

BMI3 INTEGRATED REFLECTION

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► THINGS TO CHECK WHEN ENCOUNTERING ERRORS

- Misusing == and =?
- Misspelling variable names?
- Not sorting when needed?
- Variable name conflicts?
- Misreading the problem statement?
- Using a variable name as an index by mistake?
- Forgetting to import something (e.g., json, sys)?
- Writing data = input(json.loads()) instead of data = json.loads(input())?
- If you get a “memory limit exceeded” error, try submitting a few more times and see if it passes

► EXAMINED POINTS SUMMARY

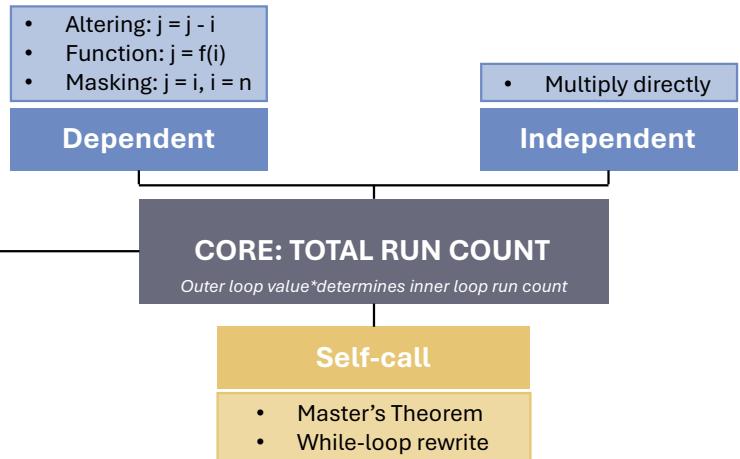
Examined point	Where
Time complexity assessment	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. F-1124-Q2 (While loop dependence)2. F-1-Q2 (Recursive function)3. F-2-Q3 (While loop entry & dependence)4. Bilibili ($O(n)$ notes)
Combinatorial pattern matching	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. PTA (Rabin Karp)2. Leaked (Rabin Karp)
Divide and conquer	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. F-1124-Q1 (BLAST table sorting)2. F-2-Q1 (Inversion counting)3. F-3-Q4 (Peak element)4. PTA (Merge sort)5. PTA (Closest pair of points)
Graph algorithms	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. F-1124-Q4 (Cycle detection in DAG)2. F-1-Q1 (Longest path in DAG)3. F-2-Q2 (Shortest path in unweighted UAG)4. PTA (Shortest path in weighted UAG)5. PTA (Connected components)
Dynamic programming	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. F-1124-Q3 (LCS in two sequences)2. F-1-Q3 (Edit distance)3. F-2-Q4 (Cashier coin changing)4. Lecture (Longest path in DAG)5. Lecture (Sequence alignment)6. PTA (Longest path in an alignment graph)7. PTA (Rock game)8. PTA (Weighted interval scheduling)

9. PTA (Exon chaining)
10. YouTube (LIS in a sequence)

► TIME COMPLEXITY ASSESSMENT

- Constant change is irrelevant:
 $x < n / 2 = x < n + 100 = x < n$
- Low-level is irrelevant:
 $n > x^2 + 2x + 1 = n > x^2$
- Use the worst case:

Outer	Inner
Linear (n)	Linear (n), log, sqrt
log	log



*Some times not, but mostly yes

► DIVIDE AND CONQUER

Insight:

- Divide-and-Conquer* is not *Divide-and-Merge*. *Merging* is a required step for sorting-based problems, but not an essential element for *Divide-and-Conquer*.
- What makes *Divide-and-Conquer* *Divide-and-Conquer* is that it divide a large problem into a base case.
- The workflow for sequence-based problem: *Divide* → *Conquer* → *Combine*.

