# 4. Dynamic programming 1 (basic ideas)

#### **CPCFI**

UNAM's School of Engineering

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Based on: Halim S., Halim F. Competitive Programming 3. Handbook for ACM ICPC and IOI Contestants. 2013



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**Problems** 



The most challenging algorithmic problems involve optimization, where we seek to find a solution that maximizes or minimizes and objective function



Algorithms for optimization problems require proof that they always return the best possible solution.

 Greedy algorithms that make best local decisions at each step are efficient but do not guarantee global optimality



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Dynamic Programming gives us a way to design custom algorithms that **systematically search** all possibilities (guaranteeing correctness) while **storing** intermediate results to avoid recomputing (efficiency)



 Dynamic Programming is the fourth paradigm of algorithm construction (CS, Greedy, D&Q) occupied for efficiently implementing a recursive algorithm by sorting partial results.



- Dynamic Programming is the fourth paradigm of algorithm construction (CS, Greedy, D&Q) occupied for efficiently implementing a recursive algorithm by sorting partial results.
- It requires searching for a recursive structure that computes
  the same sub-problems repeatedly. Once we identify this
  structure, the idea is to store the answer for each sub-problem
  in a table to further look up the answer instead of computing
  again the same sub-problem.



#### Prerequisites for DP

- 1. The problem has optimal sub-structures
- 2. The problem has overlapping sub-problems

In the next subsection (3.5.1 Illustration - DP Approach),
 we'll see an example (UVa - 11450) where we look into detail
 the definition of this two prerequisites



## How to identify a DP problem?

- DP is primarily used to solve optimization problems and counting problems
- Most DP problems will begin with "minimize this", "maximize that" or "count the ways to do that"



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#### **Problem Description** - UVa 11450

Given different options for each garment (e.g. 3 shirt models, 2 belt models, 4 shoe models, ...) and a certain limited budget, our task is to buy one model of each garment. We cannot spend more money than the given budget, but we want to spend the maximum possible amount.



#### Input:

- Budget *M*:  $1 \le M \le 200$
- Number of garments  $C: 1 \le C \le 20$
- For each garment  $g_i$ :  $g_i \in [0, ..., C-1]$ :
  - Number of models K:  $1 \le K \le 20$
  - Price for each model  $p_i$ :  $p_i \in [1, ..., K]$

**Output:** one integer that indicates the maximum amount of money we can spend purchasing one of each garment without exceeding the budget. It is possible that there is no solution to some test cases.



Test case A: M = 20 and C = 3:

- $K_0 = 3 \rightarrow \{6, 4, 8\}$
- $K_1 = 2 \rightarrow \{5, 10\}$
- $\bullet \ \, \textit{K}_{2} = 4 \rightarrow \{1, 5, 3, 5\}$



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#### Solution:

The answer is 19 which may be formed with the following combinations of garments' purchases:

- 1. 8 + 10 + 1
- 2. 6 + 10 + 3
- 3. 4 + 10 + 5



Test case B: M = 9 and C = 3:

- $K_0 = 3 \rightarrow \{6, 4, 8\}$
- $K_1 = 2 \rightarrow \{5, 10\}$
- $\bullet \ \, \textit{K}_2 = 4 \rightarrow \{1,5,3,5\}$



Test case B: M = 9 and C = 3:

- $K_0 = 3 \rightarrow \{6, 4, 8\}$
- $K_1 = 2 \rightarrow \{5, 10\}$
- $\bullet \ \, \textit{K}_{2} = 4 \rightarrow \{1, 5, 3, 5\}$

#### Solution:

The answer is no solution



Now, let's explore some approaches to solve this problem...

- 1. Greedy WA verdict
- 2. Complete Search TLE verdict
- 3. Divide and Conquer Not possible
- 4. Top-Down DP AC verdict
- 5. Bottom-Up DP AC verdict



### UVa 11450: Greedy Approach

Since we want to maximize the budget spent, one greedy idea (there are other greedy approaches—which also produces WA verdict) is to take the most expensive model for each garment  $g_i$  which still fits our budget.

This greedy idea works for test cases A and B and both produce the optimal solution, however, if we look into test case C, this strategy won't work.



