



**Comprehensive Assignment (32%)**  
**CSI 2120 Programming Paradigm**  
**Winter 2021**

**Part 1 due on January 25 at 23:00**

**Part 2 due on February 22 at 23:00**

**Part 3 & 4 due on April 14 at 23:00**

**Problem description**

*This comprehensive assignment asks you to solve the Knapsack problem using the programming paradigm seen in class.*

*This problem can be expressed as follows: given a set of items, each of them having a weight and a value and given a knapsack (i.e. a container for items) having a maximal weight capacity, find the subset of items to be added to the knapsack that maximizes the total value without exceeding the weight capacity. Each item can be inserted just once and cannot be subdivided. Note that we will solve here the problem for which the item weights are expressed in integer units. Mathematically the problem to solve is the following:*

*Given two sets of  $n$  positive integers*

$$< v_0, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{n-1} > \text{ and } < w_0, w_1, w_2, \dots, w_{n-1} >$$

*and a number  $W > 0$ , find the subset  $K \subset \{0, 1, \dots, n-1\}$  that maximizes*

$$\sum_{k \in K} v_k$$

*subject to*

$$\sum_{k \in K} w_k \leq W$$

**Example:**

Consider the following example with a knapsack of capacity 7:

	Item A	Item B	Item C	Item D
Value	1	6	10	15
Weight	1	2	3	5

The solution to this problem is to select items B and D for a total value of 21 and a total weight of 7.

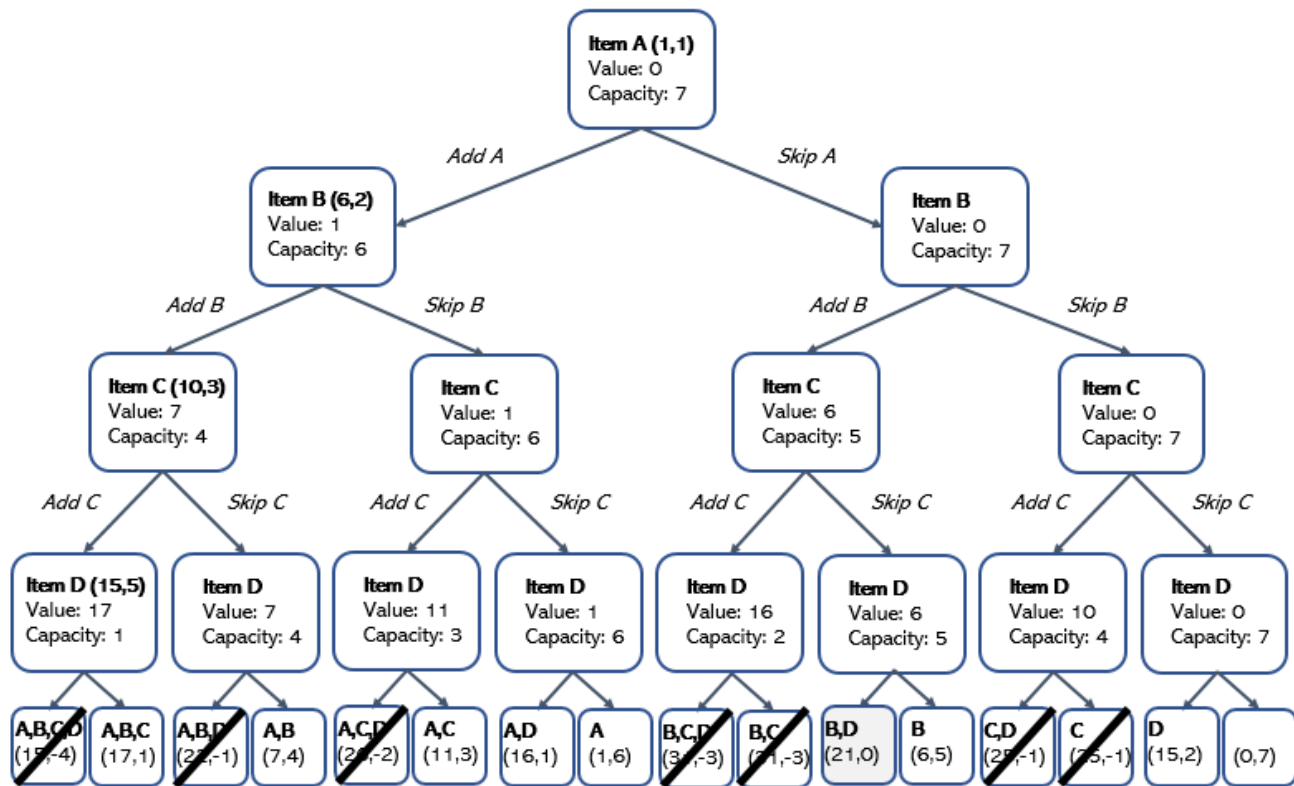
**Solving the problem**

There are two possible strategies to solve this problem: a brute-force solution and a dynamic programming solution. We will ask you to compare both in this assignment.

