

Dynamic programming Motivation

Let $(a_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$, $(b_m)_{m \in \mathbb{N}}$

Let $1 \leq i \leq n$, $1 \leq j \leq m$

Let us write the recursion tree from the recursive call $f(i, j)$.

$$0 \rightarrow f(i, j) \rightarrow 1 + f(i-1, j-1)$$

$$\max(f(i-1, j), f(i, j-1))$$

$$0 \rightarrow 1 + f(i-2, j-1)$$

$$\max(f(i-2, j), f(i-1, j-1))$$

$$0 \rightarrow 1 + f(i-1, j-2)$$

$$\max(f(i-1, j-1), f(i, j-2))$$

There's a possibility that we'll need to compute more than once the recursive call $f(i-1, j-1)$.

We can store the return value of that recursive call and therefore compute it only once.