

# The Maximum Subarray Problem (MSP)

AN APPLICATION OF DIVIDE AND CONQUER

# Background

- ▶ Divide-n-Conquer consists of three phases

Divide

- Break the problem into a number of subproblems that are smaller instances of the same problem

Conquer

- Solve the sub-problems recursively. Solve the smallest problems directly

Combine

- Combine the solutions to the subproblems into the solution for the original problem

A **recurrence** is an equation or inequality that describes a function in terms of its value on smaller inputs.

# Example – Stock Trading

- ▶ Let you are interested in trading shares of a company
- ▶ You can buy one unit of stock only one time and then sell it at a later date and can learn what the price of the stock will be in the future.
- ▶ The goal is to maximize your profit by using “buy low and sell high” principle
- ▶ Within a given period, you might not be able to buy at the lowest price and then sell at the highest price

## Share Price Details

- ▶ we can maximize profit by buying at the lowest price, after day 7.
- ▶ We will find the lowest price point (LPP) and highest price point (HPP)
  - ▶ The pair (LPP, HPP) will give us maximum profit
- ▶ Counter Example shows that day (2,3) gives maximum profit however
  - ▶ Price on day 2 is neither lowest nor price at day 3 is highest



| Day    | 0  | 1  | 2  | 3   | 4  |
|--------|----|----|----|-----|----|
| Price  | 10 | 11 | 7  | 10  | 6  |
| Change |    | 13 | -3 | -25 | 20 |

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| Day    | 0   | 1   | 2   | 3   | 4   | 5   | 6   | 7   | 8  | 9   | 10 | 11  | 12  | 13  | 14 | 15 | 16 |
|--------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|-----|----|-----|-----|-----|----|----|----|
| Price  | 100 | 113 | 110 | 85  | 105 | 102 | 86  | 43  | 81 | 101 | 94 | 104 | 101 | 79  | 94 | 90 | 97 |
| Change |     | 13  | -3  | -25 | 20  | -3  | -16 | -23 | 18 | 20  | -7 | 12  | -5  | -22 | 15 | -4 | 7  |

## A brute-force solution

- ▶ Try every possible pair of buy and sell dates in which the buy date precedes the sell date
- ▶ A period of n-days has  $\binom{n}{2} = \frac{n!}{(2!)(n-2)!}$  pairs. It has time complexity  $\theta(n^2)$ 
  - ▶  $\binom{5}{2} = \frac{5!}{(2!)(5-2)!} = \frac{5!}{2! \cdot 3!} = \frac{5 \cdot 4}{2} = 10 \rightarrow \{(1, 2), (1, 3), (1, 4), (1, 5), (2, 3), (2, 4), (2, 5), (3, 4), (3, 5), (4, 5)\}$
- ▶ we can hope to evaluate each pair of dates in constant time,
- ▶ this approach would take  $\Omega(n^2)$  time

# A transformation

- ▶ Find the sequence of days over which the net change from the first day to the last is maximum.
- ▶ Instead of looking at the daily prices, we consider the daily change in price
  - ▶ The change on day  $i$  is the difference between the prices after day  $i - 1$  and after day  $i$ .
- ▶ **Maximum subarray:** Find the nonempty, contiguous subarray of A (last row of table) whose values have the largest sum.
  - ▶ In our example, Maximum Sub-Array is A[8-11] with sum=43
    - ▶ Thus, buy the stock just before day 8 (after day 7) and sell it after day 11, earning a profit of \$43 per share.
    - ▶ There could be multiple sub-arrays with same profit

| Day    | 0   | 1   | 2   | 3   | 4   | 5   | 6   | 7   | 8  | 9   | 10 | 11  | 12  | 13  | 14 | 15 | 16 |
|--------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|-----|----|-----|-----|-----|----|----|----|
| Price  | 100 | 113 | 110 | 85  | 105 | 102 | 86  | 63  | 81 | 101 | 94 | 106 | 101 | 79  | 94 | 90 | 97 |
| Change |     | 13  | -3  | -25 | 20  | -3  | -16 | -23 | 18 | 20  | -7 | 12  | -5  | -22 | 15 | -4 | 7  |