**1. Brute force**

Here the idea is simply to consider all possible solutions and select the one giving the highest value. Indeed, the solution space for this problem can be represented by a binary tree in which each level is associated to a specific item. For each item, we have to take a binary decision: should we include it in the knapsack or not? This binary decision is represented by the two branches below each node of the binary tree.

For example, considering the case given in the table at the top of this page, we can first consider item A. We have two options: if we add it to the knapsack, then we have a current value of 1 and a residual capacity of 6 (because item A has a weight of 1 and our knapsack has a capacity of 7). Now, let's consider the next item, that is item B (this is the second level of our solution tree). The first node of this level corresponds to the case where we already have item A in the knapsack. If we also choose to add item B then the new value is 7 and the residual capacity is 4. If we do not add item B, then we still have current value at 1 and capacity at 6. The second node of this level is for the case where we have not added item A to the knapsack. In that case if we add item B, then we have a current value of 6 and a residual capacity of 5. Finally, if we choose to not add these two items, our capacity is still at 7 and the value of this empty knapsack is obviously at 0. The full solution tree is given on the next page, and the inspection of the tree leaves gives us the best solution.



Few observations about the knapsack solution tree:

- this is a perfect tree with a height equals to the number of items;
- some nodes of the tree can correspond to infeasible solutions when the knapsack capacity becomes negative, in that case there is no need to explore the subtree below;
- the number of nodes of this tree is  $2^{n+1}-1$  which means that the complexity of the brute algorithm for  $n$  items is  $O(2^n)$ . Consequently, this approach becomes rapidly impracticable when the number of items becomes large.

We therefore need a better algorithm to solve this problem in the general case.

## 2. Dynamic programming

In this approach we will iteratively solve our knapsack problem by solving each sub-problem until we obtain the full solution. That is if the capacity of the knapsack is  $W$  then we will solve the problem for knapsacks of capacity  $0, 1, 2, \dots$  up to  $W$  with numbers of items going from  $0$  to  $n$ . We will proceed by building a table that will list all these subproblems.

Let's first consider the obvious cases: that is when the knapsack has a capacity of  $0$  and also the ones where we have  $0$  item to add to the knapsack. We use here the example presented earlier. The columns of this table correspond to knapsacks of capacity  $0$  to  $n$  (here  $n=7$ ). The rows correspond to the case where we consider  $0$  to  $n$  items (i.e. first row is for  $0$  item, second row is for item  $A$  only, third row is for the sub-problems where we only have items  $A$  and  $B$ , etc). The cells of this table give us the solution

(maximum value) for each corresponding sub-problem. The solution to the problem we want to solve will be found in the bottom right cell.

As it can be seen in the first column of the table below, the solution for knapsacks of capacity 0 has always a value of 0 (obviously) no matter how many items we have. Same for the first row where the solution is also 0 when there is no item to put in the knapsack.

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<b>No item</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Item A</b>	0							
<b>Items A,B</b>	0							
<b>Items A,B,C</b>	0							
<b>Items A,B,C,D</b>	0							?

Now let's consider the sub-problems where we have only item A to put in our knapsack. This item has a weight of 1 so it fits in all knapsack with a capacity  $>0$ . The value of item A is 1, so we can populate the second row of our table with 1s.

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<b>No item</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Item A</b>	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Items A,B</b>	0							
<b>Items A,B,C</b>	0							
<b>Items A,B,C,D</b>	0							?

Now we consider the case where we have 2 items: A and B (this is the third row). Item B has a weight of 2 and a value of 6. For a knapsack of capacity 1, item B does not fit so we have to keep item A in it. For a capacity of 2, we can now insert item B in it. This item has a higher value than item A; so the optimal solution would be 6. When the capacity of the knapsack has a capacity greater or equal to 3, the two items can be added to it; the maximum value becomes then 7 (the sum of the values of A and B).

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<b>No item</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Item A</b>	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Items A,B</b>	0	1	6	7	7	7	7	7
<b>Items A,B,C</b>	0							
<b>Items A,B,C,D</b>	0							?

