



Dynamic programming

Longest Common Subsequence



Dynamic programming

- It is used, when the solution can be recursively described in terms of solutions to subproblems (*optimal substructure*)
- Algorithm finds solutions to subproblems and stores them in memory for later use
- More efficient than “*brute-force methods*”, which solve the same subproblems over and over again

Longest Common Subsequence (LCS)

Subsequence: Subset of letters in order from left to right.

Example: $X = \{A B C B D A B\}$, $Y = \{B D C A B A\}$.

Remember:

- “Subsequence” is different from “substring”. Substring is continuous, no gap. But, subsequence can have gap.
- Example, CBD is a substring of X. BBA is a subsequence of X, but not a substring of X. DBBB is not a subsequence of X, because order violation.
- Example: BDAB is both substring and subsequence of X, But it is only a subsequence of Y
- Substrings are also subsequence, but a subsequence may not be a substring.

Longest Common Subsequence: Same subsequence of maximum length.

- Example: $X = A \textcolor{green}{B} \textcolor{green}{C} \textcolor{green}{B} D \textcolor{green}{A} B$, $Y = \textcolor{green}{B} D \textcolor{green}{C} A \textcolor{green}{B} \textcolor{green}{A} = BCBA (4)$
- Other examples: BCAB(4), BDAB (4). Maximum possible length = 4

Why LCS Algorithm (important)

- **Brute Force Algorithm:**

- if $|X| = m$, $|Y| = n$, then there are 2^m subsequences of x ; we must compare each with each subsequence of Y (2^n)
- So the running time of brute-force algorithm is $\geq O(2^n 2^m)$
- For example, $X=AMP$, $Y=AP$.
 - All possible subsequence of X are: ϕ , A , M , P , AM , AP , MP , AMP = total $2^3=8$
 - For Y , they are: ϕ , A , P , AP = total $2^2=4$
 - Compare each of X with each of Y = total compare $2^3 * 2^2 = 32$
- **But note that:** there are many repetitions. For example, A of X and A of Y are compared 4 times (in A , AM , AP , AMP of X)*2 times (in A , AP of Y) = 8 times.
- So we can save time, by saving this comparison into a table. This is called *optimal substructure property of dynamic programming*
- Actually, we will save LCS of prefixes of X and Y

LCS Algorithm

- First we'll find the length of LCS. Later we'll modify the algorithm to find LCS itself.
- Define X_i , Y_j to be the prefixes of X and Y of length i and j respectively
- Define $c[i,j]$ to be the length of LCS of X_i and Y_j
- Then the length of LCS of X and Y will be $c[m,n]$

$$c[i, j] = \begin{cases} c[i-1, j-1] + 1 & \text{if } x[i] = y[j], \\ \max(c[i, j-1], c[i-1, j]) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

LCS recursive solution

$$c[i, j] = \begin{cases} c[i-1, j-1] + 1 & \text{if } x[i] = y[j], \\ \max(c[i, j-1], c[i-1, j]) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- We start with $i = j = 0$ (empty substrings of x and y)
- Since X_0 and Y_0 are empty strings, their LCS is always empty (i.e. $c[0,0] = 0$)
- LCS of empty string and any other string is empty, so for every i and j : $c[0, j] = c[i, 0] = 0$

LCS recursive solution

$$c[i, j] = \begin{cases} c[i-1, j-1] + 1 & \text{if } x[i] = y[j], \\ \max(c[i, j-1], c[i-1, j]) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- When we calculate $c[i, j]$, we consider two cases:
- **First case:** $x[i] = y[j]$: one more symbol in strings X and Y matches, so the length of LCS X_i and Y_j equals to the length of LCS of smaller strings X_{i-1} and Y_{j-1} , plus 1

LCS recursive solution

$$c[i, j] = \begin{cases} c[i-1, j-1] + 1 & \text{if } x[i] = y[j], \\ \max(c[i, j-1], c[i-1, j]) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- **Second case:** $x[i] \neq y[j]$
- As symbols don't match, our solution is not improved, and the length of $\text{LCS}(X_i, Y_j)$ is the same as before (i.e. maximum of $\text{LCS}(X_i, Y_{j-1})$ and $\text{LCS}(X_{i-1}, Y_j)$)

Why not just take the length of $\text{LCS}(X_{i-1}, Y_{j-1})$? 8

LCS Length Algorithm

LCS-Length(X, Y)

1. $m = \text{length}(X)$ // get the # of symbols in X
2. $n = \text{length}(Y)$ // get the # of symbols in Y
3. for $i = 1$ to m $c[i,0] = 0$ // special case: Y_0
4. for $j = 1$ to n $c[0,j] = 0$ // special case: X_0
5. for $i = 1$ to m // for all X_i
6. for $j = 1$ to n // for all Y_j
7. if ($X_i == Y_j$)
8. $c[i,j] = c[i-1,j-1] + 1$
9. else $c[i,j] = \max(c[i-1,j], c[i,j-1])$
10. return c

LCS Example

We'll see how LCS algorithm works on the following example:

- $X = \text{A B C B}$
- $Y = \text{B D C A B}$

What is the Longest Common Subsequence of X and Y ?

