

Solutions to Discussion Week 4:

Solution to Exercise 15.1-1

We can verify that $T(n) = 2^n$ is a solution to the given recurrence by the substitution method. We note that for $n = 0$, the formula is true since $2^0 = 1$. For $n > 0$, substituting into the recurrence and using the formula for summing a geometric series yields

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= 1 + \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} 2^j \\ &= 1 + (2^n - 1) \\ &= 2^n. \end{aligned}$$

Solution to Exercise 15.1-2

Here is a counterexample for the “greedy” strategy:

length i	1	2	3	4
price p_i	1	20	33	36
p_i/i	1	10	11	1

Let the given rod length be 4. According to a greedy strategy, we first cut out a rod of length 3 for a price of 33, which leaves us with a rod of length 1 of price 1. The total price for the rod is 34. The optimal way is to cut it into two rods of length 2 each fetching us 40 dollars.

Making Change

- Input: n denominations of coins $1 = v_1 < v_2 < \dots < v_n$
- Problem: Make change for amount of money C using as few coins as possible.
- Note: all of v_i and C are positive integers.

Making Change – Dynamic Programming

$M(j)$ = the minimum number of coins required to make change for an amount of money j .

$$M(j) = \min_i \{M(j - v_i)\} + 1$$

The smallest number of coins required to make j , is the smallest number required to make $j - v_i$, plus one.

(Aside: How would you prove it?)

To calculate, start from the smallest amount, 1, and build up a table M .

Making Change Example

$$v_1 = 1$$

$$v_2 = 3$$

$$v_3 = 4$$

$$C = 10$$

Making Change Example

$$v_1 = 1$$

$$v_2 = 3$$

$$v_3 = 4$$

$$C = 10$$

$M[i]$ $\boxed{1}$

Making Change Example

$$v_1 = 1$$


$$v_2 = 3$$

$$v_3 = 4$$

$$C = 10$$

$$M[2] = M[1] + 1$$

$M[i]$ 1 2



Making Change Example

$$v_1 = 1$$

$$v_2 = 3$$

$$v_3 = 4$$

$$C = 10$$

$$M[3] = 1$$

$M[i]$ $\boxed{1}$ $\boxed{2}$ $\boxed{1}$

Making Change Example

$$v_1 = 1$$

$$v_2 = 3$$

$$v_3 = 4$$

$$C = 10$$

$$M[4] = 1$$

$M[i]$ $\boxed{1}$ $\boxed{2}$ $\boxed{1}$ $\boxed{1}$

Making Change Example

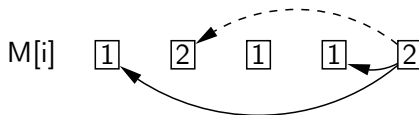
$$v_1 = 1$$

$$v_2 = 3$$

$$v_3 = 4$$

$$C = 10$$

$$M[5] = M[4] + 1$$



Making Change Example

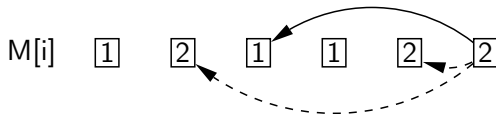
$$v_1 = 1$$

$$v_2 = 3$$

$$v_3 = 4$$

$$C = 10$$

$$M[6] = M[3] + 1$$



Making Change Example

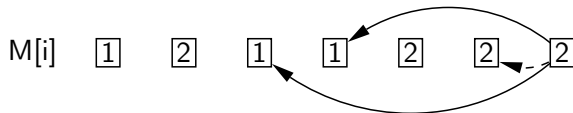
$$v_1 = 1$$

$$v_2 = 3$$

$$v_3 = 4$$

$$C = 10$$

$$M[7] = M[3] + 1$$



Making Change Example

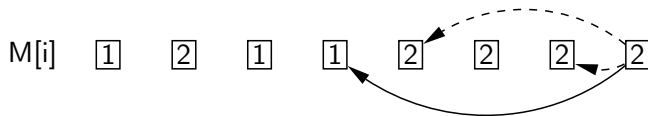
$$v_1 = 1$$

$$v_2 = 3$$

$$v_3 = 4$$

$$C = 10$$

$$M[8] = M[4] + 1$$



Making Change Example

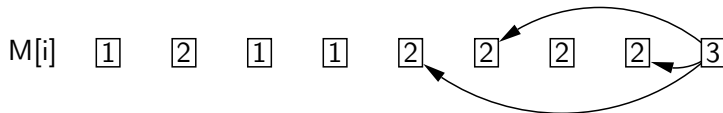
$$v_1 = 1$$

$$v_2 = 3$$

$$v_3 = 4$$

$$C = 10$$

$$M[9] = M[6] + 1 \text{ or } M[9] = M[8] + 1 \text{ or } M[9] = M[5] + 1$$



Making Change Example

$$v_1 = 1$$

$$v_2 = 3$$

$$v_3 = 4$$

$$C = 10$$

$$M[10] = M[6] + 1 \text{ or } M[10] = M[7] + 1$$

