

Outline

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- We have an **optimization measure** defined for each feasible solution.
- We are looking for a feasible solution that optimizes (either maximum or minimum) the optimization measure.

Examples

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- Once a selection is made, it cannot be undone: The selected item cannot be removed from the solution.

Minimum Spanning Tree (MST) Problem

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Minimum Spanning Tree (MST) Problem

Input: An connected undirected graph $G = (V, E)$. Each edge $e \in E$ has a **weight** $w(e) \geq 0$.

Find: a spanning tree T of G such that $w(T) = \sum_{e \in T} w(e)$ **is minimum**.

Kruskal's Algorithm

Kruskal's Algorithm

- 1: Sort the edges by non-decreasing weight. Let e_1, e_2, \dots, e_m be the sorted edge list
- 2: $T \leftarrow \emptyset$
- 3: **for** $i = 1$ **to** m **do**
- 4: **if** $T \cup \{e_i\}$ does not contain a cycle **then**
- 5: $T \leftarrow T \cup \{e_i\}$
- 6: **else**
- 7: do nothing
- 8: **end if**
- 9: **end for**
- 10: **output** T

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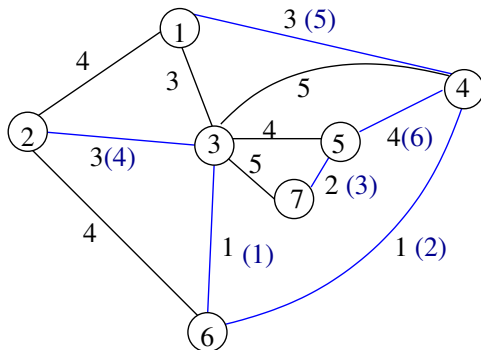
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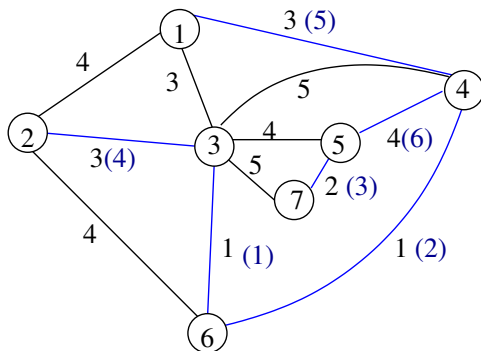
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- Once e_i is added, it is never removed and is included into the final tree T .
- This is a perfect example of greedy algorithms.

An Example



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- The **blue numbers in ()** indicate the order in which the edges are added into MST.

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 - By using proper data structures, the processing of an edge e_i can be done in $O(\log n)$ time. (The detail was discussed in CSE250).
 - So the loop takes $O(m \log n)$ time.
 - Since G is connected, $m \geq n$. The total runtime is $\Theta(m \log m + m \log n) = \Theta(m \log m)$.

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- But in other cases, the strategies that **seem equally obvious** may lead to wrong solutions.
- In general, the correctness of a greedy algorithm **requires proof**.

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- For greedy algorithms, the correctness proof can be very **tricky**.

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- Best way to understand it is by examples.

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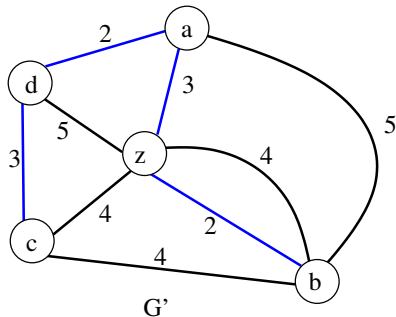
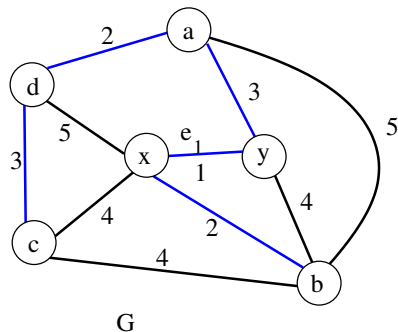
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 - The edge weights remain unchanged.

