

UE19CS251

DESIGN AND ANALYSIS OF ALGORITHMS

UNIT 5: Limitations of Algorithmic Power and  
Coping with the Limitations

Dynamic Programming

PES University

## Outline

### Concepts covered

- Dynamic Programming
  - Introduction
  - Fibonacci numbers
  - Binomial Coefficients

## 1 Introduction

**Dynamic Programming** is a general algorithm design technique for solving problems defined by recurrences with overlapping subproblems

- Invented by American mathematician Richard Bellman in the 1950s to solve optimization problems and later assimilated by CS
- “Programming” here means “planning”
- Main idea:
  - set up a recurrence relating a solution to a larger instance to solutions of some smaller instances
  - solve smaller instances once
  - record solutions in a table
  - extract solution to the initial instance from that table

## 2 Example: Fibonacci Numbers

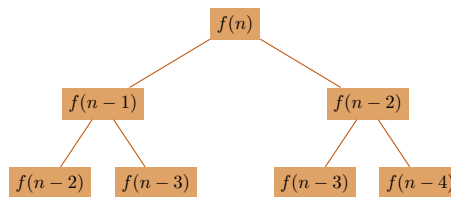
- Recall definition of Fibonacci numbers:

$$f(n) = f(n-1) + f(n-2)$$

$$f(0) = 0$$

$$f(1) = 1$$

- <2-> Computing the  $n^{\text{th}}$  Fibonacci number recursively (top-down):



## 3 Example: Fibonacci Numbers

Computing the  $n^{\text{th}}$  Fibonacci number using bottom-up iteration and recording results:

$$f(0) = 0$$

$$f(1) = 1$$

$$f(2) = 0 + 1 = 1$$

$$f(3) = 1 + 1 = 2$$

$$f(4) = 1 + 2 = 3$$

$\vdots$

Efficiency:

- time:  $\Theta(n)$
- space:  $\Theta(n)$  or  $\Theta(1)$

## 4 Algorithm Examples

- Computing a binomial coefficient
- Warshall's algorithm for transitive closure
- Floyd's algorithm for all-pairs shortest paths
- Constructing an optimal binary search tree
- Some instances of difficult discrete optimization problems:
  - traveling salesman
  - knapsack

## 5 Binomial Coefficient

- Binomial coefficients are coefficients of the binomial formula:

$$(a + b)^n = C(n, 0)a^n b^0 + \dots + C(n, k)a^{n-k}b^k + \dots + C(n, n)a^0 b^n$$

- <2-> Recurrence:

$$C(n, k) = C(n - 1, k) + C(n - 1, k - 1) \quad \text{for } n > k > 0$$

$$C(n, 0) = 1, C(n, n) = 1 \quad \text{for } n \geq 0$$

- <3-> Value of  $C(n, k)$  can be computed by filling a table:

	0	1	2	.	.	.	k-1	k
0	1							
1	1	1						
.								
.								
.								
n-1							$C(n-1, k-1)$	$C(n-1, k)$
n								$C(n, k)$

## 6 Binomial Coefficient Algorithm

### Dynamic Programming Binomial Coefficient Algorithm

```

1: procedure BINOMIAL( $n, k$ )
2:   ▷ Input: Integers  $n \geq 0, k \geq 0$ 
3:   ▷ Output:  $C(n, k)$ 
4:   for  $i \leftarrow 0$  to  $n$  do
5:     for  $j \leftarrow 0$  to  $\min(i, k)$  do
6:       if  $j=0$  or  $j=i$  then
7:          $C(i, j) \leftarrow 1$ 
8:       else  $C[i, j] = C[i - 1, j] + C[i - 1, j - 1]$ 
9:   return  $C[n, k]$ 

```

- <2-> Time:  $\Theta(nk)$
- <2-> Space:  $\Theta(nk)$

## 7 Think About It

- What does dynamic programming have in common with divide-and-conquer? What is a principal difference between them?
- <2-> The coin change problem does not have an optimal greedy solution in all cases (ex: coins 1,20,25 and amount 40). Is there a dynamic programming based algorithm that can solve all cases of the coin change problem?

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The Knapsack Problem

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## Outline

### Concepts covered

- The Knapsack Problem
  - Introduction
  - Recurrence
  - Example

## 1 Problem Definition

- Given
  - $n$  items of integer weights :  $w_1 \quad w_2 \quad \dots \quad w_n$   
values :  $v_1 \quad v_2 \quad \dots \quad v_n$
  - knapsack of capacity  $W$  (integer  $W > 0$ )
- Find the most valuable subset of items such that sum of their weights does not exceed  $W$

## 2 Knapsack Recurrence

- To design a dynamic programming algorithm, we need to derive a recurrence relation that expresses a solution to an instance of the knapsack problem in terms of solutions to its smaller subinstances

- Consider the smaller knapsack problem where number of items is  $i$  ( $i \leq n$ ) and the knapsack capacity is  $j$  ( $j \leq W$ )
- <2-> Then

$$F(i, j) = \begin{cases} \max(F(i-1, j), v_i + F(i-1, j - w_i)) & \text{if } j - w_i \geq 0 \\ F(i-1, j) & \text{if } j - w_i < 0 \end{cases}$$

### 3 Example

$$F(i, j) = \begin{cases} \max(F(i-1, j), v_i + F(i-1, j - w_i)) & \text{if } j - w_i \geq 0 \\ F(i-1, j) & \text{if } j - w_i < 0 \end{cases}$$

#### Dynamic Programming Example

item $i$	weight $w_i$	value $v_i$
1	2	12
2	1	10
3	3	20
4	2	15

What is the maximum value that can be stored in a knapsack of capacity 5?

	capacity $j$				
$i$	1	2	3	4	5
1	0	12	12	12	12
2	10	12	22	22	22
3	10	12	22	30	32
4	10	15	25	30	37

Given above 6 items, maximum value that can be stored in a knapsack of capacity 5 is **37**

### 4 Complexity

- Space complexity:  $\Theta(nW)$
- Time complexity:  $\Theta(nW)$
- Time to compose optimal solution:  $O(n)$

### 5 Think About It

- <2-> Write pseudocode of the bottom-up dynamic programming algorithm for the knapsack problem
- <3-> True or False:
  1. <3-> A sequence of values in a row of the dynamic programming table for the knapsack problem is always nondecreasing?
  2. <4-> A sequence of values in a column of the dynamic programming table for the knapsack problem is always nondecreasing?

