Computing Order Statistics in the Farey Sequence

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²MIT CSAIL

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Properties

• P1. (Farey 1816) If $\frac{p}{q}$ and $\frac{p'}{q'}$ consecutive in $\mathcal{F}_n \Rightarrow \frac{p}{q} \le \frac{p+p'}{q+q'} \le \frac{p'}{q'}$ (mediant) is also Farey.

• P2. If $\frac{p}{q}$ and $\frac{p'}{q'}$ consecutive in \mathcal{F}_n , then the next fraction $\frac{p''}{q''}$ is given by: $p'' = \lfloor \frac{q+n}{q'} \rfloor p' - p, \quad q'' = \lfloor \frac{q+n}{q'} \rfloor q' - q$

P2 suggests ideal algorithm for generating \mathcal{F}_n in $O(n^2)$ time and O(1) space.

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Given *n* and *k*, generate the *k*-th element of \mathcal{F}_n .

give reduction to:

Problem 2

Given a fraction, determine its rank in the Farey sequence.

- initial algorithm: time $O(n \log^2 n)$ and space O(n);
- first improvement: time $O(n \log n)$ and space $O(\sqrt{n})$;
- second improvement: time O(n log n) and space O(n^{1/3} log^{2/3} n) (fraction rank in O(n) time);
- also find the number of Farey fractions in time n^{5/6+o(1)};
- recent progress: count number of Farey fractions in n^{4/5+o(1)}.

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- use binary search to determine *j* such that answer is in the interval $\left[\frac{j}{n}, \frac{j+1}{n}\right)$;
 - guess *j* and determine $r = \operatorname{rank}(\frac{j}{n})$ in \mathcal{F}_n ;
 - if r < k search above *j*; else, search below; if r = k, done.
- we use $O(\log n)$ calls to the fraction rank subroutine;
- note that in $\left[\frac{j}{n}, \frac{j+1}{n}\right)$, there is at most one fraction for each denominator (because length of interval is $\frac{1}{n}$).
- this fraction, for denominator q, if it exists, has numerator $\lfloor \frac{(j+1)q-1}{n} \rfloor$;

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Algorithm – O(n) time and O(1) memory

- generate all fractions in the range;
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More general: Given *x* real, determine the number of irreducible fractions $\frac{p}{q} \le x$, with $q \le n$.

- A_q = the set of such irreducible fractions with denominator q;
- {all fractions in [0, x) with denominator q} ↔
 {reduced fractions with denominator d, for all d|q};
- this gives formula: $[x \cdot q] = \sum_{d \le q, d|q} A_d;$
- so, to compute $rank(x) = \sum_{q=1}^{n} A_q$, we use: $A_q = \lfloor x \cdot q \rfloor - \sum_{d < q, d \mid q} A_d$.

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Solution:

- initialize array T[1..n] by $T[q] = \lfloor x \cdot q \rfloor$;
- consider all q's in increasing order from 1 to n;
- for each q, consider its multiples m · q and subtract T[q] from T[m · q];
- at step q, we will have $T[q] = A_q$;
- rank(x) is obtained by summing all the values in the array at the end;
- running time: $O(n + \sum_{q=1}^{n} \frac{n}{q}) = O(n \log n)$.

Thus, we have an $O(n \log n)$ time algorithm for the fraction rank problem $\Rightarrow O(n \log^2 n)$ time algorithm for the order statistic problem. Both use O(n) space.

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Preprocessing \Rightarrow improve time of every call to fraction rank.

Use previous formula: $A_q = \lfloor x \cdot q \rfloor - \sum_{d < q, d \mid q} A_d$; after recursive expansions of A_q 's \Rightarrow rank(x) will be a linear combination of $\lfloor x \cdot q \rfloor, \forall q \leq n$.

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- the coefficients of $\lfloor x \cdot q \rfloor$ are independent of *x*;
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Idea:

- the coefficients of $\lfloor x \cdot q \rfloor$ are independent of *x*;
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Precalculating the Coefficients

Obtain the recursive formula: $C_q = 1 - \sum_{t>q,q|t} C_t$, $\forall q \leq n$.

