

Dynamic Programming

CSE 301: Combinatorial Optimization

Longest Common Subsequence (LCS)

Given two sequences

$$X = \langle x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m \rangle$$

$$Y = \langle y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n \rangle$$

find a maximum length common subsequence (LCS) of X and Y

Application: comparison of two DNA strings

Example

$$X = \langle A, B, C, B, D, A, B \rangle$$
$$Y = \langle B, D, C, A, B, A \rangle$$
$$X = \langle A, B, C, B, D, A, B \rangle$$
$$Y = \langle B, D, C, A, B, A \rangle$$

Both $\langle B, C, B, A \rangle$ and $\langle B, D, A, B \rangle$ are longest common subsequences of X and Y (length = 4)

$\langle B, C, A \rangle$ is a common subsequence of X and Y, however it is not a LCS of X and Y

Brute-Force Solution

For every subsequence of X, check whether it's a subsequence of Y

There are 2^m subsequences of X to check

Each subsequence takes $\Theta(n)$ time to check

scan Y for first letter, from there scan for second, and so on

Running time: $\Theta(n2^m)$

LCS Recursive Solution

First we'll find the length of LCS. Later we'll modify the algorithm to find LCS 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 Recursive Solution

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

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

$$c[i, j] = \begin{cases} c[i - 1, j - 1] + 1 & \text{if } x[i] = y[j], \\ \dots & \end{cases}$$

LCS Recursive Solution

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 $\text{LCS}(X_{i-1}, Y_j)$

$$c[i, j] = \begin{cases} c[i-1, j-1] + 1 & \text{if } x[i] = y[j], \\ \max(c[i, j-1], c[i-1, j]) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Why not just take the length of $\text{LCS}(X_{i-1}, Y_{j-1})$?

Computing the Length of the LCS

$$c[i, j] = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } i = 0 \text{ or } j = 0 \\ c[i-1, j-1] + 1 & \text{if } x_i = y_j \\ \max(c[i, j-1], c[i-1, j]) & \text{if } x_i \neq y_j \end{cases}$$

		0	1	2	n	
		y_j	y_1	y_2	y_n	
		0	0	0	0	0
0	x_i	0	0	0	0	0
1	x_1	0				
2	x_2	0				
		0			.	.
		0			.	.
m	x_m	0				

j

first
second
i

Additional Information

$$c[i, j] = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } i, j = 0 \\ c[i-1, j-1] + 1 & \text{if } x_i = y_j \\ \max(c[i, j-1], c[i-1, j]) & \text{if } x_i \neq y_j \end{cases}$$

b & c:

	0	1	2	3	n
y _{i:}	A	C	D	F	
0	x _i	0	0	0	0
1	A				
2	B			c[i-1,j]	
3	C		c[i,j-1]		
m	D				

j

A matrix b[i, j]:

- For a subproblem [i, j] it tells us what choice was made to obtain the optimal value
- If $x_i = y_j$
 $b[i, j] = " "$
- Else, if $c[i - 1, j] \geq c[i, j-1]$
 $b[i, j] = " \uparrow "$
- else
 $b[i, j] = " \leftarrow "$

LCS-LENGTH(X, Y, m, n)

```
1.  for i ← 1 to m
2.    do c[i, 0] ← 0
3.    for j ← 0 to n
4.      do c[0, j] ← 0
5.  for i ← 1 to m
6.    do for j ← 1 to n
7.      do if  $x_i = y_j$ 
8.        then c[i, j] ← c[i - 1, j - 1] + 1
9.        b[i, j] ← " "
10.       else if c[i - 1, j] ≥ c[i, j - 1]
11.         then c[i, j] ← c[i - 1, j]
12.         b[i, j] ← "↑"
13.       else c[i, j] ← c[i, j - 1]
14.         b[i, j] ← "←"
15. return c and b
```

The length of the LCS if one of the sequences is empty is zero

Case 1: $x_i = y_j$

Case 2: $x_i \neq y_j$

Running time: $\Theta(mn)$

Example

$X = \langle A, B, C, B, D, A, B \rangle$

$Y = \langle B, D, C, A, B, A \rangle$

$$c[i, j] = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } i = 0 \text{ or } j = 0 \\ c[i-1, j-1] + 1 & \text{if } x_i = y_j \\ \max(c[i, j-1], c[i-1, j]) & \text{if } x_i \neq y_j \end{cases}$$