# Divide and Conquer Solution of Problem



# Maximum Sub-Array (MSA) Problem

- ▶ Divide the subarray into two subarrays of as equal size as possible
  - ▶  $L[low, \dots, mid], R[mid + 1, \dots, high]$
  - ▶ Let  $MSA[i, \dots, j]$  be a maximum sub-array, it can now lie
    - ▶ In  $L[low, \dots, mid]$  such that  $low \leq i \leq j \leq mid$
    - ▶ In  $R[mid + 1, \dots, high]$  such that  $mid + 1 \leq i \leq j \leq high$
    - ▶ Crossing the mid-point such that  $low \leq i \leq mid < j \leq high$
  - ▶ MSA will have maximum sum over all sub-arrays of  $L, R$  or crossing over



# Solving MSA

- ▶ Sub-Arrays **L, R** can be solved recursively
- ▶ How to solve cross-over MSA
  - ▶ Any subarray crossing the midpoint is itself made of two subarrays
    - ▶  $MSA[i, \dots, mid], MSA[mid + 1, \dots, j]$
    - ▶ So find these and combine them
  - ▶ Hence the problem is solved using two sub-routines
    - ▶ ***FIND\_MAXIMUM\_SUBARRAY(A, low, high)***
    - ▶ ***FIND\_MAX CROSSING SUBARRAY(A, low, mid, high)***



## FIND\_MAXIMUM\_SUBARRAY

```
Find_Maximum_Subarray(A, low, high)
1 if(high == low)
2     return (low, high, A[low])
3 else mid = int(low + high)/2
4     (left_low, left_high, left_sum) = Find_Maximum_Subarray(A, low, mid)
5     (right_low, right_high, right_sum) = Find_Maximum_Subarray(A, mid + 1, high)
6     (cross_low, cross_high, cross_sum) = Find_Max_Cross_Subarray(A, low, mid, high)
7     if(left_sum ≥ right_sum and left_sum ≥ cross_sum)
8         return (left_low, left_high, left_sum)
9     else if(right_sum ≥ left_sum and right_sum ≥ cross_sum)
10        return (right_low, right_high, right_sum)
11    else return(cross_low, cross_high, cross_sum)
```

# Find\_Max\_Subarray Procedure

- ▶ Direct Solution (Non Recursive): Base case
  - ▶ **Line 1,2** : if there is only one element
  - ▶ So return that element with low and high indexes
- ▶ **Lines 3–11** handle the recursive case.
  - ▶ **Line 3**: It computes the mid point of the array
  - ▶ **Lines 4 and 5**: These lines conquer by recursively finding MSA within the left and right subarrays, respectively.
  - ▶ **Lines 6–11**: form the combine part.
  - ▶ **Line 6** : finds a MSA that crosses the midpoint.
  - ▶ **Line 7**: tests whether the left subarray contains an MSA
  - ▶ **line 8**: returns that MSA.
  - ▶ **line 9**: tests whether the right subarray contains an MSA
  - ▶ **line 10**: returns that MSA.
  - ▶ **line 11**: returns the MSA that crosses the mid point

