

Longest Common Subsequence

Longest Common Subsequence (LCS)

A DNA sequence is composed of 4 letters A, C, G, T

Example: $X = \{A\ G\ G\ G\ C\ T\}$

A **subsequence** of a sequence is the same sequence with 0 or more elements left out (deleted)

Subsequences of $X = A\ C\ ,\ G\ G\ G\ ,\ G\ C\ T\ ,\ G\ T\ ,\ \dots$

Substring is different from **subsequence**, substring is consecutive string.

For example:

G T is subsequence of X but it is not substring of X.

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Subsequences of $X = A \ C \ , \ G \ G \ G \ , \ G \ C \ T \ , \ G \ T \ , \dots$

Question: Which of the following are **subsequences** of above sequence X?

- a) A G
- b) G A
- c) G C T
- d) A T
- e) T A

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Subsequences of $X = A\ C\ ,\ G\ G\ G\ ,\ G\ C\ T\ ,\ G\ T\ ,\ \dots$

Question: Which of the following are **subsequences** of above sequence X?

- a) A G
- b) G A
- c) G C T
- d) A T
- e) T A

Correct Answer: a) , c), d)

Longest Common Subsequence (LCS)

Common Subsequence: A **common subsequence** of 2 DNA sequences is a subsequence present in both sequences

X = A G C G T A G

Y = G T C A G A

Common subsequences of X and Y = GT, GTA, G A, A G, G C A,

Longest Common subsequence is the longest sequence among common subsequences.

X = A **G** **C** **G** T **A** G

Y = **G** T **C** A **G** **A**

Longest is GCGA

Application

Comparison of two DNA strings in evolutionary tree

Brute Force Algorithm

- Brute force algorithm would compute all subsequences of both sequences and find the common and print the longest.

OR

- Compute all subsequences of one sequence and check if it is also present in the other sequence. Print the longest common sequence.
- How many subsequences are there in a sequence of n elements?
- Think about the definition of a subsequence
- A subsequence is same sequence with 0 or more elements left out.
- For each of the n elements, we have an option, delete it or keep it.
- 2 possibilities for each of the n elements so total subsequences =
- $2 * 2 * 2 \dots * 2 = 2^n$

Brute Force Algorithm

- if $|X| = m$, $|Y| = n$, then there are 2^m subsequences of x ; we must compare each with Y (n comparisons)
- So the running time of the brute-force algorithm is $O(n 2^m)$

The brute force algorithm will take exponential time since computing all subsequences of any one sequence will take exponential time.

Counter Example

- Suppose we have following two DNA sequences:
- $X = A C G T A$
- $Y = A T G T T C$
- $LCS = A G T$
- If you run the wrong $O(m*n)$ algorithm on it, it will fail both ways.
- You can try following as well
- $X = A T G T T C$
- $Y = A C G T A$
- $LCS = A G T$

Counter Example

1. The wrong $O(m \cdot n)$ algorithm is following:
2. $i = 1$
3. while ($i < m$) {
4. $j = 1$
5. while ($j < n$) {
6. if ($X[i] == Y[j]$)
7. Print $X[i]$, $i++$, $j++$
8. else
9. $j++$
10. }
11. $i++$
12. }

This algorithm tries to print all common sub sequences but it will fail to print LCS which is A G T

Optimal Substructure in LCS

- LCS problem has *optimal substructure*: solutions of subproblems are parts of the final solution.
- Subproblems: “find LCS of pairs of *prefixes* of X and Y”
- If $X = \langle x_1, \dots, x_m \rangle$ and if $Y = \langle y_1, \dots, y_n \rangle$ are sequences, let $Z = \langle z_1, \dots, z_k \rangle$ be some LCS of x and y.
 1. If $x_m = y_n$ then $z_k = x_m$ and Z_{k-1} is an LCS of X_{m-1} and Y_{n-1}
 2. If $x_m \neq y_n$ then $z_k \neq x_m$ then Z is an LCS of X_{m-1} and Y
 3. If $x_m \neq y_n$ then $z_k \neq y_n$ then Z is an LCS of X and Y_{n-1}

