

Imperial College London – Department of Computing

MSc in Computing Science

580: Algorithms
Tutorial: Dynamic Programming

1. The array $A = [A_1, \dots, A_N]$ contains N integers.
 - (a) A *prefix subarray* of A is any continuous subarray that starts with $A[1]$. Write a $\Theta(N)$ -time algorithm to find the greatest sum of any prefix subarray of A .
 - (b) The greatest sum of *any* continuous subarray of A can be found as follows. For each position i in the array, find s_i , the maximum sum of any continuous subarray starting at i . The solution is then the maximum of those s_i values. There are N such values, so this method will take $\Theta(N^2)$ time using your answer for (1a). This is referred to as a *naïve* solution.

By considering the s_i values, you can find an $\Theta(N)$ -time solution to the problem.

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