5 Parallel String Matching

2 March 2020

Sebastian Wild

version `2020-03-02 21:49 H`

Outline

5 Parallel String Matching

Parallelizing string matching

- We have seen a plethora of string matching methods
- But all efficient methods seem inherently sequential
  Indeed, they became efficient only after building on knowledge from previous steps!

Sounds like the *opposite* of parallel!

$\rightsquigarrow$ This unit:

- How well can we parallelize string matching?
- What new ideas can help?

Here: string matching = find *all* occurrences of P in T (more natural problem for parallel)
always assume $m \leq n$

5.1 Elementary Tricks

Embarrassingly Parallel

- A problem is called *"embarrassingly parallel"*
  if it can immediately be split into *many, small subtasks*
  that can be solved completely *independently* of each other
- Typical example: sum of two large matrices (all entries independent)

$\rightsquigarrow$ best case for parallel computation (simply assign each processor one subtask)

- Sorting is not embarrassingly parallel
  - no obvious way to define many *small* (=efficiently solvable) subproblems
  - but: some subtasks of our algorithms are, e. g., comparing all elements with pivot

Elementary parallel string matching

Subproblems in string matching:

- string matching = check all guesses $i = 0, \ldots, n - m - 1$
- checking one guess is a subtask!

Approach 1:

- Check all guesses in parallel

$\rightsquigarrow$ Time: $\Theta(m)$

$\rightsquigarrow$ Work: $\Theta((n - m)m)$ $\rightsquigarrow$ not great . . .

Approach 2:

- Divide T into **overlapping** blocks of $2m$ characters:
  $T[0..2m), T[m..3m), T[2m..4m), T[3m..5m) \ldots$
- Find matches inside blocks in parallel, using efficient sequential method
  $\rightsquigarrow$ $\Theta(2m + m) = \Theta(m)$ each

$\rightsquigarrow$ Time: $\Theta(m)$ Work: $\Theta(\frac{n}{m} \cdot m) = \Theta(n)$

Elementary parallel matching – Discussion

- 👍 very simple methods
- 👍 could even run distributed with access to part of T
- 👎 parallel speedup only for $m \ll n$

Goal:

- methods with better parallel time! $\rightsquigarrow$ higher speedup

$\rightsquigarrow$ must genuinely parallelize the matching process! (and the preprocessing of the pattern)

$\rightsquigarrow$ need new ideas

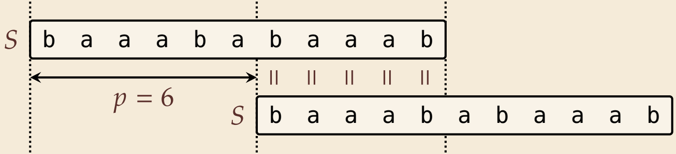
5.2 Periodicity

Periodicity of Strings

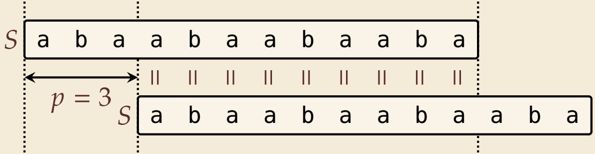
- $S = S[0..n-1]$ has *period* p iff $\forall i \in [0..n-p) : S[i] = S[i+p]$
- $p = 0$ and any $p \geq n$ are trivial periods but these are not very interesting ...

Examples:

- $S =$ baaababaaab has period 6:



- $S =$ abaabaabaaba has period 3:

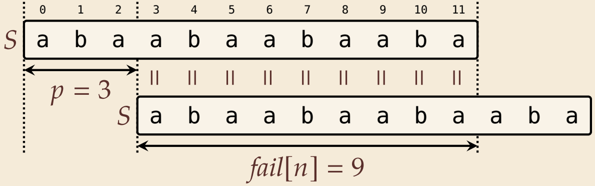


Periodicity and KMP

Lemma 5.1 (Periodicity = Longest Overlap)

$p \in [1..n]$ is the *shortest* period in $S = S[0..n-1]$
iff $S[0..n-p)$ is the longest prefix that is also a suffix of $S[p..n)$.