If $x_i = y_j$

$b[i, j] = "↖"$

Else if

$j \geq c[i, j-1]$

$b[i, j] = "↑"$

else

$b[i, j] = "←"$

	x_i	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
y_j	0	B	D	C	A	B	A	
$c[i, j]$	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	1	←1	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

4. Constructing a LCS

Start at $b[m, n]$ and follow the arrows

When we encounter a “ \swarrow ” in $b[i, j] \Rightarrow x_i = y_j$ is an element of the LCS

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
y_j	B	D	C	A	B	A	
0	x_i	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	A	0	0	0	1	-1	-1
2	B	0	1	-1	1	2	-2
3	C	0	1	1	2	2	2
4	B	0	1	1	2	3	-3
5	D	0	1	2	2	3	3
6	A	0	1	2	2	3	4
7	B	0	1	2	2	3	4

The table shows the construction of the Longest Common Subsequence (LCS) between two sequences x_i and y_j . The rows represent x_i and the columns represent y_j . The value in each cell $b[i, j]$ indicates the length of the LCS of the prefix x_i and y_j . The arrows indicate the steps to construct the LCS:

- Upward arrows (\uparrow) indicate a match with the previous character in y_j .
- Leftward arrows (\leftarrow) indicate a match with the previous character in x_i .
- Diagonal arrows (\swarrow) indicate a match where both characters are the same ($x_i = y_j$).

Red circles highlight specific values and arrows to illustrate the construction process. For example, at $(x_i=0, y_j=2)$, the value 1 is circled in red, and an arrow points from $(0, 1)$ to $(1, 2)$. At $(x_i=4, y_j=3)$, the value 2 is circled in blue, and an arrow points from $(3, 3)$ to $(4, 4)$. The final LCS length is 4, and the sequence is highlighted in red: B, A, B, A.

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

1. if $i = 0$ or $j = 0$
 2. then return Running time: $\Theta(m + n)$
 3. if $b[i, j] = "↖"$
 4. then PRINT-LCS($b, X, i - 1, j - 1$)
 5. print x_i
 6. elseif $b[i, j] = "↑"$
 7. then PRINT-LCS($b, X, i - 1, j$)
 8. else PRINT-LCS($b, X, i, j - 1$)

Initial call: PRINT-LCS(b , X , length[X], length[Y])

Compute Edit (Levenshtein) Distance : ED

Given two strings: X and Y, how can you convert X to Y via the minimum number of *edit operations* in X where an edit operation is: insert, substitute, or delete.

E.g. X = “**heater**”, Y = “**speak**”

Minimum sequence of edits required to convert X to Y:

- substitute **h** by **s**: **heater** -> **seater**
- insert **p** after **s**: **seater** -> **speater**

(skip next two positions of X+Y, i.e., **e** and **a**, since they match)

- substitute **t** by **k**: **speater** -> **speaker**
- delete **e**: **speaker** -> **speakr**
- delete **r**: **speakr** -> **speak**

Total 5 edit operations are needed; so ED = 5

ED Recursive Solution

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 edit distance between X_i and Y_j

Let $|X| = m$ and $|Y| = n$.

Then the ED of X and Y will be $c[m,n]$

ED Recursive Solution

We start with $i = j = 0$ (empty substrings of x and y).

Since X_0 and Y_0 are both empty strings, their ED is zero
(i.e. $c[0,0] = 0$)

ED of any i -length string X_i and the empty string ("’’”), is i
because we need i deletions to convert X_i to “’’”; so $c[i,0] = i$

ED of “’’” and any j -length string Y_j , is j because we need j
insertions to convert “’’” to Y_j ; so $c[0,j] = j$

ED Recursive Solution

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 ED of X_i and Y_j equals to the ED of smaller strings X_{i-1} and Y_{j-1}

$$c[i, j] = \begin{cases} c[i - 1, j - 1] & \text{if } x[i] = y[j], \\ \end{cases}$$

ED Recursive Solution

Second case: $x[i] \neq y[j]$

As symbols don't match, we have to either (i) substitute $x[i]$ by $y[j]$, (ii) delete $x[i]$, or (iii) insert $y[j]$. Among these 3 operations, we will apply that operation which yield minimum value of $c[i][j]$.