DIVIDE AND MERGE

Base case	if len(input) <= 1: return
Divide	Left string; Right string
Conquer	Sort left; Sort right
Combine	while if-else; while; while merged.append() + pointer += 1

DIVIDE AND CONQUER WITHOUT MERGING

- Set base-case solution
- Get insights
 - Find a middle line
 - Special to each problem

► GRAPH ALGORITHM

Graph algorithm problems can be solved in multiple ways. (1) **Greedy way** like Dijkstra based on the principle that if a node is visited then the shortest path is set; (2) **Dynamic programming**; (3) **DFS**; (4) **BFS**.

SCENARIO

- For finding **connected components** and **cycle detection**: DFS - Stack *using set()*
- **Longest path in directed acyclic graph (DAG)**
 - Weighted: Dynamic programming – dynamic programming
- **Shortest path in undirected acyclic graph (UAG)**
 - Weighted: DFS - Priority queue *using heapq*
 - Unweighted: BFS - Queue *using queue*

GENERAL STEPS

1. Construct graph as adjacency list (if the graph is directed, calculate topological order)
2. Initialize key players: distance - previous, visited (set)
3. Choose an appropriate traversal method

stack (set)	<code>object.add()</code>	<code>object.remove()</code>
queue (list)	<code>queue.pop()</code>	<code>queue.append()</code>
heapq	<code>heapq.heappop()</code>	<code>heapq.heappush()</code>

```
def BFS(start_node):  
    mark start_node as visited  
    create a queue and enqueue start_node  
  
    while queue is not empty:  
        current_node = dequeue from queue  
        for each neighbor of current_node:  
            if neighbor is not visited:  
                mark neighbor as visited  
                enqueue neighbor  
  
def DFS(node):  
    mark node as visited  
    for each neighbor of node:  
        if neighbor is not visited:  
            DFS(neighbor)  
    return
```

4. Update key players during traversal until the termination condition is hit

ADJACENCY LIST OPERATIONS

```
for neighbor in graph.get(current, []):  
for neighbor, weight in graph[current]:  
for node in graph:
```

TOPOLOGICAL SORTING

```
in_degree = {}  
  
for v in vertices:  
    in_degree[v] = 0  
  
for _, row in edges.iterrows():  
    v = row['to']  
    in_degree[v] += 1  
  
queue = []  
for v in vertices:  
    if in_degree[v] == 0:  
        queue.append(v)
```

```
topo_order = []  
while len(queue) > 0:  
    u = queue.pop(0)  
    topo_order.append(u)  
    for v, w in adj[u]:  
        in_degree[v] -= 1  
        if in_degree[v] == 0:  
            queue.append(v)
```

NODE COLLECTION

```
vertices = set()  
for _, row in edges.iterrows():  
    vertices.add(row['from'])  
    vertices.add(row['to'])
```

KEY PLAYER INITIALIZATION

```
dist = {}
for v in vertices:
    dist[v] = float('-inf')
dist[source] = 0
# or
dist = []
for i in range(n):
    dist.append([float('inf'), 0])
dist[source] = [0.0, -1]

queue = [source]
visited = {source}
# or
visited = [False] * n # use it like if
visited[pos] = True
```

```
parent = {source: -1}
```

BACKTRACING

```
path = []
node = target
while node is not None:
    path.append(node)
    node = parent[node]
path.reverse()
print(len(path) - 1, path)
```

► DYNAMIC PROGRAMMING

MATRIX CONSTRUCTION

- Edit distance
- LCS in two sequences
- Sequence alignment
- Rock game

GENERAL STEPS

Note: DP is NOT a method that “updates something only when it is better than the current solution”, but the type of “updates based on the former state”.