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Memory Function Knapsack

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**Concepts covered**

- Memory Function Knapsack
  - Motivation
  - Algorithm
  - Example

## 1 Bottom Up Approach

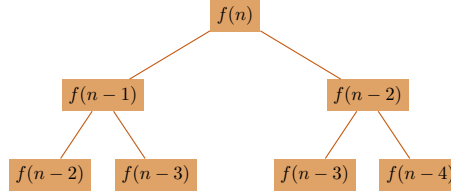
- Advantage of bottom up approach: each value computed only once
- Example computed bottom up:

	capacity $j$				
$i$	1	2	3	4	5
1	0	12	12	12	12
2	10	12	22	22	22
3	10	12	22	30	32
4	10	15	25	30	37

- Disadvantage of bottom up approach: values not required also computed

## 2 Top Down Approach

- Disadvantage of top down approach: same problem solved multiple times
- Example computed top down:



- Advantage of top down approach: only the required subproblems solved

### 3 Memory Function Dynamic Programming

- Combine the advantages of bottom up and top down approaches:
  - compute each subproblem only once
  - compute only the required subproblems

### 4 MF-DP Algorithm

#### Algorithm for Memory Function Dynamic Programming

```

1: procedure MFKNAPSACK( $i, j$ )
2:   ▷ Inputs:  $i$  indicating the number items, and
3:   ▷  $j$ , indicating the knapsack capacity
4:   ▷ Output: The value of an optimal feasible subset of the first  $i$  items
5:   ▷ Note: Uses global variables input arrays  $Weights[1 \dots n]$ ,
6:   ▷ and table  $F[0 \dots n, 0 \dots W]$  whose entries are initialized with  $-1$ 's
   except
7:   ▷ row 0 and column 0 is initialized with 0
8:   if  $F[i, j] < 0$  then
9:     if  $j < Weights[i]$  then
10:       $value \leftarrow MFKnapsack(i - 1, j)$ 
11:    else  $value \leftarrow \max(MFKnapsack(i - 1, j), \quad Values[i] +$ 
12:       $MFKnapsack(i - 1, j - Weights[i]))$ 
13:       $F[i, j] \leftarrow value$ 
14:   return  $F[i, j]$ 
  
```

### 5 Example

$$F(i, j) = \begin{cases} \max(F(i-1, j), \quad v_i + F(i-1, j - w_i)) & \text{if } j - w_i \geq 0 \\ F(i-1, j) & \text{if } j - w_i < 0 \end{cases}$$

### Dynamic Programming Example

item $i$	weight $w_i$	value $v_i$
1	2	12
2	1	10
3	3	20
4	2	15

What is the maximum value that can be stored in a knapsack of capacity 5?

$i$	capacity $j$					
	0	1	2	3	4	5
0	0	□0	□0	□0	□0	□0
1	□0	□0	□12	□12	□12	□12
2	□0	–	□12	□22	–	□22
3	□0	–	–	□22	–	□32
4	□0	–	–	–	–	□37

Knapsack problem solved by

- computing 21 out 30 possible subproblems
- reusing subproblem entry (1, 2)

## 6 Complexity

- Constant factor improvement in efficiency
  - Space complexity:  $\Theta(nW)$
  - Time complexity:  $\Theta(nW)$
  - Time to compose optimal solution:  $O(n)$
- Bigger gains possible where computation of a subproblem takes more than constant time

## 7 Think About It

- Consider the use of the MF technique to compute binomial coefficient using the recurrence

$$C(n, k) = C(n-1, k-1) + C(n-1, k)$$

- How many table entries are filled?
- How many are reused?



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Transitive Closure (Warshall's  
Algorithm)

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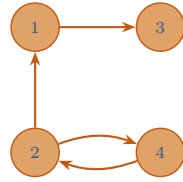
## Outline

### Concepts covered

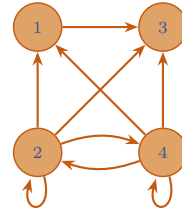
- Transitive Closure (Warshall's Algorithm)
  - Motivation
  - Algorithm
  - Example

## 1 Transitive Closure

- Computes the transitive closure of a relation
- Alternatively: existence of all nontrivial paths in a digraph (directed graph)
- Example of transitive closure:



$$\begin{array}{c}
 \begin{array}{cccc}
 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\
 \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{array} & \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}
 \end{array}
 \end{array}$$



$$\begin{array}{c}
 \begin{array}{cccc}
 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\
 \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{array} & \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}
 \end{array}
 \end{array}$$

## 2 Warshall's Algorithm

- Constructs transitive closure  $T$  as the last matrix in the sequence of  $n \times n$  matrices  $R^{(0)}, \dots, R^{(k)}, \dots, R^{(n)}$  where  $R^{(k)}[i, j] = 1$  iff there is nontrivial path from  $i$  to  $j$  with only first  $k$  vertices allowed as intermediate vertices
  - $R^{(0)} = A$  (adjacency matrix),  $R^{(n)} = T$  (transitive closure)
- On the  $k^{\text{th}}$  iteration, the algorithm computes  $R^{(k)}$

$$R^{(k)}[i, j] = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if path from } i \text{ to } k \text{ and } k \text{ to } j, \text{ i.e., } R^{(k-1)}[i, k] = R^{(k-1)}[k, j] = 1 \\ R^{(k-1)}[i, j] & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$R^{(k)}[i, j] = R^{(k-1)}[i, j] \text{ or } (R^{(k-1)}[i, k] \text{ and } R^{(k-1)}[k, j])$$

## 3 Algorithm

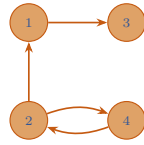
### Transitive Closure (Warshall's Algorithm)

```

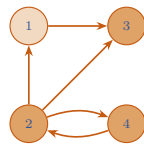
1: procedure WARSHALL( $A[1 \dots n, 1 \dots n]$ )
2:    $\triangleright$  Input: The adjacency matrix  $A$  of a digraph with  $n$  vertices
3:    $\triangleright$  Output: The transitive closure of the digraph
4:    $R^{(0)} \leftarrow A$ 
5:   for  $k \leftarrow 1$  to  $n$  do
6:     for  $i \leftarrow 1$  to  $n$  do
7:       for  $j \leftarrow 1$  to  $n$  do
8:          $R^{(k)}[i, j] \leftarrow R^{(k-1)}[i, j] \text{ or } (R^{(k-1)}[i, k] \text{ and } R^{(k-1)}[k, j]);$ 
9:   return  $R^{(n)}$ 