$S[0..n-1]$ has minimal period $p \iff \mathit{fail}[n] = n - p$



Periodicity Lemma

Lemma 5.2 (Periodicity Lemma)
If string $S = S[0..n-1]$ has periods p and q with $p + q \leq n$,
then it has also period $\gcd(p, q)$.

greatest common divisor

Proof: see tutorials; hint: recall Euclid's algorithm

Periodic strings

- What does the smallest period p tell us about a string $S[0..n-1]$?
- Two distinct regimes:

  1. S is *periodic*: $p \le \frac{n}{2}$
     More precisely: S is totally determined by a string $F = F[0..p-1] = S[0..p-1]$
     S keeps repeating F until n characters are filled

     $\rightsquigarrow$ S is highly repetitive!

  2. S is *aperiodic* (also *non-periodic*): $p > \frac{n}{2}$
     S **cannot** be written as $S = F^k \cdot Y$ with $k \ge 2$ and Y a prefix of F

5.3 String Matching by Duels

Periods and Matching

Witnesses for non-periodicity:

- Assume, $P[0..m-1]$ does **not** have period p

$\rightsquigarrow$ $\exists$ *witness against periodicity*: position $\omega \in [0..m-p) : P[\omega] \neq P[\omega+p]$

Dueling via witnesses:

- If $P[0..m-1]$ does **not** have period p, then
  at most one of positions i and $i+p$ can be (the starting position of) an occurrence of P.

  Proof: Cannot have $T[(i+p)+\omega] = P[\omega] \neq P[\omega+p] = T[i+(\omega+p)]$.

- **Duel** between guess i and $i+p$:
  compare text character overlapped with witness ω

String Matching by Duels – Sequential

Assume that pattern P is *aperiodic*. (we will deal with periodic case later)

Algorithm:

1. Set $\mu := \lfloor \frac{m}{2} \rfloor$
2. Compute witnesses $\omega[1..\mu]$ against periodicity for all $p \le \frac{m}{2}$.
3. For each block of μ consecutive indices $[0..\mu)$, $[\mu..2\mu)$, $[2\mu..3\mu)$, ...
   run $\mu - 1$ duels to eliminate all but one guesses in the block
4. check remaining $\lceil \frac{n}{\mu} \rceil = O(n/m)$ guesses naively

Analysis:

1. $O(1)$
2. $\rightsquigarrow$ later ($O(m)$)
3. $O(\frac{n}{m})$ blocks
   $O(m)$ duels each
4. $O(\frac{n}{m})$,
   $\le m$ cmps each

$\rightsquigarrow$ another worst-case $O(n+m)$ string matching method!

String Matching by Duels – Parallel

Assume that pattern P is *aperiodic*. (can deal with periodic case separately; details omitted)

Algorithm:

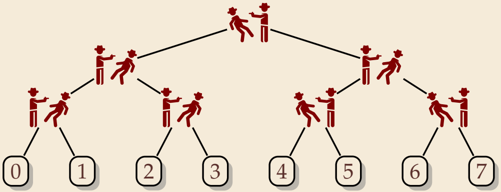
1. Set $\mu := \lfloor \frac{m}{2} \rfloor$
2. Compute witnesses $\omega[1..\mu]$ against periodicity for all $p \le \frac{m}{2}$.
3. For each block of μ consecutive indices $[0..\mu), [\mu..2\mu), [2\mu..3\mu), \ldots$ run $\mu - 1$ duels to eliminate all but one guesses in the block
4. check remaining $\lceil \frac{n}{\mu} \rceil = O(n/m)$ guesses naively

How to parallelize:

1. —
2. $\rightsquigarrow$ later ($O(\log^2(m))$)
3. blocks in parallel (indep.), tournament of $\lceil \lg \mu \rceil$ rounds
4. check in parallel collect result (like prefix sum)

Tournament of duals:

- each dual eliminates one guess
- $\rightsquigarrow$ declare other guess *winner*
- conceptually like prefix sum!



$\rightsquigarrow$ Matching part can be done in $O(\log m)$ parallel time and $O(n)$ work!

Computing witnesses

It remains to find the witnesses $\omega[1..\mu]$.

sequentially:

- an elementary procedure is similar in spirit to KMP failure array
- can be computed in $\Theta(m)$ time

parallel:

- much more complicated $\rightsquigarrow$ beyond scope of the module
  - first $O(\log^2(m))$ time on CREW-RAM
  - later $O(\log m)$ time and $O(m)$ work using pseudoperiod method

Parallel Matching – State of the art

- $O(\log m)$ time & work-efficient parallel string matching
  - this is optimal for CREW-PRAM
- on CRCW-PRAM: matching part even in $O(1)$ time(!)
  but preprocessing requires $\Theta(\log\log m)$ time