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6.006 Introduction to Algorithms
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Lecture 21: Dynamic Programming III: Text Justification, Parenthesization, Knapsack, Pseudopolynomial Time, Tetris Training

Lecture Overview

- Text Justification
- Parenthesization
- Knapsack
- Pseudopolynomial Time
- Tetris Training

Readings

[CLRS 15](#)

Review:

- * DP is all about subproblems & guessing
- * 5 easy steps:
 - (a) define subproblems: count $\#$ subprobs.
 - (b) guess (part of solution): count $\#$ choices
 - (c) relate subprob. solutions: compute time/subprob.
 - (d) recurse + memoize OR build DP table bottom up:
time = time/subprob. $\times \#$ subprobs
([check subproblems related acyclically](#))
 - (e) check original problem = a subproblem or solvable from DP table (\implies extra time)
- * for sequences, good subproblems are often prefixes OR suffixes OR substrings

Text Justification:

Split text into “good lines”

- obvious (MS Word/Open Office) algorithm: put as many words fit on first line, repeat
- but this can make *very bad* lines

blah blah blah	blah	blah
☹ b l a h	vs.	blah blah 😊
reallylongword		reallylongword

Figure 1: Good vs. Bad Justification

- define badness(i, j) for line of words $[i : j]$ e.g.,

$$\begin{cases} \text{if total length} > \text{page width} \\ (\text{page width} - \text{total length})^3 \text{ else} \end{cases}$$

- goal: split words into lines to $\min \sum$ badness

1. subproblem = min badness for suffix words $[i :]$
 \implies # subproblems = $\Theta(n)$ where $n = \#$ words

2. guessing = where to end first line, say $i : j$
 \implies # choices = $n - i = O(n)$

3. relation:

- $DP[i] = \min(\text{badness}(i, j) + DP[j])$ for j in $\text{range}(i + 1, n + 1)$
- $DP[n] = \phi$
 \implies time per subproblem = $O(n)$

4. total time = $O(n^2)$

5. solution = $DP[\phi]$
 (& use parent pointers to recover split)

Parenthesization:

Optimal evaluation of associative expression - e.g., multiplying rectangular matrices



Figure 2: Evaluation of an Expression

2. guessing = outermost multiplication $\underbrace{(\dots)}_{\uparrow_{k-1}} \underbrace{(\dots)}_{\uparrow_k}$

$\implies \#$ choices = $O(n)$

1. subproblems = ~~prefixes & suffixes?~~ **NO**
= cost of substring $A[i : j]$

$\implies \#$ subproblems = $\Theta(n^2)$

3. Relation:

- $DP[i, j] = \min(DP[i, k] + DP[k, j] + \text{cost of multiplying } (A[i] \cdots A[k-1]) \text{ by } (A[k] \cdots A[j-1]))$ for k in range $(i+1, j)$
- $DP[i, i+1] = \phi$
 \implies cost per subproblem = $O(n)$

4. total time = $O(n^3)$

5. solution = $DP[0, n]$

(& use parent pointers to recover parens.)

Knapsack:

Knapsack of size S you want to pack

- item i has integer size s_i & real value v_i
- goal: choose subset of items of maximum total value subject to total size $\leq S$

First Attempt:

1. subproblem = value for suffix i : **WRONG**
2. guessing = whether to include item $i \implies \#$ choices = 2
3. relation:

- $DP[i] = \max(DP[i + 1], v_i + DP[i + 1] \text{ if } s_i \leq S?)$
- not enough information to know whether item i fits - how much space is left?
GUESS!

1. subproblem = value for suffix i :
 given knapsack of size X
 $\implies \#$ subproblems = $O(nS)$!

3. relation:

- $DP[i, X] = \max(DP[i + 1, X], v_i + DP[i + 1, X - s_i] \text{ if } s_i \leq X)$
- $DP[n, X] = \phi$
 \implies time per subproblem = $O(1)$

4. total time = $O(nS)$

5. solution = $DP[\phi, S]$
 (& use parent pointers to recover subset)
 AMAZING: effectively trying all possible subsets!

Knapsack is in fact NP-complete! \implies suspect no polynomial-time algorithm (polynomial in length of input).

What gives?

- here input = $\langle S, s_0, \dots, s_{n-1}, v_0, \dots, v_{n-1} \rangle$
- length in binary: $O(\lg S + \lg s_0 + \dots) \approx O(n \lg \dots)$
- so $O(nS)$ is not “polynomial-time”
- $O(nS)$ still pretty good if S is small
- “pseudopolynomial time”: polynomial in length of input & integers in the input

Remember:
 polynomial - GOOD
 exponential - BAD
 pseudopoly - SO SO



Figure 3: Tetris

Tetris Training:

- given sequence of n Tetris pieces & a board of small width w
- must choose orientation & x coordinate for each
- then must **drop** piece till it hits something
- full rows do not clear
without these artificialities WE DON'T KNOW! (but: if w large then NP-complete)
- goal: survive i.e., stay within height h

[material below covered in recitation]

First Attempt:

1. subproblem = survive in suffix i ? **WRONG**
2. guessing = how to drop piece $i \implies \#$ choices = $O(w)$
3. relation: $DP[i] = DP[i+1]$?! **not enough information!**
What do we need to know about prefix : i ?
 1. subproblem = survive? in suffix i :
given initial column occupancies h_0, h_1, \dots, h_{w-1}
 $\implies \#$ subproblems = $O(n \cdot h^w)$
 3. relation: $DP[i, \mathbf{h}] = \max(DP[i, \mathbf{m}])$ for valid moves \mathbf{m} of piece i in \mathbf{h}
 \implies time per subproblem = $O(w)$
4. total time = $O(nwh^w)$
5. solution = $DP[\phi, \bar{\phi}]$
(& use parent pointers to recover moves)