# UVa 11450: Greedy Approach

Test case *C*: M = 12, C = 3:

- $K_0 = 3 \rightarrow \{6, 4, 8\}$
- $K_1 = 2 \rightarrow \{5, 10\}$
- $\bullet \ \, \textit{K}_{2} = 4 \rightarrow \{1, 5, 3, 5\}$



# UVa 11450: Greedy Approach

Test case *C*: M = 12, C = 3:

- $K_0 = 3 \rightarrow \{6, 4, 8\}$
- $K_1 = 2 \rightarrow \{5, 10\}$
- $K_2 = 4 \rightarrow \{1, 5, 3, 5\}$

Solution: the greedy strategy will select for  $K_0$  price 8, for  $K_1$  price 10 and for  $K_2$  price 5 which results in a total price of 23 >> M. Therefore, producing a *no solution* answer which is incorrect.



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- We start with money=M and g=0
- We try all possible models in garment g = 0 and if model i is chosen, we subtract model i's price from money



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- We repeat this process recursively and stop in either the last garment or when money < 0 before reaching the last garment model



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- We start with money=M and g=0
- We try all possible models in garment g=0 and if model i is chosen, we subtract model i's price from money
- We repeat this process recursively and stop in either the last garment or when money < 0 before reaching the last garment model
- Among all valid combinations, we can then pick the one that results in the smallest non-negative money



We can define the recurrences formally as follows:

- 1. If money < 0:
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- 1. If money < 0:
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We can define the recurrences formally as follows:

- 1. If money < 0:
  - shop(money, g) =  $-\infty$
- 2. If a model from the last garment has been bought, i.e. g = C:
  - shop(money, g)= M money
- 3.  $\forall$  garment model  $g_i \in [1, \dots, K]$ :
  - shop(money,g)=max(shop(money-price[g][model],g+1))



- This solution works correctly but it's very slow
- In the largest test case, garment g=0 has up to 20 models, garment g=1 also has up to 20 models and all garments including the last garment g=19 also have up to 20 models
- Therefore, this Complete Search solution runs in  $20 \times 20 \times \ldots \times 20$  operations, i.e.  $20^{20} = 1.04 \times 10^{26}$  which produces a **Time Limit Exceeded TLE** verdict



## UVa 11450: Divide and Conquer Approach

- This problem is not solvable using the Divide and Conquer paradigm, since the sub-problems are not independent
- The sub-problems are the problem's states described above in the Complete Search approach



UVa 11450 satisfies the two prerequisites for DP to be applicable:

- 1. Optimal sub-structures
  - The solution for the sub-problem is part of the solution of the original problem
  - If we select model i for garment g=0, for our final selection to be optimal, our choice for garments g=1 and above must also be the optimal choice for a reduced budget of M price, where price refers to the price of model i



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#### 2. Overlapping sub-problems

- This is the key characteristic of DP
- The search space of this problem is not as big as the rough 20<sup>20</sup> bound obtained earlier because many sub-problems are overlapping

Are there any **repeated** (overlapping) sub-problems?



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This happens if some combination of money and chosen model's price causes money 1 - p1 = money 2 - p2 for the same garment g.



So, how many distinct sub-problems are there? Considering that money  $\in [0, \dots, 200]$  and the number of garments  $\in [0, \dots, 19]$ .



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$$201 \times 20 = 4020$$
 states



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$$201 \times 20 = 4020 \text{ states}$$

Each sub-problem must be computed only once and by ensuring this, we could solve the problem much faster.



In order to implement the Top-Down DP solution we must add the following steps:

- Initialize a DP table with dummy values that are not used in the problem
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- Initialize a DP table with dummy values that are not used in the problem
  - This table must have dimensions accordingly to the problem states
- 2. At the start of the recursive function, check if this state has been computed before
  - If it has, return the value from the DP table O(1)
  - If it has not, perform the computation and then store the computed value in the DP table



#### DP analysis:

- If the problem has M states, then the program will require O(M) memory space
- If computing one state requires O(k) steps, the the overall time complexity is O(kM)
- UVa 11450 has M = 4020 states and k = 20 (at most 20 models for each garment g)
- Therefore, 80, 400 operations per test case<sup>1</sup> which is ideal
- \* C++ code: ch3\_02\_UVa11450\_td.cpp