|    | <i>Find_Maximum_Subarray(A, low, high)</i>   |
|----|--|
| 1  | <i>if(high == low)</i>   |
| 2  | <i>return (low, high, A[low])</i>  |
| 3  | <i>else mid = int(low + high)/2</i>  |
| 4  | ( <i>left<sub>low</sub>, left<sub>high</sub>, left<sub>sum</sub></i> ) =<br><i>Find_Maximum_Subarray(A, low, mid)</i>            |
| 5  | ( <i>right<sub>low</sub>, right<sub>high</sub>, right<sub>sum</sub></i> ) =<br><i>Find_Maximum_Subarray(A, mid + 1, high)</i>    |
| 6  | ( <i>cross<sub>low</sub>, cross<sub>high</sub>, cross<sub>sum</sub></i> ) =<br><i>Find_Max_Cross_Subarray(A, low, mid, high)</i> |
| 7  | <i>if(left<sub>sum</sub> ≥ right<sub>sum</sub> and left<sub>sum</sub> ≥ cross<sub>sum</sub>)</i>                                 |
| 8  | <i>return (left<sub>low</sub>, left<sub>high</sub>, left<sub>sum</sub>)</i>  |
| 9  | <i>else if(right<sub>sum</sub> ≥ left<sub>sum</sub> and right<sub>sum</sub> ≥ cross<sub>sum</sub>)</i>                           |
| 10 | <i>return (right<sub>low</sub>, right<sub>high</sub>, right<sub>sum</sub>)</i>   |
| 11 | <i>else return(cross<sub>low</sub>, cross<sub>high</sub>, cross<sub>sum</sub>)</i>   |

# FIND\_MAX\_CROSSING\_SUBARRAY

13

| Find_Max_Crossing_Subarray(A,low,mid,high) |  |
|--|--|
| 1  | $left\_sum = -\infty$  |
| 2  | $sum = 0$  |
| 3  | $for i = mid \text{ downto } low$                                  |
| 4  | $sum = sum + A[i]$   |
| 5  | $if (sum > left\_sum)$   |
| 6  | $left\_sum = sum$  |
| 7  | $maximum_{left} = i$   |
| 8  | $right\_sum = -\infty$   |
| 9  | $sum = 0$  |
| 10   | $for j = mid + 1 \text{ to } high$                                 |
| 11   | $sum = sum + A[j]$   |
| 12   | $if (sum > right\_sum)$  |
| 13   | $right\_sum = sum$   |
| 14   | $Maximum_{right} = j$  |
| 15   | $return (maximum_{left}, maximum_{right}, left\_sum + right\_sum)$ |

- ▶ This problem is *not* a smaller instance of our original problem
  - ▶ As it has the added restriction that the subarray it chooses must cross the midpoint.
  - ▶ We know that MSA has two parts  $MSA[i, \dots, mid], MSA[mid + 1, \dots, j]$
  - ▶ **Line 1-2:** variables initialization
  - ▶ **Line 4-7:** find the maximum sum of left part of array A
    - ▶  $Left\_sum$  contains the maximum sum found so far in left array
  - ▶ **Line 8-9:** variables initialization
  - ▶ **Line 10-14:** find the maximum sum of right part of Array A
    - ▶  $Right\_sum$  contains the maximum sum found so far in right array
  - ▶ **Line 15:** return the maximum left and right points along with total maximum sum

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| 5  | $if (sum > left\_sum)$   |
| 6  | $left\_sum = sum$  |
| 7  | $maximum_{left} = i$   |
| 8  | $right\_sum = -\infty$   |
| 9  | $sum = 0$  |
| 10   | $for j = mid + 1 \text{ to } high$                                 |
| 11   | $sum = sum + A[j]$   |
| 12   | $if (sum > right\_sum)$  |
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| 14   | $Maximum_{right} = j$  |
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  - ▶ **Line 15:** return the maximum left and right points along with total maximum sum

Change 13 -3 -25 20 -3 -16 -23 18 20 -7 12 -5 -22 15 -4 7



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# Algorithm Time Complexity

- ▶  $T(n) = 1 + 1 + \frac{n}{2} + 1 + \frac{n}{2} + \frac{n}{2} + \frac{\frac{n}{4}}{4} + \frac{n}{4} + 1 + 1 + \frac{n}{2} + 1 + \frac{n}{2} + \frac{n}{2} + \frac{n}{4} + \frac{n}{4} + 1$
- ▶  $T(n) = 7 + 4\left(\frac{n}{4}\right) + 6\left(\frac{n}{2}\right)$
- ▶  $T(n) = 7 + n + 3n$
- ▶  $T(n) = 4n + 7$
- ▶  $T(n) = 4n$
- ▶  $T(n) = \theta(n)$

