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**Department of Computer Science and Engineering**

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**DESIGN AND ANALYSIS  
ALGORITHMS  
(24CS2203)**

**ALM – PROJECT BASED LEARNING**

**TEXT JUSTIFICATION (WORD WRAP PROBLEM)**

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# PROBLEM STATEMENT

The **Text Justification (Word Wrap)** problem focuses on arranging a sequence of words neatly across multiple lines within a given maximum width. It is a **classic Dynamic Programming (DP)** problem that demonstrates how to optimize text layout for readability.

In real-world applications like **Microsoft Word, Google Docs, or publishing systems**, text must be aligned properly so that the right margin appears even. The main challenge is to minimize the uneven white spaces (raggedness) at the end of each line.

## Problem Definition

Given:

- A list of words with their lengths
- A maximum line width **M**

## Goal:

Arrange the words into multiple lines such that the **sum of squares of the extra spaces** at the end of each line (except the last) is minimized.

## Example

Words: ["This", "is", "an", "example", "of", "text", "justification"]

Max width (M): 16

Output:

- Line 1: This is an
- Line 2: example of
- Line 3: text justification

## Objectives

- Maintain the original word order.
- Avoid splitting words between lines.
- Minimize total raggedness for better readability.

## Applications

- Word processors (MS Word, Google Docs)
- E-book and PDF layout engines
- Webpage rendering and publishing tools

# ALGORITHM / PSEUDO CODE

## Dynamic Programming Approach

Input:

wordLengths[1..n] – array of word lengths

M – maximum line width

Steps:

1. Compute  $\text{extras}[i][j] = M - (\text{sum of wordLengths}[i..j]) - (j - i)$   
→ represents unused spaces if words  $i$  to  $j$  are on the same line.
2. If  $\text{extras}[i][j] < 0$ , line  $i..j$  does not fit within width  $M$ .
3. Compute cost for valid lines:  
 $\text{cost}[i][j] = \text{extras}[i][j]^2$  if  $\text{extras}[i][j] \geq 0$ , else  $\infty$ .
4. Initialize dynamic programming array:  
 $\text{dp}[0] = 0$
5. Compute minimum total cost:
6. Reconstruct lines using  $\text{parent}[]$  to determine line breaks

**Output:**

Lines arranged with **minimum total raggedness**.

## Example Execution

Input: ["This", "is", "an", "example", "of", "text", "justification"],  $M = 16$

Output:

- Line 1: This is an
- Line 2: example of
- Line 3: text justification

# SPACE COMPLEXITY

The algorithm uses the following data structures:

Structure	Purpose	Space
extras[i][j]	Stores unused spaces for words i..j	$O(n^2)$
cost[i][j]	Stores cost for words i..j	$O(n^2)$
dp[j], parent[j]	Used for DP and reconstruction	$O(n)$

**Total Space Complexity:  $O(n^2)$**

# TIME COMPLEXITY

- Computing extra spaces:  $O(n^2)$  (nested loops for i and j).
- Computing cost:  $O(n^2)$  (nested loops for i and j).
- Dynamic Programming:  $O(n^2)$  (for each j, iterate over i from 1 to j).
- Reconstruction:  $O(n)$  (linear traversal of parent array).

**Total Time Complexity:  $O(n^2)$**

## CONCLUSION

- Text Justification is a Dynamic Programming problem that optimally distributes words across lines.
- It balances readability and alignment by minimizing uneven spaces.
- The algorithm runs in  $O(n^2)$  time and can be optimized for space.
- This approach is widely used in real-world systems like MS Word, Google Docs, and LaTeX (Knuth's line-breaking algorithm).

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GitHub repository link-

[https://github.com/jain-here/2420030092\\_DAA](https://github.com/jain-here/2420030092_DAA)

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