 $<sup>^{1}\</sup>mbox{Recall}$  that modern computers can perform  $10^{8}=100\mbox{\it M}$  operations per second



Steps to build a bottom-up DP solution:

1. Determine the required set of parameters that uniquely describe the problem (state)



#### Steps to build a bottom-up DP solution:

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- 2. If there are N parameters required to represent the states, prepare an N dimensional DP table, with one entry per state
  - In Bottom-Up DP, we only need to initialize some cells of the DP table with known initial values (the base cases)
  - In Top-Down DP, we initialize the memo table completely with dummy values (usually -1) to indicate that we have not yet computed the values



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- 3. Determine the cells/states that can be filled next (the transitions)
- 4. Repeat (iterate) until the DP table is complete



#### Bottom-Up DP for UVa 11450:

- 1. Parameters: current garment g and current money
- Initialize a 2D boolean matrix (DP table): reachable[g] [money] of size 20 × 201
- 3. Cells/states when g=0 are marked as true (using test case A's parameters: M=20, C=3)
  - reachable[0][M 6] = 1
  - reachable [0] [M-4]=1
  - reachable[0][M 8] = 1



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- 3. Cells/states when g=0 are marked as true (using test case A's parameters: M=20, C=3)
  - reachable[0][M 6] = 1
  - reachable[0][M 4] = 1
  - reachable[0][M 8] = 1

Figure: DP table for g = 0



- 4. Iterate with the remaining garments  $(g = \{1, 2\})$  as follows:
  - If reachable[g-1] [money] is true, then reachable[g] [money - p] will be set to true as long as money is not negative<sup>2</sup>
  - For example, reachable[0][16] propagates to reachable[1][16-5] and reachable[1][16-10]

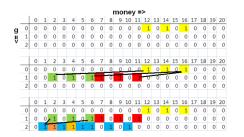


Figure: DP table when g = 1 and g = 2



 $<sup>^{2}</sup>p$  is the price for garment  $g_{i}$ 

- The answer can be found in the last row when g = C-1
- Find the state in that row that is both nearest to index 0 and reachable
- By looking at the DP table, we can see that the answer lies in reachable [2] [1]
- Meaning that we can reach state money = 1 by buying some combination of the various garment models
- The final answer is M money = 20 1 = 19
- C++ code: ch3\_03\_UVa11450\_bu.cpp



## Top-Down vs. Bottom-Up DP

Top-Down	Bottom-Up			
Pros:	Pros:			
1. It is a natural transformation from the	1. Faster if many sub-problems are revisited			
normal Complete Search recursion	as there is no overhead from recursive calls			
2. Computes the sub-problems only when	2. Can save memory space with the 'space			
necessary (sometimes this is faster)	saving trick' technique			
Cons:	Cons:			
1. Slower if many sub-problems are revis-	1. For programmers who are inclined to re-			
ited due to function call overhead (this is not	cursion, this style may not be intuitive			
usually penalized in programming contests)				
2. If there are M states, an $O(M)$ table size	2. If there are $M$ states, bottom-up DP			
is required, which can lead to MLE for some	visits and fills the value of $all$ these $M$ states			
harder problems (except if we use the trick				
in Section 8.3.4)				

Figure: Top-Down vs. Bottom-Up DP, [Halim]:page 102



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**Problems** 



### DP Classical Problems

- UVa 11450 was an example of a non-classical DP problem
- However, there exists a list of classical DP problems (6) where the states and transitions are well-known
- These problems should be mastered to perform well in ICPC in addition to its variants



### DP Classical Problems

- 1. Max 1D Range Sum
- 2. Max 2D Range Sum
- 3. Longest Increasing Subsequence (LIS)
- 4. 0-1 Knapsack (Subset Sum)
- 5. Coin Change (CC) General Version
- 6. Traveling Salesman Problem (TSP)