$\text{LCS}(X, Y) = \text{B C B}$

$X = \text{A } \mathbf{B} \quad \mathbf{C} \quad \mathbf{B}$

$Y = \quad \mathbf{B} \text{ D } \mathbf{C} \text{ A } \mathbf{B}$

LCS Example (0)

ABCB
BDCAB

		j	0	1	2	3	4	5
			Y _j	B	D	C	A	B
i								
0	X _i							
1	A							
2	B							
3	C							
4	B							

$X = \text{ABCB}; \quad m = |X| = 4$

$Y = \text{BDCAB}; \quad n = |Y| = 5$

Allocate array $c[5,4]$

LCS Example (1)

ABCB
BDCAB

		j	0	1	2	3	4	5
			Y _j	B	D	C	A	B
i	X _i	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	A	0						
2	B	0						
3	C	0						
4	B	0						

for $i = 1$ to m $c[i,0] = 0$
for $j = 1$ to n $c[0,j] = 0$

LCS Example (2)

A B C B

B D C A B

i \ j	0	1	2	3	4	5
	Y _j	B	D	C	A	B
0	X _i	0	0	0	0	0
1	A	0	0			
2	B	0				
3	C	0				
4	B	0				

if ($X_i == Y_j$)

$c[i,j] = c[i-1,j-1] + 1$

else $c[i,j] = \max(c[i-1,j], c[i,j-1])$

LCS Example (3)

ABCB
B**D**C**A**B

		j	0	1	2	3	4	5
i			Yj	B	D	C	A	B
	0	Xi	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1	A	0	0	0	0		
	2	B	0					
	3	C	0					
	4	B	0					

if ($X_i == Y_j$)
 $c[i,j] = c[i-1,j-1] + 1$
 else $c[i,j] = \max(c[i-1,j], c[i,j-1])$

LCS Example (4)

ABCB
BDCAB

		j	0	1	2	3	4	5
			Y _j	B	D	C	A	B
i	X _i	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	A	0	0	0	0	0	1	
2	B	0						
3	C	0						
4	B	0						

if ($X_i == Y_j$)
 $c[i,j] = c[i-1,j-1] + 1$
 else $c[i,j] = \max(c[i-1,j], c[i,j-1])$

LCS Example (5)

ABCB
BDCAB

		j	0	1	2	3	4	5
			Y _j	B	D	C	A	B
i	X _i							
0			0	0	0	0	0	0
1	A		0	0	0	0	1	1
2	B		0					
3	C		0					
4	B		0					

if ($X_i == Y_j$)
 $c[i,j] = c[i-1,j-1] + 1$
 else $c[i,j] = \max(c[i-1,j], c[i,j-1])$

LCS Example (6)

A B C B

B D C A B

i	j	Y _j	0	1	2	3	4	5
				B	D	C	A	B
0	X _i		0	0	0	0	0	0
1	A		0	0	0	0	1	1
2	B		0	1				
3	C		0					
4	B		0					

if ($X_i == Y_j$)

$c[i,j] = c[i-1,j-1] + 1$

else $c[i,j] = \max(c[i-1,j], c[i,j-1])$

LCS Example (7)

ABCB
BD CAB

i	j	Y _j	0	1	2	3	4	5
				B	D	C	A	B
0	X _i		0	0	0	0	0	0
1	A		0	0	0	0	1	1
2	B		0	1	1	1	1	
3	C		0					
4	B		0					

if ($X_i == Y_j$)
 $c[i,j] = c[i-1,j-1] + 1$
 else $c[i,j] = \max(c[i-1,j], c[i,j-1])$

LCS Example (8)

ABCB
BDCAB

i	j	Y _j						
			0	1	2	3	4	5
				B	D	C	A	B
0	X _i		0	0	0	0	0	0
1	A		0	0	0	0	1	1
2	B		0	1	1	1	1	2
3	C		0					
4	B		0					

if ($X_i == Y_j$)
 $c[i,j] = c[i-1,j-1] + 1$
 else $c[i,j] = \max(c[i-1,j], c[i,j-1])$

LCS Example (10)

ABCB
BDCAB

i	j	Y _j	0	1	2	3	4	5
				B	D	C	A	B
0	X _i		0	0	0	0	0	0
1	A		0	0	0	0	1	1
2	B		0	1	1	1	1	2
3	C		0	↓	↓			
				1	→	1		
4	B		0					

if ($X_i == Y_j$)
 $c[i,j] = c[i-1,j-1] + 1$
 else $c[i,j] = \max(c[i-1,j], c[i,j-1])$

LCS Example (11)

