

$O((n \log n)^{3/2})$  ALGORITHMS FOR COMPOSITION  
AND REVERSION OF POWER SERIES

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ABSTRACT

Let  $P(s) = p_1 s + p_2 s^2 + \dots$  and  $Q(t) = q_0 + q_1 t + \dots$  be formal power series.

The composition of  $Q$  and  $P$  is the power series  $R(s) = r_0 + r_1 s + \dots$  such that  $R(s) = Q(P(s))$ . The composition problem is to compute  $r_0, \dots, r_n$ , given  $p_1, \dots, p_n$  and  $q_0, \dots, q_n$ .

The functional inverse of  $P$  is the power series  $V(t) = v_1 t + v_2 t^2 + \dots$  such that  $P(V(t)) = t$  or  $V(P(s)) = s$ .

The reversion problem is to compute  $v_1, \dots, v_n$ , given  $p_1, \dots, p_n$ .

The classical algorithms for both the composition and reversion problems require  $O(n^3)$  operations (see, e.g., Knuth, Vol. 2). In this paper we describe algorithms which can solve both problems in  $O((n \log n)^{3/2})$  operations. The techniques used to obtain our results are applicable to several other problems.

1. INTRODUCTION

Let  $k$  be a field, which contains an  $n$ th root of unity for every positive integer  $n$ . (For example,  $k$  could be the field of complex numbers.) Let  $p_i, q_i, i = 0, 1, \dots$ , be indeterminates over  $k$ ,  $A$  the extension field  $k(p_0, q_0, p_1, q_1, \dots)$ , and  $s, t$  indeterminates over  $A$ . Suppose that  $E$  and  $F$  are finite subsets of  $A$  and that we perform computations in the field  $A$ . Let  $L(E \bmod F)$  denote the number of operations necessary to compute  $E$  starting from  $k \cup F$ .

Let  $P(s) = p_1s + p_2s^2 + p_3s^3 + \dots$  and

$Q(t) = q_0 + q_1t + q_2t^2 + \dots$  be formal power series over  $A$ .

The composition of  $Q$  and  $P$  is the power series

$R(s) = r_0 + r_1s + r_2s^2 + \dots$  such that  $R(s) = Q(P(s))$  is a formal identity. The composition problem is to compute

$r_0, \dots, r_n$ , given  $\{p_1, \dots, p_n, q_0, \dots, q_n\} \cup k$ . Define

$$\text{COMP}(n) = L(r_0, \dots, r_n \bmod p_1, \dots, p_n, q_0, \dots, q_n)$$

Let  $P(s) = p_1s + p_2s^2 + p_3s^3 + \dots$  be a formal power series over  $A$ . The functional inverse of  $P$  is the power

series  $V(t) = v_1t + v_2t^2 + v_3t^3 + \dots$  over  $A$  such that

$P(V(t)) = t$  or  $V(P(s)) = s$  is a formal identity. The reversion problem is to compute  $v_1, \dots, v_n$ , given  $\{p_1, \dots, p_n\} \cup k$ . Define

$$\text{REV}(n) = L(v_1, \dots, v_n \bmod p_1, \dots, p_n).$$

The classical algorithms for both the composition and reversion problems require  $O(n^3)$  operations (see, e.g., Knuth [71]), or  $O(n^2 \log n)$  operations if the fast Fourier transform is used for polynomial multiplication as pointed out in Kung and Traub [74, Section 4]. In this paper we describe

algorithms which can solve both problems in  $O((n \log n)^{3/2})$  operations.

In another paper, Brent and Kung [75], we shall give a complete treatment of the subject, which will include the following:

- (i) The proof that the composition and reversion problems are equivalent (up to constant factors) if  $\text{MULT}(n) = O(\text{REV}(n))$ , where  $\text{MULT}(n)$  is the number of operations needed to multiply two  $n$ th degree polynomials.

- (ii) Other algorithms requiring, e.g.,  $O(n^2)$  and  $O(n^{1.9037})$  operations which do not use the fast Fourier transform and are faster for small  $n$ .