Cost of operation:

- (i) Substitute: $c[i][j] = c[i-1][j-1] + 1$

E.g. $\text{ED}(\underline{\text{heat}}, \underline{\text{speak}}) = \text{ED}(\underline{\text{he}\cancel{\text{a}}}, \underline{\text{spe}\cancel{\text{a}}}) + 1 = 2+1 = 3$

i j $i-1$ $j-1$

- (ii) Delete $x[i]$: $c[i][j] = c[i-1][j] + 1$

E.g. $\text{ED}(\underline{\text{breathe}}, \underline{\text{breadth}}) = \text{ED}(\underline{\text{breath}}\cancel{\text{e}}, \underline{\text{breadth}}) + 1 = 1+1 = 2$

i j $i-1$ j

- (iii) Insert $y[j]$: $c[i][j] = c[i][j-1] + 1$

E.g. $\text{ED}(\underline{\text{pot}}, \underline{\text{yoke}}) = \text{ED}(\underline{\text{pot}}, \underline{\text{yok}}\cancel{\text{k}}) + 1 = 2+1 = 3$

i j i $j-1$

ED Recursive Solution

Second case: $x[i] \neq y[j]$

As symbols don't match, we have to either (i) substitute $x[i]$ by $y[j]$, (ii) delete $x[i]$, or (iii) insert $y[j]$. Among these 3 operations, we will apply that operation which yield minimum value of $c[i][j]$.

$$c[i, j] = \begin{cases} c[i - 1, j - 1] & \text{if } x[i] = y[j], \\ \min(c[i - 1][j - 1], c[i - 1, j], c[i, j - 1]) + 1 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Computing ED

$$c[i, j] = \begin{cases} j & \text{if } j = 0 \\ c[i-1, j-1] & \text{if } i = 0 \\ \min(c[i-1, j-1], c[i-1, j], c[i][j-1]) + 1, & \text{if } x_i \neq y_j \end{cases}$$

		0	1	2	n		
		y_j	y_1	y_2	y_n		
i	0	x_i	0	1	2	\dots	n
	1	x_1	1				
2	x_2	2					
\vdots					\vdots		
\vdots					\vdots		
m	x_m	m					

j

first
second
i

Simulation

$$c[i, j] = \begin{cases} i, & \text{if } j = 0 \\ j, & \text{if } i = 0 \\ c[i-1, j-1], & \text{if } x_i = y_j \\ \min(c[i-1, j-1], c[i-1, j], c[i][j-1]) + 1, & \text{if } x_i \neq y_j \end{cases}$$

0	1	2	3	4	5
y_j	s	p	e	a	k

0	x_i	0	$\leftarrow 1$	$\leftarrow 2$	$\leftarrow 3$	$\leftarrow 4$	$\leftarrow 5$
1	h	$\uparrow 1$					
2	e	$\uparrow 2$					
3	a	$\uparrow 3$					
4	t	$\uparrow 4$					
5	e	$\uparrow 5$					
6	r	$\uparrow 6$					

Legends:

\leftarrow Insert y_j

\uparrow Delete x_i

\rightarrow Substitute x_i by y_j

\nrightarrow no edit operation (done
when $x_i == y_j$)

Simulation

$$c[i, j] = \begin{cases} i, & \text{if } j = 0 \\ j, & \text{if } i = 0 \\ c[i-1, j-1], & \text{if } x_i = y_j \\ \min(c[i-1, j-1], c[i-1, j], c[i][j-1]) + 1, & \text{if } x_i \neq y_j \end{cases}$$

0	1	2	3	4	5
y_j	s	p	e	a	k

0	x_i	0	$\leftarrow 1$	$\leftarrow 2$	$\leftarrow 3$	$\leftarrow 4$	$\leftarrow 5$
1	h	\uparrow	1				
2	e	\uparrow					
3	a	\uparrow					
4	t	\uparrow					
5	e	\uparrow					
6	r	\uparrow					

Legends:

- \leftarrow Insert y_j
- \uparrow Delete x_i
- \rightarrow Substitute x_i by y_j
- \nleftrightarrow no edit operation (done when $x_i == y_j$)

Simulation

$$c[i, j] = \begin{cases} i, & \text{if } j = 0 \\ j, & \text{if } i = 0 \\ c[i-1, j-1], & \text{if } x_i = y_j \\ \min(c[i-1, j-1], c[i-1, j], c[i][j-1]) + 1, & \text{if } x_i \neq y_j \end{cases}$$