ABCB
BD CAB

i	j	Y _j	0	1	2	3	4	5
				B	D	C	A	B
0	X _i		0	0	0	0	0	0
1	A		0	0	0	0	1	1
2	B		0	1	1	1	1	2
3	C		0	1	1	2		
4	B		0					

if ($X_i == Y_j$)
 $c[i,j] = c[i-1,j-1] + 1$
 else $c[i,j] = \max(c[i-1,j], c[i,j-1])$

LCS Example (12)

ABCB
BDCAB

i	j	Y _j						
			0	1	2	3	4	5
				B	D	C	A	B
0	X _i		0	0	0	0	0	0
1	A		0	0	0	0	1	1
2	B		0	1	1	1	1	2
3	C		0	1	1	2	2	2
4	B		0					

if ($X_i == Y_j$)
 $c[i,j] = c[i-1,j-1] + 1$
 else $c[i,j] = \max(c[i-1,j], c[i,j-1])$

LCS Example (13)

ABCB

BDCAB

i	j	Yj	0	1	2	3	4	5
				B	D	C	A	B
0	Xi		0	0	0	0	0	0
1	A		0	0	0	0	1	1
2	B		0	1	1	1	1	2
3	C		0	1	1	2	2	2
4	B		0	1				

if ($X_i == Y_j$)

$c[i,j] = c[i-1,j-1] + 1$

else $c[i,j] = \max(c[i-1,j], c[i,j-1])$

LCS Example (14)

ABCB
BD CAB

i	j	Y _j	0	1	2	3	4	5
				B	D	C	A	B
0	X _i		0	0	0	0	0	0
1	A		0	0	0	0	1	1
2	B		0	1	1	1	1	2
3	C		0	1	1	2	2	2
4	B		0	1	1	2	2	

if ($X_i == Y_j$)
 $c[i,j] = c[i-1,j-1] + 1$
 else $c[i,j] = \max(c[i-1,j], c[i,j-1])$

LCS Example (15)

ABCB
BD CAB

i	j	Y _j						
			0	1	2	3	4	5
				B	D	C	A	B
0	X _i		0	0	0	0	0	0
1	A		0	0	0	0	1	1
2	B		0	1	1	1	1	2
3	C		0	1	1	2	2	2
4	B		0	1	1	2	2	3

if ($X_i == Y_j$)
 $c[i,j] = c[i-1,j-1] + 1$
 else $c[i,j] = \max(c[i-1,j], c[i,j-1])$

LCS Algorithm Running Time

- LCS algorithm calculates the values of each entry of the array $c[m,n]$
- So what is the running time?

$O(m*n)$

since each $c[i,j]$ is calculated in constant time, and there are $m*n$ elements in the array

How to find actual LCS

- So far, we have just found the *length* of LCS, but not LCS itself.
- We want to modify this algorithm to make it output Longest Common Subsequence of X and Y

Each $c[i,j]$ depends on $c[i-1,j]$ and $c[i,j-1]$ or $c[i-1, j-1]$

For each $c[i,j]$ we can say how it was acquired:

2	2
2	3

For example, here

$$c[i,j] = c[i-1,j-1] + 1 = 2 + 1 = 3$$

How to find actual LCS - continued

- Remember that

$$c[i, j] = \begin{cases} c[i-1, j-1] + 1 & \text{if } x[i] = y[j], \\ \max(c[i, j-1], c[i-1, j]) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- So we can start from $c[m, n]$ and go backwards by **following arrow in reverse order** (Step 1)
- Whenever $c[i, j] = c[i-1, j-1] + 1$, remember $x[i]$** (Step 2)
(because $x[i]$ is a part of LCS)
- When $i=0$ or $j=0$ (i.e. we reached the beginning), **output remembered letters in reverse order** (Final step)
- For each reverse path, there is one LCS. In this way all LCS of maximum length can be found.

Finding LCS

		j	0	1	2	3	4	5
i		Yj	B	D	C	A	B	
0	Xi	0	0	0	0	0	0	
1	A	0	0	0	0	1	1	
2	B	0	1	1	1	1	2	
3	C	0	1	1	2	2	2	
4	B	0	1	1	2	2	3	

Finding LCS (2)

		j	0	1	2	3	4	5
i		Yj		B	D	C	A	B
	Xi							
0			0	0	0	0	0	0
1	A		0	0	0	0	1	1
2	B		0	1	1	1	1	2
3	C		0	1	1	2	2	2
4	B		0	1	1	2	2	3

LCS (reversed order): **B C B**

LCS (straight order): **B C B**

(this string turned out to be a palindrome)

LCS Example

We'll see how LCS algorithm works on the following example:

- $X = \text{PMDX}$
- $Y = \text{MPXD}$

What is the Longest Common Subsequence of X and Y ?

$\text{LCS}(X, Y) = \text{MX, PD}$

See the video for this example.