- UVa 507 Jill Rides Again
- C++ code: ch3\_04\_Max1DRangeSum.cpp

#### **Problem Description:**

Given an integer array A containing  $n \leq 20K$  non-zero integers, determine the maximum (1D) range sum of A. In other words, find the maximum Range Sum Query (RSQ) between two indices  $i,j \in [0,\ldots,n-1]$ , that is:

$$A[i] + A[i+1] + A[i+2] + \ldots + A[j]$$



#### **DP** strategy

- Pre-process array A by computing A[i]+=A[i-1]  $\forall i \in [1, \ldots, n-1]$  so that A[i] contains the sum of integers in subarray A[0,...,i]
- We can now compute RSQ(i,j) in O(1) as follows: RSQ(0,j)=A[j] and RSQ(i,j)=A[j]-A[i-1]  $\forall i > 0$



### Kadane's O(n) Algorithm

- Keeps a sum of the integers seen so far and greedily reset that to 0 if the running sum dips below 0
- Restarting from 0 is better than continuing from a negative sum
- At each step we have two choices:
  - 1. Keep using the accumulated maximum sum
  - 2. Begin a new range
- ch3\_04\_Max1DRangeSum.cpp uses the space saving trick



- UVa 108 Maximum Sum
- C++ code: ch3\_05\_UVa108.cpp

#### **Problem Description**

Given an  $n \times n$  ( $1 \le n \le 100$ ) square matrix of integers A where each integer ranges from  $[-127, \ldots, 127]$ , find a sub-matrix of A with the maximum sum.



For example, the  $4 \times 4$  matrix (n = 4) below has a  $3 \times 2$  sub-matrix on the lower-left with maximum sum of 9 + 2 - 4 + 1 - 1 + 8 = 15.

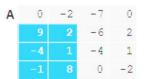


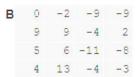
### DP strategy

- The solution for the Max 1D Range Sum can be extended to two (or more) dimensions and we'll be dealing now with cumulative n × n sub-matrices
- A[i][j] no longer contains its own value, but the sum of all items within sub-matrix (0,0) to (i,j)



The code shown below turns the input square matrix into a cumulative sum matrix:







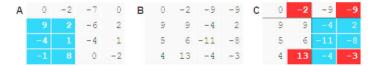
To obtain the sum of a sub-matrix going from (i,j) to (k,l) in O(1), we do the following:

- sum = A[k][1]
- If i > 0, sum -= A[i-1][1]
- If j > 0, sum -= A[k][j-1]
- If i > 0 and j > 0, sum += A[i-1][j-1]



For example, let's compute the sum of (1,2) to (3,3):

- $\bullet$  sum = A[3][3] = -3
- If i > 0, sum -= A[0][3] = -9
- If j > 0, sum -= A[3][1] = 13
- If i > 0 and j > 0, sum += A[0][1] = -2
- $\bullet$  sum = -9





• C++ code: ch3\_06\_LIS.cpp

### **Problem Description:**

Given a sequence  $\{A[0], A[1], \ldots, A[n-1]\}$ , determine its Longest Increasing Subsequence (LIS). Note that these *subsequences* are not necessarily contiguous.

For example, n = 8,  $A = \{-7, 10, 9, 2, 3, 8, 8, 1\}$ . The length-4 LIS is  $\{-7, 2, 3, 8\}$ 



- Let LIS(i) be the longest increasing subsequence ending at index i
- Therefore, we can model this problem with one parameter: i



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  - Find an index j such that j < i



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  - Find an index j such that j < i
  - A[j] < A[i]



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  - LIS(j) must be the largest



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  - Find an index j such that j < i
  - A[j] < A[i]
  - LIS(j) must be the largest
- Once we found index j, LIS(i) = LIS(j) + 1

Index	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Α	-7	10	9	2	3	8	8	1
LIS(i)	1 🗲	2	-2	2	-3€	-4	4	2



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1. LIS(0) = 1, the base case



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- 2. LIS(i) = max(LIS(j)+1),  $\forall j \in [0, ..., i-1]$  and A[j] < A[i], the recursive case



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The answer is the largest value of LIS(k)  $\forall k \in [0,\ldots,n-1]$ 

Index	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Α	-7	10	9	2	3	8	8	1
LIS(i)	1	2	-2	2	3€	-4	4	2



- Using the DP strategy described above, the algorithm will run in  $O(n^2)$  time since we need to make a loop for each index i
- In addition to this, there are many overlapping sub-problems due to the same reason
- To further improve this algorithm, we could store the predecessor information and trace the green arrows from index k that contains the largest value of LIS(k)