```

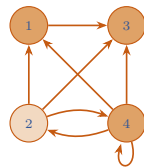
## 4 Warshall's Algorithm



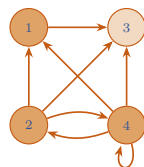
	1	2	3	4
1	0	0	1	0
2	1	0	0	1
3	0	0	0	0
4	0	1	0	0



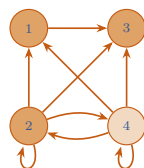
	1	2	3	4
1	0	0	1	0
2	1	0	1	1
3	0	0	0	0
4	0	1	0	0



	1	2	3	4
1	0	0	1	0
2	1	0	1	1
3	0	0	0	0
4	1	1	1	1



	1	2	3	4
1	0	0	1	0
2	1	0	1	1
3	0	0	0	0
4	1	1	1	1



	1	2	3	4
1	0	0	1	0
2	1	1	1	1
3	0	0	0	0
4	1	1	1	1

## 5 Think About It

- Is Warshall's algorithm efficient for sparse graphs? Why / why not?
- Can Warshall's algorithm be used to determine if a graph is a DAG (Directed Acyclic Graph)? If so, how?

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UNIT 5: Limitations of Algorithmic Power and  
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All Pairs Shortest Path (Floyd's Algorithm)

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## Outline

### Concepts covered

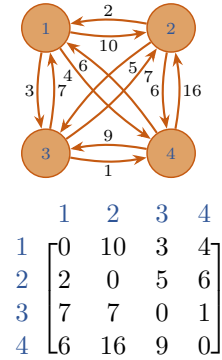
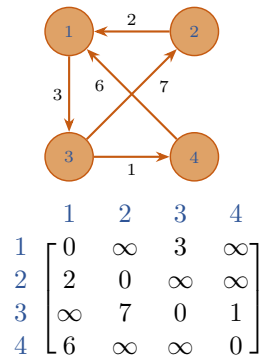
- All Pairs Shortest Path (Floyd's Algorithm)
  - Definition
  - Algorithm
  - Example

## 1 Problem Definition

- Given an undirected or directed graph, with weighted edges, find the shortest path between every pair of vertices
  - Dijkstra's algorithm found shortest paths from given vertex to remaining  $n - 1$  vertices ( $\Theta(n)$  paths)
  - Current problem is to find the shortest path between every pair of vertices ( $\Theta(n^2)$  paths)
- Solution approach is similar to the transitive closure approach: Compute transitive closure via sequence of  $n \times n$  matrices  $R^{(0)}, \dots, R^{(k)}, \dots, R^{(n)}$  where  $R^{(k)}[i, j] = 1$  iff there is nontrivial path from  $i$  to  $j$  with only first  $k$  vertices allowed as intermediate vertices
- Compute all pairs shortest paths via sequence of  $n \times n$  matrices  $D^{(0)}, \dots, D^{(k)}, \dots, D^{(n)}$  where  $D^{(k)}[i, j]$  is the shortest path from  $i$  to  $j$  with only first  $k$  vertices allowed as intermediate vertices

## 2 Example

- Example of all pairs shortest paths:



## 3 Algorithm

### Transitive Closure (Floyd's Algorithm)

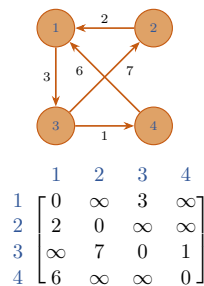
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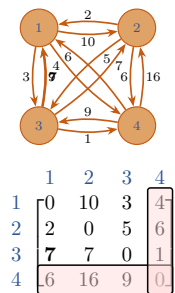
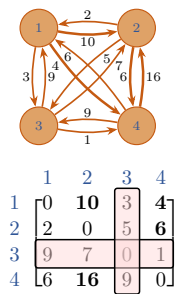
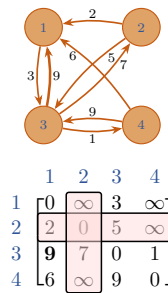
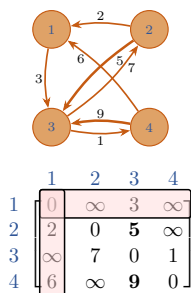
1: procedure FLOYD( $(A[1 \dots n, 1 \dots n])$ )
2:    $\triangleright$  Input: Weight matrix  $A$  of a graph with no negative length cycles
3:    $\triangleright$  Output: Distance matrix of shortest paths
4:    $D \leftarrow A$ 
5:   for  $k \leftarrow 1$  to  $n$  do
6:     for  $i \leftarrow 1$  to  $n$  do
7:       for  $j \leftarrow 1$  to  $n$  do
8:          $D[i, j] \leftarrow \min(D[i, j], D[i, k] + D[k, j])$ 
9:   return  $D$ 

```

- Complexity:  $\Theta(n^3)$

## 4 Example





## 5 Think About It

- Give an example of a graph with negative weights for which Floyd's algorithm does not yield the correct result
- Enhance Floyd's algorithm so that shortest paths themselves, not just their lengths, can be found

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DESIGN AND ANALYSIS OF ALGORITHMS

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Lower-Bound Arguments

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## Outline

### Concepts covered

- Lower-Bound Arguments
  - Trivial lower bounds
  - Adversary arguments
  - Problem reduction

## 1 Limitations of Algorithmic Power

- There are no algorithms to solve some problems
  - Ex: halting problem
- Other problems can be solved algorithmically, but not in polynomial time
  - Ex: traveling salesman problem
- For polynomial time algorithms also, there are lower bounds



## 2 Definition

### Lower Bound

An estimate on a minimum amount of work needed to solve a given problem (estimate can be less than the minimum amount of work but not greater)

- Examples:
  - number of comparisons needed to find the largest element in a set of  $n$  numbers
  - number of comparisons needed to sort an array of size  $n$
  - number of comparisons necessary for searching in a sorted array
  - number of multiplications needed to multiply two  $n \times n$  matrices

## 3 Bound Tightness

- A lower bound can be:
  - an exact count
  - an efficiency class ( $\Omega$ )

### Tight Lower Bound

There exists an algorithm with the same efficiency as the lower bound

Problem	Lower Bound	Tightness
Sorting	$\Omega(n \log n)$	yes
Searching a sorted array	$\Omega(\log n)$	yes
Element uniqueness	$\Omega(n \log n)$	yes
Integer multiplication ( $n \times n$ )	$\Omega(n)$	unknown
Matrix multiplication ( $n \times n$ )	$\Omega(n^2)$	unknown

## 4 Methods for Establishing Lower Bounds

- Trivial lower bounds
- Information-theoretic arguments (decision trees)
- Adversary arguments
- Problem reduction

## 5 Trivial Lower Bounds

### Trivial Lower Bounds

Based on counting the number of items that must be processed in input and generated as output

- Examples
  - finding max element
  - polynomial evaluation
  - sorting
  - element uniqueness
  - Hamiltonian circuit existence
- Conclusions
  - may and may not be useful
  - be careful in deciding how many elements must be processed

## 6 Adversary Arguments

### Adversary Argument

A method of proving a lower bound by playing role of adversary that makes algorithm work the hardest by adjusting input

- Example 1: “Guessing” a number between 1 and  $n$  with yes/no questions
  - Adversary: Puts the number in a larger of the two subsets generated by last question
- Example 2: Merging two sorted lists of size  $n$   $a_1 < a_2 < \dots < a_n$  and  $b_1 < b_2 < \dots < b_n$ 
  - Adversary:  $a_i < b_j$  iff  $i < j$   
Output  $b_1 < a_1 < b_2 < a_2 < \dots < b_n < a_n$  requires  $2n - 1$  comparisons of adjacent elements

## 7 Problem Reduction

- Basic idea: If problem  $P$  is at least as hard as problem  $Q$ , then a lower bound for  $Q$  is also a lower bound for  $P$
- Hence, find problem  $Q$  with a known lower bound that can be reduced to problem  $P$  in question
- Example:  $P$  is finding MST for  $n$  points in Cartesian plane  $Q$  is element uniqueness problem (known to be in  $\Omega(n \log n)$ )

## 8 Think About It

- Prove that the classic recursive algorithm for the Tower of Hanoi puzzle makes the minimum number of disk moves
- Find a trivial lower-bound class and indicate if the bound is tight:
  - finding the largest element in an array
  - generating all the subsets of an  $n$ -element set
  - determining whether  $n$  given real numbers are all distinct

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UNIT 5: Limitations of Algorithmic Power and  
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Decision Trees

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## Outline

### Concepts covered

- Decision Trees
  - Smallest of three numbers
  - Sorting
  - Searching

## 1 Problem Types: Optimization and Decision

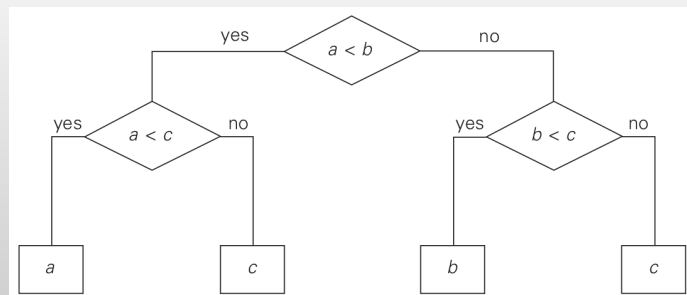
- Optimization problem: find a solution that maximizes or minimizes some objective function
- Decision problem: answer yes/no to a question
- Many problems have decision and optimization versions
  - Ex: traveling salesman problem
  - optimization: find Hamiltonian cycle of minimum length
  - decision: find Hamiltonian cycle of length  $m$
- Decision problems are more convenient for formal investigation of their complexity

## 2 Introduction

- Many important algorithms, especially those for sorting and searching, work by comparing items of their inputs
- We can study the performance of such algorithms with a device called the decision tree

## 3 Example: Decision tree for minimum of three numbers

Decision tree for a determining the minimum of three numbers



## 4 Central Idea

- The central idea behind this model lies in the observation that a tree with a given number of leaves, which is dictated by the number of possible outcomes, has to be tall enough to have that many leaves
- Specifically, it is not difficult to prove that for any binary tree with  $l$  leaves and height  $h$

$$h \geq \lceil \log_2 l \rceil$$

- A binary tree of height  $h$  with the largest number of leaves has all its leaves on the last level
- Hence, the largest number of leaves in such a tree is  $2^h$
- In other words,  $2^h \geq l$  which implies  $h \geq \lceil \log_2 l \rceil$

## 5 Decision Trees for Sorting Algorithms

- Most sorting algorithms are comparison-based, i.e., they work by comparing elements in a list to be sorted
- By studying properties of binary decision trees, for comparison-based sorting algorithms, we can derive important lower bounds on time efficiencies of such algorithms
- We can interpret an outcome of a sorting algorithm as finding a permutation of the element indices of an input list that puts the list's elements in ascending order
- For example, for the outcome  $a < c < b$  obtained by sorting a list  $a, b, c$
- The number of possible outcomes for sorting an arbitrary  $n$ -element list is equal to  $n!$

## 6 Decision Trees for Sorting Algorithms

- The height of a binary decision tree for any comparison-based sorting algorithm and hence the worst -case number of comparisons made by such an algorithm cannot be less than

$$C_{worst}(n) \geq \lceil \log_2 n! \rceil$$

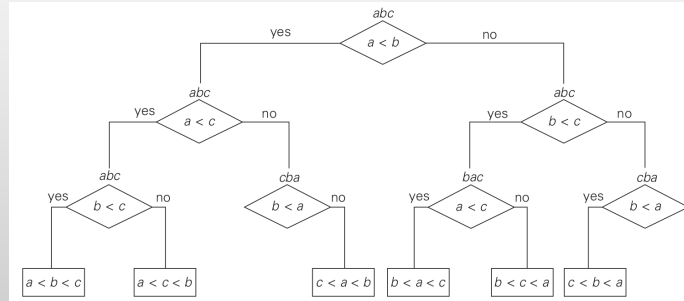
- Using Stirling's formula:

$$\lceil \log_2 n! \rceil \approx \log_2 \sqrt{2\pi n} \left(\frac{n}{e}\right)^n = n \log_2 n - n \log_2 e + \frac{\log_2 n}{2} + \frac{\log_2 \pi}{2} \approx n \log_2 n$$

- About  $n \log_2 n$  comparisons are necessary to sort an arbitrary  $n$ -element list by any comparison-based sorting algorithm

## 7 Decision Trees for Sorting Algorithms

### Decision Tree for Three Element Selection Sort



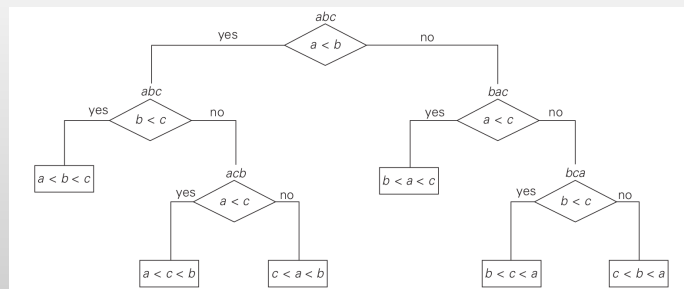
## 8 Decision Trees for Sorting Algorithms

- We can also use decision trees for analyzing the average-case behavior of a comparison based sorting algorithm
- We can compute the average number of comparisons for a particular algorithm as the average depth of its decision tree's leaves, i.e., as the average path length from the root to the leaves
- For example, for the three-element insertion sort this number is:

$$\frac{2 + 3 + 3 + 2 + 3 + 3}{6} = 2\frac{2}{3}$$

## 9 Decision Trees for Sorting Algorithms

### Decision Tree for Three Element Insertion Sort



## 10 Decision Trees for Sorting Algorithms

- Under the standard assumption that all  $n!$  outcomes of sorting are equally likely, the following lower bound on the average number of

comparisons  $C_{avg}$  made by any comparison-based algorithm in sorting an  $n$ -element list has been proved

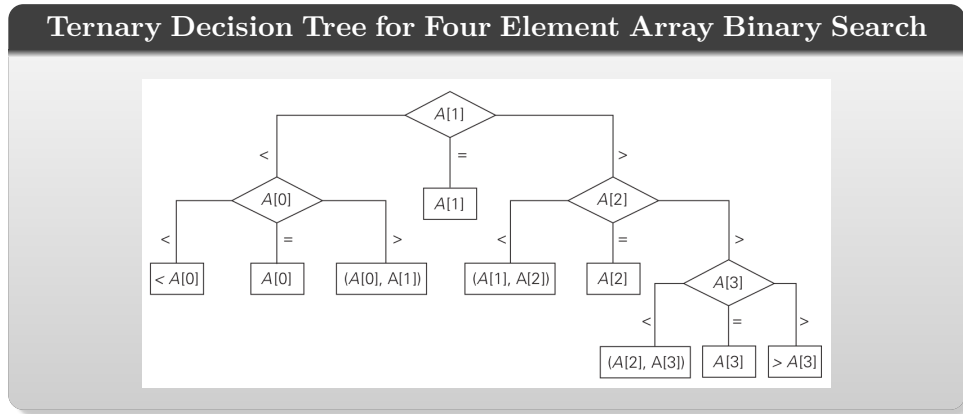
$$C_{avg}(n) \geq \log_2 n!$$