- (iii) An algorithm which can evaluate the truncated functional inverse, i.e.,  $V_n(t) = v_1t + v_2t^2 + \dots + v_nt^n$ , at one point in  $O(n \log n)$  operations, and its application to the root-finding problem.

2. PRELIMINARY LEMMAS

Let  $P(s) = p_0 + p_1s + \dots, Q(s) = q_0 + q_1s + \dots,$

$U(s) = u_0 + u_1s + \dots$ , etc. be formal power series over  $A$ .

Lemma 2.1

If  $U(s) = P(s)Q(s)$ , then

$$L(u_0, \dots, u_n \bmod p_0, \dots, p_n, q_0, \dots, q_n) = O(n \log n)$$

Proof

Use the fast Fourier transform (see, e.g. Knuth [71, p. 441]). ■

Lemma 2.2

If  $U(s) = P(s)/Q(s)$ , then

$$L(u_0, \dots, u_n \bmod p_0, \dots, p_n, q_0, \dots, q_n) = O(n \log n)$$

Proof

Use Lemma 2.1 and Newton's method as in Kung [74]. ■

Lemma 2.3

If  $R(s) = p_1 s + p_2 s^2 + \dots$ ,  $R(s) = Q(P(s))$  and

$D(s) = Q'(P(s))$ , then

$$L(d_0, \dots, d_n \bmod r_0, \dots, r_n, p_1, \dots, p_n) = O(n \log n).$$

(Here the prime denotes formal differentiation with respect to  $s$ .)

Proof

By chain rule,  $R'(s) = Q'(P(s)) \cdot P'(s)$ . Hence

$D(s) = R'(s)/P'(s)$ , and the result follows from Lemma 2.2. ■

Lemma 2.4

If  $P(s) = p_1 s + \dots + p_m s^m$ ,

$$Q(t) = q_0 + q_1 t + \dots + q_j t^j, \text{ where } m \leq n \text{ and } j \leq n \text{ and}$$

$$R(s) = Q(P(s)) = r_0 + r_1 s + \dots, \text{ then}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & L(r_0, \dots, r_n \bmod p_1, \dots, p_m, q_0, \dots, q_j) \\ &= O(jm(\log n)^2). \end{aligned}$$

Proof

We may assume that  $j$  is a power of 2. Write

$R = Q_1(P) + P^{j/2} \cdot Q_2(P)$ , where  $Q_1$  and  $Q_2$  are polynomials of degree  $j/2$ . During the computation we always truncate terms of degree higher than  $n$ .

The proof is by induction, so we can assume that  $p^{j/4}$  is known. Thus,  $p^{j/2}$  can be computed with

$O(jm \log jm) = O(jm \log n)$  additional operations, and multiplication by  $Q_2(P)$  also requires  $O(jm \log n)$  operations. If  $T(j)$  operations are required to compute  $R$  and  $p^{j/2}$ , then  $Q_1$  and  $Q_2$  may each be computed in  $T(j/2)$  operations. Thus,

$$T(j) \leq 2T(j/2) + O(jm \log n),$$

so

$$T(j) = O(jm(\log n)(\log j)) = O(jm(\log n)^2). \quad \blacksquare$$

Lemma 2.4 can also be proved by using the fast evaluation and interpolation algorithms of Moenck and Borodin [72], but this method involves larger asymptotic constants and may have numerical stability problems.

