

Dynamic Programming

Solving a problem by decomposing it into smaller subproblems and solving them from smallest to largest

Introduced by Richard Bellman (of Bellman-Ford)

“Programming”: scheduling/planning

“Dynamic”: because it sounds cool

Fibonacci

0, 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, ...

$$F(0) = 0, F(1) = 1, F(n) = F(n-1) + F(n-2)$$

Fib(n)

if $n=0$ return 0

if $n=1$ return 1

return $Fib(n-1) + Fib(n-2)$

$Fib(100)$

/ \

$Fib(99)$

$Fib(98)$

/ \ / \

$Fib(98)$

$Fib(97)$

$Fib(97)$

Fib

(96)

Lecture 1: $Fib(n)$ takes $\geq 1.5^n$ calls to $Fib()$

Fix: Store values of $Fib(n)$ once computed
so we don't have to recompute

"memoization"

Fibonacci with memoization

Fib Memo (n)

if $n = 0$ return 0

if $n = 1$ return 1

if $n \in \text{Memo}$

return Memo[n]

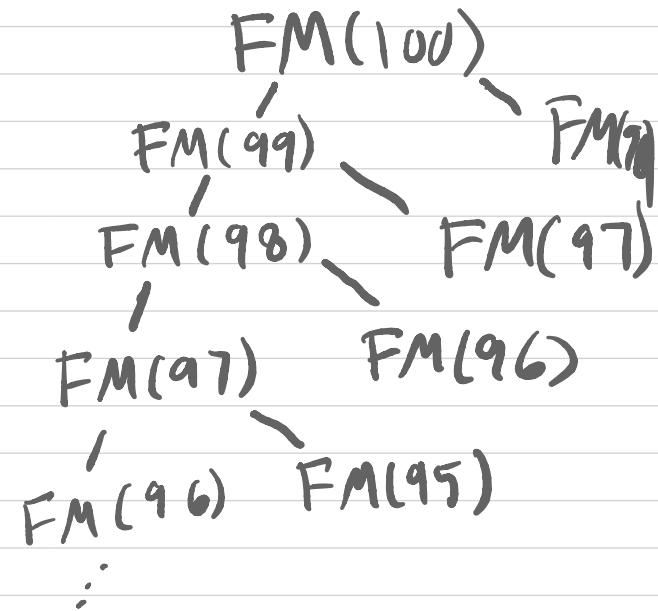
Memo[n] = Fib Memo(n-1)
+ Fib Memo(n-2)

return Memo[n]

of recursive calls = $O(n)$

Subproblems: computing $F(0), \dots, F(n)$

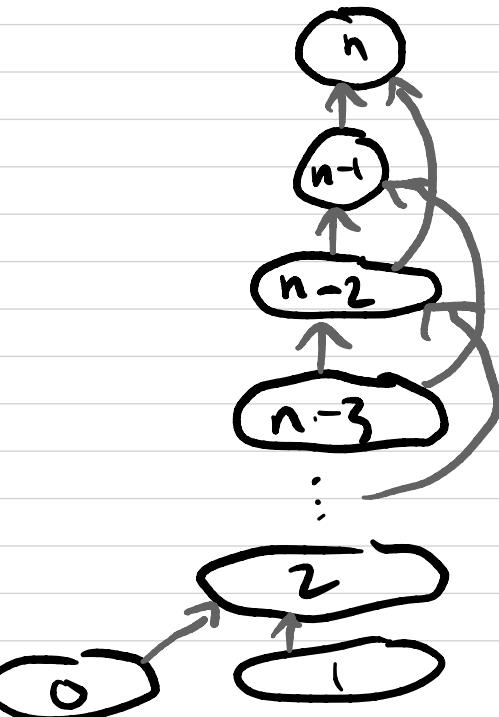
"top-down dynamic programming"



The underlying DAG

View each subproblem as a node

Add a directed edge from $i \rightarrow j$
if subproblem j directly depends
on solution to subproblem i



This is a DAG

Should do topological sort,
then solve subproblems in that
order

Fib Bottom Up(n)

$$\text{Mem}[0] = 0$$

$$\text{Mem}[1] = 1$$

for i from 2 to n

$$\text{Mem}[i] = \text{Mem}[i-1] + \text{Mem}[i-2]$$

Return Mem[n]