Proof

- $\lfloor x \cdot q \rfloor$ appears first in A_q ;
- A_q subtracted from all its multiples t ⇒ A_t contains [x · t] with coefficient 1 and [x · q] with coefficient −1;
- all operations made with A_t contribute to the coefficient of [x ⋅ q] by −1× the coefficient of [x ⋅ t];
- since A_t is the only one that contains [x · t] initially, all operations involving A_t are described by the final coefficient of [x · t].

The algorithm calculates C_n down to $C_1 \Rightarrow$ running time: $O(\sum_{q=1}^n \frac{n}{q}) = O(n \log n)$; this cost is paid once and every call to fraction rank takes $O(n) \Rightarrow$ total time: $O(n \log n)$.

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Obtain the recursive formula: $C_q = 1 - \sum_{t > q, q|t} C_t$, $\forall q \leq n$.

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- $\lfloor x \cdot q \rfloor$ appears first in A_q ;
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Improving Space Complexity to $O(\sqrt{n})$

Lemma

$$C_q = C_{q'}$$
 when $\lfloor n/q \rfloor = \lfloor n/q' \rfloor$.

Proof Idea

- consider some q; the term $\lfloor x \cdot q \rfloor$ is first in A_q ;
- A_q is subtracted from A_{m_1q} , for all possible m_1 ;
- the A_{m1q}'s are now subtracted from A_{m1m2q}, for all possible m₂ etc.;
- the recursion stops only when $\prod m_i \ge \lfloor n/q \rfloor$ so C_q depends only on $\lfloor n/q \rfloor$.

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Break into two groups:

- $C_1, \ldots C_{\sqrt{n}}$ stored as before;
- instead of storing C_q for $q > \sqrt{n}$, store array with D_r 's such that $C_q = D_{\lfloor n/q \rfloor}$, for any $q > \lfloor n/q \rfloor$.

Observation: both arrays take $O(\sqrt{n})$ space and fraction rank algorithm remains trivial.

Precomputing D_r and C_q in $O(\sqrt{n})$ space

- rewrite: $C_q = 1 \sum_{t=2}^{\lfloor n/q \rfloor} C_{tq}$;
- $C_q = D_{\lfloor n/q \rfloor} \Rightarrow C_{tq} = D_{\lfloor n/tq \rfloor}$ and since $\lfloor \frac{n}{tq} \rfloor = \lfloor \frac{\lfloor n/q \rfloor}{t} \rfloor;$
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Time for computing D_r : quadratic in size of table $\Rightarrow O(n)$.

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Relation to Factorization

Conjecture: A polynomial time algorithm for factorization does not exist.

We will show that this implies that no polynomial time algorithm (i.e. $O(poly \log n)$) exists for the order statistic problem.

Reduction from Fraction Rank to Order Statistic

- assume we have a poly-time algorithm for order statistic;
- do binary search: guess the rank, find fraction with that rank, compare to our fraction and search below or above;
- $\Rightarrow O(\log n)$ calls to order statistic;
- ⇒ we have a polynomial time algorithm for the fraction rank problem.

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Algorithm for Factorization

It is based on yet another problem:

Problem: Given *n* and $k \le n$ such that gcd(k, n) = 1, report the number of integers in [2, *k*] that are relatively prime to *n*.

Algorithm for Factorization

- assume a polynomial time algorithm for the above problem;
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 - if (k, n) = 1, by above problem, we know the number of numbers in [2, k] relatively prime to n:
 - If this number is k − 1, the smallest factor of n is > k;
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- since $\frac{k}{n}$ is irreducible and it is the mediant of neighboring fractions \Rightarrow the preceding fraction must have denominator < n;
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Computing Order Statistics in the Farey Sequence

THE END

Thank you!

C.E.Pătrașcu, M.Pătrașcu Computing Order Statistics in the Farey Sequence

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