

Greedy Algorithms

Chapter 16

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Activity-Selection Problem

- Given the time table of activities, select a **maximum-size** subset of **mutually compatible** activities.

假設要辦活動，要租借場地

S：什麼時候開始

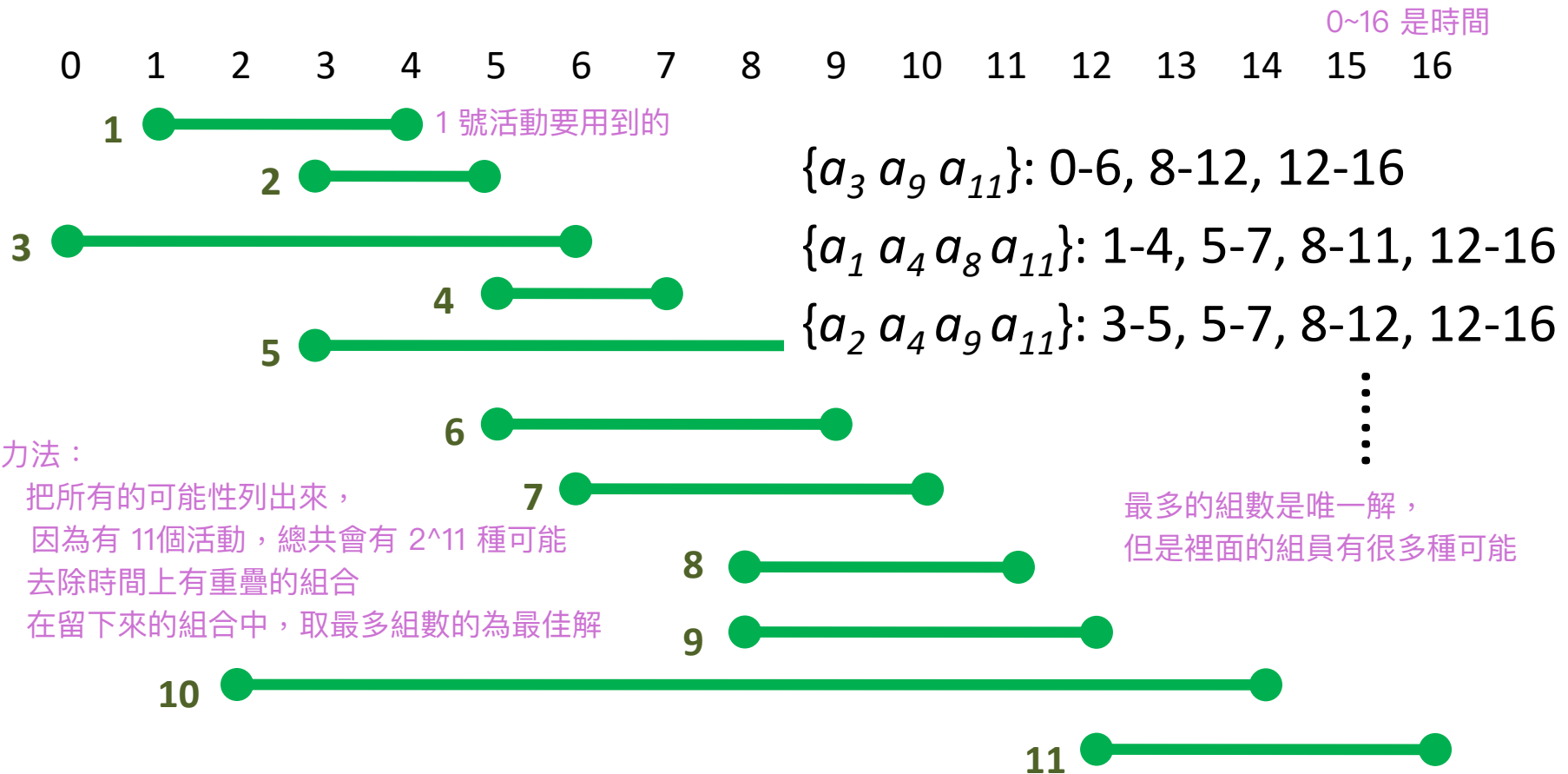
F：什麼時候結束

不可以活動還沒結束下一個活動
就進來 -> 活動不會互相重疊

i	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
s_i	1	3	0	5	3	5	6	8	8	2	12
f_i	4	5	6	7	9	9	10	11	12	14	16

第 11個活動是從 12點到 16點

i	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
s_i	1	3	0	5	3	5	6	8	8	2	12
f_i	4	5	6	7	9	9	10	11	12	14	16