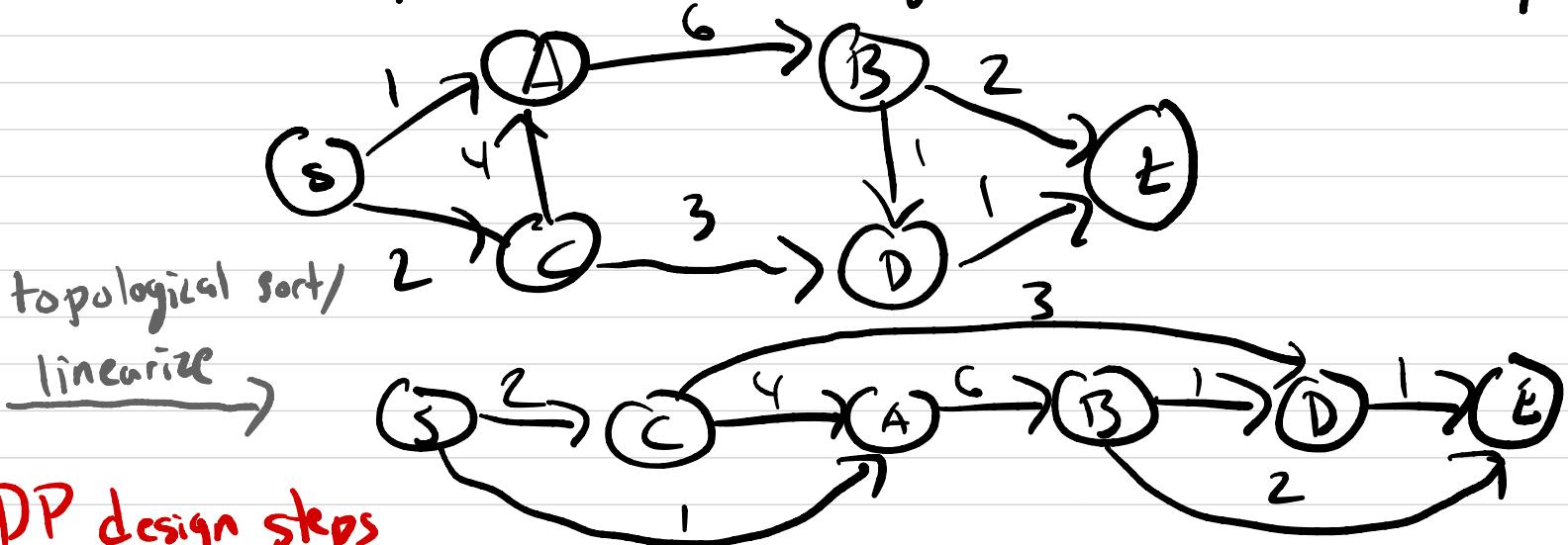
this is "bottom-up dynamic programming"

Outline for designing DP algorithms

1. Identify subproblems $(F(0), \dots, F(n))$
2. Compute recurrence $(F(n) = F(n-1) + F(n-2))$
3. Design algorithm (bottom-up Fib)

Shortest paths in DAGs

Input: DAG $G = (V, E)$, edge lengths $l(u, v)$ (positive or negative)
Output: Compute $\text{dist}(t) = \text{length of shortest } s \rightarrow t \text{ path}$



DP design steps

1. Identify subproblems: $\forall v \in V$, compute $\text{dist}[v]$
2. Compute recurrence: $\text{dist}(D) = \min \{ \text{dist}(C) + 3, \text{dist}(B) + 1 \}$

$$\text{Recurrence: } \text{dist}[v] = \min_{u:(u,v) \in E} \{ \text{dist}[u] + l(u,v) \}$$

3. Design algorithm

initialize all $\text{dist}()$ values to ∞

$$\text{dist}(s) = 0$$

for each $v \in V \setminus \{s\}$ in linearized order

$$\text{dist}[v] = \min_{(u,v) \in E} \{ \text{dist}[u] + l(u,v) \} \quad (*)$$

return $\text{dist}[t]$

Runtime: $O(n+m)$

Underlying DAG: G itself
What if we had wanted to compute shortest path?

introduce $\text{prev}[v] = \text{the } u \text{ that minimizes } (*)$

Longest increasing subsequences

Input: Sequence of n integers a_1, \dots, a_n

Output: Length of longest increasing subsequence
(non-contiguous)

$$a = 5 \ 2 \ 8 \ 6 \ 3 \ 6 \ 9 \ 7$$


DP design steps

1. Identify subproblems: for each prefix a_1, \dots, a_j

Compute: $L[j] =$ length of LIS in a_1, \dots, a_j
ends in a_j

2. Compute recurrence: $L[j] = \max_{i < j} \{L[i]: a_i < a_j\} + 1$
if no $a_i < a_j$, $L[j] = 1$

3. Design algorithm
for $j = 1, \dots, n$
if $\exists i < j$ s.t. $a_i < a_j$
 $L[j] = 1 + \max_{i < j} \{L[i] : a_i < a_j\}$
else
 $L[j] = 1$
return $\max L[j]$ over all j

