

# Matrix Multiplication (MM)

- Given two matrices  $x = (x_{ij})_{n \times n}$   
&  $y = (y_{ij})_{n \times n}$ ,  
we want to compute their  
product  $xy = (z_{ij})_{n \times n}$ , over ring  $R$ .

- By definition,  $z_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^n x_{ik} y_{kj}$ .

▷ Naively, MM requires  $n^3$  multiplications &  $n^2(n-1)$  additions.

- Could we reduce the number of multiplications at the cost of additions, for a fixed  $n$ ?

▷ Strassen (1969) showed how to multiply  $2 \times 2$  matrices using 7 mult. but 18 additions!

## The 7 products:

- We want to compute  $(z_{ij})_{2 \times 2} = x \cdot y$ ,

- Compute  $p_1 := (x_{11} + x_{22})(y_{11} + y_{22})$

$$p_2 := (x_{21} + x_{22})y_{11}$$

$$p_3 := x_{11}(y_{12} - y_{22})$$

$$p_4 := x_{22}(-y_{11} + y_{21})$$

$$p_5 := (x_{11} + x_{12})y_{22}$$

$$p_6 := (-x_{11} + x_{21})(y_{11} + y_{12})$$

$$p_7 := (x_{12} - x_{22})(y_{21} + y_{22})$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} z_{11} & z_{12} \\ z_{21} & z_{22} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} p_1 + p_4 - p_5 + p_7 & p_3 + p_5 \\ p_2 + p_4 & p_1 + p_3 - p_2 + p_6 \end{pmatrix}.$$

- Since, the above holds for any ring  $R$ , we can apply this to design a recursive algorithm for MM.

- Idea: Block MM of general matrices  $x, y$ .

Theorem (Strassen, 1969): MM can be done in  $O(n^{\lg 7})$  R-operations.

Pf:

- Let  $x, y \in R^{n \times n}$ , with  $n = 2^l$ ,  $l \in \mathbb{N}$ .
- We will show, by induction on  $l$ , that we can do MM in  $7^l$  R-mult. &  $6(7^l - 4^l)$  R-addn.

• Base case ( $l=1$ ): As above.

- Induction ( $l-1 \rightarrow l$ ): We use the following block structure of  $x$  &  $y$ :

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_{11} & x_{12} \\ x_{21} & x_{22} \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} y_{11} & y_{12} \\ y_{21} & y_{22} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} z_{11} & z_{12} \\ z_{21} & z_{22} \end{pmatrix}$$

where,  $x_{ij}, y_{ij}, z_{ij}$  's are  $2^{l-1} \times 2^{l-1}$  matrices.

- Clearly, Strassen's eqns. (for  $2 \times 2$ )

hold for these matrices as well.

• By induction:

$$\# \text{ R-mult.} = 7 \times (7^{\ell-1}) = 7^\ell$$

$$\# \text{ R-addn.} = 7 \times (6 \cdot 7^{\ell-1} - 6 \cdot 4^{\ell-1}) +$$

$$\rightarrow 18 \times (2^{\ell-1})^2$$

$$= 6 \cdot (7^\ell - 4^\ell)$$

matrix  
addns.

for the recursive  
calls

$\Rightarrow$  Overall,  $O(7^\ell) = O(n^{\lg 7})$  R-operations.  $\square$   
 $\sim 2.8$

- After decades of work, the current best algorithm for MM has complexity  $O(n^{2.3728639})$  (Le Gall, 2014).

Conjecture: MM has complexity  $O(n^{2+\epsilon})$ ,  
for any  $\epsilon > 0$ .

## The exponent of MM

- Let us denote the exponent of MM by  $w$ .

▷ It is known that  $2 \leq w < 2.3728639$ .

- All the upper bound methods for  $w$  use the notion of tensor rank.

Definition: The MM tensor is a polynomial in  $\mathbb{R}[X_{ij}, Y_{ij}, Z_{ij} \mid 1 \leq i \leq j \leq n]$ , namely:

$$\underline{T}_{h,R} := \sum_{i,j,k \in [n]} X_{ik} \cdot Y_{kj} \cdot Z_{ij}.$$

- eg.  $T_{2,R} = Z_{11} \cdot (X_{11} Y_{11} + X_{12} Y_{21}) +$   
 $Z_{12} \cdot (X_{11} Y_{12} + X_{12} Y_{22}) + Z_{21} \cdot (X_{21} Y_{11} + X_{22} Y_{21}) +$   
 $Z_{22} \cdot (X_{21} Y_{12} + X_{22} Y_{22}).$

- There are clever notions of decomposition:

Definition: Rank  $r(T)$  of the tensor  $T$  is the least  $r \in \mathbb{N}$  st.  $\exists$  linear forms  $L_i \in R[\bar{X}]$ ,  $M_i \in R[\bar{Y}]$ ,  $N_i \in R[\bar{Z}]$ ,  $i \in [r]$  satisfying,  
$$T = \sum_{i \in [r]} L_i \cdot M_i \cdot N_i.$$

$$\Delta \quad n^2 \leq r(T_{n,R}) \leq n^3.$$

Pf: • By evaluating  $T_{n,R}$  at suitable points, we can make it zero.

$$\Rightarrow r(T_{n,R}) \geq n^2. \quad (\text{Exercise})$$

• By the definition of  $T_{n,R}$ , we have  $r(T_{n,R}) \leq n^3$ .  $\square$

- It is easy to see that  $r(T_{n,R})$  upper bounds the mult.-complexity of MM. (this is crucial  $\uparrow$  in recursive MM)

Recursively going from  $n_0$  to  $n$  gives  $w \leq \log_{n_0} r(T_{n_0})$ .

▷ MM can be done in  $r(T_{n,R})$   
R-multiplications.

Pf sketch:

• Tensor  $T$  & its rank  $r(T)$  is defined in a way that each entry  $z_{ij}$  could be computed by using the same set of  $r(T)$  products.  $\square$

- eg. Strassen's algorithm is inspired from the decomposition:

$$T_{2,R} = p_1(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) \cdot (Z_{11} + Z_{22}) + p_2 \cdot (Z_{21} - Z_{22}) + p_3 \cdot (Z_{12} + Z_{22}) + p_4 \cdot (Z_{11} + Z_{21}) + p_5 \cdot (-Z_{11} + Z_{12}) + p_6 \cdot (Z_{22}) + p_7 \cdot (Z_{11}) .$$

- In fact, it can be shown that  $r(T_{2,R}) = 7$ .

[Håstad '90]: Tensor rank computation is NP-hard.

OPEN:  $r(T_{3,R})$  not known. ( $19 \leq r \leq 23$ )