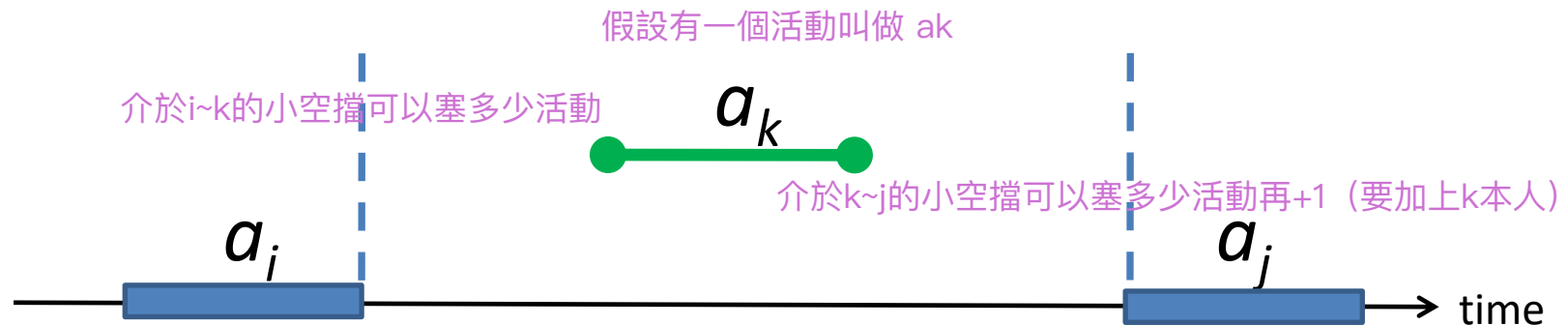


Dynamic Programming Approach

- The optimal substructure?

S_{ij} : 只考慮發生在 $a_i \sim a_j$ 這個時間段中的活動

- S_{ij} : The activity set that start after a_i finishes and that finish before a_j starts



- $c[i, j]$: **An optimal** solution for S_{ij} 存的答案是最多可以塞幾個活動

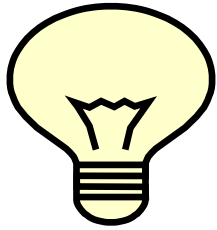
- Recurrence? $c[i, j] = c[i, k] + c[k, j] + 1$

Dynamic Programming Approach

$$c[i, j] = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } S_{ij} = \emptyset \\ \max_{a_k \in S_{ij}} \{c[i, k] + c[k, j] + 1\} & \text{if } S_{ij} \neq \emptyset \end{cases}$$

The algorithm?

The time complexity?