|    | Find_Max_Crossing_Subarray(A,low,mid,high)                                  | T(n)              |
|----|---|-------------------|
| 1  | $left\_sum = -\infty$   | 1                 |
| 2  | $sum = 0$   | 1                 |
| 3  | <i>for</i> $i = mid$ <b>downto</b> low                                      | $n/2 + 1$         |
| 4  | $sum = sum + A[i]$  | $n/2$             |
| 5  | <i>if</i> ( $sum > left\_sum$ )   | $n/2$             |
| 6  | $left\_sum = sum$   | $n/4$             |
| 7  | $maximum_{left} = i$  | $n/4$             |
| 8  | $right\_sum = -\infty$  | 1                 |
| 9  | $sum = 0$   | 1                 |
| 10 | <i>for</i> $j = mid + 1$ to $high$  | $\frac{n}{2} + 1$ |
| 11 | $sum = sum + A[j]$  | $n/2$             |
| 12 | <i>if</i> ( $sum > right\_sum$ )  | $n/2$             |
| 13 | $right\_sum = sum$  | $n/4$             |
| 14 | $Maximum_{right} = j$   | $n/4$             |
| 15 | <i>return</i> ( $maximum_{left}, maximum_{right}, left\_sum + right\_sum$ ) | 1                 |

# Algorithm Analysis

- $T(n) = 1 + 1 + 1 + T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + \theta(n) + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1$
- $T(n) = 2T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + \theta(n) + 7$
- $T(n) = 2T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + \theta(n)$
- **$T(n) = \theta(n \log n)$**

|    | <i>Find_Maximum_Subarray(A, low, high)</i>  | <b>Cost</b>                 |
|----|---|-----------------------------|
| 1  | <i>if(high == low)</i>  | 1                           |
| 2  | <i>return (low, high, A[low])</i>   | 1                           |
| 3  | <i>else mid = int(low + high)/2</i>   | 1                           |
| 4  | $(left_{low}, left_{high}, left_{sum}) =$<br><i>Find_Maximum_Subarray(A, low, mid)</i>            | $T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right)$ |
| 5  | $(right_{low}, right_{high}, right_{sum}) =$<br><i>Find_Maximum_Subarray(A, mid + 1, high)</i>    | $T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right)$ |
| 6  | $(cross_{low}, cross_{high}, cross_{sum}) =$<br><i>Find_Max_Cross_Subarray(A, low, mid, high)</i> | $\theta(n)$                 |
| 7  | <i>if(left_{sum} \geq right_{sum} and left_{sum} \geq cross_{sum})</i>                            | 1                           |
| 8  | <i>return (left_{low}, left_{high}, left_{sum})</i>   | 1                           |
| 9  | <i>else if(right_{sum} \geq left_{sum} and right_{sum} \geq cross_{sum})</i>                      | 1                           |
| 10 | <i>return (right_{low}, right_{high}, right_{sum})</i>  | 1                           |
| 11 | <i>else return(cross_{low}, cross_{high}, cross_{sum})</i>  | 1                           |