## 11 Decision Trees for Searching Algorithms

- Decision trees can be used for establishing lower bounds on the number of key comparisons in searching a sorted array of  $n$  keys:  $A[0] < A[1] < \dots < A[n-1]$
- The number of comparisons made by binary search in the worst case:

$$C_{worst}^{bs}(n) = \lfloor \log_2 n \rfloor + 1 = \lceil \log_2(n+1) \rceil$$

## 12 Decision Trees for Searching Algorithms



## 13 Decision Trees for Searching Algorithms

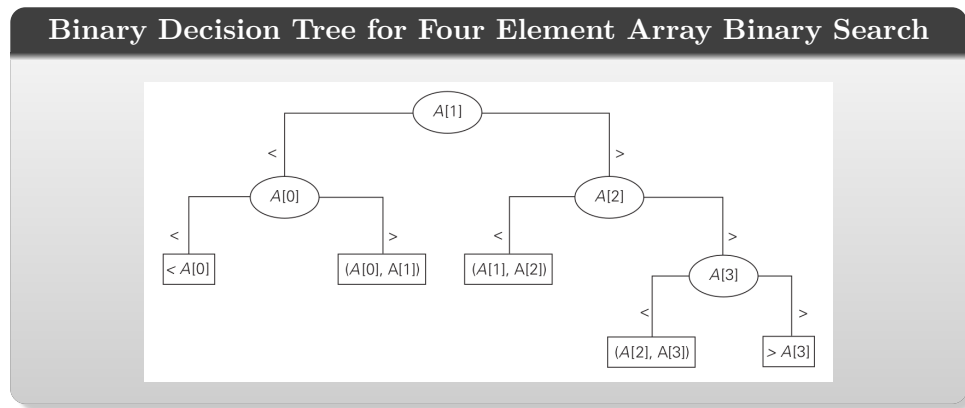
- For an array of  $n$  elements, all such decision trees will have  $2n+1$  leaves ( $n$  for successful searches and  $n+1$  for unsuccessful ones)
- Since the minimum height  $h$  of a ternary tree with  $l$  leaves is  $\text{floor}(\log_3 l)$ , we get the following lower bound on the number of worst-case comparisons:

$$C_{worst}(n) \geq \lceil \log_3(2n+1) \rceil$$

- This lower bound is smaller than  $\lceil \log_2(n+1) \rceil$ , the number of worst-case comparisons for binary search
- Can we prove a better lower bound, or is binary search far from being optimal?



## 14 Decision Trees for Searching Algorithms



- The binary decision tree is simply the ternary decision tree with all the middle subtrees eliminated

$$C_{worst}(n) \geq \lceil \log_2(n+1) \rceil$$

## 15 Think About It

- Consider the problem of finding the median of a three-element set  $a$ ,  $b$ ,  $c$  of orderable items
  - What is the information-theoretic lower bound for comparison-based algorithms solving this problem?
  - Draw a decision tree for an algorithm solving this problem
  - Is the above bound tight?

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DESIGN AND ANALYSIS OF ALGORITHMS

UNIT 5: Limitations of Algorithmic Power and  
Coping with the Limitations

P, NP, and NP-Complete Problems

PES University

## Outline

### Concepts covered

- Class P
- Class NP
- NP-Complete
- NP-Hard

## 1 Classifying Problem Complexity

- Is the problem tractable, i.e., is there a polynomial-time ( $O(p(n))$ ) algorithm that solves it?
- Possible answers:
  - yes
  - no
    - \* because it's been proved that no algorithm exists at all (e.g., Turing's halting problem)
    - \* because it's been proved that any algorithm takes exponential time
  - unknown

## 2 Problem Types: Optimization and Decision

- Optimization problem: find a solution that maximizes or minimizes some objective function
- Decision problem: answer yes/no to a question

- Many problems have decision and optimization versions
- Example: traveling salesman problem
  - optimization: find Hamiltonian cycle of minimum length
  - decision: find Hamiltonian cycle of length  $\leq m$
- Decision problems are more convenient for formal investigation of their complexity

## 3 Class P

### Class P (Polynomial)

The class of decision problems that are solvable in  $O(p(n))$  time, where  $p(n)$  is a polynomial of problem's input size  $n$

- searching
- element uniqueness
- graph connectivity
- graph acyclicity
- primality testing

## 4 Class NP

### Class NP (Nondeterministic Polynomial)

class of decision problems whose proposed solutions can be verified in polynomial time = solvable by a nondeterministic polynomial algorithm

- A nondeterministic polynomial algorithm is an abstract two-stage procedure that:
  - generates a random string purported to solve the problem
  - checks whether this solution is correct in polynomial time
- By definition, it solves the problem if it's capable of generating and verifying a solution on one of its tries
- Why this definition?
  - led to development of the rich theory called “computational complexity”

## 5 Example: CNF satisfiability

### Boolean Satisfiability (CNF)

Is a Boolean expression in its conjunctive normal form (CNF) satisfiable, i.e., are there values of its variables that makes it true?

- This problem is in NP. Nondeterministic algorithm:
  - Guess truth assignment
  - Substitute the values into the CNF formula to see if it evaluates to true
- Example: Consider the Boolean expression in CNF form:

$$(a + \bar{b} + \bar{c})(\bar{a} + b)(\bar{a} + \bar{b} + \bar{c})$$

- Can values *false* and *true* (or 0 and 1) be assigned to  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $c$  such that above expression evaluates to 1?
- $a = 1, b = 1, c = 0$
- Checking phase:  $\Theta(n)$

## 6 What problems are in NP?

- Hamiltonian circuit existence