Greedy Method



- Pick the one that looks best at the moment

短視近利

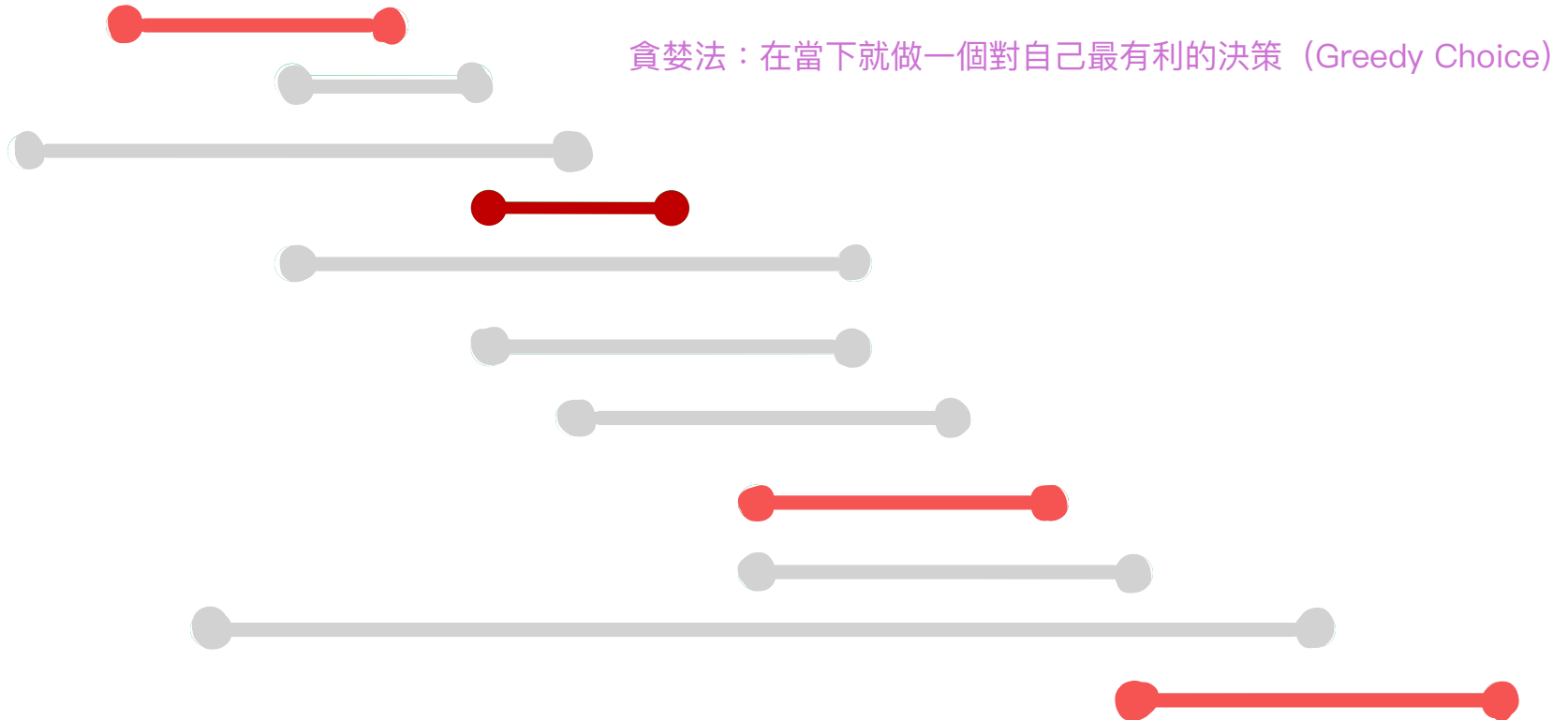
貪婪法會當下就選一個對自己最有利的，
DP法是所有的小問題都做完後才選最有利的

- The activity-selection problem
 - Choose the activity that has the ***earliest finish time!*** 挑最早結束的→剩下的可用時間最多
- Once we make the greedy choice, only one sub-problem remains.

i	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
s_i	1	3	0	5	3	5	6	8	8	2	12
f_i	4	5	6	7	9	9	10	11	12	14	16

已經根據活動結束時間 (f_i) 從小到大排序了。選擇最早結束的活動，並保證他們不重疊

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16





注意!

- The greedy algorithm does **not** always give the optimal solution! 貪婪法並不保證會給你最佳解!!
- However, in the activity-selection problem, the greedy method leads to an optimal solution. 但有些特定問題搭配正確的決策 (Greedy Choice) 是可以給你最佳解的
例如：activity-selection problem

- Theorem

Consider any nonempty sub-problem S , and let a_m be an activity in S with ***the earliest finish time***. Then a_m is included in some maximum-size subset of mutually compatible activities of S .