*These were easy cases, we need a more general strategy in order to fill all the rows of this table. Let's now move to the case where we have 3 items (A, B and C). Item C has a weight of 3 and a value of 10. For all knapsack with a capacity less than 3, the optimal solution is the same as the ones in the previous rows since the new item cannot fit in these knapsacks.*

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<b>No item</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Item A</b>	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Items A,B</b>	0	1	6	7	7	7	7	7
<b>Items A,B,C</b>	0	1	6					
<b>Items A,B,C,D</b>	0							?

*Now let's consider the case of the knapsack of capacity 3. We have the option to include item C or not. If we do not include item C, then the optimal solution becomes the same than the one of the previous row (which is 7). If we include item C, then the value of the knapsack will be 10 (value of C) which is better than the previous value without C. With this single item, the knapsack is full so this is our optimal solution.*

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<b>No item</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Item A</b>	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Items A,B</b>	0	1	6	7	7	7	7	7
<b>Items A,B,C</b>	0	1	6	10				
<b>Items A,B,C,D</b>	0							?

*With a knapsack of capacity 4, we also have the option to not add item C in which case the optimal solution is 7 (solution given by the cell above). But if we insert item C which has a weight of 3, then the knapsack has still room for 1 weight unit; we therefore have to find the optimal solution for the case of the two remaining items (A and B) with a knapsack of capacity 1. The solution to this subproblem is 1 as found in the previous row, second column. So the total value for keeping item C is  $10 + 1 = 11$  which is better than 7 (the solution without C in the knapsack). Then for a knapsack of capacity 5, the optimal solution is either 7 (without C) or 10 plus the optimal solution for a knapsack of capacity 2 with 2 items,  $10 + 6 = 16$ . For a capacity of 6, it is  $10 + 7 = 17$ . Same for the knapsack of capacity 7.*

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<b>No item</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Item A</b>	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Items A,B</b>	0	1	6	7	7	7	7	7
<b>Items A,B,C</b>	0	1	6	10	11	16	17	17
<b>Items A,B,C,D</b>	0							?

The rule for filling one cell is therefore as follows: the solution is the maximum between the value just above (the case where we do not select the current item) and the value of the current item (which is D for the last row, with a value of 15 and a weight of 5) plus the solution to the subproblem of the previous row with a capacity of the current knapsack minus the weight of the current item. Using this rule, it becomes easy to fill the rest of the table.

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<b>No item</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Item A</b>	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Items A,B</b>	0	1	6	7	7	7	7	7
<b>Items A,B,C</b>	0	1	6	10	11	16	17	17
<b>Items A,B,C,D</b>	0	1	6	10	11	16	17	<b>21</b>

Formally, the cell at row  $i$  and column  $j$  in our table  $T$  is given by the following formula:

```

if ( $w_i > j$ ) // new item at row  $i$  (having weight  $w_i$ )
    // does not fit into knapsack of capacity  $j$ 
     $T(i, j) = T(i-1, j)$ 
else
     $T(i, j) = \max ( T(i-1, j) , v_i + T(i-1, j-w_i) )$ 

```

In order to fill this table, we therefore have to iterate over the columns, row by row. We have a total of  $n+1$  rows and  $W+1$  columns, the complexity of this algorithm is therefore  $O(nW)$ . Note that in the case of this assignment, we will create a table with columns for each weight units (so  $W+1$  columns) but in practice, you just need to find the greatest common divisor across all the items' weights and use it as increment for the table columns.

### Programming

You have to write programs under different paradigms that solves the knapsack problem. Each program takes as input the name of the file containing the problem description. This file has this simple format: number of items, name value and weight of each item, capacity of the knapsack.

---

4  
A 1 1  
B 6 2  
C 10 3  
D 15 5  
7

*Your program must save the solution in a file formatted as follows (same name as input file but with extension .sol):*

21  
B D

**Part 3: Prolog [8 marks]**

*Create predicate*

`knapsack(Capacity, L_items_weight, L_items_value, Value, L_items_list)`

*to solve the knapsack problem. This predicate will be called by a predicate that will read the input file:*

`solveKnapsack(Filename, Value, L_items_list)`

*For the Prolog part of the assignment, you only have to use the dynamic programming solution (you cannot and do not have to do the brute force approach)*

*Hand out your well commented Prolog program plus a document describing all your predicates and the data representation used with references to all resources you used.*

*Each program will be marked as follows:*

*Program produces the correct value* [1.5 points]

*Program produces the correct set of items* [1.5 points]

*Adherence to programming paradigm* [3 points]

*Quality of programming (structures, organisation, etc)* [1 point]

*Quality of documentation (comments and documents)* [1 point]

*All your files must include a header showing student name and number. These files must be submitted in a zip file.*