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If T is a MST of G containing e_1 , then $T' = T - \{e_1\}$ is a MST of G' .

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- If T_{opt} contains e_1 , then we are done (lucky!)

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- Then T' is a spanning tree of G .

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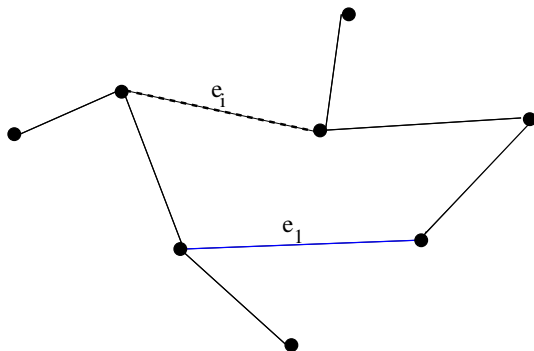
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- This is what we want to show: **There is an MST that contains e_1 . So when Kruskal's algorithm includes e_1 into T , we are not making a mistake.**

Greedy Choice Property for Kruskal's Algorithm



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- This T is the tree constructed by Kruskal's algorithm. Hence, Kruskal's algorithm indeed returns a MST.

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A knapsack with an integer capacity K .

Find: A subset of items so that the total weight of the selected items is at most K , and the total profit is maximized.

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There are several **greedy strategies that seem reasonable**. But none of them works.

0/1 Knapsack Problem

Greedy Strategy 1

Since the goal is to maximize the profit without exceeding the capacity, we fill the items in the order of increasing weights. Namely:

- Sort the items by increasing item weight: $w[1] \leq w[2] \leq \dots$.
- Fill the knapsack in the order $\text{item}_1, \text{item}_2, \dots$ until no more items can be put into the knapsack without exceeding the capacity.

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Counter Example:

$n = 2, w[1] = 2, w[2] = 4, p[1] = 2, p[2] = 3, K = 4.$

- This strategy puts item_1 into the knapsack with total profit 2.
- The optimal solution: put item_2 into the knapsack with total profit 3.

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- For this greedy strategy, we can still show the **Optimal Substructure Property** holds:
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- However, we cannot prove the **Greedy Choice Property**: We are not able to show there is an optimal solution that contains the item_1 (the lightest item).
- **Without this property, there is no guarantee this strategy would work.** (As the counter example has shown, it doesn't work.)

0/1 Knapsack Problem

Greedy Strategy 2

Since the goal is to maximize the profit without exceeding the capacity, we fill the items in the order of decreasing profits. Namely:

- Sort the items by decreasing item profit: $p[1] \geq p[2] \geq \dots$.
- Fill the knapsack in the order item₁, item₂, ... until no more items can be put into the knapsack without exceeding the capacity.

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- Sort the items by decreasing item profit: $p[1] \geq p[2] \geq \dots$.
- Fill the knapsack in the order item₁, item₂, ... until no more items can be put into the knapsack without exceeding the capacity.

Counter Example:

$n = 3, p[1] = 3, p[2] = 2, p[3] = 2, w[1] = 3, w[2] = 2, w[3] = 2, K = 4$.

- This strategy puts item₁ into the knapsack with total profit 3.
- The optimal solution: put item₂ and item₃ into the knapsack with total profit 4.

0/1 Knapsack Problem

Greedy Strategy 3

Since the goal is to maximize the profit without exceeding the capacity, we fill the items in the order of decreasing **unit profit**. Namely:

- Sort the items by decreasing item unit profit: $\frac{p[1]}{w[1]} \geq \frac{p[2]}{w[2]} \geq \frac{p[3]}{w[1]} \dots$
- Fill the knapsack in the order $\text{item}_1, \text{item}_2, \dots$ until no more items can be put into the knapsack without exceeding the capacity.

