

Algorithm Design and Analysis

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LECTURE 20
Dynamic Programming
• LCS

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S. Raskhodnikova; based on slides by C. Leiserson and E. Demaine

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Longest Common Subsequence (LCS)

- Given two sequences $x[1 \dots m]$ and $y[1 \dots n]$, find a longest subsequence common to them both.

“a” not “the”

x: A B C B D A B } BCBA = LCS(x, y)
y: B D C A B A }

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Brute-force LCS algorithm

Check every subsequence of $x[1 \dots m]$ to see if it is also a subsequence of $y[1 \dots n]$.

Analysis

- Checking = $O(n)$ time per subsequence.
- 2^m subsequences of x (each bit-vector of length m determines a distinct subsequence of x).

Worst-case running time = $O(n2^m)$
= exponential time.

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Dynamic programming algorithm

Simplification:

- Look at the *length* of a longest-common subsequence.
- Extend the algorithm to find the LCS itself.

Notation: Denote the length of a sequence s by $|s|$.

Strategy: Consider *prefixes* of x and y .

- Define $c[i, j] = |\text{LCS}(x[1 \dots i], y[1 \dots j])|$.
- Then, $c[m, n] = |\text{LCS}(x, y)|$.

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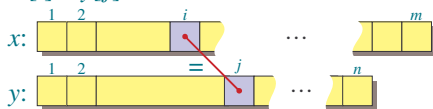
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Recursive formulation

$$c[i, j] = \begin{cases} c[i-1, j-1] + 1 & \text{if } x[i] = y[j], \\ \max\{c[i-1, j], c[i, j-1]\} & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Base case: $c[i, j] = 0$ if $i=0$ or $j=0$.

Case $x[i] = y[j]$:



The second case is similar.

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Dynamic-programming hallmark #1

Optimal substructure

An optimal solution to a problem (instance) contains optimal solutions to subproblems.

If $z = \text{LCS}(x, y)$, then any prefix of z is an LCS of a prefix of x and a prefix of y .

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Recursive algorithm for LCS

```

LCS(x, y, i, j) // ignoring base cases
  if x[i] = y[j]
    then c[i, j] ← LCS(x, y, i-1, j-1) + 1
  else c[i, j] ← max { LCS(x, y, i-1, j),
                      LCS(x, y, i, j-1) }

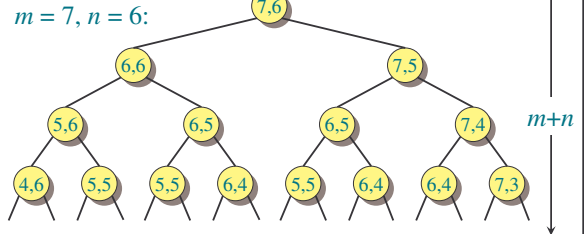
return c[i, j]
    
```

Worse case: $x[i] \neq y[j]$, in which case the algorithm evaluates two subproblems, each with only one parameter decremented.

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Recursion tree

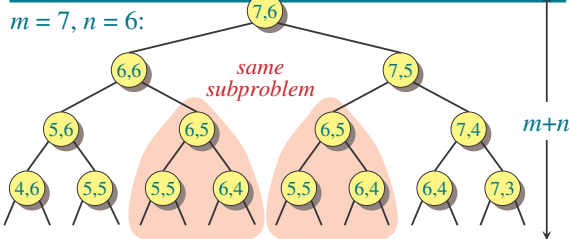


Height = $m + n \Rightarrow$ work potentially exponential.

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Recursion tree



Height = $m + n \Rightarrow$ work potentially exponential, but we're solving subproblems already solved!

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Dynamic-programming hallmark #2

Overlapping subproblems
A recursive solution contains a "small" number of distinct subproblems repeated many times.

The number of distinct LCS subproblems for two strings of lengths m and n is only mn .

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Memoization algorithm

Memoization: After computing a solution to a subproblem, store it in a table. Subsequent calls check the table to avoid redoing work.

```

LCS(x, y, i, j)
  if c[i, j] = NIL
    then if x[i] = y[j]
      then c[i, j] ← LCS(x, y, i-1, j-1) + 1
    else c[i, j] ← max { LCS(x, y, i-1, j),
                      LCS(x, y, i, j-1) }
    } same as before
    
```

Time = $\Theta(mn)$ = constant work per table entry.
Space = $\Theta(mn)$.

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Dynamic-programming algorithm

IDEA:
Compute the table bottom-up.

	A	B	C	B	D	A	B
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
B	0	0	1	1	1	1	1
D	0	0	1	1	1	2	2
C	0	0	1	2	2	2	2
A	0	1	1	2	2	2	3
B	0	1	2	2	3	3	4
A	0	1	2	2	3	3	4

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IDEA:

Compute the table bottom-up.

Time = $\Theta(mn)$.

	A	B	C	B	D	A	B
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
B	0	0	1	1	1	1	1
D	0	0	1	1	1	2	2
C	0	0	1	2	2	2	2
A	0	1	1	2	2	2	3
B	0	1	2	2	3	3	4
A	0	1	2	2	3	3	4

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IDEA:

Compute the table bottom-up.

Time = $\Theta(mn)$.

Reconstruct LCS by tracing backwards.

	A	B	C	B	D	A	B
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
B	0	0	1	1	1	1	1
D	0	0	1	1	1	2	2
C	0	0	1	2	2	2	2
A	0	1	1	2	2	2	3
B	0	1	2	2	3	3	4
A	0	1	2	2	3	3	4

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IDEA:

Compute the table bottom-up.

Time = $\Theta(mn)$.

Reconstruct LCS by tracing backwards.

Space = $\Theta(mn)$.

Exercise:

$O(\min\{m, n\})$.

	A	B	C	B	D	A	B
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
B	0	0	1	1	1	1	1
D	0	0	1	1	1	2	2
C	0	0	1	2	2	2	2
A	0	1	1	2	2	2	3
B	0	1	2	2	3	3	4
A	0	1	2	2	3	3	4

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