

# Steps for designing dynamic programming algorithms

1. Define the subproblems - typically by defining an array of values you want to compute
2. Give a recurrence relation that describes how a subproblem can be solved using solutions of smaller subproblems
  - Imagine smaller subproblems have already been solved and the solutions can be looked up from your array
  - Consider different ways one can reduce the problem to a smaller subproblem from the current problem
  - Among these options pick the optimal one
3. Filling in the base cases of the array, and then use recurrence in 2 to incrementally fill up all values.
4. Return the final solution based on the filled array

# Revisit: Maximum subarray

Problem Definition:

Given an array  $A$  of numbers, find the contiguous subarray that has the largest sum

Example: for input  $A=(4,-5,6,7,8,-10,5,2)$

Solution: 6, 7, 8, sum=21

# Two possible subproblems

$L(i)$  = maximum subarray for  $A[1, \dots, i]$

$L(i)$  = maximum subarray ending at position  $i$

Q: which one will allow us to compute  $L(i)$  given the values of  $L(1), L(2), \dots, L(i-1)$ ?

# Recurrence relation for $L(i)$

# Fill in the algorithm

- Base case:
- Iteratively fill in the array
- Return the final solution