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Counter Example:

$n = 2, w[1] = 2, w[2] = 4, p[1] = 2, p[2] = 3, K = 4.$

- We have: $\frac{p[1]}{w[1]} = \frac{2}{2} = 1 \geq \frac{p[2]}{w[2]} = \frac{3}{4}.$
- This strategy puts item_1 into knapsack with total profit 2.
- The optimal solution: put item_2 into knapsack with total profit 3.

Fractional Knapsack Problem

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Input: n item $_i$ ($1 \leq i \leq n$). Each item $_i$ has an integer weight $w[i] \geq 0$ and a profit $p[i] \geq 0$.

A knapsack with an integer capacity K .

Find: A subset of items to put into the knapsack. We can select a fraction of an item. The goal is the same: the total weight of the selected items is at most K , and the total profit is maximized.

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Mathematical description of Fractional Knapsack Problem

Input: $2n + 1$ integers $p[1], p[2], \dots, p[n], w[1], w[2], \dots, w[n], K$

Find: a vector (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) such that:

- $0 \leq x_i \leq 1$ for $1 \leq i \leq n$
- $\sum_{i=1}^n x_i \cdot w[i] \leq K$
- $\sum_{i=1}^n x_i \cdot p[i]$ is maximized.

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Greedy-Fractional-Knapsack

- 1: Sort the items by decreasing unit profit: $\frac{p[1]}{w[1]} \geq \frac{p[2]}{w[2]} \geq \frac{p[3]}{w[3]} \dots$
- 2: $i = 1$
- 3: **while** $K > 0$ **do**
- 4: **if** $K > w[i]$ **then**
- 5: $x_i = 1$ **and** $K = K - w[i]$
- 6: **else**
- 7: $x_i = K/w[i]$ **and** $K = 0$
- 8: **end if**
- 9: $i = i + 1$
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It can be shown the Greedy Choice Property holds in this case.

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- Each activity i is a job to be run on the CPU that must start at time s_i and finish at time f_i .
- How to select a maximum subset A of jobs to run on CPU?

Greedy Algorithm for Activity Selection Problem

Greedy Strategy

At any moment t , select the activity i with the smallest finish time f_i .

Greedy Algorithm for Activity Selection Problem

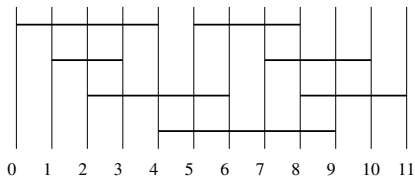
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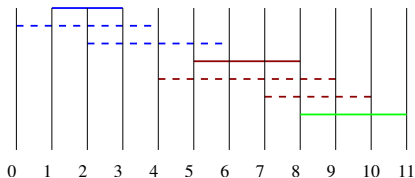
Greedy-Activity-Selection

- 1: Sort the activities by increasing finish time: $f_1 \leq f_2 \leq \dots \leq f_n$
- 2: $A = \{1\}$ (A is the set of activities to be selected.)
- 3: $j = 1$ (j is the current activity being considered.)
- 4: **for** $i = 2$ **to** n **do**
- 5: **if** $s_i \geq f_j$ **then**
- 6: $A = A \cup \{i\}$
- 7: $j = i$
- 8: **end if**
- 9: **end for**
- 10: return A

Example



Input

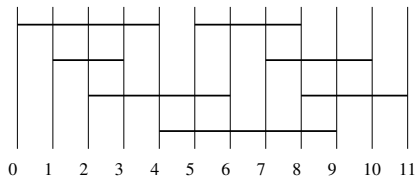


After Sorting

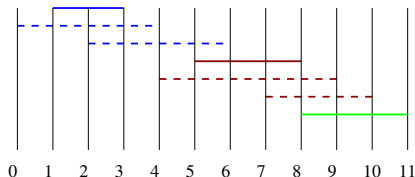
Solid lines are selected activities

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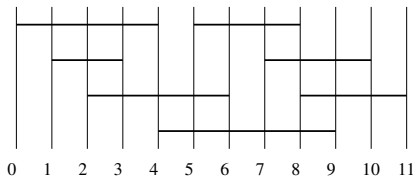
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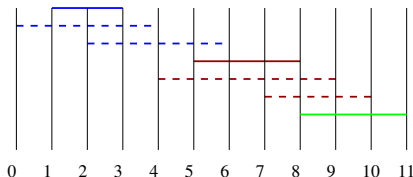
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- This problem is also called the interval scheduling problem.

