

# CS170–Spring 2019 — Homework 7 Solutions

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## 1 Study Group

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## 2 Steel Beams

- (a) (i) Denote the solution as  $(s_1, s_2, s_5)$  where  $s_i$  represents the number of  $i$ -foot-long steel beams. There're five possible situations for  $T$ .

$$\text{greedy solution} = \begin{cases} (0, 0, k) & T \bmod 5 = 0 \\ (1, 0, k) & T \bmod 5 = 1 \\ (0, 1, k) & T \bmod 5 = 2 \\ (1, 1, k) & T \bmod 5 = 3 \\ (0, 2, k) & T \bmod 5 = 4 \end{cases}$$

$k$  is some positive integer. Obviously, both of them are optimal solution.

- (ii) Suppose the beam sizes are 1, 3, 4, respectively. And the target  $T$  is 6. The optimal solution is  $3 + 3$ , whereas the greedy solution is  $4 + 1 + 1$ .

- (b) (i) **Main Idea**

Define subproblem  $L[i]$  representing the minimum number of beams that can be welded into a  $T$ -foot beam. And we have the following recursive relation. And let  $T[0] = 0$ .

$$L[i] = \min_{j=1}^k \{L[i - c_j] + 1\}$$

- (ii) **Proof of Correctness**

The base case is obviously correct. Then, suppose we want to compute  $L[i]$  and,  $L[j]$  (where  $j < i$ ) are optimal solutions. We use the minimum value of  $L[j]$  for all possible  $j$ . This is actually greedy approach and thus guarantee the optimality of  $L[i]$ . Therefore,  $L[T]$  will be optimal solution.

- (iii) **Runtime Analysis**

$T$  iterations is needed to solve  $T$  subproblems and each of them will cost  $O(k)$  time. Therefore, the overall runtime is  $O(kT)$  and  $O(T)$  space is needed.

### 3 Egg Drop

- (a) Drop the first egg from 14th story. If it doesn't break, drop it from  $(14 + 13)$ th story. If still it doesn't break, drop it from  $(14 + 13 + 12)$ th story. Repeat this process until the first egg breaks, and then use the second egg test remaining possible range one by one in increasing story order.

14 drops is needed for this strategy. Actually, it doesn't depend on when the first egg breaks,

- (b) (i) **Main Idea**

Define subproblem  $F[i][j]$  representing the number of drops needed for a  $i$  story building and have  $j$  eggs. The recursive relation is:

$$F[i][j] = \min_{x=1}^i \{ \max \{ F[i-x][j] + 1, F[x-1][j-1] + 1 \} \}$$

- (ii) **Proof of Correctness**

There're two possible outcomes when dropping egg from  $x$ th story. If it doesn't break, the solution is between  $(x + 1)$ th story and  $i$ th story. It can be considered as a new building with  $i - x$  stories and can be represented like this  $F[i - x][j] + 1$ . If it breaks, the solution is between 1st story and  $(x - 1)$ th story. So it can be represented by  $F[x - 1][j - 1] + 1$ . The max operator will make sure we consider the worst case. The min operator will give the optimal strategy.

- (iii) **Runtime Analysis**

There're  $nk$  subproblems and each of them will cost  $O(n)$  time. Therefore, the overall runtime is  $O(n^2k)$ .

## 4 Non-Prefix Code

### (a) Main Idea

Define subproblem as  $N[i]$ , which represents the number of ways we can interpret string  $s[0 \cdots i]$ . And the recursive relation is as follows.  $N[0]$  is 0.

$$N[i] = \sum_{(k,v) \in d} N[i - \text{len}(v)] \text{Match}(v, i)$$

And

$$\text{Match}(v, i) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{string } s[i - \text{len}(v) + 1 \cdots i] \text{ matches with } v \\ 0 & \text{Otherwise} \end{cases}$$

### (b) Proof of Correctness

The basic case is trivial and correct. Then, suppose we want to compute  $N[i]$ , and  $N[j]$  (where  $j < i$ ) are all optimal solutions. If character  $v$  can be matched in  $s[i - \text{len}(v) + 1 \cdots i]$ , there're  $N[i - \text{len}(v)]$  ways to interpret  $s[1 \cdots i]$ . Sum over all possible  $v$  will make  $N[i]$  optimal.

### (c) Runtime Analysis

This algorithm will solve  $n$  subproblems and each of them will check  $m$  possible values in  $d$ . Each check will cost at most  $O(l)$  time. Therefore, the overall runtime is  $O(nml)$ .

## 5 Road Trip

### (a) Main Idea

Define subproblem as  $S[i][j]$ , which represents the minimum cost to arrive at  $i$ th station with  $j$  gallons of gas left. The recursive relation is as follows:

$$S[i][j] = \min_{\{k | k < i \text{ \&\& } (d_i - d_k) < (C - j)m\}} \left\{ S[k][j + \frac{d_i - d_k}{m}] + \frac{d_i - d_k}{m} c_k \right\}$$

In base case,  $S[1][x]$  is 0 for all possible  $x$ . And the final solution is  $S[n][0]$ .

### (b) Proof of Correctness

In each iteration, I try to compute the minimum cost that let car comes directly from  $k$ th station to  $i$ th station. The only constrain is  $(d_i - d_k) < (C - j)m$ , because the car can hold at most  $C$  gallons of gas. And the answer is  $S[n][0]$ , because if there's gas left in car when arriving at the last station. We improve solution by let car add less gas in the previous station.

### (c) Runtime Analysis

There're  $nC$  subproblems and each of them will cost  $O(n)$  time to check each possible previous station. Therefore, the overall runtime is  $O(n^2C)$ .

## 6 Propositional Parentheses

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$k$  is some positive integer. Obviously, both of them are optimal solution.

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The base case is obviously correct. Then, suppose we want to compute  $L[i]$  and,  $L[j]$  (where  $j < i$ ) are optimal solutions. We use the minimum value of  $L[j]$  for all possible  $j$ . This is actually greedy approach and thus guarantee the optimality of  $L[i]$ . Therefore,  $L[T]$  will be optimal solution.

- (iii) **Runtime Analysis**

$T$  iterations is needed to solve  $T$  subproblems and each of them will cost  $O(k)$  time. Therefore, the overall runtime is  $O(kT)$  and  $O(T)$  space is needed.