	0	1	2	3	4	5
y_j	s	p	e	a	k	

x_i	0	$\leftarrow 1$	$\leftarrow 2$	$\leftarrow 3$	$\leftarrow 4$	$\leftarrow 5$
0						
1 h		1	2	3	4	5
2 e						
3 a						
4 t						
5 e						
6 r						

Legends:

- \leftarrow Insert y_j
- \uparrow Delete x_i
- \nearrow Substitute x_i by y_j
- \nwarrow no edit operation (done when $x_i == y_j$)

Simulation

$$c[i, j] = \begin{cases} i, & \text{if } j = 0 \\ j, & \text{if } i = 0 \\ c[i-1, j-1], & \text{if } x_i = y_j \\ \min(c[i-1, j-1], c[i-1, j], c[i][j-1]) + 1, & \text{if } x_i \neq y_j \end{cases}$$

	0	1	2	3	4	5
y_j	s	p	e	a	k	

x_i	0	$\leftarrow 1$	$\leftarrow 2$	$\leftarrow 3$	$\leftarrow 4$	$\leftarrow 5$
0						
1 h		↑ 1	↑ 2	↑ 3	↑ 4	↑ 5
2 e		↑ 2	↑ 2	↔ 2	$\leftarrow 3$	$\leftarrow 4$
3 a		↑ 3				
4 t		↑ 4				
5 e		↑ 5				
6 r		↑ 6				

Legends:

- \leftarrow Insert y_j
- \uparrow Delete x_i
- \rightarrow Substitute x_i by y_j
- \rightleftarrows no edit operation (done when $x_i == y_j$)

Simulation

	0	1	2	3	4	5	
y_j	s	p	e	a	k		
0	x _i	0	← 1	← 2	← 3	← 4	← 5
1	h	↑ 1	1	2	3	4	5
2	e	↑ 2	2	2	2	3	4
3	a	↑ 3	3	3	3	2	3
4	t	↑ 4	4	4	4	3	3
5	e	↑ 5	5	5	4	4	4
6	r	↑ 6	6	6	5	5	5

Legends:

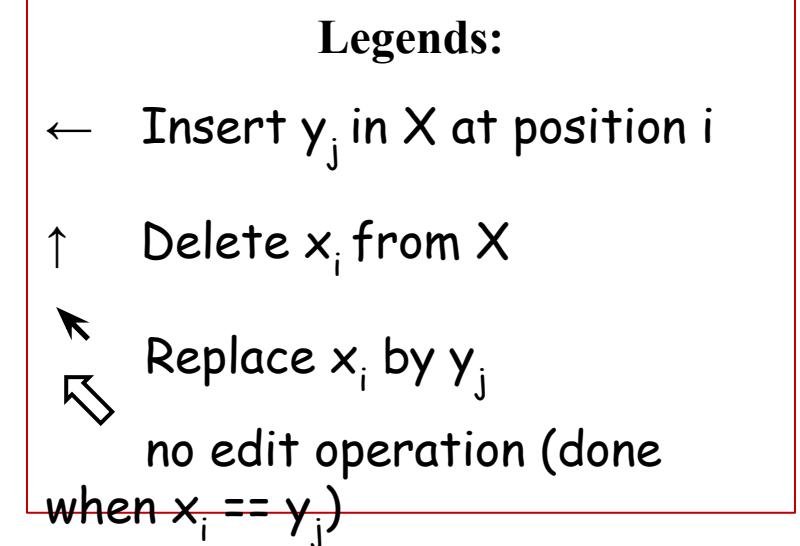
- ← Insert y_j in X at position i
- ↑ Delete x_i from X
- ↗ Replace x_i by y_j
- ↔ no edit operation (done when $x_i = y_j$)

Sequence of edit operations needed to convert “heater” to “speak”:

1. Insert ‘s’: _heater -> sheater

Simulation

	0	1	2	3	4	5	
	y_j	s	p	e	a	k	
0	x_i	0	($\leftarrow 1$)	$\leftarrow 2$	$\leftarrow 3$	$\leftarrow 4$	$\leftarrow 5$
1	h	\uparrow 1	1	($\leftarrow 2$) 2	\uparrow 3	\uparrow 4	\uparrow 5
2	e	\uparrow 2	2	\uparrow 2	\uparrow 2	$\leftarrow 3$	$\leftarrow 4$
3	a	\uparrow 3	3	3	\uparrow 3	\uparrow 2	$\leftarrow 3$
4	t	\uparrow 4	4	4	\uparrow 4	\uparrow 3	3
5	e	\uparrow 5	5	5	\uparrow 4	\uparrow 4	4
6	r	\uparrow 6	6	6	\uparrow 5	\uparrow 5	5



Sequence of edit operations needed to convert “heater” to “speak”:

1. Insert ‘s’: _heater -> sheater
2. Replace ‘h’ by ‘p’: sheater -> speater

Simulation

	0	1	2	3	4	5	
y_j	s	p	e	a	k		
0	x _i	0	← 1	← 2	← 3	← 4	← 5
1	h	↑ 1	1	2	3	4	5
2	e	↑ 2	2	2	3	4	4
3	a	↑ 3	3	3	3	2	3
4	t	↑ 4	4	4	4	3	3
5	e	↑ 5	5	5	4	4	4
6	r	↑ 6	6	6	5	5	5

Legends:

- ← Insert y_j in X at position i
- ↑ Delete x_i from X
- ↗ Replace x_i by y_j
- ↔ no edit operation (done when $x_i == y_j$)

Sequence of edit operations needed to convert “heater” to “speak”:

1. Insert ‘s’: _heater -> sheater
2. Replace ‘h’ by ‘p’: sheater -> speater

Simulation

	0	1	2	3	4	5	
y_j	s	p	e	a	k		
0	x _i	0	← 1	← 2	← 3	← 4	← 5
1	h	↑ 1	1	2	3	4	5
2	e	↑ 2	2	2	3	4	4
3	a	↑ 3	3	3	3	2	3
4	t	↑ 4	4	4	4	3	3
5	e	↑ 5	5	5	4	4	4
6	r	↑ 6	6	6	5	5	5

Legends:

- ← Insert y_j in X at position i
- ↑ Delete x_i from X
- ↗ Replace x_i by y_j
- ↔ no edit operation (done when $x_i == y_j$)

Sequence of edit operations needed to convert “heater” to “speak”:

1. Insert ‘s’: _heater -> sheater
2. Replace ‘h’ by ‘p’: sheater -> speater
3. Delete ‘t’: speater -> speaer

Simulation

	0	1	2	3	4	5	
y_j	s	p	e	a	k		
0	x _i	0	← 1	← 2	← 3	← 4	← 5
1	h	↑ 1	1	2	3	4	5
2	e	↑ 2	2	2	3	4	5
3	a	↑ 3	3	3	3	2	3
4	t	↑ 4	4	4	4	3	3
5	e	↑ 5	5	5	4	4	4
6	r	↑ 6	6	6	5	5	5

Legends:

- ← Insert y_j in X at position i
- ↑ Delete x_i from X
- ↗ Replace x_i by y_j
- ↔ no edit operation (done when $x_i = y_j$)

Sequence of edit operations needed to convert “heater” to “speak”:

1. Insert ‘s’: _heater -> sheater
2. Replace ‘h’ by ‘p’: sheater -> speater
3. Delete ‘t’: speater -> speaer
4. Delete ‘e’: speaer -> spear

Simulation

	0	1	2	3	4	5	
y_j	s	p	e	a	k		
0	x _i	0	← 1	← 2	← 3	← 4	← 5
1	h	↑ 1	1	2	3	4	5
2	e	↑ 2	2	2	3	4	4
3	a	↑ 3	3	3	3	2	3
4	t	↑ 4	4	4	4	3	3
5	e	↑ 5	5	5	4	4	4
6	r	↑ 6	6	6	5	5	5

Legends:

- ← Insert y_j in X at position i
- ↑ Delete x_i from X
- ↗ Replace x_i by y_j
- ↔ no edit operation (done when $x_i = y_j$)

Sequence of edit operations needed to convert “heater” to “speak”:

1. Insert ‘s’: _heater -> sheater
2. Replace ‘h’ by ‘p’: sheater -> speater
3. Delete ‘t’: speater -> speaer
4. Delete ‘e’: speaer -> speaar
5. Replace ‘r’ by ‘k’: speaar -> speaak