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- Clearly $|O| = |O'|$. So O' is an optimal solution containing 1.

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By the **Greedy Choice Property**, we may assume the optimal solution O contains the job 1.

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- Let $S_1 = \{i \in S \mid s_i \geq f_1\}$. (S_1 is the set of jobs that are compatible with job 1. Or equivalently, the set of jobs that are not killed by job 1.)
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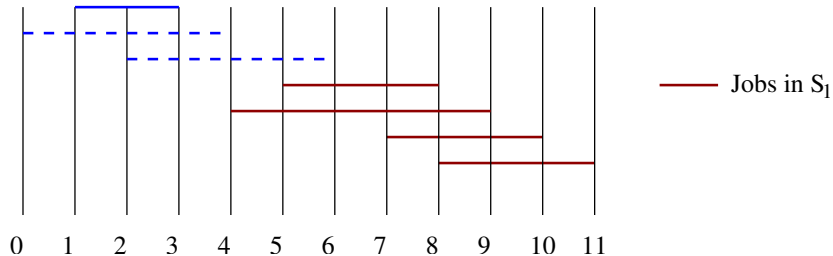
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 - But O is an optimal solution. This is a contradiction.
- Hence the claim is true.

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- Runtime: Clearly $O(n \log n)$ (dominated by sorting).

Outline

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Scheduling All Intervals

Application

- Each request I_i is a job to be run on a CPU.

Scheduling All Intervals

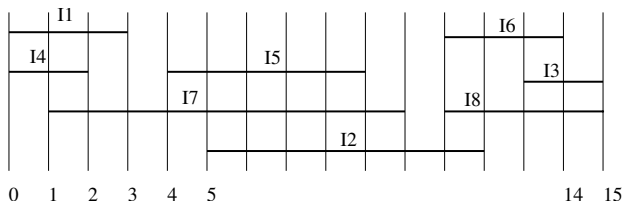
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Scheduling All Intervals

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- How to run all jobs using as few CPUs as possible?



Scheduling All Intervals

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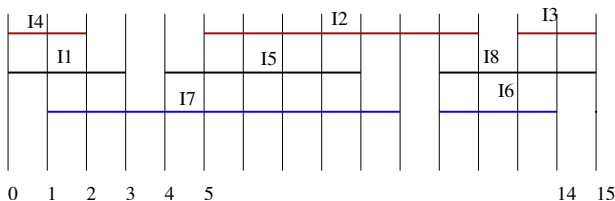
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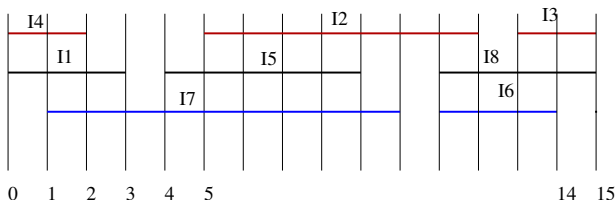
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This problem is also known as **Interval Graph Coloring Problem**.

Scheduling All Intervals

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Graph Coloring

Let $G = (V, E)$ be an undirected graph.

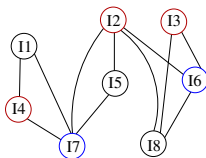
- A **vertex coloring** of G is an assignment of **colors** to the vertices of G so that no two vertices with the same color are adjacent to each other in G .

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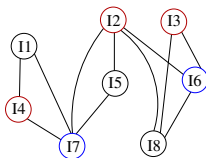


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A vertex coloring is also called just **coloring** of G . If G has a coloring with k colors, we say G is **k -colorable**.