Runtime: $O(n)$ subproblems $\times O(n)$ time/subproblem
 $= O(n^2)$ time

Edit distance

Input: two strings $S[1 \dots m]$, $T[1 \dots n]$

Goal: Find smallest number of edits to turn S into T

Edits allowed:

1. insert character into S
2. delete character from S
3. substitute one character for another

Example: $S = "S n o w y"$
 $T = "S u n n y"$

S n o w y

S u n o w y insert u

S u n n w y replace o \rightarrow n

S u n r ~~w~~ y delete w

Alignment

S = "Snowy"

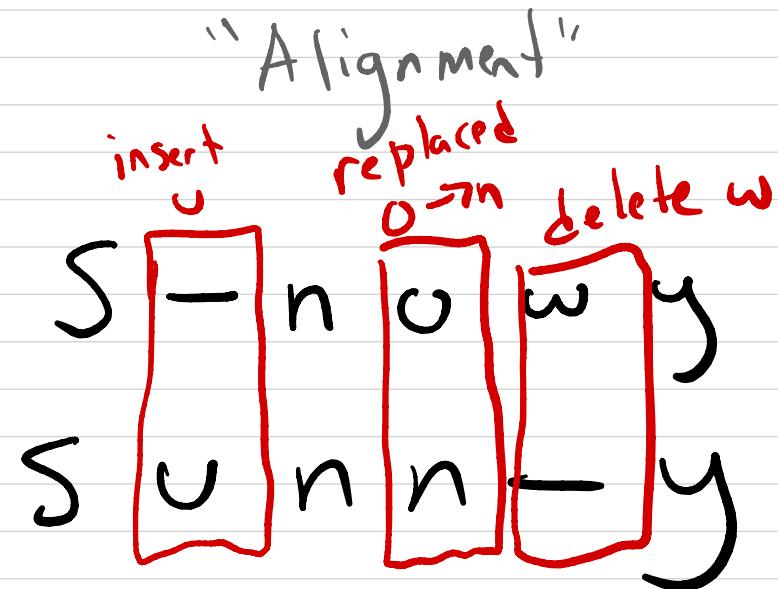
T = "Sunny"

S n o w y

S u n o w y

S u n n w y

S u n n X y



Cost: # of columns where symbols differ

Edit distance = minimum cost of an alignment

DP design steps

1. Identify subproblems: for all $0 \leq i \leq m, 0 \leq j \leq n$

$$E(i, j) = \text{EditDistance}(S[1, \dots, i], T[1, \dots, j])$$

= cost of best alignment between $S[1, \dots, i], T[1, \dots, j]$

2. Compute recurrence

$$S[1, \dots, i] \quad T[1, \dots, j]$$

look at last column in optimal alignment

$$E(i, j) = \min \left\{ \begin{array}{l} S[i] \\ \frac{1 + E(i-1, j)}{T[j]} \\ 1 + E(i, j-1), \\ E(i-1, j-1) + \text{diff}(i, j) \end{array} \right\}$$

$$E(i, 0) = i, \quad E(0, j) = j$$

$$\text{diff}(i, j) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } S[i] = T[j] \\ 1 & \text{o.w.} \end{cases}$$

a b

a

b

a -
- b

3 Design algorithms

	0	1	2	3	4	5
5	1					
n	2		$E^{(i-1)}_{j-1}$	$E^{(i-1)}_{j}$		
o	3		$E^{(i)}_{j-1}$	$E^{(i)}_{j}$		
w	4					
y	5					

for $i = 0, 1, 2, \dots, m$

$$E(i, 0) = i$$

for $j = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n$

$$E(0, j) = j$$

for $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$

for $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$

$$E(i, j) = \min \left\{ E(i-1, j) + 1, E(i, j-1) + 1, E(i-1, j-1) + \text{diff}(i, j) \right\}$$

return $E(m, n)$

Runtimes:

$O(mn)$

$$S = a \quad E(0, 0) = 0$$

$$T = a \quad E(1, 1) = E(0, 0) \\ + \text{diff}(1, 1)$$