### 3. THE COMPOSITION PROBLEM

Write  $P(s) = P_h(s) + P_r(s)$ , where

$$P_h(s) = p_1 s + p_2 s^2 + \dots + p_m s^m \text{ and}$$

$$P_r(s) = p_{m+1} s^{m+1} + p_{m+2} s^{m+2} + \dots, \text{ for } m = \left\lfloor \sqrt{\frac{n}{\log n}} \right\rfloor. \text{ Then}$$

$$\begin{aligned} q(P) &= q(P_h + P_r) \\ &= q(P_h) + q'(P_h)P_r + \frac{1}{2}q''(P_h)(P_r)^2 + \dots \end{aligned}$$

Let  $\delta = \lfloor \frac{n}{m} \rfloor$ . Since the degree of any term in  $(P_r)^{\delta+1}$  is  $\geq n+1$  for any  $l > 0$ ,

$$q(P(s)) = q(P_h) + q'(P_h)P_r + \dots + \frac{1}{\delta!}q^{(\delta)}(P_h)(P_r)^\delta + O(s^{n+1}).$$

This equality gives us the following algorithm for computing the first  $n$  coefficients of  $R(s) = Q(P(s))$ :

Step 1. Compute the first  $n$  coefficients of  $W(s) = Q(P_h(s))$ . By Lemma 2.4 with  $j = n$  and  $m$  as above, this can be done in  $O((n \log n)^{3/2})$  operations.

Step 2. Compute the first  $n$  coefficients of  $q'(P_h(s)), q''(P_h(s)), \dots, q^{(\delta)}(P_h(s))$ . By Lemma 2.3, it takes  $O(n \log n)$  operations for each  $q^{(j)}(P_h(s))$ . Hence the whole step can be done in  $O(\delta n \log n) = O((n \log n)^{3/2})$  operations.

Step 3. Compute the first  $n$  coefficients of  $P_r^2(s), P_r^3(s), \dots, P_r^\delta(s)$ .

Step 4. Compute the first  $n$  coefficients of  $q'(P_h(s))P_r(s), \dots, \frac{1}{\delta!}q^{(\delta)}(P_h(s))(P_r(s))^\delta$ .

Step 5. Sum the results obtained from step 4.

It is clear that steps 3, 4 and 5 can be done in  $O((n \log n)^{3/2})$  operations. Therefore, we have shown the following

Theorem 3.1  
 $\text{COMP}(n) = O((n \log n)^{3/2})$ .

4. THE REVERSION PROBLEM

Define function  $f: A(t) \rightarrow A(t)$  by  $f(x) = P(x) - t$ .

Suppose that  $V(t)$  is the functional inverse of  $P$ . Then  $P(V(t)) = t$ . Hence  $V(t)$  is the zero of  $f$ , and the reversion problem can be viewed as a zero-finding problem. We shall use Newton's method to find the zero of  $f$ ; other iterations can also be used successfully. (See Kung [74] for a similar technique for computing the reciprocals of power series and also Brent [75, Section 13].) The iteration function given by Newton's method is

$$(4.1) \quad \phi(x) = x - \frac{f(x)}{f'(x)} = x - \frac{P(x)-t}{P'(x)}$$

so we have

$$(4.2) \quad \omega(x) = V(t)$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= x - V(t) - \frac{(P(V(t)) + P'(V(t))(x-V(t)) + \dots) - t}{P'(V(t)) + P''(V(t))(x-V(t)) + \dots} \\ &= \frac{P'(V(t))}{2P'(V(t))} (x - V(t))^2 + O(x - V(t))^3. \end{aligned}$$

Suppose that the first  $n$  coefficients,  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n$ , of  $V(t)$  have already been computed. Let  $x$  be taken to be  $V(t) = v_1 t + v_2 t^2 + \dots + v_n t^n$ . Then by (4.2)

$$\omega(V_n(t)) = V(t) + O(t^{2n+2}).$$

Hence by computing the first  $2n+1$  coefficients of  $\omega(V_n(t))$  we

obtain the first  $2n+1$  coefficients of  $V(t)$ . Hence by (4.1) and Lemmas 2.2, 2.3, we have

$$(4.3) \text{REV}(2n+1) \leq \text{REV}(n) + \text{COMP}(2n+1) + O(n \log n).$$

Therefore, by (4.3) and Theorem 3.1 we have shown the following

Theorem 4.1  

$$\text{REV}(n) = O((n \log n)^{3/2}).$$

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