am 這個活動肯定存在於某個最佳解裡面

a_m 是在所有活動裡面結束時間最早的

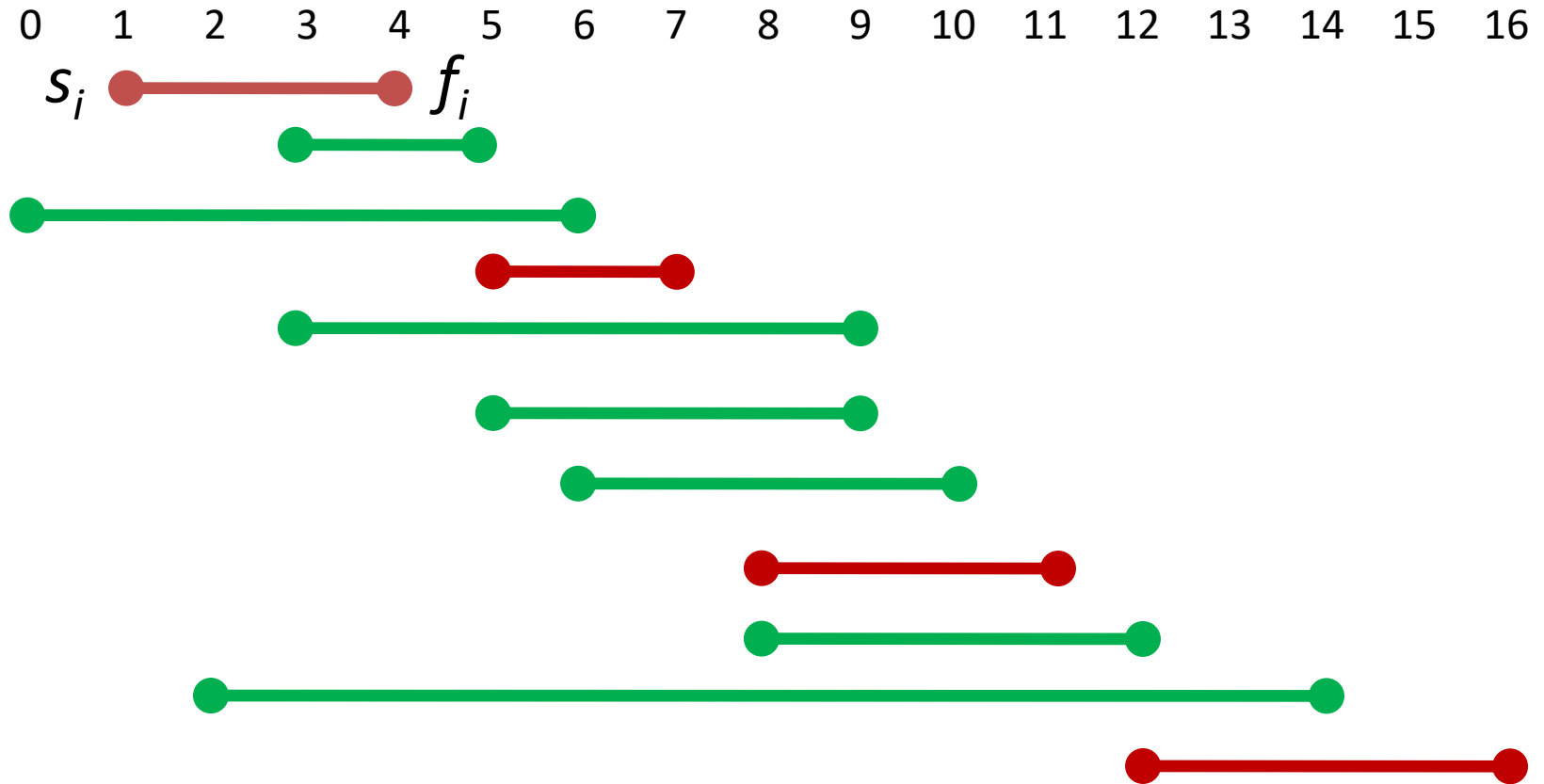
a_m : An activity in S with *the earliest finish time*
 a_m must be included in some optimal solution!

a_m 這個活動肯定存在於某個最佳解裡面

- Proof

- Let A be an optimal solution given S . 假設 A 組合是最佳解
- Let a_j be the activity in A with the earliest finish time.
令 a_j 為 A 組合中結束時間最早的活動
- If $a_j = a_m$, we are done!
- If $a_j \neq a_m$,
 - let $A' = A - \{a_j\} \cup \{a_m\}$
 - A' : also an optimal solution?
 - Yes! Because activities in A' are disjoint and $|A| = |A'|$
 - We conclude that A' is a maximum-size subset of mutually compatible activities of S , and it include a_m .

Algorithm



Assume $f_1 \leq f_2 \leq f_3 \leq \dots \leq f_{n-1} \leq f_n$

Assume that the n activities are ordered by non-decreasing finish time

An iterative algorithm $\Theta(n)$

兩個 array，s 存開始時間，f 存結束時間

GREEDY-ACTIVITY-SELECTOR(s, f)

1. $n = s.length$

2. $A = \{a_1\}$

3. $k = 1$ k 紀錄的是最後一個被放進 A 組合裡的活動 是第幾號活動
// k keeps the most recent addition to A

4. **for** $m = 2$ **to** n 從 2號活動跑到最後一個活動

5. **if** $s[m] \geq f[k]$

6. $A = A \cup \{a_m\}$

7. $k = m$

8. **return** A 最後回傳 A 就會是最佳的活動組合

如果 m號活動的開始時間，比k號活動的結束時間晚的話，就選他，把它當成新的 k，繼續挑下去

Greedy vs. DP

- Both explore the optimal substructure of a problem
 - An optimal solution to the problem contains within it optimal solutions to sub-problems
- DP: a bottom-up manner
 - solve sub-problems, then make a choice
- Greedy: a top-down manner
 - make a greedy choice, then solve sub-problems that remain

Practice



- Suppose that instead of always selecting **the first activity to finish**, we make the following greedy choices: 三個裡面只有一個會成功：最晚開始的那個方法

- Select **the last activity to start** that is compatible with all previously selected activities.
- Select the activity **of least duration** from among those that are compatible with previously selected activities.
- Select the compatible activity that **overlaps the fewest other remaining activities**.

Does each of these greedy approaches yield an optimal solution?