However, there is a solution using the Greedy and D&C paradigms that runs in  $O(n \log k)$ :

• Let array L be an array such that L(i) represents the smallest ending value of all length-i LISs found so far



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- Let array L be an array such that L(i) represents the smallest ending value of all length-i LISs found so far
- L(i-1) will always be smaller than L(i)



However, there is a solution using the Greedy and D&C paradigms that runs in  $O(n \log k)$ :

- Let array L be an array such that L(i) represents the smallest ending value of all length-i LISs found so far
- L(i−1) will always be smaller than L(i)
- Finally, we can binary search array L to determine the longest possible subsequence we can create by appending the current element A[i]



• C++ code: ch3\_07\_UVa10130.cpp

#### **Problem Description:**

Given n items, each with its own value  $V_i$  and weight  $W_i$ ,  $\forall i \in [0,\ldots,n-1]$ , and a maximum knapsack size S, compute the maximum value of the items that we can carry, if we can either ignore or take a particular item (hence the term 0-1 for ignore/take)



For example, n = 4,  $V = \{100, 70, 50, 10\}$ ,  $W = \{10, 4, 6, 12\}$ , S = 12.

- If we select item 0 with weight 10 and value 100, we cannot take any other item. Not optimal
- If we select item 3 with weight 12 and value 10, we cannot take any other item. Not optimal
- If we select item 1 and 2, we have total weight 10 and total value 120. **This is the maximum**



Let's look at the following Complete Search recurrences for val(id, remW) where id is the index of the current item to be considered and remw the remaining weight in the knapsack:

1. val(id, 0) = 0, if remW = 0 we cannot take anything else



Let's look at the following Complete Search recurrences for val(id, remW) where id is the index of the current item to be considered and remw the remaining weight in the knapsack:

- 1. val(id, 0) = 0, if remW = 0 we cannot take anything else
- 2. val(n, remW) = 0, if id = n we have considered all items



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- 1. val(id, 0) = 0, if remW = 0 we cannot take anything else
- 2. val(n, remW) = 0, if id = n we have considered all items
- 3. if W[id] > remW, we have to ignore this item
  - val(id, remW) = val(id + 1, remW)



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- 1. val(id, 0) = 0, if remW = 0 we cannot take anything else
- 2. val(n, remW) = 0, if id = n we have considered all items
- 3. if W[id] > remW, we have to ignore this item
   val(id, remW) = val(id + 1, remW)
- 4. if W[id] <= remW, we have two choices, either ignore the item or take it. We take the one that gives us the maximum value:</p>

```
val(id, remW) =
  max( val(id+1,remW), V[id]+val(id+1,remW-W[id]))
```

• C++ code: ch3\_08\_UVa674.cpp

#### **Problem Description:**

Given a target amount V cents and a list of denominations for n coins, i.e. we have coinValue[i] (in cents) for coin types  $i \in [0, \ldots, n-1]$ , what is the minimum number of coins that we must use to represent V? Assume that we have unlimited supply of coins of any type



Let's look at the following Complete Search recurrences for change(value) where value is the remaining amount of cents that we need to represent in coins:

1. change(0) = 0, we need 0 coins to produce 0 cents



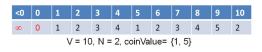
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- 1. change(0) = 0, we need 0 coins to produce 0 cents
- 2. change (< 0) =  $\infty$ , we can return a large positive value
- 3. change(value) = 1+min(change(value-coinValue[i])),  $\forall i \in [0, ..., n-1]$





# 5. Coin Change (CC) - Alternative Version

A variant of this problem is to count the number of possible (canonical) ways to get value V cents using a list of denominations of n coins.