- Partition problem: Is it possible to partition a set of  $n$  integers into two disjoint subsets with the same sum?
- Decision versions of TSP, knapsack problem, graph coloring, and many other combinatorial optimization problems. (Few exceptions include: MST, shortest paths)

- All the problems in  $P$  can also be solved in this manner (but no guessing is necessary), so we have:

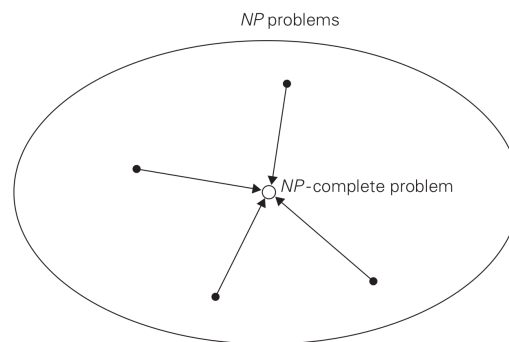
$$P \subseteq NP$$

- Big question:

$$P = NP ?$$

## 7 NP-Complete Problems

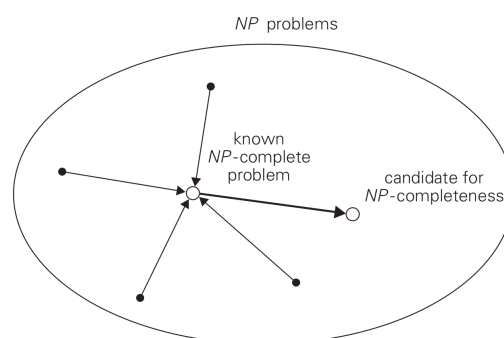
- A decision problem  $D$  is  $NP$ -complete if it's as hard as any problem in  $NP$ , i.e.,
  - $D$  is in  $NP$
  - every problem in  $NP$  is polynomial-time reducible to  $D$



- Cook's theorem (1971): CNF-sat is NP-complete

## 8 NP-Complete Problems

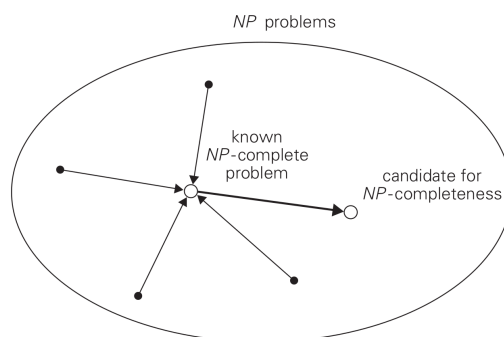
- Other NP-complete problems obtained through polynomial- time reductions from a known NP-complete problem



- Examples: TSP, knapsack, partition, graph-coloring and hundreds of other problems of combinatorial nature

## 9 $P = NP$ ? Dilemma Revisited

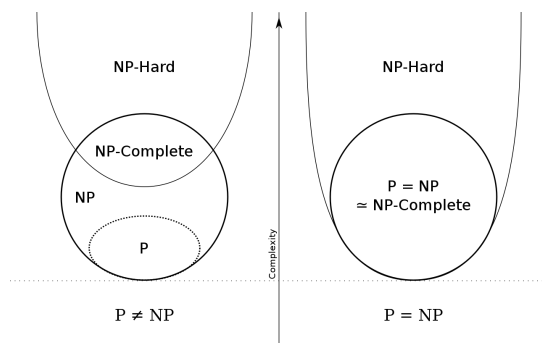
- $P = NP$  would imply that every problem in  $NP$ , including all  $NP$ -complete problems, could be solved in polynomial time
- If a polynomial-time algorithm for just one  $NP$ -complete problem is discovered, then every problem in  $NP$  can be solved in polynomial time, i.e.,  $P = NP$



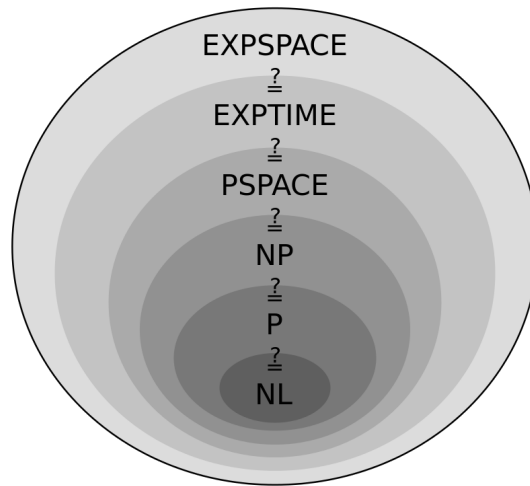
- Most but not all researchers believe that  $P \neq NP$ 
  - Though others like Stephen Cook, Leonid Levin and Donald Knuth don't

## 10 NP-Hard Problems

- A decision problem  $D$  is  $NP$ -hard iff:
  - $D$  is in  $NP$
  - every problem in  $NP$  is polynomial-time reducible to  $D$



## 11 Complexity Hierarchy



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DESIGN AND ANALYSIS OF ALGORITHMS

UNIT 5: Limitations of Algorithmic Power and  
Coping with the Limitations

Backtracking

PES University

## Outline

### Concepts covered

- Backtracking
  - Introduction
  - $N$  Queens
  - Hamiltonian Circuit
  - Subset Sum
  - Algorithm

## 1 Tackling Difficult Combinatorial Problems

- There are two principal approaches to tackling difficult combinatorial problems (NP-hard problems):
  - Use a strategy that guarantees solving the problem exactly but doesn't guarantee to find a solution in polynomial time
  - Use an approximation algorithm that can find an approximate (sub-optimal) solution in polynomial time

## 2 Exact Solution Strategies

- Exhaustive search (brute force)



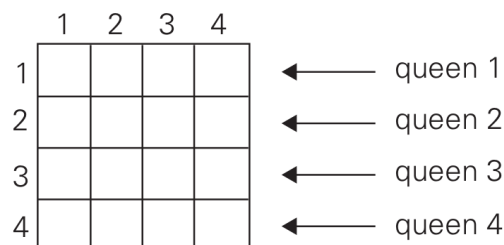
- useful only for small instances
- Dynamic programming
  - applicable to some problems (e.g., the knapsack problem)
- Backtracking
  - eliminates some unnecessary cases from consideration
  - yields solutions in reasonable time for many instances but worst case is still exponential
- Branch-and-bound
  - further refines the backtracking idea for optimization problems

### 3 Introduction

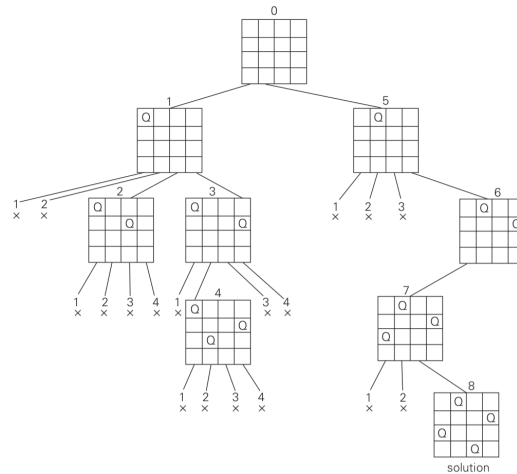
- Construct the *state-space tree*
  - nodes: partial solutions
  - edges: choices in extending partial solutions
- Explore the state space tree using depth-first search
- “Prune” *nonpromising nodes*
  - DFS stops exploring subtrees rooted at nodes that cannot lead to a solution and backtracks to such a node’s parent to continue the search

### 4 Example: $N$ -Queens Problem

- Place  $N$  queens on an  $N \times N$  chess board so that no two of them are in the same row, column, or diagonal



## 5 State-Space Tree of the 4-Queens Problem

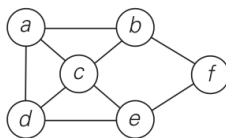


## 6 Example: Hamiltonian Circuit Problem

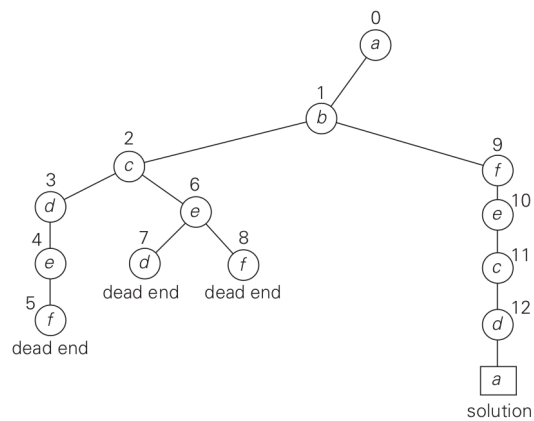
### Hamiltonian Circuit

A Hamiltonian circuit is defined as a cycle that passes through all the vertices of the graph exactly once.

- Example graph:



- State-space tree for finding a Hamiltonian circuit (numbers above the nodes of indicate the order in which the nodes are generated):

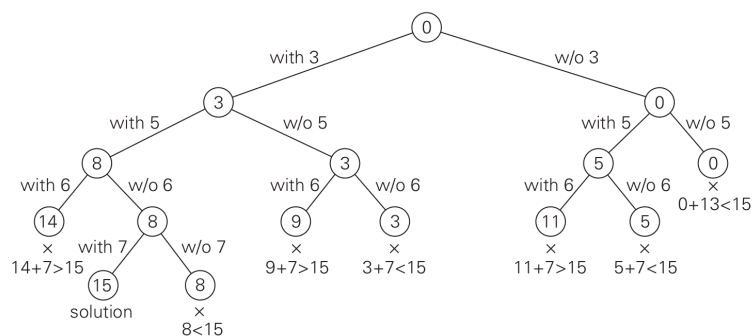


## 7 Example: Subset Sum Problem

### Subset Sum Problem

Given set  $A = \{a_1, \dots, a_n\}$  of  $n$  positive integers, find a subset whose sum is equal to a given positive integer  $d$

- State space tree for  $A = \{3, 5, 6, 7\}$  and  $d = 15$  (number in each node is the sum so far):



## 8 Algorithm

### Backtrack Algorithm

