

Report exercise 2

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Edit-distance's functioning

For the dynamic programming implementation, we save the carried out operations to avoid redundancies. Those are due to the sub-problems not being independent from one another, making this technique, known as *memoization*, very effective.

The length of the strings X and Y are the dimensions of the matrix c containing the results. The cell c_{ij} stores the edit-distance from the prefix X_i to Y_j . Initially all cells are empty; they will store the result of the first time the corresponding operation is called. Without *memoization* the algorithm equals its recursive version (see slides for reference).

Below are some comparisons between the two versions:

X	Y	<i>Edit-distance</i>	<i>Recursive</i>	<i>Dynamic</i>
Calla	Palla	1	0.100s	0.100s
Bcamap	Palla	5	0.100s	0.100s
Lonpirante	Lungimirante	4	0.800s	0.100s
Antocartistuzinale	Anticostituzionale	5	> 30m	0.100s

Checker's functioning

Checker compares each word from *target* (correctme.txt) with each one in *dict* (dictionary.txt), associating to each word of the former a list of words of the latter with minimum edit-distance. If a *dict* word's edit-distance is higher than the one already calculated, the former is ignored.

Checker_Test terminates in an average of 5 seconds; performances increase if the *dict* is ordered by increasing length of its words. Complexity however changes only by a constant factor.