

Dynamic Programming

"any tabular method for accomplishing something"  
 a design technique, like Divide & Conquer, a way of solving a class of problems rather than a particular algorithm or something

Example:

Longest Common Subsequence Problem (LCS)

given two sequences  $x[1..m]$  and  $y[1..n]$ ,  
 to find a longest sequence which is common to both

$x$ : A B C B D A B

$y$ : B D C A B A

LCSs: BDAB, BCAB, BCBA

brute-force algorithm:

to check every subsequence of  $x[1..m]$ ,  
 to see if it is also a subsequence of  $y[1..n]$

there are  $2^m$  subsequences of  $x$ , and each check takes  $O(n)$ ,  
 so running time is  $O(n \cdot 2^m)$

consider the more simple problem!

Simplification:

1. focus on the length of the longest common subsequence of  $x$  and  $y$ ,
2. extend the algorithm to find the longest common subsequence itself

Notation:  $|s|$  denotes the length of sequence  $s$

Strategy: consider prefixes of  $x$  and  $y$

Define  $c[i, j] := |LCS(x[1..i], y[1..j])|$

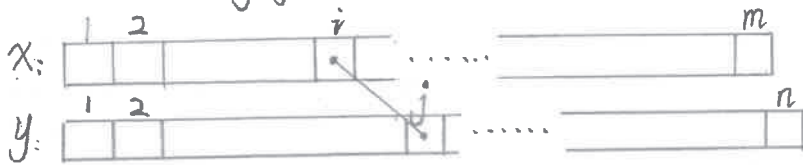
then  $c[m, n] = |LCS(x, y)|$

Theorem:

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

Proof:

case  $x[i] = y[j]$



let  $z[1 \dots k] = \text{LCS}(x[1 \dots i], y[1 \dots j])$ , where  $c[i, j] = k$

then  $z[k] = x[i] (= y[j])$ , or else  $z$  could be extended by appending on  $x[i]$

thus  $z[1 \dots k-1]$  is a common sequence of  $x[1 \dots i-1]$  and  $y[1 \dots j-1]$

claim:  $z[1 \dots k-1] = \text{LCS}(x[1 \dots i-1], y[1 \dots j-1])$

suppose  $w$  is a longer common sequence, that is  $|w| > k-1$

cut & paste:  $w + z[k]$  is a common sequence of  $x[1 \dots i]$  and  $y[1 \dots j]$ ,  
with its length  $> k$

contradiction!

thus,  $c[i-1, j-1] = k-1$ , which implies that  $c[i, j] = c[i-1, j-1] + 1$

case  $x[i] \neq y[j]$

<similar>

Q.E.D.

Dynamic Programming Hallmarks #1

optimal substructure

an optimal solution to a problem (instance) contains optimal solutions to subproblems

in LCS example, if  $z = \text{LCS}(x, y)$ , then any prefix of  $z$  is a longest common subsequence of a prefix of  $x$  and a prefix of  $y$

Recursive Algorithm for LCS:

$\text{LCS}(x, y, i, j)$ : // ignoring base cases

if  $x[i] = y[j]$

then  $c[i, j] \leftarrow \text{LCS}(x, y, i-1, j-1) + 1$

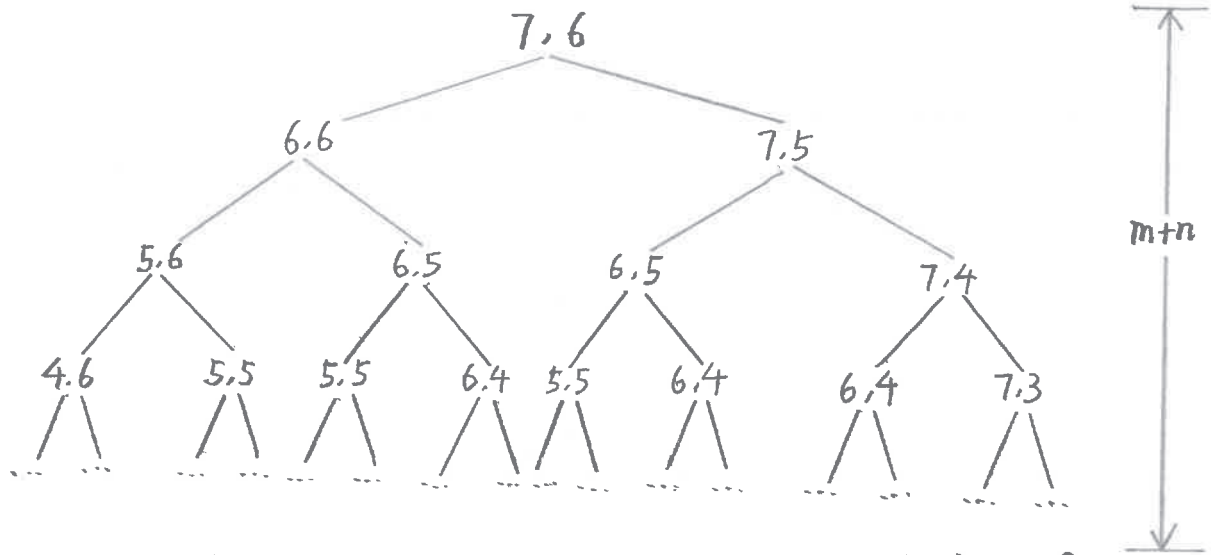
else

$c[i, j] \leftarrow \max\{\text{LCS}(x, y, i-1, j), \text{LCS}(x, y, i, j-1)\}$

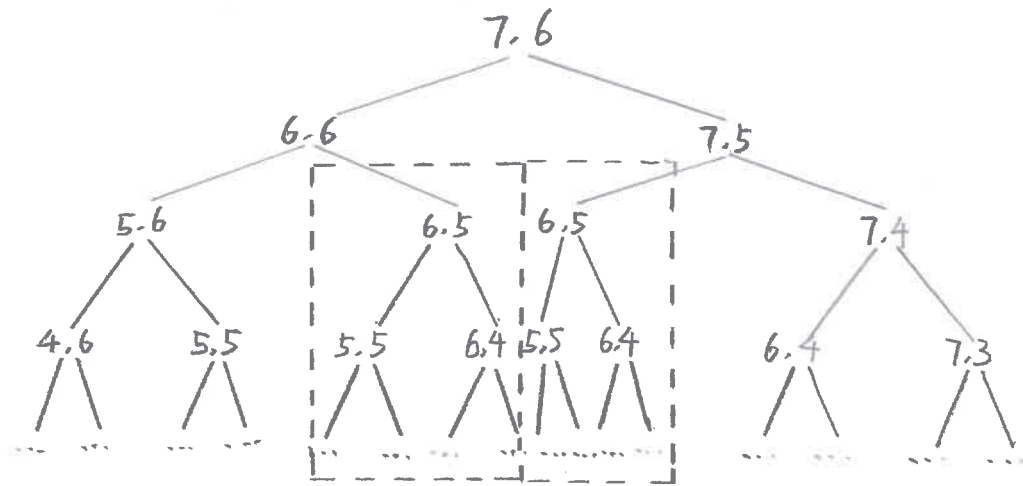
return  $c[i, j]$

worst-case:  $\forall i, j, x[i] \neq y[j]$

## Recursion Tree ( $m=7, n=6$ )



height =  $m+n$  implies the work is exponential, slow as the brute-force!



## Dynamic Programming Hallmarks #2

### overlapping subproblems

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

与指数比起来

in LCS example, subproblem space contains  $m \times n$  distinct subproblems

so here is an improved algorithm!

it's an algorithm called "memo-ization algorithm"

备忘录, 不是 memorization

# Memo-ization Algorithm

$LCS(x, y, i, j):$

if  $c[i, j] = \text{nil}$

then if  $x[i] = y[j]$

then  $c[i, j] \leftarrow LCS(x, y, i-1, j-1) + 1$

else

$c[i, j] \leftarrow \max\{LCS(x, y, i-1, j), LCS(x, y, i, j-1)\}$

return  $c[i, j]$

time =  $\Theta(mn)$

space =  $\Theta(mn)$

there is another strategy for doing exactly the same calculation in a bottom-up way  
(真·动态规划)

the idea is to compute the table bottom-up

		A	B	C	B	D	A	B
B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
D	0							
C	0							
A	0							
B	0							
A	0							

		A	B	C	B	D	A	B
B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
D	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1
C	0							
A	0							
B	0							
A	0							

填第一行

		A	B	C	B	D	A	B
B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
D	0	0	1	1	1	2	2	2
C	0							
A	0							
B	0							
A	0							

填第二行

		A	B	C	B	D	A	B
B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
D	0	0	1	1	1	2	2	2
C	0	0	1	2	2	2	2	2
A	0							
B	0							
A	0							

填第三行

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

answer

$$\text{time} = \Theta(mn)$$

I can reconstruct the longest common subsequence 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	1
D	0	0	1	1	1	2	2	2
C	0	0	1	2	2	2	2	2
A	0	1	1	2	2	2	3	3
B	0	1	2	2	3	3	3	4
A	0	1	2	2	3	3	4	4

"BCBA"

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

"BDAB"

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

"BCAB"

$$\text{space} = \Theta(mn),$$

actually, we can do  $\Theta(\min(m, n))$

实际上, 需要保留的只有一行。

		A	B	C	B	D	A	B
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
B	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1
D	0	0	1	1	1	2	2	2
C	0	0	1	2	2	2	2	2
A	0	1	1	2	?	?	?	?
B	0							
A	0							

只有这些会影响? 的计算。  
之前的行都不参与计算

除了一行一行地填值, 也可以一列一列地填值, 这取决于  $m$  与  $n$  谁更小 (省空间)