Optimal Substructure in LCS

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1. If $x_m = y_n$ then $z_k = x_m$ and Z_{k-1} is an LCS of X_{m-1} and Y_{n-1}

$x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_{m-2}, x_{m-1}, x_m$

$y_1, y_2, y_3, \dots, y_{n-2}, y_{n-1}, y_n$

$X = \text{G C G T A G}$

$Y = \text{G T T C A G A G}$

$Z = \text{G C G A G}$

Optimal Substructure in LCS

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$x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_{m-2}, x_{m-1}, x_m$

$y_1, y_2, y_3, \dots, y_{n-2}, y_{n-1}, y_n$

Z_{k-1} is an LCS
of X_{m-1} and
 Y_{n-1}

$x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_{m-2}, x_{m-1}, x_m$

$y_1, y_2, y_3, \dots, y_{n-2}, y_{n-1}, y_n$

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1. If $x_m = y_n$ then $z_k = x_m$ and Z_{k-1} is an LCS of X_{m-1} and Y_{n-1}

Proof by Contradiction:

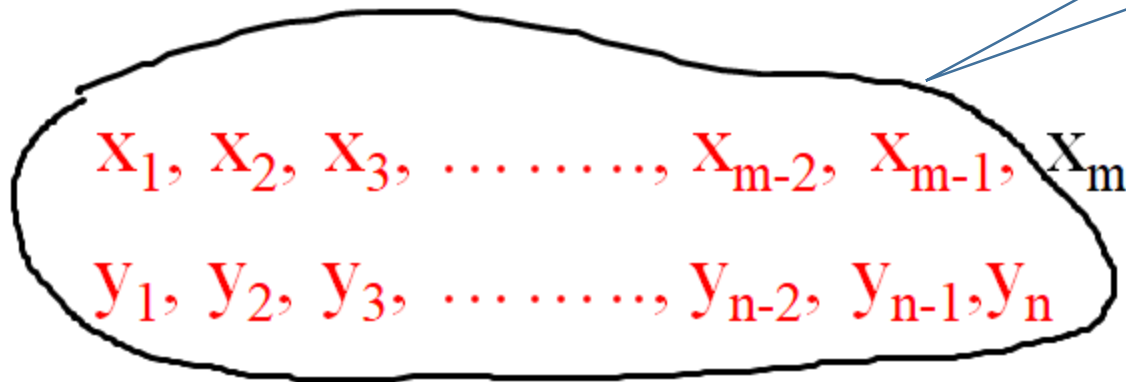
1. If $z_k \neq x_m$ then we could add $x_m = y_n$ to Z to get an LCS of length $k + 1$.
By contradiction it must be that $z_k = x_m = y_n$.

$|z_{k-1}| = k - 1$ and it is an LCS of X_{m-1} and Y_{n-1} .

It is an LCS, if not then suppose W is LCS of X_{m-1} and Y_{n-1} with $|W| > k - 1$ and so by appending $x_m = y_n$ to W we get a LCS of X and Y of length greater than k , a contradiction.

Optimal Substructure in LCS

- If $X = \langle x_1, \dots, x_m \rangle$ and if $Y = \langle y_1, \dots, y_n \rangle$ are sequences, let $Z = \langle z_1, \dots, z_k \rangle$ be some LCS of x and y .
- 2. If $x_m \neq y_n$ then $z_k \neq x_m$, Z is an LCS of X_{m-1} and Y



Z_k is an LCS
of X_{m-1} and Y

Optimal Substructure in LCS

- If $X = \langle x_1, \dots, x_m \rangle$ and if $Y = \langle y_1, \dots, y_n \rangle$ are sequences, let $Z = \langle z_1, \dots, z_k \rangle$ be some LCS of x and y .
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Z_k is an LCS
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$x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_{m-2}, x_{m-1}, x_m$