1. Construct a empty 2D array / 2D list
 - For sequence-sequence comparison `dp = [[0]*(n+1) for _ in range(m+1)]`
 - For a grid `dp = [[0] * cols for _ in range(rows)]`
2. Base case construction ((0,0), x-axis, y-axis; not necessarily), see (i in the appendix)
3. Initialize key players for DP (sometimes you think you should have one, but in fact you don't)
4. Fill the DP table (if-else or dynamically, see ii in the appendix)

```
for i in range(1, m + 1):
```

```
    for j in range(1, n + 1):
```

```
        if
```

```
        else
```

$$dp[i][j] = \max(\text{diagonal}, \text{up}, \text{left})$$

4. Check if the case exists (see iii in the appendix)
5. Backtracking: while if-else (see iii in the appendix)

NON-MATRIX CONSTRUCTION

- Cashier coin changing
- Weighted interval scheduling
- Exon chaining
- Longest path in DAG
- Longest path in an alignment graph

- LIS in two sequences

The key idea is to break the problem down into the present and the past. It is either adding all (Cashier coin changing; LIS in two sequences) or choosing to skip the present (Weighted interval scheduling; Longest path in DAG; Longest path in an alignment graph).

Typically, backtracking is needed for these type of DP problems. Before backtracking, it is necessary to check if there's a special case.

► APPENDIX

(i) Base case construction

a

```
for i in range(1, n + 1):
    rocks[i, 0] = not rocks[i - 1, 0]
for j in range(1, m + 1):
    rocks[0, j] = not rocks[0, j - 1]
```

b

```
for i in range(n + 1):
    dp[i][0] = -gap * i
for j in range(m + 1):
    dp[0][j] = -gap * j
```

c

```
dp[0][0] = grid[0][0]
for j in range(1, cols):
    dp[0][j] = dp[0][j-1] + grid[0][j]
for i in range(1, rows):
    dp[i][0] = dp[i-1][0] + grid[i][0]
```

(ii) Fill the DP

A

```
for i in range(1, m + 1):
    for j in range(1, n + 1):
        if s1[i - 1] == s2[j - 1]:
            dp[i][j] = dp[i - 1][j - 1]
        else:
            dp[i][j] = 1 + min(
                dp[i - 1][j - 1],
                dp[i - 1][j],
                dp[i][j - 1]
            )
```

B

```
for i in range(1, m + 1):
    for j in range(1, n + 1):
        if seq1[i-1] == seq2[j-1]:
            dp[i][j] = dp[i-1][j-1] + 1
        if dp[i][j] > max_len:
```

```
max_len = dp[i][j]
end_positions = [i]
if dp[i][j] == max_len:
    end_positions.append(i)
```

C

```
for i in range(1, n + 1):
    for j in range(1, m + 1):
        if all((rocks[i - 1, j - 1], rocks[i, j - 1], rocks[i - 1, j])):
            rocks[i, j] = False
        else:
            rocks[i, j] = True
```

D

```
for i in range(1, n + 1):
    for j in range(1, m + 1):
        diagonal = dp[i-1][j-1] + score(seq1[i-1], seq2[j-1])
        up = dp[i-1][j] - gap
        left = dp[i][j-1] - gap
        dp[i][j] = max(diagonal, up, left)
```

E

```
for i in range(1, rows):
    for j in range(1, cols):
        dp[i][j] = grid[i][j] + min(dp[i-1][j], dp[i][j-1])
```

F

```
for node in sorted(nodes):
    if dist[node] > -np.inf: # can reach
        for neighbor, weight in adj[node]:
            dist[neighbor] = max(dist[neighbor], dist[node] +
weight)
```

(iii) Check edge case and backtracking

A

```
if max_len == 0:
    return []
```

```
substrings = set()  
for end in end_positions:  
    substrings.add(seq1[end - max_len : end])  
  
B  
path = []  
i, j = rows - 1, cols - 1  
path.append((i, j))  
  
while i > 0 or j > 0:  
    if i == 0:  
        j -= 1  
    elif j == 0:  
        i -= 1  
    else:  
        if dp[i-1][j] < dp[i][j-1]:  
            i -= 1  
        else:  
            j -= 1  
    path.append((i, j))  
  
path.reverse()  
minimum_cost = dp[rows-1][cols-1]
```