

## Tutorial 8

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## Recurrences describing the value of optimal solutions to subproblems — Dynamic Programming

1. Let  $A$  be an array of  $n$  distinct integers. In this problem, we are interested in finding the *longest increasing subsequence* of  $A$ . That is, we want to find elements  $A[i_1], A[i_2], \dots, A[i_t]$  such that

$$i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_t$$

$$A[i_1] < A[i_2] < \dots < A[i_t]$$

and  $t$  is as big as possible.

For instance, consider the array

$$A = (1, 9, 17, 5, 8, 6, 4, 7, 12, 3).$$

In this example,  $(1, 9, 17)$  and  $(1, 5, 6, 7, 12)$  are two increasing subsequences. Note that the subsequence given by the greedy algorithm is  $(1, 9, 17)$ , which is not the longest one.

In order to find the longest increasing subsequence in the array, you can compute for each position  $i$  the length  $L[i]$  of the longest subsequence that ends with element  $A[i]$ .

- (a) Give a recurrence relation that expresses  $L[i]$  as a function of  $L[j]$  for values of  $j$  that are smaller than  $i$ . **Hint:** you need to consider the position of the previous element of the longest increasing subsequence.
  - (b) Write pseudo-code for an algorithm that finds the longest increasing subsequence of an array with  $n$  elements.
2. You are managing a consulting team of computer experts, and each week you have to choose a job for them to undertake. Now, as you can well imagine, the set of possible jobs is divided into those that are *low-stress* (e.g., setting up a Web site for a class at the local elementary school) and those that are *high-stress* (e.g., protecting the nation's most valuable secrets). The basic question, each week, is whether to take on a low-stress job or a high-stress job.

If you select a low-stress job for your team in week  $i$ , then you get a revenue of  $L_i > 0$  dollars; if you select a high-stress job, you get a revenue of  $H_i > 0$  dollars. The catch, however, is that in order for the team to take on a high-stress job in week  $i$ , it is required that they do no job (of either type) in week  $i - 1$ ; they need a full week of preparation to get ready for the crushing stress level. On the other hand, it is okay for them to take a low-stress job in week  $i$  even if they have done a job (of either type) in week  $i - 1$ .

So, given a sequence of  $n$  weeks, a *plan* is specified by a choice of “low-stress”, “high-stress”, or “none” for each of the  $n$  weeks, with the property if that “high-stress” is chosen for week  $i > 1$  then “none” has to be chosen for week  $i - 1$  (choosing a high-stress job in week 1 is acceptable). The *value* of the plan is determined in the natural way: for each  $i$ , you add  $L_i$  to the value if you choose “low-stress” in week  $i$ , you add  $H_i$  to the value if you choose “high-stress” in week  $i$ , and you add 0 if you choose “none” in week  $i$ .

*The problem:* Given sets of values  $L_1, L_2, \dots, L_n$  and  $H_1, H_2, \dots, H_n$ , find a plan of maximum value (such a plan will be called *optimal*).

*Example:* Suppose  $n = 4$  and the values of  $L_i$  and  $H_i$  are given by the table:

	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4
$L_i$	10	1	10	10
$H_i$	20	50	20	15

Then the plan of maximum value would be to choose “none” in week 1, a “high-stress” job in week 2, and “low-stress” jobs in weeks 3 and 4. The value of this plan would be  $0 + 50 + 10 + 10 = 70$ .

- (a) Show that the following greedy algorithm does not correctly solve this problem, by giving an instance on which it does not return the correct answer:

```

i ← 1
while i ≤ n do
  if i < n and  $H_{i+1} > L_i + L_{i+1}$  then
    output “choose no job in week i”
    output “choose a high-stress job in week i+1”
    i ← i + 2
  else
    output “choose a low-stress job in week i”
    i ← i + 1
  end if
end while

```

Write down both the correct answer for your instance, and the answer incorrectly returned by the algorithm.

- (b) Solve this problem using DP approach.  
(c) What is the running time of your algorithm?  
(d) **(Optional)** Rewrite your DP algorithm so that it uses a memoization technique.