$y_1, y_2, y_3, \dots, y_{n-2}, y_{n-1}, y_n$

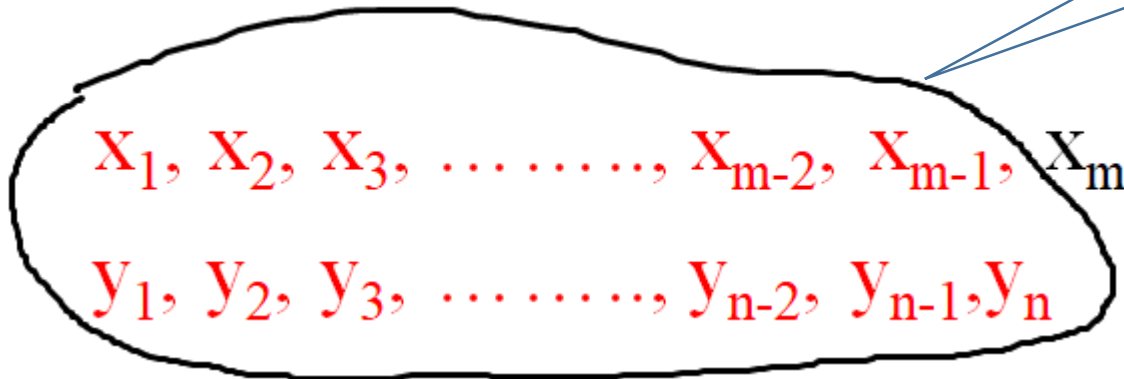
Optimal Substructure in LCS

• If $X = \langle x_1, \dots, x_m \rangle$ and if $Y = \langle y_1, \dots, y_n \rangle$ are sequences, let $Z = \langle z_1, \dots, z_k \rangle$ be some LCS of x and y .

2. If $x_m \neq y_n$ then $z_k \neq x_m$, Z is an LCS of X_{m-1} and Y

3. If $x_m \neq y_n$ then $z_k \neq y_n$, Z is an LCS of X and Y_{n-1}

Z_k is an LCS
of X_{m-1} and Y



Proof:

2. If $Z_k \neq X_m$ then Z is a LCS of X_{m-1} and Y .

If Z is not LCS then suppose W is LCS with of X_{m-1} and Y and $|W| > k$, then W would also be LCS of X and Y , a contradiction

3. Proof by reversing x and y

Optimal Substructure in LCS

- LCS problem has *optimal substructure*: solutions of subproblems are parts of the final solution.
- Subproblems: “find LCS of pairs of *prefixes* of X and Y”
- If $X = \langle x_1, \dots, x_m \rangle$ and if $Y = \langle y_1, \dots, y_n \rangle$ are sequences, let $Z = \langle z_1, \dots, z_k \rangle$ be some LCS of x and y.
 1. If $x_m = y_n$ then $z_k = x_m$ and Z_{k-1} is an LCS of X_{m-1} and Y_{n-1}
 2. If $x_m \neq y_n$ then $z_k \neq x_m$ then Z is an LCS of X_{m-1} and Y
 3. If $x_m \neq y_n$ then $z_k \neq y_n$ then Z is an LCS of X and Y_{n-1}

Recursive Function $O(2^n)$

```
/* Returns length of LCS for X[0..m-1], Y[0..n-1] */
int lcs( char *X, char *Y, int m, int n )
{
    if (m == 0 || n == 0)
        return 0;
    if (X[m-1] == Y[n-1])
        return 1 + lcs(X, Y, m-1, n-1);
    else
        return max(lcs(X, Y, m, n-1), lcs(X, Y, m-1, n));
}
```

LCS Algorithm

- First we'll find the length of LCS (value of optimal solution). Later we'll modify the algorithm to find LCS (optimal solution) 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 $c[m,n]$

LCS Algorithm

- First we'll find the length of LCS (value of optimal solution). Later we'll modify the algorithm to find LCS (optimal solution) 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 $\text{LCS}(X_{i-1}, Y_j)$)

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:

- $X = \text{ABCB}$
- $Y = \text{BDCAB}$

What is the Longest Common Subsequence of X and Y ?