# 5. Coin Change (CC) - Alternative Version

Complete Search recurrences for ways(type, value) where type is the index of the coin type that we are currently considering:

- 1. ways(type, 0) = 1, one way, just use nothing
- 2. ways(type, <0) = 0, no way since we cannot reach a
   negative value</pre>
- 3. ways (n, value) = 0, no way since we have considered all coin types  $\in [0, ..., n-1]$
- 4. ways(type,value) = ways(type+1,value) +
   ways(type,value-coinValue[type]), if we ignore this coin
   type plus if we use this coin type



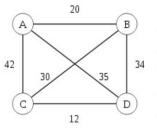
- UVa 10496 Collecting Beepers
- C++ code: ch3\_09\_UVa10496.cpp

#### **Problem Description:**

Given n cities and their pairwise distances in the form of a matrix dist of size  $n \times n$ , compute the cost of making a tour that starts from any city s, goes through all the other n-1 cities exactly once, and finally returns to the starting city s.



For example, for n=4 cities, we have 4!=24 possible tours (permutations of 4 cities). One of the minimum tours is A-B-C-D-A with a cost of 20+30+12+35=97



	A	В	С	D
A	0	20	42	35
В	20	0	30	34
C	42	30	0	12
D	35	34	12	0



- TSP presents various overlapping sub-problems
  - The tour A-B-C-(n-3) other cities overlaps with the tour A-C-B-(n-3) same other cities that also return to A
- If we can avoid re-computing various sub-tours we can save a lot of computation time
- Parameters for TSP:
  - 1. The last city visited: pos
  - 2. Subset of the visited cities



#### How do we represent a set?

 We need the set to be lightweight since it'll be used as a parameter in a recursive function



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- Solution: bitmask
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- We need the set to be lightweight since it'll be used as a parameter in a recursive function
- Solution: bitmask
- If we have n cities, we could use an integer of length n
- If the bit i is 1 (on), we say that the city with index i has been visited (inside the set)
- Otherwise, it has not been visited yet (i = 0, off)



#### For example

- $\bullet$  mask =  $18_{10} = 10010_2$
- Implies that cities 1 and 4 have been visited
- To check if a bit i is on or off: mask &(1 << i)
- To set bit i: mask |=(1 << i)



Complete Search recurrences for tsp(pos, mask):

- 1.  $tsp(pos, 2^n 1) = dist[pos][0]$ , all cities have been visited
- 2. tsp(pos, mask) = min(dist[pos][nxt] +
   tsp(nxt, mask | (1 << nxt))), ∀ nxt ∈ [0,...,n-1],
   nxt != pos and (mask & (1 << nxt)) is 0 (turned off).
   We try all possible next cities that have not been visited
   before at each step</pre>



• There are only  $O(n \times 2^n)$  distinct states because there are n cities and we remember up to  $2^n$  other cities that have been visited in each tour



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This is not a huge improvement over the brute force solution but if the programming contest problem involving TSP has input size  $11 \le n \le 16$ , then DP is the solution, not brute force



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- 4.1.1. Illustration [Chap. 3.5.1]
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- 4.1.4. DP in Programming Contests [Chap. 3.5.4]



#### DP Non-Classical Problems

- The classical DP problems in their pure forms usually never appear in modern ICPCs
- We'll discuss two more non-classical problems
  - 1. UVa 10943 How do you add?
  - 2. UVa 10003 Cutting Sticks



- UVa 10943 How do you add?
- C++ code: ch3\_10\_UVa10943.cpp

#### Problem description

Given an integer n, how many ways can K non-negative integers less than or equal to n add up to n? Constraints:  $1 \le n, K \le 100$ 



- UVa 10943 How do you add?
- C++ code: ch3\_10\_UVa10943.cpp

#### Problem description

Given an integer n, how many ways can K non-negative integers less than or equal to n add up to n? Constraints:  $1 \le n, K \le 100$ 

**For example**, for 
$$n = 20$$
 and  $K = 2$ , there are 21 ways:  $0 + 20, 1 + 19, 2 + 18, 3 + 17, \dots, 20 + 0$ 



- The number of ways can be expressed as  $\binom{n+k-1}{k-1}$  (Binomial Coefficient)
- However, we can solve this problem using DP techniques: parameters and transitions from one state to another given the base case or cases



- Parameters: tuple (n, K)
- Base case, when K = 1, there is only one number less than or equal to n to get n: n itself
- **General case**, at state (n, K) where K > 1, we can split n into  $X \in [0, ..., n]$  and n X, thus n = X + (n X)
  - By doing this, we arrive at the sub-problem (n-X,K-1) which translates into "given a number n-X, how many ways can K-1 numbers less than or equal to n-X add up to n-X?"
  - We can sum all these ways



