

Given a set of integers,  $S$ , return all possible subsets.

### Notation and terminology

We say that  $S = \langle x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \rangle$  is a *set*, in which all  $x_i$  are integers and all element placed in non-decending order, that is,  $x_1 \leq x_2 \leq \dots \leq x_n$ .

We say that  $S'$  is a *subset* of  $S$ , when  $\forall x \in S', x \in S$ . In another word,  $S' = \langle x_{i_1}, x_{i_2}, \dots, x_{i_m} \rangle$ , in which,  $i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_m \leq n$ .

## 1 $S$ Without Duplicate Elements

When  $S$  is a set without duplication elements, all elements are in ascending order:

$$x_1 < x_2 < \dots < x_n$$

The following defines a new set with all possible sets containing only the first  $k$  elements of  $S$ .

$SUBSETS(S, k) = \{\sigma | \sigma = \langle x_{i_1}, x_{i_2}, \dots, x_{i_m} \rangle, \text{ in which } i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_m \leq k \leq n\}$

**Lemma 1.**  $SUBSETS(S, k+1) - SUBSETS(S, k) = \{\sigma' | \sigma' = \sigma \cup \{x_{k+1}\}, \sigma \in SUBSETS(S, k)\}$

*Proof.* For  $\forall \gamma \in SUBSETS(S, k+1)$ ,  $\gamma = \langle x_{i_1}, x_{i_2}, \dots, x_{i_m} \rangle$ , in which  $i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_m \leq k+1 \leq n$ .

If  $i_m \neq k+1$ , then  $x_{i_m} \neq x_{k+1}$ . Because  $x_k \neq x_{k+1}$ ,  $\gamma \in SUBSETS(S, k)$ .

If  $i_m = k+1$ , then  $x_{i_m} = x_{k+1}$ . Because  $x_{i_{m-1}} \neq x_{k+1}$ , then  $\langle x_{i_1}, x_{i_2}, \dots, x_{i_{m-1}} \rangle \in SUBSETS(S, k)$ .

□

## 2 $S$ With Duplicate Elements

**Recursive Formula.** Let us define  $c[i, j]$  to be the length of an longest common subsequence of  $X_i$  and  $Y_j$ . If either  $i = 0$  or  $j = 0$ , one of the sequences has length 0, and so LCS has length 0. Finally, if  $X_m$  is a subsequence of  $Y_n$ ,  $c[m, n] = m$ .

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

The following table illustrates the constructed  $c[i, j]$  table with  $X$  as “rabbit” and  $Y$  as “rabbbit”. The arrows within will be used in the next section of reconstructing the common sequence.

| $i$ | $j$   | $0$   | $1$ | $2$ | $3$ | $4$ | $5$ | $6$ | $7$ |
|-----|-------|-------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
|     |       | $y_j$ | $r$ | $a$ | $b$ | $b$ | $b$ | $i$ | $t$ |
| 0   | $x_i$ | 0     | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |
| 1   | $r$   | 0     | ↖ 1 | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   |
| 2   | $a$   | 0     | 1   | ↖ 2 | ← 2 | 2   | 2   | 2   | 2   |
| 3   | $b$   | 0     | 1   | 2   | ↖ 3 | ↖ 3 | 3   | 3   | 3   |
| 4   | $b$   | 0     | 1   | 2   | 3   | ↖ 4 | ↖ 4 | 4   | 4   |
| 5   | $i$   | 0     | 1   | 2   | 3   | 4   | ← 4 | 4   | 4   |
| 6   | $t$   | 0     | 1   | 2   | 3   | 4   | 4   | ↖ 5 | 5   |
|     |       | 0     | 1   | 2   | 3   | 4   | 4   | 5   | ↖ 6 |

**Reconstruct Solution.** A distinct subsequence is a distance path from  $c[m, n]$  to  $c[0, 0]$ . For instance, in our case,

1.  $[6, 7] \rightarrow [5, 6] \rightarrow [4, 5] \rightarrow [4, 4] \rightarrow [3, 3] \rightarrow [2, 2] \rightarrow [1, 1] \rightarrow [0, 0]$
2.  $[6, 7] \rightarrow [5, 6] \rightarrow [4, 5] \rightarrow [3, 4] \rightarrow [3, 3] \rightarrow [2, 2] \rightarrow [1, 1] \rightarrow [0, 0]$
3.  $[6, 7] \rightarrow [5, 6] \rightarrow [4, 5] \rightarrow [3, 4] \rightarrow [2, 3] \rightarrow [2, 2] \rightarrow [1, 1] \rightarrow [0, 0]$