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

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

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

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)

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
	A	0	→	0				
	B	0						
	C	0						
	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

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		
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	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)

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	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
BD CAB

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

		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	1
2	B	0	1	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 (Optimal Solution)

- 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
- Whenever $c[i, j] = c[i-1, j-1] + 1$, remember $x[i]$ (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

Finding LCS

i	j						
		0	1	2	3	4	5
		Y _j	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

Finding LCS (2)

		j	0	1	2	3	4	5
i		Y _j		B	D	C	A	B
	X _i							
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)₄₆

Print LCS using same array

		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		Ø	M	Z	J	A	W	X	U
0	Ø	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	X	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
2	M	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
3	J	0	1	1	2	2	2	2	2
4	Y	0	1	1	2	2	2	2	2
5	A	0	1	1	2	3	3	3	3
6	U	0	1	1	2	3	3	3	4
7	Z	0	1	2	2	3	3	3	4

```

1. // Start from the right-most-bottom-most corner and
2. // one by one store characters in lcs[]
3. int i = m, j = n;
4. while (i > 0 && j > 0)
5. {
6.     // If current character in X[] and Y are same, then
7.     // current character is part of LCS
8.     if (X[i-1] == Y[j-1])
9.     {
10.         lcs[index-1] = X[i-1]; // Put current character in result
11.         i- -; j- -; index- -; // reduce values of i, j and index
12.     }
13.
14.     // If not same, then find the larger of two and
15.     // go in the direction of larger value
16.     else if (L[i-1][j] > L[i][j-1])
17.         i- -;
18.     else
19.         j- -;
20. }
21.
22. // Print the lcs
23. cout << "LCS of " << X << " and " << Y << " is " << lcs;
24.}

```

Time Complexity =
 $O(m + n)$

LCS: Algo

LCS-LENGTH(X, Y)

```
1   $m \leftarrow \text{length}[X]$ 
2   $n \leftarrow \text{length}[Y]$ 
3  for  $i \leftarrow 1$  to  $m$ 
4      do  $c[i, 0] \leftarrow 0$ 
5  for  $j \leftarrow 0$  to  $n$ 
6      do  $c[0, j] \leftarrow 0$ 
7  for  $i \leftarrow 1$  to  $m$ 
8      do for  $j \leftarrow 1$  to  $n$ 
9          do if  $x_i = y_j$ 
10             then  $c[i, j] \leftarrow c[i - 1, j - 1] + 1$ 
11                  $b[i, j] \leftarrow \nwarrow$ 
12             else if  $c[i - 1, j] \geq c[i, j - 1]$ 
13                 then  $c[i, j] \leftarrow c[i - 1, j]$ 
14                      $b[i, j] \leftarrow \uparrow$ 
15                 else  $c[i, j] \leftarrow c[i, j - 1]$ 
16                      $b[i, j] \leftarrow \leftarrow$ 
17  return  $c$  and  $b$ 
```

PRINT-LCS(b, X, i, j)

1 if $i == 0$ or $j == 0$

2 return

3 if $b[i, j] == \nwarrow$

4 PRINT-LCS($b, X, i - 1, j - 1$)

5 print x_i

6 elseif $b[i, j] == \uparrow$

7 PRINT-LCS($b, X, i - 1, j$)

8 else PRINT-LCS($b, X, i, j - 1$)

Time complexity = $O(m + n)$

We cannot use only last row to print LCS, it will not work on following example

		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		Ø	M	Z	J	A	W	X	U
0	Ø	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	X	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
2	M	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
3	J	0	1	1	2	2	2	2	2
4	Y	0	1	1	2	2	2	2	2
5	A	0	1	1	2	3	3	3	3
6	U	0	1	1	2	3	3	3	4
7	Z	0	1	2	2	3	3	3	4

Practice Problem for Dry Run

		j	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
		y_j		B	D	C	A	B	A
i	x_i								
0	x_i		0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	A		0	↑	↑	↑	↖1	←1	↖1
2	B		0	↖1	←1	←1	↑1	↖2	←2
3	C		0	↑1	↑1	↖2	←2	↑2	↑2
4	B		0	↖1	↑1	↑2	↑2	↖3	←3
5	D		0	↑1	↖2	↑2	↑2	↑3	↑3
6	A		0	↑1	↑2	↑2	↖3	↑3	↖4
7	B		0	↖1	↑2	↑2	↑3	↖4	↑4