Scheduling All Intervals

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Scheduling All Intervals

Four Color Theorem

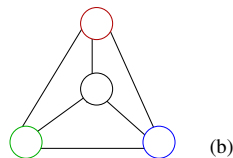
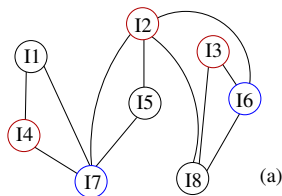
Every **planar graph** can be colored using at most 4 colors.

Scheduling All Intervals

Four Color Theorem

Every **planar graph** can be colored using at most 4 colors.

G is a planar graph if it can be drawn on the plane so that no two edges cross.



Both graphs (a) and (b) are planar graphs. The graph (a) has a 3-coloring. The graph (b) **requires** 4 colors, because all 4 vertices are adjacent to each other, and hence each vertex must have a different color.

Scheduling All Intervals

Interval Graph

$G = (V, E)$ is called an **interval graph** if it can be represented as follows:

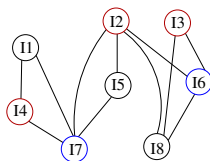
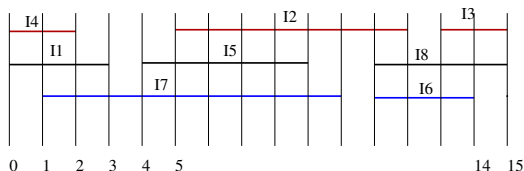
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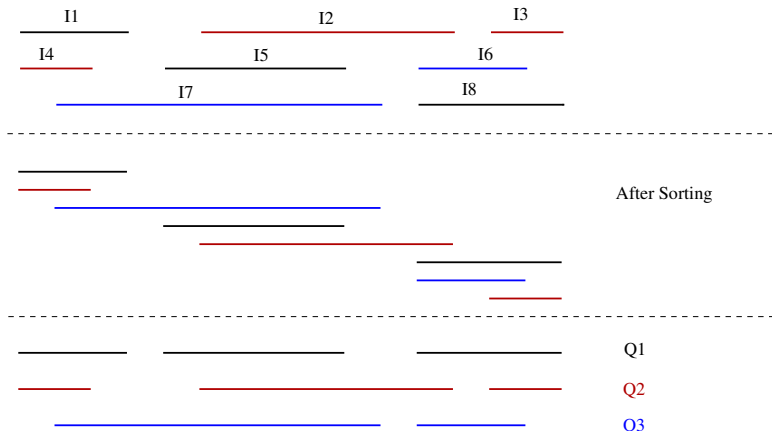
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- Initially all queues are empty.
- When we consider an interval $[b_p, f_p)$ and a queue Q_i , we look at the last interval $[b_t, f_t)$ in Q_i . If $f_t \leq b_p$, we say **Q_i is available for $[b_p, f_p)$** . (Meaning: the CPU Q_i has finished the last job assigned to it. So it is ready to run the job $[b_p, f_p)$.)

Scheduling All Intervals

Greedy-Schedule-All-Intervals

- ① sort the intervals according to increasing b_p value: $b_1 \leq b_2 \leq \dots \leq b_n$
- ② $k = 0$ (k will be the number of queues we need.)
- ③ **for** $p = 1$ **to** n **do**:
- ④ look at Q_1, Q_2, \dots, Q_k , put $[b_p, f_p)$ into the first available Q_i .
- ⑤ if no current queue is available:
 - increase k by 1;
 - open a new empty queue;
 - put $[b_p, f_p)$ into this new queue.
- ⑥ **output** k and Q_1, \dots, Q_k

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 - The algorithm uses k queues. By the observation above, this is the smallest possible.

Scheduling All Intervals

Runtime Analysis:

- Sorting takes $O(n \log n)$ time.
- The loop runs n times.
- The loop body scans Q_1, \dots, Q_k to find the first available queue. So it takes $O(k)$ time.
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In the worst case, k can be $\Theta(n)$. Hence, the worst case runtime is $\Theta(n^2)$.