# Space Complexity

- ▶  $S(n) = n + 3 + 6$
- ▶  $S(n) = n + 9$
- ▶  $S(n) = n$
- ▶ 0300-3014469

|    | Find_Max_Crossing_Subarray(A,low,mid,high)                           | $S(n) = n + 3$ |
|----|--|----------------|
| 1  | $left\_sum = -\infty$  | 1              |
| 2  | $sum = 0$  | 1              |
| 3  | $for i = mid \text{ downto } low$                                    | 1              |
| 4  | $sum = sum + A[i]$   | 0              |
| 5  | $if (sum > left_{sum})$  | 0              |
| 6  | $left_{sum} = sum$   | 0              |
| 7  | $maximum_{left} = i$   | 0              |
| 8  | $right_{sum} = -\infty$  | 1              |
| 9  | $sum = 0$  | 0              |
| 10 | $for j = mid + 1 \text{ to } high$                                   | 1              |
| 11 | $sum = sum + A[j]$   | 0              |
| 12 | $if (sum > right_{sum})$   | 0              |
| 13 | $right_{sum} = sum$  | 0              |
| 14 | $Maximum_{right} = j$  | 0              |
| 15 | $return (maximum_{left}, maximum_{right}, left_{sum} + right_{sum})$ | 1              |

# Space Complexity

- $S(n) = n + 10$
- $S(n) = n$
- $S(n) = 0$

|    | <i>Find_Maximum_Subarray(A, low, high)</i>  | <b>Cost</b><br>$T(n)$ |
|----|---|-----------------------|
| 1  | <i>if(high == low)</i>  | 0                     |
| 2  | <i>return (low, high, A[low])</i>   | 0                     |
| 3  | <i>else mid = int(low + high)/2</i>   | 1                     |
| 4  | ( $left_{low}, left_{high}, left_{sum}$ ) =<br><i>Find_Maximum_Subarray(A, low, mid)</i>            | 3                     |
| 5  | ( $right_{low}, right_{high}, right_{sum}$ ) =<br><i>Find_Maximum_Subarray(A, mid + 1, high)</i>    | 3                     |
| 6  | ( $cross_{low}, cross_{high}, cross_{sum}$ ) =<br><i>Find_Max_Cross_Subarray(A, low, mid, high)</i> | 3                     |
| 7  | <i>if(left_{sum} \geq right_{sum} and left_{sum} \geq cross_{sum})</i>                              | 0                     |
| 8  | <i>return (left_{low}, left_{high}, left_{sum})</i>   | 0                     |
| 9  | <i>else if(right_{sum} \geq left_{sum} and right_{sum} \geq cross_{sum})</i>                        | 0                     |
| 10 | <i>return (right_{low}, right_{high}, right_{sum})</i>  | 0                     |
| 11 | <i>else return(cross_{low}, cross_{high}, cross_{sum})</i>  | 0                     |

```
def find_max_crossing_subarray(A, low, mid, high):
    left_sum = -10000
    sum = 0;
    max_left,max_right=0,0
    for i in range(mid, low , -1):
        sum = sum + A[i]
        if (sum > left_sum):
            left_sum = sum
            max_left=i

    right_sum = -1000
    sum = 0;
    for j in range(mid + 1, high):
        sum = sum + A[j]
        if (sum > right_sum):
            right_sum = sum
            max_right=j

    return max_left,max_right,max(left_sum + right_sum, left_sum, right_sum)
```

```
def find_maximum_subarray(A, low, high):
    # Base Case: Only one element
    if (low == high):
        return low,high,A[low]

    mid = (low + high) // 2
    left_low, left_high, left_sum = find_maximum_subarray(A, low, mid)
    right_low, right_high, right_sum = find_maximum_subarray(A, mid + 1, high)
    cross_low, cross_high, cross_sum = find_max_crossing_subarray(A, low, mid, high)
    if(left_sum >= right_sum and left_sum >= cross_sum):
        return left_low, left_high, left_sum
    elif (right_sum >= left_sum and right_sum >= cross_sum):
        return right_low, right_high, right_sum
    else:
        print(cross_low,cross_high,cross_sum)
        return cross_low, cross_high, cross_sum
```

```
# Driver Code
#   0  1  2  3  4  5  6  7  8  9  10  11  12  13  14  15
A = [-13,-3,-25,20,-3,-16,-23,18,20,-7,12,-5,-22,15,-4,7]
n = len(A)

low,high,max_sum = find_maximum_subarray(A, 0, n - 1)
print("Maximum contiguous sum is ",
low+1,high+1,max_sum)
```