```

1: procedure BACKTRACK( $X[1 \dots i]$ )
2:    $\triangleright$  Input:  $X[1 \dots i]$  specifies first  $i$  promising components of a solution
3:    $\triangleright$  Output: All the tuples representing the problem's solutions
4:   if  $X[1 \dots i]$  is a solution then
5:     write  $X[1 \dots i]$ 
6:   else
7:     for each element  $x \in S_{i+1}$  consistent with  $X[1 \dots i]$  and the constraints do
8:        $X[i+1] \leftarrow x$ 
9:       Backtrack ( $X[1 \dots i+1]$ )

```

- Output:  $n$ -tuples  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$
- Each  $x_i \in S_i$ , some finite linearly ordered set

## 9 Think About It

- Continue the backtracking search for a solution to the four-queens problem, to find the second solution to the problem
- Explain how the board's symmetry can be used to find the second solution to the four-queens problem

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DESIGN AND ANALYSIS OF ALGORITHMS

UNIT 5: Limitations of Algorithmic Power and  
Coping with the Limitations

Branch and Bound

PES University

## Outline

### Concepts covered

- Backtracking
  - General Approach
  - Knapsack Problem
  - Assignment Problem
  - Travelling Salesman Problem

## 1 Introduction

- An enhancement of backtracking
- Applicable to optimization problems
- For each node (partial solution) of a state-space tree, computes a bound on the value of the objective function for all descendants of the node (extensions of the partial solution)
- Uses the bound for:
  - ruling out certain nodes as “nonpromising” to prune the tree (if a node’s bound is not better than the best solution seen so far)
  - guiding the search through state-space

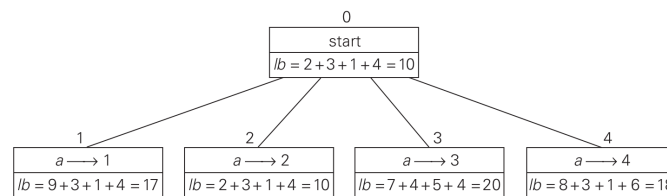
## 2 Example: Assignment Problem

- Select one element in each row of the cost matrix  $C$  so that:
  - no two selected elements are in the same column
  - the sum is minimized
- Example

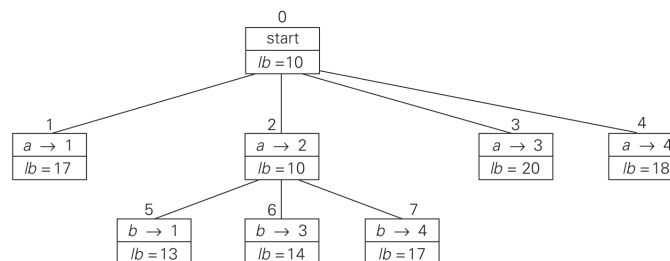
	Job 1	Job 2	Job 3	Job 4
Person $a$	9	2	7	8
Person $b$	6	4	3	7
Person $c$	5	8	1	8
Person $d$	7	6	9	4

- Lower bound (sum of smallest elements in each row):  $2+3+1+4 = 10$
- Best-first branch-and-bound variation: Generate all the children of the most promising node

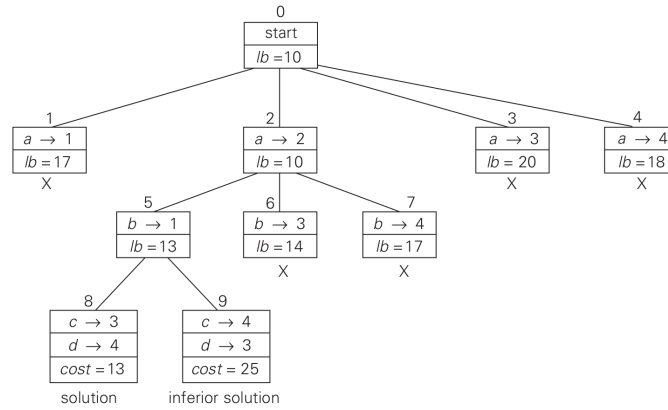
## 3 Example: First two levels of the state-space tree



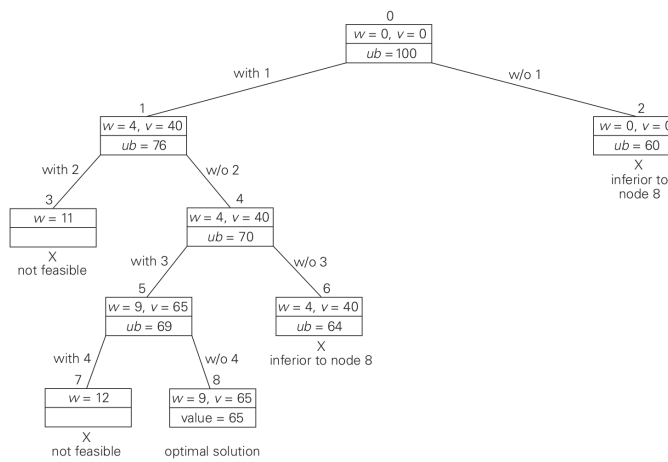
## 4 Example: First three levels of the state-space tree



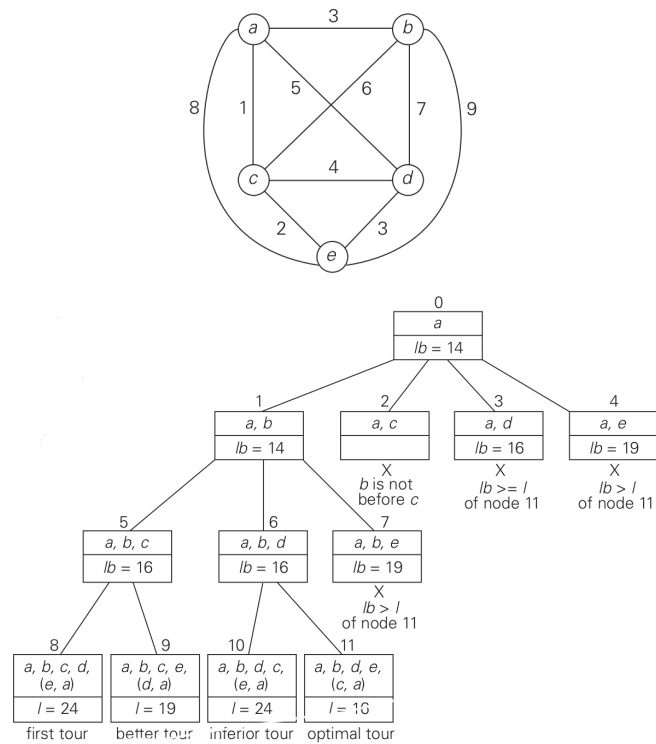
## 5 Example: Complete state-space tree



## 6 Example: Knapsack Problem



## 7 Example: Traveling Salesman Problem



## 8 Think About It

- What data structure would you use to keep track of live nodes in a best-first branch-and-bound algorithm?
- Solve the assignment problem by the best-first branch-and-bound algorithm with the bounding function based on matrix columns rather than rows