

5/26/19 Author: Idan Damri

Minimal number of coins to pay for  
 $x \in \mathbb{N}$  amount of money (we assume  $0 \in \mathbb{N}$ )

Coins are represented as a sequence  $C_n = (c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n)$

Case 1:

Any  $c_i$  is a multiple of some  $c_j$  ( $i \neq j$ )

In this case, a greedy algorithm solves the problem.

We always take the next largest coin we allow to use

Case 2 is more interesting, where there exists some  $c_i$  that don't have  $c_j$  ( $i \neq j$ ) s.t.

$c_i$  is a multiple of  $c_j$

we'll solve this by using **dynamic programming**

Assuming we're given  $x$  and  $C_n$

If  $x < 0$  then there's no  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  that can be the solution to the given problem

so theoretically we can say that the answer is  $\infty$

Also if  $x = 0$  then the answer is 0

else if we subtract  $c_i$  from  $x$  and count 1 for using coin  $c_i$  and add to that the minimum result from using all other coins (one at a time) starting from the <sup>new</sup> amount  $x - c_i$   
Therefore we can say that

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \infty & , x < 0 \\ 0 & , x = 0 \\ 1 + \min(f(x - c_i) \mid 1 \leq i \leq n) & , \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$