdot B_{22} - A_{22} \cdot B_{21} - A_{22} \cdot B_{22}, \\ P_7 &= S_9 \cdot S_{10} = A_{11} \cdot B_{11} + A_{11} \cdot B_{12} - A_{21} \cdot B_{11} - A_{21} \cdot B_{12}. \end{aligned}$$

The only multiplications needed are in the middle column; right-hand column just shows the products in terms of the original submatrices of A and B .

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Details

Step 4: Add and subtract the P_i to construct submatrices of C :

$$C_{11} = P_5 + P_4 - P_2 + P_6,$$

$$C_{12} = P_1 + P_2,$$

$$C_{21} = P_3 + P_4,$$

$$C_{22} = P_5 + P_1 - P_3 - P_7.$$

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Notes

- Strassen's algorithm was the first to beat $\Theta(n^3)$ time, but it's not the asymptotically fastest known.
- A method by Coppersmith and Winograd runs in $O(n^{2.376})$ time.

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Example

- Use Strassen's algorithm to compute the matrix product

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix} * \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 6 \\ 7 & 8 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix} * \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 6 \\ 7 & 8 \end{bmatrix}$$

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