#### Complete Search recurrences for ways (n, K):

- 1. ways (n, 1) = 1, since we can only use one number to add up to n, which is n itself
- 2. ways(n, k) =  $\sum_{X=0}^{n}$  ways(n X, K 1), sum all possible ways recursively



#### 2. UVa 10003 - Cutting Sticks

- UVa 10003 Cutting Sticks
- C++ code: ch3\_11\_UVa10003.cpp

#### Problem description

Given a stick of length  $1 \le l \le 1000$  and  $1 \le n \le 50$  cuts to be made to the stick (the cut coordinates, lying in the range  $[0,\ldots,l]$ , are given). The cost of a cut is determined by the length of the stick to be cut. Your task is to find a cutting sequence so that the overall cost is minimized.



For example, 
$$I = 100$$
,  $n = 3$ , and cut coordinates  $A = \{25, 50, 75\}$ 

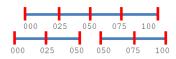
If we cut from left to right, we'll have a total cost of 225:

- 1. First cut is at coordinate 25 (at original stick of length l=100), total cost so far l=100
- 2. Second cut is at coordinate 50 (at stick with length 75), total cost so far = 100 + 75 = 175
- 3. Third cut is at coordinate 75 (at stick with length 50), final total cost = 175 + 50 = 225



However, the optimal answer is 200:

- 1. First cut is at coordinate 50, total cost so far = 100
- 2. Second cut is at coordinate 25, total cost so far = 100 + 50 = 150
- 3. Third cut is at coordinate 75, final total cost = 150 + 50 = 200





#### One possible solution

• Add two more coordinates to  $A = \{0, \text{ original A}, I\}$  so that we can denote later a stick by the indices of its endpoints in A



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>left and right are the indices of the current stick with respect to A

#### One possible solution

- Add two more coordinates to  $A = \{0, \text{ original A}, I\}$  so that we can denote later a stick by the indices of its endpoints in A
- Define function cut(left, right) that will return the cost of cutting at indices<sup>3</sup> left and right



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#### One possible solution

- Add two more coordinates to  $A = \{0, \text{ original A}, I\}$  so that we can denote later a stick by the indices of its endpoints in A
- Define function cut(left, right) that will return the cost of cutting at indices<sup>3</sup> left and right
- Originally, the stick is described by left = 0 and right = n+1



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>left and right are the indices of the current stick with respect to A

#### Complete Search recurrences:

- 1.  $\operatorname{cut}(i-1, i) = 0$ ,  $\forall i \in [1, ..., n+1]$ , this stick segment does not need to be divided further since left + 1 = right
- 2.

```
cut(left,right) = min(cut(left,i) + cut(i,right) + (A[right]-A[left])), \forall i \in [ left+1 ,..., right-1 ], try all possible cutting points and pick the best (minimum)
```

\*The cost of a cut is the length of the current stick captured in (A[right]-A[left])



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**Problems** 



# DP in Programming Contests

### Summary of the six classic DP problems:

	1D RSQ	2D RSQ	LIS	Knapsack	CC	TSP
State	(i)	(i,j)	(i)	(id,remW)	(v)	(pos,mask)
Space	O(n)	$O(n^2)$	O(n)	O(nS)	O(V)	$O(n2^n)$
Transition	subarray	submatrix	all $j < i$	take/ignore	all $n$ coins	all n cities
Time	O(1)	O(1)	$O(n^2)$	O(nS)	O(nV)	$O(2^n n^2)$



# DP in Programming Contests

- In addition to studying the non-classical examples, please check Top Coder for more DP tutorials
- Mastering Dynamic Programming problems is now a basic requirement
- Art of DP: determining the states and knowing how to fill up the DP table (either TP or BU)



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#### **Problems**



#### DP - Problems

- UVa DP problems
- If UVa's site is not available, please check [Halim]: page 115-117 for DP problems
- For problems' PDF's, please check here



### References

- Halim S., Halim F., *Competitive Programming 3*, Handbook for ACM ICPC and IOI Contestants. 2013
- Skiena S. The Algorithm Design Manual. Springer. 2020

